**DATA LINKS**

Please follow the links listed below, for comprehensive planning data on the following topic areas:

* **Population**
* **Economy**
* **Housing**

1) [State Economist Homepage](https://www.maine.gov/dafs/economist/) Links to various demographic, housing and economic data from the U.S. Census Bureau and other sources are available through the Maine State Economist homepage.

2) [Maine Demographic Projections](https://www.maine.gov/dafs/economist/demographic-projections) Population projections for Maine cities and towns are available through this State Economist webpage.

3) [Census State Data Center](https://www.maine.gov/dafs/economist/census-information) The State Economist hosts this collection of datasets compiled by the Maine State Data Center. They provide information ranging from population and age cohorts to household incomes and retail sales.

4) [Build Your Own Data Sheet](http://econ.maine.gov/) The State Economist hosts this Maine State Data Center online tool designed to make it easier for you to access economic and demographic data for Maine. The selection menus will allow you to choose the data, geographies, and time periods of interested to you. Commonly-requested data about population, demographics, housing, retail sales, and employment are included.

5) [Employer Locator Tool](http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/employers.html) This online tool, provided by the Maine Department of Labor, allows the creation of a list of a town's employers and the number of workers employed by each one. Select the second (bottom) tab displayed to the left of the window (Search by Business Name, Location and/or Size Class). On the right side of the next window, under “Optional Search Criteria”, click the “(All)” checkbox, then click the checkbox next to your county. Next, click on the box under “City” and select your town from the dropdown menu. You now see a listing of employers in your town, which you can scroll down. You can click on an employer name to see company details, and you can sort the list for size using the Optional Search Criteria.

To download the list, scroll to the lower right corner of the window and click on the ”Download” icon. Select the “PDF” file format and, in the “This View” dropdown menu, select “Specific sheets from this dashboard”. In the next box, move the bar to the right, select the last icon (“Employer Name Table”) and click “Create PDF”. When the PDF is ready, download and save it.

6) [Housing Data](http://www.mainehousing.org/policy-research/housing-data) MaineHousing presents this webpage which provides a link to its *Housing Characteristics* interactive tool. This tool contains data on the physical, financial and demographic characteristics of housing in Maine, its counties and communities -- over 500 different geographies. It now includes the Housing Characteristics and Affordability Index. The data comes from the Census Bureau’s 5 Year American Community Survey, the most statistically reliable inter-decennial survey data available. Alongside the *Housing Characteristics* tool is the frequently-visited *Housing Facts and Affordability Index*.  These two resources can now be used together to provide the viewer with some basic understanding of a community’s housing, its affordability, and how it compares to that of neighboring communities.

7) [American FactFinder](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml) This U.S. Census Bureau website can provide additional detailed local information on housing and other topics.

Questions about Office of Policy and Management webpages and data should be directed to:

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