A Community Needs Assessment & Economic Impact Analysis

Of the Im/migrant Population

In and Around Milbridge, Maine

*Final Report*

April 2017

A Collaborative Partnership Between

Colby     Mano en Mano
          HAND IN HAND

## Acknowledgements

**2020 Note:** The original title of this report used the term "settler" to describe migrant workers. Migrant workers are impacted by systemic and interpersonal oppression in ways people with settler ancestry are not. The term "settler" itself has very close ties to colonialism and the genocide of the original peoples of this land. We regret using this word, and have removed it from the title and the report.

# Contents

**Becoming Visible**

Since the 1990s, Downeast Maine has undergone a dramatic demographic shift as a result of a growing dependence on Latino farm labor. Originally migrant or seasonal farmworkers drawn to Maine primarily for the annual blueberry harvest, Latino immigrants in Downeast Maine made up 1.4% of the population in Washington County in 2010 (up from just 0.8% in 2000), which officially made this the largest minority group in the region according to U.S. Census data. Deep-seated challenges to settlement like isolation, alienation, and discomfort invoke invisibility. The transition ████████████████ in Downeast Maine is somewhat unique relative to other parts of the country and continues to be a stressful and challenging process. Policy-makers and community service providers like Mano en Mano are working hard to alleviate impediments to settlement in the region.

This study is the result of a collaborative partnership between Colby College and Mano En Mano, a community service organization dedicated to building "a stronger and more inclusive Downeast Maine by working with diverse populations to provide affordable housing and educational opportunities, remove barriers to healthcare and other social services, and advocate for social justice." Located in Milbridge, Maine, Mano En Mano serves both the migrant and immigrant communities throughout Washington County. In fall 2015, Colby professors Betty Sasaki and Michael Donihue met with Mano En Mano director Ian Yaffe to discuss the possibility of working together to find ways in which Colby might support Mano En Mano's mission to meet the needs of the im/migrant population. At that time, we discussed the design and implementation of an economic impact study as part of a broader needs assessment focused on the contribution of im/migrant workers in Washington County as a way to help inform the resident population of the value of these workers to the area to help support the mission of Mano En Mano. Colby student, Clare Murray '18, an economics and Latin American Studies double major, joined the Colby-Mano team through a JanPlan and spring semester independent study in economics. Given the interdisciplinary nature of this research as well as its focus on the intersection of what is often (mis)understood as separate local and global communities, this project became part of Colby's Public Policy Research Laboratory, which was initiated in January 2016. The PPR Laboratory addressed a need in Maine for policy relevant research projects while

supporting student-faculty research collaborations. During January and February 2016, the Colby-Mano team, working with a number of community and state stakeholder groups, designed and tested both a needs assessment and economic impact survey, which was launched in March to the im/migrant community in Washington County. In May, Clare Murray presented some preliminary results from the survey in her independent research project ████████████████ ████████████████████ Colby student Marlen Guerrero '18 and Oberlin graduate Claire Ciraolo '16 picked up the work in the summer of 2016 as research assistants on the Mano En Mano project.  Marlen and Claire provided much of the analysis that follows of the survey data and contributed background information for the economic impact analysis contained in this report as well as the underpinnings for Mano en Mano's comprehensive needs assessment of the im/migrant experiences in Downeast Maine.

*Demographic Profile of Mano en Mano's Service Area*

The immigrant populations relevant to this study primarily reside in the following towns in Washington and Hancock Counties: Milbridge, Gouldsboro, Steuben, Cherryfield, Harrington, Columbia Falls, Jonesport, Machias, and Calais. Together, these areas comprise and define the service area of Mano en Mano. The U.S. Census is the most reliable and comprehensive data set available. Given every ten years, the U.S. Census is able to elucidate population changes over time. Based upon the latest U.S. Census, in 2010, there were 252 individuals within Mano en Mano's service area that identified as "Hispanic" or "Latino." As shown in Table 1 below, these 252 individuals accounted for 2.38% of the total population in the area. In 2010, only 1.27% of all those living in Maine identified as "Hispanic" or "Latino." Consistent with the state as a whole, 97.58% of the population in Mano en Mano's service area identified as "White," with 1.29% of the total population identifying as another race as well. 0.70% of individuals self-identified as Black/African American, 1.46% as American Indian, 0.62% as Asian, and 1.02% as another race. This area is important to this study in that the largest minority group self-identified as "Hispanic" or "Latino."

**Table 1**

| 2010 Census Data | Maine | Washington County | Mano en Mano's Service Area |
|---|---|---|---|
| Males | 48.94% | 49.27% | 48.56% |
| Females | 51.06% | 50.73% | 51.44% |
| | | | |
| White Population | 96.73% | 93.71% | 97.58% |
| Black/African American Population | 1.64% | 0.65% | 0.70% |
| AIAN Population | 1.39% | 6.11% | 1.46% |
| Asian Population | 1.38% | 0.69% | 0.62% |
| Other Race Population | 0.54% | 0.65% | 1.02% |
| Two or more races | 1.58% | 1.70% | 1.29% |
| Hispanic/Latino Population | 1.27% | 1.38% | 2.38% |

The average family in this area comprised 2.74 individuals; there were 2,787 families. Single mothers headed 413 households. The area recorded a roughly even gender split; 48.56% of individuals in 2010 identified as male while 51.44% identified as female. An estimated 7,424 individuals in 2014 were over the age of 25. Of those above that age, 86.01% were at least high school graduates in Mano en Mano's service area while 91.3% were at least high school graduates in all of Maine. Four point five percent of individuals did not attend high school at all. Seven point nine-two percent of individuals received some sort of Graduate or Professional Degree.

**Table 2**

| 2014 Census Estimates | Maine | Washington County | Mano en Mano's Service Area |
|---|---|---|---|
| Average Family Size | 2.83 | 2.76 | 2.74 |
| Median Household Income | $48,804 | $38,239 | $39,161 |
| Per capita income | $27,332 | $21,450 | $20,850 |
| Income below poverty level | 13.90% | 19% | 18.20% |

According to the 2014 Census estimate, across all race and ethnicity groups, the median household income was $39,161 for Mano en Mano's service area, while the median for all of Maine was $48,804. The income per capita was $20,850. Nine point zero-five percent of households had annual incomes of $10,000 or less. The majority, or 37.02% of households, had annual incomes between $35,000 and $74,999. Only 7.49% of households had annual incomes above $100,000, with only 0.72% having annual incomes above $200,000. 18.2% of individuals

lived on an income below the poverty level in Mano en Mano's service area compared to 13.9% of individuals across the state.

**Table 3**

| (At least) High School Graduates | Maine | Washington County | Mano en Mano's Service Area |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2000 Census | 85.37% | 79.86% | 80.84% |
| 2014 Estimates | 91.30% | 87.50% | 86.01% |

While the U.S. Census provides a basic snapshot of this population, it cannot tell the full story, specifically of the Latino immigrants of this population. Before 2010, the Census targeted the entire U.S. population. Since then, the long-form has only been distributed to a small sample, thus leading to larger margins of error. The U.S. Census Bureau continues to provide annual estimates, however these also contain high margins of error. Minority populations, like the Latino population in Mano en Mano's service area, are not accurately represented. It is important to conduct additional research on these invisible populations because they are responsible for much economic activity and cultural adaptations. Community service providers are able to bridge the gap between these invisible populations and the larger community.

**Mano en Mano**

Mano en Mano is the only community service provider for im/migrants in Washington and Hancock Counties. The organization was incorporated in 2005 to "build a stronger community in Downeast Maine by working with diverse populations to provide educational and affordable housing opportunities, remove barriers to health and social services, and advocate for social justice" ("About Us").  Mano en Mano conducted its first HUD-designed (Housing of Urban Development) needs assessment in 2011. The results of that survey portrayed a disadvantaged community slowly adapting and making Downeast Maine its home.

The organization found that 78.5% of the respondents of the HUD survey were born in Mexico; 89% self-identified as Hispanic/Latino. In that year, 93% were employed in farm-work. The average household made between $10,000 and $15,000 annually. Optimistically, over 50% of respondents shared an interest in starting their own business. Sadly, in terms of community acceptance, only 50% of respondents felt comfortable participating in community events.

Four years later, Mano en Mano began to prepare for another needs assessment that reflected the evolution of the community they serve. In the fall of 2015, a partnership between Mano en Mano and Colby College was forged. This partnership offered both parties a deeper way to engage with the Maine community and a potentially invaluable opportunity to bring the immigrant experience in Maine to the forefront of the policy agenda. Compiling resources, the team of Colby College members and Mano en Mano staff worked to produce a comprehensive needs assessment and economic impact analysis of Latino immigrants in Mano en Mano's service area.

Mano en Mano presently has an open-door policy and offers assistance to all immigrants in the greater Washington and Hancock Counties. Most recipients of their assistance reside in Milbridge, Gouldsboro, Steuben, Cherryfield, Harrington, Columbia Falls, Jonesport, Machias, and Calais. The organization's main programming agendas include providing educational services and scholarships, organizing community integration and events, extending translation services, offering outreach and access to essential services, and finding affordable housing. One of the primary goals of this study is to provide an understanding of the specific demographic characteristics and economic impact of this population to help invite recognition of these im/migrants within the wider community.

Starting in December 2015, a team comprised of Mano en Mano and Colby College members began designing a comprehensive survey to understand this population of Latinos in Mano en Mano's service area. Our survey included over 200 questions covering information on demographics, community acceptance, education and schools, language, work and transportation, spending choices and patterns, healthcare, housing, financial stress, and satisfaction with Mano en Mano.  Our survey was conducted bilingually by trained professionals. The survey was administered in person or over the phone in English or Spanish, based on the respondent's choice.   Eighty two household surveys were completed, representing 196 individuals. Eleven individuals refused to take the survey, because they were not interested (eight), the survey was too long (one), or other reasons (2). After completing our Survey, respondents received a $20 gift card to the local Stop n' Save grocery store in Milbridge, ME.

Nearly three months were dedicated to consolidating, organizing, and rewording the survey; distributing a survey to an already marginalized and invisible population involves a very sensitive approach and process. Fundamental to this survey design process was using colloquial language in Spanish and English to make the survey as unobtrusive as possible.  While the HUD survey provided a universal template, our survey was specifically designed to address the strategic planning needs of Mano en Mano and to provide us with the data necessary to complete an economic impact analysis of this population.

It should be noted that this survey is not meant to be representative of the total Washington County population. It was designed to understand the unique circumstances of im/migrants ███ █████████ in Washington County so that their challenges may be better understood and addressed.

## Where Survey Respondents Live
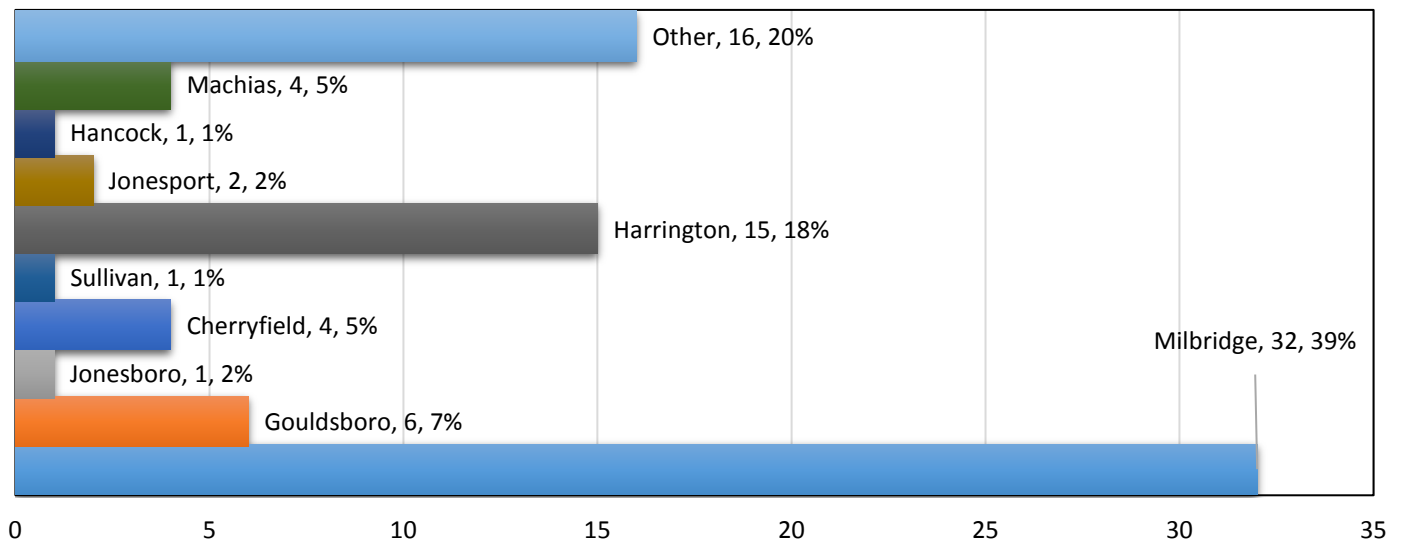


Participants were asked to identify where their households reside within Washington or and Hancock county. The majority of our survey participants (32 households containing 85 people) live within the town of Milbridge. The next highest concentration of survey participants live in Harrington (15 households), which is about a fifteen minute drive northeast from Milbridge. The "Other" category includes the towns of East Machias and Deblois.  When asked, 98% of all respondents identified the town in which they live as "home" ███████████████████ ██████████ .

*Country of Origin*

Our survey asked respondents to identify their home country and that of the people in their household. Mexico and Honduras were the predominant countries of origin outside the United States for the 196 people identified in our



Country of Origin of Survey Completers and their associates (197°)
- 1 Haiti, Canada, Dominican Republic, Ghana, India
- 2 Colombia
- 3 El Salvador, Puerto Rico, Guatemala
- 17 Honduras
- 61 United States
- 83 Mexico

sample.  Of these, 61 individuals were under the age of 18 years and 87% of these were born in the U.S.
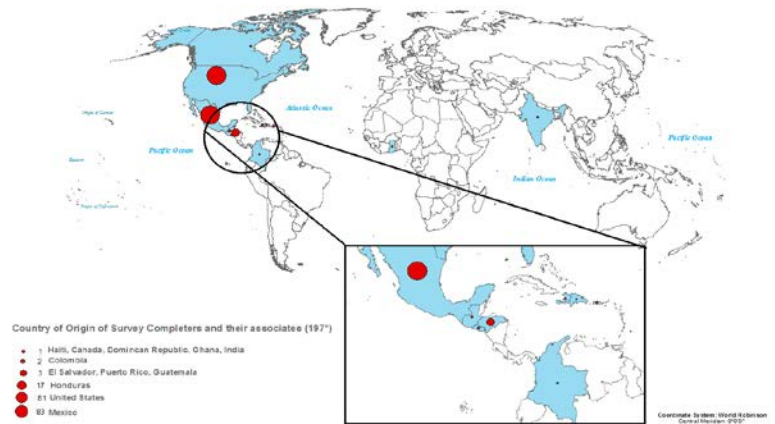
The median age of all 196 individuals represented by this survey was 28 years, while according to U.S. Census figures the median age in Milbridge is 51 years. The average household size for our sample was 2.39 people, while as the average family size was 3.38. Thirty-seven percent of households in our sample had children under the age of 18. Of households with children, the average number of children was 1.9.

Those who completed the survey were asked how many years have they lived in the United States and in the state of Maine. Average residency in the United States was 16.2 years with a median of 15 years. In terms of Maine residency, the average was 12 years with a median of 11 years.

*Race and Ethnicity*

Eighty percent of respondents to our survey identify as Latino or Hispanic. Eighteen percent identify as having two or more racial identities and 1% identify as White.

Forty-three percent of respondents report speaking only Spanish in their household, while 45% report speaking both Spanish and English.  Nine percent of households reportedly speak English only at home.



Other 1%
White 1%
Two or more 18%
Latino or Hispanic 80%
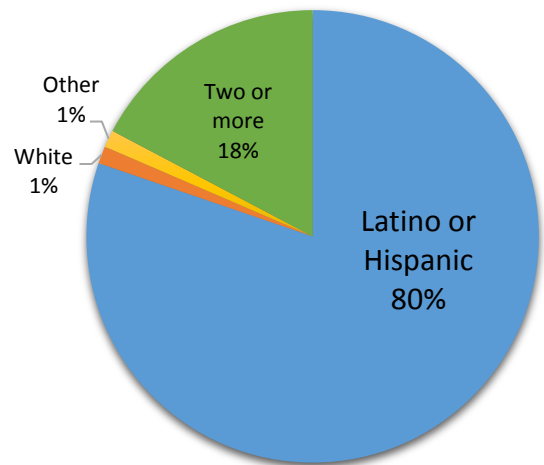
## Educational Attainment for Adults
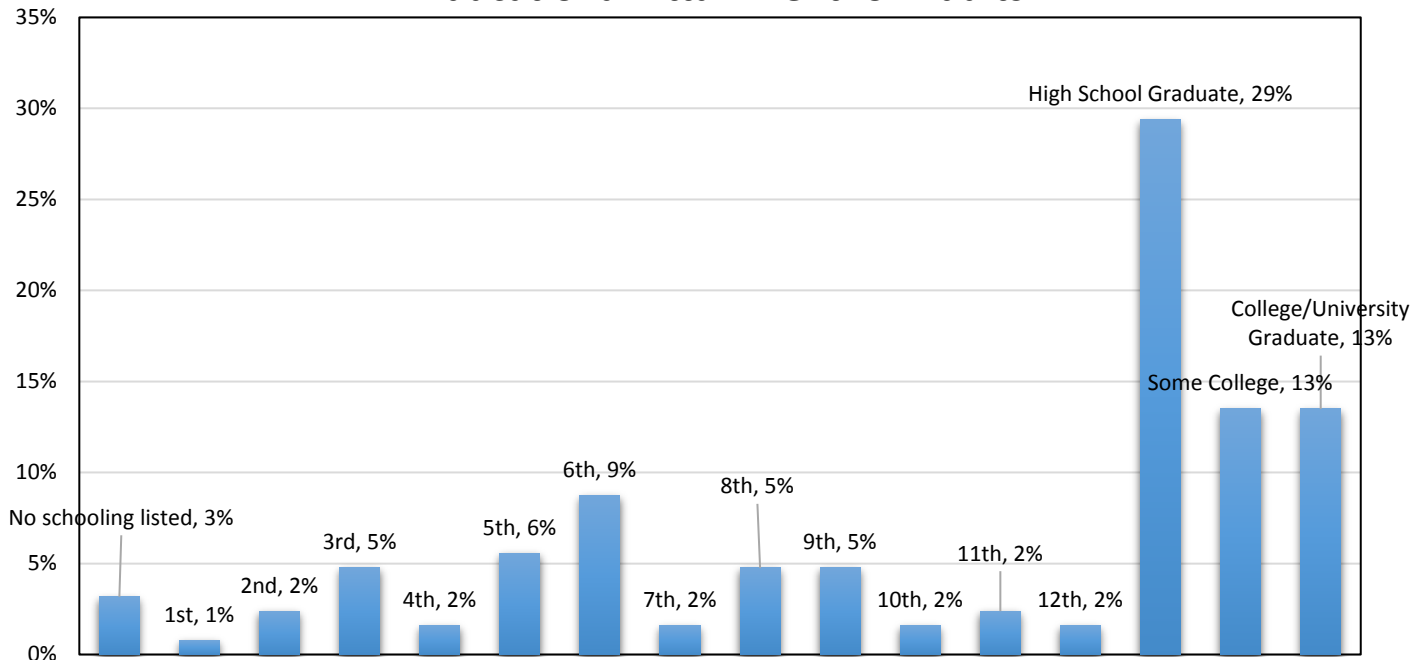


*Education*

Only 13% of our sample of respondents over 18 years of age were college or university graduates. Forty-five percent had no high school diploma. We also collected current enrollment data on 61 youths and of these 75% were reported to be in school. For those in school, 63% were enrolled in primary grades 1 through 8 and just under 20% were high school students.

*Household Income & Savings*

A total of 76 households reported their income on our survey. The most common household income bracket for this survey ($15,000-$24,000) straddles the 2016 national poverty line. Over half of participants live near or below the poverty line. The average household size for this survey was 2.39. According to the 2016 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 states, families of two earning less than $16,020 and families of three earning less than $20,160 annually are considered to live in poverty.
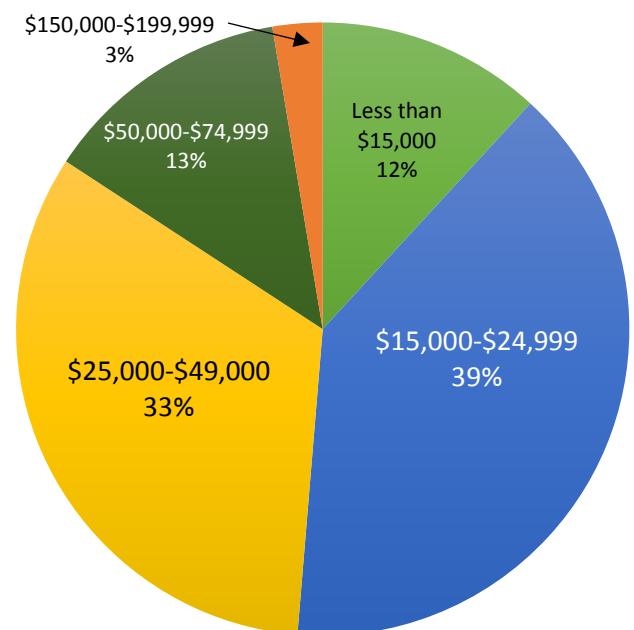
Just over a quarter of those who participated in our survey reported annual savings between $500 and $5,000. Twenty three percent reported savings of more than $5,000 and 11% of our respondents reported savings of over $10,000. Fifty-two percent of our sample reported no savings at during the previous year (2015).

*Housing*



**Housing Costs: Rent, Mortgage & Property Taxes**

| (n = # reported) | Average | Maximum | Minimum | Median |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rent (n = 45) | $474.71 | $1,500 | $0 | $465 |
| Mortgage (n = 24) | $405.95 | $1,600 | $100 | $324.50 |
| Property Taxes (n = 20) | $1,364.50 | $6,000 | $0 | $1,300 |

Of the 82 households that responded to the survey, 45 felt the rent question pertained to them. Some people responded that their rent was $0, likely a result of employer-subsidized or provided housing.

*Employment*

## Employment Status
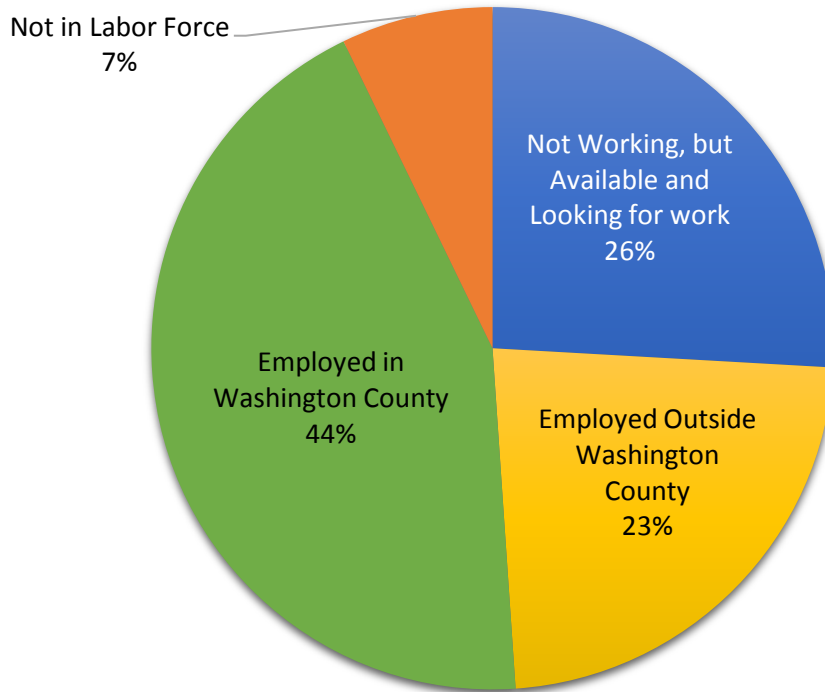


Washington County has a large agricultural and aquaculture workforce. Milbridge alone is surrounded with Lobster processing and wild blueberry farms. Therefore, it is no surprise that Farming and Fishing make up a large portion of the occupations reported in the chart below.
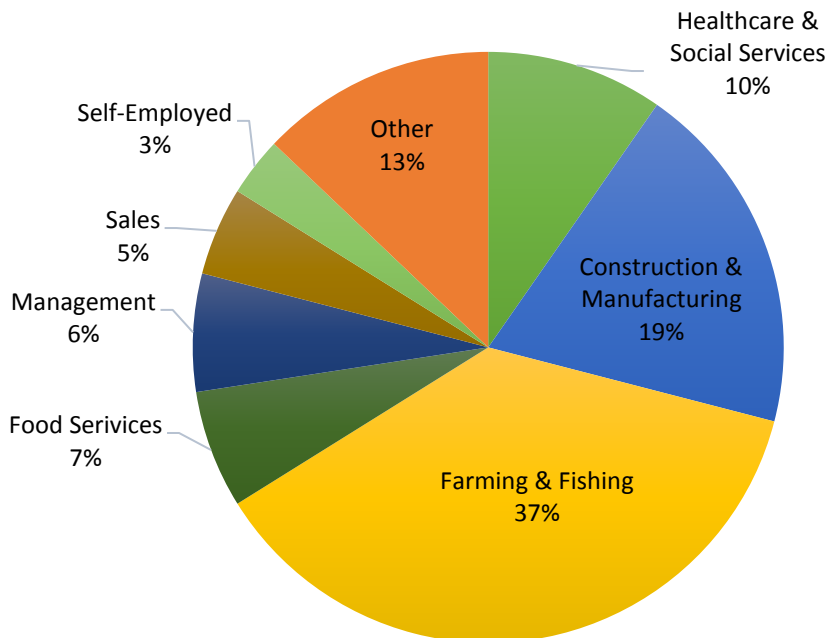
## Breakdown of types farm, fish, or foresty work done
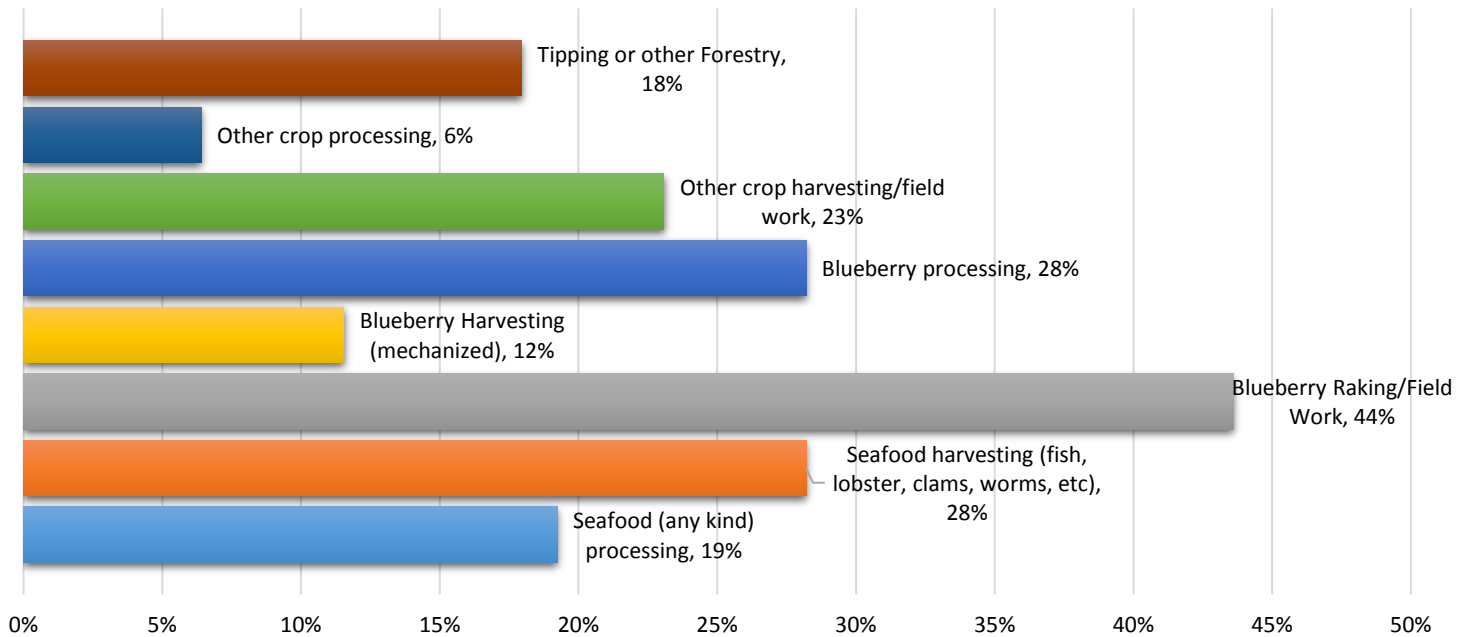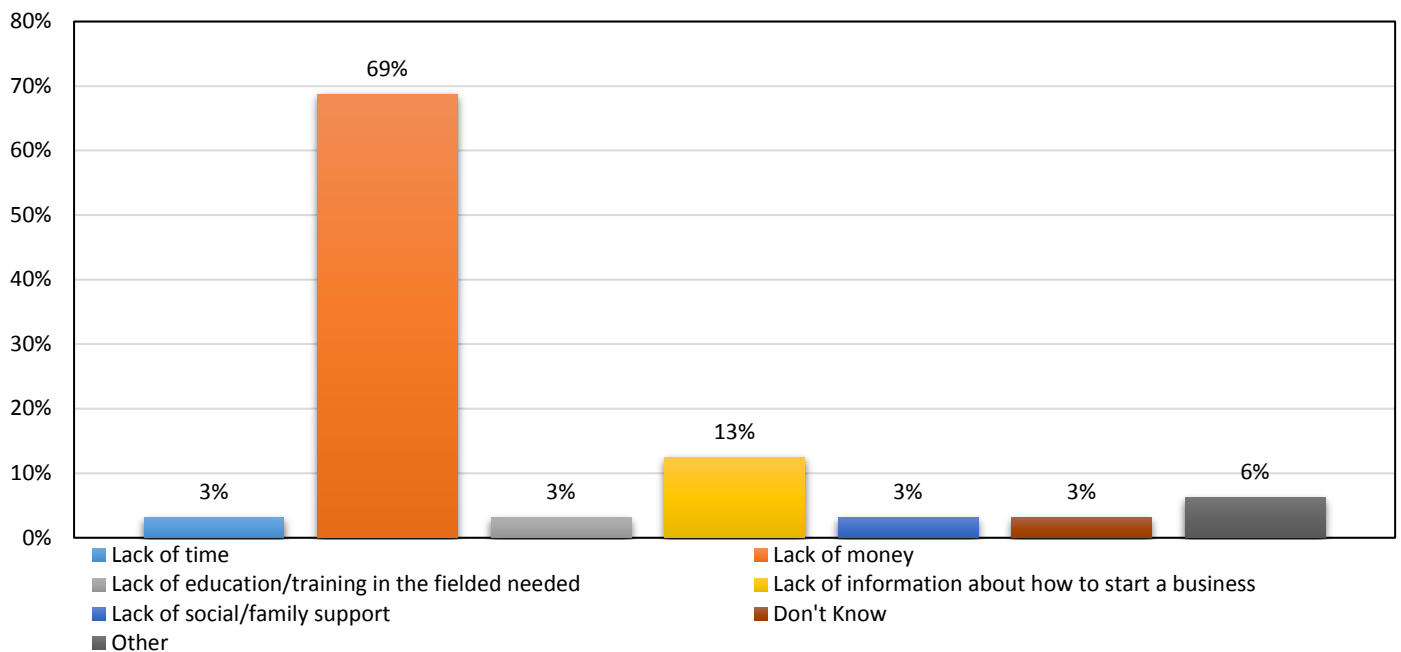
Tipping or other Forestry, 18%

Other crop processing, 6%

Other crop harvesting/field work, 23%

Blueberry processing, 28%

Blueberry Harvesting (mechanized), 12%

Blueberry Raking/Field Work, 44%

Seafood harvesting (fish, lobster, clams, worms, etc), 28%

Seafood (any kind) processing, 19%

Fully one-third of our sample were reportedly interested in starting their own business. The chart below presents our results for perceived impediments to starting a business.

## What would be the biggest challenge for you to start your own business?

3%    69%    3%    13%    3%    3%    6%

- Lack of time
- Lack of money
- Lack of education/training in the fielded needed
- Lack of information about how to start a business
- Lack of social/family support
- Don't Know
- Other

*Health Insurance*

## Types of Health Insurance in Households
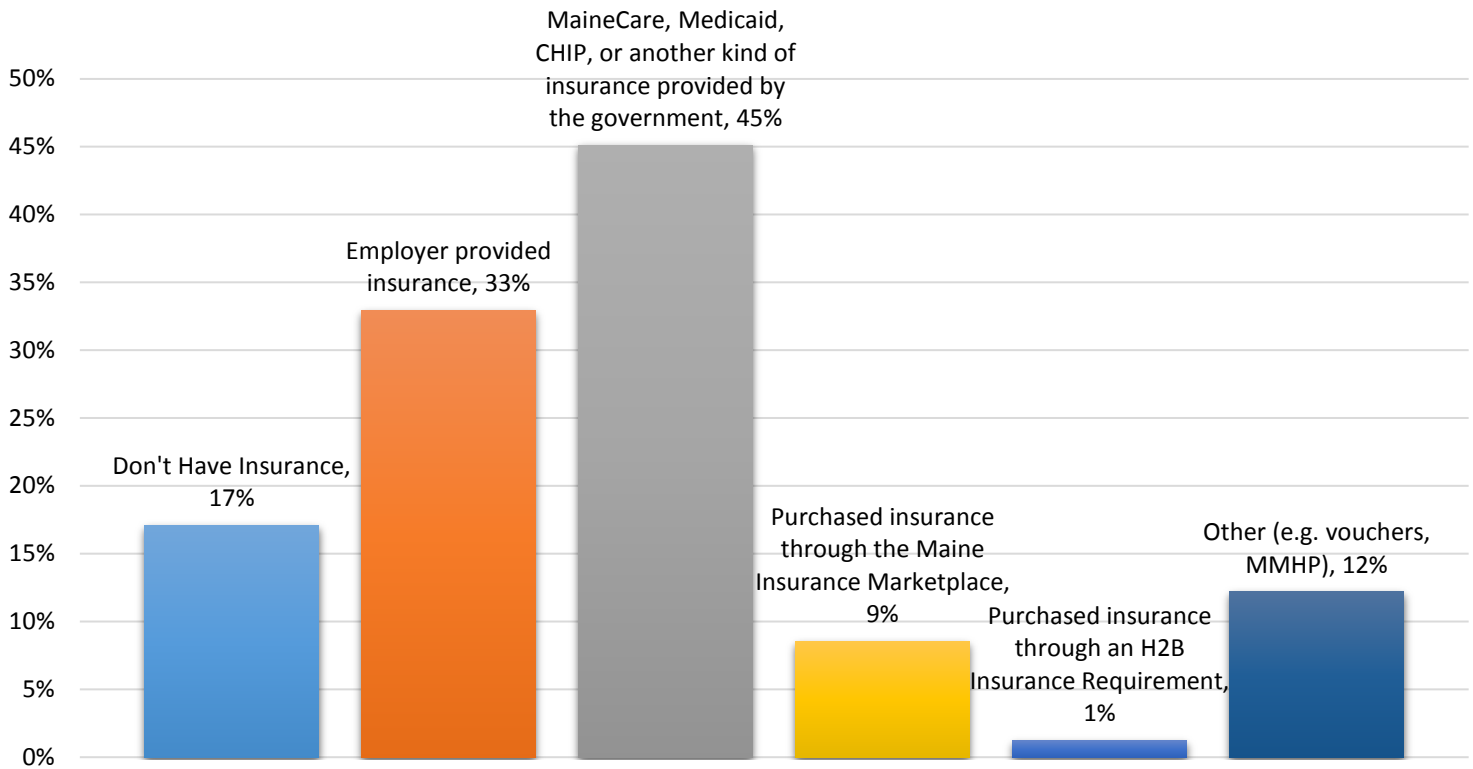


Seventeen percent of households don't have insurance, which accounts for 25 people in our survey. Most respondents have government or employer-provided health care. Multiple plans were found within certain households. See Table 4 for more details about individual people.

| Health insurance coverage per individual | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent |
| Surveyed Population | 196 | 100% |
| With Health Insurance Coverage | 171 | 87.2% |
| With Private Health Insurance | 64 | 32.7% |
| With Public Coverage | 104 | 53.1% |
| No Health Insurance | 25 | 12.8% |
| Population Under 18 | 61 | 31.1% |
| No Health Insurance | 4 | 6.6% |

*Public Services*

## Public Services Used by Households
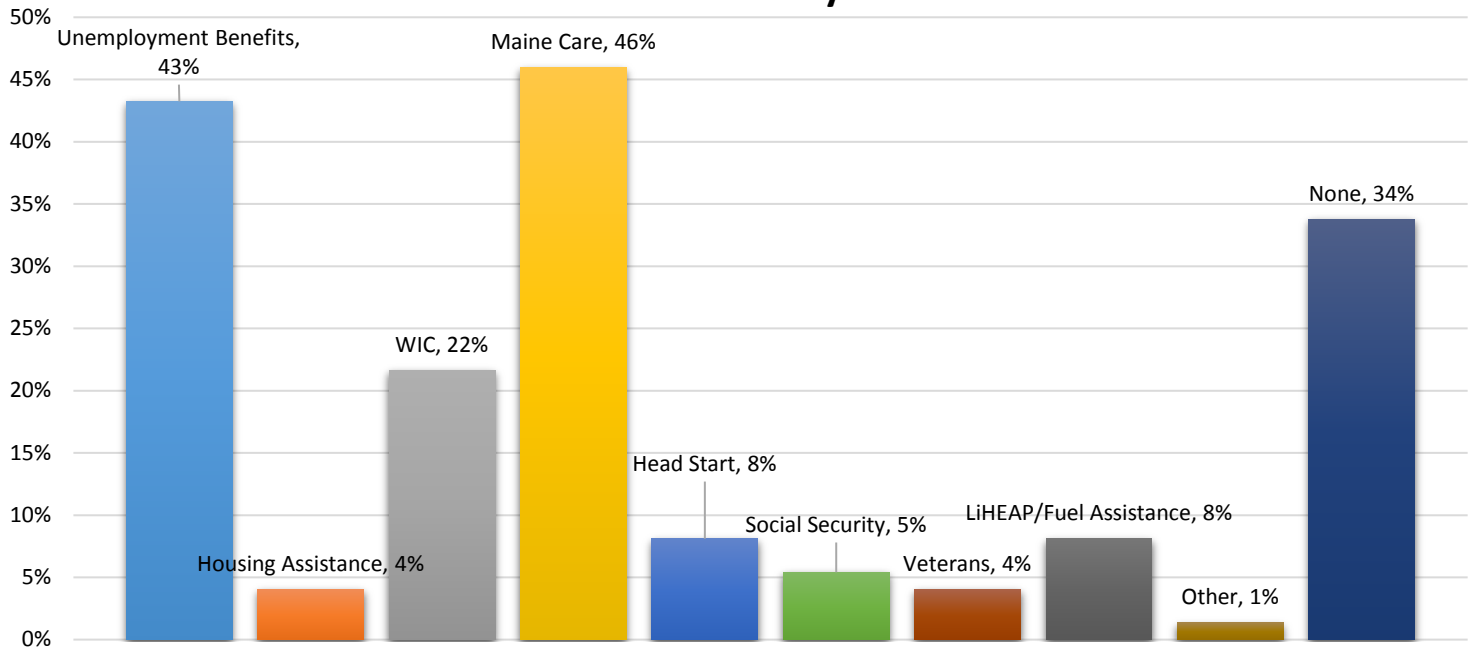


Respondents receive assistance from a variety of state and national programs. Sixty-three percent of households receiving unemployment benefits were covered under MaineCare. Almost 94% of household receiving WIC benefits were covered under MaineCare.

*Financial Services*

## Financial Services Households Have Used In Past Year
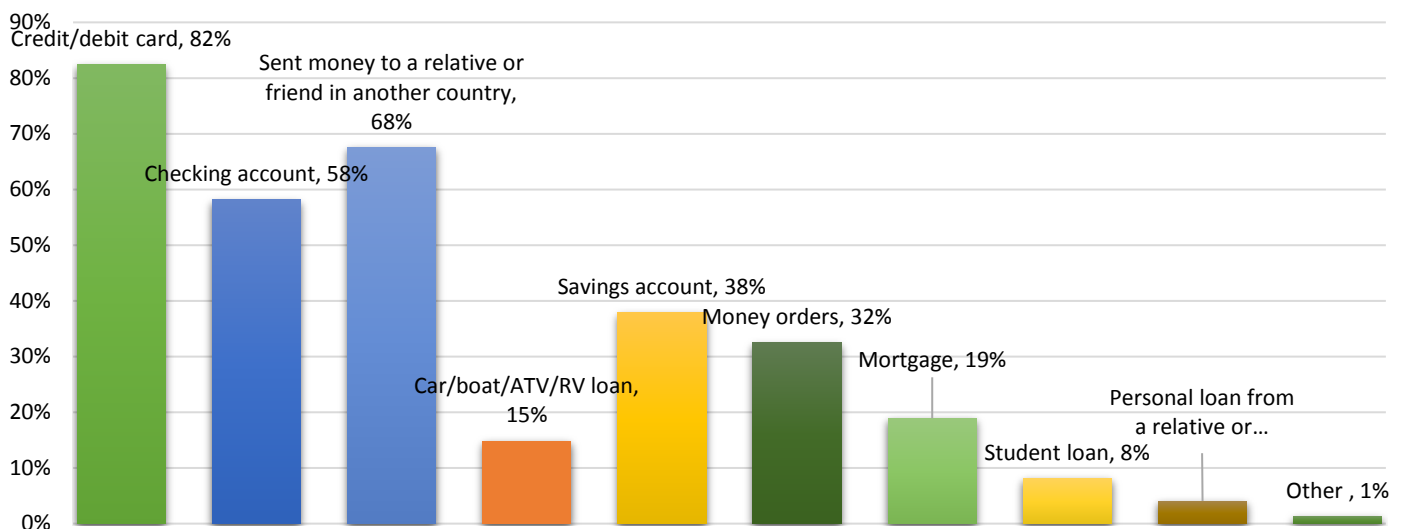
*Barriers to Services*

As the results above reveal, many community members are eligible for public benefits and support services. However, barriers exist between eligibility and the realization of these resources. Many individuals did not seek services because they didn't know what was available or how to access it.

Respondents were asked what, if any, barriers to legal aid exist in their community. Although 35% reported no barriers, those indicating challenges to acquiring legal services most indicated inadequate access to translation help (20%), cost (18%), and lack of experience navigating the system (14%). Other reported barriers included transportation (8%) and technology (2%).

Two thirds of respondents to our survey have at some point needed help with interpretation or translation. When asked how often their translation/interpretation needs are met, 54% replied most of the time, 37% said sometimes, and 9% replied not very often or never. Language barriers can have significant effects on economic prosperity and individuals' ability to integrate into a community.

*Assimilation*

Although majority of households in our survey reported that they believe that their town is safe or mostly safe, 22% of households don't feel comfortable interacting or calling with police. The "Other" category is mainly comprised of households not knowing how comfortable they would be

**Do you and the people you live with feel comfortable calling or interacting with the police in your area?**



during an interaction because police have never been called or interacted with in their given experience. Language and interpretation (8%) is the second largest reason why people do not feel comfortable interacting with police.
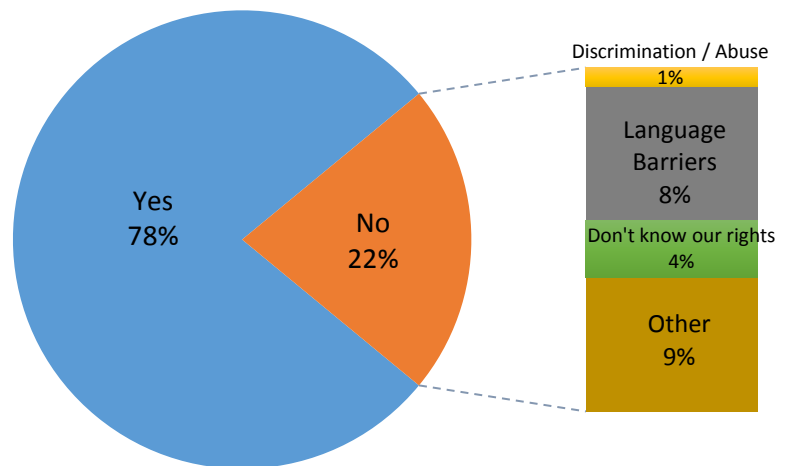
Although majority of households have no experiences discrimination, the portion who has experienced discrimination see it in a variety of places; the most common one being at work with 12% of households who have.
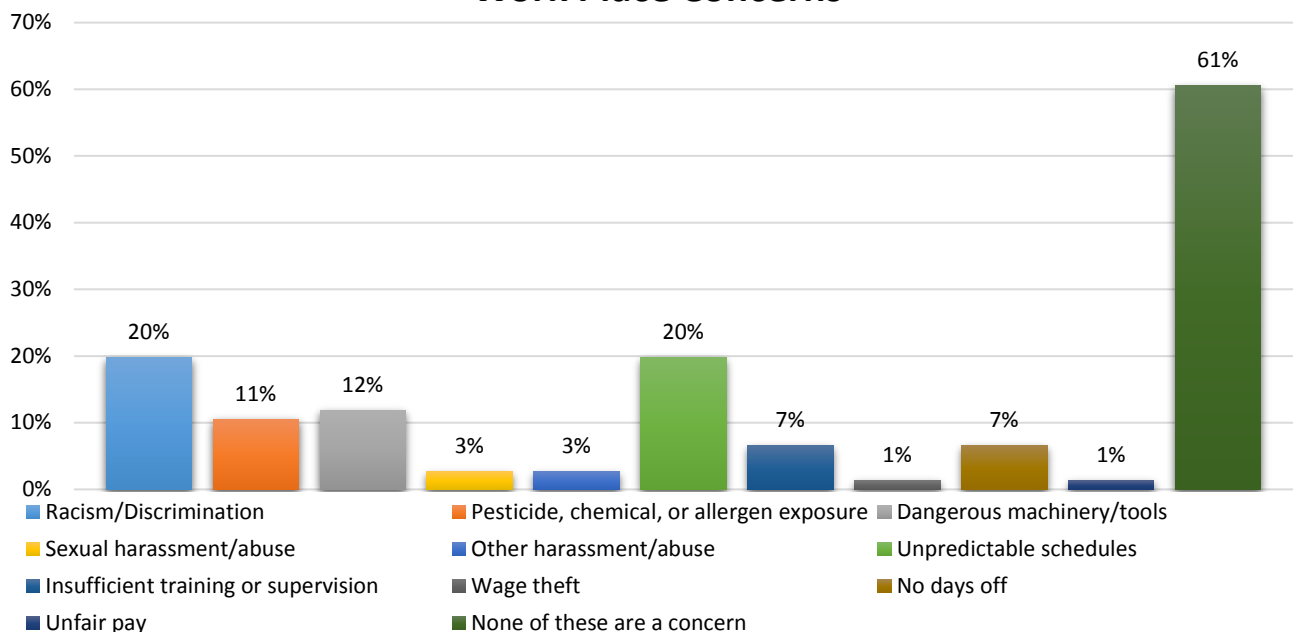
## Do you feel that you or someone you live with has ever been treated unfairly because of your race/ethnicity?
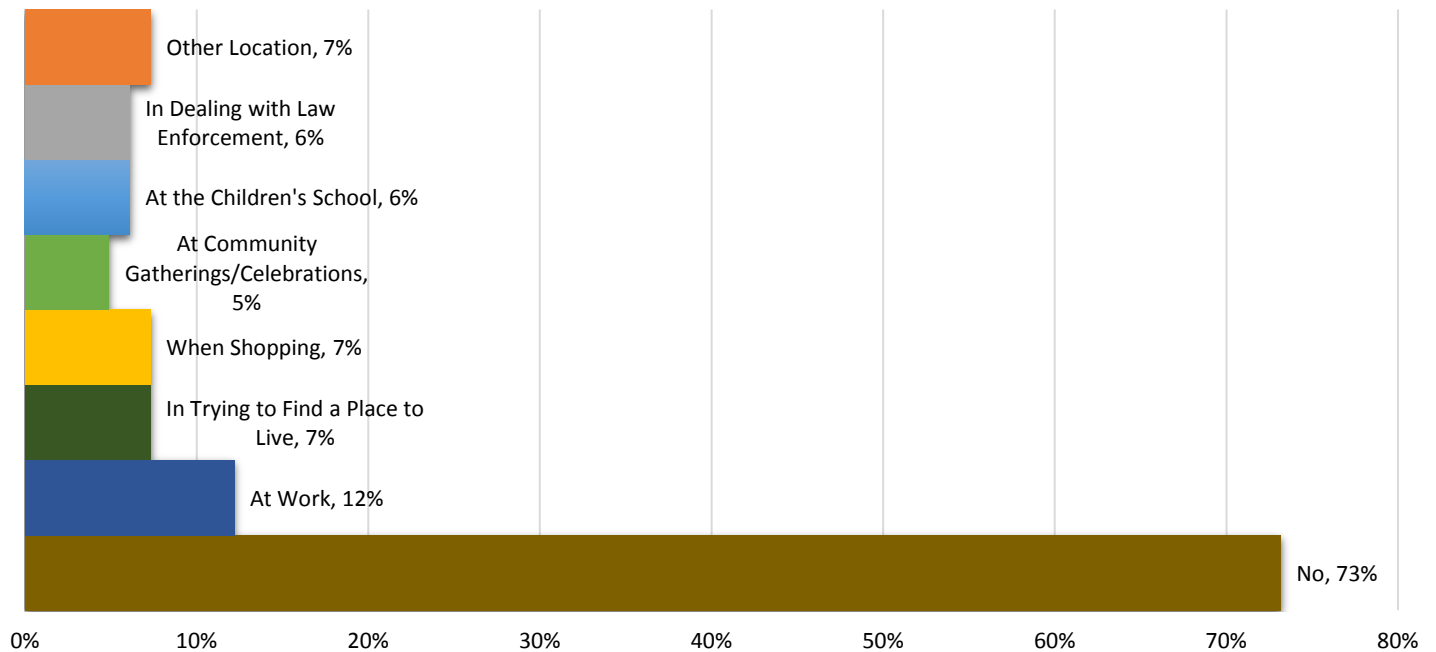


## Work Place Concerns

## Aspects of Downeast That Are Liked
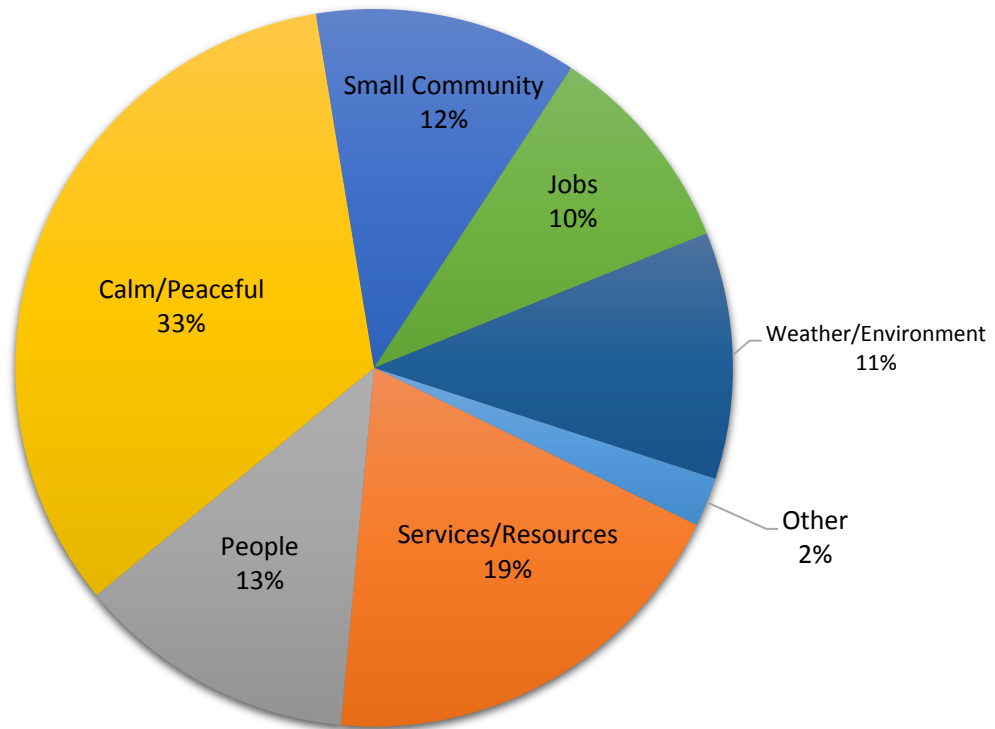


| Category | Comments included: |
|---|---|
| Calm/Peaceful | Quiet, Safe, low crime rate |
| Jobs | Good jobs |
| Small Community | Neighborhoods, Small town, Little traffic, Hardworking |
| Weather/Environment | Pretty, Snow |
| Services/Resources | Gym, Medical services, Assistance, Education |
| People | Supportive, Nice, Helpful |
| Other | Tourist, Don't pay rent, Not much racism |

When asked what people liked about Milbridge, their home, or Downeast Maine in general, a third of our respondents said that they were attracted to how calm and peaceful it is. The serenity of Downeast is what many cite as the perfect place to start a family. People felt physically safe and wished for their kids and family members to enjoy it.

## Aspects of Downeast That Are Disliked
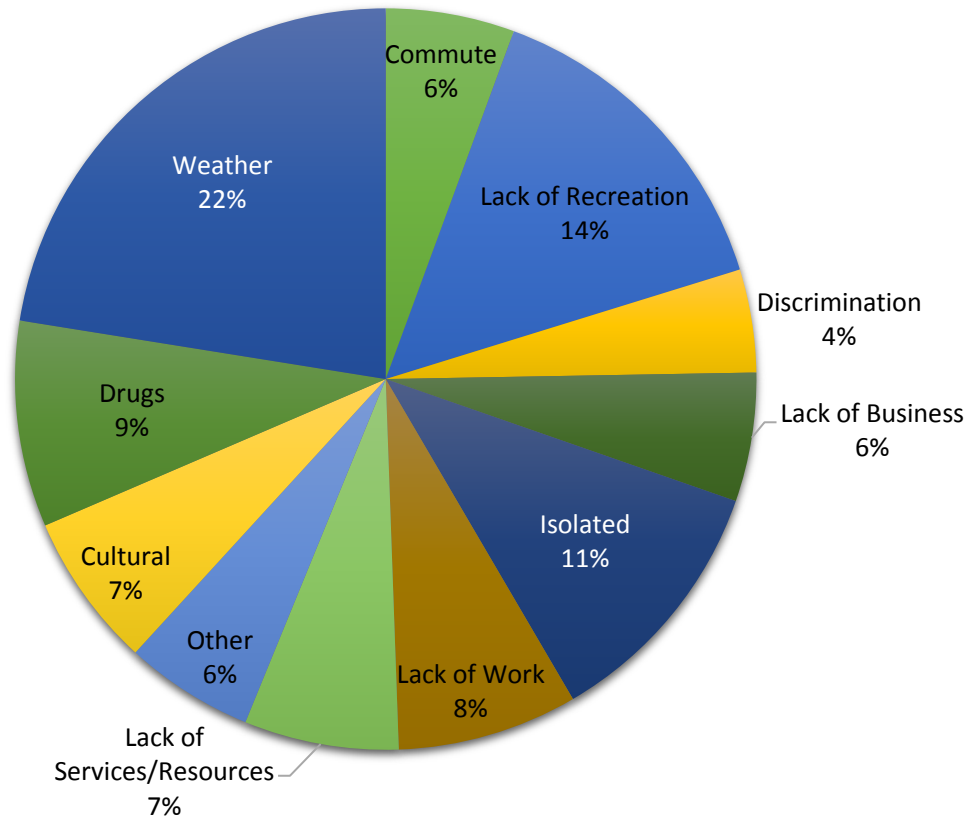


The problem with living in Downeast Maine is that the state is prone to harsh and long winters. More than a fifth of those who provided comments said that the weather is a problem, although 11% of people in a previous question claimed that it something that is enjoyed. The second highest complaint is the lack of available recreation activities. Many rerspondents claimed there is little to do, especially for children.

*Mano en Mano Results*

Most commonly, survey respondents hear about Mano en Mano events through social media or word of mouth. Eighty seven percent of respondents said they felt welcome at Mano en Mano's events. Ten percent had never been to any events and 2% said they did not feel welcome.

When asked about the statement, "Mano en Mano meets my translation needs" 69% agreed, 3% disagreed, 26% had never used the services, and 1% didn't know. When asked whether or not

respondents feel as if information they've share with Mano en Mano has been kept confidential, 80 of 82 respondents agreed with this statement. When asked whether they thought Mano en Mano treats everyone fairly, 89% agreed and 6% disagreed. Two percent of respondents had never interacted with Mano en Mano. When asked if they had had negative experiences with Mano en Mano, 95% replied no and 3% replied yes.

Facebook and Social Media (61%) is by far the way people prefer to hear about events that Mano en Mano hosts. Detailed posts in English and Spanish are ways to reach and keep the service area informed and up to date. Moreover, Word of Mouth (48%) was also a significant way that people would like to hear about Mano en Mano. It is critical to maintain a local presence and constant communication with members to ensure spread of information.

*Improving the Community*
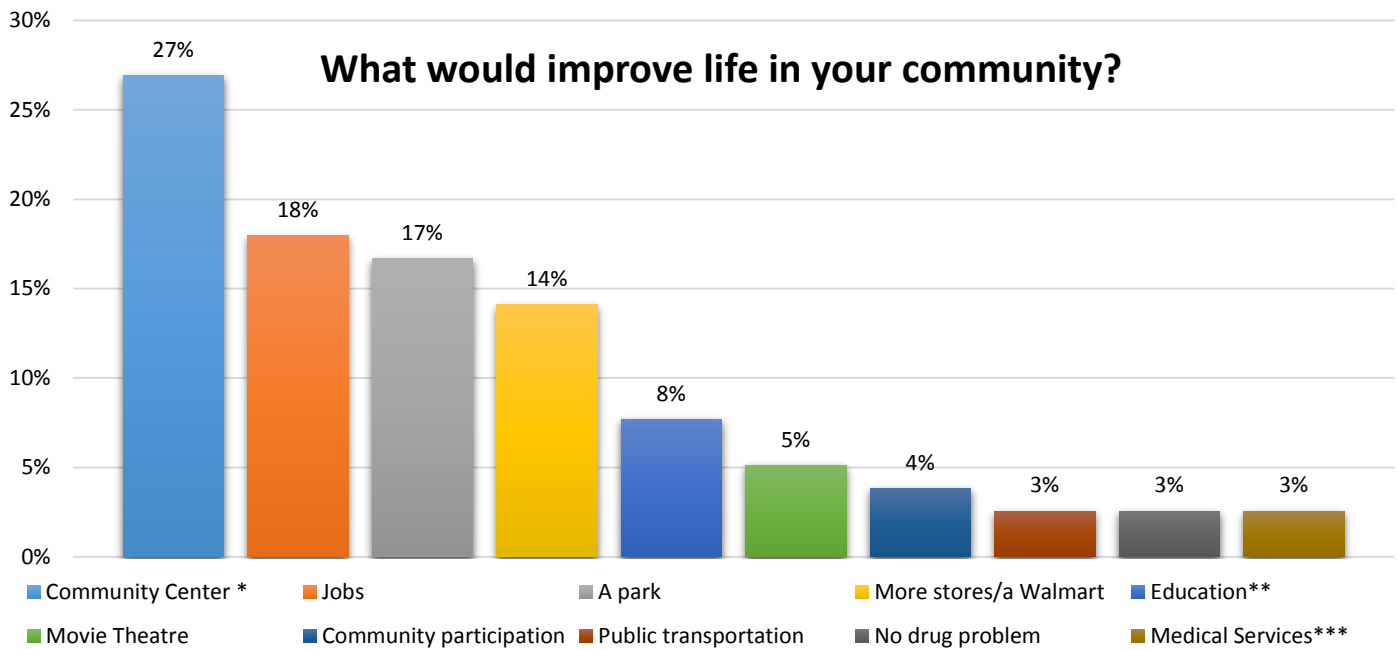


| Category | Requests included |
|---|---|
| Community Center | Afterschool care, English and Spanish classes, Art and Music classes, Sports, Dances |
| Education | Better schools, Bilingual preschool, Latino daycare, Adult school, English classes in Gouldsboro, Academic financial assistance |
| Medical Services | Spanish-speaking doctors, affordable care |

**Economic Impact Analysis**

Estimating economic impacts is typically done for specific events, like a new employer arriving in an area, a new sports stadium, or the effect of natural disasters. It's also common to measure the contribution of particular types of spending on a geographic area. The approach taken is commonly known as input-output or multiplier analysis. Our application differs in applying it to a specific group of people, the im/migrant community in and around Milbridge, Maine. This requires a different sort of data collection. There were forty questions on our survey related to the economic impact of respondents on the greater Milbridge area. We examined a wide range of spending categories, costs of living generally and for specific purposes (e.g., healthcare and housing). In this way we employed a 'follow the money' approach by aggregating spending across different categories for the households in our sample and then applying multipliers to get an estimate of the amount of economic activity that we could attribute to this cohort of individuals.

Employed in this fashion, modeling the economic impacts requires some care as some types of spending generate impacts within the regions (e.g., groceries, auto repair, wood and fuel oil purchases), while others generate impacts outside the regions (e.g., remittances, college tuition), and some have shared impacts in and outside the region (gasoline purchases at Irving Oil, a Canadian company).

In quantifying the economic impacts we used the IMPLAN modeling system which provides the multiplier estimates and enables a decomposition into direct, indirect, and induced effects. The direct effects come from summary totals of the spending information recorded for 82 households and 196 people in our survey. The indirect effects capture business-to-business purchases and their multiplicative effects on the community. And the induced effects capture the multiplicative impact of wages paid to workers.

For example, to capture the impacts of spending on automobile repairs and maintenance in the greater Milbridge area, the direct effects represent the amount paid by the individual to the auto repair shop. The indirect effects represent the spending on parts by the auto repair shop and the multiplicative effect that spending has on the community via the parts supplier. The induced effects are modeled as multiplicative impacts of spending of wages paid to the auto repair shop mechanics in the community.

*Sample Spending Questions*

**Q85 - Each month, how much do you and the people you live with spend on food at the following types of local restaurants?**

| Question | 0-9 | 10-49 | 50-99 | 100-199 | 200-299 | 300-499 | 500+ | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fast food (McDonalds, Subway, etc.) | 27.85% | 27.85% | 22.78% | 15.19% | 3.80% | 2.53% | 0.00% | 79 |
| Take-out from a general store or local market | 33.33% | 14.10% | 11.54% | 19.23% | 7.69% | 5.13% | 8.97% | 78 |
| Casual dining (Milbridge House, Pat's Pizza, Vazquez Mexican Restaurant) | 40.00% | 21.25% | 22.50% | 13.75% | 1.25% | 1.25% | 0.00% | 80 |
| Snack foods (treats like ice cream, candy, chips purchased outside your normal grocery shopping) | 45.57% | 29.11% | 15.19% | 7.59% | 2.53% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 79 |

**Q63 - Each month, how much do you and the people you live with spend in total on gasoline, including cars, trucks, boats, ATVs, etc.?  (Self-employed persons should not include fuel purchases for the business)**

*Measuring Impacts*

Spending Patterns
✓ 82 Households
✓ 196 People

**Direct Effects**
- Local spending

Commodities

Labor

Indirect
Effects

Induced
Effects

"Leakages"
- Taxes & retained earnings
- Out of area purchases of goods and services

"Leakages"
- Taxes, retained earnings
- Out of area purchases of goods and services

"Leakages"
- Taxes & saving by households and businesses
- Out of area purchases of goods and services

Total
**$**
Effect

## Economic Impacts: Top 10 Sectors

| | Employment | Labor Income | Value Added | Total Output |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Real estate | 2.3 | $33,238 | $171,329 | $289,176 |
| Limited-service restaurants | 2.4 | $41,335 | $109,438 | $189,552 |
| Wireless telecommunications carriers | 0.1 | $3,489 | $34,235 | $135,016 |
| Electric power transmission and distribution | 0.1 | $7,572 | $37,420 | $114,104 |
| Automotive repair and maintenance | 1.2 | $38,661 | $48,383 | $86,140 |
| Satellite, telecommunications resellers, and all other telecommunications | 0.6 | $35,978 | $33,125 | $62,888 |
| Retail - Gasoline stores | 1.2 | $27,555 | $33,668 | $60,192 |
| Full-service restaurants | 1.3 | $21,652 | $26,203 | $55,814 |
| Maintenance and repair construction of residential structures | 0.3 | $9,691 | $10,466 | $43,702 |
| General merchandise stores | 0.6 | $15,042 | $24,452 | $38,688 |

## Total economic impact

| | Employment | Labor Income | Total Value Added | Output |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Direct Effect | 11 | $279,747 | $556,831 | $1,114,095 |
| Indirect Effect | 2 | $53,085 | $101,834 | $244,550 |
| Induced Effect | 1 | $47,559 | $91,312 | $169,013 |
| Total Effect | 15 | $380,391 | $749,977 | **$1,527,658** |

Most of the estimated $1.5 million impact of the im/migrants in our sample occurs in Milbridge and the immediate area. Our sample of respondents represents approximately 35% of the Latino population in Washington County. Assuming that our sample is representative of the total population, then we can estimate a total impact of closer to $4 million annually and support for up to 60 jobs based upon the relatively narrowly defined areas of spending captured by our survey.

*Conclusion*

There is much work still to be done to promote community investment and spirit amongst this population, however our survey paints a picture of a population of Latino im/migrants proud to be home in Downeast Maine. Mano en Mano should be credited for the positive effects they have had on strengthening the sentiment of belonging in their service area. This population of Latino immigrants is gaining a voice; embracing their visibility in and importance to Maine can help further the development of that voice.

Timeline for this project

September 2015
• Introduction to Mano en Mano

Fall 2015
• Study Design
• December 14th meeting

Jan & Feb 2016
• January 15th meeting with community partners in Milbridge
• Survey design, construction & pretesting

Mar – Jun 2016
• Survey administered
• "From Sojourner to Settler"

Jun – Aug 2016
• Coding
• Data cleaning
• On-site interviews
• Video work

Fall 2016
• Data analysis
• Presentation of Preliminary Results