

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF MAINE

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(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of Maine between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 66,548, or 7.9 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 29,686, or 42.4 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 16.5 percent. On the other hand, the number of persons 15 to 24 years old decreased by 5.6 percent. The 1950 Census was the first since 1880 to record an excess of females over males in the population of the State.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "non-white" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

(over)

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR MAINE, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	913,774	847,226	7.9	472,000	441,774	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	910,847	844,543	7.9	470,802	440,045	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.6
Nonwhite.....	2,927	2,683	9.1	1,198	1,729	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Male.....	454,145	425,821	6.7	227,303	226,842	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	452,504	424,327	6.6	226,611	225,893	99.6	99.6	99.7	99.6
Nonwhite.....	1,641	1,494	9.8	692	949	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Female.....	459,629	421,405	9.1	244,697	214,932	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	458,343	420,216	9.1	244,191	214,152	99.7	99.7	99.8	99.6
Nonwhite.....	1,286	1,189	8.2	506	780	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR MAINE, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	913,774	847,226	7.9	472,000	319,946	121,828	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	51.7	35.0	13.3	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	99,680	69,994	42.4	49,471	37,692	12,517	10.9	8.3	10.5	11.8	10.3
5 to 14 years.....	153,783	151,313	1.6	71,488	57,558	24,737	16.8	17.9	15.1	18.0	20.3
15 to 24 years.....	137,089	145,152	-5.6	72,109	46,826	18,154	15.0	17.1	15.3	14.6	14.9
25 to 34 years.....	128,201	120,189	6.7	70,044	44,870	13,287	14.0	14.2	14.8	14.0	10.9
35 to 44 years.....	117,394	107,144	9.6	62,707	40,098	14,589	12.8	12.6	13.3	12.5	12.0
45 to 54 years.....	101,324	95,906	5.6	54,971	32,697	13,656	11.1	11.3	11.6	10.2	11.2
55 to 64 years.....	82,738	77,203	7.2	44,267	26,797	11,674	9.1	9.1	9.4	8.4	9.6
65 years and over.....	93,565	80,325	16.5	46,943	33,408	13,214	10.2	9.5	9.9	10.4	10.8
Median age.....years..	30.2	29.8	...	31.1	29.0	29.1	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	454,145	425,821	6.7	227,303	162,197	64,645	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	51,033	35,472	43.9	25,320	19,271	6,442	11.2	8.3	11.1	11.9	10.0
5 to 14 years.....	78,481	76,746	2.3	36,180	29,498	12,803	17.3	18.0	15.9	18.2	19.8
15 to 24 years.....	67,723	73,251	-7.5	33,890	23,759	10,074	14.9	17.2	14.9	14.6	15.6
25 to 34 years.....	63,239	60,046	5.3	34,272	22,298	6,669	13.9	14.1	15.1	13.7	10.3
35 to 44 years.....	58,258	53,130	9.7	30,201	20,582	7,475	12.8	12.5	13.3	12.7	11.6
45 to 54 years.....	49,980	48,628	2.8	26,090	16,649	7,241	11.0	11.4	11.5	10.3	11.2
55 to 64 years.....	40,969	39,225	4.4	20,940	13,529	6,500	9.0	9.2	9.2	8.3	10.1
65 years and over.....	44,462	39,323	13.1	20,410	16,611	7,441	9.8	9.2	9.0	10.2	11.5
Median age.....years..	29.7	29.6	...	30.3	28.8	29.5	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	459,629	421,405	9.1	244,697	157,749	57,183	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	48,647	34,522	40.9	24,151	18,421	6,075	10.6	8.2	9.9	11.7	10.6
5 to 14 years.....	75,302	74,567	1.0	35,308	28,060	11,934	16.4	17.7	14.4	17.8	20.9
15 to 24 years.....	69,366	71,901	-3.5	38,219	23,067	8,080	15.1	17.1	15.6	14.6	14.1
25 to 34 years.....	64,962	60,143	8.0	35,772	22,572	6,618	14.1	14.3	14.6	14.3	11.6
35 to 44 years.....	59,136	54,014	9.5	32,506	19,516	7,114	12.9	12.8	13.3	12.4	12.4
45 to 54 years.....	51,344	47,278	8.6	28,881	16,048	6,415	11.2	11.2	11.8	10.2	11.2
55 to 64 years.....	41,769	37,978	10.0	23,327	13,268	5,174	9.1	9.0	9.5	8.4	9.0
65 years and over.....	49,103	41,002	19.8	26,533	16,797	5,773	10.7	9.7	10.8	10.6	10.1
Median age.....years..	30.6	29.9	...	31.9	29.1	28.8	...	...	...	...	...