

## SECTION X: POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

*“This is a very difficult question. If you take a look at the aging population and demographics, we are going to have a big increase in the number of health care jobs needed in the state and in the country.” - Dave Obey, former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives - Wisconsin.*

### 1. Statement of State and Local Goals.

There are no State goals related to population and demographics.

Local goals: TBD (If Any).

### 2. What is happening? (Conditions and Trends)

#### A. Background:

Population is the total number of inhabitants of any defined geographic area or group of areas, such as a State, County, Municipality, or a uniquely defined area or subset. Demography is the study of human populations and includes measurements of age, income, and education. In other words, demographics describe the population. This Section of the Comprehensive plan looks at both population and demographics both for Biddeford itself as well as how it compares to the State, the County, and two unique subsets of the State:

1. The first subset is the Labor Market of Biddeford defined here to consist of those municipalities whose boundaries touch within a 15 mile radius of Exit 32 of the Maine Turnpike. This area is included for comparison purposes because of the economic importance it has for Biddeford, both in terms of available labor as well as consumer spending. The 15-mile labor market area defined herein includes the following municipalities:

- Alfred
- Arundel
- Biddeford
- Buxton
- Cape Elizabeth
- Dayton
- Gorham
- Hollis
- Kennebunk
- Kennebunkport
- Lyman
- Old Orchard Beach
- Portland
- Saco
- Sanford
- Scarborough
- South Portland
- Waterboro
- Wells
- Westbrook

2. The second subset includes those municipalities classified as “cities” with a similar total population as Biddeford’s: those with a population greater than 15,000 but not including Portland. This comparison is useful to better understand how Biddeford relates to communities with similar public service and fiscal demands. All of these Maine municipalities are classified as “Service Center Communities” which are defined by certain characteristics related to four (4) criteria including level of retail sales, jobs-to-workers ratio, the amount of federally assisted housing, and the volume of service sector jobs. These communities, which we will hereafter refer to as “Peer Group” (PG), include:

- Auburn
- Augusta
- Bangor
- Biddeford
- Brunswick
- Lewiston
- Saco
- Sanford
- South Portland
- Waterville
- Westbrook

#### B. Population

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Biddeford’s population was 21,277, which makes it the 6<sup>th</sup> largest municipality in the State in terms of number of people. In comparison to its labor market area (LMA), Biddeford’s population is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest, next to Portland and South Portland. Table X shows Biddeford LMA ranked from largest in population to least, based on 2010 populations. It also demonstrates changes in population from 2000.

**Table X. Population Totals for Biddeford’s 15-Mile Labor Market Area Communities – Ranked by Population**

Municipality	County	2010 Population	Change from 2000	% Change from 2000	2000 Population
Portland	Cumberland	66,194	1,945	3.0%	64,249
South Portland	Cumberland	25,002	1,678	7.2%	23,324
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>21,277</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>20,942</b>
Sanford	York	20,798	-8	0.0%	20,806
Scarborough	Cumberland	18,919	1,949	11.5%	16,970
Saco	York	18,482	1,660	9.9%	16,822
Westbrook	Cumberland	17,494	1,352	8.4%	16,142
Gorham	Cumberland	16,381	2,240	15.8%	14,141
Kennebunk	York	10,798	322	3.1%	10,476
Wells	York	9,589	189	2.0%	9,400
Cape Elizabeth	Cumberland	9,015	-53	-0.6%	9,068
Old Orchard Beach	York	8,624	-232	-2.6%	8,856
Buxton	York	8,034	582	7.8%	7,452
Waterboro	York	7,693	1,479	23.8%	6,214
Lyman	York	4,344	549	14.5%	3,795
Hollis	York	4,281	167	4.1%	4,114
Arundel	York	4,022	451	12.6%	3,571
Kennebunkport	York	3,474	-246	-6.6%	3,720
Alfred	York	3,019	522	20.9%	2,497
Dayton	York	1,965	160	8.9%	1,805

Source: U.S. Census 2000, 2010.

Although Biddeford is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest municipality in the LMA, its rate of change in population since 2000 is relatively little in both real numbers (335 persons) and percentage change (1.6%). Table X re-ranks the LMA communities in terms of rate of change over the ten year period between 2000 and 2010.

**Table X. Population Totals for Biddeford’s 15-Mile Labor Market Area Communities – Ranked by % Change from 2000 to 2010**

Municipality	County	2010 Population	Change from 2000	% Change from 2000	2000 Population
Waterboro	York	7,693	1,479	<b>23.8%</b>	6,214
Alfred	York	3,019	522	<b>20.9%</b>	2,497
Gorham	Cumberland	16,381	2,240	<b>15.8%</b>	14,141
Lyman	York	4,344	549	<b>14.5%</b>	3,795
Arundel	York	4,022	451	<b>12.6%</b>	3,571
Scarborough	Cumberland	18,919	1,949	<b>11.5%</b>	16,970
Saco	York	18,482	1,660	<b>9.9%</b>	16,822
Dayton	York	1,965	160	<b>8.9%</b>	1,805
Westbrook	Cumberland	17,494	1,352	<b>8.4%</b>	16,142
Buxton	York	8,034	582	<b>7.8%</b>	7,452
South Portland	Cumberland	25,002	1,678	<b>7.2%</b>	23,324
Hollis	York	4,281	167	<b>4.1%</b>	4,114
Kennebunk	York	10,798	322	<b>3.1%</b>	10,476
Portland	Cumberland	66,194	1,945	<b>3.0%</b>	64,249
Wells	York	9,589	189	<b>2.0%</b>	9,400
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>21,277</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>20,942</b>
Sanford	York	20,798	-8	<b>0.0%</b>	20,806
Cape Elizabeth	Cumberland	9,015	-53	<b>-0.6%</b>	9,068
Old Orchard Beach	York	8,624	-232	<b>-2.6%</b>	8,856
Kennebunkport	York	3,474	-246	<b>-6.6%</b>	3,720

Source: U.S. Census 2000, 2010.

As mentioned above, Biddeford is a “Service Center Community” by definition. The other subset for comparison other than Biddeford’s LMA is the similar sized Service Centers outlined above and presented in Table X in rank order of percent change between 2000 and 2010.

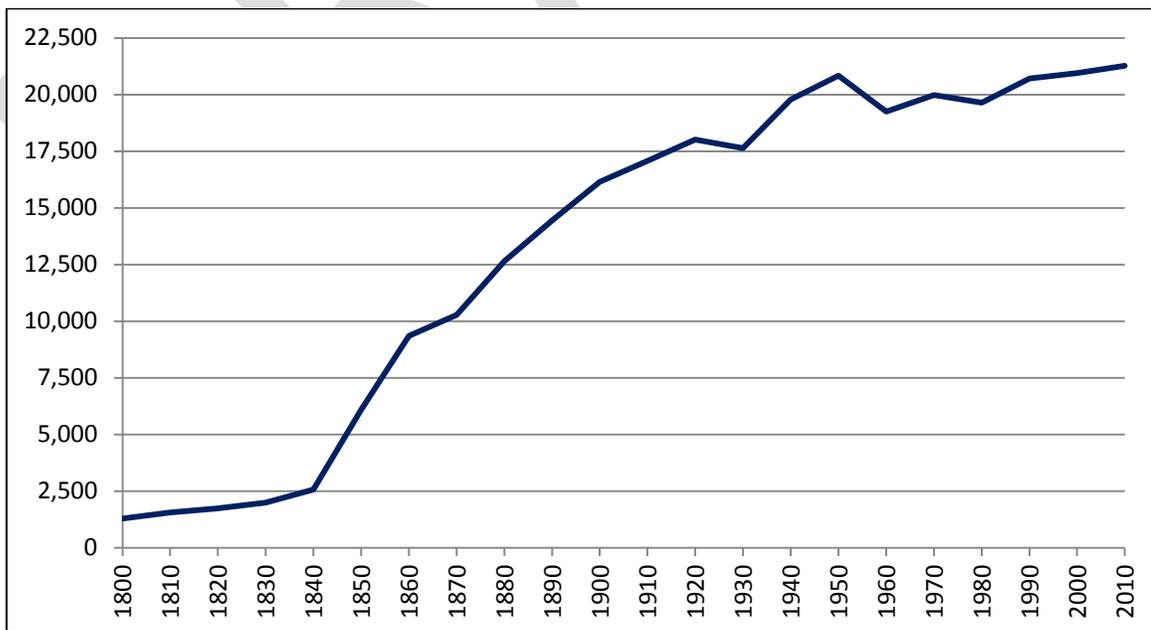
**Table X. Population Totals for Biddeford’s Peer Group Service Center Communities – Ranked by % Change from 2000 to 2010**

Municipality	County	2010 Population	Change from 2000	% Change from 2000	2000 Population
Saco	York	18,482	1,660	9.9%	16,822
Westbrook	Cumberland	17,494	1,352	8.4%	16,142
South Portland	Cumberland	25,002	1,678	7.2%	23,324
Bangor	Penobscot	33,039	1,566	5.0%	31,473
Augusta	Kennebec	19,136	576	3.1%	18,560
Lewiston	Androscoggin	36,592	902	2.5%	35,690
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>21,277</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>20,942</b>
Waterville	Kennebec	15,722	117	0.7%	15,605
Sanford	York	20,798	-8	0.0%	20,806
Auburn	Androscoggin	23,055	-148	-0.6%	23,203
Brunswick	Cumberland	20,278	-894	-4.2%	21,172

Source: U.S. Census 2000, 2010.

In fact, looking at Biddeford’s population back to when Biddeford was first incorporated in 1855, the City experience significant growth in population until 1950, at the height of mill activity. From 1950 on, Biddeford growth in population has fluctuated little as depicted in Figure X demonstrates the long term population growth pattern of the City of Biddeford in population totals from 1800 through 2010.

**Figure X: Biddeford’s Population Year’s 1800 through 2010**



Source: U.S. Census.

Total population change for Biddeford can be compared to York County and the State of Maine. Again, Biddeford has shown relatively little population growth in terms of percentage compared to the York County and the State of Maine, as shown in Table X.

**Table X: Population Totals for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine 2000-2010.**

Geography	2010 Population	Change from 2000	% Change from 2000	2000 Population
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>21,277</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>20,942</b>
York County	197,131	10,389	5.6%	186,742
State of Maine	1,328,361	53,438	4.2%	1,274,923

Source: U.S. Census 2000, 2010.

As shown above in Figure X, Biddeford’s population trends have demonstrated little measurable change in the last 60 years. The State of Maine Governor’s Office of Policy and Management have developed population projections for municipalities in the State of Maine. Population projections for the City of Biddeford indicate a predication of decline in population from now (2010 Population 21,277) through the year 2030 (Predicted Population 20,078).

Table X compares population predictions for the communities within the 15-Mile Biddeford LMA. Predictions indicate that the highest rate of population growth would occur in those communities outside of the larger “urban” centers which for the most part lack an established, older downtown. In other words, if predictions hold true, the suburban communities away from the coast (aside from Scarborough) will experience the greatest rate of growth. The coastal communities in the Biddeford LMA, however, along with the City of Sanford, are all predicted to experience population decline over the next 15 years. Overall, the LMA (as defined) is predicted to experience modest population growth, again however, for the most part in smaller more suburban and rural communities.

**Table X: Population Projections for Biddeford’s 15-Mile Labor Market Area Communities – Ranked by Predicted % Change from 2010 to 2030**

Municipality	County	Observed 2010	Projections		% Change		% Change 2010-2030
			2020	2030	2010-2020	2020-2030	
Waterboro	York	7,693	8,926	10,085	16.0%	13.0%	<b>31.1%</b>
Gorham	Cumberland	16,366	18,057	19,652	10.3%	8.8%	<b>20.1%</b>
Sebago	Cumberland	1,717	1,859	2,013	8.2%	8.3%	<b>17.2%</b>
Arundel	York	4,022	4,328	4,593	7.6%	6.1%	<b>14.2%</b>
Scarborough	Cumberland	18,899	20,030	21,033	6.0%	5.0%	<b>11.3%</b>
Alfred	York	3,019	3,166	3,351	4.9%	5.9%	<b>11.0%</b>
Lyman	York	4,344	4,554	4,768	4.8%	4.7%	<b>9.8%</b>
Westbrook	Cumberland	17,475	18,211	18,822	4.2%	3.4%	<b>7.7%</b>
Wells	York	9,590	10,062	10,265	4.9%	2.0%	<b>7.0%</b>
Dayton	York	1,962	2,040	2,098	4.0%	2.8%	<b>6.9%</b>
Buxton	York	8,034	8,279	8,447	3.0%	2.0%	<b>5.1%</b>
South Portland	Cumberland	24,976	25,698	26,234	2.9%	2.1%	<b>5.0%</b>
Saco	York	18,484	18,746	18,996	1.4%	1.3%	<b>2.8%</b>
Hollis	York	4,285	4,364	4,378	1.8%	0.3%	<b>2.2%</b>
Portland	Cumberland	66,125	65,532	64,397	-0.9%	-1.7%	<b>-2.6%</b>
Kennebunk	York	10,799	10,679	10,439	-1.1%	-2.2%	<b>-3.3%</b>
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>21,279</b>	<b>20,798</b>	<b>20,078</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
Old Orchard Beach	York	8,625	8,472	8,113	-1.8%	-4.2%	<b>-5.9%</b>
Cape Elizabeth	Cumberland	9,005	8,634	8,183	-4.1%	-5.2%	<b>-9.1%</b>
Sanford	York	20,799	19,965	18,894	-4.0%	-5.4%	<b>-9.2%</b>
Kennebunkport	York	3,474	3,313	3,051	-4.6%	-7.9%	<b>-12.2%</b>
<b>Total LMA</b>		<b>280,972</b>	<b>285,713</b>	<b>287,892</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>

Source: Maine Population Outlook to 2030, Governor’s Office of Policy and Management, February 2013.

Table X examines population projections for the Peer Group Service Center Communities. Of the peer group, projections indicate that in total there will be a decrease in population, with only 5 of the 11 communities experiencing any population growth, with only real marked growth in Westbrook, Lewiston, and South Portland. Significant population declines are predicted for Sanford, Waterville, and Brunswick.

**Table X: Population Projections for Biddeford’s Peer Group Service Center Communities – Ranked by Predicted % Change from 2010 to 2030**

Municipality	County	Observed 2010	Projections		% Change		% Change
			2020	2030	2010-2020	2020-2030	2010-2030
Westbrook	Cumberland	17,475	18,211	18,822	4.2%	3.4%	<b>7.7%</b>
Lewiston	Androscoggin	36,581	37,720	38,454	3.1%	1.9%	<b>5.1%</b>
South Portland	Cumberland	24,976	25,698	26,234	2.9%	2.1%	<b>5.0%</b>
Saco	York	18,484	18,746	18,996	1.4%	1.3%	<b>2.8%</b>
Bangor	Penobscot	33,021	32,978	33,152	-0.1%	0.5%	<b>0.4%</b>
Auburn	Androscoggin	23,045	23,072	22,778	0.1%	-1.3%	<b>-1.2%</b>
Augusta	Kennebec	19,133	18,673	18,076	-2.4%	-3.2%	<b>-5.5%</b>
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>21,279</b>	<b>20,798</b>	<b>20,078</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
Sanford	York	20,799	19,965	18,894	-4.0%	-5.4%	<b>-9.2%</b>
Waterville	Kennebec	15,719	14,972	14,128	-4.8%	-5.6%	<b>-10.1%</b>
Brunswick	Cumberland	20,258	18,679	16,844	-7.8%	-9.8%	<b>-16.9%</b>
<b>Total Peer Group</b>		<b>250,770</b>	<b>249,511</b>	<b>246,456</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>

Source: Maine Population Outlook to 2030, Governor’s Office of Policy and Management, February 2013.

Lastly, population projections for the State of Maine as a whole indicate no real change (Table X below). York County, however, is expected to experience modest growth, but not in its largest communities of Biddeford and Sanford as shown in Table X above.

**Table X: Population Projections for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine 2010 to 2030**

Geography	Observed 2010	Projections		% Change		% Change
		2020	2030	2010-2020	2020-2030	2010-2030
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>21,277</b>	<b>20,798</b>	<b>20,078</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
York County	197,150	200,988	202,471	1.9%	0.7%	2.7%
State of Maine	1,327,379	1,331,607	1,325,751	0.3%	-0.4%	-0.1%

Source: Maine Population Outlook to 2030, Governor’s Office of Policy and Management, February 2013.

C. Age and Sex

The term “median” defines the middle of something, like the median strip of a divided highway. If, when discussing a set of measurements like age, all the values are line up in order, the middle value represents the median. This method is a convenient way to

divide data into two equal parts, one part less than the median and the other part greater than the median.

Biddeford's population is relatively young compared to its LMA, York County, and the State, but is growing older. As shown in Table X, however, Biddeford's population is aging at a slower rate than most of the communities in the LMA, York County as a whole, and the State of Maine. All communities, however, are aging. According to the Maine Development Foundation, all of Maine is aging rapidly. In 1970, the median age in the State was 28.6 years. By 2000, median age had increased to 38.6 years. In 2010, the median age in the state had increased to 42.7 years. In contrast, the median age in the United States as of the 2010 Census was 37.2 years.

**Table X: Median Age for Biddeford's 15-Mile Labor Market Area Communities – Ranked by % Change from 2000 to 2010**

Geography	2010 Population	Median Age 2000	Median Age 2010	Difference	% Change 2000 to 2010
Old Orchard Beach	8,624	40.1	47.8	7.7	19.2%
Dayton	1,965	34.6	40.5	5.9	17.1%
Kennebunk	10,798	41.3	48.2	6.9	16.7%
Arundel	4,022	37.3	42.9	5.6	15.0%
Scarborough	18,919	38.8	44.5	5.7	14.7%
Lyman	4,344	37.9	43.3	5.4	14.2%
Saco	18,482	37.2	41.9	4.7	12.6%
Kennebunkport	3,474	46.0	51.8	5.8	12.6%
Wells	9,589	43.3	48.5	5.2	12.0%
Hollis	4,281	36.8	40.9	4.1	11.1%
Buxton	8,034	37.4	41.5	4.1	11.0%
Gorham	16,381	34.3	38.0	3.7	10.8%
Sanford	20,798	36.6	40.5	3.9	10.7%
Waterboro	7,693	33.3	36.6	3.3	9.9%
Cape Elizabeth	9,015	43.1	46.8	3.7	8.6%
Alfred	3,019	42.2	45.7	3.5	8.3%
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>21,277</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>38.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
Westbrook	17,494	37.8	39.4	1.6	4.2%
South Portland	25,002	37.9	39.4	1.5	4.0%
Portland	66,194	35.7	36.7	1.0	2.8%
York County	197,131	38.5	43.0	4.5	11.7%
State of Maine	1,328,361	38.6	42.8	4.2	10.9%

Source: U.S. Census 2000, 2010.

Table X presents the Peer Group summary with respect to Median Age and change over time. There is a considerable difference between the Service Center communities with respect to change between 2000 and 2010, from a high in Brunswick of 14% and a low in Lewiston where Median Age actually decreased (likely due to the influx of younger immigrant peoples to the community).

**Table X: Median Age for Biddeford’s Peer Group Service Center Communities – Ranked by % Change from 2000 to 2010**

Municipality	2010 Population	Median Age 2000	Median Age 2010	Difference	% Change 2000 to 2010
Brunswick	Cumberland	36.3	41.4	5.1	14.0%
Saco	York	37.2	41.9	4.7	12.6%
Sanford	York	36.2	40.5	4.3	11.9%
Augusta	Kennebec	40.3	43.2	2.9	7.2%
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>38.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
South Portland	Cumberland	37.6	39.4	1.8	4.8%
Westbrook	Cumberland	37.8	39.4	1.6	4.2%
Auburn	Androscoggin	38.3	39.9	1.6	4.2%
Waterville	Kennebec	35.6	36.8	1.2	3.4%
Bangor	Penobscot	36.1	36.7	0.6	1.7%
Lewiston	Androscoggin	37.6	37.4	-0.2	-0.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2000, 2010.

Another way to describe the age of the population is through Age and Sex Distribution using cohorts. Quite often this is displayed through the use of population pyramids. The following pages show the population distributions by sex for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine from 2000 through 2010. Although York County and the State of Maine share a similar “shape” it is noticeable that Biddeford’s is different.

In York County and the State of Maine in 2000 the largest bulge in population was for the ages 35-49 for both sexes. This bulge shifted to 45-59 in 2010, indicating a steady aging of the population over the 10 year period. The 20-34 age cohorts, however, remained relatively smaller than the other “working age” cohorts in both 2000 and 2010.

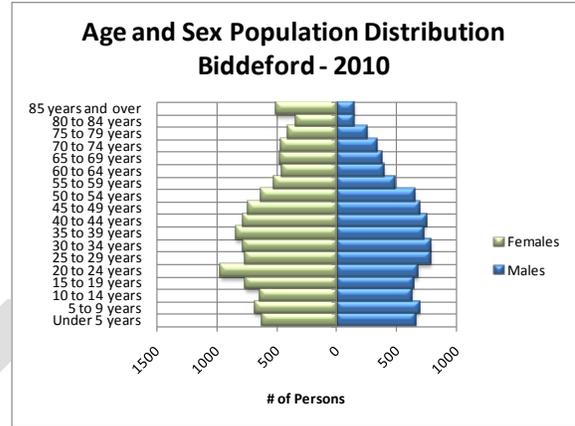
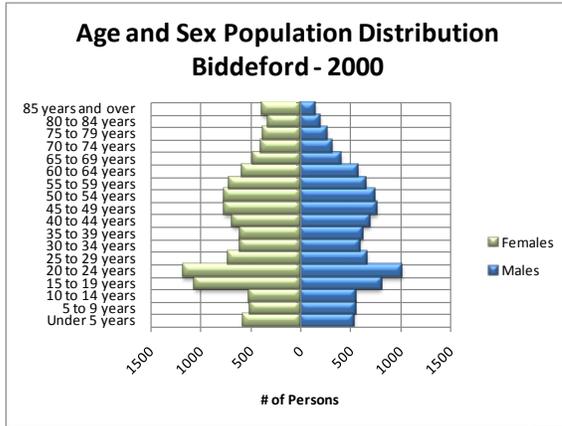
In Biddeford in 2000 there was a significant spike in the population aged 15-24, while the rest of the population was more uniformly distributed. In 2010 the entire population appears more evenly distributed than it does for York County and the State of Maine. This more uniform distribution in the younger populations is indicative of a lower median age than that of the State and County. Biddeford also has a noticeable

'bulge' in the population of people 20-49 in 2010. The largest single age cohort as of the 2010 Census is that of persons in the 20 - to -24 year-old age group.

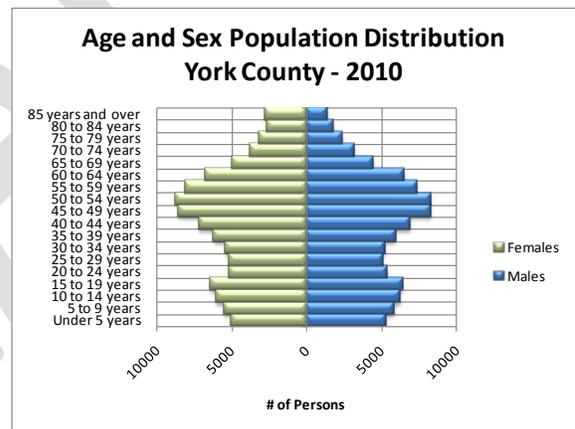
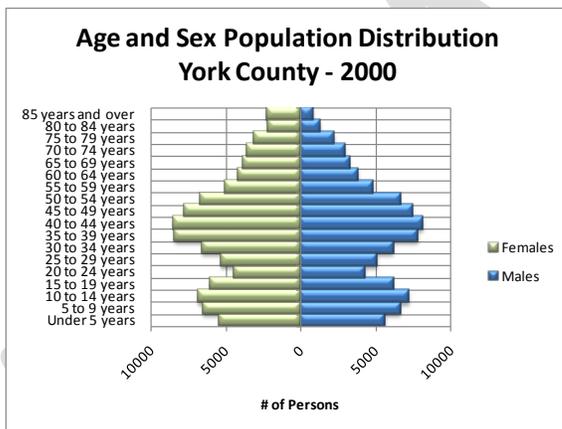
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**Figures X: Population Distribution Charts for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine, 2000 and 2010 (Source U.S. Census 2000, 2010).**

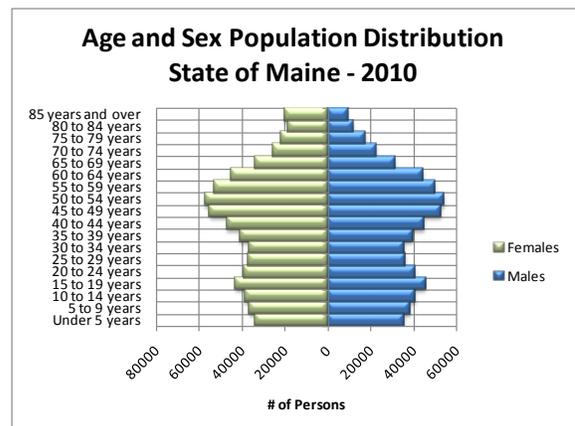
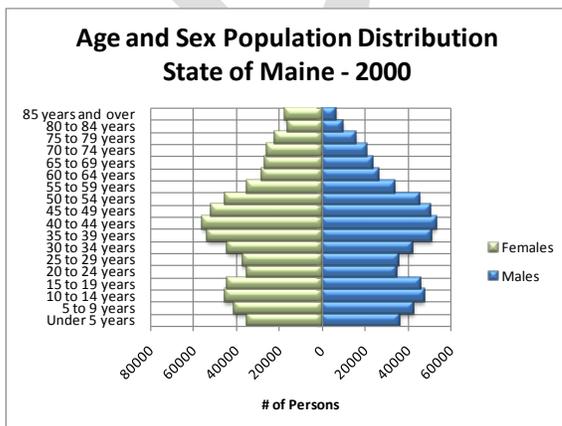
**City of Biddeford:**



**York County:**



**State of Maine:**



D. Households and Average Household Size

Table X represents the number of households and average household size, as reported from the 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010 US Census, for Biddeford, York County and the State of Maine. As can be seen, in each of the Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine the total number of households has steadily increased over the 40 year period (with the exception of 2000-2010 for Biddeford where there was a slight decline in total number of households). The Average Household Size, however, has steadily declined. For Biddeford, the increase in the number of households as a percentage is only slightly above the rate of decline in average household size (21.5% and -13.9% respectively), while this differences in rate of change for York County and the State of Maine are significantly more marked.

**Table X: Number of Households for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010**

<i>Geography</i>	1980 # of Households	1990 # of Households	% Change 1980 - 1990	2000 # of Households	% Change 1990 - 2000	2010 # of Households	% Change 2000 - 2010	% Change 1980 - 2010
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>7,077</b>	<b>7,956</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>8,636</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>8,598</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>21.5%</b>
York County	49,648	61,848	24.6%	74,563	20.6%	81,009	8.6%	63.2%
State of Maine	395,184	465,312	17.7%	518,200	11.4%	557,219	7.5%	41.0%

Source: U.S. Census 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010.

**Table X: Average Household Size for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010**

<i>Geography</i>	1980 Average Household Size	1990 Average Household Size	% Change 1980 - 1990	2000 Average Household Size	% Change 1990 - 2000	2010 Average Household Size	% Change 2000 - 2010	% Change 1980 - 2010
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>2.67</b>	<b>2.49</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>	<b>2.32</b>	<b>-6.8%</b>	<b>2.30</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>-13.9%</b>
York County	2.81	2.67	-5.0%	2.47	-7.5%	2.40	-2.8%	-14.6%
State of Maine	2.85	2.64	-7.4%	2.39	-9.5%	2.32	-2.9%	-18.6%

Source: U.S. Census 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010.

Note: The trend of increasing to the number of households was predicted in the 1999 Comprehensive Plan, but the Plan was silent with respect to predicting trends related to the decrease in household size which for Biddeford has had a pronounced impact on stagnant population growth.

Lastly, Table X displays the total number of households, family households, and household size throughout Biddeford’s LMA. Generally speaking, aside from Old Orchard Beach, the larger the community in terms of number of households, the less the percentage of family households (people living alone or with non-relatives) and the greater percentage of non-family households. Biddeford, as well as other Service Center communities (Sanford, Westbrook, South Portland, and Portland) has a relatively high number of households, but a relatively low percentage of family households.

**Table X: Number of Households, Number of Family Households, Percentage of Family Households, and Average Household Size for Biddeford’s 15-Mile Labor Market Area Communities – Ranked by % Family Households 2010**

Municipality	County	2010 Population	# Households	# Family Households	% Family Households	Average Household Size
Dayton	York	1,965	712	547	77%	2.76
Lyman	York	4,344	1,660	1269	76%	2.62
Waterboro	York	7,693	2,775	2095	75%	2.77
Hollis	York	4,281	1,668	1216	73%	2.56
Buxton	York	8,034	3,108	2254	73%	2.58
Cape Elizabeth	Cumberland	9,015	3,616	2620	72%	2.49
Gorham	Cumberland	16,381	5,719	4064	71%	2.59
Arundel	York	4,022	1,659	1109	67%	2.56
Wells	York	9,589	4,120	2734	66%	2.30
Kennebunkport	York	3,474	1,578	1039	66%	2.20
Alfred	York	3,019	1,175	769	65%	2.33
Saco	York	18,482	7,623	4925	65%	2.38
Kennebunk	York	10,798	4,689	2996	64%	2.27
Sanford	York	20,798	8,500	5417	64%	2.41
Scarborough	Cumberland	18,919	1,917	1143	60%	2.48
Westbrook	Cumberland	17,494	7,568	4456	59%	2.30
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>21,277</b>	<b>8,598</b>	<b>4972</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>2.30</b>
South Portland	Cumberland	25,002	10,877	6197	57%	2.24
Old Orchard Beach	York	8,624	4,454	2106	47%	1.93
Portland	Cumberland	66,194	30,725	13324	43%	2.07

Source: U.S. Census 2010

Note: "Family households" consist of a householder and one or more other people related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. They do not include same-sex married couples even if the marriage was performed in a state issuing marriage certificates for same-sex couples. Same-sex couple households are included in the family households category if there is at least one additional person related to the householder by birth or adoption. Same-sex couple households with no relatives of the householder present are tabulated in nonfamily households. "Nonfamily households" consist of people living alone and households which do not have any members related to the householder.

E. Median Household Income, Poverty, and Proportional Make-up of Households by Income

Table X displays trends in Median Household income for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine. The dollar values are in 2012 inflation adjusted dollars. The data is based on the American Community Survey which is an estimate based on a sample, which is why these values cannot/should not be compared directly to the year 2000 U.S. Census similar figures which are not based on a sample and are not an estimate. The pattern of Highest to lowest median income based on the 2000 U.S. Census is similar with York County being the highest, followed by the State of Maine and then Biddeford with Median Household Incomes of \$43,630, \$37,240, and \$34,976 respectively.

As would be expected, there is a strong correlation between median household income and poverty levels. Biddeford with the lowest median household income has the highest level, and York County as a whole having the highest median household income has the lowest overall poverty level.

**Table X: Median Household Income and Poverty Levels (% Individuals Below Poverty) for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine Based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate**

Geography	2008-2012 Median Household Income (5 Year Estimate)	Individuals Below Poverty
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>\$43,060</b>	<b>14.5%</b>
York County	\$56,656	9.5%
State of Maine	\$48,219	13.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate

In comparing Biddeford to its 15-mile LMA (Table X), its median household income is the lowest (\$43,060), while Cape Elizabeth's was the highest (\$85,604). This represents a significant difference in median household income between the two, of \$42,544. In other words, the median household income in Cape Elizabeth is nearly twice that of Biddeford's. Each town immediately contiguous to Biddeford, being Kennebunkport, Arundel, Dayton, and Saco, had significantly higher median household incomes, with a difference of at least \$10,000 per year.

Again, there is a strong correlation between median household income and poverty. In the LMA, however, although Biddeford had the lowest median household income, it did not have the highest poverty levels. Portland had the highest poverty levels in the LMA (19.4%), followed by Sanford (15.6%), Buxton (14.9%), and then Biddeford (14.5%). Aside from Dayton, the the top five communities with respect to median household income (all above \$75,000) had poverty levels of below 4%.

**Table X: Median Household Income and Poverty Levels (% Individuals Below Poverty) for Biddeford’s 15-Mile Labor Market Area Communities – Ranked by Median Household Income - Based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate**

Municipality	County	Median Household Income	Individuals Below Poverty
Cape Elizabeth	Cumberland	\$85,604	3.2%
Scarborough	Cumberland	\$77,463	3.8%
Dayton	York	\$76,027	8.6%
Kennebunk	York	\$75,112	3.3%
Gorham	Cumberland	\$75,060	2.9%
Lyman	York	\$70,536	6.9%
Hollis	York	\$66,589	6.2%
Kennebunkport	York	\$65,814	5.3%
Alfred	York	\$62,214	11.0%
Wells	York	\$62,151	6.0%
Arundel	York	\$61,394	4.6%
Buxton	York	\$59,094	14.9%
Waterboro	York	\$58,075	10.0%
Saco	York	\$55,873	10.6%
South Portland	Cumberland	\$53,394	11.3%
Old Orchard Beach	York	\$44,801	12.4%
Westbrook	Cumberland	\$44,544	14.9%
Portland	Cumberland	\$44,487	19.4%
Sanford	York	\$43,476	15.6%
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>\$43,060</b>	<b>14.5%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate

Table X below examines median household income and poverty levels amongst Biddeford’s Peer Group of Service Center Communities. Biddeford is located in the middle of the group with respect to median household income and poverty. All communities in the group have a poverty level above 10%, with Bangor having the highest at 25.3%. The range between the highest median income and the lowest in the peer group is considerably lower (\$20,843) than what was found in the LMA group (\$42,544).

**Table X: Median Household Income and Poverty Levels (% Individuals Below Poverty) for Biddeford’s Peer Group Service Center Communities – Ranked by Median Household Income - Based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate**

Municipality	County	Median Household Income	Individuals Below Poverty
Saco	York	\$55,873	10.6%
South Portland	Cumberland	\$53,394	11.3%
Brunswick	Cumberland	\$50,779	14.0%
Westbrook	Cumberland	\$44,544	14.9%
Auburn	Androscoggin	\$44,118	13.0%
Sanford	York	\$43,476	15.6%
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>\$43,060</b>	<b>14.5%</b>
Lewiston	Androscoggin	\$36,600	22.8%
Bangor	Penobscot	\$36,246	25.3%
Waterville	Kennebec	\$35,048	19.1%
Augusta	Kennebec	\$35,030	18.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate

Table X compares the number of household in the various income brackets established by the U.S. Census Bureau. Biddeford has a higher percentage of households with lower incomes than the State and York County, as well as a lower percentage of households with higher incomes than either the State or Your County. Figure X below display the overall distribution graphically.

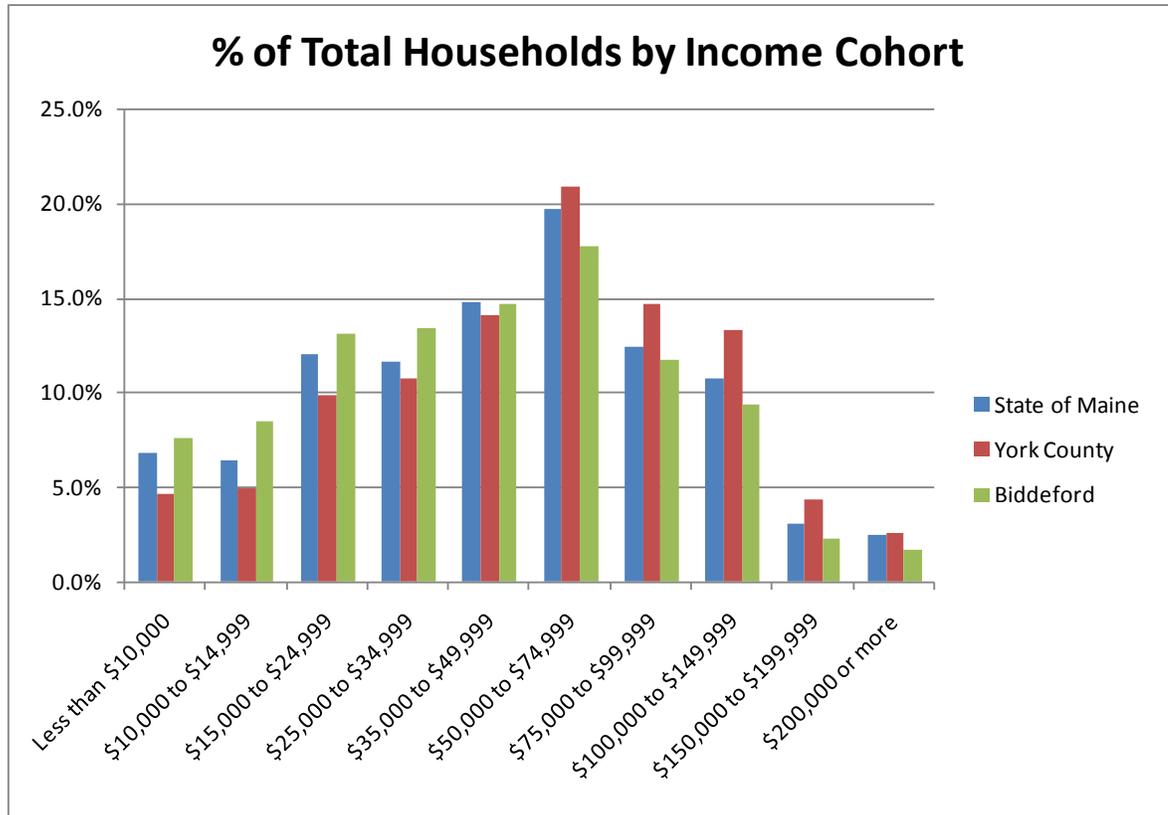
**Table X: Proportional Make-up of Households by Income for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate**

<i>Income Range</i>	<i>Maine</i>		<i>York County</i>		<i>Biddeford</i>	
	<i># of Households</i>	<i>% of Total # of Households</i>	<i># of Households</i>	<i>% of Total # of Households</i>	<i># of Households</i>	<i>% of Total # of Households</i>
Less than \$10,000	37,653	6.8%	3,774	4.7%	695	7.6%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	35,626	6.4%	3,992	4.9%	776	8.5%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	66,411	12.0%	7,998	9.9%	1,194	13.1%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	64,344	11.6%	8,678	10.7%	1,225	13.4%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	81,462	14.7%	11,371	14.1%	1,343	14.7%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	108,880	19.7%	16,899	20.9%	1,620	17.7%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	68,856	12.4%	11,837	14.6%	1,071	11.7%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	59,150	10.7%	10,734	13.3%	855	9.4%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	17,120	3.1%	3,529	4.4%	206	2.3%
\$200,000 or more	13,706	2.5%	2,096	2.6%	157	1.7%
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>553,208</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>80,908</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>9,142</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate

The following figure (Figure X) presents the above table in graphical form. It demonstrates the slight skew for Biddeford to the lower income ranges and the overall flatter middle ranges. It also demonstrates graphically that there are less people in the higher income brackets in Biddeford compared to the State and York County. Biddeford has a higher percentage of households than does the State and York County in all income categories with incomes below \$35,000. For incomes of \$50,000 and above, Biddeford has a lower percentage of households than does the State and York County.

**Figures X: Proportional Make-up of Households by Income for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate (Source U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate).**



F. Education

The latest data available through the American Community Survey (ACS) 5 Year Estimates for 2008-2012 indicates the persons in Biddeford have significantly less Educational Attainment than do those in the County and State as a whole (Table X).

**Table X: Educational Attainment for Persons 25 Years Old and Over for Biddeford, York County, and the State of Maine based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate.**

Geography	Population 25 Years Old and Over	
	High School Graduate or Higher	Bachelor's Degree of Higher
Biddeford	86.5%	22.5%
York County	91.3%	28.6%
State of Maine	90.6%	27.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate

Similarly, when compared to the 15-mile LMA communities, Biddeford again demonstrates relatively low Educational Attainment as shown in Table X.

**Table X: Educational Attainment for Persons 25 Years old and Over for Biddeford’s 15-Mile Labor Market Area Communities – Ranked by % High School Graduate or Higher - Based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate.**

Municipality	Population 25 Years Old and Over	
	High School Graduate or Higher	Bachelor's Degree of Higher
Cape Elizabeth	98.7%	60.1%
Gorham	96.5%	40.6%
Kennebunk	96.2%	53.9%
Kennebunkport	96.0%	53.8%
Scarborough	95.7%	45.4%
South Portland	95.1%	38.2%
Dayton	93.6%	22.8%
Waterboro	93.6%	20.9%
Lyman	92.9%	22.1%
Buxton	92.3%	23.7%
Wells	92.1%	31.9%
Saco	92.0%	30.0%
Alfred	91.8%	24.0%
Portland	90.9%	44.6%
OOB	90.6%	27.5%
Westbrook	89.4%	26.0%
Hollis	88.9%	18.1%
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>86.5%</b>	<b>22.5%</b>
Arundel	85.8%	20.9%
Sanford	84.8%	17.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate

Lastly, examining the same data for Biddeford Peer Group Service Centers, again it appears the Biddeford residents lag behind in Educational Attainment for both those with a High School Graduation as well as a Bachelor’s Degree or higher.

**Table X: Attainment for Persons 25 Years old and Over for Biddeford’s Peer Group Service Center Communities – Ranked by % High School Graduate or Higher - Based on 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate.**

Municipality	Population 25 Years Old and Over	
	High School Graduate or Higher	Bachelor's Degree of Higher
South Portland	95.1%	38.2%
Brunswick	93.1%	39.8%
Saco	92.0%	30.0%
Bangor	91.7%	28.0%
Auburn	90.1%	25.8%
Westbrook	89.4%	26.0%
Augusta	88.7%	23.2%
Waterville	87.1%	25.1%
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>86.5%</b>	<b>22.5%</b>
Lewiston	84.8%	14.8%
Sanford	84.8%	17.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimate

G. Seasonal Population

Seasonal populations can play an important role regarding both a demand for public services as well as an impact on the local economy. There is, however, no widely accepted method for estimating seasonal populations. Charles Lawton, Senior Economist for the public policy research firm *Planning Decisions*, in a June 26, 2011 article in the Portland Press Herald roughly estimated Maine’s Seasonal Population by multiplying the number of seasonal residences in Maine by the average household size for Maine. The methodology also assumes a portion of vacant housing units could be rented seasonally. Table X uses this methodology for Biddeford, but further assumes the same 2.3 persons for every hotel/motel room and campsite in the City of Biddeford. The result is an estimated 2,222 seasonal residents in Biddeford, which represents a summer population of approximately 23,499 (approximately a 10% increase from Biddeford’s year round population of 21,277 in 2010).

**Table X: Seasonal Population Estimate.**

	Seasonal Housing Units *	Hotel Rooms and Camp Sites	Total Other Vacant Housing Units	10% Vacant Housing Units	Total Units Available for Seasonal Visitors	Average Household Size *	Estimated Seasonal Population
<b>Biddeford</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2,222</b>

\*Source: U.S. Census 2010

#### H. University Population

Biddeford is unique, however, in that it is home to the University of New England (UNE). The Census Bureau uses the concept of “Usual Residence” when determining where people should be counted:

“Planners of the first U.S. decennial census in 1790 established the concept of "usual residence" as the main principle in determining where people were to be counted. This concept has been followed in all subsequent censuses and is the guiding principle for the 2010 Census. Usual residence is defined as the place where a person lives and sleeps most of the time. This place is not necessarily the same as the person's voting residence or legal residence.”

As such, students at UNE living on-campus or off-campus (in Biddeford) are counted in the total population of Biddeford. According to the University of New England, in 2014 the number of on-campus students was 1,388 and the estimated number of off-campus students living in Biddeford is XXX. Based on this, approximately X,XXX students at UNE reside in Biddeford and were counted in the Census, although many are presumably only present in Biddeford September through April. The importance of this is that although most likely leave in the summer, that exodus is largely countered by the increase in the summer population discussed above.

### 3. What does it mean for Biddeford? (Analyses)

A. The above “Conditions and Trends” in “Population and Demographics” presents four different perspectives in which to consider Biddeford. In some cases, Biddeford is looked at in the context of its 15-mile Labor Market Area (LMA). In other case Biddeford is looked at in the context of its Peer Group (PG) of Service Center Communities. Biddeford is also in some cases compared to York County and the State of Maine as a whole. Lastly, with respect to Seasonal and University populations, Biddeford is described only within the context of itself.

Q. What does each of these different contexts offer moving forward into the analysis of this information, and ultimately, in the development of Policies and Implementation Strategies?

B. Recent population trends have shown that Biddeford’s population has remained relatively stable (increased 1.6% between 2000 and 2010), while many of the communities within its labor Market Area (LMA) have increased in population. This indicates a sprawling growth pattern for populations around Biddeford in places like Waterboro, Alfred, Gorham, Lyman, Arundel, and Scarborough (all having increases in population between 2000 and 2010 of more than 10%.

Predictions by the Governor's Office of Policy and Management through 2030 are that Biddeford's population will actually decline by 5.6%. It's LMA, however, is predicted to increase in population by 2.5% by 2030. As the next Chapter of the Plan will demonstrate, more people commute into Biddeford for work than do live and stay in Biddeford for work. If trends continue and the predictions come true, this commuting phenomenon may continue.

- Q. What, if anything, should Biddeford do to stabilize or grow its population in the future?
- C. As in the State and County, Biddeford's Median Age is increasing, although not nearly as quickly. All communities in the LMA saw an increase in median age between 2000 and 2010, although most were aging faster than Biddeford (1.9 years) except for Westbrook (1.6 years), South Portland (1.5 years) and Portland (1.0 Years). Biddeford's median age is relatively low for the LMA at 38.3. For comparison the median age in York County is 43 and the State is 42.8.

Based on the age distributions in Biddeford, the bulge is in the younger populations of 20-49, with the largest group being between 20-24 years old. This is contrary to the State and York County where the bulge in the populations are between 45-59 years old.

- Q. Although Biddeford's Median Age is increasing, although it is aging much slower than many other communities and the State and County, how much emphasis should Biddeford place on adapting services to meet an aging population?
- Q. What should Biddeford be doing, if anything, to meet the needs of its younger workforce population between 20-49 years old? What types of services should Biddeford invest in to retain these younger workers?
- Q. With an aging LMA population and given Biddeford's role as a service center community, what can Biddeford expect in the future for demands for specialized services (e.g., medical and transit) and housing? Will the aging populations around Biddeford be looking to relocate to Biddeford for better access to services?
- D. The number of households has steadily increased in Biddeford over time, yet the average household size has steadily declined. This would indicate smaller families either as children grow-up and leave or as new residents are having less children. An aging population would also influence this trend. Biddeford has recently seen an increase in redevelopment of its mills with small apartment housing catering to one and two-person families. This is indicative in that Biddeford has a relatively low percentage of Family Households (households with one person living alone or households comprised of unrelated persons) compared to the LMA with only South Portland, Old Orchard Beach, and Portland having a lower percentage.

- Q. Should Biddeford be doing anything about these trends, especially given a slowly aging population and predictions that indicate Biddeford will experience an overall decline in population over time, while the LMA will for the most part will grow in population?
- Q. Should Biddeford try to attract other types of housing to attract Family Households?
- Q. With a lower percentage of Family Households than most of the LMA, this may indicate younger persons at an earlier stage in life. This may also indicate greater mobility among those persons. What should the City be doing to try to retain that segment of the population over time?
- E. Biddeford has a significantly lower Median Household Income than does York County. This may be indicative of smaller household sizes and more single income households, coupled with a job market characterized by lower paying jobs (more on this in the following Section – Economy). Biddeford households have the lowest median household within its LMA. There is also a relatively high level of poverty in Biddeford.
  - Q. What should Biddeford be doing to support those households with lower incomes and/or to alter this trend?
  - Q. Lower incomes typically demand/need services such as transit. Is Biddeford doing enough to support transit?
  - Q. What other services/facilities may be needed in the future?
  - Q. What can Biddeford do, if anything, to increase Household incomes and reduce poverty?
- F. Biddeford has lower percentages than the State and County of those people which have graduated from High School and/or have achieved a Bachelor's Degree or higher. This is also generally the case when compared to LMA communities as well as its Peer Group of Service Center communities. A low level of educational attainment in Biddeford means that many persons in the city lack the skills needed to be competitive in the job market. Low skill level hinders productivity, keeping income growth low. In contrast, higher income levels attract skilled workers which feeds local growth.
  - Q. Does Biddeford have a suitably educated and trained workforce to attract higher paying jobs (more on this in the following Section – Economy)?
  - Q. What does Biddeford need to do to attract an educated workforce from outside?

- Q. Do Biddeford's younger graduates from High School and College leave Biddeford and not return? If so, what should Biddeford do to try to attract those people to return?
- Q. What can Biddeford do to better educate its workforce? Does Biddeford do an adequate job in providing for Adult Education opportunities? Does it do enough to promote Adult Education opportunities?
- G. Biddeford has a relatively high seasonal population due to seasonal homes in the coast being occupied only in the summer months. The estimate of 2,000-2,400 seasonal residents might at first indicate that Biddeford's peak summer population is likely 10% higher than that reported to the Census. As discussed above regarding UNE, its student population (on- and off-campus) may actually counter this seasonal population so that Biddeford's actual summer population remains close to its Census population of 21,277. The seasonal population, however, likely demands different services and can have different impacts on the local economy than a year-round population and a university population.
- Q. Has Biddeford done enough to attract the types of services and businesses demanded by a summer population? What more can Biddeford do to meet their needs?
- H. It is estimated that of Biddeford's total population of 21,277, approximately X,XXX are UNE students. This represents approximately XX%. Students not only have different needs, but also can present a tremendous sector of a population that adds economic, social and cultural activity to a community such as Biddeford.
- Q. What types of services and attractions do university students desire? Does Biddeford have these opportunities in place? If not, what (if anything) can the City do to better meet these unique needs/wants?
- 4. Where do we want to do about it?" (Policies)**
- 5. What do we need to do to get there? (Implementation Strategies)**
- 6. Who should do it, and when? (Implementation)**