



HR&A +



MAINE  
CONNECTIVITY  
AUTHORITY

# Washington County Digital Equity Snapshots

Prepared by HR&A for MCA

March 2023

FINAL

# How to use the Digital Equity Snapshots

These Snapshots provide baseline information for Regional Partners to start data gathering for the Digital Equity Planning Process. Your work will help **fill in gaps** in what we know, especially with regard to **Covered Populations\*** in your region.

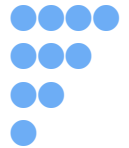
\* In its Digital Equity Act statute, the NTIA names 8 **Covered Populations** as key beneficiaries of Digital Equity planning and implementation :

- Low-income households (up to 150% of federal poverty threshold);
- Aging individuals (60 and up)
- Incarcerated individuals, other than those incarcerated in a Federal facility;
- Veterans;
- Individuals with disabilities;
- Individuals with language barriers, including English learners and those with low levels of literacy;
- Racial and ethnic minorities; and
- Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area.

# Overview of Covered Populations – Percentage Comparison

		Aging (60+)	Veterans	Limited English (Households)	Disability	Poverty Rate (Households)
	Androscoggin County	16%	9%	1%	21%	12%
●●	Aroostook County	22%	10%	<u>2%</u>	<u>23%</u>	<u>15%</u>
	Cumberland County	17%	7%	1%	12%	8%
	Franklin County	22%	10%	<1% (4)	18%	12%
●	Hancock County	<u>23%</u>	9%	<1% (24)	12%	10%
	Kennebec County	18%	10%	1%	20%	12%
●	Knox County	<u>23%</u>	8%	<1% (72)	13%	9%
●●	Lincoln County	<u>26%</u>	<u>11%</u>	<1% (50)	16%	11%
●●	Oxford County	21%	10%	<1% (36)	21%	<u>14%</u>
●	Penobscot County	17%	9%	<1% (209)	<u>21%</u>	14%
●●●●	Piscataquis County	<u>27%</u>	<u>11%</u>	<1% (3)	<u>28%</u>	<u>16%</u>
●	Sagadahoc County	21%	<u>11%</u>	<1% (17)	9%	11%
●●●	Somerset County	21%	<u>11%</u>	<1% (44)	<u>24%</u>	<u>18%</u>
	Waldo County	22%	8%	<1% (25)	18%	13%
●●●●	Washington County	<u>24%</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>&lt;1% (29)</u>	<u>25%</u>	<u>19%</u>
	York County	19%	10%	1%	16%	8%
	Maine	19%	9%	1% (3,362)	17%	11%
	United States	14%	7%	3%	14%	13%

Within each category the counties with the 5 highest percentages above the state average are highlighted **blue**.



A dot represents a high proportion in one of the categories.

Counties with more dots have a high percentage of covered populations.

# Washington County

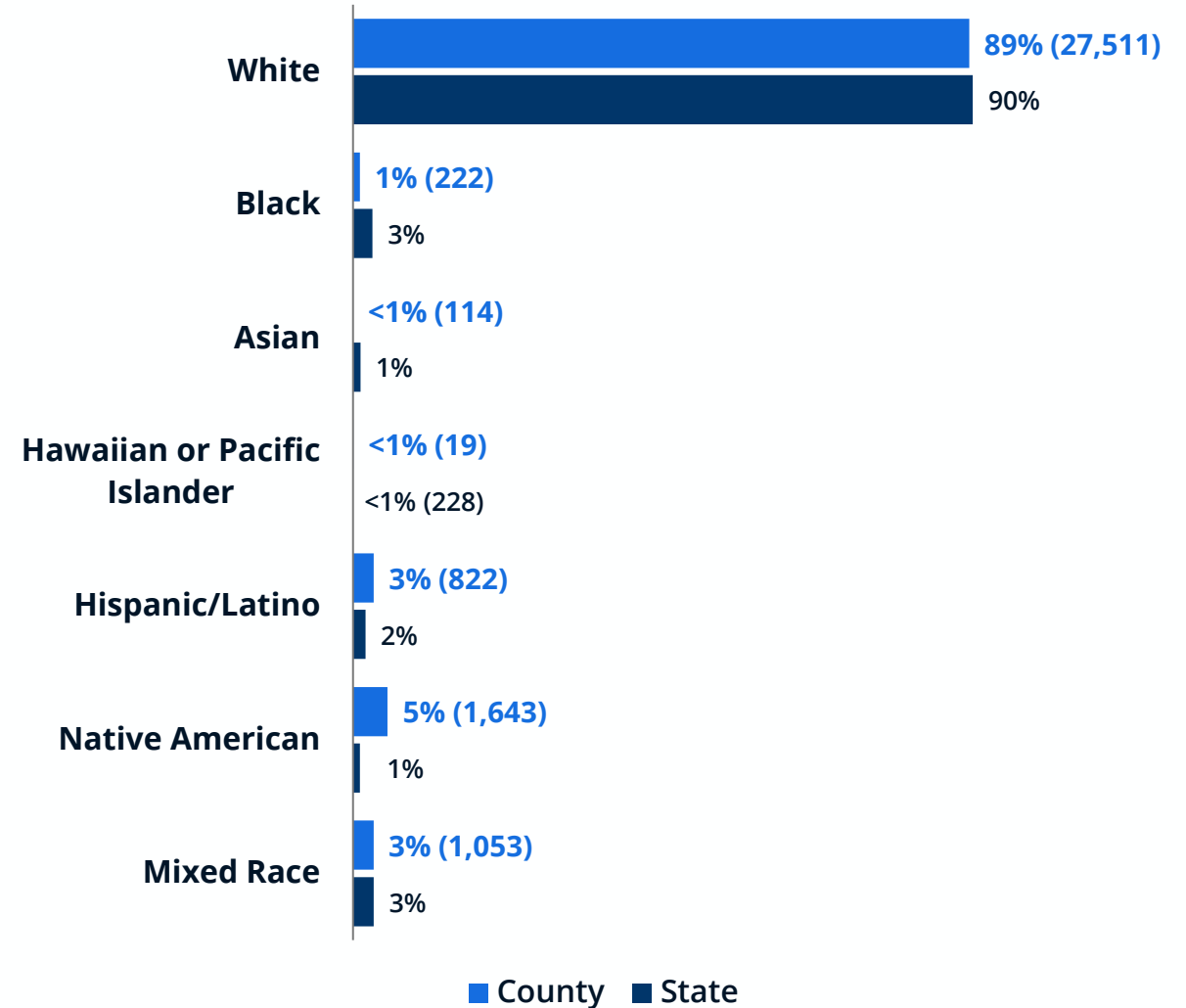
Total population: 31,003

Total households: 13,258

Nonwhite population: 11%

 ACP enrollment: 14% (1,810)

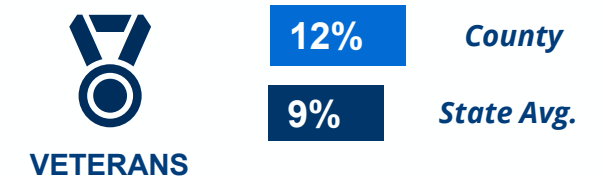
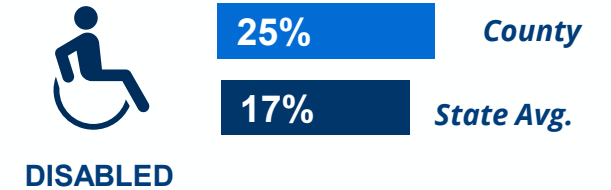
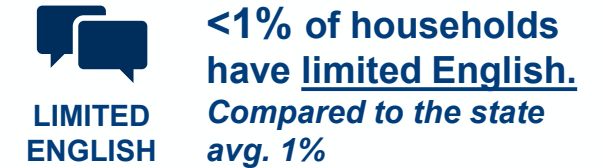
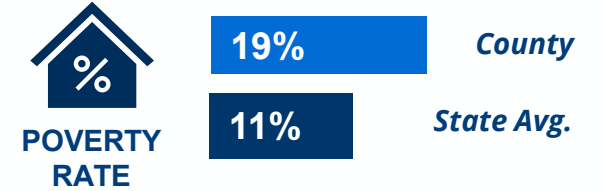
## Race & Ethnicity



# Washington County | Demographics

	County	State	National
<b>Demographics</b>			
Female Population	51%	51%	51%
Male Population	49%	49%	49%
<b>Age</b>			
Under 18	19%	19%	23%
Ages 18 - 34	16%	20%	23%
Ages 35 - 64	40%	41%	38%
Ages 64+	25%	21%	16%
<b>Education Attainment</b>			
Less than Highschool	9%	6%	11%
Highschool Graduate	38%	31%	36%
Some College	30%	29%	33%
Bachelors or more	24%	34%	23%

## Covered Populations



# Washington County | Digital Inclusion

	County	State	National
<b>Internet Subscriptions</b>			
Dial-up	1%	1%	<1%
Cell Data only	7%	8%	11%
Broadband/Fiber/Cable/DSL	65%	74%	72%
Satellite	8%	5%	7%
Internet but no subscription	3%	3%	3%
No internet access	16%	10%	10%
<b>With a computer</b>			
Broadband	79%	85%	86%
Dial-up	1%	1%	<1%
No internet access	8%	6%	7%
<b>Without a computer</b>			
White	7%	5%	4%
Black	<1%	4%	6%
Native American	8%	6%	9%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	21%	15%	5%
Asian	3%	3%	2%
Hispanic	2%	3%	4%
All Households	7%	5%	4%



**9% of households have a smartphone only, compared to Maine's average of 6%.**



**2% of households have a tablet only, compared to Maine's average of 1%.**



**72% of households have a desktop or laptop, compared to Maine's average 80%.**

## Washington County | Barriers

	County	State	National
Household Median Income	\$46,700	\$63,200	\$69,000
Housing Cost Burdened Households	39%	42%	46%
Poverty Rate	19%	11%	13%
Childhood Poverty Rate	13%	7%	9%
Unemployed	4%	3%	4%

Notes:

- “Housing Cost Burdened” means more than 30% of total income is spent on housing
- Poverty Rate is calculated at 150% of the poverty line

## Data Sources and Notes

**Data in the Snapshots is drawn from the Census Bureau's 2021 American Community Survey (ACS).**

- **Note: ACS does not capture population for tribal land tracts**
- “Poverty” is shown as at  $\leq$  150% poverty level per NTIA definition
- “Housing cost burdened” is defined as more than 30% of household income spent on housing
- Percents are rounded to nearest 1 to account for margins of error

### **Notes on other Covered Populations not represented in Snapshots:**

- Incarcerated individuals, because data is recorded at the state level only, not by the Census Bureau
- “Racial and ethnic minorities”, because the Census does not define this category, and it is probably best targeted by regional partners’ local understanding; however, general population information is shown in the County Overview Snapshots
- “Rural”, because the Census defines rural tracts as areas with less than 5,000 residents, but regional partners’ local understanding is more useful for targeting