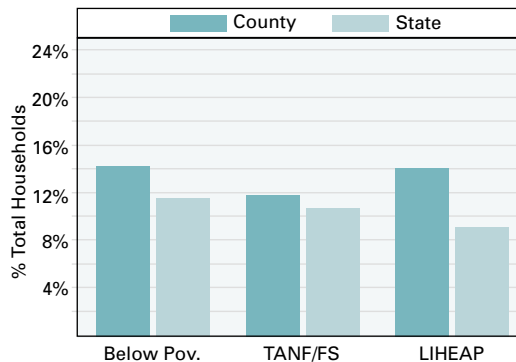


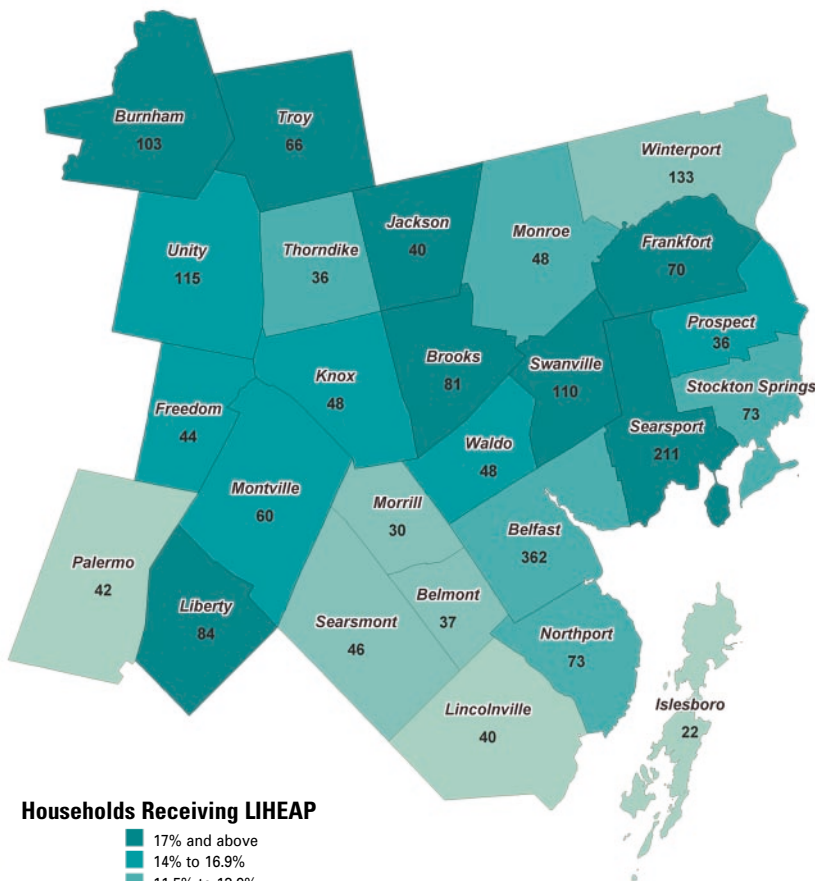
Waldo County's people are somewhat poorer than the state average. The types of households and age distribution of those below poverty differ somewhat from the state pattern. The county's economy has been steadily improving, thanks in large part to expansion by MBNA, so poverty indicators may be somewhat improved since the 2000 census. As reported in Census 2000:

- Income is somewhat below the state average; per-capita income is 11% lower, and median household income is 9% lower
- The proportion of households below poverty is higher than in the state as a whole.
- Compared with the state as a whole, a higher proportion of Waldo County below-poverty households (one-quarter) consists of married-couple families.
- Younger persons (age 18 and below) represent a higher proportion of those under poverty compared with the state as a whole.



Employment figures for the county are about the same as in the state as a whole.

- The average unemployment rate as reported by the Maine Department of Labor for 2002 was 4.3% in Waldo County, about the same as the state average.



Households Receiving LIHEAP

- 17% and above
- 14% to 16.9%
- 11.5% to 13.9%
- 9% to 11.4%
- Under 9%

Number shows LIHEAP households

Housing affordability in Waldo County at the time of Census 2000 was about the same as in the state overall. There was also a somewhat higher rate of home ownership. As in the rest of the state, a large proportion of the poorest households (incomes below \$10,000) reported spending 35% or more of their monthly income for housing. In the past few years, costs of both home ownership and rental have escalated to the point that, relative to household income, Waldo County is currently one of Maine's most unaffordable housing markets.

Waldo County residents were somewhat above the state average in participation in DHS benefits programs (TANF and food stamps) and in overall participation in the LIHEAP program in the last fiscal year (October 1, 2001-September 30, 2002).

- The LIHEAP program served a larger proportion of total county households with older persons (21%), compared with 13.2% of such households statewide.
- Compared with LIHEAP households statewide, a larger proportion in Waldo had food stamps or Medicaid.

Population Poverty Status, by Age				
	Below Poverty		Above Poverty	
	County (4,973)	State (135,501)	County (30,731)	State (1,105,392)
(Number)				
Age				
Under 18	33.4%	29.6%	21.9%	23.0%
18-64	54.9%	57.2%	61.2%	62.8%
65 and over	11.7%	13.2%	17.0%	14.2%

Education Levels		
	County	State
(Population age 25 and over)	(24,818)	(869,893)
Less than high school	15.4%	14.6%
High school	38.8%	36.2%
Some college, no degree	17.0%	19.0%
Associate degree	6.5%	7.4%
Bachelor's or higher	22.3%	22.9%

Income		
	County	State
Median Household Income	\$33,986	\$37,240
Per-capita Income	\$17,438	\$19,533
(Number households)	(14,724)	(518,372)
Household Income, by ranges		
Under \$20,000	28.3%	25.0%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	15.8%	14.9%
\$30,000 and above	55.9%	60.2%

Household Poverty Status, by Household Type (as percent of all households)				
	County		State	
	Below	Above	Below	Above
(Number households)	(14,724)		(518,372)	
Poverty Status				
Family Households				
Married-couple	3.6%	52.6%	2.1%	51.3%
Female householder, no spouse	3.1%	5.3%	2.6%	6.6%
Male householder, no spouse	0.8%	3.3%	0.5%	3.0%
Other Households				
Single person, under age 65	3.5%	11.6%	3.0%	13.1%
Single person, age 65 or over	2.0%	7.7%	2.1%	8.7%
Other non-family	1.2%	5.3%	1.2%	5.8%
Total households	14.2%	85.8%	11.5%	88.5%

Household Poverty Status and Employment						
	Percent of Households Below Poverty			Percent of Households Above Poverty		
	Full-time work	Less than full-time	Did not work	Full-time work	Less than full-time	Did not work
Family Households	18.0%	46.1%	35.9%	65.9%	20.8%	13.4%
Other Households	5.4%	33.4%	61.2%	46.9%	27.0%	26.1%

Unemployment Rate (2002 monthly average)		
	County	State
Labor force	23,510	686,200
Percent unemployed	4.3%	4.4%

Percent of Households with Income Below \$35,000 Paying More Than 35% of Monthly Income for Housing						
Income	County			State		
	Renters	Owners	All Households	Renters	Owners	All Households
Under \$10,000	70.4%	79.4%	74.5%	68.6%	75.5%	70.7%
\$10,000 - \$19,999	58.9%	34.8%	43.3%	52.1%	39.6%	46.4%
\$20,000 - \$34,999	14.9%	18.6%	17.5%	12.8%	23.6%	19.1%

Households Lacking Access to Vehicle						
(Number)	County			State		
	Renters (2,970)	Owners (11,756)	All Households (14,726)	Renters (147,280)	Owners (370,920)	All Households (518,200)
%	15.0%	4.1%	6.3%	18.5%	3.3%	7.6%

TANF/Food Stamps and LIHEAP Benefits*				
	County		State	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
TANF &/or Food Stamps (monthly avg unduplicated count)				
Cases	1,744	11.8%	55,445	10.7%
Recipients	3,689	10.2%	108,767	8.5%
LIHEAP				
Households	2,058	14.0%	46,994	9.1%
Recipients	4,381	12.1%	98,825	7.8%
Hslds age 65 and over	755	21.2%	16,937	13.2%

*Percentage cases or households is % of total county or state households; percentage recipients is % of county or state population.

LIHEAP Client Household Characteristics*		
	County	State
(Number households)	(2,058)	(46,994)
Average household income	\$11,142	\$11,209
% Single person households	44.3%	45.5%
% Receiving food stamps	52.2%	49.7%
% Medicaid	62.1%	57.5%
% SSI	25.0%	22.9%
% SS/SSD	52.7%	52.8%
% With wages or self-employment	7.3%	8.6%
% LIHEAP applicants age 65 and over	36.7%	36.0%

*Percentage is % of LIHEAP households

People

Income and Employment

Housing and Transportation

Benefits and Assistance