Bending Maine’s Demographic Curve

Destination: USM/UMS
Maine School Enrollments and Maine’s Future Workforce
(~ 30,000 fewer students 1995-2012)

Chart 1
Attending Enrollment
Maine’s Public Schools
fall 1995 through fall 2012

Source: Maine Department of Education and The Maine Heritage Policy Center
Year, as of October 1
Projected change in K-12 enrollment
2014-2026: 12% DECREASE
Replacement openings are expected even in occupations losing jobs.
Section 2 – Industry Employment Outlook

1950:
- Goods-Producing: 56%
- Service-Providing: 44%

1975:
- Goods-Producing: 32%
- Service-Providing: 68%

2000:
- Goods-Producing: 18%
- Service-Providing: 82%

2022, projected:
- Goods-Producing: 13%
- Service-Providing: 87%
Public Higher Education
The St. Louis Mosaic Project say that Immigrants are

- **60%** More likely to **start a business**
- **130%** More likely to have an **advanced degree**
- **44%** More likely to be **college educated**
- **3X** More likely to be **high skilled**
- **25%** Higher wage than average **American born**

www.stlmosaicproject.org
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Resources necessary to onboard new Americans into Maine’s workforce

- ESL & Assimilation Skills
- Credential mapping
- Housing
- Work permits
- Internships / Mentorships
- Citizenship
Some Challenges

- Language acquisition classes:
  23 seconds of spoken English

- General Assistance:
  Ends with employment

- Family aspirations:
  Differ from career opportunities
Language Labs
Works for ME
Housing - Public Transportation
Social Services – Internships - Employment
Request: Help USM / UMS to identify, attract, support and fund educated international students...
... and begin bending the curve