

Employer and Business Survey

Local areas are required by federal law to examine the economic conditions within their coverage areas and revise plans to meet the needs of employers and jobseekers. Your input about your business is vital for the update of our Local Area Plan, so please take 5-10 minutes

* Required

1. In which county is your business located? *

- ☐ Penobscot
- ☐ Aroostook
- ☐ Piscataquis
- ☐ Washington
- ☐ Hancock
- ☐ Other

2. In which municipality is your business located? *

3. Approximately how long have you been in business? *

- ☐ Less than 1 year
- ☐ 1-5 years
- ☐ 5-10 years
- ☐ 10+ years

4. How long have you been in your present position (or owned the business)? *

- ☐ Under 5 years
- ☐ 5-10 years
- ☐ 10-20 years
- ☐ 20-30 years
- ☐ 30-40 years
- ☐ 40+ years

5. How many locations does your business have? *

- ☐ 1 Location
- ☐ 2 Locations
- ☐ 3 Locations
- ☐ 4 Locations
- ☐ 4+ Locations

6. Why did you start your business in this region, and in Maine? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Founder lived locally
- ☐ Advantageous location
- ☐ Saw a need/opportunity
- ☐ Family business
- ☐ Purchased existing business
- ☐ Spinoff from other companies
- ☐ Labor market
- ☐ None of the above

7. From a business standpoint, what is advantageous about our region? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Location
- ☐ Tourism
- ☐ Quality of life/scenic beauty
- ☐ Emerging growth in Maine
- ☐ High-quality workforce
- ☐ Low competition
- ☐ Proximity to higher education
- ☐ Cost of doing business

8. From a business standpoint, what is disadvantageous about our region? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Low population of customers and workers
- ☐ Remote location
- ☐ Short seasonal business cycle
- ☐ Energy costs
- ☐ Poor roads and transportation
- ☐ Infrastructure
- ☐ Low income population
- ☐ Deficient digital infrastructure
- ☐ Lack of job opportunities
- ☐ Harmful regulatory climate
- ☐ Lack of collaboration between businesses
- ☐ Aging workforce
- ☐ Unskilled workforce

9. If you could, what two things would you change regarding the business climate? *

Check 2 answers

Please select 2 options.

- ☐ Affordable housing
- ☐ Low energy costs
- ☐ Improve transportation infrastructure
- ☐ Improve digital infrastructure
- ☐ Increase average income
- ☐ Year-round tourism/business
- ☐ Support for entrepreneurship and small businesses
- ☐ Availability of qualified workforce
- ☐ Streamline regulation and lower taxes

10. What opportunities exist for economic development in the region? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Expanding childcare facilities
- ☐ Downtown revitalization
- ☐ Business collaboration/partnerships
- ☐ In-migration
- ☐ Renewable energy
- ☐ Improved digital infrastructure
- ☐ Increased affordable housing
- ☐ Land available for development
- ☐ Improved transportation infrastructure
- ☐ Education/workforce development
- ☐ Tourism/natural resources

11. Which industry sector best represents your business? *

- ☐ Agriculture and farming
- ☐ Forestry and wood products
- ☐ Manufacturing & food processing
- ☐ Retail and consumer services
- ☐ Tourism, hospitality, recreation
- ☐ Healthcare and social services
- ☐ Construction and real estate
- ☐ Transportation and logistics
- ☐ Professional and business services
- ☐ Financial services and insurance
- ☐ Renewable energy and environmental services
- ☐ Technology and innovation
- ☐ Arts, culture, and creative industries
- ☐ Wholesale and distribution
- ☐ Education, training, and nonprofit services

12. On a scale of 1-5, how competitive do you find your industry? *

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5

13. What are the growing trends or growth opportunities for your industry? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Digital transformation and e-commerce expansion
- ☐ Sustainable and local food production
- ☐ Renewable energy and energy efficiency
- ☐ Eco-tourism and outdoor recreation
- ☐ Expansion of craft, artisan and niche manufacturing
- ☐ Infrastructure and transportation improvements
- ☐ Expanding healthcare and senior services
- ☐ Cross-border trade and regional partnerships
- ☐ Automation
- ☐ None

14. What is your growth strategy? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Market expansion and new customer acquisition
- ☐ Product/service innovation and diversification
- ☐ Digital transformation and e-commerce adoption
- ☐ Strategic partnerships and alliances
- ☐ Operational efficiency and cost optimization
- ☐ Sustainable practices and green initiatives
- ☐ Enhanced customer experience and service excellence
- ☐ Talent development and workforce investment
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other

15. Who are your primary customers? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Local residents and households
- ☐ Regional consumers and businesses
- ☐ Global consumer
- ☐ Tourists and seasonal visitors
- ☐ Government and institutional clients
- ☐ Wholesale and distributor partners
- ☐ Online/digital consumers

16. What challenges arise because of your location? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Limited access to major markets
- ☐ Transportation and infrastructure constraints
- ☐ Seasonal weather and climate impacts
- ☐ Workforce availability and talent attraction
- ☐ Higher operational and logistics costs
- ☐ Limited access to capital and investment
- ☐ Regulatory and permitting challenges
- ☐ Smaller local market size
- ☐ Lack of highspeed internet
- ☐ None of the above

17. To what degree does your business engage in workforce development? *

- ☐ High degree
- ☐ Some degree
- ☐ Low degree
- ☐ Not at all

18. How are you currently engaged with or what services do you currently receive from the workforce system? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Referrals for employees
- ☐ Participate in hiring events
- ☐ Utilize CareerCenters
- ☐ Utilize pre-employment screening
- ☐ Work with postsecondary education/training providers to develop industry relevant training programs
- ☐ Work with K-12 schools to develop industry relevant programs of study
- ☐ Provide work experience for youth
- ☐ Provide on the job training
- ☐ Have an apprenticeship program
- ☐ Industry group/coalition member
- ☐ Workforce board member
- ☐ Engage in sector strategies
- ☐ Not currently involved
- ☐ Other

19. What resources/assets would advance your workforce development activities, whether located in the region or outside? *

Check all that apply

- ☐ Professional networking and collaboration platforms
- ☐ Technology and digital training tools
- ☐ Talent recruitment and job placement services
- ☐ Apprenticeship, internship, and mentorship programs
- ☐ Industry-specific certification programs
- ☐ Workforce development grants and funding programs
- ☐ Online learning platforms and digital courses

20. Is anyone in your workforce a non-English speaker? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

21. What are your top employee needs? *

Select up to 3

Please select at most 3 options.

- ☐ Childcare assistance
- ☐ Access to food
- ☐ Transportation support
- ☐ Comprehensive healthcare and wellness programs
- ☐ Flexible work arrangements
- ☐ Paid time off and leave benefits
- ☐ Financial wellness and support services
- ☐ Employee assistance and support programs

22. Have you participated in any recruiting events? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

23. If yes, who hosted it?

- ☐ CareerCenter
- ☐ Community colleges
- ☐ Chamber of Commerce
- ☐ University system
- ☐ Other

24. Which of the following do you use to recruit employees? *

- ☐ Maine JobLink
- ☐ Indeed
- ☐ LinkedIn
- ☐ Newspapers
- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Other

25. Do you plan to hire new workers in the coming year? *

- ☐ Yes, multiple workers
- ☐ Yes, one worker
- ☐ No, we are downsizing
- ☐ No, we are maintaining our workforce as is
- ☐ Maybe

26. If you'd like to be contacted with more information regarding the workforce system, type your email below.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Microsoft. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner.

 Microsoft Forms

Responses Overview Active

Responses

45

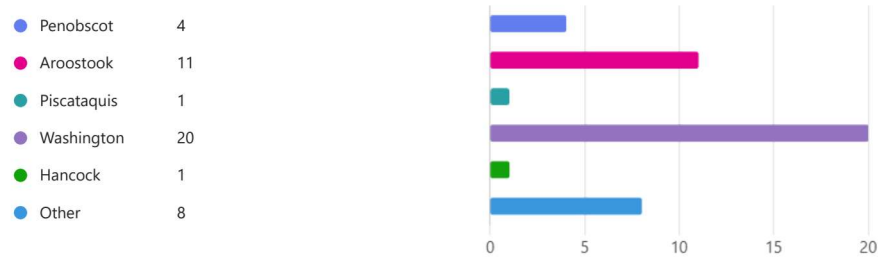
Average Time

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Duration

75 Days

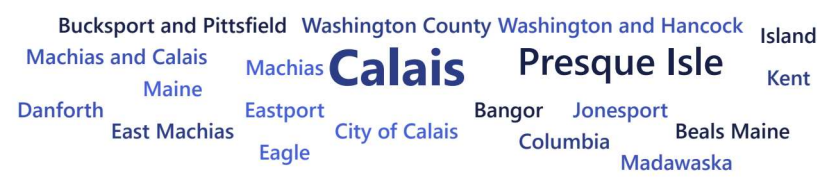
1. In which county is your business located?



2. In which municipality is your business located?



8 respondents (22%) answered Calais for this question.

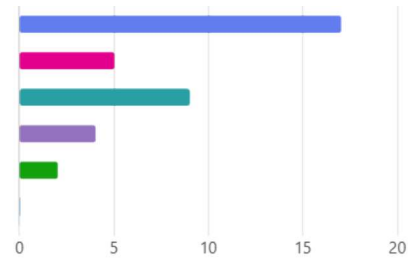


3. Approximately how long have you been in business?



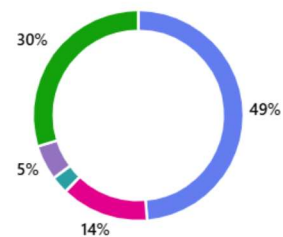
4. How long have you been in your present position (or owned the business)?

Under 5 years	17
5-10 years	5
10-20 years	9
20-30 years	4
30-40 years	2
40+ years	0



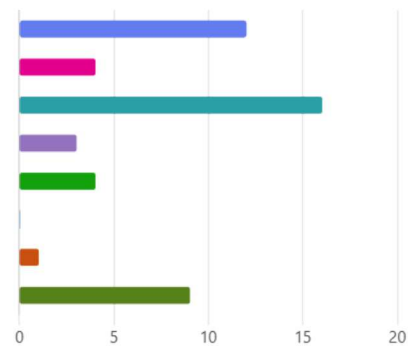
5. How many locations does your business have?

1 Location	18
2 Locations	5
3 Locations	1
4 Locations	2
4+ Locations	11



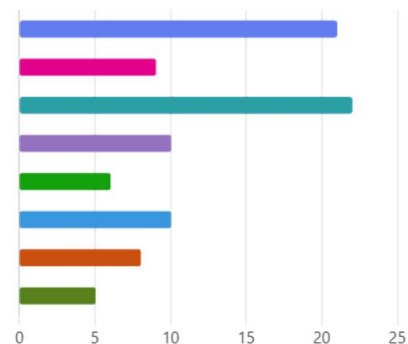
6. Why did you start your business in this region, and in Maine?

Founder lived locally	12
Advantageous location	4
Saw a need/opportunity	16
Family business	3
Purchased existing business	4
Spinoff from other companies	0
Labor market	1
None of the above	9

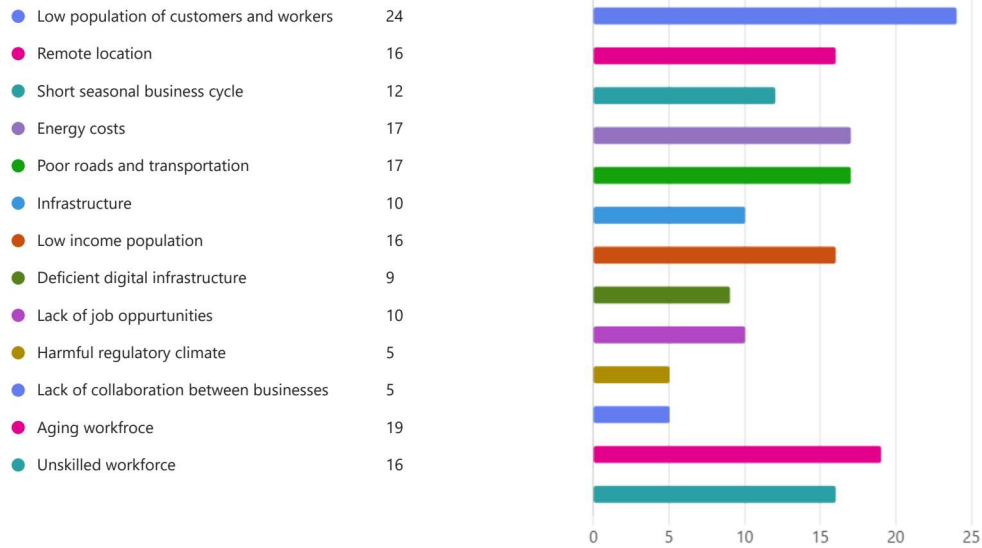


7. From a business standpoint, what is advantageous about our region?

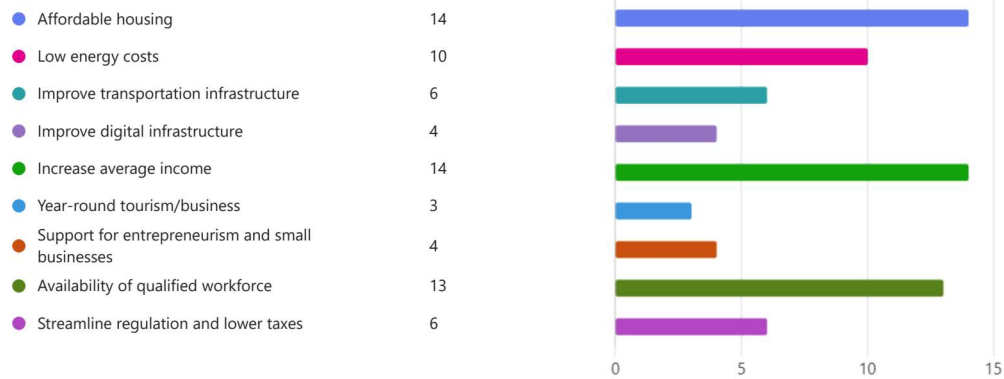
Location	21
Tourism	9
Quality of life/scenic beauty	22
Emerging growth in Maine	10
High-quality workforce	6
Low competition	10
Proximity to higher education	8
Cost of doing business	5



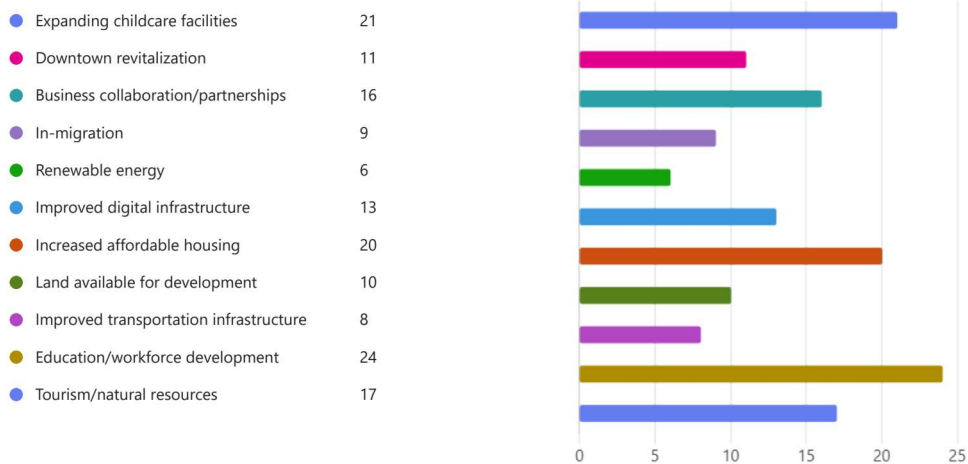
8. From a business standpoint, what is disadvantageous about our region?



9. If you could, what two things would you change regarding the business climate?

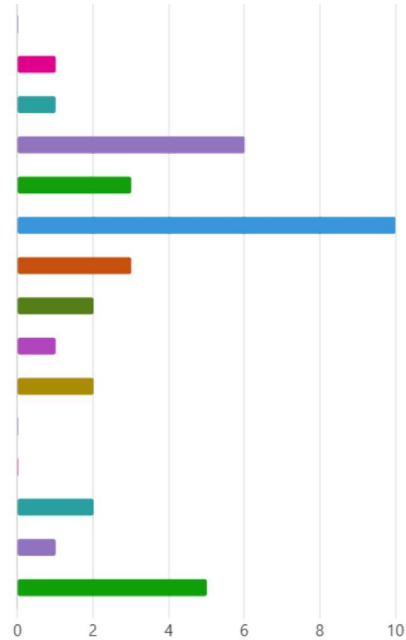


10. What opportunities exist for economic development in the region?



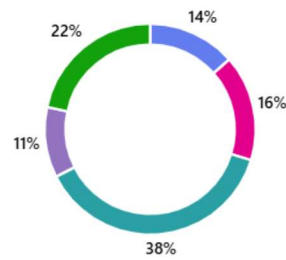
11. Which industry sector best represents your business?

● Agriculture and farming	0
● Forestry and wood products	1
● Manufacturing & food processing	1
● Retail and consumer services	6
● Tourism, hospitality, recreation	3
● Healthcare and social services	10
● Construction and real estate	3
● Transportation and logistics	2
● Professional and business services	1
● Financial services and insurance	2
● Renewable energy and environmental services	0
● Technology and innovation	0
● Arts, culture, and creative industries	2
● Wholesale and distribution	1
● Education, training, and nonprofit services	5



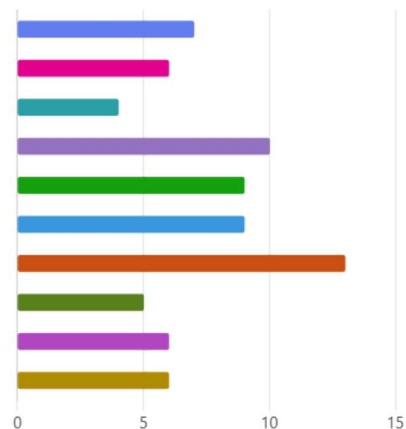
12. On a scale of 1-5, how competitive do you find your industry?

● 1	5
● 2	6
● 3	14
● 4	4
● 5	8



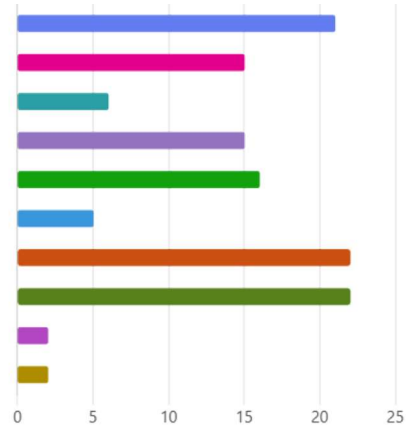
13. What are the growing trends or growth opportunities for your industry?

● Digital transformation and e-commerce expansion	7
● Sustainable and local food production	6
● Renewable energy and energy efficiency	4
● Eco-tourism and outdoor recreation	10
● Expansion of craft, artisan and niche manufacturing	9
● Infrastructure and transportation improvements	9
● Expanding healthcare and senior services	13
● Cross-border trade and regional partnerships	5
● Automation	6
● None	6



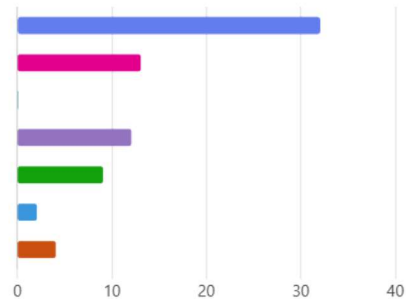
14. What is your growth strategy?

Market expansion and new customer acquisition	21
Product/service innovation and diversification	15
Digital transformation and e-commerce adoption	6
Strategic partnerships and alliances	15
Operational efficiency and cost optimization	16
Sustainable practices and green initiatives	5
Enhanced customer experience and service excellence	22
Talent development and workforce investment	22
None	2
Other	2



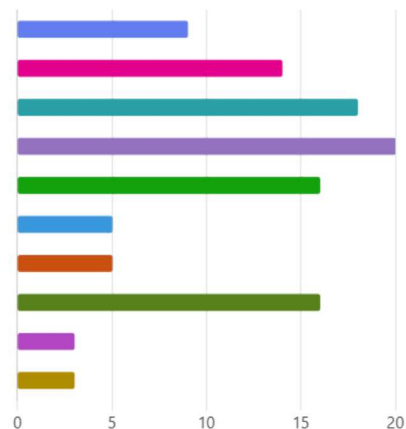
15. Who are your primary customers?

Local residents and households	32
Regional consumers and businesses	13
Global consumer	0
Tourists and seasonal visitors	12
Government and institutional clients	9
Wholesale and distributor partners	2
Online/digital consumers	4

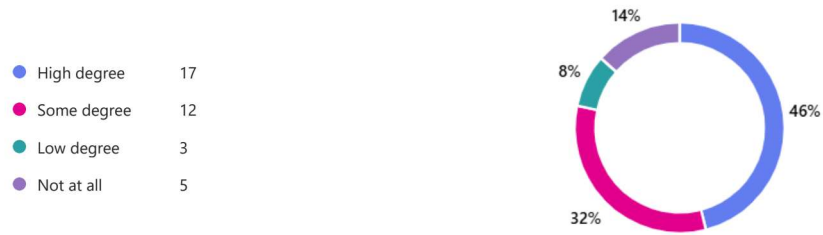


16. What challenges arise because of your location?

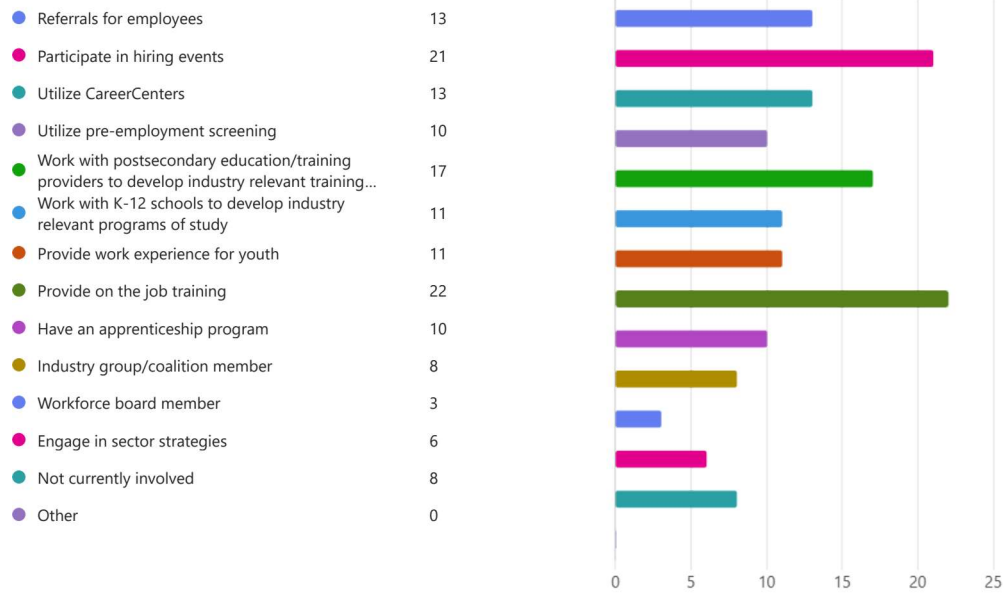
Limited access to major markets	9
Transportation and infrastructure constraints	14
Seasonal weather and climate impacts	18
Workforce availability and talent attraction	20
Higher operational and logistics costs	16
Limited access to capital and investment	5
Regulatory and permitting challenges	5
Smaller local market size	16
Lack of highspeed internet	3
None of the above	3



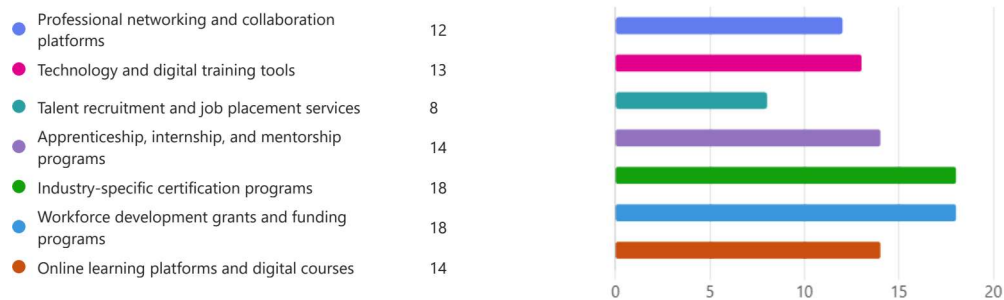
17. To what degree does your business engage in workforce development?



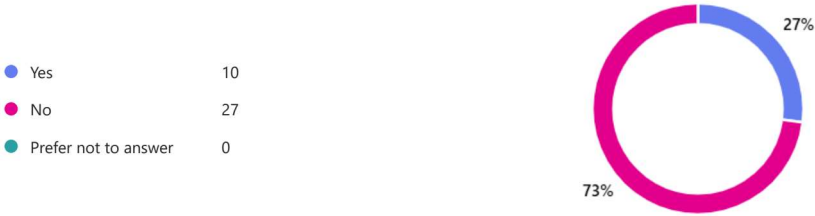
18. How are you currently engaged with or what services do you currently receive from the workforce system?



19. What resources/assets would advance your workforce development activities, whether located in the region or outside?

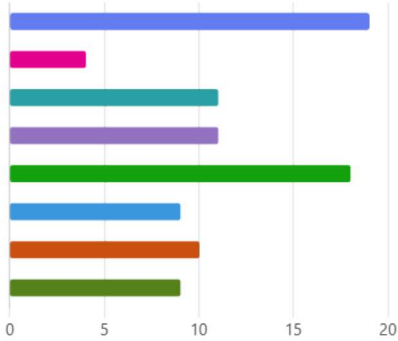


20. Is anyone in your workforce a non-English speaker?



21. What are your top employee needs?

Childcare assistance	19
Access to food	4
Transportation support	11
Comprehensive healthcare and wellness programs	11
Flexible work arrangements	18
Paid time off and leave benefits	9
Financial wellness and support services	10
Employee assistance and support programs	9



22. Have you participated in any recruiting events?

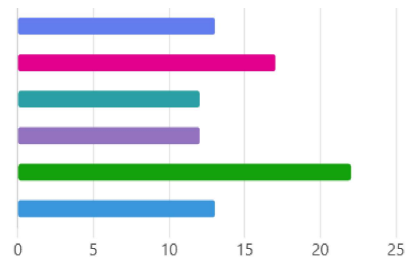


23. If yes, who hosted it?



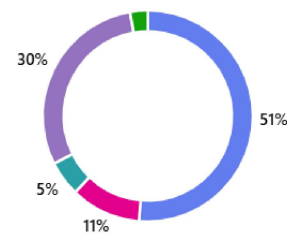
24. Which of the following do you use to recruit employees?

Maine JobLink	13
Indeed	17
LinkedIn	12
Newspapers	12
Facebook	22
Other	13



25. Do you plan to hire new workers in the coming year?

Yes, multiple workers	19
Yes, one worker	4
No, we are downsizing	2
No, we are maintaining our workforce as is	11
Maybe	1



26. If you'd like to be contacted with more information regarding the workforce system, type your email below.

13
Responses

Latest Responses
"smartdeane24@gmail.com"
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