



Maine
Philanthropy
Center

Giving in Maine Report and Conversation

November 4th, 2020

These are the questions that were gathered during the webinar. For further questions or more information, please contact Sarah at sarah@mainephilanthropy.org or Robert at Robert@mainephilanthropy.org.

Could you share the Land Acknowledgement read?

This was adapted from the [Abbey Museum](#). We encourage you to visit their website for more information on the Indigenous People of Maine.

We meet today in the homeland of the Wabanaki, the People of the Dawn. We extend our respect and gratitude to the many Indigenous people and their ancestors whose rich histories and vibrant communities have lived here for thousands of generations in what is known today as Maine. We make this acknowledgement aware of continual violations of water, territorial rights, and sacred sites in the Wabanaki homeland. I hope that as we gather today to learn more about Giving in Maine that we reflect on these words and think deeply about how we intend to do better for this land and the original nations of this land.

Does 2018 foundation giving include family foundations, which are often “really” individual giving?

Yes.

Are grants from donor advised funds counted within the foundation giving?

Yes.

Does that suggest that more individuals are giving through foundations for tax reasons?

That is one possible conclusion. It is definitely clear that individual funder behavior is changing, but it will likely be sometime before we can pinpoint the major shifts.

Are contributions from IRAs included in individual giving?

No – Qualified Charitable Deductions (QCDs) are non-itemizable gifts that are not reported separately by the IRS.

What were the three ME counties that saw declines in giving in 2018?

3 counties in Maine with a decline in reported charitable giving from 2016-2017: Washington County (-8.3%), Oxford (-8.0%), and Androscoggin (-4.6%).

Do you have a slide or resource with county-level data?

There is county level data in both Giving Reports. [You can find them here.](#)

Are there age break downs for individual giving?

We are not aware of an age break down for individual giving at this point.

Is foundation giving year a calendar year or July 1 - June 30 or other?

The data in these reports is from funder fiscal year 2018—they define the timeline of their own fiscal year. The individual giving timeline is based on IRS guidelines.

Does breakdown of giving by county include bequests, corporations, foundations or only giving by individuals?

Only individual and foundation giving is broken out by county. Bequest and corporate data are given as aggregate totals only.

How does giving in Maine by out-of-state residents factor into the reports - - or does it?

Anyone who itemizes charitable gifts on a Maine tax return is included in the report. Gifts to Maine by out-of-state individuals through a DAF (donor advised funds) may be tallied in the out-of-state funder top 10 list only if the DAF sponsor organization had sufficient grants to Maine to make the top 10.

Are people who give through workplace campaigns, such as United Way, included in data on giving by individuals?

Individuals who give through workplace giving campaigns are eligible to claim any resulting qualified charitable deduction on their taxes. If a deduction is claimed, it will be included in the individual giving data. The shift we saw in 2018 is that many people no longer find it financially beneficial to itemize their charitable giving, opting to take the new, larger standard deduction. The IRS Statistics of Income reports that in 2018, the number of Maine tax returns itemizing charitable gifts dropped by 72%.