

Community Profile for the City of Augusta



About Augusta



Augusta's Beginnings

Long before Europeans came up the Kennebec River to the "head of the tide," Algonquian-speaking Indians, considered Wabanaki or "People of the Dawn," were already here. As early as 1607, the area was explored by English settlers from the short-lived Sagadahoc or Popham Colony at the river's mouth.

Representatives of Plymouth Colony were the first English to actually live here. In 1625, on a river expedition to find a place to trade agricultural products for Indian furs, Plymouth pilgrims chose the east shore for their "House at Kennebeck." The post, probably built in 1628, was operated by the original traders and, later, by Plymouth Company with varying degrees of success, until it was abandoned some time between 1669 and 1676.

There were French as well as English influences here in the 17th and 18th centuries. In 1646, a Jesuit priest, Gabriel Dreuillettes, visited "an English settlement named Kinibeki." and established a mission nearby for the Kennebec natives. It was then that the term "Cushnoc," ("*Coussinoc*" or "*Kouissnoc*") first appeared in reference to the Plymouth trading post.

After years of conflict involving the French, Indians, and English and several decades during which Kennebec settlements were deserted, the Kennebec Proprietors, successors to the Plymouth Company, erected Fort Western near the Cushnoc site. Located below the falls at the head of navigation, the fort was intended as a supply depot for Fort Halifax, 17 miles upriver. The proprietors also initiated efforts to settle the region. When military staffing was no longer needed, Captain James Howard, who had commanded the fort, stayed on as the first permanent settler. The fort's main building served as a residence and a store.

The village called "the Fort" was the upriver part of the town incorporated as Hallowell in 1771. In February, 1796, the Fort residents petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature for permission to build the first Kennebec bridge. Although "the Hook," as the lower Hallowell village was called, wanted the bridge on its shore, the Fort request was granted. The following February, in 1797, the legislature approved separation of the Fort from Hallowell. Incorporated first as Harrington, the new town changed its name to Augusta on June 9, 1797.

In 1799, Augusta became the shire town of the newly formed Kennebec County. In 1827, the town was designated the capital of Maine, which had entered the union in 1820 as the 23rd state. The Maine Legislature met here for the first time in January, 1832. Augusta was chartered as a city in 1849.

In addition to its governmental roles, Augusta has been, through the years, a frontier trading place, an inland shipping port, a center for publishing and manufacturing, and, now, post-secondary education. (*reprinted from the City of Augusta web site*)

For more information on the history of Augusta, contact:

The Kennebec Historical Society
61 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04332-5582 Tel: (207) 622-7718

Augusta's Demographics

Population – 2000 Census	18,560
Male	47.3%
Female	52.7%
Median Age	40.3 years
19 years and younger	23.0%
20-34 years	19.1%
35-54 years	30.0%
55-74 years	18.9%
75 years and older	9.0%
Households	8,565
Family Households	53.8%
Non-family Households	46.2%
Average Household Size	2.10
Average Family Size	2.77
Income – 1990 Census	
Median Household Income	\$25,790
Under \$35,000	66%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	18%
\$50,000 to \$74,900	11%
\$75,000 and above	4%
Median Family Income	\$33,288
Median Non-family Household Income	\$15,524
Per Capita Income	\$13,209
Educational Attainment – 1990 Census (25 years of age and older)	
Under 12 years	26%
12 years only	35%
Some college	16%
Associate Degree	7%
Bachelors Degree	11%
Graduate or Professional Degree	5%
% HS graduate or higher	74.4%
% Bachelors Degree or higher	16.3%

Location, Geography and Climate

Augusta is located in the heart of Central Maine. Just 3.5 hours north of Boston, Augusta is also ideally positioned between Maine's two largest cities, Portland (one hour to the south) and Bangor (one hour to the north). The fact that 70% of Maine's population (900,000 people) can reach the city in less than two hour's drive attests to Augusta's convenient and central location.

Most major state roads and highways converge in Augusta. Direct access to the Maine Turnpike and Interstate 95 is ideal for north-south travel, and major state roads make Augusta a gateway to eastern and western Maine.

Augusta rises in a series of terraces and sharp inclines east and west of the bisecting Kennebec River. Summers are pleasant; though winters have a reputation for harshness, they are not actually as severe as those experienced in places of corresponding latitude. Freezing temperatures at night are common in October and November, continuing to mid-to-late April. Precipitation is well distributed throughout the year.

Area	55.4 square miles
Elevation	120 feet above sea level
Average Maximum Temperature	54.0°F
Average Minimum Temperature	36.2°F
Average Annual Precipitation	41.67 inches of rain
	79.5 inches of snow

Municipal Government



Structure

Augusta operates under a mayor-council form of government. The mayor and seven council members are elected for two and three-year terms. A city manager is appointed by the council.

Elected Officials

	Elected Official	Term	Term Expires
Mayor	William E. Dowling	3 years	12/03
Ward 1 Councilor	Thomas Sotir	2 years	12/02
Ward 2 Councilor	Donna R. Doore	3 years	12/03
Ward 3 Councilor	Gary G. Veilleux	3 years	12/04
Ward 4 Councilor	Karen D. Foster	2 years	12/02
At-large Councilor	Mary D. Mayo-Wescott	2 years	12/02
At-large Councilor	Sylvia V. Lund	3 years	12/04
At-large Councilor	Stanley C. Koski	3 years	12/04
At-large Councilor	Mark S. O'Brien	3 years	12/03
	Appointed Official		
City Manager	William R. Bridgeo		

Mayor and City Council mail can be sent to:

City of Augusta
City Center
16 Cony St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2300

Visit the City on the World Wide Web at www.ci.augusta.me.us/

Municipal Services

Finance and Administration Department

Bureau	Responsibility	Director	Phone
Assessing	determining the value of real and personal property that is subject to municipal taxation.	Don Cadwell	626-2320
Audit	manages and maintains Augusta's financial transactions.	Diane White	626-2340
Human Resources	recruitment, benefits, training, health/safety, and employee/labor relations.	Ellen Blair	626-2353
City Clerk	Licenses, certificates, voter registration.	Cheryl Frith	626-2310
Economic and Community Development	attracting investment and enhancing the City as a place to live and conduct business.	Mike Duguay	626-2336
Information Services	provides computer information services to all departments.	Jim Anderberg	626-2345
Treasury and Tax Collection	Property taxes, excise taxes, and registration fees.	Mark Doyon	626-2314

City Services Department

Bureau	Responsibility	Director	Phone
Airport	management and operation of state-owned passenger airport.	Bob McGee	626-2306
Code Enforcement	building permits and inspection of new construction and renovation of residential and commercial properties.	Richard Dolby	626-2368
Engineering	construction projects, plan review and approval, new street/road entrances review and approval.	Lionel Cayer	626-2365
Planning	Land use and strategic planning services. Rezoning, sub-divisions and special exemptions.	Bruce Keller	626-2366
Public Works	maintains City streets and sidewalks, including repairs, snow removal and weekly curbside collection of domestic refuse.	John Charest	626-2435
Solid Waste	Manages Hatch Hill solid waste facility, including landfill, transfer station and recycling program	Lesley Jones	626-2440

Community Services Department

Bureau	Responsibility	Director	Phone
Child Care	licensed before and after-school care for children 5-13.	Karen Cox	626-2350
Old Fort Western	National Historic Landmark fort, store and house museum.	Jay Adams	626-2385
Health and Welfare	General Assistance Program for eligible citizens in need of food, fuel, shelter, and medical attention.	Mary Frances Bartlett	626-2325
Parks and Cemeteries	maintenance and operation of parks, public grounds, athletic fields and cemeteries.	Anna Blodgett	626-2310
Lithgow Library	public library materials and services.	Betsy Pohl	626-2415
Recreation	Year-round recreational programs for children and adults.	Peter Marczak	626-2350
Trees and Landscape	protection and care of public trees.	tish carr	626-2350

Public Safety Departments

Department	Responsibility	Chief	Phone
Fire & EMS	fire suppression, prevention and protection. EMS services.	James Farrell	626-2421
Police	Public safety services, including patrol, investigation, prevention, communications, traffic and parking, and animal control.	Wayne McCamish	626-2370

Others

Department	Responsibility	Director	Phone
Civic Center	Conventions, meetings, sporting events, expositions, concerts.	David Jowdry	626-2405

Department Directors

City Department	Contact		Phone
Finance and Administration	Michael Lombardo	Assist. City Manager	626-2300
City Services	Kelly Gray	Director	626-2365
Community Services	Leif Dahlin	Director	626-2350

Schools



Augusta School Department

Augusta School Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Augusta Schools is to provide all students with challenging, high quality educational programs in academic skills, life skills, career preparation, and citizenship.

Augusta School Department Core Beliefs

- ❖ We believe that each individual has special worth and should be honored.
- ❖ We believe that all children are gifted and can learn.
- ❖ We believe that learning is fun.
- ❖ We believe that learning is a partnership involving children, parents, teachers and the community.
- ❖ We believe that schools must provide a safe environment where civility is practiced and individuality respected.
- ❖ We believe that teachers nurture and challenge all students.
- ❖ We believe that teachers use multiple approaches to engage students to learn.
- ❖ We believe that communication among students, parents, teachers and the community promotes positive change.

Augusta School Department Facts

Operating Costs, 99-00	\$16,409,833
Avg. Resident Pupils, 99-00	2,693
Per Pupil Operating Cost, 99-00	\$6,092
Secondary Student/Teacher Ratio, 00-01	10.15 to 1
Elementary Student/Teacher Ratio, 00-01	12.59 to 1

Contact the Augusta School Department at:

7 Pierce Dr.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2468
Dr. Cornelia L. Brown, Superintendent

Secondary Schools

School	Grades	Serving	Enrollment (00-01)
Cony High School	9-12	HS students from Augusta and 8 other Central Maine communities	985
Capital Area Technical Center	9-12	HS students from Augusta and 8 other Central Maine communities	219

Contact:

Cony High School
104 Cony St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2460
Christopher Mosca, Principal

Capital Area Technical Center
Pierce Dr.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2475
Pam Kenoyer, Director

Elementary Schools

School	Grades	Serving	Enrollment (00-01)
Ella R. Hodgkins School	6-8	Middle school students from the east side of Augusta	330
Lou M. Buker Middle School	6-8	Middle school students from the west side of Augusta	287

Contact:

Ella R. Hodgkins School
Malta St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2490
Judith A. Harvey, Principal

Lou M. Buker School
Armory St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2450
Douglas Carville, Principal

Elementary Schools

School	Grades	Serving	Enrollment (00-01)
Lillian Park Hussey School	K-5	K-5 graders from northeast Augusta	216
Farrington School	K-5	K-5 graders from southeast Augusta	395
Sylvio J. Gilbert School	K-5	K-5 graders from northwest Augusta	284
Lincoln School	K-5	K-5 graders from southwest Augusta	263

Contact:

Lillian Park Hussey School
Gedney St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2461
Deborah F. Howard, Principal

Sylvio J. Gilbert School
Sunset Ave.
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 626-2491
Sharon B. Tyler, Principal

Farrington School
249 Eastern Ave.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2480
Peter Washburn, Principal

Lincoln School
40 Lincoln St.
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 626-2483
Enga Stewart, Principal

Parochial Schools in Augusta

Not affiliated with the Augusta School District

St. Augustine's School
24 Washington St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 622-1771
Sr. Rachel C. Boucher, Principal
00-01 enrollment: 191

St. Mary's School
56 Sewall St.
Augusta, ME 04330
Tel: (207) 626-2491
Barbara A. Brennan, Principal
00-01 enrollment: 262

Post-secondary schools

The University of Maine at Augusta is one of seven institutions governed by the University of Maine system. It is the 8th largest college/university in Maine. A commuter college with no dormitories, the campus is located in pleasant, wooded surroundings north of the State Capitol, and conveniently adjacent to I-95. UMA enrolled 667 full-time and 1458 part-time students in Fall of 2001, and a total of 3450 students at its Bangor and Lewiston-Auburn campuses and centers throughout the state. Degrees conferred include Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Music, Associate of Arts, Associate of Applied Arts, Associate of Science. Contact the University of Maine at Augusta, 46 University Dr., Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 621-3000.

Mid-State College is a small, private post-secondary institution offering business-related associate degrees, certificates and diplomas. The college enrolls approximately 280 students at its downtown Augusta campus. Mid-State offers local employers customized training and retraining curriculum. Contact Mid-State College, 218 Water St., Augusta, ME 04530. Tel: (207) 623-3962.

Kennebec Valley Technical College, located in nearby Fairfield, is one of seven technical colleges that operate under the authority of the Maine Technical College system. The college offers business and industry-related associate degree, certificate and diploma programs. Contact the Kennebec Valley Technical College, 92 Western Ave., Fairfield, ME 04937. Tel: (207) 453-5000.

Thomas College, located in Waterville, just 20 minutes to the north on Interstate 95, is a small, private accredited college. Thomas awards bachelors, masters, and associate degrees in business, technology, and education. Contact Thomas College, 180 West River Rd., Waterville, ME 04901-5097. Tel: (207) 859-1111.

Colby College, is one of the nation's oldest and best independent colleges of liberal arts. Founded in 1813, Colby is located on a picturesque 714-acre campus in Waterville, ME. Fifty-one majors are offered by 25 departments and 11 programs. Top majors include biology, English, government, economics and international studies. Contact Colby College at 4000 Mayflower Dr., Waterville, ME 04901. Tel: (207) 872-3000.

Neighborhood Living



Neighborhood Profiles

Augusta is comprised of five distinct residential areas that cross all boundaries – traditional in-town neighborhoods, modern housing developments, rural living, lakeside homes, and first-class retirement opportunities.

***Northeastern Augusta** – rolling farmlands dotted with several tree-lined ponds. Ideal for the rural, single family home. Extends to reach the northern end of the downtown core, providing convenient in-town options.*

Augusta Neighborhood	Northeastern quadrant of Augusta
Characteristics	Rural, with some in-town
Housing composition	25.53% multifamily 62.77% single family 9.51% mobile home 1.06% other
% who rent	25.53%
Avg. Mo. rent	\$413.00
% who own	72.34%
Approximate Market value (average)	\$80,694.44
Average household size	2.46
Approximate total annual family income	10.64% <\$15K 19.15% \$15-30K 14.89% \$30-45K 18.09% \$45-60K 3.19% \$60-75K 10.64% >\$75K

***Southeastern Augusta** – Established in-town neighborhoods, convenient to a major regional medical center and its associated functions. Extends to include more of the pristine rural landscape that dominates the eastern side of the city.*

Augusta Neighborhood	Southeastern quadrant of Augusta
Characteristics	Rural, established housing developments, in-town, abutting medical center
Housing composition	22.08% multifamily 76.62% single family 1.30% other
% who rent	20.78%
Avg. Mo. rent	\$405.88
% who own	79.22%
Approximate Market value (average)	\$91,865.12
Average household size	2.23
Approximate total annual family income	9.09% <\$15K 20.78% \$15-30K 14.29% \$30-45K 20.78% \$45-60K 7.79% \$60-75K 7.79% >\$75K

***The Capitol Area** – Excellent in-town neighborhoods and a variety of multi-family units surrounding the scenic, historic center of Maine’s state government. Easy access to many consumer services.*

Augusta Neighborhood	Capitol area, southwest Augusta
Characteristics	Established in-town neighborhoods abutting State Capitol complex
Housing composition	47.83% multifamily 41.30% single family 4.35% mobile home 6.52% other
% who rent	45.65%
Avg. Mo. rent	\$384.44
% who own	47.83%
Approximate Market value (average)	\$68,694.44
Average household size	1.93
Approximate total annual family income	36.96% <\$15K 19.57% \$15-30K 13.04% \$30-45K 8.70% \$45-60K NA% \$60-75K 2.17% >\$75K

***‘The West Side’** -- Augusta’s most historic and beautiful in-town neighborhood. Elegant single family homes and multi-family options with easy access to Augusta’s downtown and major transportation corridors.*

Augusta Neighborhood	Historic area, mid-west Augusta
Characteristics	Historic In-town neighborhoods, established housing developments, abutting downtown and main commercial corridor, access to interstate
Housing composition	48.53% multifamily 48.53% single family 2.94% townhouses
% who rent	36.76%
Avg. Mo. rent	\$435.00
% who own	52.94%
Approximate Market value (average)	\$90,482.76
Average household size	2.13
Approximate total annual family income	8.82% <\$15K 19.12% \$15-30K 19.12% \$30-45K 19.12% \$45-60K 4.41% \$60-75K 7.35% >\$75K

Northwestern Augusta – Beginning with the vast in-town ‘Sand Hill’ neighborhood, with its single and multi-family options, and extending westward towards Augusta’s fastest growing commercial district bordered by pristine rural farmlands.

Augusta Neighborhood	Northwest quadrant of Augusta
Characteristics	Rural, abutting large commercial district, access to interstate. Also in-town neighborhoods closer to downtown.
Housing composition	37.35% multifamily 49.40% single family 4.82% mobile home 2.41% townhouse 4.86% other
% who rent	36.14%
Avg. Mo. rent	\$437.17
% who own	62.65%
Approximate Market value (average)	\$90,365.76
Average household size	2.31
Approximate total annual family income	21.69% <\$15K 14.46% \$15-30K 18.07% \$30-45K 7.23% \$45-60K 7.23% \$60-75K 2.41% >\$75K

“What your future neighbors are saying about Augusta”

City Services

- 90% rate the cleanliness of their neighborhood streets as ‘fairly clean’ to ‘very clean’.
- 84% say that the condition of their neighborhood streets is ‘mostly good’ to ‘good all over’.
- 82% rate the city’s garbage collection as ‘good’ to ‘excellent’.
- 62% rate city snow removal as ‘good’ to ‘excellent’.
- 56% rate City park and recreation opportunities as ‘good’ to ‘excellent’.
- 66% rate public library services as ‘good’ to ‘excellent’.

Safety

- 77% rate their neighborhood street lighting as ‘mostly good’ to ‘good all over’.
- 93% say they feel ‘reasonably safe’ to ‘very safe’ walking alone in their neighborhood during the day.
- 64% say they feel ‘reasonably safe’ to ‘very safe’ walking alone in their neighborhood after dark.
- 87% say they feel ‘reasonably safe’ to ‘very safe’ walking alone in Augusta’s downtown business area during the day.
- 42% say they feel ‘reasonably safe’ to ‘very safe’ walking alone in Augusta’s downtown business area after dark.
- 79% rate Augusta’s Police Department services as ‘good’ to ‘excellent’.
- 96% rate Augusta’s Fire and EMS services as ‘good’ to ‘excellent’.

All neighborhood living data from the ‘Augusta Amenities Survey’, conducted by Mitchell Geographics Inc., November 2001.

Quality of Life



Health Care

MaineGeneral Health is the parent corporation of a network of acute care hospitals, physician practices, rehabilitation centers, long term nursing care, and assisted living and retirement communities. The Augusta campus, which includes the MaineGeneral Medical Center regional hospital, provides emergency care, medical/surgical care, maternal and child health, and inpatient and outpatient diagnostic services.

MaineGeneral Health
6 E. Chestnut St.
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 626-1000

The Togus Veteran's Administration Medical Center is one of the oldest veterans' facilities in the country, having opened in the fall of 1866. Located approximately four miles east of Augusta, Togus VAMC offers a 67-operating bed facility with general medical, surgical, intermediate and mental health beds, as well as a 100-bed Nursing Home.

Togus VA Medical & Regional Office Center
1 VA Center
Togus, ME 04330
(877) 421-8263

Recreation

Over 5,000 kids and adults enjoy the more than 50 programs offered by **the city's bureau of recreation**, as well as several tournaments, clinics, concerts, field trips, playground activities and senior excursions offered throughout the year. Municipal recreation facilities include tennis and basketball courts, swimming pools, softball/baseball fields, winter skating rinks, and river boat launches. Contact the Augusta Bureau of Recreation, City Center, 16 Cony St., Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 626-2350.

Passive recreational opportunities are available thanks to the efforts of **the city's parks bureau**, which cares for 15 neighborhood parks and public grounds throughout the city. The city has two parks which are situated ideally **on the banks of the Kennebec River**, where you can enjoy a rejuvenated river that's as clean and populated with wildlife as it was a hundred years ago. **Bicentennial Nature Park** is the newest fixture in the city's parks system. Augusta residents and their guests enjoy swimming, picnicking and hiking alongside scenic Three Cornered Pond on the city's east side. The park is open from Memorial Day to late October. Contact the Augusta Bureau of Parks and Cemeteries, City Center, 16 Cony St., Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 626-2310.

The Central Maine Region is known nationally for its vast array of passive and active recreational offerings. The Upper Kennebec and Moose River Valleys offer incomparable opportunities for **hiking, bicycling, canoeing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, fishing, hunting, cross country skiing, snowmobiling and fall foliage viewing**. Contact the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce, 21 University Dr., Augusta, ME 04332. Tel (207) 623-4559.

Augusta's central location also positions its residents for **easy day trips to the ocean, mountains, and over 30 neighboring lakes**. Contact the Maine Department of Tourism, 59 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0059. Tel: 1-888-624-6345.

Golf courses of every skill level are conveniently located throughout the Central Maine region, including Augusta's own Western View Golf Club on the Bolton Hill Road, and Kennebec Heights Golf Club in nearby Farmingdale. The Belgrade Lakes Golf Club in neighboring Belgrade Lakes was recently rated at #5 in the USA for new upscale courses.

Scholastic athletics are a staple at **Cony High School**, which suits up 23 competitive varsity teams in sports like football, basketball, hockey, baseball, soccer, track, and more. Root on the home team! Contact the Cony High School Athletic Office, 120 Cony St., Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 626-2456.

One of the city's most popular annual events is the **Class C and D high school basketball championships**, held every February and March at the Augusta Civic Center. Thousands of Maine hoop fans flock to watch some of the finest student-athletes in the state compete for the Gold Ball. Contact the Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 626-2405.

Heritage and Culture

Old Fort Western, New England's oldest surviving wooden fort, was built in 1754 by the Proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase and is now designated as a National Historic Landmark. Located on the banks of the Kennebec River, Old Fort Western offers year-round programming including guided tours, demonstrations, reenactments, apprenticeships and school and group tours. Contact Old Fort Western, 16 Cony St. Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 626-2385.

The Kennebec Historical Society preserves, protects and interprets artifacts relating to the rich history of Maine's Capital City and the rest of Kennebec County. The Society presents public programs and maintains a collection of public documents, reference books, newspapers, maps and photographs. Contact the Kennebec Historical Society, 61 Winthrop Street, PO Box 5582, Augusta, Maine 04332-5582 Tel: (207) 622-7718.

The Maine State Museum is widely considered to be one of the top state museums in the country. Open 7 days a week, the Museum presents exhibits of Maine's natural, social and commercial heritage. Contact the Maine State Museum, 83 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0083. Tel: (207) 287-2301.

The State House, the Governor's Mansion, and Capitol Park represent the center of Augusta's Capital District, located on the western banks of the Kennebec River. The Bullfinch-designed State House, one of Maine's architectural treasures, was built in 1829 using granite quarried from nearby Hallowell (for tours call 207-287-2301). The Blaine House, the official residence of Maine's governors since 1919, is open for public tours (call 207-282-2121). Capitol Park is the earliest known, consciously-designed public ground in Maine, and today is home to passive recreation areas and important landmarks like the Maine Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The Maine State Archives is the state's repository of official government archival records beginning with 1639 court records. The Archive includes a major Civil War collection. Contact the Maine State Archives, 84 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0084. Tel: (207) 287-5795.

The Maine Military Historical Society Museum is Maine's only museum dedicated solely to Maine military history, and offers a collection of Maine military historical objects and artifacts. Contact the Maine Military Historical Society Museum, Camp Keys, Augusta, ME 04333. Tel: (207) 626-4338.

The Augusta Civic Center is one of Maine's most popular venues for concerts and performances. Popular acts from the world of music and entertainment often make a stop at the Civic Center during national tours. Contact the Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 626-2405.

The Children's Discovery Museum offers an 'hands on' opportunity for youngsters through grade five to have fun while learning in an interactive environment. A host of exciting exhibits provide wonderful opportunities for creative family fun. Contact the Children's Discovery Museum, 265 Water St., Augusta, ME 04330. Tel: (207) 622-2209.

Augusta's own **Lithgow Public Library** and **the Maine State Library** provide valuable materials and services to help you fulfill your educational, recreational and professional needs. Contact the Lithgow Public Library, Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04330, Tel: (207) 626-2415, or contact the Maine State Library, Capital St., Augusta, ME 04330, Tel: (207) 287-5600.

Community Events traditionally dot the calendar in Augusta and several of its neighboring Central Maine communities. The Annual Whatever Family Festival, held in downtown Augusta every June and July, is packed with games, sport tournaments, carnivals, fireworks and much more. Contact the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce, 21 University Dr., Augusta, ME 04332. Tel (207) 623-4559.

Shopping

Augusta continues to take its place as one of Maine's largest and most active retail areas. The Capital City trails only Portland and Bangor in retail sales. The expansive **Marketplace at Augusta** features more than 20 nationally known retailers. Other large shopping centers include the **Turnpike Mall**, the **Augusta Plaza** and **Shaw's Plaza**. Augusta also boasts a wide network of small to mid-size specialty retailers. Contact the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce, 21 University Dr., Augusta, ME 04332. Tel (207) 623-4559.

Business Community



Augusta's Top Employers

Largest Private Employers	SIC Description	Employee Range
Central Maine Power Co.	Electric companies	1000+
Maine General Medical Center	Hospitals	1000+
SCI Systems, Inc.	Computer peripheral equipment	500-999
Shop n' Save	Grocers-retail	250-499
O'Connor GMC Buick	Automobile and truck dealers	250-499
Pine State Vending Co.	Vending machines	250-499
Microdyne	Computer software design and service	250-499
Augusta Mental Health Institute	Hospitals	250 - 499
Joseph Kirschner Company	Meat packers	100 - 249
Central Maine Newspapers/Kennebec Journal	Newspapers and magazines	100 - 249
Cives Steel Co	Metal products manufacturers	100 - 249
Allen's Transfer & Storage	Moving and storage	100 - 249
Fairpoint Communications	Telephone communications services	100 - 249
Northcenter Foodservice Corp	Grocers - wholesale	100 - 249
Webber Energy Fuels	Fuel and oil dealers	100 - 249
The Home Depot Center	Hardware dealers - retail	100 - 249
Shop 'N Save	Grocers - retail	100 - 249
N R F Distributors	Floor covering - retail	100 - 249
Maine General Rehab & Nursing Care	Homes and convalescent homes	100 - 249
Maine Veterans' Home	Homes and convalescent homes	100 - 249
Crisis & Counseling Center	Counseling services	100 - 249

Note: There are almost 7,000 persons employed in state government and various independent authorities in Augusta.

Employment by Industry

Covered Employment and Wages by Major Industry Division, Kennebec County, 2000	Employers at Year End	Total Employment	% of total emp.	Avg. Wage
Total	3,420	55,964	100%	\$521
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	81	519	1%	421
Mining and Construction	390	2,393	4%	527
Manufacturing	148	4,872	9%	611
Transportation and Public Utilities	104	1,924	3%	794
Wholesale Trade	182	3,056	5%	638
Retail Trade	708	11,290	20%	312
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	229	1,559	3%	799
Services	1,320	16,185	29%	496
State Government	88	8,923	16%	666
Local Government	170	5,244	10%	474

Consumer Retail Sales

Economic Summary Area	Ann. Total 1997	Ann. Total 1998	Ann. Total 1999	Ann. Total 2000	Ann. Total 2001	%% chg. 97/01
Augusta	569,724,000	613,092,000	681,857,000	740,289,000	771,612,000	7.9%