Community Profile

KFL Service Area

The Kennebunk Free Library serves and receives funding from the towns of Kennebunk and Arundel. KFL has reciprocal borrowing agreements with Kennebunkport and Wells; each has their own community library. Residents of Kennebunkport and Wells are eligible for KFL library cards at no cost, and residents of Kennebunk are eligible for free cards at the libraries in these two communities. KFL also participates in the Maine Reciprocal Borrowing Program (MRBP) which allows anyone with a valid library card from one of the member libraries to check out materials in person. Since the Wells Public Library is also in the MRBP (the library in Kennebunkport is not), many of the Wells patrons may choose to use their Wells Public Library card at KFL instead of having a separate KFL card made.

Population

The 2022 U.S Census Reporter's America Community Survey (ACS) data is the source of the population column information below. The Office of the Maine State Economist projects an increase in population in all four towns.

	2022 Population	2020-2025 increase	2025-2030 increase
Kennebunk	11,566	2.3%	3.0%
Arundel	4,316	1.0%	2.6%
Kennebunkport	3,649	2.3%	2.9%
Wells	11,365	3.4%	3.9%

Kennebunk represents 37% of the population for the four communities and 71% of actual users of the library. Arundel represents 14% of the population and 12% of users. Kennebunkport represents 12% of the population and 9% of users. Wells represents 37% of the population and 5% of users. Out-of-town memberships both paid and unpaid make up the final 3% of library users. (Census Reporter, 2022 and KFL circulation statistics, 2023).

Although the place of residence of KFL program attendees is not tracked, total attendance was 6,899 for KFL's 406 live programs offered in 2023. Maine State Library's Trend Data – 5 Years also reports that in 2023, KFL received 17,974 items through interlibrary loan and provided 11, 813 items.

Approximately 37% of Kennebunk residents are KFL card holders, as are 14% or Arundel residents, 14% of Kennebunkport residents and 3% of Wells residents. (KFL circulation statistics, 2023).

Age

Arundel has a significantly younger population than Kennebunk in the 18-64 age group, and Kennebunk has a significantly older population than both the populations of Arundel and Maine in the 65 and over cohort. (Census Reporter, 2022)

	Under 18	18-64	65 and over	Median Age
Maine	18%	60%	23%	45.1
Kennebunk	17%	50%	32%	54.9
Arundel	19%	65%	16%	41.4

Educational Attainment

Approximately 97% of Kennebunk residents have a high school diploma and approximately 47% have a bachelor's degree or higher. Approximately 96% of Arundel residents have a high school diploma and approximately 29% have a bachelor's degree or higher. (Census Reporter, 2022)

	No degree	High School	Some college	Bachelor's	Post-grad
Maine	5%	30%	28%	22%	14%
Kennebunk	3%	22%	28%	24%	23%
Arundel	4%	39%	27%	18%	11%

Ethnicity

 Kennebunk and Arundel residents are slightly more likely to be white than the overall Maine population, with 95% of Kennebunk residents identifying as white and 96% of Arundel residents identifying as white compared to 90% for the State. Demographics data regarding language for Kennebunk and Arundel are substantially similar. In both communities, about 96% of the population speaks English compared to 94% in Maine. (Census Reporter, 2022)

Income

Median income in Kennebunk and Arundel is above that of York County and the State. The percentage of children (under 18 years of age) in households below the Federal Poverty Level in Kennebunk and Arundel is less than that cohort in York County and the State. The percentage of Senior (aged 65 and over) in Arundel is 10% higher than Kennebunk and 6% higher than York County and the State. (Census Reporter, 2022)

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households have income above the Federal Poverty Level but struggle to afford household basics such as housing, child care, food, transportation, and health care.   ALICE data was obtained from *ALICE in Maine: A Study in Financial Hardship*, a 2023 research-based publication from the United Ways of Maine in partnership with United for ALICE.

	Per capita	Median	Below Federal Poverty (FPL) Households	ALICE + FPL Households
Maine	$41,188	$69,543	10.8% (12% of children, 9% of seniors)	42%
York County	$43,180	$81,928	8.3% (10% of children, 9% of seniors)	40%
Kennebunk	$49,019	$96,814	6.8% (19% of children, 5% of seniors)	26.6%
Arundel	$35,327	$86,442	5% (less than 1% of children, 15% of seniors	24.1%

K-5, Middle School, and High School Enrollments and Projections

Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, and Arundel are all part of RSU-21, the local school district. The district includes six schools: one preK-2 school, two K-5 schools, one 3-5 school, one middle school, and one high school.

Enrollment Trends and Projections for RSU-21 District-wide:

	2014-2015	2022-2023	2024-2025
Grades K-5	1,124	754	959
Grades 6-8	639	480	526
Grades 9-12	846	745	800

2022-2023 figures are from the *RSU-21 Annual Report 2022-2023*. 2014-2015 figures and the 2024-2025 projections are from the *RSU-21 May 2016 Facilities Master Plan*. The *February 2019 Update* of the *Facilities Master Plan* states that 88 full-size classrooms will be needed for FY 2025.

High School Graduate Demographics
The majority of KHS graduates continue their education after high school, with 63% of the Class of 2023 planning to attend four-year colleges or universities and 15% matriculating at two-year colleges. Two percent plan to enter the military, and 20% will enter the workforce or have other plans. (*2023-2024 School Profile. Kennebunk High School. RSU-21*)

Linked sources below were accessed on October 3, 2024.

ALICE in Maine: A Study in Financial Hardship. 2023. (Click on Latest Report.)

Census Reporter. American Community Survey. 2022. U.S. Census Bureau.

Circulation Statistics. 2023. Kennebunk Free Library.

Maine City and Town Population Projections 2040. Dept. of Administrative and Financial Services. Office of the State Economist. State of Maine.

Maine Regional School Unit 21.
    Annual Report 2022-2023
    Facilities Master Plan. May 2016
    Facilities Master Plan Update. February 2019
    School Profile 2023-2024

Maine State Library Trend Data – 5 Years. 2024. Maine State Library.

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