

SECTION 6. ECONOMY

REGIONAL ECONOMY

Poland is strategically located adjacent to Maine's population and economic centers. Nearly 50% of Maine's population is located within a 30-mile radius of Poland. While Poland does not in and of itself have a broad-based, diverse economy, it is part of a much larger economically robust regional economy.

From an economic perspective Poland is influenced by a larger regional economy. While Cumberland County certainly has an influence on the Community, it is the tri-county region of Androscoggin, Oxford and Franklin that has and will continue to have the major economic influence on the Town of Poland.

The largest employers in Lewiston and Auburn are: Sisters of Charity Health, Central Maine Medical Center, TB Banknorth Group, Bates College, Lewiston School Department, Auburn School Department, L.L. Bean Telemarketing, City of Lewiston-municipal government, Tambrands, Inc., Wal-Mart Supercenter, Wal-Mart Distribution Center, Panolam (Pioneer Plastics), and Ecs fka Livebridge, Inc.

Source: Town of Poland Economic Development Strategy, May 2005, Community Dynamics, Corp.

Commented [SN1]: Is this language still relevant?

The 25 largest employers In Androscoggin County are shown in the chart below. Those employing over 500 employees include the two regional hospitals, TD Bank, Wal Mart, Bates College, and John F. Murphy Homes.

TOP 25 PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN MAINE BY AVERAGE MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT BY COUNTY (2nd QUARTER 2020)				
Rank	NAME	County	Employment Range	Industry Description
1	CENTRAL MAINE HEALTHCARE CORP	ANDROSCOGGIN	2,001 to 2,500	General medical and surgical hospitals
2	T D BANK N A	ANDROSCOGGIN	1,501 to 2,000	Commercial banking
3	ST MARY'S REGIONAL MEDICAL CTR	ANDROSCOGGIN	1,001 to 1,500	General medical and surgical hospitals
4	WAL MART / SAM'S CLUB	ANDROSCOGGIN	1,001 to 1,500	Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters
5	BATES COLLEGE	ANDROSCOGGIN	501 to 1,000	Colleges and universities
6	LL.BEAN, INC.	ANDROSCOGGIN	501 to 1,000	Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses
7	MURPHY HOMES INC, JOHN F	ANDROSCOGGIN	501 to 1,000	Residential developmental disability homes
8	HANNAFORD BROS CO	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Supermarkets and other grocery stores
9	PIONEER PLASTICS CORPORATION	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Laminated plastics plate, sheet, and shapes
10	TAMBRANDS INC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Sanitary paper product manufacturing
11	CHANGE HLTHCRE TECH ENABLED SERV LL	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Other accounting services
12	THE DINGLEY PRESS INC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Commercial printing, except screen and books
13	PERRIER GROUP-POLAND SPRING	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Bottled water manufacturing
14	SODEXO USA	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Food service contractors
15	ANDROSCOGGIN HOME CARE & HOSPICE	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Home health care services
16	UPS SOLUTIONS	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Couriers and express delivery services
17	CLOVER MANOR INC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Nursing care facilities, skilled nursing
18	HARTT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS INC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	General freight trucking, long-distance TL
19	SHAW'S SUPERMARKETS INC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Supermarkets and other grocery stores
20	BONNEY STAFFING CENTER LLC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Temporary help services
21	ALTERNATIVE SRVS-NORTHEAST INC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Residential developmental disability homes
22	INDUSTRIAL CONNECTIONS & SOLUTIONS	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Switchgear and switchboard apparatus mfg.
23	LEPAGE BAKERIES CEDAR STREET	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Commercial bakeries
24	MR BOSTON BRANDS LLC	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Distilleries
25	TRI COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	ANDROSCOGGIN	1 to 500	Outpatient mental health centers

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Center for Workplace Research and Information

POLAND'S ECONOMY

State requirements are to "provide a brief historical perspective on how and why the economy of the community and region developed." The town's prior Comprehensive Plan doesn't seem to do that, so it doesn't have language we can reuse. Is there anyone on the committee or a volunteer with an understanding of the history who can write a paragraph or two that discusses the economy from the early settlement days to current? I can assist with writing it up if someone can give me the information. Here's a recent example from the **Town of Hebron**:

Hebron's early economy was based on subsistence farming. Some of these farms were able to sell produce to a wider market made possible, in part, by the Buckfield Branch Railroad, built about 1860. Unlike many rural communities in the region, Hebron lacked a major source of water to power mills. For a time the outlet of Marshall Pond powered saw, shingle and pail mills, which have long disappeared. In 1880 there were some 600 people living in Hebron. During the late 1800s and early 1900s people began moving to larger communities seeking employment. By 1960 the population had dropped to 465 after the closing of the Western Maine Sanatorium.

In addition to farming, institutional uses have played and continue to be a significant factor in Hebron's economy. From 1904 to 1959, the Western Maine Sanatorium, on Greenwood Mountain, treated tuberculosis patients. At times some 100 people were employed. Hebron Academy, founded in 1804, has been the major employer over the years and continues to be today. In 2013 approximately 60 people that lived in Hebron were employed at the Academy. The Academy has an annual operating budget of approximately \$14 million. The Hebron Station School is the second largest employer with a staff of approximately 20.

Today the economy of Hebron is that of a bedroom community. Most employed residents leave Hebron each day to work in the Lewiston/Auburn and Norway/Paris areas and beyond. They also acquire most goods and services outside of Hebron. There is a number of businesses, most small in number of employees, that provide goods and services to Hebron's residents and beyond. The Center for Workforce Research and Information lists 25 businesses in Hebron. Some of these are conducted out of the owner's home or a stand-alone building, while others travel to work locations. Construction related businesses (excavation, heating and electrical), automotive related, and personal services are the most common businesses.

There are several large non-residential tax payers in the community, including the Poland Spring Bottling plant, The Poland Spring Inn, several youth summer camps and several natural resource based businesses (Pike Industries, Jolly Gardener Products and MB Bark Mulch). The major employer in Poland is the Poland Spring Bottling plant.

- Poland is strategically located in a very robust regional economy that is one of the strongest and fastest growing in the State.
- There are some significant economic development activities occurring in adjacent communities that will benefit Poland.
- Poland is home to one of the most recognizable businesses and market brands in the consumer products business.
- Poland has a rich history in destination tourism, which can be further enhanced.
- Poland possesses numerous significant natural resources, including groundwater, surface water and minerals.
- Poland possesses a high value vehicular and rail network, with close proximity to business centers

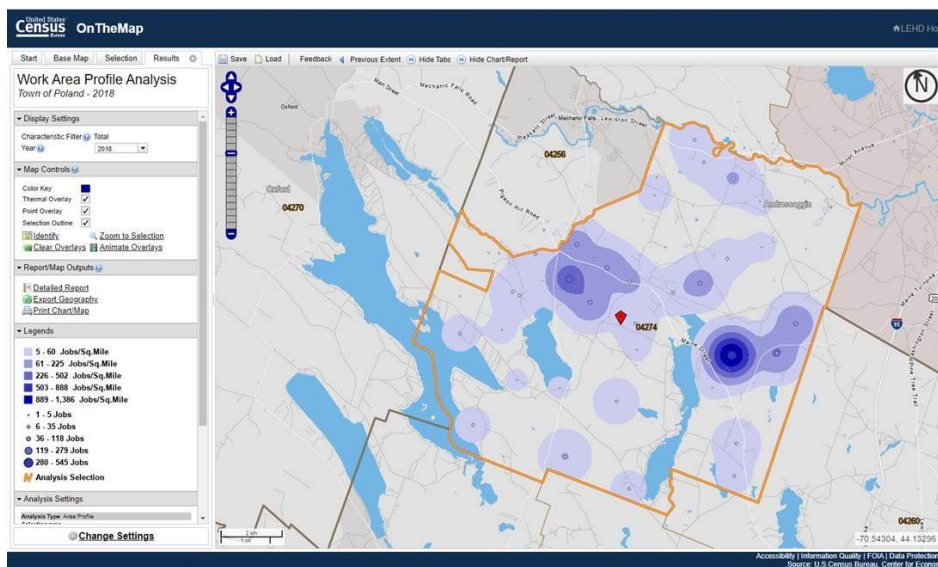
Source: Town of Poland Economic Development Strategy, May 2005, Community Dynamics, Corp.

Large employers in town include Poland Spring Water, Pike Industries, Inc., Bruce M. Whittier School, Camp Fernwood, Code Enforcement, Denny's, Granite Bay Care, High Tech Fire, Jolly Gardener Products, Maine Container, McDonald's, North Star Camp, Perry Transport Inc., Poland Community School, Poland Fire Station, Poland Regional High School, Poland Spring Resort, Rc Moore Inc., and the Village Kitchen. A listing of employers in Poland and Poland Spring is provided at the end of this chapter.

Major employers can be seen the map below, showing in purple where the jobs in Poland are located. Lighter colors are fewer jobs, and darker colors are the greatest number of jobs. The largest employers shown on this map are the Poland Spring Bottling plant shown by the large dark purple circle in the eastern central portion of the town, and the school complex shown in the north western portion of town.

Commented [SN2]: Is this language from the Town's Economic Development Strategy, 2005 still relevant/do you want to retain this language from the prior Comp Plan?

Commented [SN3]: See lists at the end of this chapter.



Source: US Census “On The Map” website, data from 2018

LABOR FORCE

The number of people in the labor force in Poland has steadily increased as population has increased. At the time of writing this plan, we have limited data available on the continued changes to the labor force and economy based on the effects of the Covid-19 health crisis, which is still ongoing. Following unemployment rates for the month of November over recent years shows that Maine and Androscoggin County’s rates had had relatively minor variation within 1%, but that unemployment was 2% higher at the end of 2020 than it had been a year prior.

[NOTE TO COMMITTEE: Using CARES Act funding, Maine’s Economic Development Districts have contracted with CBER at University of Southern Maine to research the unemployment affects and changes to commuting/telecommuting that have taken place. It is probably too soon to tell what the lasting impacts will be related to these changes.]

Commented [SN4]: include in a draft of this chapter in coming months.

Poland	2000	2010	2015	2019
Total civilian labor force	2,738	3,170	3,157	3,230
Employed	95.4%	2,913 (67.0%)	2,930 (67.5%)	3,108 (68.5%)
Unemployed	4.6%	257 (5.9%)	227 (5.2%)	122 (2.7%)

Not in labor force	27.1%	1,178 (27.1%)	1,184 (27.3%)	1,306 (28.8%)
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Source: 2000 Decennial Census, 2010, 2015, 2019 American Community Survey

Unemployment Rates		
Seasonally Adjusted		
Dates	Androscoggin Co.	Maine
November 2020	4.7%	4.7%
November 2019	2.8%	2.8%
November 2018	3.1%	3.1%
November 2017	2.8%	3.0%
November 2016	3.2%	3.6%
November 2015	3.6%	4.0%

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Center for Workforce Research and Information

In 2018 the greatest number of workers, 29.6%, was employed in educational services, and health care and social assistance, followed by public administration (10.4%), and manufacturing (9.2%). The categories were different in prior census periods, but it appears that in recent decades a majority of residents have made their living in professional, medical and office occupations, with a large portion also working in manufacturing and construction work, and very few in agriculture and forestry. In 1990, 31.2% worked in technical, sales and administrative support occupations and 19.7% in managerial and professional specialty occupations. Precision production, craft and repair occupations made up 19.1% of the workforce and operators, fabricators and laborers were 17.1% of the workforce. There were just 10.6% in service occupations and 2.5% in farming, forestry, and fishing occupations.

Employment by Occupation			
2018			
Occupation	Poland	Androscoggin Co.	Maine
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	2,959	54,039	665,188
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	769	18,309	247,467
Service occupations	529	10,370	120,974
Sales and office occupations	726	12,260	146,416
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	409	5,049	70,257
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	526	8,051	80,074

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate

Commented [SN5]: Is this chart helpful? I personally found the data in the chart below on Industry more useful as its categories are not lumped together so much so I can understand it better. There's no harm in including both, though.

Here is a link to what occupations are in which category, in case that is helpful:
https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_stru.htm#00-0000

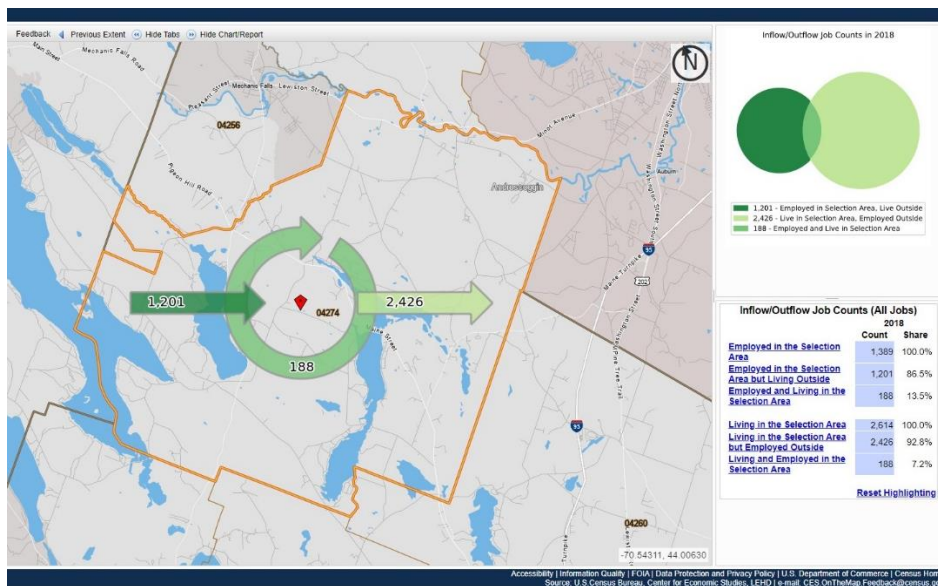
Employment by Industry			
2019			
Industry	Poland		Androscoggin Co.
	# of Workers	% of Total	Data only available as a %
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	3,108		56,964
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	95	3.1%	1.4%
Construction	195	6.3%	7.8%

Manufacturing	286	9.2%	10.2%
Wholesale trade	79	2.5%	3.0%
Retail trade	192	6.2%	12.7%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	234	7.5%	3.8%
Information	24	0.8%	1.8%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	208	6.7%	7.3%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	193	6.2%	9.1%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	921	29.6%	27.2%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	233	7.5%	7.1%
Other services, except public administration	126	4.1%	4.8%
Public administration	322	10.4%	3.9%

Source: 2019 American Community Survey

WORK LOCATION AND TRAVEL

Data from the US Census shows that in 2018 there were 1,389 jobs located in Poland, with 188 of those being held by Poland residents, and another 1,201 of those jobs being held by non-residents commuting to Poland for work. 2,426 Poland residents worked outside of Poland in 2018.



Source: US Census “On The Map” website.

Of those workers commuting out of Poland for work, 36.5% are traveling to Auburn and Lewiston, but beyond these two cities there appears to be significant dispersal in the region.

Where Poland Residents are Employed		
2018		
Commute destination	Number of Jobs	% of Total
Lewiston, ME	485	18.6%
Auburn, ME	469	17.9%
Poland, ME	188	7.2%
Portland, ME	167	6.4%
Augusta, ME	68	2.6%
South Portland, ME	58	2.2%
Bath, ME	47	1.8%
Westbrook, ME	42	1.6%
Bangor city, ME	40	1.5%
Mechanic Falls, ME	39	1.5%
Norway, ME	35	1.3%
All other locations	976	37.3%

2019	
	Androscoggin County Residents
Worked in county of residence	73.5%
Worked outside county of residence	25.2%

Worked outside state of residence	1.3%

Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate

Transportation – Means of Travel to Work			
2018			
Transportation	Poland	Androscoggin Co.	Maine
Total workers	2,901	52,580	651,799
Car, truck, or van – drove alone	2,294	41,707	511,466
Car, truck, or van - carpooled	457	5,966	62,978
Public transportation – excluding taxicab	0	77	4,159
Walked	17	1,923	25,602
Taxicab, motorcycle, bicycle, or other means	16	212	4,852
Worked at home	117	2,166	37,525

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate

Travel Time to Work			
2018			
Time	Poland	Androscoggin Co.	Maine
Less than 5 minutes	13	1,901	28,813
5 – 9 minutes	176	6,874	77,791
10-14 minutes	392	8,260	93,367
15-19 minutes	420	7,579	93,495
20-24 minutes	371	6,143	83,180
25-29 minutes	280	2,925	40,953
30 – 34 minutes	241	4,524	70,234
35-39 minutes	252	2,064	20,003
40-44 minutes	131	2,140	21,702
45-59 minutes	287	5,452	45,652
60-89 minutes	145	1,651	25,669
90 or more minutes	76	901	13,415
Workers over 16 who did not work at home	2,784	50,414	614,274

Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate

Health Insurance Coverage- Poland Residents:

2019	
Civilian noninstitutionalized population	5,585
With health insurance coverage	5,150
With private health insurance	4,381
With public coverage	1,585
With no coverage	435

Source: American Community Survey

Commented [SN6]: Is the committee interested in having this information included? If so once I work to integrate the sections a bit better I will try to find a more appropriate location for this data than here.

The following table highlights total consumer retail sales information for the town of Poland. Total retail sales for Poland increased 38.8% from 2000 to 2005. In addition, the largest increase in sales in Poland occurred in the area of Other Retail, up 92% from 2000 to 2005, and the greatest sales as a percentage of the whole occurred in the area of Personal Consumption, at 46.87%, in 2005.

Commented [SN7]: I haven't found comparable current data for the update yet to this chart. If the committee feels this type of data is useful I can work to pull this together.

Taxable Sales in Thousands of Dollars Poland

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	% Change 2000-2005	% of Total 2005
Business Operating	825.3	1,022.9	1,133.6	1,135.3	1,278.5	1,401.8	69.9%	6.26%
Building Supply	1,702.6	1,736.8	1,588.7	1,711.7	2,380.1	3,131.0	83.9%	13.98%
Food Store	1,231.7	1,086.1	991.5	1,176.6	1,363.7	1,279.6	3.9%	5.71%
General Mdse.	14.3	14.6	7.8	10.8	6.5	2.1	-85.3%	0.01%
Other Retail	748.8	801.3	1,038.2	955.3	1,111.6	1,437.5	92.0%	6.42%
Auto Transportation	824.6	648.8	839.9	1,157.5	1,148.3	1,165.7	41.4%	5.21%
Personal Consumption	7,656.1	7,467.1	7,778.0	8,402.0	9,197.2	10,495.1	37.1%	46.87%
Restaurant	1,201.5	1,224.9	1,193.4	1,277.3	1,177.8	1,354.6	12.7%	6.05%
Lodging	1,932.6	1,954.6	2,118.5	2,112.8	2,009.2	2,124.6	9.9%	9.49%
Total	16,137.5	15,957.1	16,689.6	17,939.3	19,672.9	22,392.0	38.8%	

January 19, 2007

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Androscoggin County is included in the *Androscoggin Valley Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for 2018-2023*, but it does not call out Poland specifically. While none of the action items are town-specific, a number of them may be of benefit to Poland residents and businesses including: workforce development goals and efforts to support technology trade programs at CMCC, seeking implementation funds for regional broadband expansion, the continued brownfields redevelopment program, and efforts to promote Western Maine as a four-season destination for sports-related events and meetings could also impact tourism positively.

The town is also included in the Western Maine Regional Capital Improvement Plan, updated in 2018. The plan is a vision document with goals and objectives outlined to meet that regional vision. The economic development goal in the plan is to provide for "Improved job opportunities and tax base for all communities in the region." Some of the objectives may be beyond the scope of an individual town, but a few that the town may want to explore include:

- Encourage sustainable use of the region's natural resources with a focus on agriculture, forestry and tourism. Support innovative concepts and value added use.
- Improve and revitalize downtowns; encourage smart-growth concepts, including walkable communities.
- Encourage the continued viability of agricultural businesses and agricultural land protection.
- Create, nurture and attract more entrepreneurial start-ups.

The town has prepared The Town of Poland Economic Development Strategy in May 2005.

Commented [SN8]: Has this been updated? Are there any goals or action items remaining that are of importance that you want to mention here?

Employer Name Table

Employer Name	City	Employer Size
Abs In Motion LLC	Poland	Unknown
Adaptive Movement Svc	Poland	1-4
Alexander Construction	Poland	1-4
Alexander Construction LLC	Poland	1-4
Algal Aquaculture Pro LLC	Poland	1-4
Androscoggin Riverlands State	Poland	1-4
Aubrey Russ Law Office	Poland	5-9
Austin A+ Constr & Handyman	Poland	1-4
B & P Carpentry	Poland	1-4
Bailey & Sons Roofing	Poland	1-4
Belanger Realty Inc	Poland	5-9
Big Apple Ctgo	Poland	5-9
Brandy Pond Park	Poland	1-4
Bruce M Whittier School	Poland	20-49
Camp Fernwood	Poland	50-99
Camp Tall Pines	Poland	1-4
Coastal Concepts Group LLC	Poland	1-4
Code Enforcement	Poland	20-49
Cyndi's Dockside	Poland	10-19
Dairy Joy	Poland	10-19
Danas Heavy Duty Roadside Svc	Poland	1-4
Dargie's Enterprises Inc	Poland	Unknown
Delightful Odds & Herbs	Poland	1-4
Denny's	Poland	20-49
DI Carpentry	Poland	1-4
Dog Lodge	Poland	1-4
Doug & Gini Haines Photography	Poland	1-4
Dunkin'	Poland	10-19
Environmental Restoration Svc	Poland	1-4
Evergreen Auto Sales	Poland	1-4
Fairlawn Golf Course	Poland	10-19
Family Dollar Store	Poland	5-9
Fenway & Friends	Poland	Unknown
Granite Bay Care	Poland	20-49
Harmon & Co Inc	Poland	1-4
Hawkeye Connections	Poland	Unknown
Heather's Bakery	Poland	10-19
Hemlocks Camping	Poland	1-4
High Tech Fire	Poland	20-49
Hilltop Spoonworks	Poland	Unknown
Hodgdon Well Drilling	Poland	1-4
J D Electronics	Poland	1-4
J M Morin Earthworks Inc	Poland	5-9
Jolly Gardner Products	Poland	1-4
		50-99
Kimball Logging & Firewood	Poland	1-4
Lewiston Elks Lodge 371	Poland	5-9
Local Marketing Connection	Poland	1-4
M E Hews & Co LLC	Poland	10-19
Maine Container	Poland	20-49
Maine Net Svc	Poland	1-4
Martin's Country Homes	Poland	5-9
Maung Motors Group LLC	Poland	Unknown
Mc Donald's	Poland	20-49
Mcmorrow Auction Co	Poland	1-4
Minot Avenue Self Storage	Poland	1-4
Moose Alley Daycare	Poland	5-9
Moving Forward Transit	Poland	1-4
North Star Camp	Poland	50-99
Northeast Bank	Poland	1-4
Oldcastle Apg Northeast Inc	Poland	10-19
Peace of Mind Child Care	Poland	1-4
Perry Transport Inc	Poland	20-49
Pete's Garage Inc	Poland	1-4
Pheasant Run Townhomes LLC	Poland	1-4
Pike Industries Inc	Poland	10-19
Poland Animal Hospital LLC	Poland	5-9
Poland Auto Sales	Poland	5-9
Poland Baptist Church	Poland	1-4
Poland Community Health Ctr	Poland	10-19
Poland Community School	Poland	50-99
Poland Family Practice	Poland	5-9
Poland Fire Station	Poland	20-49
Poland Lobstah Shack	Poland	1-4
Poland Regional High School	Poland	100-249
Poland Spring Academy	Poland	10-19
Poland Spring Campgrounds	Poland	5-9
Poland Spring Resort	Poland	100-249
Poland Spring Trading Post	Poland	1-4
Poland Town Assessors	Poland	1-4
Poland Town Office	Poland	10-19
Poland Town Public Works	Poland	5-9
Poland Transportation Dept	Poland	5-9
R Bader Physical Therapy	Poland	1-4
RSU 16 Central Office	Poland	5-9
Rails	Poland	10-19
Range Pond Campground	Poland	1-4
Range Pond State Park	Poland	1-4
Rc Moore Inc	Poland	20-49
Re-Harvest	Poland	5-9
Regional School Unit 16-MECH	Poland	10-19
Reny Cora L, NP	Poland	1-4
Ricker Memorial Public Library	Poland	5-9
Rulo Timberworks Inc	Poland	Unknown
SUBWAY	Poland	5-9
Saco Bay Orthopaedic-Sports	Poland	1-4

Employer Name Table

Employer Name	City	Employer Size
Safe Approach Inc	Poland	10-19
Shaker Hill Outdoors	Poland	5-9
Shear Logix	Poland	1-4
Shuga Shak	Poland	1-4
Strout Marine Svc	Poland	1-4
Styron LLC	Poland	Unknown
Summit Spring Golf Course	Poland	10-19
Superior Energy Solutions	Poland	5-9
Tania's Hair Btq Beauty Salon	Poland	1-4
Tender Touch Inc	Poland	1-4
Three Star Builders	Poland	1-4
Village Kitchen	Poland	20-49
Warrior Village	Poland	1-4
Weigand James F, DDS	Poland	1-4
Wolf Cove Inn	Poland	5-9
Yard Care Unlimited	Poland	1-4

Employer Name Table

Employer Name	City	Employer Size
Bradbury Farms	Poland Spring	1-4
Central Maine Healthcare Corp	Poland Spring	5-9
Gems of 26	Poland Spring	Unknown
Homestead Flooring	Poland Spring	1-4
Maine State Building	Poland Spring	1-4
Mystery For Hire	Poland Spring	Unknown
Pike Industries Inc	Poland Spring	20-49
Poland Spring Preservation	Poland Spring	1-4
Poland Spring Resort	Poland Spring	1-4
Poland Spring Water	Poland Spring	250-499
Powell Heating Svc Inc	Poland Spring	1-4
Tripp Lake Camp	Poland Spring	1-4