



July 16, 2008

Housing Voucher Data for Maine

- Of Maine's 12,443 authorized vouchers, only 96 percent were used by families last year.
- This was an improvement over 2005 and 2006, when the voucher program was underfunded and changes in funding policy undermined the effectiveness of the program.
- This year, housing agencies in Maine have sufficient funds, including reserves, to assist 502 additional families, thereby using up to 100 percent of their authorized vouchers. To encourage agencies to make efficient use of these resources, agencies must be reassured that voucher renewal funding policy will be both stable and take into account the additional vouchers used by these families. Congress should enact the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act (H.R. 1851 and S. 2684) to provide confidence that renewal funding needs will be met in future years, thereby encouraging agencies to put as many of their vouchers to use as possible.

Agency Name	Code	2004	2005	2006	2007		2008			
		% of Authorized Vouchers in Use	% of Authorized Vouchers in Use	% of Authorized Vouchers in Use	% of Authorized Vouchers in Use	Number of Vouchers in Use	Authorized Vouchers as of January 2008	Authorized Vouchers Funded under Renewal Formula	Additional Authorized Vouchers That Could be Funded Using Remaining Reserves	% of Authorized Vouchers Funded (Counting Reserves)
Maine Total		95%	95%	94%	96%	11,931	12,443	12,235	198	100%
Auburn	ME007	96%	100%	99%	99%	585	590	590	0	100%
Augusta	ME030	84%	93%	93%	98%	348	355	349	6	100%
Bangor	ME009	96%	90%	94%	96%	414	431	402	29	100%
Bath	ME019	100%	98%	99%	102%	128	126	126	0	100%
Biddeford	ME028	99%	98%	99%	99%	117	118	118	0	100%
Brewer	ME021	100%	96%	99%	99%	132	133	133	0	100%
Brunswick	ME006	99%	99%	102%	94%	397	423	423	0	100%
Caribou	ME025	98%	95%	94%	97%	188	193	189	4	100%
Ellsworth	ME027	96%	87%	93%	92%	346	377	351	26	100%
Fort Fairfield	ME002	100%	99%	99%	99%	131	132	127	5	100%
Lewiston	ME005	87%	86%	88%	88%	1,092	1,238	1,118	110	99%

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Maine State	ME901	93%	94%	90%	94%	3,819	4,069	4,069	0	100%
Old Town	ME018	98%	95%	93%	103%	216	209	209	0	100%
Portland	ME003	101%	101%	99%	100%	1,753	1,754	1,754	0	100%
Preque Isle	ME004	99%	99%	100%	101%	76	75	75	0	100%
Saco	ME031	95%	100%	100%	97%	37	38	34	4	100%
Sanford	ME011	84%	94%	97%	97%	574	593	590	3	100%
South Portland	ME020	99%	98%	99%	98%	383	389	389	0	100%
Van Buren	ME001	96%	92%	93%	99%	100	101	101	0	100%
Waterville	ME008	99%	96%	99%	100%	394	394	383	11	100%
Westbrook	ME015	102%	100%	98%	99%	701	705	705	0	100%

Note: Authorized voucher figures for each agency are based on data from HUD's Resident Characteristics Report. The percentage of authorized vouchers in use in each year was determined by analysis of voucher leasing data reported by housing agencies to HUD's Voucher Management System (VMS). The number of vouchers funded in 2008 under the renewal formula was calculated using actual renewal funding awards and an estimate of the additional funds assumed to be available from excess reserves (the "offset" amount); these estimates do not take into account amounts received under the \$50 million in supplemental adjustment funds available under the law. The number of additional authorized vouchers that could be funded using remaining reserves is based on estimates of each agency's fund balance at the end of 2007, excluding the 2008 offset, and per-voucher costs for 2008.