



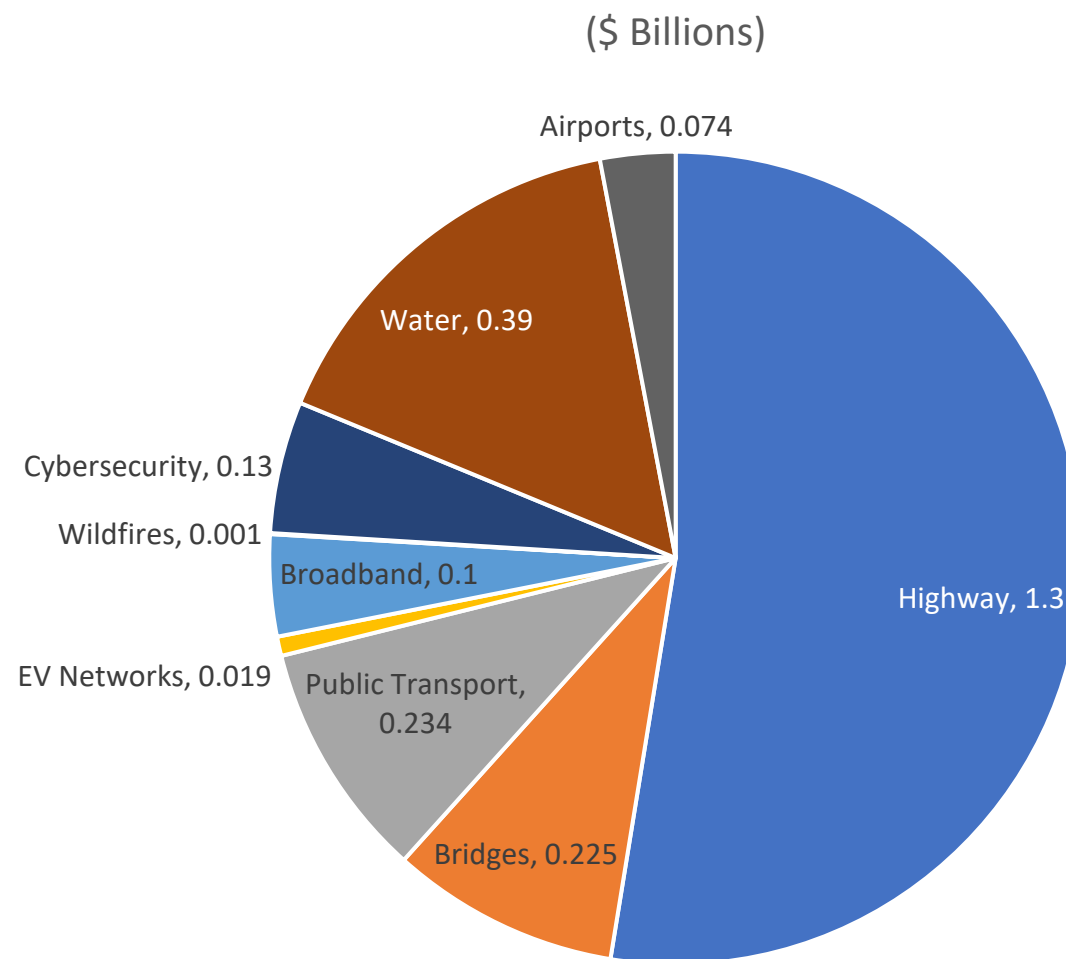
BIL Comes to Maine

Charles S. Colgan

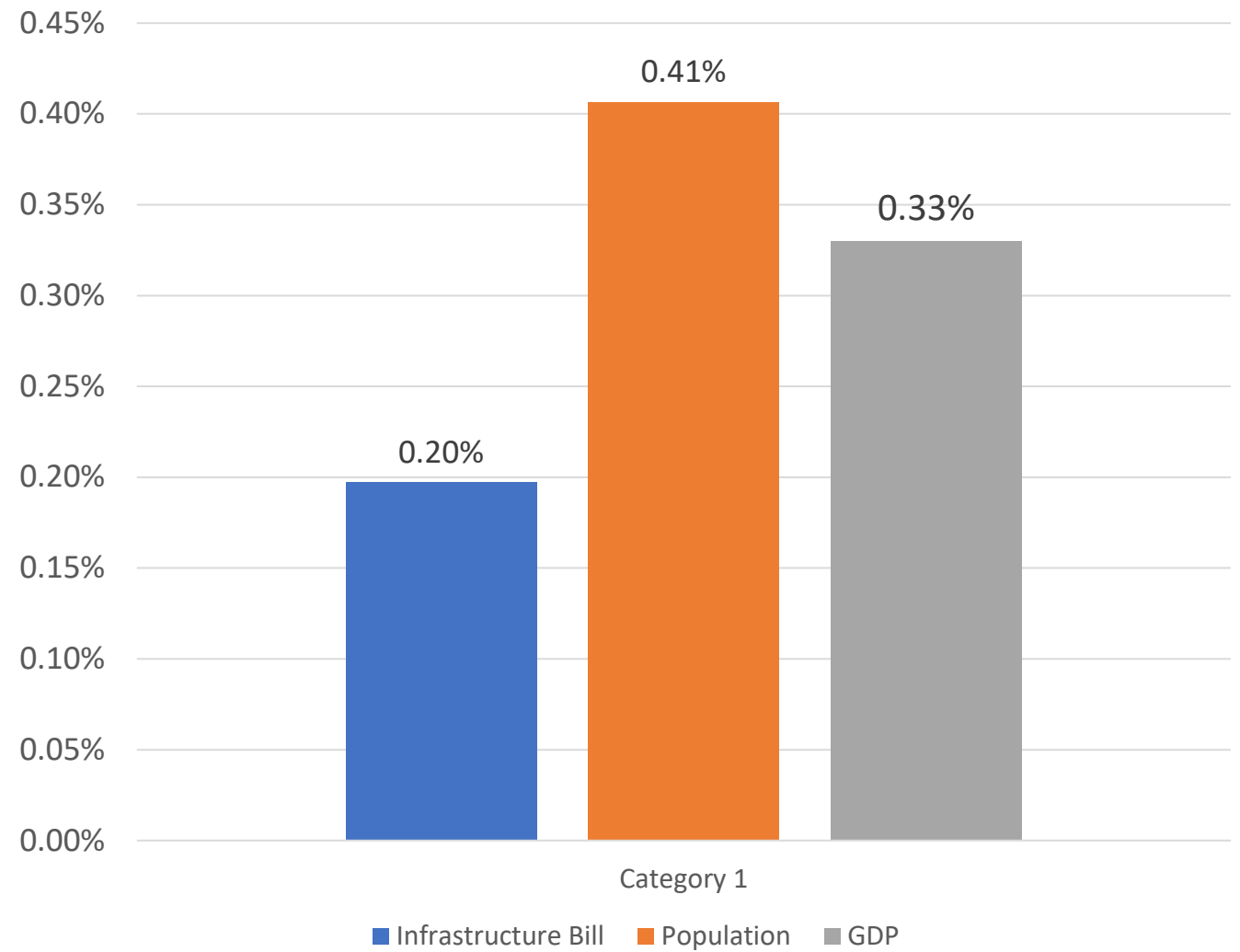
Professor Emeritus


University of Southern Maine

How much
will Maine
get:
\$2.473
billion over
about 5
years.



How much
is this?



- 
- The real answer:
 - No One Knows.
 - The really real answer:
 - It's not enough

Types of Funding

Reauthorized funding

Formula

Competitive Funding

Demonstration/Pilot

What's in BIL?

- Transportation
 - Highways
 - Bridges
 - Projects of regional and national significance
 - Public transportation
- Energy
 - Grid Upgrades
 - Clean Energy/Energy Efficiency- Weatherization
 - Clean energy manufacturing
- Water
 - SRF funding
 - Supplement for removing contaminants (PFAS)
 - Small and Underserved Communities
- Remediation
 - Geography specific water/forest restoration
- Resilience
 - Cyber security
 - Buildings
 - Rural Schools
- Broadband
 - Min \$100 million to be distribute by the state in competitive grants.

The economics of infrastructure:

Productivity

Improve Productivity

Depreciation

Fund Depreciation

Insurance

Insure against future losses

Space

Alter spatial relationships

Fund Depreciation

- Transportation
 - Highways
 - Bridges
 - Public transportation
- Energy
 - Grid Upgrades
- Water
 - SRF funding
 - Supplement for removing contaminants (PFAS)
- Environmental Remediation
 - Wetlands
 - Marine Debris

Improve Productivity and Expand Output

- Transportation
 - Projects of regional and national significance
- Energy
 - Clean energy manufacturing
- Water
 - Small and Underserved Communities
- Energy
 - Grid Upgrades
 - Clean Energy/Energy Efficiency-Weatherization
- Broadband



Insure against
future losses

- Resilience
 - Cyber security
 - Buildings
 - Rural Schools



Alter spatial relationships

- Bottom Line:
 - Infrastructure in urban Maine will deteriorate more slowly
 - Some may actually be improved.
 - Rural Areas will get key investments
 - Broadband
 - Weatherization
 - Water Systems
 - Rural Schools
- At the margin, BIL will:
 - Support the movement towards more growth in rural and suburban areas started by the pandemic
 - If...



Climate Change

Mitigation v. Adaptation

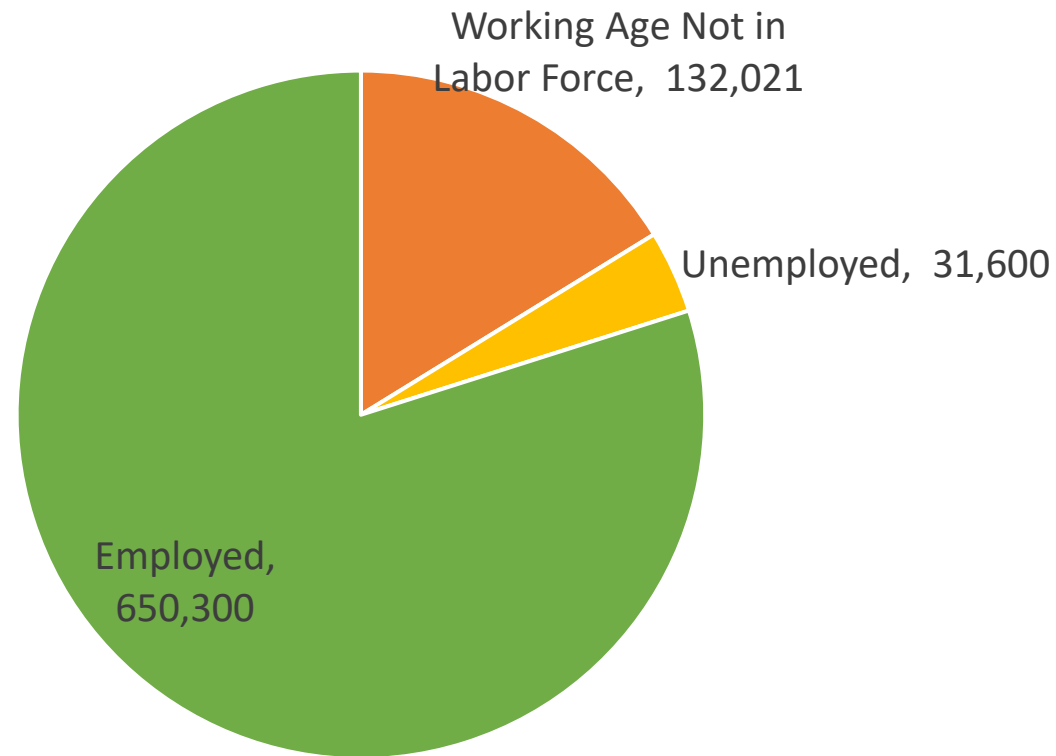
Many elements directed at mitigation

- Transportation electrification
- Grid upgrades for renewables
- Broadband

Adaptation?

- Rebuilding to accommodate flooding
- Wetland restoration

Where will the workforce come from?



Workforce strategies

Limited imported labor: Everybody else faces the same issues

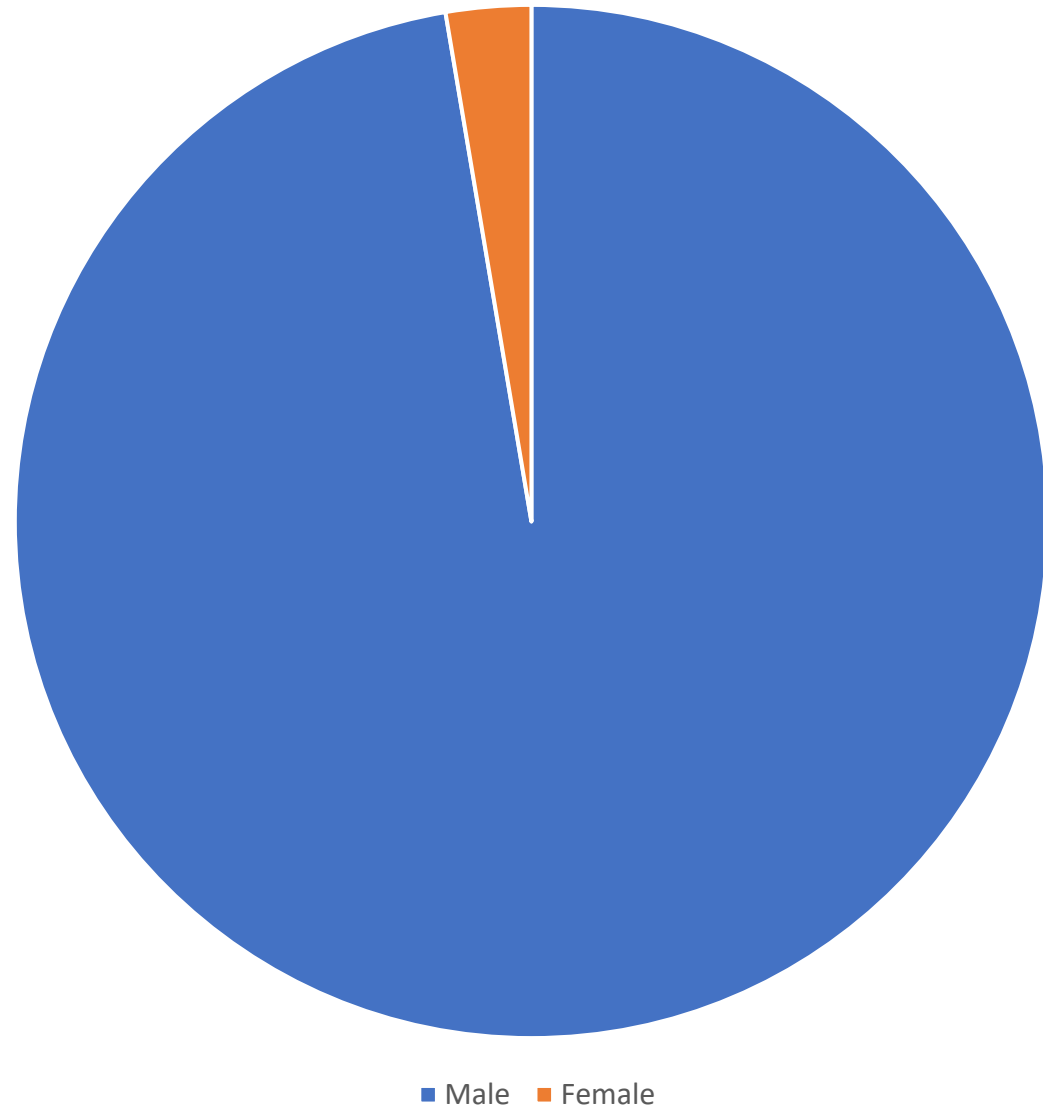
Training and career development for workforce entrants

The “Not in Workforce” population

- “Great Resignation’
- “Missing Men”

Women

Maine has
40,000
employed in
construction
and
excavation
trades, 97%
of them male



It's not
enough, but
it may be all
we get.
A suggested
strategy:

- Fix what is broke.
 - It's only going to get more broke.
- Stretch the dollars
 - Add to, do not replace state and local funds
- Integrate with other plans as fast as possible
 - Economic Development
 - Climate Change
 - 1 Year, 5 Year, Long Term Transportation
 - Local Capital Plans
- Set aside funds to help small communities compete for funds