

WBUR Poll
Survey of 501 Registered Voters in Massachusetts
Field Dates: May 22-26, 2018

I'm going to read you the names of several people and organizations who are active in public affairs. After I read each one please tell me if you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable view of the person. If you have never heard of them or if you are undecided, please just say so. **READ FIRST NAME.** How about **READ NEXT NAME?**

<i>Order rotated.</i>	Favorable	Unfavorable	Heard of / Undecided	Never heard of	Refused
Donald Trump	29%	64%	7%	<1%	<1%
Charlie Baker	67%	9%	18%	5%	0%
Elizabeth Warren	53%	33%	9%	4%	<1%
<i>Asked to ½: Geoff Diehl</i>	6%	4%	12%	78%	1%
<i>Asked to ½: Beth Lindstrom</i>	5%	3%	11%	81%	<1%
<i>Asked to ½: John Kingston</i>	4%	2%	7%	87%	<1%
<i>Asked to ½: Bob Massie</i>	11%	5%	17%	66%	<1%
<i>Asked to ½: Jay Gonzalez</i>	4%	2%	15%	79%	1%
<i>Asked to ½: Scott Lively</i>	4%	6%	12%	78%	0%

As you may know, there is an election in November of twenty eighteen for Massachusetts governor, U.S. Senate, and other offices.

ROTATE ORDER OF NEXT 3 QUESTIONS.

If the election for Governor of Massachusetts were held today, and the candidates were **ROTATE CANDIDATES** Democrat Jay Gonzalez and Republican Charlie Baker, for whom would you vote?

	Nov 17	Mar 18	May 18
Jay Gonzalez	19%	21%	20%
Charlie Baker	59%	60%	60%
Would not vote (do not read)	NA	2%	1%
Another candidate (do not read)	3%	2%	1%
Refused (do not read)	1%	<1%	<1%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)	18%	15%	19%

If the election for Governor of Massachusetts were held today, and the candidates were **ROTATE CANDIDATES** Democrat Bob Massie and Republican Charlie Baker, for whom would you vote?

	Nov 17	Mar 18	May 18
Bob Massie	21%	22%	20%
Charlie Baker	60%	59%	60%
Would not vote (do not read)	NA	1%	2%
Another candidate (do not read)	2%	2%	1%
Refused (do not read)	<1%	<1%	<1%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)	16%	16%	17%

ROTATE ORDER OF NEXT 3 QUESTIONS.

If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, and the candidates were **ROTATE CANDIDATES** Democrat Elizabeth Warren, Republican Geoff Diehl, and independent Shiva Ayyadurai, for whom would you vote?

	Nov 17	Mar 18	May 18
Elizabeth Warren	58%	55%	54%
Geoff Diehl	32%	20%	19%
Shiva Ayyadurai	NA	9%	8%
Would not vote (do not read)	NA	3%	2%
Another candidate (do not read)	3%	1%	1%
Refused (do not read)	<1%	0%	<1%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)	7%	13%	15%

If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, and the candidates were **ROTATE CANDIDATES** Democrat Elizabeth Warren, Republican Beth Lindstrom, and independent Shiva Ayyadurai, for whom would you vote?

	Nov 17	Mar 18	May 18
Elizabeth Warren	56%	53%	55%
Beth Lindstrom	33%	19%	19%
Shiva Ayyadurai	NA	9%	7%
Would not vote (do not read)	NA	3%	2%
Another candidate (do not read)	3%	1%	2%
Refused (do not read)	<1%	0%	0%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)	8%	14%	15%

If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, and the candidates were **ROTATE CANDIDATES** Democrat Elizabeth Warren, Republican John Kingston, and independent Shiva Ayyadurai, for whom would you vote?

	Nov 17	Mar 18	May 18
Elizabeth Warren	57%	54%	56%
John Kingston	33%	21%	19%
Shiva Ayyadurai	NA	7%	8%
Would not vote (do not read)	NA	4%	2%
Another candidate (do not read)	2%	2%	1%
Refused (do not read)	1%	<1%	<1%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)	7%	12%	14%

There may be a measure on the 2018 ballot that would repeal the law which allowed transgender people to use public restrooms and locker rooms consistent with their gender identities, regardless of their sex at birth. Would you support or oppose repealing this law? **PROBE:** And do you strongly (support/oppose) this idea, or just somewhat?

Strongly support	24%
Somewhat support	14%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	41%
Don't Know / Refused	11%

There may be a measure on the 2018 ballot dealing with taxes. Would you support or oppose increasing the state's income tax on any income over one million dollars and using that money to pay for education and transportation? **PROBE:** And do you strongly (support/oppose) this measure, or just somewhat?

	Nov 17	May 18
Strongly support	54%	57%
Somewhat support	22%	20%
Somewhat oppose	8%	6%
Strongly oppose	11%	12%
Don't Know / Refused	5%	5%

There may be a measure on the 2018 ballot dealing with taxes. Would you support or oppose reducing the Massachusetts state sales tax from 6.25 percent to 5 percent and creating a permanent sales tax holiday one weekend per year? **PROBE:** And do you strongly (support/oppose) this measure, or just somewhat?

	Nov 17	May 18
Strongly support	47%	48%
Somewhat support	22%	19%
Somewhat oppose	13%	11%
Strongly oppose	7%	11%
Don't Know / Refused	11%	9%

Now I'd like to ask you about another topic.

Which statement best reflects your views about the public schools in your community, even if none of them are a perfect match? **ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP**

They have serious problems and need a major overhaul	17%
They have some problems and need to make some moderate changes	36%
They have few problems and only need minor changes	21%
They are functioning well overall and do not require much change	20%
Don't Know / Refused	7%

In the last five years, do you think the public schools in your community have gotten better overall, gotten worse overall, or stayed about the same?

Gotten Better	23%
Stayed the Same	49%
Gotten Worse	16%
Don't Know / Refused	11%

Do you think the schools in your community receive **READ AND ROTATE**?

Too much funding	6%
Too little funding	52%
About the right amount of funding	31%
Don't Know / Refused	11%

If there were a proposal to increase taxes in your community to significantly increase funding for local schools, would you support or oppose this proposal?

Support	55%
Oppose	34%
Both / neither / depends (not read)	7%
Don't Know / Refused	4%

Now I'd like to ask you about the state government's approach to education issues.

Which statement best reflects your views about the public schools across Massachusetts, even if none of them are a perfect match? **ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP**

They have serious problems and need a major overhaul	17%
They have some problems and need to make some moderate changes	54%
They have few problems and only need minor changes	14%
They are functioning well overall and do not require much change	7%
Don't Know / Refused	8%

Do you think the state of Massachusetts as a whole spends too much on education, not enough, or about the right amount?

Too much	5%
Too little	59%
About the right amount	30%
Don't Know / Refused	6%

How well do you think public K-12 schools in Massachusetts are doing at preparing students for jobs in today's economy?

Very well	6%
Someone well	52%
Not too well	23%
Not at all well	13%
Don't Know / Refused	6%

There is often a gap in academic achievement between white students and black and Hispanic students called the "achievement gap". Are Massachusetts public schools doing enough to close this gap, or not?

Yes they are	26%
No they are not	48%
Don't Know / Undecided	26%

In your opinion, is the achievement gap between white students and Black and Hispanic students mostly due to the quality of school received, or mostly related to other factors?

Quality of schooling	21%
Related to other factors	62%
Don't Know / Undecided	17%

How familiar are you with charter schools here in Massachusetts?

Very familiar	12%
Somewhat familiar	47%
Not too familiar	23%
Not at all familiar	17%
Don't Know / Undecided	1%

Based on what you know about them, do you think the number of charter schools in Massachusetts should be **ROTATE ORDER** increased, decreased, or kept about the same?

Increased	25%
Decreased	19%
Kept about the same	43%
Don't Know / Refused	13%

Do you think the Trump administration is setting the right course for public education in America?

Yes it is	21%
No it is not	60%
Don't Know / Refused	19%

Demographics

Race

White / Caucasian	81%
All others	17%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Age

18 to 29	17%
30 to 44	26%
45 to 59	29%
60+	28%

Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

Party Registration

Democrat	34%
Republican	11%
Independent / Unenrolled	55%

Education

High School or less	32%
Some college, no degree	22%
College graduate (BA/BS)	26%
Advanced degree	18%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 501 Massachusetts registered voters. Live telephone interviews were conducted May 22-26, 2018 via both landline and cell phone using conventional registration based sampling procedures. The margin of sampling error is 4.4 percentage points with a 95 percent level of confidence. The poll was sponsored by WBUR, a National Public Radio station in the Boston area.