

**WBUR Massachusetts 2012 General Election Poll**

Topline Results

Survey of 501 Likely Voters

Field Dates: October 5-7, 2012

I'm going to read you the names of several people and groups 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 the person or if you are undecided, please just say so. **READ FIRST NAME.** How about **READ NEXT NAME?**

**REPEAT QUESTION TEXT ONLY IF NECESSARY, PROBE IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DON'T KNOW".**

Have you heard of **READ NAME** and are undecided about (him/her)? Or **PAUSE** have you never heard of (him/her)?

<i>Order rotated</i>	Favorable	Unfavorable	Heard of / Undecided	Never heard of	Refused
Scott Brown	54%	31%	12%	2%	1%
Elizabeth Warren	47%	38%	11%	3%	1%

*Candidate order rotated for next three questions*

If the November two thousand twelve election for U.S. Senate were held today, and if the candidates were for Democrat Elizabeth Warren and Republican Scott Brown, for whom would you vote?

*If undecided...* Even though you say you are undecided -- which way do you lean – Democrat Elizabeth Warren or Republican Scott Brown?

**Initial preference (without leaners)**

Scott Brown	47%
Elizabeth Warren	43%
Some other candidate	1%
Don't Know / Undecided	8%
Refused	1%

**Vote preference with leaners**

Scott Brown	48%
Elizabeth Warren	45%
Some other candidate	1%
Don't Know / Undecided	5%
Refused	1%

If the November, twenty twelve election for President were held today, and the candidates were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, for whom would you vote?

Barack Obama	52%
Mitt Romney	36%
Another candidate (not read)	2%
Don't Know / Undecided	9%
Refused	1%

How important would you say each of the following issues are in deciding whom to support in the election for U.S. Senate—very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? First, **READ FIRST ITEM**. How about **READ NEXT ITEM**?

<i>Order rotated</i>	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	Don't Know / Refused
Which political party will control the U.S. Senate after this election	62%	22%	7%	5%	3%
Which candidate will stand up for people like you	74%	20%	2%	1%	3%
Which candidate seems like a more likeable person	26%	36%	23%	12%	4%
Which candidate agrees with you on key issues that matter to you	78%	18%	1%	0%	2%
Which candidate will compromise with the other party more often when in the Senate	50%	34%	5%	4%	6%
Which candidate seems more similar to the people you know	31%	34%	21%	10%	4%
The kinds of Supreme Court Justices they would support when in the Senate	60%	26%	7%	3%	5%

How much have you heard or read about the story regarding Elizabeth Warren's identification as a Native American?

A great deal	50%
A fair amount	30%
Not very much	12%
Nothing at all	6%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

How important would you say the issue of Elizabeth Warren’s claim to Native American ancestry is in deciding whom to support in the election for U.S. Senate—very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

Very important	17%
Somewhat important	13%
Not too important	18%
Not at all important	49%
Don’t Know / Refused	2%

Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Supreme Court is handling its job?

Approve	43%
Disapprove	35%
Don’t Know / Refused	22%

Do you think the current U.S. Supreme Court Justices mostly decide their cases based on legal analysis without regard to their own personal and political views, or do you think they often let their own personal or political views influence their decisions?

Based on legal analysis	27%
Influenced by their own views	51%
Both (not read)	8%
Neither (not read)	1%
Don’t Know / Refused	13%

On most issues, would you say the Supreme Court is too liberal, too conservative, or about right?

Too conservative	24%
Too liberal	22%
About right	42%
Don’t Know / Refused	13%

## Demographics

For statistical purposes only, can you please tell me your race? *Response options collapsed for display*

Race	White / Caucasian	80%
	All others	15%
	Don't Know / Refused	5%

Age	18 to 29	14%
	30 to 44	27%
	45 to 59	36%
	60+	23%

Gender	Male	48%
	Female	52%

Party Registration	Democrat	36%
	Republican	12%
	Independent / Unenrolled	52%

Education	High School or less	20%
	Some college, no degree	33%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	28%
	Advanced degree	19%

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### About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 501 likely voters in Massachusetts in the 2012 General Election. The poll was conducted October 5-7, 2012. Live telephone interviews were conducted via both landline and cell phone using conventional registration based sampling procedures. Likely voters were identified using a combination of previous voting behavior and screening questions. Results were weighted to reflect the demographic and geographic makeup of the likely electorate based on previous turnout figures and current trends. The margin of sampling error is +/- 4.4 percent with a 95 percent level of confidence. The poll was sponsored by WBUR, a National Public Radio station in the Boston area.