

WBUR Poll
Massachusetts 2018 General Election
Survey of 502 Likely Voters
Field Dates: October 25-28, 2018

I'm going to read you the names of several people 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)?

ROTATE ORDER	Favorable	Unfavorable	Heard of / Undecided	Never heard of	Refused
Charlie Baker	71%	17%	11%	2%	0%
Jay Gonzalez	26%	19%	24%	30%	1%
Elizabeth Warren	49%	42%	7%	2%	<1%
Geoff Diehl	24%	23%	16%	36%	<1%
Shiva Ayyadurai	4%	9%	16%	71%	0%
Donald Trump	31%	61%	7%	<1%	<1%
Ayanna Pressley	30%	7%	16%	46%	1%

IF HAVE NOT VOTED... 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? **IF ALREADY VOTED...** You mentioned you have already voted. For whom did you vote for US Senate, Democrat Elizabeth Warren, Republican Geoff Diehl, or independent Shiva Ayyadurai?

Even though you say you are undecided -- which way are you leaning as of today-- **ROTATE CANDIDATES** Democrat Elizabeth Warren, Republican Geoff Diehl [**JEFF DEAL**], or independent Shiva Ayyadurai [**SHE-va aye-uh-DUR-ey**]?

Initial preference	Nov 17	Mar 18	May 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Elizabeth Warren	58%	55%	54%	55%	53%
Geoff Diehl	32%	20%	19%	28%	31%
Shiva Ayyadurai	NA	9%	8%	3%	5%
Would not vote (do not read)	NA	3%	2%	1%	<1%
Another candidate (do not read)	3%	1%	1%	1%	3%
Refused (do not read)	<1%	0%	<1%	1%	2%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)	7%	13%	15%	12%	6%

Vote preference with leaners

Elizabeth Warren	NA	NA	NA	56%	54%
Geoff Diehl				30%	32%
Shiva Ayyadurai				5%	6%
Would not vote (do not read)				1%	<1%
Another candidate (do not read)				1%	3%
Refused (do not read)				1%	2%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)				6%	3%

Historical data from Nov 2017, Mar 2018, May 2018 WBUR polls of MA registered voters, Sep 2018 poll of MA likely voters.

IF HAVE NOT VOTED... 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? **IF ALREADY VOTED...** You mentioned you have already voted. For whom did you vote for Governor, Democrat Jay Gonzalez or Republican Charlie Baker?

Even though you say you are undecided -- which way are you leaning as of today-- **ROTATE CANDIDATES** Democrat Jay Gonzales or Republican Charlie Baker?

	Nov 17	Mar 18	May 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Jay Gonzalez	19%	21%	20%	22%	22%
Charlie Baker	59%	60%	60%	66%	67%
Would not vote (do not read)	NA	2%	1%	1%	2%
Another candidate (do not read)	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Refused (do not read)	1%	<1%	<1%	1%	2%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)	18%	15%	19%	10%	6%

Vote preference with leaners

Jay Gonzalez	NA	NA	NA	24%	25%
Charlie Baker				68%	68%
Another candidate (do not read)				1%	2%
Would not vote (do not read)				1%	1%
Refused (do not read)				1%	2%
Don't Know / Undecided (do not read)				6%	2%

Now I would like to ask you about several questions that will be on the ballot this November.

There will be a measure on the November ballot dealing with nurse staffing levels. A “yes” vote would limit how many patients could be assigned to each registered nurse in Massachusetts hospitals and certain other health care facilities. A “no” vote would make no change in the current laws regarding patient-to-nurse limits.

IF HAVE NOT VOTED, ASK If the election for this measure were held today, would you vote yes or no? **IF UNDECIDED:** How are you leaning as of today?

IF ALREADY VOTED... Did you vote yes or no on this measure?

	Sep 18	Oct 18
Yes	44%	31%
No	44%	58%
Don't Know / Undecided (not read)	12%	10%
Refused (not read)	<1%	<1%

There will be a measure on the November ballot dealing with money in elections. A “yes” vote would create a citizens commission to advance an amendment to the United States Constitution to limit the influence of money in elections and establish that corporations do not have the same rights as human beings. A “no” vote would not create this commission.

IF HAVE NOT VOTED, ASK If the election for this measure were held today, would you vote yes or no? **IF UNDECIDED:** How are you leaning as of today?

IF ALREADY VOTED...Did you vote yes or no on this measure?

	Sep 18	Oct 18
Yes	66%	64%
No	24%	27%
Don't Know / Undecided (not read)	9%	9%
Refused (not read)	<1%	<1%

There will be a measure on the November ballot asking voters to approve a 2016 state law dealing with public accommodations for transgender people. A “yes” vote would keep in place the current law, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity in places of public accommodation. A “no” vote would repeal this provision of the public accommodation law.

IF HAVE NOT VOTED, ASK If the election for this measure were held today, would you vote yes or no? **IF UNDECIDED:** How are you leaning as of today?

IF ALREADY VOTED...Did you vote yes or no on this measure?

	Sep 18	Oct 18
Yes	71%	68%
No	21%	26%
Don't Know / Undecided (not read)	8%	6%
Refused (not read)	<1%	<1%

If a candidate for US Senate made **READ FIRST** a major priority, would it make you more likely to support him or her, less likely to support him or her, or would it make no difference? **PROBE IF MORE OR LESS LIKELY.** And (would/did) it make you much (more/less) likely, or just somewhat (more/less) likely? How about **READ NEXT? REPEAT STEM AND SCALE ONLY AS NEEDED.**

	Much more likely	Somewhat more likely	Somewhat less likely	Much less likely	Would make no difference	Don't Know / Refused
ROTATE ORDER						
Fighting government corruption	58%	25%	1%	1%	13%	1%
Reducing the cost of health care	50%	25%	3%	2%	16%	4%
Addressing climate change	45%	22%	4%	10%	17%	2%
Standing up to Donald Trump	44%	15%	5%	18%	14%	5%
Working across party lines	43%	26%	4%	3%	18%	7%
Reducing income inequality	37%	22%	6%	13%	15%	7%
Cutting taxes	33%	20%	10%	9%	23%	4%
Stopping illegal immigration	32%	18%	12%	13%	18%	7%
Protecting undocumented immigrants from deportation	31%	21%	8%	20%	13%	6%

If a candidate for Massachusetts Governor made **READ FIRST** a major priority, (would/did) it make you more likely to support him or her, less likely to support him or her, or would it make no difference? **PROBE IF MORE OR LESS LIKELY.** And (would/did) it make you much (more/less) likely, or just somewhat (more/less) likely? How about **READ NEXT?** **REPEAT STEM AND SCALE ONLY AS NEEDED.**

	Much more likely	Somewhat more likely	Somewhat less likely	Much less likely	Would make no difference	Don't Know / Refused
ROTATE ORDER						
Fighting the opioid problem	54%	29%	2%	2%	12%	2%
Increasing funding for public schools	53%	23%	4%	5%	14%	2%
Reducing the cost of health care in Massachusetts	52%	28%	1%	2%	13%	3%
Making state government function better	48%	29%	3%	1%	15%	5%
Improving the state's transportation system	46%	29%	3%	2%	16%	4%
Keeping state taxes as low as possible	45%	26%	6%	4%	17%	4%
Standing up to Donald Trump	44%	12%	5%	20%	15%	4%
Addressing the high cost of housing Massachusetts	40%	28%	4%	6%	20%	3%
Reducing income inequality	36%	24%	7%	13%	15%	4%

Jay Gonzalez, the Democratic nominee for governor, has proposed to pay for transportation and education by placing a tax on private colleges and universities endowments over 1 billion dollars in the state. Would you support or oppose this idea? And is that strongly (support/oppose) or just somewhat?

Strongly support	20%
Somewhat support	24%
Somewhat oppose	17%
Strong oppose	25%
Don't Know / Undecided (not read)	14%

Charlie Baker endorsed the full Republican slate of statewide candidates in Massachusetts, including Senate candidate Geoff Diehl. Geoff Diehl was also Donald Trump's co-chair in 2016. (Does/did) hearing the Charlie Baker has endorsed Geoff Diehl make you **READ AND ROTATE FIRST 2 OPTIONS** or (does/did) it make no difference in your vote?

	Sep 18	Oct 18
More likely to vote for Baker	13%	16%
Less likely to vote for Baker	28%	33%
Makes no difference	55%	50%
Don't Know / Undecided (not read)	4%	1%

How important would you say the issue of Elizabeth Warren’s claim to Native American ancestry (is/was) 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	11%
Somewhat important	12%
Not too important	14%
Or not at all important	60%
Don’t Know / Undecided (not read)	2%

Elizabeth Warren says after the November election, she will take a hard look at running for President. Do you think Elizabeth Warren should run for President in 2020, or not?

Yes she should	22%
No she should not	63%
Don’t Know / Undecided (not read)	15%

(Does/did) the fact that Elizabeth Warren may run for President make you **READ AND ROTATE?**

More likely to vote for her for Senate	8%
Less likely to vote for her for Senate	27%
Makes no difference on your vote for Senate	64%
Don’t Know / Undecided (not read)	1%

Demographics

Race

Race	80%
White / Caucasian	
All others	17%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Age

Age	15%
18 to 29	
30 to 44	24%
45 to 59	29%
60+	33%

Gender

Gender	47%
Male	
Female	53%

Party Registration

Party Registration	35%
Democrat	
Republican	12%
Independent / Unenrolled	53%

Education

Education	18%
High School or less	
Some college, no degree	29%
College graduate (BA/BS)	32%
Advanced degree	21%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 502 likely voters in the November 2018 general election in Massachusetts. Live telephone interviews were conducted October 25-28, 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.