

**WBUR Massachusetts Poll
 Survey of 660 Residents Age 18+
 Field Dates: May 9-13, 2019**

Overall, do you think things in Massachusetts are headed in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?

Right Direction	58%
Wrong Track	32%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

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	66%	15%	14%	5%	<1%
Elizabeth Warren	43%	42%	12%	3%	0%
Bill Weld	33%	15%	19%	33%	<1%
Donald Trump	26%	65%	9%	0%	1%
Seth Moulton	20%	13%	20%	45%	1%
Pharmaceutical companies	19%	61%	16%	2%	2%

Do you believe that President Trump should be impeached and removed from office, or not?

Yes he should	47%
No he should not	46%
Don't Know / Refused	7%

I would now like to ask you about another issue.

When thinking about issues with the health care system here in Massachusetts, do you think **READ FIRST** is a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all?

ROTATE ORDER	Major problem	Minor problem	Not a problem	Don't Know / Refused
The cost of health insurance	74%	16%	8%	2%
The complexity of navigating the health care system	57%	25%	14%	5%
The cost of prescription drugs	67%	19%	11%	3%
Long waits to see a specialist	38%	31%	23%	8%
Health insurance is too confusing	56%	23%	18%	3%
Not enough things are covered by insurance	57%	27%	12%	4%

In general, do you think the cost of prescription drugs is reasonable or unreasonable?

Reasonable	20%
Unreasonable	76%
Don't Know / Refused	4%

Compared to people in other developed countries do you think people in the United States pay **READ FIRST** for prescription drugs, **READ SECOND**, or **READ THIRD**? **ROTATE ORDER.**

Higher prices	72%
Lower prices	6%
About the same amount	8%
Don't Know / Refused	14%

How much do you think **READ FIRST** contributes to the cost of prescription drugs? **READ AND ROTATE SCALE.** How about **READ NEXT**? **REPEAT STEM AND SCALE ONLY AS NEEDED.**

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not too much	Not at all	Don't Know / Refused
ROTATE ORDER					
The cost of research and development for new drugs	41%	38%	11%	4%	6%
The cost of marketing and advertising	44%	32%	14%	4%	5%
Drug companies trying to maximize profits	77%	15%	4%	2%	2%
Doctors getting incentives from drug companies to prescribe brand names	43%	29%	11%	9%	8%
It is difficult for consumer to shop around and compare prices for drugs	48%	27%	10%	9%	6%
Insurance companies making deals with drug companies that keep prices high	63%	18%	6%	4%	9%

Now I'd like to ask what might help bring down the cost of prescription drugs. How much would **READ FIRST** help in bringing down the cost of prescription drugs? **READ AND ROTATE SCALE**. How about **READ NEXT**? **REPEAT STEM AND SCALE ONLY AS NEEDED**.

ROTATE ORDER	A great deal	A fair amount	Not too much	Not at all	Don't Know / Refused
Making it easier for lower cost generic drugs to get approval	60%	28%	6%	3%	3%
Taxing companies whose prices are too high	39%	26%	11%	19%	6%
Making it legal for consumers to purchase prescription drugs from Canada or Mexico	44%	24%	12%	14%	5%
Allowing the government to limit what it has to pay for prescription drugs	40%	30%	9%	12%	8%
Allowing the government to negotiate with drug companies for better prices for people with Medicare and Medicaid	49%	30%	8%	8%	5%
Requiring drug companies to list prices in their advertisements	40%	32%	12%	11%	4%

Do you currently have any type of insurance that helps you pay for prescription drugs?

Yes I do	83%
No I do not	15%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

ASK IF RESPONDENT HAS INSURANCE.

As far as you know, does your plan cover all prescription drugs or only some prescription drugs?

Covers some	54%
Covers all	36%
Don't Know / Refused	11%

Do you currently take any prescription medicine or not?

Yes I do	62%
No I do not	37%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

ASK IF NOT CURRENTLY ON MEDICATION OR DK/REF.

Have you, in the last year taken any prescription medication?

Yes I have	39%
No I have not	59%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

ASK IF CURRENTLY ON MEDICATION.

On average, how much do you spend each month on all of YOUR prescription drugs, including any co-pays or other out-of-pocket expenses? **READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS**

Less than \$10 a month	18%
\$10 and \$24 a month	19%
\$25 to \$49 a month	23%
\$50 to \$99 a month	17%
\$100 a month or more	22%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

In general, how easy or difficult is it for you to afford to pay the cost of your prescription medicine? Very easy, somewhat easy, somewhat difficult, or very difficult?

Very easy	42%
Somewhat easy	26%
Somewhat difficult	22%
Very difficult	9%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

IF CURRENTLY OR RECENTLY TAKE PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION, CONTINUE. OTHERWISE, SKIP TO SECTION ON OPIOIDS.

In the past 12 months, have you **READ FIRST**? How about **READ NEXT**?

ROTATE ORDER	Yes I have	No I have not	Don't Know / Refused
Been told your plan would not cover a drug prescribed by your doctor	36%	62%	2%
Had a delay of 2 days or more to fill your prescription because of your insurance plan	24%	76%	<1%
Been required by your insurance company to try a less expensive drug before you could get the more expensive drug prescribed by your doctor	28%	70%	2%

In the past 12 months, have you **READ FIRST**? How about **READ NEXT**?

ROTATE ORDER	Yes I have	No I have not	Don't Know / Refused
Not filled a prescription for a medicine on schedule because of the cost	24%	76%	0%
Cut pills in half to make them last longer because of the cost	16%	84%	0%
Skipped doses of medication to make them last longer because of the cost	19%	81%	0%
Taken an over-the-counter drug instead of getting a prescription filled because of the cost	23%	77%	0%

ASK IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED "YES" TO ANY OF THE PREVIOUS SERIES.

Did your condition get worse as a result of not taking your prescription as recommended, or did it not get worse?

Yes it got worse	43%
No it did not get worse	52%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

In the past 12 months, have you had to cut back in other areas to afford your prescription drugs?

Yes I have	24%
No I have not	76%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

Which of the following purchases have you had to cut back in the last 12 months to afford your prescription drugs? **READ FIRST**. How about **READ NEXT**?

ROTATE ORDER	Yes I have	No I have not	Don't Know / Refused
Utility bills like heat and electricity	15%	83%	2%
Paying rent or mortgage on time	8%	90%	2%
Food	19%	79%	2%

I would now like to briefly ask you about another topic.

How serious of a problem do you think the addiction to heroin and other opiates such as prescription painkillers is in Massachusetts? Would you say it is _____? **ORDER ROTATED.**

A crisis	53%
A major problem	39%
A minor problem	5%
Not really a problem	2%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Do you know anyone who has struggled with an addiction to heroin or other opiates in the last year?

Yes, know someone	57%
No, do not know anyone	42%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Do you support or oppose opening clinics where people using heroin and other opiates could take their drugs under medical supervision so that medical staff could revive anyone who overdoses? And is that strongly (support/oppose) or just somewhat?

Strongly support	28%
Somewhat support	22%
Somewhat oppose	13%
Strongly oppose	30%
Don't Know / Refused	8%

Do you support sending people to prisons or jails against their will for addiction treatment? And is that strongly (support/oppose) or just somewhat?

Strongly support	13%
Somewhat support	13%
Somewhat oppose	21%
Strongly oppose	48%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

How much have you heard or read about the rapidly increasing costs of insulin, which is commonly used to treat some types of diabetes?

A great deal	30%
A fair amount	29%
Not very much	20%
Nothing at all	20%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

To the best of your knowledge, have any close family or friends struggled with the cost of insulin?

Yes they have	31%
No they have not	66%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Demographics

Race

White / Caucasian	74%
All others	22%
Don't Know / Refused	4%

Age

18 to 29	22%
30 to 44	24%
45 to 59	27%
60+	27%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

Party Self-Identification

Democrat	35%
Republican	14%
Independent / Other	50%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

Education

High School or less	35%
Some college, no degree	26%
College graduate (BA/BS)	22%
Advanced degree	16%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 660 adult residents of Massachusetts. Live telephone interviews were conducted May 9-13, 2019 via both landline and cell phone. Results were weighted to known and estimated population parameters for the adult population of Massachusetts. The margin of sampling error is 3.8 percentage points with a 95 percent level of confidence. The poll was sponsored by WBUR, a National Public Radio station in the Boston area.