

The Boston Foundation
 The Dorchester Reporter
 WBUR
 City of Boston Issues Poll
 Survey of 552 Registered Voters
 Field Dates: April 7-11, 2021

In your own words, what is the single biggest issue facing the city of the Boston right now? **OPEN**
END, SELECT ONE FROM LIST BELOW OR RECORD "OTHER" RESPONSES VERBATIM.

	Sep 2013	Sep 2017	Sep 2020	Apr 2021
Traffic	3%	3%	2%	4%
COVID-19 or coronavirus	N/A	N/A	39%	27%
Small businesses	N/A	N/A	2%	1%
Parking	0%	1%	<1%	2%
Public transportation	3%	5%	1%	3%
Biking / pedestrian safety	N/A	N/A	1%	<1%
Climate change	0%	2%	3%	3%
Housing costs	5%	23%	12%	18%
Public education	24%	11%	5%	6%
Taxes / budget issues	5%	2%	1%	2%
The economy and jobs	17%	10%	8%	5%
Race relations	1%	5%	4%	5%
Crime / public safety	22%	17%	6%	3%
Opioids	0%	3%	1%	2%
Homelessness	0%	2%	4%	3%
Parks / open space	0%	2%	%	%
Other	13%	15%	9%	10%
Don't know / Refused	6%	7%	3%	6%

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of **READ FIRST**? How about **READ NEXT**?

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)?

RANDOMIZE ORDER	Favorable	Unfavorable	Heard of / Undecided	Never heard of	Refused
Marty Walsh	59%	20%	10%	8%	2%
Kim Janey	34%	5%	24%	35%	1%
Michelle Wu	47%	11%	19%	21%	1%
Andrea Campbell	26%	6%	25%	42%	1%
Jon Santiago	13%	5%	24%	57%	2%
Annisssa Essaibi George	27%	5%	22%	44%	1%
John Barros	17%	6%	25%	50%	2%

As you may know, there is an election for mayor of Boston later this year. If the candidates were **READ AND ROTATE ORDER OF CANDIDATES**, who would you be most likely to support?

Kim Janey	18%
Michelle Wu	19%
Andrea Campbell	4%
Jon Santiago	3%
Annissa Essaibi George	6%
John Barros	3%
Don't Know / Undecided	46%
Refused	1%

Now I would like to ask you about another issue.

As you may know, schools are expected to receive major additional funding through the American Rescue Plan. Regarding the Boston Public Schools, how much of a priority should each of the following be for the next mayor of Boston in using the new funds?

	Major priority	Minor priority	Not a priority	Don't know / Refused
Providing individual and small group tutoring for at risk students	72%	19%	5%	4%
Providing additional mental and emotional health resources	74%	18%	4%	4%
Expanding early education, like Pre-Kindergarten, to more families	71%	19%	6%	4%
Updating school buildings and facilities	71%	19%	6%	4%
Offering summer school as an option to all students to make up for lost learning time during COVID	61%	26%	10%	4%

Do you have any children in your household attending K-12 schools? If so, what type of school do they attend? **SELECT ALL THAT APPLY IF RESPONDENT HAS KIDS IN MULTIPLE TYPES OF SCHOOLS.**

Yes, in a public charter school	7%
Yes, in a district public school	16%
Yes, in a private school	6%
Yes, in another format	2%
No, don't have children in K-12 schools	72%
Prefer not to say	<1%

Next two asked on of voters with children in school

Thinking about the **ROTATE** (oldest/youngest) child, if you could choose how they are attending class right now, would you choose **READ AND ROTATE**?

All online classes	26%
All in-person classes	49%
A mix of online and in-person classes	24%
Don't know / refused	<1%

How about for next school year, if you could choose how they attend class then, would you choose **READ AND ROTATE**?

All online classes	9%
All in-person classes	68%
A mix of online and in-person classes	18%
Don't know / refused	5%

Now I'd like to ask about another topic.

How serious of a problem do you think racism is in the city of Boston - very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

	Nov 2017	April 2021
Very serious	30%	45%
Somewhat serious	44%	36%
Not too serious	19%	12%
Not at all serious	5%	4%
Don't Know / Refused	2%	3%

Have you experienced discrimination at any point in the past year in the city of Boston because of your race?

Yes	23%
No	75%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Now I'd like to ask about another topic.

How would you describe the cost of housing in Boston for someone like you? **READ AND ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP**

Very affordable	8%
Somewhat affordable	18%
Somewhat unaffordable	22%
Very unaffordable	50%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Do you think there is **ROTATE** too much development of new housing in Boston, too little, or about the right amount?

Too much	40%
Too little	24%
The right amount	26%
Don't Know / Refused	11%

How much would you support or oppose each of the following policies related to housing in Boston?
PROBE: And would you say you strongly support/oppose, or just somewhat?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know / Refused
ROTATE ORDER					
Allowing more multi-family housing to be built	59%	23%	7%	7%	4%
Rent control to prevent landlords from raising rents too much	59%	17%	9%	12%	4%
Reducing the number of parking spaces developers have to build with new housing	23%	18%	19%	36%	5%
Building more housing near MBTA stations	52%	27%	9%	8%	4%

Demographics

Party Registration

Democrat	49%
Republican	5%
Unenrolled	45%
Other	1%

Race

White / Caucasian	52%
Black / African American	26%
Hispanic / Latino	13%
All others	8%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Age

18 to 29	22%
30 to 44	29%
45 to 59	23%
60+	27%

Gender

Male	47%
Female	53%
All Other / Don't Know / Refused	<1%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 552 registered voters in the City of Boston. Interviews were conducted April 7-11, 2021 in English and Spanish by live telephone interviews via both landline and cell phone using conventional registration based sampling procedures. Oversamples of Black and Latino voters were obtained to bring the total interview count up to at least 150 for each group. Results within race and ethnicity were weighted by age, gender, geography, and education level for each group. Groups were then combined and weighted to the population parameters for Boston registered voters as a whole by age, gender, party, race, education, and geography. The margin of sampling error for the full sample is +/- 4.9 percent with a 95 percent level of confidence. The poll was sponsored by WBUR, The Dorchester Reporter, and The Boston Foundation.