

Toplines

University of Massachusetts Amherst/WCVB May 2024 Massachusetts Poll

Field Dates:	May 17 – May 30, 2024
Sample:	700 Respondents
Margin of Error:	4.4%

YouGov interviewed 741 respondents who were then matched down to a sample of 700 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The sampling frame is a politically representative "modeled frame" of Massachusetts adults, based upon the American Community Survey (ACS) public use microdata file, public voter file records, the 2020 Current Population Survey (CPS) Voting and Registration supplements, the 2020 National Election Pool (NEP) exit poll, and the 2020 CES surveys, including demographics and 2020 presidential vote.

The matched cases were weighted to the sampling frame using propensity scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, years of education, and own or rent. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and post-stratified according to these deciles.

The weights were then post-stratified on 2020 presidential vote choice as well as stratifications of gender, age (4-categories), race (4-categories), and education (4-categories), to produce the final weight.

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Right to Shelter (N=700)

Do you support or oppose . . .

	May 2024	Oct. 2023	May 2024	Oct. 2023	May 2024	Oct. 2023	May 2024	Oct. 2023	May 2024	Oct. 2023
	Strongly Support		Somewhat Support		Neither		Somewhat Oppose		Strongly Oppose	
the “right to shelter” law that requires the state of Massachusetts to provide shelter, food, and basic necessities to homeless parents with children, pregnant women, and migrant families?	35%	41%	26%	22%	17%	16%	8%	10%	14%	11%

Migrant Policies (N=700)

In response to the growth in the number of migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees coming to the state, do you support or oppose . . .

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neither	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Limiting the capacity of the state shelter system to a maximum of 7,500 families?	20%	19%	39%	13%	9%
Providing legal assistance and case management to help migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees apply for work permits with the federal government?	31%	26%	18%	6%	18%
Limiting the maximum time that individuals can reside in the state's shelter system to nine months?	21%	29%	28%	14%	8%

Responsible (N=698)

According to state officials, over 20,000 people that include homeless families with children, pregnant women, and migrants are currently housed in the state's shelter network. It reportedly costs the state an estimated \$45 million per month to provide this emergency shelter. Who do you believe is most responsible for this situation? (Oct. 2023)

According to state officials, over 23,000 people, including homeless families with children, pregnant women, and migrants, are currently housed in the state's shelter network. It reportedly costs the state an estimated \$77 million per month to provide this emergency shelter. Who do you believe is most responsible for this situation? (May 2024)

	May 2024	Oct. 2023
President Joe Biden	27%	29%
Congressional Republicans	29%	24%
Congressional Democrats	5%	6%
Governor Maura Healey	9%	5%
Migrants	13%	13%
Massachusetts State Legislature	18%	24%

Policies (N=700)

Do you support or oppose . . .

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neither	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
ending the use of Native American names, symbols, or images to serve as high school, college, or university mascots or team names in Massachusetts?	19%	15%	30%	11%	25%
replacing the state's seal and flag, which shows a colonist's arm brandishing a sword above an image of a Native American?	25%	14%	27%	9%	24%
renaming Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples Day?	28%	16%	22%	9%	25%
imposing a 2.5% annual tax on the endowments of private universities and colleges whose assets are valued over \$1 billion?	48%	22%	20%	6%	4%
a toll that charges drivers entering the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?	10%	14%	26%	20%	29%
establishing overdose prevention centers where people who use illegal drugs can consume them under the supervision of trained staff who can provide medical services if necessary?	24%	23%	19%	11%	22%
providing tuition-free community college to all Massachusetts residents?	45%	25%	12%	6%	11%
allowing terminally ill, mentally capable adults with a prognosis of six months or less to live the option to obtain life-ending medication?	44%	23%	22%	5%	6%

Higher Education Confidence (N=700)

How much confidence do you have that colleges and universities in the United States can

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	A Great Deal	Quite a Lot	Some	Not Much	Very Little
Prepare students for successful careers?	13%	24%	40%	16%	8%
Protect freedom of speech on campus?	10%	20%	41%	14%	16%
Ensure the safety of people of color?	12%	20%	43%	18%	7%
Prepare students for citizenship in American democracy?	10%	17%	40%	19%	14%
Ensure the safety of religious groups?	8%	17%	41%	20%	14%

Protest Interest (N=700)

How much have you read, seen, or heard about the protests related to the Israeli-Hamas War occurring on college campuses?

A Lot	43%
Some	38%
Not Much	13%
I have not heard about the college protests against the Israeli-Hamas War	6%

Protest Policies (N=700)

Do you support or oppose . . .

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neither	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Colleges and universities cutting financial ties with companies doing business with the state of Israel?	15%	14%	34%	14%	23%
The protests that have taken place on college and university campuses related to the Israeli-Hamas War?	13%	19%	32%	13%	22%
Colleges and universities ending student study abroad programs with Israeli universities?	11%	14%	37%	13%	24%
The military operation that the state of Israel has undertaken in Gaza in response to the Hamas terrorist attack on October 7, 2023?	16%	17%	30%	15%	22%
State or local police forcibly dismantling protest encampments located on university property?	22%	21%	25%	14%	18%

Demographic Breakdown of May 2024 University of Massachusetts Amherst/WCVB Poll (N=700)

White	76%
People of Color	24%
HS or less	32%
Some Coll.	14%
Coll. Deg.	35%
Postgrad	20%
18-29	21%
30-54	38%
>55	41%
Liberal	41%
Moderate	39%
Conservative	20%
Men	48%
Women	52%
Biden	68%
Trump	32%
Democrat	57%
Independent	18%
Republican	25%