



**The MassINC Polling Group**  
Statewide Survey of 1,002 Massachusetts residents  
Field Dates: June 8-12, 2022

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

Right direction	47%
Wrong track	34%
Unsure	19%

What do you think is the single biggest issue facing state government here in Massachusetts?

Economy / jobs	16%
Inflation / Cost of living	15%
Housing costs	10%
Taxes	10%
COVID-19	7%
Gas prices	7%
Politics	6%
Infrastructure / transportation	5%
Government spending (budget, waste, fraud, corruption)	5%
Guns / Gun control	4%
Education	4%
Drug addiction / mental health	3%
Homelessness / poverty / food insecurity	3%
Crime / public safety	3%
Racism / racial issues	3%
Climate change / environment	2%
Health care / health insurance	2%
Immigration (incl. driver's licenses)	2%
Women's / reproductive rights	1%
Other	4%
No issues	2%
Unsure	4%

Thinking about traffic on the roads and highways in the part of the state where you live, would you say that traffic now is better than it was before the start of the pandemic in March 2020, worse than it was before the pandemic, or about the same?

Better	11%
Worse	38%
About the same	45%
Unsure	5%

Thinking specifically about traffic caused by delivery vehicles – cars driving for Uber Eats, DoorDash, Peapod, or other services, and trucks from Amazon, UPS, and other services – would you say that these vehicles are causing more traffic than before the pandemic, less traffic, or about the same amount of traffic?

Causing more traffic	34%
Causing less traffic	6%
About the same amount of traffic	52%
Unsure	7%

How would you rate the safety of each of the following here in Massachusetts?

**ROTATE ORDER**

	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Unsure
State highways	18%	59%	16%	4%	3%
Bridges	15%	43%	28%	8%	6%
Local roads near you	17%	57%	19%	6%	1%
The MBTA subway trains	12%	44%	23%	6%	14%
The commuter rail trains	18%	51%	14%	4%	14%
Public buses and bus stops	14%	53%	19%	4%	10%
Infrastructure for walking (sidewalks, paths, etc.)	15%	49%	25%	8%	4%
Infrastructure for bikes on local streets	10%	37%	33%	12%	7%
MBTA train stations	12%	46%	23%	6%	14%

**The next few questions are about public transportation in Massachusetts. The MBTA runs subways, trains, buses, and ferries in Eastern Massachusetts. Beyond the MBTA service area, the state has 15 Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) that run public buses.**

**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF NEXT TWO QUESTIONS.**

The MBTA is studying ways to give low-income riders a discount on their fares and passes. Would you support or oppose giving low-income residents a discount on public transportation fares and passes?

Strongly support	56%
Somewhat support	27%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	6%
Unsure	4%

The MBTA and some of the state’s Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs), which provide bus service in other parts of the state, have been experimenting with fare-free buses. This means riders can take the bus without having to pay at the front and can board at any door. How much would you support or oppose making all public buses run by the MBTA and the RTAs free to ride?

Strongly support	46%
Somewhat support	32%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	7%
Unsure	5%

Thinking about these two ideas together – giving low-income riders a discount and making public buses free – which of the following would you support?

Making all buses free but not offering a low-income discount on other services	16%
Giving low-income riders a discount on all transit services, but continuing to collect fares on buses	28%
Making buses free while also giving low-income riders a discount on other transit services.	43%
None of these	7%
Unsure	6%

The state’s 15 Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs), which provide public bus service beyond the MBTA service area, receive funding from the state’s overall budget. How much would you support or oppose increasing funding for the RTAs in the state budget to keep pace with inflation?

Strongly support	30%
Somewhat support	39%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	6%
Unsure	12%

Under current state law, commuters who drive can deduct tolls and mileage from their state taxes, and commuters who ride public transit can deduct the cost of their monthly or weekly passes. How much would you support or oppose expanding the transit deduction to let commuters deduct transit fares that they pay per trip, without a monthly or weekly pass?

Strongly support	37%
Somewhat support	38%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	3%
Unsure	13%

Bikeshare programs like Bluebikes or ValleyBike Share let customers rent a bicycle from a dock on the sidewalk and return it to another dock near their destination. How much would you support or oppose allowing commuters to deduct the cost of bikeshare memberships from their state taxes?

Strongly support	34%
Somewhat support	36%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	6%
Unsure	12%

The state legislature is currently debating climate change legislation. How much would you support or oppose each of the following being included in that legislation?

<b>ROTATE ORDER</b>	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Unsure
Rebates to purchase an electric vehicle (EV)	40%	34%	11%	7%	8%
Rebates to purchase an electric bike (e-bike)	32%	36%	13%	8%	11%
Funding for transit agencies to buy electric buses	36%	38%	10%	7%	9%
Funding to electrify the state's commuter rail system	35%	38%	10%	6%	11%
Funding for school districts to buy electric school buses	38%	35%	11%	8%	8%

Electric bicycles, or e-bikes, have an electric motor in addition to pedals. On most e-bikes, the motor turns on while a rider is pedaling. Some also have a throttle to run the motor without pedaling. E-bikes cost more than a non-motorized bicycle but less than motorcycles and cars.

Based on this description, how interested would you be in purchasing an electric bicycle?

Very interested	21%
Somewhat interested	30%
Not too interested	21%
Not at all interested	22%
Already own an e-bike	1%
Unsure	5%

There is a bill before the state legislature to offer a rebate of \$500 to residents who purchase an e-bike. Residents who make less than a certain amount of income each year would receive a \$750 rebate. If the state were to offer such a rebate, how interested would you be in purchasing an e-bike?

Very interested	27%
Somewhat interested	31%
Not too interested	16%
Not at all interested	21%
Unsure	6%

If you had access to an e-bike, either that you owned or through a bikeshare in your area, how willing would you be to use it instead of driving a car for short trips of 10 miles or less, round trip?

Very willing	24%
Somewhat willing	32%
Not too willing	19%
Not at all willing	20%
Unsure	5%

**The last few questions are for statistical purposes only.**

Are you registered to vote in Massachusetts?

Yes	86%
No	10%
Unsure	2%
Prefer not to say	1%

Which modes of travel did you use regularly to get around? Please check all that apply.

Drive alone	63%
Drive or ride with others	47%
Take a taxi, Uber, or Lyft	25%
Take the MBTA subway	22%
Take a public bus	23%
Take a corporate or private shuttle	1%
Take a ferry	3%
Take the commuter rail	10%
Ride a bicycle	15%
Walk	61%
Prefer not to say	1%

Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

Just myself	24%
Two	32%
Three	20%
Four	14%
Five or more	9%
Prefer not to say	1%

How many cars, if any, does your household own or lease?

None	15%
One	41%
Two	31%
Three	9%
Four or more	3%
Prefer not to say	1%

Do you own or rent your home, or do you have another arrangement like living with family members or student housing?

Own	51%
Rent	41%
Some other arrangement	7%
Prefer not to say	1%

Which one of the following best describes your work situation—employed full time, employed part time, or not currently employed?

Employed full time	44%
Employed part time	17%
Not currently employed	37%
Prefer not to say	2%

**IF NOT EMPLOYED ASK**

Are you a student, a homemaker, retired, or temporarily unemployed?

A student	7%
A homemaker	17%
Retired	51%
Temporarily unemployed	21%
Prefer not to say	4%

**ASK NEXT TWO IF EMPLOYED FULL OR PART TIME**

How often do you work from home right now?

Every workday	27%
A few times a week	20%
A few times a month	5%
Less than once a month	3%
Never	26%
Not an option for my work	19%
Prefer not to say	<1%

If you could choose any amount to work from home over the next few years, how often would you work from home?

Every workday	38%
A few times a week	34%
A few times a month	7%
Less than once a month	2%
Never	14%
Prefer not to say	5%

## Demographics

Gender	Men	47%
	Women	51%
	Non-binary / other	1%
	Prefer not to say	1%
Age	18 to 29 years	22%
	30 to 44 years	24%
	45 to 59 years	25%
	60 or over	28%
	Don't Know / Refused	<1%
Party Identification	Democrat	34%
	Republican	14%
	Independent / some other party	47%
	Don't Know / Refused	5%
Education Level	High School or less	34%
	Some college, no degree	26%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	23%
	Advanced degree	17%
	Don't Know / Refused	1%
Race	White	74%
	Black	7%
	Hispanic / Latino	10%
	Asian	7%
	All other	3%
	Prefer not to say	1%

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### About the poll

These results are based on a survey of 1,002 Massachusetts residents conducted via online survey June 8-12, 2022. Responses were targeted at weighted by race, age, gender, education, geography, and party to reflect known and estimated population parameters for the adult population of Massachusetts. This poll was sponsored by The Barr Foundation.