



**The Barr Foundation
Education Issues Survey - Wave Six**

Topline Results

Statewide Survey of 1,469 K-12 Parents in Massachusetts

Field Dates: March 17 – April 11, 2022

What grade(s) is/are your child(ren) currently in? **[ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. PROBE IF NEEDED: and your other children?]**

Kindergarten	17%
First	11%
Second	10%
Third	11%
Fourth	11%
Fifth	14%
Sixth	13%
Seventh	14%
Eighth	12%
Ninth	11%
Tenth	13%
Eleventh	11%
Twelfth	11%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Which of the following best describes the school where your child(ren) is/are enrolled this year? **[ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

A public school run by a school district	83%
A public charter school	7%
A parochial (pah-row-kee-ul) or Catholic school	5%
A non-Catholic private or independent school	5%
Home schooling	3%
Another format	2%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

IF HAVE MORE THAN ONE CHILD READ THE FOLLOWING. OTHERWISE SKIP THIS DIRECTION AND DO NOT SPECIFY GRADE LEVEL IN FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. You mentioned you had a child in **SELECT GRADE LEVEL**. The next several questions will be about this child's experience during the coronavirus crisis.

First, which of the following best describes the school where your **GRADE LEVEL** child is enrolled this year?

A public school run by a school district	82%
A public charter school	6%
A parochial (pah-row-kee-ul) or Catholic school	4%
A non-Catholic private or independent school	4%
Home school	2%
Another format	2%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Does your **GRADE LEVEL** child have an Individualized Education Plan, sometimes called an IEP?
PRONOUNCE ACRONYM I-E-P

Yes	29%
No	65%
Don't Know / Refused	6%

Does your **GRADE LEVEL** child receive services for English Language Learners, sometimes called ELL?
PRONOUNCE ACRONYM E-L-L

Yes	14%
No	81%
Don't Know / Refused	6%

Prior to the coronavirus crisis, do you think your **GRADE LEVEL** child's academics were at grade level, behind grade level, or ahead of grade level? How about now?

	Prior to coronavirus	Now
At grade level	55%	53%
Behind grade level	18%	22%
Ahead of grade level	25%	23%
Don't Know / Refused	3%	2%

By the end of this academic year, do you think your **GRADE LEVEL CHILD** will be prepared for the **NEXT GRADE LEVEL? FOR 12th GRADE:** By the end of this academic year, do you think your **GRADE LEVEL CHILD** will be prepared for graduation?

Yes	80%
No	10%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

What types of supports or resources would be especially helpful to your **GRADE LEVEL** child? **OPEN END, RECORD VERBATIM, RESPONSES CODED.**

Academic issues total	46%
Classroom suggestions (more/less homework, hands on, curriculum suggestions, attentive teachers)	14%
Affordable tutoring	10%
More academic support (1:1 help, catching up)	10%
Subject specific help (math, English, reading)	10%
Supplemental academic resources (online instruction, take home, college prep)	6%
SEL & mental and emotional health supports (in school counselors, social skills, therapy in school)	9%
Support good as is / child doesn't need any	9%
Additional programming (before/after school, summer school, extracurriculars)	8%
Free / affordable resources (supplies, food, technology)	4%
Return to "normal" (just do school, no mask, no shutdowns)	3%
<i>Other</i>	11%
<i>None / Nothing</i>	20%

Has your **GRADE LEVEL** child been offered additional academic supports by the school, like tutoring, to help them academically this year? Did you accept that support?

Yes, accepted	31%
Yes, but did not accept	12%
No, not offered	53%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

Do you think your **GRADE LEVEL** child's school is doing enough to help children catch up who have fallen behind academically during COVID, should they be doing more, or are they doing too much?

Doing enough	53%
Should be doing more	35%
Doing too much	2%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

What information have you received from you **GRADE LEVEL** child's school so far this year about their academics? Select all that apply.

Classroom grades	76%
Results of diagnostic assessments, or tests that measure your child's learning progress	46%
MCAS results (EM-cass)	21%
Conversation or note from a teacher	56%
Conversation or note from a guidance counselor	22%
Other (please specify): _____	6%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Do you plan to enroll your **GRADE LEVEL** child in a summer learning program, like summer school, summer camp with an educational component, or an acceleration academy, or not?

Yes, I do	26%
No, I do not	62%
Don't Know / Refused	12%

ASK IF NOT SENDING TO SUMMER SCHOOL OR UNSURE

What are the main reasons you are not planning to send your **GRADE LEVEL** child to a summer program? **SELECT ALL THAT APPLY**

Child does not need it	48%
School not offering it	12%
Child has other activities planned	28%
Travelling	14%
Inconvenient for work / family schedule	14%
Unaffordable	16%
Other: _____	9%
Unsure	4%

ASK ALL

To the best of your knowledge, did your **GRADE LEVEL** child’s school provide your child with a laptop or tablet that they can bring home this school year?

Yes	61%
No	36%
Don’t Know / Refused	3%

Thinking about your **GRADE LEVEL** child’s mental and emotional health this year, would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

Very concerned	13%
Somewhat concerned	34%
Not too concerned	29%
Not at all concerned	21%
Unsure	2%

Has your **GRADE LEVEL** child been offered additional mental health supports by their school, like counseling, to help them this year? Did you accept that support?

Yes, accepted	20%
Yes, but did not accept	23%
No, not offered	49%
Don’t Know / Refused	8%

How well do you think your **GRADE LEVEL** child’s school is doing at each of the following? **ROTATE ORDER**

ROTATE ORDER	Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	Don’t Know / Refused
Making sure all students feel welcome	54%	33%	5%	3%	5%
Offering all students rigorous, engaging instruction	39%	39%	10%	5%	7%
Making sure the curriculum reflects the experiences and accomplishments of people of all races and backgrounds	41%	35%	8%	5%	12%
Hiring and keeping diverse teachers	32%	29%	13%	7%	18%
Making sure teachers feel appreciated and supported	39%	35%	8%	4%	15%
Helping students learn about career options	24%	29%	12%	9%	25%
Helping students plan for and apply to college	25%	22%	8%	10%	35%
Supporting students with disabilities	40%	28%	7%	4%	21%

How concerned are you, if at all, that any of your children will be infected with COVID while at school? Would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

Very concerned	18%
Somewhat concerned	31%
Not too concerned	26%
Not at all concerned	24%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Moving forward, would you support or oppose each of the following COVID policies in your children's schools?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't Know / Refused
ROTATE ORDER					
Allowing students who may have been exposed to COVID to remain in class if they test negative	44%	32%	10%	10%	4%
Regularly testing all students at school	42%	25%	11%	18%	3%
Providing rapid tests for families to take home	62%	25%	4%	6%	3%
Requiring all students and staff to wear masks	29%	27%	14%	24%	5%
A vaccine mandate for all students	32%	21%	10%	32%	5%
A vaccine mandate for all teachers and staff	42%	20%	9%	25%	4%

Which of the following comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

We should accept more risk in general so our children can have full experiences in school and activities	52%
We should generally limit risk so our children are better protected from infection	40%
Don't Know / Refused	7%

Which of the following best describes your COVID vaccine status? Being fully vaccinated means you have received either 2 shots of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or one shot of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Being boosted means you have received an additional dose of the vaccine typically 2-6 months after your first shot.

I am fully vaccinated and boosted	60%
I am fully vaccinated but not boosted	20%
I am partially vaccinated	3%
I am not vaccinated	13%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Children ages 5 and older are currently eligible for the COVID vaccine. Thinking about your **school-age children only**, which of the following best applies? Being fully vaccinated means your children have received 2 shots of the Pfizer vaccine.

All of my children are vaccinated	62%
Some of my children are vaccinated	9%
None of my children are vaccinated	25%
Don't Know / Refused	4%

ASK IF ANY CHILDREN VACCINATED

Children ages 5 and older who received their second shot of the Pfizer vaccine at least 5 months ago are currently eligible for a booster shot. Thinking about your **school-age children who are eligible for a booster shot**, which of the following best applies? If none of your children are eligible yet for a booster shot, please say so.

All of my eligible children are boosted	48%
Some of my eligible children are boosted	12%
None of my eligible children are boosted	20%
None of my children are eligible for a booster	17%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

ASK IF ANY CHILDREN NOT VACCINATED

Thinking about your **children who are not yet vaccinated**, do you plan to have them vaccinated?

Yes	26%
No	56%
Don't Know / Refused	18%

ASK IF NOT PLANNING TO VACCINATE CHILD OR UNSURE

Why are you not planning to have your child(ren) vaccinated? **OPEN END, RECORD VERBATIM.**

Choice (freedom of choice, their choice)	6%
Age (too young, not at risk, not eligible, healthy)	18%
Never / not interested / No	6%
Immunity / already had COVID	5%
Trust / risk (don't trust it, more risk getting vaccine)	17%
Want more research / information	16%
Personal (medical, religious, personal reasons)	5%
Safety concerns (side effects, long-term effects)	32%
Unnecessary (don't need it, parents don't want them to have it)	11%
Other	11%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Age

18 to 34 years old	16%
35 to 39 years old	19%
40 to 44 years old	24%
45 to 49 years old	22%
50+	19%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

How do you describe your gender?

Man	44%
Woman	55%
Non-binary	1%
Some other way: _____	0%
Prefer not to say	<1%

Race

White	70%
Black / African-American	6%
Hispanic / Latino	13%
Asian	8%
Mixed race / Other	2%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Education

High school or less	26%
Some college, no degree	23%
College degree	26%
Advanced degree	23%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 1,469 parents of K-12 students in Massachusetts. Live telephone interviews and online interviewing were conducted in English and Spanish March 17 – April 11, 2022. Telephone respondents were reached by both landline and cell phone. Oversamples of Black, Latino, and Asian respondents were obtained to bring the total interview count up to at least 250 for each group for the base sample. Results within race and ethnicity were weighted to age, gender, geography, and education level for each group. Groups were then combined and weighted to the population parameters by race for the state as a whole. The credibility interval for this survey is +/- 3.2 percentage points for the entire sample, including the design effect. The poll was sponsored by The Barr Foundation.