



The Barr Foundation Transportation Survey
Topline Results
Survey of 1,026 Registered Voters Statewide
Field Dates: December 20-26, 2021

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	36%
Unsure	17%

Apart from COVID-19, what is the single biggest issue facing state government here in Massachusetts?

Economy / jobs	18%
Taxes / government spending / waste / corruption	12%
Housing costs	9%
COVID	9%
Infrastructure / transportation	8%
Inflation / cost of living	7%
Poverty / homelessness / inequality	7%
Politics	6%
Health care	3%
Crime / violence / gun control	3%
Education	3%
Opioids / drug addiction	3%
Climate Change / energy / environment	3%
Racism / racial equity / police reform	3%
Other	10%
No response / NA / Unsure	8%

There will be a question on the ballot in November 2022 that would create an additional 4% tax on the portion of someone's income over \$1 million a year. The minimum amount to trigger the tax would go up with inflation every year. The money collected would be dedicated to transportation and public education.

Based on this description, would you support or oppose this additional 4% tax on the portion of someone's income over \$1 million a year?

Strongly support	44%
Somewhat support	25%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	12%
Unsure	10%

If the new tax described above becomes law, how would you like to see the money split between transportation and education?

Mostly on transportation	8%
More on transportation, some on education	11%
Split evenly between the two	39%
More on education, some on transportation	20%
Mostly on education	7%
None of the above / opposed to the tax	9%
Unsure	7%

How would you rate the condition of the state's transportation system, including highways, roads, bridges, and tunnels, as well as public transportation like trains, subways, buses, and ferries?

Excellent	5%
Good	18%
Fair	45%
Poor	29%
Unsure	4%

How prepared do you think Massachusetts is right now for the effects of climate change, including more extreme heat, more powerful storms, and more and heavier flooding?

Very prepared	6%
Somewhat prepared	29%
Not too prepared	36%
Not prepared at all	15%
Do not believe in climate change	5%
Unsure	9%

The next few questions are about public transportation in Massachusetts, which includes the subways, trolleys, buses, and ferries run by the MBTA, the commuter rail system, and the other public bus services offered beyond the MBTA region.

How strongly would you support or oppose giving lower-income residents a discounted fare to ride public transportation?

Strongly support	49%
Somewhat support	30%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	6%
Unsure	8%

How much would you support or oppose making each of the following types of public transportation free, meaning riders would not have to pay fares to ride?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Unsure
Public buses serving low-income neighborhoods	42%	29%	12%	9%	8%
All public buses	31%	30%	18%	12%	10%
MBTA subways and trolleys (the Red, Green, Orange, and Blue lines)	28%	30%	18%	14%	11%
The MBTA commuter rail	27%	27%	20%	15%	11%

The last few questions are for statistical purposes only, so we can analyze your results alongside others.

Thinking back to **before** the coronavirus outbreak (i.e. before March 2020), which modes of travel did you use regularly to get around? Please check all that apply.

Drive alone	72%
Drive or ride with others	51%
Take a taxi, Uber, or Lyft	21%
Take the MBTA subway (Red, Orange, Blue, Green, Silver lines)	20%
Take a public bus	18%
Take a corporate or private shuttle	2%
Take a ferry	3%
Take the commuter rail	12%
Ride a bicycle	12%
Walk	44%
Other	<1%
Prefer not to say	2%

How about now? Which modes of travel are you using regularly to get around? Please check all that apply.

Drive alone	72%
Drive or ride with others	45%
Take a taxi, Uber, or Lyft	15%
Take the MBTA subway (Red, Orange, Blue, Green, Silver lines)	13%
Take a public bus	13%
Take a corporate or private shuttle	2%
Take a ferry	2%
Take the commuter rail	5%
Ride a bicycle	9%
Walk	40%
Other	1%
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	40%
Employed part time	16%
Not currently employed	41%
Prefer not to say	3%

IF NOT EMPLOYED ASK

You mentioned you are not currently employed. Which of the following best describes your situation?

Furloughed, or on temporary leave by my employer	2%
Unemployed and looking for work	16%
Unemployed and not looking for work	12%
Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	11%
Retired	53%
Full-time student	5%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

ASK OF THOSE IN WORKFORCE: EMPLOYED, FURLOUGHED, UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING

What is the most frequently that you have worked from home, if at all, since the start of the pandemic?

Every workday	31%
A few times a week	19%
A few times a month	6%
Less than once a month	3%
Never	16%
Not an option for my work	18%
Not employed since the start of the pandemic	5%
Prefer not to say	1%

ASK IF ANY WFH

And how often, if at all, do you work from home now?

Every workday	32%
A few times a week	32%
A few times a month	9%
Less than once a month	7%
Never	13%
Not an option for my work	5%
Prefer not to say	2%

ASK ALL

Do you have any children 18 years of age or younger living in your household?

Yes	24%
No	74%
Prefer not to say	2%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Party Identification

Democrat	35%
Republican	14%
Independent / Other	47%
Don't Know / Refused	4%

Race

White alone	80%
Black	6%
Latino	6%
Asian	5%
Other / more than one race	3%
Prefer not to say	<1%

Age

18-29	19%
30-44	23%
45-59	26%
60+	32%
Prefer not to say	<1%

Gender

Men	46%
Women	52%
Non-binary / some other gender	1%

Education

High School or less	32%
Some college, no degree	23%
College graduate (BA/BS)	26%
Advanced degree	18%
Prefer not to say	2%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 1,026 Massachusetts registered voters. Voters were contacted between December 20-26, 2021 via online survey interviewing. The final data were weighted by known and estimated demographics for registered voters statewide by age and gender, race, education level, geography, and political party identification. The poll was sponsored by The Barr Foundation.