

**WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE POLLING INSTITUTE**  
**April 11-15, 2010**

**TABLES**

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Deval Patrick is handling his job as governor?

Patrick Job Approval		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/ Refused	N*
April 2010	All adults	34%	48%	18%	528
April 2010	Registered voters	34%	49%	18%	481
March 2009	All adults	41%	43%	17%	545
March 2009	Registered voters	40%	43%	17%	510
Feb. 2009	All adults	47%	35%	18%	569
Nov. 2008	All adults	50%	25%	26%	602

*Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

What is the most important problem facing Massachusetts today?

Most Important Problem Facing Massachusetts Today				
	Registered voters April 2010	All Adults April 2010	All Adults March 2009	All Adults Nov. 2008
Economy / jobs / stock market	56%	53%	60%	54%
Taxes / government spending	18%	18%	19%	12%
Education	5%	6%	6%	6%
Health care	6%	6%	4%	7%
Crime	2%	3%	0%	1%
Corruption among public officials	1%	1%	2%	2%
Gas / oil prices	0%	0%	2%	0%
Traffic / transportation / roads	1%	1%	1%	3%
Housing costs	1%	1%	0%	1%
Other	7%	7%	3%	6%
Don't know / refused	2%	3%	2%	6%
N	481	528	545	602

*Column percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Do you feel things in Massachusetts are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

		Right Direction / Wrong Track			
		Right Direction	Wrong Track	Don't know/Refused	N*
April 2010	Registered voters	30%	60%	10%	481
Nov. 2008	Registered voters	39%	50%	11%	548

Next, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following people. If you haven't heard of them or don't have an opinion of them, just tell me and we'll move on.

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of (name). (*Names of gubernatorial candidates were rotated in random order.*)

Favorable – Unfavorable Ratings for Gubernatorial Candidates – Registered Voters						
	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard of	No opinion	Don't know/Refused	N*
Deval Patrick	40%	48%	2%	9%	2%	481
Tim Cahill	32%	18%	18%	27%	5%	481
Charles Baker	20%	13%	40%	22%	5%	481

*\*The sample consists of 481 registered voters. The margin of error for a sample of 481 voters is plus or minus 4.5 percent. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

As you may know, voters in Massachusetts will elect a governor in November.

If the election were held today and the candidates were Deval Patrick, the Democrat, Charles Baker, the Republican, and Tim Cahill, the Independent, for whom would you vote?

(If no preference is stated): At this moment do you lean more towards Deval Patrick, the Democrat, Charles Baker, the Republican, or Tim Cahill, the Independent?

		Voter Preferences for Governor (Including Leaners)					
		Patrick	Baker	Cahill	Don't know / Undecided	Refused	N*
Oct. 2009	Registered voters	34%	27%	29%	10%	1%	481
Party identification	Democrat	66%	6%	17%	10%	1%	135
	Republican	3%	64%	32%	1%	0%	75
	Independent	26%	29%	35%	10%	0%	200
State direction	Right direction	70%	6%	14%	10%	1%	225
	Wrong track	15%	39%	38%	8%	0%	256
Patrick job Approval	Approve	73%	5%	13%	9%	1%	174
	Disapprove	5%	45%	40%	9%	0%	228
Gender	Male	34%	31%	29%	6%	0%	225
	Female	33%	23%	28%	15%	1%	256
Age	18-29	**	**	**	**	**	**
	30-49	27%	29%	34%	10%	0%	171
	50-64	42%	25%	22%	9%	1%	158
	65 and older	41%	23%	20%	15%	1%	126
Education	High school or less	26%	25%	37%	10%	1%	90
	Some college	35%	16%	33%	15%	1%	104
	College graduate	35%	32%	24%	8%	0%	286
Region	Western MA	45%	21%	24%	8%	1%	88
	Central MA	29%	29%	28%	12%	2%	59
	North / South Shore	25%	31%	31%	12%	1%	143
	Boston and suburbs	35%	26%	30%	10%	0%	191

\* Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

\*\* Subgroup contains fewer than 50 respondents.

## METHODOLOGY

The Western New England College Polling Institute conducted telephone interviews with 528 adults ages 18 and older drawn from across Massachusetts using random-digit-dialing April 11-15. The sample yielded 481 adults who said they were registered to vote in Massachusetts. The data were weighted to reflect the adult population of Massachusetts by gender, race and age.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population. The sampling error for a sample of 528 adults is +/- 4 percent, at a 95 percent confidence interval. Thus if 50 percent of adults said they had a favorable view of a candidate, one would be 95 percent sure that the true figure would be between 46 percent and 54 percent (50 percent +/- 4 percent) had all Massachusetts adults been interviewed, rather than just a sample. The margin of error for the sample of registered voters is +/- 4.5 percent. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. Sampling error does not take into account other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects.