

WBUR Poll
Survey of 504 Registered Voters in Massachusetts
Field Dates: November 30-December 2, 2015

How closely, if at all, have you been following news about _____? *Scale order rotated top to bottom, bottom to top. Sorted by % "very closely".*

<i>Order rotated.</i>	Very closely	Somewhat closely	Not too closely	Not at all closely	Don't Know / Refused
The terrorist attacks that took place in Paris several weeks ago	62%	30%	6%	2%	0%
The US Presidential Election	54%	32%	8%	5%	<1%
The New England Patriots	51%	27%	8%	13%	1%
The climate change summit currently taking place in Paris, France	19%	37%	20%	24%	1%
The proposal to build a new natural gas pipeline across Massachusetts and New Hampshire	17%	30%	24%	27%	1%

You may have heard about the idea that the world's temperature has been going up slowly over the past 100 years. Do you think this _____? *Order rotated.*

	2011*	2014*	2015
Has probably been happening	77%	79%	78%
Has probably NOT been happening?	17%	17%	15%
Don't Know / Refused	6%	4%	7%

** Trend data for this and other questions (unless otherwise noted):*
- 2014 MassINC poll of 1004 Mass. residents, September 19-26, 2014.
- 2011 MassINC poll, 1147 Mass. registered voters, February 8-14, 2011.

Next question asked to those who said warming has been happening. N=428.

Do you believe increases in the Earth's temperature are due more to _____? *Order rotated.*

	2011	2014	2015
The effects of pollution from human activities	61%	60%	56%
Natural changes in the environment	22%	17%	19%
Both (not read)	13%	21%	21%
Neither (not read)	N/A	1%	1%
Don't Know / Refused	5%	2%	4%

As you may know, the idea that the earth's temperature is slowly increasing is often called global warming, or climate change.

Which of the following reflects your view about the effects of global warming? The effects have already begun to happen. They will start happening within a few years. They will start happening within your lifetime. They will not happen within your lifetime, but they will affect future generations. OR, They will never happen? *Order rotated top to bottom, bottom to top.*

	2011	2014	2015
Already begun to happen	54%	57%	57%
Within a few years	3%	4%	3%
Within your lifetime	10%	10%	8%
Will affect future generations	18%	17%	20%
Will never happen	12%	8%	8%
Don't Know / Refused	2%	4%	4%

If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for Massachusetts? *Order rotated.*

	2011	2015
Very serious	41%	45%
Somewhat serious	33%	27%
Not too serious	13%	11%
Not at all serious	9%	11%
Don't Know / Refused	4%	5%

In your view, which poses a greater long term threat to the United States? *Order rotated.*

Global Warming	24%
Terrorism	58%
Both / neither / depends (not read)	16%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Do you think global warming can be stopped at this point, or is it too late?

	2014	2015
Can be stopped	46%	55%
Already too late	33%	26%
Not happening (not read)	8%	8%
Don't Know / Refused	13%	11%

Do you think that Massachusetts doing things to reduce global warming would _____ or would it have no effect on the state's economy? *Order of the first two options rotated.*

	2011	2014	2015
Help the state's economy	53%	39%	39%
Hurt the state's economy	17%	24%	21%
Would have no effect	23%	30%	24%
Don't Know / Refused	7%	8%	16%

Do you approve or disapprove of the Obama administration's efforts to regulate greenhouse gases from power plants?

Approve	55%
Disapprove	28%
Both / Neither / Depends (not read)	3%
Don't Know / Refused	14%

In thinking about future energy needs, which of these energy sources do you think we should rely on more and which should we rely on less here in Massachusetts? *Results presented sorted by % "rely on more".*

<i>Order rotated.</i>	Date	Rely on more	Rely on less	Same amount (do not read)	Don't Know / Refused
Solar power	2015	84%	10%	5%	2%
	2011	88%	8%	1%	3%
Wind power	2015	77%	13%	6%	4%
	2011	87%	10%	1%	2%
Hydro-electric power	2015	62%	15%	8%	15%
	2011	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Natural gas	2015	50%	31%	14%	5%
	2011	66%	25%	6%	3%
Nuclear Power	2015	24%	58%	11%	7%
	2011	33%	58%	2%	7%
Oil	2015	14%	69%	14%	4%
	2011	15%	82%	1%	2%
Coal	2015	10%	76%	9%	5%
	2011	22%	71%	1%	6%

Trend data: MPG 2nd Quarter 2011 Omnibus Poll, 420 Mass. registered voters, April 27-30, 2011.

What if greenhouse gases were significantly reduced, but it raised your monthly energy bill by ten dollars, would you **READ AND ROTATE** spending this amount?

Favor	58%
Oppose	32%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

Next two questions split, each asked to ½ of respondents.

As you may know, there is a proposed new pipeline that would run from Pennsylvania, through New York, and then across Massachusetts and New Hampshire, ending north of Boston. It would carry natural gas. Knowing this, would you **READ AND ROTATE** this new pipeline? *Order of support and oppose rotated.*

	2014	2015
Support	50%	43%
Oppose	25%	38%
Both / Neither / Depends (not read)	8%	4%
Don't Know / Refused	16%	15%

Trend data: WBUR poll 700 likely voters in Mass. gubernatorial election, August 24-31, 2014.

As you may know, there is a proposed new pipeline that would run from Pennsylvania, through New York, and then across Massachusetts and New Hampshire, ending north of Boston. It would carry natural gas mined using a process called hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking”. Knowing this, would you **READ AND ROTATE** this new pipeline? **READ AND ROTATE TOP 2.**

Support	38%
Oppose	48%
Both / Neither / Depends (not read)	5%
Don't Know / Refused	9%

Now I would like to ask you about another topic.

Do you personally know any refugees from foreign countries who live in the United States?

Yes	17%
No	81%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

To the best of your knowledge, are there any refugees from anywhere in the world living in your city or town?

Yes	43%
No	39%
Don't Know / Refused	18%

To the best of your knowledge, is the screening process for refugees from Syria sufficient or not?

Yes	29%
No	46%
Don't Know / Refused	25%

Do you think Massachusetts should accept refugees from Syria that pass the US Government screening process?

Yes	54%
No	37%
Don't Know / Refused	9%

Would you support or oppose the idea of resettling refugees from Syria in your city or town?

Support	47%
Oppose	43%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

In terms of the risk to Massachusetts, do you think taking in refugees from Syria would pose a risk that is **READ AND ROTATE** than taking in refugees from other parts of the world?

Higher	41%
Lower	4%
About the same	49%
Don't Know / Refused	6%

Demographics

Race

White / Caucasian	81%
All others	16%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Age

18 to 29	17%
30 to 44	26%
45 to 59	29%
60+	28%

Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

Party Registration

Democrat	36%
Republican	11%
Independent / Unenrolled	53%

Education

High School or less	33%
Some college, no degree	22%
College graduate (BA/BS)	26%
Advanced degree	17%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 504 registered voters in Massachusetts. Interviews were conducted November 30-December 2, 2015 by live telephone interviews via both landline and cell phone using conventional registration based sampling procedures. The margin of sampling error for the full sample is +/- 4.4 percent with a 95 percent level of confidence. The poll was sponsored by WBUR, a National Public Radio station in the Boston area.