

WBUR Poll
Massachusetts 2016 Presidential Primary
Survey of 386 Likely Republican Primary Voters
Field Dates: February 21-23, 2016

I'm going to read you the names of several people who are active in public affairs. After I read each one please tell me if you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable view of the person. If you have never heard of the person or if you are undecided, please just say so. **READ FIRST NAME.** How about **READ NEXT NAME?**

REPEAT QUESTION TEXT ONLY IF NECESSARY, PROBE IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DON'T KNOW". Have you heard of **READ NAME** and are undecided about (him/her)? Or **PAUSE** have you never heard of (him/her)?

| <i>Order rotated.</i> | Favorable | Unfavorable | Heard of / Undecided | Never heard of | Refused |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Donald Trump | 56% | 31% | 13% | 0% | 0% |
| John Kasich | 48% | 18% | 27% | 6% | 0% |
| Marco Rubio | 45% | 30% | 23% | 2% | 0% |
| Ted Cruz | 29% | 51% | 19% | 1% | 0% |
| Ben Carson | 44% | 32% | 18% | 6% | <1% |
| Charlie Baker | 78% | 9% | 11% | 2% | 0% |
| George W Bush | 58% | 32% | 9% | 0% | <1% |
| Pope Francis | 67% | 17% | 13% | 2% | 1% |

If the candidates in the Republican primary were **READ AND ROTATE ORDER**, for whom would you vote?

Initial preference

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Donald Trump | 39% |
| Marco Rubio | 18% |
| John Kasich | 17% |
| Ted Cruz | 9% |
| Ben Carson | 5% |
| Some other candidate (not read) | <1% |
| Would not vote (not read) | <1% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 12% |

Vote preference with leaners

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Donald Trump | 40% |
| John Kasich | 19% |
| Marco Rubio | 19% |
| Ted Cruz | 10% |
| Ben Carson | 5% |
| Some other candidate (not read) | <1% |
| Would not vote (not read) | <1% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 6% |

Which Republican candidate do you trust more on each of the following issues as President—**READ AND ROTATE CANDIDATE NAMES?** First, **READ FIRST?** How about **READ NEXT?** **REREAD SCALE AND QUESTION WORKING ONLY AS NEEDED.**

| | Ben Carson | Donald Trump | John Kasich | Marco Rubio | Ted Cruz | None of them | Don't Know / Refused |
|--|------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------|--------------|----------------------|
| <i>Order rotated.</i> | | | | | | | |
| Reforming our immigration system | 1% | 51% | 8% | 14% | 12% | 6% | 8% |
| Handling foreign policy challenges | 2% | 31% | 17% | 22% | 11% | 6% | 11% |
| Improving the economy and creating jobs | 1% | 60% | 15% | 6% | 6% | 4% | 9% |
| Improving our standing in the world | 5% | 35% | 14% | 18% | 10% | 6% | 12% |
| Working with Congress to get things done | 4% | 31% | 25% | 18% | 8% | 5% | 7% |
| Keeping America safe | 1% | 45% | 11% | 15% | 11% | 7% | 10% |

As you may know, there is an opening on the US Supreme Court due to the recent death of Associate Justice Antonin Scalia (ANN-tuh-nin Ska-lee-uh). Do you think President Barack Obama should nominate someone for the opening, or should choosing a new justice be left to the next President?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Obama should nominate someone | 41% |
| Should be left to the next president | 55% |
| Both / neither / depends (not read) | 2% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

If Barack Obama nominates someone for the Supreme Court, should the Senate vote on whether to confirm the person who is nominated? Or should the Senate wait for the next President to nominate someone?

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Should vote on confirmation | 47% |
| Wait for next President | 44% |
| Both / neither / depends (not read) | 7% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 2% |

Order of next two questions rotated

Do you think George W. Bush kept America safe during his presidency or not?

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Yes he did | 70% |
| No he did not | 25% |
| Both / neither / depends (not read) | 0% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 5% |

Do you think Barack Obama has kept America safe during his presidency or not?

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Yes he did | 30% |
| No he did not | 63% |
| Both / neither / depends (not read) | 2% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 4% |

Which is more important to you in choosing our next President—electing **READ FIRST** or **READ NEXT**? *Order rotated.*

| | |
|---|-----|
| Someone with the right experience to be President | 25% |
| Someone who can bring real change to the political system | 59% |
| Both / neither / depends (not read) | 14% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 2% |

Demographics

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-----|
| Party Registration | Republican | 38% |
| | Unenrolled | 62% |
| Race | White / Caucasian | 92% |
| | All others | 5% |
| | Don't Know / Refused | 3% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 13% |
| | 30 to 44 | 25% |
| | 45 to 59 | 38% |
| | 60+ | 24% |
| Gender | Male | 54% |
| | Female | 46% |
| Education | High School or less | 15% |
| | Some college, no degree | 27% |
| | College graduate (BA/BS) | 34% |
| | Advanced degree | 23% |
| | Don't Know / Refused | <1% |

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 386 registered voters likely to vote in the 2016 Massachusetts presidential primaries. Live telephone interviews were conducted February 21-23, 2016 via both landline and cell phone using conventional registration based sampling procedures. The margin of sampling error for either primary is +/- 4.9 percentage points with a 95 percent level of confidence. The poll was sponsored by WBUR, a National Public Radio station in the Boston area.