WBUR City of Boston Poll
Survey of 405 voters in Boston, Massachusetts
Field Dates: September 27-October 1, 2017

In your own words, what is the single biggest issue facing the City of the Boston right now? **OPEN END, DO NOT READ LIST.**

	2013	2017
Housing costs	5%	23%
Public education	24%	11%
The economy / development	17%	10%
Crime/public safety	22%	10%
Public transportation	3%	5%
Race relations	1%	5%
Traffic	3%	3%
Opioids	0%	3%
Climate change	0%	2%
Taxes / budget issues	5%	2%
Homelessness	0%	2%
Parking	0%	1%
Other (specify)	13%	15%
Don't Know / Refused	6%	7%

I'm going to read you the names of several people and groups 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)?

Order rotated.	Favorable	Unfavorable	Heard of / Undecided	Never heard of	Refused
Donald Trump	17%	73%	6%	2%	2%
Charlie Baker	59%	17%	21%	3%	1%
Marty Walsh	68%	17%	13%	1%	1%
Tito Jackson	50%	9%	31%	9%	1%

If the November election for Mayor of Boston were held today, for whom would you vote? *Order rotated.*

If undecided…. Even though you say you are undecided – which way are you leaning?

Initial preference	
Tito Jackson	20%
Marty Walsh	54%
Don't Know / Undecided	22%
Refused	4%

Vote preference with leaners	
Tito Jackson	24%
Marty Walsh	60%
Don't Know / Undecided	12%
Refused	4%

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with **READ FIRST**? How about **READ NEXT? PROMPT:** And would you say you are very (satisfied/dissatisfied), or just somewhat? **REPEAT STEM AND SCALE ONLY AS NEEDED**

Order rotated.	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know/Refused
Boston public schools	8%	25%	28%	23%	18%
The cost of housing in Boston	5%	13%	25%	51%	7%
Race relations in Boston	9%	32%	32%	21%	5%
Traffic on Boston's side streets	3%	26%	26%	36%	9%
Traffic on Boston's main roads	3%	16%	29%	44%	7%
The MBTA	10%	30%	24%	23%	14%
The level of crime in Boston	7%	28%	32%	26%	7%
The amount of gun violence in Boston	4%	14%	24%	51%	7%
The amount of gang activity in Boston	4%	15%	24%	39%	18%
The availability of jobs in Boston	24%	36%	18%	11%	11%
The treatment of immigrants in Boston	22%	42%	14%	12%	10%

How much have you heard about allegations that Walsh administration officials intimidated concert and television show producers for not using union labor?

A great deal	20%
A fair amount	30%
Not very much	18%
Nothing at all	27%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

Do you approve or disapprove of the tax breaks that the city and state gave to bring the General Electric Headquarters to Boston?

Approve	39%
Disapprove	36%
Don't Know / Refused	25%

Do you approve or disapprove of the City bidding to bring the Amazon's second headquarters to Boston?

Approve	66%
Disapprove	20%
Don't Know / Refused	14%

Would you approve or disapprove of the city and state offering tax breaks to Amazon as part of a bid to bring Amazon to Boston?

Approve	45%
Disapprove	45%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

Mayor Walsh has said he wants to keep the details of Boston's Amazon bid secret, so as not to give information to other competing cities. Do you think Boston's Amazon bid should be made public or kept secret? *Order rotated.*

Made public	59%
Kept secret	31%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

Now I'd like to ask you about another topic.

How serious of a problem do you think racism is in the city of Boston - very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious? *Order rotated.*

Very serious	33%
Somewhat serious	44%
Not too serious	16%
Not at all serious	5%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Overall, how fairly would you say the Boston Police treat black and Hispanic residents? *Order rotated.*

Very fairly	16%
Somewhat fairly	34%
Somewhat unfairly	27%
Very unfairly	10%
Don't Know / Refused	13%

Would you say race relations in Boston have gotten better or worse in the last ten years? *Order rotated.*

Gotten better	58%
Gotten worse	25%
Don't Know / Refused	17%

How confident are you that the MBTA is prepared for another snowy winter? *Order rotated.*

Very confident	8%
Somewhat confident	31%
Not too confident	32%
Not at all confident	23%
Don't Know / Refused	6%

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Charlie Baker is handling the situation with the MBTA?

	Feb 2015	March 2015	April 2015	Sep 2017
Approve	41%	48%	49%	34%
Disapprove	45%	40%	32%	34%
Don't Know/ Refused	14%	12%	19%	33%

*March version read: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Charlie Baker is handling the situation with the MBTA **as it recovers from recent snow storms?***
*February version read: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Charlie Baker's is handling the situation with the MBTA **during the recent snow storms?***

Since the major snowstorms in the winter of 2015, do you think the MBTA has **READ AND ROTATE**?
IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY DO NOT RIDE, SAY How about just based on anything you may have heard or read?

Gotten better	32%
Gotten worse	11%
Stayed about the same	47%
Don't Know / Refused	10%

If Boston had been chosen to host the Olympics in twenty-twenty four (2024) do you think it would have been **READ FIRST** or **READ SECOND** for the city? **ROTATE ORDER OF FIRST TWO OPTIONS**.

	July 2016	Sep 2017
A good thing	44%	33%
A bad thing	48%	60%
Both / neither / depends (not read)	4%	2%
Don't Know / Refused	4%	5%

During the average week, do you use MBTA buses and trains for all of your trips, most of your trips some of your trips, just a few trips, or none of your trips?

All of your trips	10%
Most of your trips	17%
Some of your trips	19%
Just a few trips	23%
None of your trips	29%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Demographics

Race

White / Caucasian	63%
African-American / Black	20%
Hispanic (Puerto Rican, Mexican etc)	8%
All others	6%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Age

18 to 29	10%
30 to 44	28%
45 to 59	32%
60+	30%

Gender

Male	46%
Female	54%

Education

High School or less	18%
Some college, no degree	17%
College graduate (BA/BS)	31%
Advanced degree	32%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 405 likely voters in the November 2017 election in the City of Boston. Live telephone interviews were conducted September 27-October 1, 2017 via both landline and cell phone using conventional registration based sampling procedures. The margin of sampling error 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.