

WBUR Poll
Survey of 402 Registered Nurses in Massachusetts
Working on the Coronavirus Crisis
Field Dates: April 30 – May 3, 2020

Have you been involved in dealing with the coronavirus crisis in your day to day work as a nurse? **IF YES:** And have you been caring directly for coronavirus patients, or helping deal with the crisis in some other way?

Yes, caring for patients	66%
Yes, in some other way	34%
No → TERMINATE	NA
Don't Know / Refused → TERMINATE	NA

Which of the following best describes your main place of work as a nurse?

A teaching hospital	33%
A community hospital	29%
Another type of hospital	3%
A nursing home	6%
A school	5%
Something else	22%
Don't Know / Refused	0%

SKIP NEXT QUESTION IF RESPONDENT DOES NOT WORK IN A HOSPITAL.

Which of the following best describes your position? **ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2.**

Nurse manager or supervisor	12%
Floor nurse	69%
Something else	19%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

Do you approve or disapprove of the job **READ FIRST** is doing handling the coronavirus crisis? And do you strongly (approve / disapprove) or just somewhat? **PROBE IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DON'T KNOW"**. Are you familiar with **READ NAME** and are undecided about (his/her) handling of the situation? Or are you not familiar with (him/her)?

ROTATE ORDER	Strongly Approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Familiar / Undecided	Not familiar	Refused
President Donald Trump	15%	19%	13%	45%	6%	1%	1%
Doctor Anthony Fauci	60%	24%	4%	1%	4%	6%	1%
Governor Charlie Baker	61%	26%	4%	2%	5%	2%	<1%
Doctor Deborah Birx	27%	30%	6%	4%	11%	22%	1%
Boston Mayor Marty Walsh	47%	28%	2%	2%	11%	8%	2%

Now I would like to ask you about people in your place of work.

Do you approve or disapprove of the job **READ FIRST** is doing handing the coronavirus crisis? And do you strongly (approve / disapprove) or just somewhat? **PROBE IF RESPONDENT SAYS “DON’T KNOW”**. Are you familiar with **READ NAME** and are undecided about their handling of the situation? Or are you not familiar with them?

ROTATE ORDER	Strongly Approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Familiar / Undecided	Not familiar	Refused
Leaders in your institution	53%	25%	10%	8%	2%	1%	1%
Nursing leadership in your institution	57%	27%	6%	8%	2%	<1%	1%
Financial leaders in your institution	38%	28%	12%	11%	5%	5%	2%

Before the coronavirus crisis began, did you regularly do any of the following?

	Yes	No	Don't Know / Refused
Work in the ICU	17%	82%	<1%
Care for respiratory patients	65%	34%	<1%

Since the coronavirus crisis began, have you done any of the following?

	Yes	No	Don't Know / Refused
Worked in the ICU	21%	78%	1%
Cared for coronavirus patients	69%	30%	1%
Worked more hours than usual	47%	53%	<1%
Worked in areas outside your usual specialty	35%	65%	<1%
Cared for respiratory patients	67%	33%	<1%

To the best of your knowledge, does your place of work have enough personal protective equipment for nurses assigned to coronavirus cases?

Yes we do	51%
No we do not	44%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

Was there a time in the past when your place of work did not have enough personal protective equipment for nurses assigned to coronavirus cases?

Yes there was	45%
No there was not	49%
Don't Know / Refused	6%

To the best of your knowledge, does your place of work have enough testing capacity to address the coronavirus cases you are dealing with?

Yes we do	60%
No we do not	29%
Don't Know / Refused	11%

Do you feel adequately trained for the duties you are performing with the coronavirus crisis?

Yes I do	84%
No I do not	13%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Have you had symptoms associated with COVID 19?

Yes I have	15%
No I have not	84%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Have you received a swab test for COVID-19?

Yes I have	20%
No I have not	80%
Don't Know / Refused	0%

Have you received a blood test for coronavirus antibodies?

Yes I have	2%
No I have not	97%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

Did any of the tests you have received come back positive?

Tested positive	3%
Tested negative	17%
Not tested	79%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

When thinking about your work since the coronavirus crisis began, how often have you felt in personal danger of becoming infected?

Already had it	3%
Constantly	19%
Most of the time	19%
Some of the time	23%
Just a few times	21%
Never	14%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

How would you describe your own morale when at work?

Very high	16%
Somewhat high	24%
Moderate	38%
Somewhat low	15%
Very low	6%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

How would you describe your colleagues' morale?

Very high	10%
Somewhat high	18%
Moderate	41%
Somewhat low	23%
Very low	7%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Approximately how many hours did you work as a nurse over the last 7 days?

30 or less	25%
31 to 40	40%
More than 40	35%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

When do you think it will be safe for Massachusetts to start to reopen major portions of the Massachusetts economy?

Within a week or two	7%
2 weeks to a month	21%
1 to 2 months	39%
3 to 4 months	14%
More than 4 months	11%
Don't Know / Refused	7%

Do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea to reopen major portions of the economy without further testing for the coronavirus?

Good idea	17%
Bad idea	78%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

How confident are you that there will be a solid plan in place before reopening the Massachusetts economy?

Very confident	17%
Somewhat confident	57%
Not too confident	16%
Not at all confident	9%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Demographics

Race

White / Caucasian	87%
All others	10%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

Age

18 to 44	39%
45 to 59	36%
60+	23%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Gender

Male	8%
Female	92%

Region

Western / Central	24%
Southeast	14%
Outer Boston Suburbs	38%
Boston / Inner Suburbs	22%
Unknown	2%

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 402 working registered nurses in Massachusetts who reported working on the coronavirus crisis. A list of registered nurses in the state was obtained from the Massachusetts Health Professions License Verification site. Phone numbers were added via commercial telephone matching services. Live telephone interviews were conducted April 30-May 2, 2020 via both landline and cell phone. Results were weighted to known population parameters for age, race, gender and region of the state obtained from "[The Massachusetts Health Professions Data Series: Registered Nurse 2014 Report](#)" as well as the database of nurses. 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.