

Region:

(N=500)	n	%
Worcester / West -----	118	23.60
Northeastern-----	175	35.00
Suffolk -----	64	12.80
SE Mass / Cape-----	143	28.60

Hello my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am conducting a survey for Suffolk University and I would like to get your opinions on some health care and quality of life issues. This week we are calling Massachusetts households. Would you be willing to spend a few minutes answering some questions? (If YES, proceed. If NO/UNDECIDED, terminate)

1. Are you a resident of Massachusetts?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	500	100.00

2. And are you male or female? Or something else?

(N=500)	n	%
Male -----	245	49.00
Female -----	255	51.00

3. What is your age category?

(N=500)	n	%
18-24 Years -----	56	11.20
25-34 Years -----	80	16.00
35-44 Years -----	83	16.60
44-54 Years -----	98	19.60
55-64 Years -----	86	17.20
65-74 Years -----	47	9.40
75+ -----	45	9.00
Refused -----	5	1.00

4. For statistical purposes only, do you consider yourself?

(N=500)	n	%
White/Caucasian -----	380	76.00
Black/African American -----	45	9.00
American Indian/Alaska Native-----	2	0.40
Asian -----	21	4.20
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander -----	3	0.60
Hispanic/Latino-----	46	9.20
Other -----	2	0.40
Don't know -----	1	0.20

5. Do you think it is the duty of children to help take care of their parents' needs as they get older, or not?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	331	66.20
No -----	130	26.00
Undecided -----	39	7.80
Refused -----	0	0.00

6. Have you ever cared for a dying person in a home hospice situation?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	229	45.80
No -----	268	53.60
Undecided -----	3	0.60
Refused -----	0	0.00

*READ: Next, I'd like to ask you some questions about end-of-life medical care. By end-of-life medical care, I'm referring not only to the health care services that patients receive in the final hours or days of their lives, but also health care for people with terminal illnesses that have become advanced, progressive and incurable. If you don't feel comfortable answering any question, you can answer undecided or refused.*

7. When treating elderly or seriously ill people, is it your sense that doctors...(ROTATE 7.1 - 7.3)

(N=500)	n	%
Offer too much unnecessary care to patients -----	78	15.60
Offer too little care -----	95	19.00
Generally provide the right amount of care -----	226	45.20
Undecided -----	98	19.60
Refused -----	3	0.60

8. If you had only a few months to live, how truthful would you want your doctor to be about your prognosis? (ROTATE 8.1 & 8.2)

(N=500)	n	%
I would want the cold hard truth -----	418	83.60
I would want the doctor to be encouraging, to spare my feelings or my family's feelings -----	39	7.80
Something in between -----	24	4.80
Undecided -----	17	3.40
Refused -----	2	0.40

9. Should the terminally ill be permitted to end their own lives with the help of a doctor, also known as medical aid in dying – yes or no?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	348	69.60
No -----	97	19.40
Undecided -----	52	10.40
Refused -----	3	0.60

Please tell me if you agree or disagree with each of the following three statements. (RANDOMIZE 10-12)

10. I would want doctors to stop treating me and let me die if I had an incurable disease and was in terrible pain.

(N=500)	n	%
Agree -----	373	74.60
Disagree -----	83	16.60
Undecided -----	39	7.80
Refused -----	5	1.00

11. I would want doctors to stop treating me and let me die if I could no longer recognize close family and friends.  
 (N=500)
- |                | n   | %     |
|----------------|-----|-------|
| Agree-----     | 286 | 57.20 |
| Disagree-----  | 156 | 31.20 |
| Undecided----- | 58  | 11.60 |
| Refused-----   | 0   | 0.00  |
12. I would want doctors to stop treating me and let me die if I had an incurable disease and were totally dependent on others.  
 (N=500)
- |                | n   | %     |
|----------------|-----|-------|
| Agree-----     | 331 | 66.20 |
| Disagree-----  | 115 | 23.00 |
| Undecided----- | 52  | 10.40 |
| Refused-----   | 2   | 0.40  |
13. In our society, are we getting somewhat better at talking about dying and death, or not?  
 (N=500)
- |  | n   | %     |
|--|-----|-------|
| Yes, getting better at talking about it----- | 265 | 53.00 |
| No, we are not-----                          | 181 | 36.20 |
| Undecided-----                               | 54  | 10.80 |
| Refused-----                                 | 0   | 0.00  |
14. How much better off would our society be if we spoke more openly about death?  
 (N=500)
- |                                   | n   | %     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|
| A lot better off-----             | 260 | 52.00 |
| At least somewhat better off----- | 186 | 37.20 |
| Not better off-----               | 31  | 6.20  |
| Undecided-----                    | 22  | 4.40  |
| Refused-----                      | 1   | 0.20  |
15. How often do you think about your own death? (READ OPTIONS)  
 (N=500)
- |                            | n   | %     |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|
| At least every day-----    | 53  | 10.60 |
| At least once a week-----  | 79  | 15.80 |
| At least once a month----- | 81  | 16.20 |
| Once a year-----           | 35  | 7.00  |
| Not very often-----        | 165 | 33.00 |
| Never-----                 | 69  | 13.80 |
| Undecided-----             | 16  | 3.20  |
| Refused-----               | 2   | 0.40  |
16. Let's say you had a choice: You could be guaranteed to live a healthy, active life to age 82 – about a year longer than the average lifespan - but not a day longer. Or you could take whatever fate gives you. Would you...  
 (N=500)
- |   | n   | %     |
|---|-----|-------|
| Take a healthy active life to age 82----- | 191 | 38.20 |
| Take what fate gives me-----              | 269 | 53.80 |
| (Already over age 82)-----                | 10  | 2.00  |
| Undecided-----                            | 27  | 5.40  |
| Refused-----                              | 3   | 0.60  |

{FOR 16.1 & 16.2}

17. In your own words, what is the most important reason for making that choice?

(N=460)	n	%
<b>Take a healthy active life to age 82 (n=191)</b>		
“Live/Be healthy”	31	6.74
“Guaranteed/Anything can happen”	27	5.87
“Long life”	20	4.35
“See my family/Friends/Loved ones”	17	3.70
“Quality of life”	18	3.91
“Like the age of 82”	15	3.26
“Happy/Enjoy life”	12	2.61
“Watched other people die/get sick”	10	2.17
“Don't want to be a burden”	6	1.30
“Know when I'm going to die/No uncertainty”	6	1.30
“My choice/Right choice/Common sense”	7	1.52
“No reason/Nothing”	6	1.30
Other	10	2.17
Don't know/Refused	6	1.30

**Take what fate gives me (n=269)**

“People live longer than 82”	25	5.43
“God/Faith/Religion”	45	9.78
“Fate/Supposed to be/Happen for a reason”	39	8.48
“Take my chance/No choice/Out of our control”	31	6.74
“It's your time to go”	9	1.96
“Enjoy/Live your life”	16	3.48
“Personal decision”	11	2.39
“Genetics”	6	1.30
“Would rather not know”	18	3.91
“The quality not quantity of life”	4	0.87
“Time around family”	7	1.52
“I'm healthy”	14	3.04
“Let nature take its course”	10	2.17
“Don't want to die”	5	1.09
Other	11	2.39
Don't know/Refused	18	3.91

18. Do your religious or spiritual beliefs play a major role, a minor role, or no role in how you think about your own wishes for end-of-life medical treatment?

(N=500)	n	%
Major role	152	30.40
Minor role	126	25.20
No role	208	41.60
Undecided	13	2.60
Refused	1	0.20

19. If you had a choice, would you prefer your death to be sudden and unexpected or gradual over a period of weeks or months?
- | (N=500)  | n   | %     |
|--|-----|-------|
| Sudden and unexpected -----                    | 287 | 57.40 |
| Gradual over a period of weeks or months ----- | 134 | 26.80 |
| Undecided -----                                | 71  | 14.20 |
| Refused -----                                  | 8   | 1.60  |
20. If you had a choice, where would you prefer to die? {RANDOMIZE}
- | (N=500)                    | n   | %     |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|
| At home-----               | 359 | 71.80 |
| At a hospital-----         | 41  | 8.20  |
| At a nursing home-----     | 4   | 0.80  |
| At a hospice facility----- | 28  | 5.60  |
| Other -----                | 19  | 3.80  |
| Undecided -----            | 45  | 9.00  |
| Refused -----              | 4   | 0.80  |
21. Of the following two options, which is the worse death? (ROTATE)
- |  |     |       |
|--|-----|-------|
| Dying of ALS, with a healthy mind in a deteriorating body-----                                       | 230 | 46.00 |
| Dying of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, in which the mind deteriorates before the body does ----- | 180 | 36.00 |
| Undecided -----  | 87  | 17.40 |
| Refused -----  | 3   | 0.60  |
22. What sort of natural death would you most want to avoid – {RANDOMIZE} cancer, heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer’s / dementia?
- | (N=500)                     | n   | %     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-------|
| Cancer-----                 | 145 | 29.00 |
| Heart disease -----         | 17  | 3.40  |
| Stroke -----                | 45  | 9.00  |
| Alzheimer’s / dementia----- | 208 | 41.60 |
| Undecided -----             | 75  | 15.00 |
| Refused -----               | 10  | 2.00  |
23. What do you think happens to us after we die? (READ LIST)
- | (N=500)  | n   | %     |
|--|-----|-------|
| We go to the afterlife, for better or worse -----      | 213 | 42.60 |
| Nothing happens. Death is the end. -----               | 106 | 21.20 |
| We are reincarnated as someone or something else ----- | 89  | 17.80 |
| Other -----  | 19  | 3.80  |
| Undecided -----  | 67  | 13.40 |
| Refused -----  | 6   | 1.20  |

**{THE FINAL QUESTIONS WILL HELP US CLASSIFY YOUR RESPONSES WITH OTHERS TAKING THE SURVEY}**

24.	What is the highest level of education you have completed? (N=500)	n	%
	Some high school -----	31	6.20
	High school graduate -----	42	8.40
	Some college-----	108	21.60
	Trade/technical/vocational training-----	36	7.20
	College graduate-----	150	30.00
	Masters or PhD -----	127	25.40
	Undecided -----	6	1.20
25.	What is your annual household income? (N=500)	n	%
	Under \$20,000 per year -----	40	8.00
	Under \$50,000 per year -----	75	15.00
	Under \$75,000 per year -----	61	12.20
	Under \$100,000 per year-----	76	15.20
	Under \$140,000 per year-----	94	18.80
	\$140,000 per year or more -----	87	17.40
	Undecided -----	67	13.40

**[THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. HAVE A NICE DAY/EVENING.]**