

The Suffolk University Political Research Center is making a clarification regarding Question 29 on its June 14 poll due to a change in the proposed referendum on the state sales tax. The question that was asked relied on an official filing that sought to reduce the state’s sales tax figure to 4.5 percent. The Massachusetts retail industry has since adjusted its proposal to reduce the sales tax figure to 5 percent.

FINAL MA LIKELY VOTER 2018 STUDY

**Region:**

(N=500)	n	%
Worcester/West -----	121	24.20
Northeastern -----	173	34.60
Suffolk -----	42	8.40
SE Mass/Cape-----	164	32.80

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Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am conducting a survey for Suffolk University and I would like to get your opinions on some issues of the day in Massachusetts. Would you be willing to spend seven minutes answering some questions so that we can include your opinions? (IF YES PROCEED; IF NO, UNDECIDED, GO TO CLOSE)

1. SCREEN. How likely are you to vote in the upcoming election for Governor and U.S. Senator this November – very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, not at all likely?

(N=500)	n	%
Very likely-----	454	90.80
Somewhat likely-----	46	9.20

2. Gender

(N=500)	n	%
Male -----	238	47.60
Female -----	262	52.40

3. What is your age category?

(N=500)	n	%
18-25 Years -----	20	4.00
26-35 Years -----	66	13.20
36-45 Years -----	97	19.40
46-55 Years -----	109	21.80
56-65 Years -----	101	20.20
66-75 Years -----	76	15.20
Over 75 Years -----	24	4.80
Refused -----	7	1.40

4. Are you currently registered as a Democrat, Republican, or Unenrolled/Independent?

(N=500)	n	%
Democrat -----	177	35.40
Republican -----	56	11.20
Unenrolled/Independent-----	257	51.40
Other -----	6	1.20
Refused -----	4	0.80

5. For statistical purposes only, can you please tell me what your ethnic background / ancestry is?
 

(N=500)	n	%
White/Caucasian-----	404	80.80
Black/African-American-----	40	8.00
American Indian / Alaska Native-----	3	0.60
Asian-----	18	3.60
Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander-----	2	0.40
Hispanic/Latino-----	26	5.20
Other-----	4	0.80
Refused-----	3	0.60
  
6. Do you think Massachusetts is heading in the right direction or is on the wrong track?
 

(N=500)	n	%
Right direction-----	282	56.40
Wrong track-----	113	22.60
Undecided-----	105	21.00
  
7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?
 

(N=500)	n	%
Approve-----	151	30.20
Disapprove-----	311	62.20
Undecided-----	35	7.00
Refused-----	3	0.60
  
8. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Charlie Baker is doing as governor?
 

(N=500)	n	%
Approve-----	298	59.60
Disapprove-----	97	19.40
Undecided-----	104	20.80
Refused-----	1	0.20
  
9. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Elizabeth Warren is doing as U.S. Senator?
 

(N=500)	n	%
Approve-----	272	54.40
Disapprove-----	175	35.00
Undecided-----	50	10.00
Refused-----	3	0.60
  
10. How closely are you following the 2018 election for Massachusetts Governor – very closely, somewhat closely, not very closely, or not at all?
 

(N=500)	n	%
Very closely-----	112	22.40
Somewhat closely-----	223	44.60
Not very closely-----	112	22.40
Not at all closely-----	51	10.20
Undecided-----	2	0.40
Refused-----	0	0.00

Great, I'm going to read you a list of individuals in politics. For each, please tell me if your opinion of them is generally favorable or generally unfavorable. If you are undecided or if you have never heard of someone, just tell me that. First take Donald Trump. Would you say your opinion of Donald Trump is generally favorable or generally unfavorable? (Next name, "How about.."etc.) **(RANDOMIZE 12-20)**

(N=500)	<u>NEVER HEARD</u>	<u>FAVORABLE</u>	<u>UNFAVORABLE</u>	<u>HOF/UNDECIDED</u>
11. Donald Trump	0 0.00	161 32.20	310 62.00	29 5.80
12. Charlie Baker	15 3.00	318 63.60	90 18.00	77 15.40
13. Maura Healey	90 18.00	217 43.40	102 20.40	91 18.20
14. Elizabeth Warren	3 0.60	284 56.80	174 34.80	39 7.80
15. Jay Gonzalez	312 62.40	54 10.80	20 4.00	114 22.80
16. Bob Massie	252 50.40	67 13.40	27 5.40	154 30.80
17. Beth Lindstrom	306 61.20	40 8.00	29 5.80	125 25.00
18. John Kingston	331 66.20	33 6.60	20 4.00	116 23.20
19. Geoff Diehl	293 58.60	62 12.40	30 6.00	115 23.00
20. Scott Lively	314 62.80	31 6.20	51 10.20	104 20.80

This November, Republican Charlie Baker will be challenged by the winner of the Democratic Primary in September. I'm going to run each of the Democratic candidates against Baker and for each please tell me which candidate you would vote or lean toward, Baker or the Democrat. Let's start with:

(ROTATE 21-22)

21. Republican Charlie Baker versus Democrat Jay Gonzalez.

(N=500)	n	%
Republican Charlie Baker-----	260	52.00
Democrat Jay Gonzalez-----	112	22.40
Undecided -----	125	25.00
Refused -----	3	0.60

22. Republican Charlie Baker versus Democrat Bob Massie.

(N=500)	n	%
Republican Charlie Baker-----	269	53.80
Democrat Bob Massie-----	102	20.40
Undecided-----	126	25.20
Refused-----	3	0.60

(FOR 8.1)

23. Earlier you said you approve of the job Charlie Baker is doing as governor. What would you say is his biggest accomplishment over the past four years?

(N=298)	n	%
“Doing a good job/Getting a lot accomplished/Keeping his word”-----	54	18.12
“Bipartisanship/Unifying”-----	29	9.73
“Budget/Fiscally Responsible”-----	21	7.05
“Economy/Jobs/Bringing in business”-----	21	7.05
“Transit/Transportation”-----	16	5.37
“Taxes”-----	9	3.02
“Crime/Justice system”-----	6	2.01
“Opioid Crisis”-----	7	2.35
“For/Cares about the people”-----	13	4.36
“Respected/Honest/Trustworthy”-----	11	3.69
General positive/favorable-----	13	4.36
Other-----	16	5.37
DK/NA/Refused-----	82	27.52

24. Do you see Charlie Baker as a “pro-Trump” Republican or an “anti-Trump” Republican?

(N=500)	n	%
Pro-Trump-----	68	13.60
Anti-Trump-----	297	59.40
Neither-----	54	10.80
Undecided-----	80	16.00
Refused-----	1	0.20

This November, Democrat Elizabeth Warren will be challenged by the winner of the Republican Primary in September. I’m going to run each of the Republican candidates against Warren and for each please tell me which candidate you would vote or lean toward, Warren or the Republican. Let’s start with:

(RANDOMIZE 25-27)

25. Democrat Elizabeth Warren versus Republican Geoff Diehl (JEFF DEAL).

(N=500)	n	%
Democrat Elizabeth Warren-----	276	55.20
Republican Geoff Diehl-----	164	32.80
Undecided-----	57	11.40
Refused-----	3	0.60

26. Democrat Elizabeth Warren versus Republican Beth Lindstrom.

(N=500)	n	%
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Democrat Elizabeth Warren-----	278	55.60
Republican Beth Lindstrom-----	154	30.80
Undecided -----	65	13.00
Refused -----	3	0.60

27. Democrat Elizabeth Warren versus Republican John Kingston.

(N=500)	n	%
Democrat Elizabeth Warren-----	272	54.40
Republican John Kingston-----	151	30.20
Undecided -----	75	15.00
Refused -----	2	0.40

There are several statewide ballot questions which may appear on the November ballot.  
(RANDOMIZE 28-30)

28. There is a question called the “millionaire’s tax” which would assess a surtax of four percent on those individuals earning a million dollars or more. Supporters say it would raise an additional 1.9 billion dollars each year that could be used for quality public education, affordable colleges and universities, and the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation. Opponents say it would hurt the state’s business climate, drive away jobs, and put pressure on the state’s wealthiest individuals to move away. At this point, will you vote for YES or NO on the millionaire’s tax?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	331	66.20
No-----	132	26.40
Undecided -----	34	6.80
Refused -----	3	0.60

29. Another question would reduce the state sales tax from 6.25 percent to 4.5 percent. The measure would also mandate a two-day sales tax-free weekend each August. The Massachusetts retail industry is supporting this measure claiming they are already at a disadvantage having to compete with online shopping and sales tax-free New Hampshire. Opponents say the state can’t afford the cut which will have devastating effects on much-needed programs and local aid. At this point, will you vote for YES or NO to reduce the sales tax from 6.25 to 4.5 percent and mandate a two-day sales tax-free weekend each August?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	259	51.80
No-----	190	38.00
Undecided -----	50	10.00
Refused -----	1	0.20

30. There is a minimum wage question which would raise the Massachusetts current \$11-per-hour minimum wage by \$1-per-hour increments beginning in 2019 until the rate reaches \$15 per hour in 2022. Supporters say the proposal would ensure working residents are able to afford basic living necessities. Opponents say businesses will close or cut their payrolls, put off new hiring, reduce hours, or let workers go. At this point, will you vote for YES or NO to raise the minimum wage from \$11 dollars per hour to \$15 dollars per hour by 2022?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	334	66.80
No-----	136	27.20
Undecided -----	28	5.60
Refused -----	2	0.40

31. There may be a measure on the 2018 ballot that would repeal the law which allowed transgender people to use public restrooms and locker rooms consistent with their gender identities, regardless of their sex at birth. Would you support or oppose REPEALING this law?

(N=500)	n	%
Support repealing -----	186	37.20
Oppose repealing -----	244	48.80
Undecided -----	64	12.80
Refused -----	6	1.20

32. Overall, how important to you is the issue of sexual harassment and misconduct in the workplace – very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

(N=500)	n	%
Very important -----	351	70.20
Somewhat important -----	105	21.00
Not very important -----	25	5.00
Not at all important -----	12	2.40
Undecided -----	7	1.40
Refused -----	0	0.00

33. Are you aware of recent news stories about sexual misconduct allegations about Steve Wynn, the former CEO of Wynn Resorts?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes – aware -----	397	79.40
No – not aware -----	95	19.00
Undecided -----	5	1.00
Refused -----	3	0.60

(IF AWARE, GO DIRECTLY TO Q34; FOR 33.2 – 33.4, READ INFO)

In September 2014, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission awarded a casino license to Wynn Resorts to build the Boston Harbor Casino located in Everett, Mass. In early 2018, a number of sexual misconduct allegations were made against CEO Steve Wynn, resulting in his departure from Wynn Resorts.

The information about Steve Wynn’s sexual misconduct and private settlements with women was withheld from the Mass. Gaming Commission during the application process in 2014 and would have disqualified Wynn Resorts from getting the license if the information was disclosed.

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission opened an investigation into the allegations, leading the company to consider selling the under-construction casino, in case the investigation led to

a negative outcome. The name of the project was changed to Encore Boston Harbor as part of an effort by Wynn Resorts to distance itself from Steve Wynn.

34. At this point, do you think Wynn Resorts should continue to be the builder and operator of the Everett casino?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	230	46.00
No-----	188	37.60
Undecided -----	77	15.40
Refused -----	5	1.00

35. I'm going to read you a number of businesses. For each, please tell me if you would stop doing business with them if you knew their CEO was charged with sexual harassment and misconduct: (RANDOMIZE)

(N=500)	<u>STOP</u>	<u>CONTINUE</u>	<u>UND.</u>
a. Your favorite restaurant	237 47.40	163 32.60	100 20.00
b. Your favorite retail chain	198 39.60	191 38.20	111 22.20
c. Your favorite sports team	186 37.20	207 41.40	107 21.40
d. Your favorite casino	194 38.80	163 32.60	143 28.60

THE FINAL TWO QUESTIONS WILL HELP US CLASSIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH OTHERS TAKING THE SURVEY

36. Do you currently have school-aged children?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	173	34.60
No-----	321	64.20
Refused -----	6	1.20

37. Are there any members of your household who are union members?

(N=500)	n	%
Yes -----	116	23.20
No-----	378	75.60
Refused -----	6	1.20

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