The Barr Foundation Transportation Poll
Topline Results
Statewide Survey of 709 Massachusetts Registered Voters
Field Dates: December 19, 2017 – January 9, 2018

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of Charlie Baker?

- Very favorable: 22%
- Somewhat favorable: 46%
- Somewhat unfavorable: 8%
- Very favorable: 4%
- Heard of, undecided: 15%
- Never heard of: 3%
- Prefer not to say: 3%

Would you say you approve or disapprove of how Governor Charlie Baker is dealing with the transportation system in your area?

- Strongly approve: 15%
- Somewhat approve: 42%
- Somewhat disapprove: 20%
- Strongly disapprove: 5%
- Don't Know / Refused: 18%

How much of a priority do you think each of the following issues should be for state government here in Massachusetts?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Major priority</th>
<th>Minor priority</th>
<th>Not a priority</th>
<th>Unsure / Prefer not to say</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improving highways, roads, and bridges</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public education</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public transportation like buses, trains and subways</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping taxes as low as possible</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing climate change</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving bikeways and walkways</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thinking about the state as a whole, do you think the roads and public transportation in the state are: Order rotated.

- Good enough to keep the economy moving: 51%
- Bad enough that they are holding the economy back: 35%
- Unsure / Prefer not to say: 14%
Thinking about your region of the state, do you think the roads and public transportation in your area are: *Order rotated.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Good enough to keep the economy moving</th>
<th>55%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad enough that they are holding the economy back</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure / Prefer not to say</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you think the MBTA system, including the buses, subways, commuter trains and ferries, is: *Order rotated.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Good enough to keep the economy moving</th>
<th>48%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad enough that it is holding the economy back</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure / Prefer not to say</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the past 5 years, would you say that getting around your part of the state has:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gotten better</th>
<th>14%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gotten worse</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stayed about the same</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure / Prefer not to say</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How effective do you think each of the following would be in improving getting around the state?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em>Order randomized; sorted by “very effective”</em></th>
<th>Very effective</th>
<th>Somewhat effective</th>
<th>Not too effective</th>
<th>Not at all effective</th>
<th>Unsure / Prefer not to say</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Making public transportation more frequent and reliable</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving the condition of poor roads and bridges</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cracking down on drivers texting and using their smartphones while driving</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding rail service to connect cities like Springfield, Fall River and New Bedford to Boston.</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making public transportation more affordable</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building more housing, shopping, and office space near public transportation</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you support or oppose expanding the commuter rail system to connect cities like Springfield, Fall River and New Bedford to Boston?

| Strongly support | 39% |
| Somewhat support | 39% |
| Somewhat oppose | 9% |
| Strongly oppose | 7% |
| Unsure / Prefer not to say | 6% |
Would you support or oppose the Commonwealth raising new money to invest in the Massachusetts transportation system, including improving roads, bridges and public transportation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure / Prefer not to say</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The state recently replaced the toll booths on the Massachusetts Turnpike with gates that charge drivers electronically as they drive under them. Do you support or oppose this change?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure / Prefer not to say</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you support or oppose the state using this new tolling system on additional highways across the state?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure / Prefer not to say</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you support or oppose using electronic tolls on additional highways if the revenue were guaranteed to be used to reduce congestion on the roads in the region where it was collected?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know / Refused</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you support or oppose reducing tolls on the highways going in and out of Boston outside of rush hours, to encourage drivers to travel at less busy times of day?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know / Refused</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you support or oppose raising tolls on the highways going in and out of Boston during rush hours, to encourage drivers to travel at less busy times of day?

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know / Refused</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Currently, cities, towns, and regional agencies in Massachusetts cannot ask voters to vote on a transportation project for their specific area. Would you support or oppose letting cities, towns place funding measures for local or regional transportation projects on the ballot for voters in their area to approve or reject? *Order rotated.*

- Strongly support: 34%
- Somewhat support: 35%
- Somewhat oppose: 10%
- Strongly oppose: 6%
- Don’t Know / Refused: 14%

*Asked of half of respondents:*
Would you support or oppose requiring companies that import gasoline into Massachusetts to pay a fee for the pollution the gasoline creates, and using the proceeds of that fee to invest in cleaner transportation like public transportation or electric vehicles?

- Strongly support: 28%
- Somewhat support: 30%
- Somewhat oppose: 14%
- Strongly oppose: 16%
- Don’t Know / Refused: 12%

*Asked of other half of respondents:*
Right now Massachusetts and other northeast states require power plants to buy permits for the pollution they generate. The state then invests the proceeds in cleaner renewable energy and provides homeowners with discounts for energy-efficiency projects. Would you support or oppose Massachusetts doing the same with companies that import gasoline: requiring them to pay a fee based on the pollution that gasoline creates, and investing the proceeds in cleaner transportation like electric vehicles or public transportation?

- Strongly support: 27%
- Somewhat support: 34%
- Somewhat oppose: 15%
- Strongly oppose: 11%
- Don’t Know / Refused: 12%

Do you think that ride-hailing services like Uber and Lyft are making traffic:

- Better: 20%
- Worse: 19%
- Make no difference: 43%
- Don’t Know / Refused: 18%

Do you think that self-driving cars will make traffic on the roads:

- Better: 19%
- Worse: 37%
- Make no difference: 17%
- Don’t Know / Refused: 26%
Which of the following is closest to your point of view?

- Self-driving cars will largely replace public transportation like the MBTA. We don’t need to worry about making big investments in public transportation. 9%
- Self-driving cars will not replace public transportation. We need to invest in public transportation regardless of what happens with self-driving cars. 79%
- Don’t Know / Refused 12%

Do you think self-driving cars will make the roads:

- Safer for other drivers 26%
- Less safe for other drivers 46%
- Unsure / Prefer not to say 29%

Do you think self-driving cars will make the roads safer for pedestrian and cyclists, or less safe?

- Safer for pedestrians and cyclists 26%
- Less safe for pedestrians and cyclists 45%
- Unsure / Prefer not to say 30%

Which do you think is more dangerous:

- Self-driving cars 15%
- Distracted driving 76%
- Unsure / Prefer not to say 9%

Would you support or oppose a ban on drivers using their cellphones, GPS or other electronics unless they are in “hands-free mode”, with an exception for making emergency phone calls?

- Strongly support 55%
- Somewhat support 24%
- Somewhat oppose 10%
- Strongly oppose 6%
- Don’t Know / Refused 4%

Would you support a ban on pedestrians looking at their phones when crossing a street?

- Strongly support 50%
- Somewhat support 25%
- Somewhat oppose 10%
- Strongly oppose 8%
- Don’t Know / Refused 6%
Which modes of travel do you use regularly to get around? Please check all that apply. *Multiple responses allowed; percentages total more than 100%.*

- Drive alone: 80%
- Drive or ride with others: 49%
- Walk: 34%
- Take the MBTA subway (Red, Orange, Blue, Green, Silver lines): 22%
- Take a taxi, Uber or Lyft: 20%
- Take a MBTA or other public bus: 16%
- Take the commuter rail: 10%
- Ride a bicycle: 7%
- Take a ferry: 3%
- Other: 1%

On a normal day, how long is your morning commute to work or school?

- 15 minutes or less: 17%
- 15-30 minutes: 24%
- 30 minutes to an hour: 21%
- More than an hour: 6%
- Do not commute: 31%
- Prefer not to say: 1%
Demographics

Party Identification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party Identification</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent / Other</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to answer</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White / Caucasian</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All others</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 to 29</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 44</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 59</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School or less</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College graduate (BA/BS)</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced degree</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About the Poll
These results are based on a representative survey of 709 Massachusetts registered voters. Responses were collected online between December 19, 2017 and January 9, 2018. This project was sponsored by The Barr Foundation.