

**MASSINC  
REDISTRICTING POLL RESULTS**

**January 11, 2011**



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Field Dates: January 5-8, 2011**

**Responsibility for redistricting**

“Every ten years, Massachusetts redraws the boundaries of congressional and legislative districts based on new Census counts. Currently, the State Legislature has primary responsibility for redrawing the districts, though some have suggested creating an independent commission for this purpose. Would you rather have the two thousand eleven (2011) redistricting process conducted by the State Legislature, or conducted by an independent commission?”

*Note: response options rotated*

		Count*	State Legislature	Independent commission	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	400	23%	62%	15%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	342	23%	64%	13%
GENDER	Male	182	24%	67%	8%
	Female	218	22%	57%	20%
AGE CATEGORIES	18 to 29	55	20%	58%	22%
	30 to 44	108	26%	65%	9%
	45 to 59	118	25%	61%	14%
	60+	113	19%	64%	16%
RACE	White / Caucasian	320	22%	64%	14%
	All others	65	31%	51%	18%
PARTY REGISTRATION	Democrat	110	26%	51%	23%
	Republican	47	21%	65%	14%
	Independent	194	22%	69%	8%
REGIONS	Western / Central MA	120	21%	62%	17%
	Southeast MA	56	33%	51%	17%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	118	21%	69%	10%
	Boston / Inner Suburbs	82	26%	59%	15%
INCOME RANGES	Less than \$25k	60	33%	43%	24%
	\$25-\$74k	142	26%	55%	19%
	\$75-\$150k	87	19%	75%	6%
	More than \$150k**	29	x	x	x
EDUCATION LEVEL	High School or less	125	26%	54%	20%
	Some college, no degree	85	25%	57%	18%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	119	21%	69%	10%
	Advanced degree	64	20%	73%	7%
FAV - MA STATE LEGISLATURE	Favorable	168	35%	54%	11%
	Unfavorable	150	14%	78%	8%

\* The “Count” column shows the unweighted sample size for each group.

\*\* Not shown due to small sample size

**Involvement of State Legislature**

“What type of involvement do you think the State Legislature should have in the redistricting process—direct involvement, indirect involvement, or no involvement at all?”

*Note: scale order rotated*

		Count*	Direct involvement	Indirect involvement	No involvement at all	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	400	24%	36%	32%	8%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	342	24%	36%	33%	7%
GENDER	Male	182	23%	33%	37%	7%
	Female	218	25%	38%	27%	10%
AGE CATEGORIES	18 to 29	55	26%	38%	24%	12%
	30 to 44	108	23%	42%	28%	7%
	45 to 59	118	27%	29%	38%	6%
	60+	113	21%	35%	35%	10%
RACE	White / Caucasian	320	24%	35%	33%	8%
	All others	65	25%	39%	23%	13%
PARTY REGISTRATION	Democrat	110	31%	40%	17%	12%
	Republican	47	27%	24%	41%	8%
	Independent	194	21%	36%	38%	5%
REGIONS	Western / Central MA	120	23%	36%	31%	10%
	Southeast MA	56	34%	38%	21%	6%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	118	22%	36%	38%	4%
	Boston / Inner Suburbs	82	19%	37%	35%	9%
INCOME RANGES	Less than \$25k	60	25%	31%	27%	17%
	\$25-\$74k	142	32%	36%	24%	8%
	\$75-\$150k	87	16%	39%	41%	4%
	More than \$150k**	29	x	x	x	x
EDUCATION LEVEL	High School or less	125	26%	32%	27%	15%
	Some college, no degree	85	26%	36%	31%	8%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	119	20%	36%	38%	6%
	Advanced degree	64	27%	42%	30%	0%
FAV - MA STATE LEGISLATURE	Favorable	168	33%	43%	18%	6%
	Unfavorable	150	13%	31%	48%	7%

\* The “Count” column shows the unweighted sample size for each group.

\*\* Not shown due to small sample size

**Priorities for drawing districts**

“I will now read several suggestions some people have given for standards a commission could use to draw district lines. For each one, please tell me if it is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important to consider it as a standard in drawing district lines.”

*Note: scale order rotated, item order rotated*

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important	Not very important	Not at all important	Total not important	Don't know / Refused
Cities, towns, and neighborhoods should be kept together in the same district	53%	33%	86%	6%	4%	11%	3%
The public should have significant input over how the new districts are drawn	44%	33%	76%	11%	9%	20%	4%
Districts should be drawn in a way that causes elections to be more competitive	32%	31%	63%	18%	14%	31%	6%
Districts should be compact, not drawn in crazy shapes	31%	28%	58%	18%	16%	34%	7%
Your district should stay about the same as it is now	30%	41%	71%	14%	8%	22%	7%
Current congressmen and legislators should be given the best chance to win in future elections	22%	23%	46%	19%	27%	46%	8%
Current congressmen and legislators should not have to face each other in future elections	22%	20%	42%	19%	27%	46%	12%
Racial and ethnic minority neighborhoods should be grouped together	14%	18%	32%	22%	42%	64%	4%

**About the Poll**

These results are based on questions from the MassINC Polling Group statewide omnibus poll of 400 Massachusetts residents, conducted January 5-8, 2011. Live telephone interviews were conducted via both landline and cell phone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish by Eastern Research Services. The margin of sampling error is +/- 4.9 percent with a 95 percent level of confidence.