MASSINC ENERGY POLL RESULTS

MAY 17, 2011



The MassINC Polling Group 18 Tremont St Ste 1120 Boston, MA 02108 massincpolling.com

MASSINC **ENERGY POLL RESULTS** Field Dates: April 27-30

Future energy sources – solar power

"In thinking about future energy needs, which of these energy sources do you think we should rely on more and which should we rely on less here in Massachusetts? Solar power."

		Count*	Rely on more	Rely on less	Same amount (do not read)	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	87%	9%	1%	3%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	88%	8%	1%	3%
	Male	228	84%	10%	2%	4%
GENDER	Female	273	90%	7%	0%	3%
	18 to 29	68	85%	10%	2%	4%
	30 to 44	141	90%	9%	0%	1%
	45 to 59	166	91%	5%	1%	3%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	83%	11%	1%	5%
	White / Caucasian	389	88%	8%	1%	4%
RACE	All others	102	84%	13%	0%	3%
	Democrat	140	94%	2%	1%	3%
PARTY	Republican	54	80%	13%	2%	5%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	86%	11%	0%	3%
	Western / Central MA	158	88%	7%	2%	3%
	Southeast MA	74	86%	12%	0%	2%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	90%	9%	1%	1%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	84%	8%	1%	7%
	Less than \$25k	73	84%	12%	1%	2%
	\$25-\$74k	192	89%	8%	1%	2%
	\$75-\$150k	123	90%	7%	0%	3%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	91%	8%	2%	0%
	High School or less	141	82%	10%	1%	7%
	Some college, no degree	126	88%	8%	1%	3%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	89%	7%	1%	3%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	91%	8%	1%	0%
	Convinced	158	96%	4%	0%	0%
	Receptive	140	94%	3%	1%	2%
GLOBAL WARMING	Dubious	100	79%	10%	1%	10%
SEGMENTS**	Dismissive	103	68%	24%	2%	6%

* The "Count" column shows the unweighted sample size for each group. ** For more on how the segments were developed, see "The 80 Percent Challenge," available as MassINC.org.

Future energy sources - wind power

"In thinking about future energy needs, which of these energy sources do you think we should rely on more and which should we rely on less here in Massachusetts? Wind power."

		Count*	Rely on more	Rely on less	Same amount (do not read)	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	86%	10%	1%	3%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	87%	10%	1%	2%
	Male	228	86%	11%	2%	2%
GENDER	Female	273	86%	9%	0%	5%
	18 to 29	68	82%	9%	2%	7%
	30 to 44	141	91%	8%	0%	1%
	45 to 59	166	87%	8%	0%	4%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	82%	14%	2%	1%
	White / Caucasian	389	89%	9%	1%	2%
RACE	All others	102	77%	13%	2%	8%
	Democrat	140	92%	4%	3%	1%
PARTY	Republican	54	86%	11%	0%	3%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	82%	15%	0%	3%
	Western / Central MA	158	86%	9%	1%	4%
	Southeast MA	74	80%	18%	0%	2%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	92%	7%	0%	1%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	84%	10%	2%	4%
	Less than \$25k	73	85%	7%	0%	8%
	\$25-\$74k	192	86%	11%	1%	1%
	\$75-\$150k	123	88%	10%	0%	2%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	86%	14%	0%	0%
	High School or less	141	79%	11%	2%	8%
	Some college, no degree	126	92%	6%	1%	1%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	86%	12%	1%	1%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	91%	7%	0%	1%
	Convinced	158	95%	3%	0%	2%
	Receptive	140	91%	5%	1%	3%
GLOBAL WARMING	Dubious	100	76%	16%	3%	5%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	72%	23%	0%	5%

Future energy sources - natural gas

"In thinking about future energy needs, which of these energy sources do you think we should rely on more and which should we rely on less here in Massachusetts? Natural gas."

		Count*	Rely on more	Rely on less	Same amount (do not read)	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	64%	26%	5%	4%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	66%	25%	6%	3%
	Male	228	68%	25%	6%	0%
GENDER	Female	273	61%	28%	5%	7%
	18 to 29	68	59%	34%	2%	5%
	30 to 44	141	69%	23%	4%	4%
	45 to 59	166	61%	30%	6%	3%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	68%	19%	9%	4%
	White / Caucasian	389	64%	26%	6%	4%
RACE	All others	102	62%	30%	4%	4%
	Democrat	140	61%	33%	4%	2%
PARTY	Republican	54	62%	25%	6%	7%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	68%	23%	6%	2%
	Western / Central MA	158	68%	25%	4%	2%
	Southeast MA	74	61%	27%	8%	4%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	66%	25%	6%	3%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	62%	29%	4%	5%
	Less than \$25k	73	54%	40%	4%	2%
	\$25-\$74k	192	62%	28%	6%	4%
	\$75-\$150k	123	75%	18%	5%	3%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	60%	37%	3%	0%
	High School or less	141	64%	25%	4%	7%
	Some college, no degree	126	56%	33%	8%	3%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	65%	28%	6%	2%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	77%	15%	5%	3%
	Convinced	158	60%	35%	4%	2%
	Receptive	140	66%	24%	7%	3%
GLOBAL WARMING	Dubious	100	69%	20%	7%	4%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	66%	22%	4%	8%

Future energy sources - coal

"In thinking about future energy needs, which of these energy sources do you think we should rely on more and which should we rely on less here in Massachusetts? Coal."

		Count*	Rely on more	Rely on less	Same amount (do not read)	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	21%	70%	1%	7%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	22%	71%	1%	6%
	Male	228	24%	71%	2%	3%
GENDER	Female	273	19%	70%	1%	11%
	18 to 29	68	28%	64%	0%	8%
	30 to 44	141	23%	70%	1%	6%
	45 to 59	166	17%	79%	2%	2%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	20%	66%	0%	13%
	White / Caucasian	389	20%	73%	1%	6%
RACE	All others	102	27%	61%	1%	12%
	Democrat	140	13%	78%	1%	8%
PARTY	Republican	54	45%	53%	0%	2%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	24%	69%	1%	6%
	Western / Central MA	158	25%	69%	1%	5%
	Southeast MA	74	27%	66%	3%	4%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	21%	75%	1%	2%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	18%	69%	0%	13%
	Less than \$25k	73	21%	67%	1%	11%
	\$25-\$74k	192	20%	70%	1%	8%
	\$75-\$150k	123	28%	71%	0%	1%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	14%	86%	0%	0%
	High School or less	141	31%	53%	2%	15%
	Some college, no degree	126	23%	71%	0%	6%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	20%	75%	2%	4%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	8%	90%	1%	2%
	Convinced	158	19%	77%	1%	4%
	Receptive	140	10%	82%	2%	6%
GLOBAL WARMING	Dubious	100	31%	61%	2%	7%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	35%	51%	0%	14%

Future energy sources - oil

"In thinking about future energy needs, which of these energy sources do you think we should rely on more and which should we rely on less here in Massachusetts? Oil."

		Count*	Rely on more	Rely on less	Same amount (do not read)	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	14%	82%	1%	2%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	15%	82%	1%	2%
	Male	228	16%	83%	1%	0%
GENDER	Female	273	13%	81%	2%	4%
	18 to 29	68	9%	86%	1%	4%
	30 to 44	141	16%	81%	1%	2%
	45 to 59	166	12%	85%	1%	1%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	18%	78%	2%	2%
	White / Caucasian	389	12%	84%	2%	3%
RACE	All others	102	25%	73%	1%	1%
	Democrat	140	15%	85%	1%	0%
PARTY	Republican	54	22%	77%	0%	1%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	12%	84%	2%	2%
	Western / Central MA	158	20%	75%	4%	1%
	Southeast MA	74	12%	84%	4%	0%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	11%	87%	1%	1%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	14%	82%	0%	5%
	Less than \$25k	73	18%	78%	3%	1%
	\$25-\$74k	192	11%	85%	1%	2%
	\$75-\$150k	123	13%	87%	0%	0%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	14%	86%	0%	0%
	High School or less	141	23%	72%	2%	4%
	Some college, no degree	126	9%	86%	3%	2%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	11%	87%	1%	1%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	12%	86%	0%	2%
	Convinced	158	7%	92%	1%	0%
	Receptive	140	8%	88%	2%	2%
GLOBAL WARMING	Dubious	100	28%	67%	3%	2%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	23%	69%	2%	6%

Future energy sources - nuclear power

"In thinking about future energy needs, which of these energy sources do you think we should rely on more and which should we rely on less here in Massachusetts? Nuclear power."

		Count*	Rely on more	Rely on less	Same amount (do not read)	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	31%	60%	3%	6%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	33%	58%	2%	7%
	Male	228	42%	53%	2%	4%
GENDER	Female	273	21%	67%	3%	9%
	18 to 29	68	24%	70%	4%	2%
	30 to 44	141	37%	56%	1%	6%
	45 to 59	166	26%	63%	4%	8%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	38%	52%	2%	9%
	White / Caucasian	389	32%	58%	3%	7%
RACE	All others	102	28%	66%	0%	6%
	Democrat	140	26%	65%	3%	6%
PARTY	Republican	54	51%	42%	3%	4%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	34%	59%	1%	6%
	Western / Central MA	158	26%	66%	4%	4%
	Southeast MA	74	29%	63%	3%	6%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	39%	52%	2%	8%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	29%	62%	2%	7%
	Less than \$25k	73	19%	77%	0%	4%
	\$25-\$74k	192	30%	62%	1%	7%
	\$75-\$150k	123	34%	57%	4%	5%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	52%	43%	1%	3%
	High School or less	141	29%	58%	3%	10%
	Some college, no degree	126	22%	73%	1%	4%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	42%	50%	3%	6%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	29%	62%	4%	4%
	Convinced	158	25%	70%	1%	4%
	Receptive	140	23%	64%	2%	11%
GLOBAL WARMING	Dubious	100	37%	54%	3%	6%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	49%	42%	5%	4%

Electricity policy priorities - Reducing the country's dependence on foreign sources of oil

"When government and private companies here in Massachusetts make policy decisions concerning the kind of generating plants that produce electricity and the fuel those plants would use, please tell me whether you think each of the following should be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important. Reducing the country's dependence on foreign sources of oil."

		Count*	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	82%	15%	2%	1%	1%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	84%	13%	2%	1%	1%
	Male	228	80%	16%	2%	1%	1%
GENDER	Female	273	84%	13%	1%	1%	0%
	18 to 29	68	76%	20%	2%	1%	1%
	30 to 44	141	84%	15%	1%	0%	1%
	45 to 59	166	86%	12%	1%	0%	1%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	82%	13%	3%	3%	0%
	White / Caucasian	389	84%	13%	2%	1%	0%
RACE	All others	102	75%	21%	2%	1%	1%
	Democrat	140	85%	12%	2%	0%	1%
PARTY	Republican	54	87%	11%	0%	2%	0%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	82%	14%	2%	1%	1%
	Western / Central MA	158	82%	13%	4%	1%	0%
	Southeast MA	74	87%	13%	0%	0%	0%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	86%	12%	1%	1%	0%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	77%	18%	1%	1%	2%
	Less than \$25k	73	73%	19%	6%	0%	2%
	\$25-\$74k	192	84%	13%	0%	1%	1%
	\$75-\$150k	123	90%	7%	1%	1%	1%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%
	High School or less	141	78%	17%	2%	0%	2%
	Some college, no degree	126	82%	15%	3%	0%	0%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	83%	14%	1%	2%	1%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	88%	11%	1%	0%	0%
	Convinced	158	86%	12%	1%	0%	1%
GLOBAL	Receptive	140	84%	14%	3%	0%	0%
WARMING	Dubious	100	71%	22%	2%	2%	3%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	83%	13%	1%	3%	0%

Electricity policy priorities - Keeping prices for electricity at current levels or lower

"When government and private companies here in Massachusetts make policy decisions concerning the kind of generating plants that produce electricity and the fuel those plants would use, please tell me whether you think each of the following should be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important. Keeping prices for electricity at current levels or lower."

		Count*	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	Don't know / Refuse
OVERALL	Overall	501	65%	27%	5%	1%	2%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	67%	26%	5%	1%	1%
	Male	228	61%	27%	8%	3%	1%
GENDER	Female	273	68%	27%	2%	0%	3%
	18 to 29	68	61%	28%	5%	0%	7%
	30 to 44	141	70%	23%	5%	2%	0%
	45 to 59	166	64%	28%	5%	2%	1%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	65%	29%	4%	1%	1%
	White / Caucasian	389	61%	30%	6%	2%	2%
RACE	All others	102	77%	18%	3%	1%	1%
	Democrat	140	58%	32%	7%	1%	2%
PARTY	Republican	54	63%	30%	2%	6%	0%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	71%	23%	4%	1%	1%
	Western / Central MA	158	73%	21%	5%	1%	1%
	Southeast MA	74	70%	28%	2%	0%	0%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	58%	30%	6%	4%	1%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	63%	28%	5%	0%	4%
	Less than \$25k	73	72%	25%	1%	0%	2%
	\$25-\$74k	192	68%	26%	4%	0%	2%
	\$75-\$150k	123	64%	28%	6%	2%	0%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	51%	37%	6%	6%	0%
	High School or less	141	76%	17%	3%	0%	5%
	Some college, no degree	126	66%	30%	2%	2%	0%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	58%	31%	8%	1%	1%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	55%	34%	8%	3%	0%
	Convinced	158	64%	27%	8%	2%	0%
GLOBAL	Receptive	140	56%	36%	5%	2%	1%
WARMING	Dubious	100	70%	25%	1%	0%	4%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	74%	16%	4%	2%	5%

Electricity policy priorities - Reducing pollution and the risk of other damage to the environment

"When government and private companies here in Massachusetts make policy decisions concerning the kind of generating plants that produce electricity and the fuel those plants would use, please tell me whether you think each of the following should be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important. Reducing pollution and the risk of other damage to the environment."

		Count*	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	76%	18%	2%	2%	2%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	77%	17%	2%	3%	1%
	Male	228	68%	23%	3%	4%	1%
GENDER	Female	273	83%	13%	0%	1%	2%
	18 to 29	68	76%	20%	1%	0%	4%
	30 to 44	141	80%	16%	1%	3%	0%
	45 to 59	166	77%	18%	0%	1%	3%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	71%	18%	4%	5%	2%
	White / Caucasian	389	76%	18%	1%	2%	2%
RACE	All others	102	74%	18%	3%	4%	1%
	Democrat	140	89%	11%	0%	0%	0%
PARTY	Republican	54	55%	34%	4%	7%	1%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	73%	19%	3%	4%	2%
	Western / Central MA	158	75%	18%	4%	2%	1%
	Southeast MA	74	77%	19%	2%	0%	1%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	77%	19%	1%	1%	2%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	76%	15%	1%	4%	4%
	Less than \$25k	73	78%	18%	0%	3%	1%
	\$25-\$74k	192	77%	17%	3%	1%	2%
	\$75-\$150k	123	77%	17%	2%	3%	1%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	77%	23%	0%	0%	0%
	High School or less	141	67%	24%	2%	4%	4%
	Some college, no degree	126	76%	19%	2%	2%	1%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	81%	13%	2%	2%	2%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%
	Convinced	158	93%	7%	0%	1%	0%
GLOBAL	Receptive	140	84%	14%	0%	0%	2%
WARMING	Dubious	100	64%	30%	2%	2%	2%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	48%	32%	7%	9%	5%

Electricity policy priorities - Safety considerations at the power plants and the areas surrounding them

"When government and private companies here in Massachusetts make policy decisions concerning the kind of generating plants that produce electricity and the fuel those plants would use, please tell me whether you think each of the following should be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important. Safety considerations at the power plants and the areas surrounding them."

		Count*	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	83%	13%	2%	<1%	2%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	83%	13%	2%	1%	2%
	Male	228	75%	19%	2%	1%	3%
GENDER	Female	273	90%	7%	1%	0%	2%
	18 to 29	68	81%	12%	3%	0%	5%
	30 to 44	141	88%	10%	1%	1%	0%
	45 to 59	166	84%	14%	1%	0%	2%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	78%	15%	2%	1%	4%
	White / Caucasian	389	83%	13%	1%	0%	3%
RACE	All others	102	84%	13%	2%	1%	0%
	Democrat	140	83%	13%	3%	0%	1%
PARTY	Republican	54	73%	23%	0%	2%	1%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	84%	11%	2%	1%	3%
	Western / Central MA	158	86%	9%	1%	1%	3%
	Southeast MA	74	88%	9%	2%	0%	1%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	81%	19%	0%	0%	0%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	81%	10%	3%	1%	5%
	Less than \$25k	73	76%	18%	4%	0%	2%
	\$25-\$74k	192	89%	8%	2%	0%	1%
	\$75-\$150k	123	84%	13%	1%	2%	1%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	79%	21%	0%	0%	0%
	High School or less	141	78%	14%	2%	0%	6%
	Some college, no degree	126	85%	11%	3%	1%	1%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	81%	16%	1%	1%	2%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%
	Convinced	158	91%	7%	1%	0%	1%
GLOBAL	Receptive	140	84%	14%	2%	0%	1%
WARMING	Dubious	100	77%	14%	3%	0%	5%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	73%	17%	1%	2%	6%

Electricity policy priorities - Ensuring that as much of our energy as possible is produced here in Massachusetts rather than in other states

"When government and private companies here in Massachusetts make policy decisions concerning the kind of generating plants that produce electricity and the fuel those plants would use, please tell me whether you think each of the following should be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important. Ensuring that as much of our energy as possible is produced here in Massachusetts rather than in other states."

		Count*	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	Don't know / Refused
OVERALL	Overall	501	44%	32%	14%	6%	4%
REGISTERED VOTERS	Registered Voters	420	43%	32%	14%	6%	4%
	Male	228	40%	26%	19%	11%	3%
GENDER	Female	273	48%	37%	9%	1%	4%
	18 to 29	68	42%	33%	14%	6%	5%
	30 to 44	141	45%	32%	13%	6%	3%
	45 to 59	166	44%	32%	19%	6%	1%
AGE CATEGORIES	60+	121	45%	30%	10%	7%	7%
	White / Caucasian	389	41%	33%	15%	6%	4%
RACE	All others	102	56%	29%	7%	7%	1%
	Democrat	140	46%	34%	13%	3%	4%
PARTY	Republican	54	44%	20%	23%	11%	1%
REGISTRATION	Independent	238	42%	35%	12%	8%	3%
	Western / Central MA	158	46%	32%	13%	6%	2%
	Southeast MA	74	42%	40%	10%	3%	5%
	Outer Boston Suburbs	138	46%	29%	14%	7%	3%
REGIONS	Boston / Inner Suburbs	108	41%	31%	15%	7%	6%
	Less than \$25k	73	58%	30%	6%	3%	4%
	\$25-\$74k	192	48%	33%	13%	3%	4%
	\$75-\$150k	123	46%	32%	14%	6%	3%
INCOME RANGES	More than \$150k	46	18%	40%	26%	15%	0%
	High School or less	141	58%	23%	9%	1%	8%
	Some college, no degree	126	43%	37%	12%	7%	2%
	College graduate (BA/BS)	153	41%	33%	16%	8%	2%
EDUCATION LEVEL	Advanced degree	76	29%	38%	21%	9%	2%
	Convinced	158	51%	23%	16%	8%	2%
GLOBAL	Receptive	140	37%	45%	12%	3%	4%
WARMING	Dubious	100	43%	28%	16%	6%	7%
SEGMENTS	Dismissive	103	46%	31%	11%	7%	5%

About the Poll

These results are based on questions from the MassINC Polling Group statewide omnibus poll of 500 Massachusetts residents, conducted April 27-30, 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 +/- 4.4 percent with a 95 percent level of confidence.