



Fiscal Alliance Foundation

*Poll of Likely Voters on Presidential Approval, Governor's Race, and Ballot Question
750 Likely Voters
February 8-10, 2022*

1. Do you approve or disapprove of President Joe Biden's job performance?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Strongly Approve	55.6%	9.8%	26.8%	34.0%
Somewhat Approve	21.6%	2.4%	20%	17.7%
Somewhat Disapprove	6.5%	11.4%	6.2%	7.2%
Strongly Disapprove	14.2%	72.1%	41.7%	37.2%
Not Sure	1.9%	4.1%	5.1%	3.9%

2. Legislative leaders have placed a referendum on the November ballot that would amend the state constitution to allow lawmakers to raise the income tax on some high-income earners and middle-class small businesses. If the election were held today, would you support or oppose the legislature's ballot question to raise the income tax?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Strongly Support	37.5%	9.8%	22.5%	25.6%
Somewhat Support	16.6%	4.1%	10.6%	11.6%
Somewhat Oppose	12.4%	20.5%	13.6%	14.3%
Strongly Oppose	23.9%	57.4%	40.1%	37.3%
Not Sure	9.7%	8.2%	13.3%	11.2%

3. If the ballot measure passes, the legislature would be able to raise state income taxes from 5% to 9% for some high-income earners and middle-class small businesses – meaning that those people could see their taxes increase by 80%. Do you think this increase is too high, too low, or just about right?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Too High	53.7%	87.7%	65.3%	64.9%
Too Low	2.3%	1.6%	1.6%	1.9%
Just About Right	24.0%	6.6%	18.2%	18.3%
Not Sure	20.1%	4.1%	14.9%	14.9%

4. Legislative leaders have stated the proposed tax increase would raise additional funds for ‘transportation’ and ‘education’ spending. However, nothing legally binds the legislature to this, and they can spend any appropriations as they see fit. Does this make you more or less likely to support the legislature’s ballot measure?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Much more likely	9.7%	2.5%	8.7%	8.0%
Somewhat more likely	8.9%	3.3%	4.3%	5.7%
No Difference	31.7%	12.3%	24.4%	24.9%
Somewhat less likely	24.3%	34.4%	24.9%	26.2%
Much less likely	25.5%	47.5%	37.7%	35.1%

5. Proponents state the proposed income tax increase will only affect high-income earners. However, the tax would also apply to many middle-class small businesses due to the way they file their taxes and on small business owners who sell their small business. Does this make you more or less likely to support the legislature’s ballot measure?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Much more likely	12.0%	4.9%	8.4%	9.1%
Somewhat more likely	10.4%	0.8%	4.9%	6.1%
No Difference	30.1%	10.7%	24.9%	24.4%
Somewhat less likely	22.0%	32.0%	23.3%	24.3%
Much less likely	25.5%	51.6%	38.5%	36.1%

6. Unlike the six previous attempts to repeal the Massachusetts flat income tax, this time it is the state legislature bringing the amendment forward and not citizens bringing it forward through a citizen’s petition. Does this make you more or less likely to support the legislature’s ballot measure?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Much more likely	12.4%	8.2%	11.4%	11.2%
Somewhat more likely	11.6%	2.5%	4.3%	6.5%
No Difference	44.8%	25.4%	40.9%	39.7%
Somewhat less likely	12.0%	19.7%	17.3%	15.9%
Much less likely	19.3%	44.3%	26.0%	26.7%

7. Massachusetts lawmakers have about \$13 billion dollars in additional tax money that was not expected or budgeted. This windfall is largely from federal COVID relief funds and significantly higher than expected tax collections in 2021. The legislature’s ballot question would generate an additional \$1 to \$2 billion dollars in taxpayer money. Does this make you more or less likely to support the legislature’s ballot measure?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Much more likely	12.7%	7.4%	10.3%	10.7%
Somewhat more likely	11.2%	4.1%	5.4%	7.2%
No Difference	44.8%	17.2%	35.8%	35.9%
Somewhat less likely	12.00%	23.8%	16.8%	16.3%
Much less likely	19.3%	47.5%	31.7%	30.0%

8. Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karen Polito are not running for reelection this November, creating an open seat. If the election were held today, who would you vote for?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Danielle Allen	1.9%	0.8%	1.1%	1.3%
Sonia Chang Diaz	1.9%	0.0%	2.4%	1.9%
Geoff Diehl	3.1%	27.1%	16.3%	13.5%
Chris Doughty	0.4%	2.5%	2.4%	1.7%
Maura Healey	46.0%	12.3%	23.0%	29.2%
Don't Know/Undecided	46.7%	57.4%	54.7%	52.4%

9. Which of the following issues is most important to you in considering your vote for governor?

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Jobs/Economy	23.2%	23.8%	22.0 %	22.7%
Taxes	5.4%	11.5%	13.0%	10.1%
Inflation	5.8%	18.9%	7.3%	8.7%
Covid-19	7.3%	2.5%	5.2%	5.5%
Climate Change	14.7%	0.8%	10.8%	10.5%
Health Care	16.2%	8.2%	9.8%	11.7%
Law Enforcement/Rule of Law	5.4%	15.6%	14.1%	11.3%
Something Else	12.4%	10.7%	9.2%	10.5%
Not Sure	9.7%	8.2%	8.7%	8.9%

10. Age Range

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
18-44	12.4%	8.2%	22.8%	16.8%
45-64	42.5%	53.3%	53.4%	49.6%
65 or older	45.2%	38.5%	23.9%	33.6%

11. Gender

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Overall
Male	44.4%	59.9%	49.9%	49.6%
Female	55.6%	40.2%	50.1%	50.4%

12. Party Affiliation

	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled
	34.5%	16.3%	49.2%

Results based on a survey of 750 voters statewide fielded February 8-10, 2022. Interviews were conducted by live operators. The margin of error is +/- 3.5% with a 95% confidence level. The poll was sponsored by the Fiscal Alliance Foundation and conducted by Advantage, Inc.