

## Massachusetts Results

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National Institute for Early Education Research

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Q.1. In your community, how many parents do you think have access to good preschool programs that they can afford for their three- and four-year-old children--would you say that almost all parents have access to these programs, most parents, about half of parents, or fewer than half of parents have access to these programs for their young children?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
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Total	320	157	163	187	127
Almost all parents	15	16	14	15	14
Most parents	23	24	22	22	23
About half of parents	23	19	26	22	23
Fewer than half of parents	25	24	26	30	20
Not sure	14	17	12	11	20
Total Almost All/Most	38	40	36	38	37
Total Half Or Fewer	48	44	52	51	43

Q.2. And which one or two of the following do you think are the biggest obstacles facing parents in finding preschool programs for their three- and four-year-old children? (m) \*

\* Asked only of respondents who say most parents" or fewer (Q.1)."

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
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Total	272	132	141	158	109
Many of these programs are too expensive	45	41	49	46	42
There are not enough good preschool programs	22	21	24	23	21
The structure and schedule of programs are not convenient	20	14	26	24	15
There is not enough information about programs	19	21	17	17	21

Many parents cannot find prog	17	19	15	16	18
All (VOL)	7	5	9	6	9
None/other (VOL)	1	1	1	2	1
Not sure	4	4	5	2	8

Q.3. Overall, do you think that state government is doing too much, about the right amount, or too little to make sure that all parents have access to affordable preschool programs for their young children?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Doing too much	4	4	3	1	7
Doing about the right amount	19	22	16	18	21
Doing too little	63	59	68	67	57
Not sure	14	15	13	14	15

Q.4. I'd like to read you a list of things that state government could be doing with regard to preschool programs. For each item that I mention, please tell me whether you support or oppose state government getting involved in that specific area.

PROPORTIONS WHO SAY THAT THEY STRONGLY SUPPORT STATE GOVERNMENT GETTING INVOLVED IN SELECTED AREAS

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127

Ensuring the safety of preschool programs by establishing and enforcing licensing and inspection standards

	71	65	77	67	75
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Providing funding and financial support for preschool programs so that all parents who want to can afford to enroll their children

	68	64	72	71	64
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Ensuring the quality of preschool programs by setting standards for learning and for teacher training and education

	55	49	61	50	61
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Working with parents and local school systems to operate preschool programs similar to the way local school systems now run kindergarten through twelfth grade school programs

	44	44	45	41	49
Holding preschool programs accountable for the learning progress and skill development of young children by establishing evaluation standards					
	32	30	34	29	34

me whether you support or oppose state government tting involved in that specific area. (IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE somewhat (support/oppose) this action?

Q.5a. Now I'm going to describe an approach that some people have suggested for panding opportunities for three- and four-year-old children to participate in preschool programs and then get your reaction.

State government would provide funding and financial support so that all parents in the state who want to send their children to a high-quality preschool program can afford to do so. Parents would be able to choose which program to send their child to depending on their needs and preferences--for example, parents could select a public or a private program, and parents could select a program that is part-time or one that is full-time, as long as the program meets state standards for teacher qualifications, class size, and safety.

How do you feel about this approach--do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, feel neutral, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with this approach?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Strongly agree	40	36	43	39	42
Somewhat agree	36	37	35	41	28
Feel neutral	10	8	11	11	8
Somewhat disagree	7	8	6	6	8
Strongly disagree	7	11	4	3	13
Not sure	-	-	1	-	1
Total Agree	76	73	78	80	70
Total Disagree	14	19	10	9	21

Q.5b. Why do you feel that way about this approach to expanding opportunities for three- and four-year-old children to participate in preschool programs?

(PROBE:) What do you think are the most positive aspects of this approach?

All Massa- ch	50 and over
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		Men	Women	18-49	over
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Total	320	157	163	187	127
Net Positive Aspects	-	-	-	-	-
Gives them an early start on	-	-	-	-	-
Equal opportunity, for all child	-	-	-	-	-
Gives parents choices/options	-	-	-	-	-
Makes it affordable, it's possible	-	-	-	-	-
Good for kids, prepares them	-	-	-	-	-
Good flexibility, choice of hours	-	-	-	-	-
Government should be involved	-	-	-	-	-
Gives them a chance to learn	-	-	-	-	-
Good age, able to learn, kids	-	-	-	-	-
Gives them the best start, makes	-	-	-	-	-
Gets parents involved, aware	-	-	-	-	-
It's important, need to do more	-	-	-	-	-
Important to interact with other	-	-	-	-	-
Benefits working/single parent	-	-	-	-	-
Develop good habits, learn discipline	-	-	-	-	-
It's needed, some kids come	-	-	-	-	-
Teaches social/communication	-	-	-	-	-
Good for competition/quality,	-	-	-	-	-
Agree with it, it's a good idea	-	-	-	-	-
Supports both public and private	-	-	-	-	-
More access, more programs	-	-	-	-	-
Parents choose based on need	-	-	-	-	-
It works, have seen the results	-	-	-	-	-
All other positive aspects of this	-	-	-	-	-

Q.5b. Why do you feel that way about this approach to expanding opportunities for three- and four-year-old children to participate in preschool programs?

(PROBE:) And what concerns do you have about this approach?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
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Total	320	157	163	187	127
Net Concerns	-	-	-	-	-
Where will money/funding come	-	-	-	-	-
Against government involvement	-	-	-	-	-

Teachers need to be certified	-	-	-	-	-
Parents should educate/take	-	-	-	-	-
Ensure standards/safety, nee	-	-	-	-	-
Too costly, too pensive	-	-	-	-	-
Should be based on need, pa	-	-	-	-	-
Too young, not ready, need t	-	-	-	-	-
Will be taken advantage of, a	-	-	-	-	-
Not fair, not equitable for all, :	-	-	-	-	-
Shouldn't pay for private educ	-	-	-	-	-
Don't have children, not fair fr	-	-	-	-	-
The schools/other programs v	-	-	-	-	-
Every child has different neec	-	-	-	-	-
Against evaluating/qualifying	-	-	-	-	-
Should be voluntary, not forc	-	-	-	-	-
Used as babysitting/day care	-	-	-	-	-
Not needed, not necessary, e	-	-	-	-	-
Most parents will choose priv	-	-	-	-	-
Should be for public only, not	-	-	-	-	-
Against vouchers, sounds like	-	-	-	-	-
Disagree with it, bad idea, dis	-	-	-	-	-
Concerns about quality of edi	-	-	-	-	-
Local government/communiti	-	-	-	-	-
All other concerns about this	-	-	-	-	-
Don't know enough, would like	-	-	-	-	-
Don't know, no response	-	-	-	-	-

Q.6a. Now I'd like to read you two statements about how preschool programs could be made available. Please listen to each statement and then tell me which one best represents your own feelings.

Statement A: These programs should be free to all children, regardless of their family's income, OR

Statement B: These programs should be free ONLY to children from poor and low-income families, with the parents of other children paying based on the family's income and ability to pay.

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Statement A/These programs :	51	55	48	51	54
Statement B/These programs :	41	38	44	42	39
Neither/other (VOL)	6	6	6	5	5
Not sure	2	1	2	2	2



Having children participate in preschool programs strengthens families by giving parents the resources and support they need to help their children get a good start	53	56	51	56	51
Good preschool programs cost a lot more than most working families can afford, leaving many parents with few alternatives	56	57	55	57	53
Children who participate in preschool programs are less likely to get involved with things like gangs and drugs as they get older and more likely to grow up and become productive, contributing members of the community *	56	54	58	55	58
Good preschool programs benefit the economy and save taxpayers two dollars for every dollar invested, because these programs prevent school failure and crime and produce a better educated, more productive workforce **	44	48	40	43	45
Children who do NOT participate in preschool programs are less self-confident, less adjusted, and more likely to be disruptive and cause problems that affect other children in the classroom when they enter elementary school **	38	39	37	36	41
Good preschool programs benefit the economy and save taxpayers two dollars for every dollar invested *	33	37	29	36	30
Children who do NOT participate in preschool programs are more likely to have problems in school and to get involved with things like gangs and drugs as they get older **	32	38	26	26	40
	24	27	21	21	28

## FACTUALS

Q.F1. How old are you?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
18-24	6	3	9	10	-
25-29	11	12	11	19	-
30-34	10	15	7	18	-
35-39	9	11	6	15	-
40-44	13	14	12	22	-
45-49	9	8	11	16	-
50-54	11	12	9	-	27
55-59	8	6	10	-	20

60-64	4	4	4	-	10
65-69	4	3	5	-	11
70-74	4	3	4	-	9
75 and over	9	8	9	-	23
Refused	2	1	3	-	-

Q.F2. Are you currently employed?

	All Massa- ch -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Professional, manor	1	-	2	1	1
White-collar worker	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-collar worker	-	-	-	-	-
Farmer, rancher	-	-	-	-	-
Student	1	1	1	1	-
Homemaker	7	1	12	8	5
Retired	20	20	20	1	50
Unemployed, looking for work	2	4	1	3	1
Other	67	72	63	85	43
Not sure	2	2	1	1	-

Q.F3. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

	All Massa- ch -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Grade school	-	1	-	-	1
Some high school	8	10	5	6	10
High school graduate	16	15	17	13	21
Some college, no degree	15	16	14	15	15
Vocational training/2-year colle	15	11	19	16	12
4-year bachelor's/bachelor's di	22	23	21	27	16
Some postgraduate work, no c	4	6	2	4	4
2 or 3 years' postgraduate wor	16	13	19	16	17
Doctoral/law degree	3	3	3	3	4

Not sure/refused                    1                    2                    -                    -                    -

Q.F4. generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or as something else?

(IF REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT, ASK:) Would you call yourself a strong (Republican/Democrat) or a not very strong (Republican/Democrat)?

(IF NOT REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT, ASK:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or closer to the Democratic Party?

	All Massa- ch -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Strong Republican	8	10	6	7	8
Weak Republican	7	9	5	10	3
Independent/lean Republican	12	14	11	13	12
Strictly independent	19	20	19	17	20
Independent/lean Democrat	16	11	21	15	18
Weak Democrat	11	12	11	12	11
Strong Democrat	24	21	27	23	27
Not sure/refused	2	4	-	1	1
Total Republicans	27	33	22	31	24
Total Democrats	51	43	59	51	55

Q.F5. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be liberal, moderate, or conservative?

	All Massa- ch -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Liberal	30	25	34	29	33
Moderate	44	44	44	50	36
Conservative	20	23	18	18	23
Not sure	6	8	4	3	8

Q.F6. Are you currently single and never married, married, separated, widowed, or divorced?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Single	23	20	25	31	11
Married	56	62	50	58	54
Separated	1	1	1	1	1
Widowed	7	4	10	-	17
Divorced	12	11	14	9	17
Other (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-
Not sure/refused	1	2	-	1	-

Q.F7a. Do you have any children under age 18 currently living in your household?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Yes, kids under 18 in househo	36	36	36	54	10
No, no kids under 18 in househ	63	62	64	46	90
Not sure	1	2	-	-	-

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Zero to five \*

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	114	56	58	101	13
One	29	23	35	31	18
Two	19	29	8	20	6

Three	-	-	-	-	-
Four	-	-	-	-	-
Five or more	-	-	-	-	-
None	52	48	57	49	76
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Six to nine \*

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	114	56	58	101	13
One	31	43	20	32	27
Two	5	7	4	5	6
Three	1	-	1	-	6
Four	-	-	-	-	-
Five or more	1	-	2	1	-
None	62	50	73	62	61
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Ten to fourteen \*

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	114	56	58	101	13
One	34	45	24	36	24
Two	8	6	10	9	-
Three	-	-	-	-	-
Four	1	1	-	1	-
Five or more	-	-	-	-	-
None	57	48	66	54	76
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Fifteen to eighteen \*

	All Massa- ch -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	114	56	58	101	13
One	14	10	17	12	31
Two	6	8	4	5	6
Three	-	-	-	-	-
Four	-	-	-	-	-
Five or more	-	-	-	-	-
None	80	82	79	83	63
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7c. Have you yourself ever had a child under a five enrolled in age preschool program?

	All Massa- ch -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Yes, child is currently enrolled	7	8	6	11	1
Yes, child was enrolled in a pr	29	27	31	27	33
Yes, child enrolled in a presc	3	2	4	3	3
No, never had a child under a	57	58	56	56	60
Not sure/refused	4	5	3	3	3
Total Have/Have Had Child In	39	37	41	41	37

Q.F7d. Have you ever had a child under age five in a child care arrangement outside the home--including with friends or relatives?

	All Massa- ch -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
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	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Yes, child is currently in a child care arrangement	9	13	5	14	3
Yes, child was in child care arrangement	23	17	28	23	23
Yes, child was in child care arrangement	3	2	4	3	2
No, never had a child under age 12	62	63	61	57	69
Not sure/refused	3	5	2	3	3
Total Have/Have Had Child In	34	32	37	40	28

Q.F7e. Do you have any grandchildren under age twelve? \*

\* Asked only of respondents who say that they are a 40 or over (Q.F1).

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Yes, have grandchildren under age 12	21	18	23	6	42
No, do not have grandchildren	42	40	44	32	57
Not sure	1	2	-	-	1

Q.F8a. In what religion were you brought up?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Protestant	24	23	26	20	30
Catholic	55	55	55	55	56
Jewish	4	2	6	4	4
Other	8	10	5	11	4
None	5	5	5	7	2
Not sure/refused	4	5	3	3	4

Q.F8b. Would you describe yourself as either a fundamentalist or evangelical Christian, or would you not describe yourself that way? \*

\* Asked only of Protestants (Q.F8a).

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Fundamentalist/evangelical	4	4	5	5	4
Neither fundamentalist nor eva	18	17	19	16	21
Not sure	2	2	2	-	4
Non-Protestants (Q.F8a)	76	77	74	79	71

Q.F9. If you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, would the total be less than \$10,000, between \$10,000 and \$20,000, between \$20,000 and \$30,000, between \$30,000 and \$40,000, between \$40,000 and \$50,000, between \$50,000 and \$75,000, between \$75,000 and \$100,000, or would the total be more than that?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	320	157	163	187	127
Less than \$10,000	4	-	7	3	5
Between \$10,000 and \$20,000	8	8	8	6	12
Between \$20,000 and \$30,000	9	7	11	8	11
Between \$30,000 and \$40,000	6	6	7	7	7
Between \$40,000 and \$50,000	8	7	9	9	6
Between \$50,000 and \$75,000	19	27	11	23	14
Between \$75,000 and \$100,000	14	13	15	15	12
More than \$100,000	13	17	9	17	8
Not sure/refused	19	15	23	12	25

Q.F10. What is your race?

	All Massa- ch	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Total	320	157	163	187	127
Hispanic	4	6	2	7	-
White	83	76	90	79	91
Black	5	7	3	7	2
Asian	2	3	1	2	1
Other	3	3	3	4	3
Not sure/refused	3	5	1	1	3