

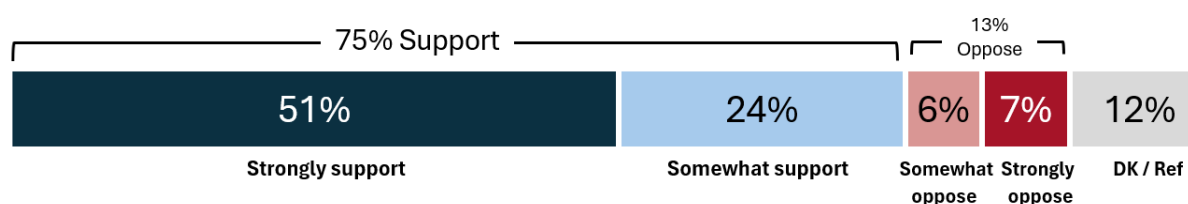
Massachusetts voters support state oversight of powerful AI models to mitigate risks of catastrophic impacts

Poll: Massachusetts voters use AI regularly, but fear potential catastrophic impacts if tools are allowed to develop without government oversight. Voters want Massachusetts to lead on developing safety rules.

At a glance: As Massachusetts lawmakers consider AI safety legislation on Beacon Hill, voters broadly support proposed state safety rules for powerful AI models focused on catastrophic risk mitigation, reporting, whistleblower protections, and enforcement. They prefer government oversight over companies self-policing, and want Massachusetts to take the lead in developing rules rather than waiting for other states.

Three in four Massachusetts voters support proposed AI regulation package

% of Massachusetts voters who support / oppose AI regulation package



Based on what you know, would you support or oppose a proposal in Massachusetts that would require the largest AI companies to assess catastrophic risks, publish safety plans, report serious safety incidents to the Attorney General, and face penalties for failing to comply? These risks would include chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear harms, large-scale cyberattacks, or other events that could cause mass casualties or at least \$1 billion in damage.



Key stats: The survey explored AI usage patterns, concerns about risks from AI model development, and support for proposed regulations in Massachusetts.

- **75%** support the proposed Massachusetts AI regulation package; **13%** oppose it.
- **82%** say serious risks such as chemical, biological, nuclear, radiological or cyberattacks are somewhat or very likely without regulations and legal safeguards.
- **78%** are more concerned about AI risks without rules than about rules slowing innovation.
- **70%** say Massachusetts should lead on safety rules rather than wait for other states.
- **81%** have heard/read at least a fair amount about AI; **71%** are familiar with generative AI.
- **65%** say they are more concerned about risks than excited about AI's possibilities.

Strong support for specific safety requirements

AI companies should be required to ...	% support
Report an urgent AI safety problem within 24 hours.	90%
Protect AI company employees who report serious AI safety problems from retaliation.	88%
Update their safety plan at least once a year.	87%
Tell the Mass. Attorney General about serious AI safety problems within 15 days.	86%
Publicly explain how they handle major risks.	86%
Publicly explain any major change they make to their safety plan.	85%
Check whether safety steps are working.	85%
... check whether AI systems could cause... harm such as CBRN...	84%
Pay up to \$1 million for each violation.	77%

Poll details: Results are from a poll of 1,264 Massachusetts registered voters contacted via phone, TTV, and online from June 23–July 1, 2026. MOE ±3.7 pts including design effect. Conducted by The MassINC Polling Group and sponsored by Anthropic. The poll will be released July 20, 2026.