



**The Barr Foundation and The Boston Foundation  
Education Issues Survey**

Topline Results

Statewide Survey of 1,502 K-12 Parents in Massachusetts

Field Dates: June 4-19, 2020

Which of the following best describes the school your child(ren) normally attend? **[ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

A public school run by a school district	80%
A public charter school	11%
A parochial or Catholic school	6%
A non-Catholic private or independent school	6%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Which of the following best describes your employment status, **READ AND ROTATE?**

**ASK IF NOT CURRENTLY EMPLOYED:** You mentioned you are not currently employed. Which of the following best describes your situation? **READ AND ROTATE.**

Employed full-time	63%
Employed part-time	16%
Furloughed	4%
Looking for work	3%
Not looking for work	2%
Other	9%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

**ASK IF EMPLOYED**

Since the coronavirus crisis began, have you been working all from home, mostly from home, mostly outside the home, or all outside the home?

All from home	47%
Mostly from home	23%
Mostly outside the home	8%
All outside the home	18%
Don't Know / Refused	4%

**IF HAVE MORE THAN ONE CHILD READ THE FOLLOWING. OTHERWISE SKIP THIS DIRECTION AND DO NOT SPECIFY GRADE LEVEL IN FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.** You mentioned you had a child in **SELECT GRADE LEVEL FOR RANDOM CHILD FROM GRA**. The next several questions will be about this child's experience during the coronavirus crisis.

First, which of the following best describes the school that your **GRADE LEVEL** child normally attends?

A public school run by a school district	77%
A public charter school	11%
A parochial or Catholic school	5%
A non-Catholic private or independent school	6%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

How would you rate the job your **GRADE LEVEL** child's school is doing handling coronavirus?

Excellent	38%
Good	40%
Only fair	16%
Poor	5%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Who in your household is primarily responsible for guiding your child's remote learning? **DO NOT READ OPTIONS, CODE INTO CATEGORIES, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.**

Myself	64%
A partner or spouse / another parent	32%
Another member of the household	5%
No one	1%
Child does not require guidance	9%
Other (specify: _____)	4%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

Thinking of the communication you currently receive from your **GRADE LEVEL**'s school compared to the beginning of the coronavirus crisis, would you say it has become **READ FIRST**, less **READ ITEM**, or has there been no difference?

<b>ROTATE ORDER</b>	More	Less	No difference	Don't Know /
				Refused
More clear in what is expected of students	46%	22%	30%	2%
Easier to understand	38%	18%	42%	2%
More helpful to you	43%	18%	37%	1%

Do you regularly use email to communicate?

Yes I do	91%
No I do not	9%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

As far as you know, has your child's school or school district provided information to parents in languages other than English?

Yes (specify)	39%
No	25%
Don't Know / Refused	36%

At the beginning of the coronavirus crisis, were you **READ OPTIONS**? How about now?

	Beginning	Now
Mostly relying on materials from school	55%	64%
Supplementing school assignments with your own learning projects	19%	20%
Mostly relying on your own projects	9%	8%
Not home schooling at all	15%	6%
Don't Know / Refused	2%	1%

At the beginning of the coronavirus crisis, would you say your child was completing all of their schoolwork, most of it, some of it, or none of it? How about now?

	Beginning	Now
All of it	50%	55%
Most of it	30%	26%
Some of it	15%	14%
None of it	4%	5%
Don't Know / Refused	1%	1%

Would you say your child's school currently provides the right amount of **READ FIRST**, too much, too little, or does this not apply? How about **READ NEXT**?

<b>ROTATE ORDER</b>	Right amount	Too much	Too little	Does not apply	Don't Know / Refused
At-home assignments	54%	17%	21%	5%	3%
Communication about what is expected of students	62%	8%	21%	7%	2%
Access to teachers via video or telephone	58%	7%	25%	7%	3%
Resources for you to help your child	53%	7%	24%	12%	2%

How often would you say your child **READ FIRST**, every day, a few times a week, once a week, less often, or does this not apply? How about **READ NEXT**?

<b>ROTATE ORDER</b>	Every day	A few times a week	Once a week	Less often	Does not apply	Don't Know / Refused
Participates in an online classroom	36%	35%	14%	7%	7%	1%
Receives any kind of personalized feedback from their teachers	20%	33%	23%	16%	5%	3%
Has a one-on-one check-in with their teacher via video or phone	13%	25%	22%	22%	15%	3%

How much assistance with technology do you give your **GRADE LEVEL** child to complete assigned school work?

A great deal	27%
A fair amount	31%
Not very much	24%
None	18%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

**SKIP IF PARENT GIVES NO ASSISTANCE.**

How easy or difficult is it for you to navigate the computer systems your child needs to complete his or her school work?

Very easy	43%
Somewhat easy	35%
Somewhat difficult	14%
Very difficult	6%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

How much assistance do you give your **GRADE LEVEL** child with the actual school work?

A great deal	20%
A fair amount	28%
Not very much	36%
None	15%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

Prior to the coronavirus crisis, do you think your child's academics were at grade level, behind grade level, or ahead of grade level? How about now?

	Prior to coronavirus	Now
At grade level	58%	54%
Behind grade level	13%	22%
Ahead of grade level	28%	19%
Don't Know / Refused	2%	5%

Does your **GRADE LEVEL** child have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

Yes	29%
No	66%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

**IF HAS IEP ASK**

Has your child continued to receive services for their IEP since in-person schooling ended?

**IF STILL RECEIVING SERVICES ASK:** Would you say the IEP services they have received have been adequate or inadequate since in-person schooling ended?

Service continued, adequate	57%
Service continued, inadequate	11%
Service not continued	27%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

Does your **GRADE LEVEL** child receive services for English Language Learners (ELL)?

Yes	16%
No	82%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

## IF GETS ELL SERVICES ASK

Has your child continued to receive English Language Learner services since in-person schooling ended?

**IF STILL RECEIVING SERVICES ASK:** Would you say the English Language Learner services they have received since in person schooling ended have been adequate or inadequate?

Service continued, adequate	63%
Service continued, inadequate	10%
Service not continued	21%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

Would you say the disruption to school caused by the coronavirus crisis has had a positive or negative impact on your child's emotional wellbeing or has there been no impact? **PROBE:** And is that a major or minor positive/negative impact?

Major positive impact	8%
Minor positive impact	9%
No impact	25%
Minor negative impact	41%
Major negative impact	16%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

## END CHILD SPECIFIC SECTION

Does your family have access to enough devices such as computers and tablets for everyone who needs one for work or school tasks, or do you not have enough?

Have enough devices	87%
Do not have enough devices	11%
Don't Know / Refused	2%

Does your family have good enough internet access to keep up on school and work tasks, or is it not good enough for what your family needs?

Good enough access	89%
Not good enough	10%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

In order to provide extra learning opportunities and make up for lost school time this year, would you support or oppose **READ FIRST?** How about **READ NEXT?**

<b>ROTATE ORDER</b>	Support	Oppose	Don't
			Know / Refused
Continuing remote learning during the summer	53%	41%	6%
Starting the next school year earlier than usual	53%	39%	8%
Making the school day longer next year	39%	54%	7%

Has your school or school district been in touch with you to get your feedback about your preferences on re-opening school next year?

Yes	29%
No	68%
Don't Know / Refused	3%

If they were to reopen in the fall, schools may have to modify their schedules such as having students attend every other day, or have half go to school in the morning and half in the afternoon. They may also have to close for 2 to 4 weeks if someone gets sick. Would you prefer that schools reopen on a modified schedule like this, or that all education continues to be remote until schools can return to normal operations?

Reopen with modified schedule	55%
Wait until schedule can be normal	31%
Both / neither / depends (not read)	9%
Don't Know / Refused	5%

If your child(ren)'s schools were to reopen this fall, how confident are you that the school would be able to prevent the spread of coronavirus in the school?

Very confident	25%
Somewhat confident	39%
Not too confident	20%
Not at all confident	13%
Don't Know / Refused	4%

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Age

18 to 34 years old	16%
35 to 39 years old	18%
40 to 44 years old	23%
45 to 49 years old	22%
50+	19%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

### Gender

Male	44%
Female	55%
Other	<1%
Don't Know / Refused	<1%

### Race

White	70%
Non-white	29%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

### Education

High school or less	26%
Some college, no degree	23%
College degree	27%
Advanced degree	23%
Don't Know / Refused	1%

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### About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 1,502 parents of K-12 students in Massachusetts. Live telephone interviews and online interviewing were conducted in English and Spanish June 4-19, 2020. Telephone respondents were reached by both landline and cell phone. Oversamples of Black, Latino, and Asian American respondents were obtained to bring the total interview count up to at least 250 for each group. Results within race and ethnicity were weighted to age, gender, and education level for each group. Groups were then combined and weighted to the population parameters by race for the state as a whole. The poll was sponsored by The Boston Foundation and The Barr Foundation.