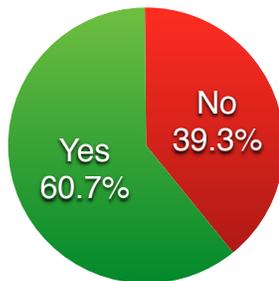


2020 Annual Town Election / Annual Town Meeting Study

In May of 2020, the Town of Wenham, MA commissioned GreatBlue Research, Inc. to conduct an Annual Town Election / Annual Town Meeting Study. The primary goals of the study were to gather thoughts and concerns among Wenham residents on attending the town election and annual town meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic. To qualify for the survey, Wenham residents had to confirm they were a registered voter in the Town.

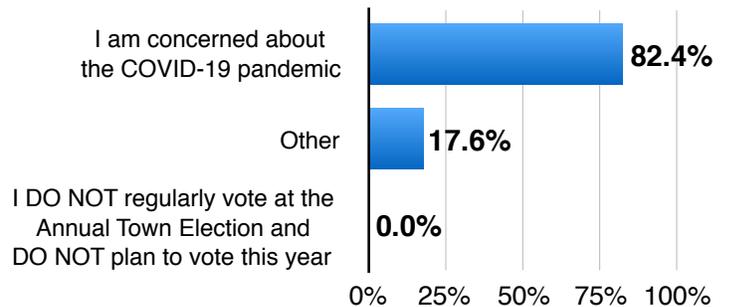
Thus outlined, 173 online surveys among Wenham residents were received between the dates of May 19th - May 27th, 2020. GreatBlue Research provided Wenham town officials with a digital survey link, which was distributed via the Town's website and social media channels. IP restrictions were implemented to eliminate duplicate survey submissions. The sample size of 173 completed surveys has a margin of error of plus or minus 7.3% at a confidence level of 95%.

As a registered voter, do you plan to vote in person at the Annual Town Election on June 25th?



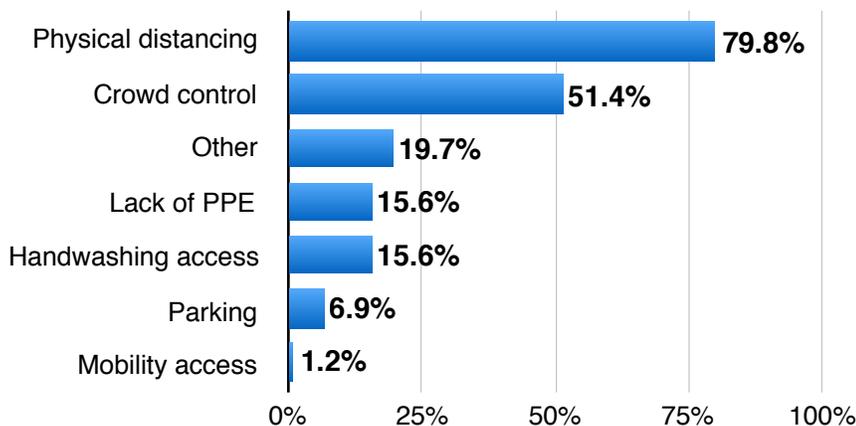
Three-out-of-five Wenham residents, 60.7%, indicated they plan to vote in-person at the Annual Town Election on June 25th.

If not, what is your reason for making this choice?



Among the 39.3% or 68 residents not planning to vote in-person, 82.4% reported it was because "I am concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic."

What is your primary concern when voting during the pandemic? (choose all that apply)



Four-out-of-five residents, 79.8%, indicated "physical distancing" as their top concern, followed by "crowd control" (51.4%).

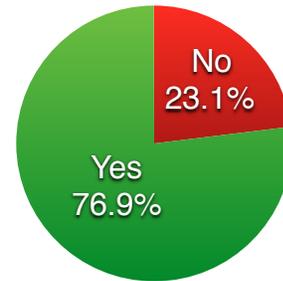


Will you be voting by absentee ballot?



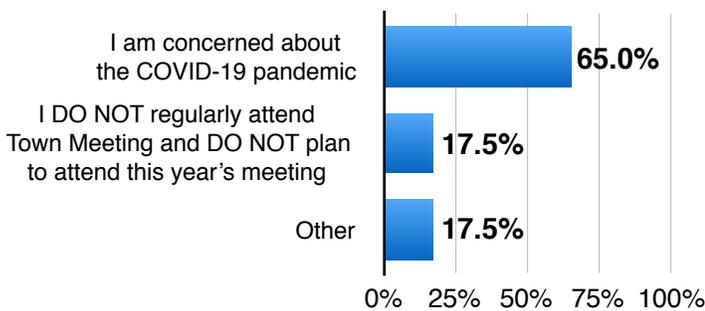
More than two-thirds of residents, 68.8%, reported they will be voting by absentee ballot.

Do you plan to attend the Annual Town Meeting when it is rescheduled?



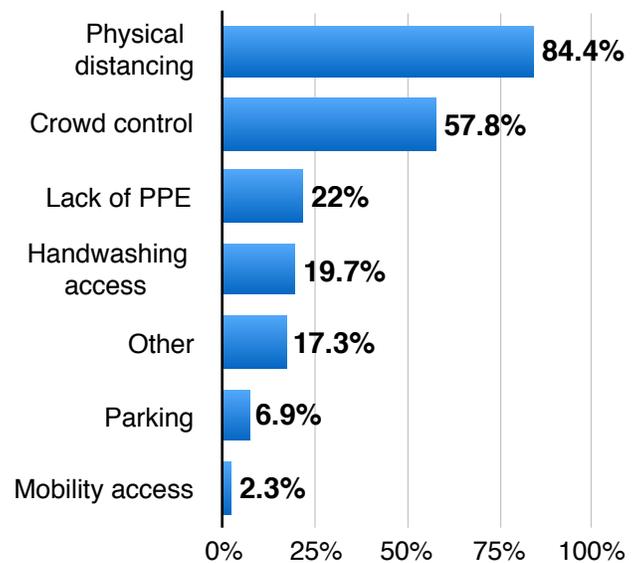
More than three-out-of-four residents, 76.9%, plan to attend the Annual Town Meeting once it is rescheduled.

If you don't plan on attending, what is your reason for making this choice?



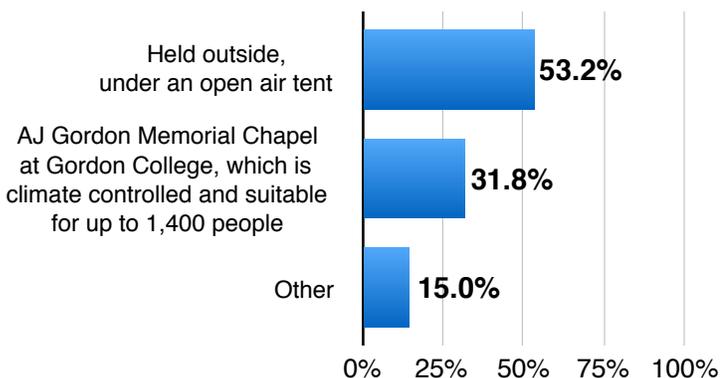
Among the 23.1% or 40 residents not planning to attend the meeting, 65.0% reported "I am concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic."

What would be your primary concern when attending the Town Meeting? (choose all that apply)



More than four-out-of-five residents, 84.4%, indicated "physical distancing" as their top concern, followed by "crowd control" (57.8%).

Knowing that Town Meeting could be held during the summer, would you feel more comfortable if it was held at:



More than one-half of residents, 53.2%, would feel more comfortable if the meeting was "held outside, under an open air tent."

GreatBlue Research, Inc.

20 Western Boulevard
Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033

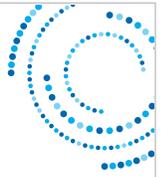
Main (860) 740-4000
Email Dan@GreatBlueResearch.com



@GBResearch



/GreatBlueResearch



2020 Annual Town Election / Annual Town Meeting Study

Q3 - If not, what is your reason for making this choice? :: "Other"

Absentee ballot.

Advance mail in ballot seems easier.

Although I faithfully attend every town meeting and desperately want to cast my vote, I will not attend until the pandemic is controlled by vaccine or successful treatment. Please find an alternative way of approving the school budget in this time of a pandemic. No one needs to die to vote. We already did the mail in ballot. As a town we need to find an alternative that is safe for everyone's participation, it is not democratic to have to choose likely exposure to a highly fatal uncontrolled disease to participate in a democracy.

Concern of COVID-19 and will be out of town.

I already voted by mail.

I am voting by absentee ballot.

I chose to vote via absentee ballot this year to promote social distancing awareness, etc.

I don't know what the vote is about!

I have an absentee ballot.

Mailing in my ballot.

Voting by absentee ballot per Town Clerk recommendation and making absentee ballot readily available.

Q4 - What is your primary concern when voting during the pandemic? (choose all that apply) :: "Other"

A public gathering, period. Danvers and other nearby towns are already over 1/50 infected. We could easily be the same with an event of this type. It is irresponsible. No one should be having a gathering of this size at this moment in time.

Disinfection protocol.

I cannot wear a mask for that long.

I have no concerns.

I have no concerns.

No concern.

Q4 - What is your primary concern when voting during the pandemic? (choose all that apply) :: "Other"

No concern.

No concerns.

No concerns.

No concerns.

No real concerns, with faith the town will have appropriate - yet measured - controls in place.

None.

None.

None.

None.

None - the hysteria over nonsense has to stop.

None - wake up and see the REAL statistics. FEAR is what kills.

Not concerned.

Pen sharing.

Sanitation of booths, ballots, etc.

Shared voting booth and pen. Being handed a ballot by someone.

Someone I encounter could be a carrier.

Spread of the virus through the air.

The ability for individuals who are at risk of catching COVID 19 to be able to vote. Mass. gov. has stated that high risk people should continue to stay home whenever possible.

The droplets hand in the air and everyone is coming through. Does each voter get their own, new pen?

The town will cover concerns. With mail in, I won't put myself or family at risk.

Unnecessary measures that might increase fear and depress participation is more concerning.

Violent Trump supporters.

Virus.

Virus in the air.

We never have a huge crowd any way just people need to be respectful.

Why take an unnecessary risk.

Will be out of town but want to vote.

Q8 - If you don't plan on attending, what is your reason for making this choice? :: "Other"

Although I faithfully attend every town meeting and desperately want to cast my vote, I will not attend until the pandemic is controlled by vaccine or successful treatment. Please find an alternative way of approving the school budget in this time of a pandemic. No one needs to die to vote. We already did the mail in ballot. As a town we need to find an alternative that is safe for everyone's participation, it is not democratic to have to choose likely exposure to a highly fatal uncontrolled disease to participate in a democracy.

Horrible timing with young kids at home.

I have gone to town meeting but believe we don't need town meeting and we should move to just voting. Town meeting is not necessary and I don't want to be in large groups for awhile.

If you zoom it I'll watch, but NOT because of the COVID-19 hysteria.

Out of town.

Out of town.

Yes, concerned about pandemic; in relation to social distancing. Can't imagine sitting in an enclosed space with hundreds of other people. We always attend TM and really hope to do so if it can be carried out safely.

Q9 - What would be your primary concern when attending the Town Meeting? (choose all that apply) :: "Other"

Allowing all to participate.

Childcare.

Having to be around people so fearful that they are always wearing masks.

Im afraid of limitations of participants creating a hand picked quorum.

It needs to be outdoors to maximize distancing.

Length of time.

Length of time of meeting increasing exposure risk.

Mild concern about distancing but would still attend.

My being too nervous/scared to pay attention.

No concerns.

No concerns.

No concerns.

None.

None.

None.

Q9 - What would be your primary concern when attending the Town Meeting? (choose all that apply) :: "Other"

None.

None.

Participation by individuals at risk of catching COVID 19. Accurately counting votes taken.

People attending that do not take the virus seriously.

Requiring attendance at a public gathering, during a pandemic, period. Danvers and other nearby towns are already over 1/50 infected. We could easily be the same with an event of this type. It is irresponsible. No one should be having a gathering of this size at this moment in time.

Sanitation of chairs, building, etc.

School budget.

See my last statement.

See previous.

See previous answer.

Shared public bathroom.

The board is out of touch with the needs of the residents.

The droplets hang in the air, how do you keep safe from that?

Violent Trump supporters.

Virus floating in the air near me.

Q10 - Knowing that Town Meeting could be held during the summer, would you feel more comfortable if it was held at... :: "Other"

Again let's just vote.

Any alternative venue and/or approach for holding Town Meeting must accommodate all voters' needs, including transportation, access and safety.

Anything is fine.

Anywhere social distancing is possible with no religious affiliations.

Do it virtually!

Either is fine with me.

Q10 - Knowing that Town Meeting could be held during the summer, would you feel more comfortable if it was held at... :: "Other"

I do not feel comfortable to be in a large crowd of 100-200 people. The town has sent absentee ballots and encouraged residents to vote remotely. Voting in person at Town hall is far safer than being in a crowd for many hours at Town meeting. The Open Space committee on which I serve, like all town committees has meet virtually, and with a quorum has been able to vote. If our small committee meets virtually to be safe, why should the entire town meet in person. There is no medical or science professional endorsing large gatherings. I attend town meeting every year. Many times we have had difficulty assembling a quorum. This will be especially difficult at the end of June compared to early April. In addition, many will not attend due to virus concerns.

I'm really not sure. You would need an awfully big tent to space people out appropriately and have an excellent sound system.

If you hold this outside can you provide an adequate sound system? Can you do multiple indoor locations and live stream it?

Just outside, no tent. Have a rain date. Bring your own chair or stand.

Live on Zoom and use an app to record votes.

Location not a priority.

Neither. Air conditioning for the first choice spreads the disease. The town should not be holding a public gathering, period. This should not be required for participation in a democracy and the town I would think could be liable. Danvers and other nearby towns are already over 1/50 infected. We could easily be the same with an event of this type. It is irresponsible. No one should be having a gathering of this size at this moment in time.

No preference.

No preference.

Not comfortable in any large crowd.

Not sure if I feel ok with either of the above.

Online.

Online, obviously.

Outside no tent.

Outside Tent. Gordon does not embrace the gay community and I think it is incorrect to use their Chapel. They should also support our schools and contribute more to the local taxes.

Virtually.

Virtually with mail in ballots or online responses for votes needed immediately.

Wait until COVID is under control.

While I like the climate controlled aspect of Gordon, that would seem to violate the principle of the separation of church and state.

Zoom.