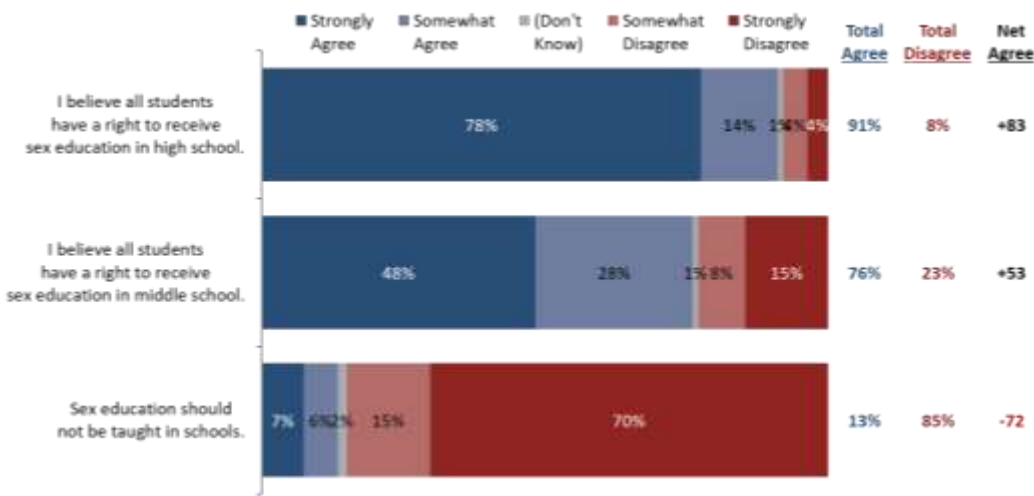


**TO:** Planned Parenthood of Massachusetts  
**FROM:** Jane Rayburn, EMC Research  
**RE:** Attitudes of Likely November 2018 Voters in Massachusetts  
**DATE:** July 13, 2018

The following findings are from a telephone survey conducted June 14 – 18, 2018, of 560 randomly selected Likely November 2018 voters in the state of Massachusetts, including an oversample of Plymouth County of 100 interviews. The results were weighted down to 500 interviews in order to resemble the demographics of Likely November 2018 voters in the state, and have an overall margin of error of  $\pm 4.4$  percentage points. The survey included both landlines and cell phones.

**Key Findings:**

**Opinions on Sex Education in Schools**

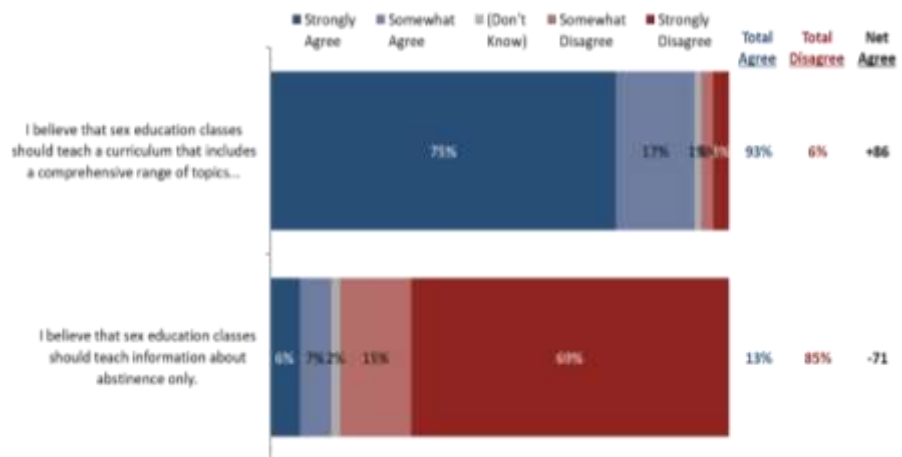


**Likely voters strongly believe that sex education should be taught in school.**

Support for students receiving sex education in high school is very strong as 78% likely voters *strongly agree* with that policy. Additionally, 3-in-4 likely voters agree that students have a right to receive sex education in middle school. Eighty five percent (85%) of likely voters disagree with the statement that sex education should not be taught in schools.

Likely voters *strongly agree* that sex education classes should teach a curriculum that includes a comprehensive range of topics instead of an abstinence-only curriculum. Three-in-four *strongly agree* with the following statement, "I believe that sex education classes should teach a curriculum that includes a comprehensive range of topics, including how to care for your sexual health and how to build healthy, respectful relationships and understand consent." Conversely, 85% of likely voters disagree that sex education classes should teach only abstinence.

**Opinions on Sex Education Curriculum**



**Support for comprehensive sex education curriculum is strong across the state.** More than six-in-ten likely voters in all regions of the state *strongly agree* that sex education should be comprehensive, and a strong majority (83%) of voters in the Greater Boston region *strongly agree* that sex education curriculum should be comprehensive. At least seven-in-ten likely voters in the Central, North Shore, Southeast, and Western regions express similar sentiments.

Number of cases	Total %	Region					
		Cape and Islands n=29	Central n=73	Greater Boston n=40	North Shore n=166	Southeast n=188	Western n=64
19. I believe that sex education classes should teach a curriculum that includes a comprehensive range of topics...	75%	61%	71%	83%	76%	76%	74%

**Comprehensive sex education curriculum also earns intense support across party lines and religious preferences.** Democrats overwhelmingly believe that the curriculum should be comprehensive. A strong majority of both Unenrolled voters and Republicans voters also *strongly agree*. More than two-in-three Protestant and three-in-four Catholic voters are also in support of this type of curriculum, while those likely voters with another religious preference or no preference garner even higher support.

Number of cases	Total %	3. Party Reg			38. Religious preference			
		Dem. n=171	Rep. n=64	Unen./ Other n=325	Protestant n=120	Catholic n=242	Other religion n=53	No pref./ (DK/Ref.) n=145
19. I believe that sex education classes should teach a curriculum that includes a comprehensive range of topics...	75%	91%	63%	69%	64%	74%	88%	82%

**Regions of Massachusetts:**

