



WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY POLLING INSTITUTE

# Springfield Survey

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## DATA TABLES

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## TABLES

*(Note: The following questions were preceded by the introduction to the survey, a question about the gender of the respondent, confirmation that the respondent was a resident of Springfield, and a question recording the number of years the respondent has lived in Springfield. The complete text of the questionnaire is available from the Western New England University Polling Institute.)*

Overall, how would you rate Springfield as a place to live? Excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Overall, how would you rate Springfield as a place to live?							
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	10%	46%	35%	9%	0%	853
Gender	Male	9%	51%	32%	9%	0%	411
	Female	11%	42%	38%	9%	0%	442
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	9%	49%	32%	10%	0%	515
	Black Non-Hispanic	12%	37%	43%	8%	0%	110
	Hispanic	11%	49%	32%	7%	0%	143
Age	18-39	6%	47%	37%	9%	0%	181
	40-54	11%	43%	37%	9%	0%	201
	55-64	12%	43%	36%	10%	0%	162
	65 and older	14%	48%	30%	8%	0%	279
Education	High school or less	10%	41%	36%	13%	0%	208
	Some college	9%	49%	38%	5%	0%	231
	College graduate	12%	55%	25%	8%	0%	408
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	18%	40%	36%	6%	0%	92
	11 – 20 years	8%	46%	35%	12%	0%	139
	More than 20 years	9%	47%	36%	9%	0%	615
Feb. 7 – 18, 2010	Adults	6%	38%	42%	12%	1%	502

*\*Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Overall, how would you rate your neighborhood as a place to live? Excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

Overall, how would you rate your neighborhood as a place to live?

		Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	26%	46%	19%	9%	0%	853
Gender	Male	27%	48%	18%	8%	0%	411
	Female	25%	45%	20%	10%	0%	442
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	29%	49%	14%	7%	0%	515
	Black Non-Hispanic	20%	41%	28%	10%	0%	110
	Hispanic	26%	48%	16%	10%	0%	143
Age	18-39	27%	45%	15%	12%	0%	181
	40-54	24%	49%	16%	11%	0%	201
	55-64	21%	53%	20%	6%	0%	162
	65 and older	32%	35%	28%	4%	0%	279
Education	High school or less	23%	45%	19%	13%	0%	208
	Some college	28%	48%	18%	6%	0%	231
	College graduate	30%	47%	18%	5%	0%	408
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	23%	54%	11%	11%	0%	92
	11 – 20 years	31%	39%	22%	8%	0%	139
	More than 20 years	25%	45%	21%	9%	0%	615
Feb. 7 – 18, 2010	Adults	24%	44%	23%	9%	0%	502

*\*Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Overall, how would you rate your neighborhood as a place to live? (selected neighborhoods)\*

		Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N**
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults (city-wide)	26%	46%	19%	9%	0%	853
Neighborhood	East Forest Park	42%	49%	10%	0%	0%	128
	East Springfield	38%	45%	12%	5%	0%	69
	Forest Park	22%	46%	19%	13%	0%	93
	Indian Orchard	26%	35%	26%	14%	0%	47
	Pine Point	14%	56%	26%	4%	0%	65
	Sixteen Acres	38%	52%	8%	2%	0%	224

*\*Neighborhoods in which at least 40 interviews were completed.*

*\*\*Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

What is the most important problem facing Springfield today?

*(Note: Respondents answered in their own words. Interviewers and Polling Institute staff coded the responses into the categories listed below.)*

	April 2 – 22, 2018	Feb. 7 – 18, 2010
Crime / public safety	41%	60%
Drugs / opioid epidemic	14%	0%
Economy / jobs / poverty	9%	17%
Schools / education	5%	5%
Traffic / roads / infrastructure	5%	0%
Housing / housing costs / homelessness	5%	2%
Taxes / government spending	4%	4%
Unresponsive politicians	1%	0%
Racism / race relations	1%	0%
Environment / trash / appearance of the city	1%	0%
Need for mass transit / buses	1%	0%
Shortage of parks and recreational facilities	1%	1%
Low level of civic engagement / involvement	1%	0%
Other (specify)	4%	8%
Don't know / refused	7%	4%
N	853	502

*Column percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

*(The following three questions rotated in random order in the survey.)*

How would you rate the job that Springfield's public schools are doing? Would you rate the schools as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
How would you rate the job that Springfield's public schools are doing?							
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	6%	34%	34%	19%	8%	853
Gender	Male	5%	38%	32%	17%	8%	411
	Female	7%	30%	35%	21%	7%	442
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	6%	30%	36%	17%	12%	515
	Black Non-Hispanic	1%	38%	37%	15%	9%	110
	Hispanic	8%	36%	30%	22%	3%	143
Age	18-39	4%	34%	33%	23%	6%	181
	40-54	7%	30%	36%	22%	5%	201
	55-64	8%	24%	40%	21%	8%	162
	65 and older	7%	44%	25%	10%	14%	279
Education	High school or less	6%	36%	37%	14%	7%	208
	Some college	4%	34%	29%	24%	9%	231
	College graduate	6%	30%	35%	21%	8%	408
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	9%	34%	32%	21%	4%	92
	11 – 20 years	4%	28%	42%	18%	8%	139
	More than 20 years	5%	34%	32%	20%	9%	615
Feb. 7 – 18, 2010	Adults	4%	31%	36%	18%	10%	502

*\*Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

How would you rate the job that Springfield is doing combatting crime? Excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		How would you rate the job that Springfield is doing combatting crime?					Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
		Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor			
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	5%	36%	41%	15%	3%	853	
Gender	Male	4%	43%	37%	14%	2%	411	
	Female	6%	28%	46%	17%	3%	442	
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	6%	43%	39%	11%	1%	515	
	Black Non-Hispanic	1%	29%	40%	27%	4%	110	
	Hispanic	6%	31%	46%	13%	4%	143	
Age	18-39	4%	34%	44%	16%	2%	181	
	40-54	2%	34%	45%	17%	2%	201	
	55-64	5%	29%	42%	20%	3%	162	
	65 and older	8%	43%	35%	9%	5%	279	
Education	High school or less	5%	36%	39%	17%	4%	208	
	Some college	3%	33%	48%	15%	1%	231	
	College graduate	8%	39%	37%	13%	3%	408	
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	4%	32%	46%	14%	3%	92	
	11 – 20 years	1%	39%	49%	10%	0%	139	
	More than 20 years	6%	35%	38%	18%	3%	615	
Feb. 7 – 18, 2010	Adults	2%	26%	48%	23%	1%	502	

*\*Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

How would you rate the local economy in Springfield? Excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

How would you rate the local economy in Springfield?

		Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	2%	27%	53%	17%	1%	853
Gender	Male	2%	31%	51%	14%	2%	411
	Female	1%	24%	56%	18%	1%	442
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	2%	36%	45%	16%	1%	515
	Black Non-Hispanic	3%	23%	61%	13%	0%	110
	Hispanic	1%	22%	58%	18%	0%	143
Age	18-39	1%	21%	62%	16%	0%	181
	40-54	2%	24%	55%	19%	0%	201
	55-64	0%	39%	40%	21%	0%	162
	65 and older	3%	39%	41%	13%	3%	279
Education	High school or less	2%	28%	48%	20%	1%	208
	Some college	2%	25%	60%	12%	1%	231
	College graduate	1%	29%	52%	17%	1%	408
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	0%	23%	63%	13%	1%	92
	11 – 20 years	0%	27%	54%	18%	0%	139
	More than 20 years	3%	29%	49%	18%	2%	615

*\*Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*



All things considered, do you think Springfield has gotten better or worse as a place to live than it was five years ago, or has it stayed about the same? (Interviewer: If the respondent answers "better" or "worse," probe by asking, "Do you think Springfield has gotten much better / worse, or only somewhat better / worse?" If the respondent says he or she has lived in Springfield for fewer than five years, say, "Then compared with when you first moved to Springfield")

Has Springfield has gotten better or worse as a place to live than it was five years ago, or has it stayed about the same?								Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
		Much better	Somewhat better	About the same	Somewhat worse	Much worse			
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	8%	25%	41%	14%	11%	1%	853	
Gender	Male	9%	26%	45%	13%	6%	0%	411	
	Female	8%	24%	36%	14%	16%	2%	442	
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	4%	26%	47%	12%	9%	1%	515	
	Black Non-Hispanic	7%	29%	37%	13%	13%	2%	110	
	Hispanic	14%	24%	36%	16%	11%	0%	143	
Age	18-39	9%	26%	46%	9%	9%	0%	181	
	40-54	7%	22%	36%	22%	12%	1%	201	
	55-64	7%	22%	38%	15%	18%	0%	162	
	65 and older	9%	31%	36%	11%	11%	2%	279	
Education	High school or less	11%	20%	39%	14%	15%	1%	208	
	Some college	6%	29%	42%	14%	7%	1%	231	
	College graduate	7%	29%	42%	12%	8%	1%	408	
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	3%	34%	48%	7%	9%	0%	92	
	11 – 20 years	11%	26%	39%	15%	8%	1%	139	
	More than 20 years	9%	23%	38%	15%	14%	1%	615	
Feb. 7 – 18, 2010	Adults	3%	20%	31%	25%	19%	2%	502	

Thinking of the future, do you think Springfield will be better or worse overall as a place to live five years from now, or will it be about the same?  
*(Interviewer: If the respondent answers "better" or "worse," probe by asking, "Do you think Springfield will be much better / worse, or only somewhat better / worse?")*

Will Springfield be better or worse as a place to live five years from now, or will it be about the same?		Much better	Somewhat better	About the same	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	13%	30%	27%	14%	7%	8%	853
Gender	Male	18%	36%	25%	13%	5%	4%	411
	Female	9%	26%	30%	16%	8%	12%	442
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	10%	32%	32%	14%	6%	6%	515
	Black Non-Hispanic	12%	32%	23%	18%	7%	9%	110
	Hispanic	18%	27%	25%	13%	8%	9%	143
Age	18-39	14%	30%	27%	16%	7%	5%	181
	40-54	15%	35%	20%	16%	8%	6%	201
	55-64	9%	20%	37%	15%	4%	14%	162
	65 and older	14%	31%	28%	10%	8%	10%	279
Education	High school or less	12%	29%	29%	11%	8%	12%	208
	Some college	17%	28%	25%	20%	6%	4%	231
	College graduate	8%	39%	28%	12%	8%	6%	408
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	19%	26%	22%	11%	9%	12%	92
	11 – 20 years	14%	34%	25%	16%	7%	3%	139
	More than 20 years	12%	29%	30%	15%	6%	8%	615
Feb. 7 – 18, 2010	Adults	9%	38%	26%	13%	8%	6%	502

Thinking of the future, do you think the local economy in Springfield will be better or worse five years from now, or will it be about the same?  
*(Interviewer: If the respondent answers "better" or "worse," probe by asking, "Do you think the Springfield economy will be much better / worse, or only somewhat better / worse?")*

		Will Springfield's economy be better or worse five years from now, or will it be about the same?						
		Much better	Somewhat better	About the same	Somewhat worse	Much worse	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	16%	43%	27%	5%	4%	5%	853
Views on casino project	Support	23%	44%	26%	4%	0%	3%	528
	Oppose	4%	36%	33%	11%	10%	7%	232
Gender	Male	21%	44%	22%	6%	4%	2%	411
	Female	12%	42%	30%	5%	4%	8%	442
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	15%	41%	31%	7%	2%	4%	515
	Black Non-Hispanic	16%	40%	25%	2%	7%	10%	110
	Hispanic	17%	48%	21%	5%	3%	6%	143
Age	18-39	19%	42%	29%	4%	2%	3%	181
	40-54	15%	45%	23%	8%	6%	3%	201
	55-64	16%	38%	25%	5%	4%	11%	162
	65 and older	13%	42%	29%	6%	3%	7%	279
Education	High school or less	13%	45%	24%	7%	3%	8%	208
	Some college	22%	36%	32%	3%	4%	3%	231
	College graduate	12%	49%	24%	6%	5%	4%	408
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	18%	49%	19%	7%	1%	5%	92
	11 – 20 years	21%	40%	28%	4%	3%	4%	139
	More than 20 years	14%	42%	29%	6%	5%	5%	615

Next, we would like to ask you a few questions about the casino complex that will open in Springfield later this year.

As you may know, MGM Resorts International plans to open a casino, hotel, and restaurants in downtown Springfield in the fall. How much information have you heard or read about the casino project? A lot, some, a little, or none at all?

How much information have you heard or read about the casino project?

		A lot	Some	A little	None at all	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	40%	32%	23%	4%	1%	853

Do you support or oppose MGM Resort International's plans for the casino and related businesses in downtown Springfield?

Support or \oppose MGM Resort International's plans for the casino and related businesses?		Support	Oppose	Don't know (Vol.)	Refused (Vol.)	N*
April 2 – 22, 2018	Adults	61%	26%	12%	1%	853
Amount of information heard or read about the casino project	A lot	63%	26%	9%	2%	416
	Some	65%	25%	9%	0%	261
	A little / None at all	55%	27%	17%	0%	167
Gender	Male	66%	24%	10%	0%	411
	Female	57%	28%	13%	1%	442
Race / Ethnicity	White Non-Hispanic	63%	27%	9.	1%	515
	Black Non-Hispanic	60%	26%	14%	0%	110
	Hispanic	62%	24%	12%	2%	143
Age	18-39	65%	22%	12%	2%	181
	40-54	63%	27%	10%	0%	201
	55-64	60%	26%	14%	1%	162
	65 and older	57%	33%	9%	1%	279
Education	High school or less	62%	25%	13%	0%	208
	Some college	62%	28%	8%	2%	231
	College graduate	61%	25%	13%	1%	408
Years of residence	10 years or fewer	67%	20%	13%	0%	92
	11 – 20 years	65%	25%	10%	0%	139
	More than 20 years	58%	29%	12%	1%	615

*\*Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

What is the top reason why you support MGM Resorts International's plans to open a casino and related businesses in downtown Springfield?

*(Note: Asked of the 528 respondents who said they supported the casino project. Respondents answered in their own words. Interviewers and Polling Institute staff coded the responses into the categories listed below.)*

Reasons for supporting the casino project	April 2 – 22, 2018
The casino will bring jobs / economic development / revitalization to Springfield	64%
The casino will provide additional money to city government	14%
The casino will bring additional customers to other businesses in Springfield	6%
The casino will provide new places to see entertainment	6%
The casino will provide new restaurants, shops and a hotel	2%
The casino will provide a place to gamble	2%
MGM Resorts International is making improvements to streets and sidewalks downtown	1%
MGM Resorts International is providing resources to improve public safety downtown	1%
Other (specify)	3%
Don't know / Refused	1%
N	528

*Column percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

What is the top reason why you oppose MGM Resorts International's plans to open a casino and related businesses in downtown Springfield?

*(Note: Asked of the 232 respondents who said they opposed the casino project. Respondents answered in their own words. Interviewers and Polling Institute staff coded the responses into the categories listed below.)*

Reasons for opposing the casino project	April 2 – 22, 2018
The casino will increase crime downtown	40%
The casino will cause traffic problems downtown	10%
Casinos cause or worsen gambling addictions	7%
The casino will take away business from existing restaurants, shops and hotels	7%
The casino generally will be bad for the community	7%
Casinos take advantage of people	6%
Gambling is immoral / sinful	6%
The respondent does not like the location of the casino	5%
Economic benefits of casinos are exaggerated	5%
The Springfield casino will face competition from other casinos in the area	1%
Casinos struggle in a bad economy	1%
Other (specify)	2%
Don't know / Refused	3%
N	232

*Column percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

## METHODOLOGY

The Western New England University Polling Institute conducted a telephone survey using live interviewers April 2 – 22, 2018. Western New England University sponsored and funded the study. The survey sample consists of telephone interviews in English or Spanish with 853 adults ages 18 and older drawn from Springfield using a combination of random-digit-dialing and listed phone numbers. Interviewers at the Polling Institute dialed household telephone numbers, known as “landline numbers,” and cell phone numbers using random samples obtained from Survey Sampling International of Shelton, CT. In order to draw a representative sample from the landline numbers, interviewers asked for the youngest adult male or the youngest adult female age 18 or older who was home at the time of the call. Interviewers dialing cell phone numbers interviewed the respondent who answered the cell phone after confirming three things: (1) that the respondent was in a safe setting to complete the survey; (2) that the respondent was age 18 or older; and (3) that the respondent was a resident of Springfield. The sample consists of 355 interviews completed on landlines and 498 interviews completed on cell phones. The landline and cell phone data were combined and weighted to reflect the adult population of Springfield by gender, race, ethnicity, age, and education level using U.S. Census estimates for Springfield. Complete results of the poll are available at <http://www1.wne.edu/polling-institute/index.cfm>.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population. The margin of sampling error for a sample of 853 adults is +/- 4.9 percent at a 95 percent confidence interval. The margin of sampling error includes a design effect of 2.2 to reflect variability introduced by weighting the data. Thus if 50 percent of survey respondents rated Springfield as an excellent or good place in which to live, one would be 95 percent confident that the true figure would be between 45.1 percent and 54.9 percent (50 percent +/- 4.9 percent) had all adults in Springfield been interviewed, rather than just a sample. Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. Sampling error does not take into account other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects.

Established in 2005, the Western New England University Polling Institute conducts research on issues of importance to Massachusetts and the region. The Institute provides the University’s faculty and students with opportunities to participate in public opinion research. The Institute is a charter member of the Transparency Initiative, sponsored by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. The Transparency Initiative supports greater openness in the reporting of survey research methodology. Additional information about the Polling Institute is available from Dr. Tim Vercellotti, director of the Polling Institute, at [polling@wne.edu](mailto:polling@wne.edu).