

**Western New England University Polling Institute (April 11 – 18, 2013)**

What is the most important issue to you personally in determining whom to vote for for the Senate?  
*Respondents answered in their own words, and interviewers coded the open-ended responses using the following list. The results summarize responses from voters who said they are very or somewhat likely to vote in the June 25, 2013 special Senate election.*

Most Important Issue in Senate Race – 2013 Special Election Compared to Warren v. Brown Senate Election in 2012

	April 11 – 18, 2013	Democrats	Republicans	Unenrolled	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4, 2012
	Likely voters	Likely voters	Likely voters	Likely voters	Likely voters
The economy, unemployment, jobs, stock market	31%	25%	39%	30%	28%
Morals, ethics, personal integrity of the candidate	5%	7%	3%	5%	12%
No issue. The party of the candidate	4%	6%	7%	3%	7%
No issue. Party control of the Senate	1%	2%	0%	1%	6%
Education	6%	4%	4%	5%	2%
Health care	6%	11%	3%	4%	6%
Taxes and tax reform	5%	3%	11%	5%	5%
Social Security	4%	7%	1%	4%	1%
Defense, war on terrorism, national security, homeland security	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%
Budget deficit	2%	1%	3%	4%	2%
Abortion	3%	1%	1%	4%	1%
Banking reform, Wall Street reform	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Contraception	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Environment	2%	4%	0%	2%	1%
Gun control / Second Amendment rights	7%	7%	7%	6%	0%
Women’s rights	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Standing up for the working class / middle class	1%	1%	0%	2%	3%
Ability to work in a bipartisan way	1%	1%	0%	3%	1%
Candidate’s background, experience, record	2%	3%	0%	3%	0%
Other	10%	9%	13%	10%	9%
Don’t know / Refused	8%	7%	6%	9%	11%
N	480	167	71	227	440

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