

Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance

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Council candidates from large cities spend \$5.5 million in 2025 election

City council candidates in the state's 17 largest cities reported raising \$5.8 million and spending \$5.5 million during the 2025 election.

City council elections were held Nov. 4 across the state, but only candidates in communities with populations exceeding 65,000 were required to e-file campaign finance reports with OCPF.

There were 354 on-ballot city council candidates filing reports with OCPF in Boston, Brockton, Cambridge, Fall River, Framingham, Haverhill, Malden, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, New Bedford, Newton, Quincy, Somerville, Springfield, Waltham and Worcester.

The totals and figures include activity disclosed from Jan. 1 through Nov. 30.

City council candidates in the communities above must organize and file campaign finance reports with OCPF in the depository system of reporting, which requires banks to file campaign expenditures on their behalf each month. Candidates are required to e-file reports to disclose contributor information.

Candidates in Boston, the state's largest city, reported the highest spending totals – \$2.2 million by 37 candidates, averaging \$59,257 each. The least amount of financial activity occurred in Fall River, with the 14 candidates spending \$2,546 each, on average.

Of the top 10 spending totals by individual candidates, eight were from Boston, and one each from Cambridge and Worcester.

A total of \$5.8 million was raised by the 354 city council candidates filing with OCPF, averaging \$16,324 per candidate.

In the 2023 election, 368 candidates reported spending \$5,978,512.

City council candidates in cities with populations of less than 65,000 file campaign finance reports with local election officials, not OCPF.

The totals in greater detail:

Expenditure Totals by City

Jan. 1 – Nov. 30

CITY / POP.	EXPENDITURES	ON BALLOT CANDIDATES*	AVERAGE PER CANDIDATE
Boston, 675,647	\$2,192,537	37	\$59,257
Brockton, 105,643	\$136,883	26	\$5,264
Cambridge, 118,403	\$591,216	19	\$31,116
Fall River, 94,000	\$35,651	14	\$2,546
Framingham, 72,362	\$70,699	12	\$5,891
Haverhill, 67,787	\$48,638	16	\$3,039
Lawrence, 89,143	\$151,763	20	\$7,588
Lowell, 115,554	\$224,506	22	\$10,204
Lynn, 101,253	\$134,036	17	\$7,884
Malden, 66,263	\$70,961	16	\$4,435
New Bedford, 101,079	\$99,074	21	\$4,717
Newton, 88,923	\$149,053	29	\$5,139
Quincy, 101,636	\$369,086	21	\$17,575
Somerville, 81,045	\$248,454	22	\$11,293
Springfield, 155,929	\$315,781	23	\$13,729
Waltham, 65,218	\$75,272	17	\$4,427
**Worcester, 206,518	\$547,352	22	\$24,879

**Candidates who are organized with OCPF and on the ballot.*

***This study does not include the mayor of Worcester, who is also elected as a city councilor.*

Top Five Expenditure Totals by Candidate in Each City

2025

	Candidate	Expenditures	Winner
Boston	Ruthzee Louijeune	\$308,531	Yes
	Frank Baker	\$284,591	No
	Julia Mejia	\$163,860	Yes
	Gabriela Coletta	\$121,309	Yes
	Brian Worrell	\$118,547	Yes

	Candidate	Expenditures	Winner
Brockton	Jeffrey Charnel	\$29,773	Yes
	Carla Darosa	\$11,547	Yes
	Philip Griffin	\$9,808	Yes
	Winthrop Farwell	\$7,888	Yes
	Ellie Teixeira	\$7,824	Yes
Cambridge	Tim Flaherty	\$134,790	Yes
	Marc McGovern	\$71,641	Yes
	Denise Simmons	\$49,872	Yes
	Burhan Azeem	\$45,226	Yes
	Sumbul Siddiqui	\$41,695	Yes
Fall River	Michael Canuel	\$12,190	Yes
	Louis Melim	\$5,452	No
	Joseph Camara	\$5,244	Yes
	Christopher Peckham	\$4,359	Yes
	Linda Pereira	\$3,914	Yes
Framingham	Philip Ottaviani	\$33,608	Yes
	John Stefanini	\$11,467	Yes
	Carol Spack	\$7,236	No
	Brandon Ward	\$4,197	Yes
	Leora Mallach	\$3,633	Yes
Haverhill	Timothy Jordan	\$10,076	Yes
	John Michitson	\$8,299	Yes
	Thomas Sullivan	\$7,709	Yes
	Ralph Basiliere	\$4,718	Yes
	Colin LePage	\$4,287	Yes
Lawrence	Franklin Miguel	\$26,413	Yes
	Wendy Luzon	\$17,756	No
	Nilson Rosario	\$15,148	No
	Vivian Marmol	\$14,084	Yes
	Gregory Delrosario	\$13,990	Yes
Lowell	Francisco Maldonado	\$29,616	No
	Belinda Juran	\$28,465	Yes
	Erik Gitschier	\$18,675	Yes
	Vesna Nuon	\$15,197	Yes
	Sokhary Chau	\$14,332	Yes

	Candidate	Expenditures	Winner
Lynn	Peter Meaney	\$39,635	Yes
	Brian LaPierre	\$16,340	Yes
	Nicole McClain	\$14,957	Yes
	Brian Field	\$8,933	Yes
	Constantino Alinsug	\$8,284	Yes
Malden	Michelle Luong	\$15,951	Yes
	Peg Crowe	\$11,316	Yes
	Carey McDonald	\$9,576	Yes
	Craig Spadafora	\$7,044	No
	Karen Hayes	\$7,042	Yes
New Bedford	Ian Abreu	\$16,917	Yes
	Naomi Carney	\$12,276	Yes
	James Roy	\$11,076	Yes
	Leo Choquette	\$9,708	Yes
	Joseph Lopes	\$8,771	Yes
Newton	Cyrus Dahmubed	\$28,069	Yes
	John Chaimanis	\$15,840	No
	Theodore Gross	\$12,705	No
	Joshua Krintzman	\$11,694	Yes
	Sean Roche	\$10,472	Yes
Quincy	Scott Campbell	\$59,495	No
	Noel DiBona	\$55,908	Yes
	Alie Shaughnessy	\$50,931	No
	William Harris	\$45,161	No
	David McCarthy	\$36,415	No
Somerville	Ben Wheeler	\$29,554	Yes
	Justin Klekota	\$27,666	No
	Kristen Strezo	\$26,880	Yes
	Holly Simione	\$24,786	No
	Emily Hardt	\$23,340	Yes
Springfield	Joesiah Gonzalez	\$44,950	No
	Maria Perez	\$29,442	Yes
	Justin Hurst	\$28,138	Yes
	Brian Santaniello	\$27,682	Yes
	Victor Davila	\$25,486	Yes

	Candidates	Expenditures	Winner
Waltham	Timothy King	\$14,094	Yes
	Emma Tzioumis	\$11,329	Yes
	Colleen Bradley-MacArthur	\$10,184	Yes
	Cathyann Harris	\$5,764	Yes
	Randall LeBlanc	\$5,541	Yes
Worcester	Satya Mitra	\$95,381	Yes
	Candy Mero Carlson	\$57,229	No
	Robert Pezzella	\$56,135	No
	Morris Bergman	\$51,688	Yes
	Khrystian King	\$43,881	Yes

City Council Totals, By Candidate