

Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance

Campaign Finance Activity by Candidates for the Massachusetts General Court

2020



INTRODUCTION

This totals displayed here are for campaign finance activity undertaken by candidates for the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives (known collectively as The General Court) in **calendar year 2020**.

The information contained in this legislative study is based on data compiled from campaign finance reports electronically filed by candidates and treasurers of political committees organized on behalf of candidates for the Massachusetts Senate and House. In 2020, 316 candidates sought legislative office and filed disclosure reports with OCPF: 56 running for 40 Senate seats, and 260 seeking one of 160 House seats.

Legislative candidates and their committees are in the depository system of reporting. They file deposit reports with OCPF to reflect deposits at the bank. Banks file monthly reports on their behalf, itemizing expenditures and providing a deposit total.

The Office of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF) is an independent state agency that administers Massachusetts General Law Chapter 55, the campaign finance law. The law provides for disclosure and regulation of campaign finance activity on the state, county and municipal levels. The reports filed by state and county candidates and committees are available on the office's web site at ocpf.us.

2021

OVERVIEW

Receipts and expenditures for legislative candidates decreased in 2020 compared to the previous state election in 2018.

Total fundraising for the 316 legislative candidates in 2020 reached \$11 million (\$34,929 per candidate). The record for total receipts was set in 2004, when 390 candidates reported raising \$17,275,537.

Expenditure totals in 2020 were \$10.6 million (\$33,549 per candidate). The record for total expenditures was set in 2004, when 390 candidates reported spending \$17,640,644.

AGGREGATE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES 2006 – 2018

	<i>2012</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2020</i>
Number of candidates	346	372	337	377	316
Receipts	\$11,533,612	\$12,185,713	\$12,899,777	\$14,839,395	\$11,033,014
Expenditures	\$11,902,207	\$12,425,073	\$12,211,196	\$14,729,770	\$10,597,571

Of the 316 legislative candidates in 2020, 56 were seeking one of 40 Senate seats and 260 were running for the 160-seat House.

A list of all legislative candidates, with receipt and expenditure totals, is available by [clicking here](#).

THE SENATE
OVERVIEW OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY
FOR SENATE CANDIDATES

	<i>2012</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2020</i>
<i>Number of candidates</i>	72	75	69	76	56
<i>Total receipts</i>	\$4,387,418	\$4,272,990	\$4,648,172	\$5,250,469	\$3,503,173
<i>Average receipts per candidate</i>	\$60,936	\$56,973	\$67,364	\$69,085	\$62,556
<i>Total expenditures</i>	\$4,561,438	\$4,347,182	\$4,472,623	\$5,040,313	\$3,213,997
<i>Average expenditures per candidate</i>	\$63,353	\$57,962	\$64,820	\$66,319	\$57,392
<i>Total on hand at end</i>	\$3,151,043	\$3,113,278	\$3,916,553	\$4,399,221	\$5,215,437

TOP FUNDRAISERS BY YEAR

2020	Nicholas Collins	\$246,115
2018	Barry Finegold of Andover	\$458,009
2016	Stanley Rosenberg of Amherst	\$427,811
2014	Eric Lesser of Longmeadow	\$416,894
2012	Therese Murray of Plymouth	\$475,095
2010	Daniel Wolf of Harwich	\$363,856
2008	Therese Murray of Plymouth	\$360,158
2006	Robert Travaglini of East Boston	\$337,658

A table of campaign finance activity by all Senate candidates is available on the OCPF website by clicking this link: [click here](#).

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The number of state representative candidates decreased from 301 in 2018 to 260 in 2020, to fill 160 seats. The largest number of House candidates recorded in an OCPF study was 401 in 1990.

OVERVIEW OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY FOR HOUSE CANDIDATES

	2014	2016	2018	2020
<i>Number of candidates</i>	297	268	301	260
<i>Total receipts</i>	\$7,912,723	\$8,251,605	\$9,588,925	\$7,529,841
<i>Average receipts per candidate</i>	\$26,642	\$30,789	\$31,856	\$28,960
<i>Total expenditures</i>	\$8,077,891	\$7,738,573	\$9,689,456	\$7,383,574
<i>Average expenditures per candidate</i>	\$27,198	\$28,875	\$32,190	\$28,398
<i>Total on hand at end</i>	\$4,763,029	\$6,658,564	\$6,744,387	\$6,947,806

Expenditures do not include debts incurred that had not been paid.

TOP FUNDRAISERS BY YEAR

2020	Jon Santiago of Boston	\$155,070
2018	Robert DeLeo of Winthrop	\$510,814
2016	Robert DeLeo of Winthrop	\$569,200*
2014	Robert DeLeo of Winthrop	\$465,281
2012	Robert DeLeo of Winthrop	\$383,340
2010	Robert DeLeo of Winthrop	\$462,596
2008	Salvatore DiMasi of Boston	\$312,174
2006	Salvatore DiMasi of Boston	\$353,202

*Record

A table of campaign finance activity by all House candidates is available by [clicking here](#).