



Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance

2024 Campaign Finance Activity by Candidates for the Massachusetts General Court

House and Senate

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INTRODUCTION

This study examines campaign finance activity undertaken by candidates for the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives (known collectively as The General Court) in calendar year 2024. The Office of Campaign and Political Finance has issued a report of this type after every state election since 1990.

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 2024, 312 candidates sought legislative office and filed disclosure reports with OCPF: 61 running for 40 Senate seats, and 251 seeking one of 160 House seats.

Legislative candidates and their committees are in the depository system of reporting. Candidates file deposit reports with OCPF to disclose receipts (contributions). A bank files monthly reports showing total receipts, and itemizes expenditures based on check and debit card activity.

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.

This study was compiled and written based on information filed by candidates, committees and banks. Some totals in this study may change as amendments are filed. Those seeking further information on the study or any other facet of the Massachusetts campaign finance law may contact the Office of Campaign and Political Finance by e-mailing OCPF@mass.gov.

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OVERVIEW

Receipts and expenditures for legislative candidates decreased in 2024 compared to the previous state election in 2022.

Total fundraising for the 312 legislative candidates in 2024 reached \$13.1 million (\$41,994 per candidate). The record for total receipts was set in 2004, when 390 candidates reported raising \$17,275,537 (\$44,296 per candidate).

Expenditure totals in 2024 decreased to \$12.8 million (\$41,124 per candidate) compared to 2022. The record for total expenditures was set in 2004, when 390 candidates reported spending \$17,640,644 (\$45,232 per candidate).

AGGREGATE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES 2014-2024

	<i>2014</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2024</i>
Number of candidates	372	337	377	316	350	312
Receipts	\$12,185,713	\$12,899,777	\$14,839,395	\$11,033,014	\$14,569,362	\$13,102,399
Expenditures	\$12,425,073	\$12,211,196	\$14,729,770	\$10,597,571	\$15,393,587	\$12,830,759

Of the 312 legislative candidates in 2024, 61 were seeking one of 40 Senate seats and 251 were running for the 160-seat House.

No records were reached in 2024.

The number of candidates decreased from 350 in 2022 to 312 in 2024. The lowest total ever recorded in OCPF studies, which have been compiled after each election since 1990, was 311 in 2008. The highest number of legislative candidates recorded in an OCPF study was 507 in 1990.

Twenty-two new legislators were elected in 2024. The new legislators include three in the Senate and 19 in the House.

The findings for each of the two chambers of the Legislature are broken down in each of the two sections that follow this introduction.

SECTION I: THE SENATE

Average receipt totals in 2024 decreased compared to the 2022 election. Senate candidates on average raised \$70,311 in 2024, down from \$72,741. The record receipts average for Senate candidates is \$93,370, set in 2004.

Average 2024 expenditures decreased to \$71,586, down from \$84,782 in 2022. The highest expenditure average was \$94,082, set in 2004.

OVERVIEW OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY FOR SENATE CANDIDATES

	<i>2016</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2024</i>
<i>Number of candidates</i>	69	76	56	76	61
<i>Total receipts</i>	\$4,648,172	\$5,250,469	\$3,503,173	\$5,528,301	\$4,289,007
<i>Average receipts per candidate</i>	\$67,364	\$69,085	\$62,556	\$72,741	\$70,311
<i>Total expenditures</i>	\$4,472,623	\$5,040,313	\$3,213,997	\$6,443,402	\$4,366,797
<i>Average expenditures per candidate</i>	\$64,820	\$66,319	\$57,392	\$84,782	\$71,586
<i>Total on hand at end</i>	\$3,916,553	\$4,399,221	\$5,215,437	\$4,838,284	\$5,403,467

Expenditures do not include debts incurred that had not been paid at the end of 2024.

Overall totals in both receipts and expenditures decreased in 2024, compared to the 2022 election.

A total of 61 candidates ran for the Senate in 2024, a decrease of 15 from 2022. The Senate that was seated in January 2025 was made up of 35 Democrats and five Republicans.

The findings in greater detail:

I. Success of Campaigns

Winning candidates spent more money than their opponents. On average, Senate winners outspent unsuccessful candidates \$88,219 to \$39,906. In 2022, the comparison was \$113,582 to \$52,781.

The candidate who spent the most and was unsuccessful was Mathew Muratore of Plymouth, who reported \$181,760 in expenditures. The winner in that race was Dylan Fernandes of Falmouth, who reported \$428,063 in expenditures.

The winning candidate who spent the least amount of money and was opposed, was Sen. Edward Kennedy of Lowell, who reported \$32,330 in expenditures.

SENATE CANDIDATES' RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY SUCCESS OF CAMPAIGNS

2024

	<i>Successful (40)</i>	<i>Unsuccessful (21)</i>
<i>Total Receipts</i>	\$3,498,853	\$790,153
<i>Average Receipts</i>	\$87,471	\$37,626
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$3,528,761	\$838,036
<i>Average Expenditures</i>	\$88,219	\$39,906

II. Party Affiliation

Democrats on average had higher receipt and expenditure totals than Republican candidates.

There were 44 Democrats on the ballot in 2024, accounting for 72 percent of all Senate candidates. Democrats accounted for 78 percent of expenditures in 2024.

**SENATE CANDIDATES' RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY PARTY AFFILIATION
2024**

	<i>Democrats (44)</i>	<i>Republicans (14)</i>	<i>Unenrolled or Other (3)</i>
<i>Total receipts</i>	\$3,345,753	\$935,843	\$7,411
<i>Average receipts</i>	\$76,039	\$66,845	\$2,470
<i>Total expenditures</i>	\$3,418,677	\$940,381	\$7,737
<i>Average expenditures</i>	\$77,697	\$67,170	\$2,579

III. Contested and Uncontested Races

The 37 opposed candidates reported lower average expenditures in 2024 (\$75,070) compared to 2022 (\$88,566).

In the 16 contested Senate races, the candidate who spent the most money won all 16 races. A contested race is when two or more candidates run for the same office.

**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY SENATE CANDIDATES OPPOSED AND
UNOPPOSED**

2024

	<i>Opposed (37)</i>	<i>Unopposed (24)</i>
<i>Total Receipts</i>	\$2,444,212	\$1,844,794
<i>Average receipts</i>	\$66,059	\$76,866
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$2,777,606	\$1,589,190
<i>Average Expenditures</i>	\$75,070	\$66,216

The **three open seats** in 2024, with no incumbent running for re-election:

<i>District</i>	<i>Previous Incumbent</i>	<i>Winner</i>
3 rd Bristol & Plymouth	Marc Pacheco (D)	Kelly Dooner (R)
Norfolk, Plymouth & Bristol	Walter Timilty (D)	William Driscoll (D)
Plymouth & Barnstable	Susan Moran (D)	Dylan Fernandes (D)

IV. Most Active Candidates and Races

CONTESTED SENATE RACES WITH THE HIGHEST EXPENDITURES IN 2024

	<i>District</i>	<i>Total spent</i>	<i>Number of candidates</i>	<i>Winner</i>
1.	Plymouth & Barnstable	\$640,838	3	Dylan Fernandes
2.	Cape & Islands	\$369,644	3	Julian Andre Cyr
3.	3 rd Bristol & Plymouth	\$289,881	4	Kelly Dooner
4.	Worcester & Middlesex	\$250,955	2	John Cronin
5.	Norfolk, Plymouth & Bristol	\$202,823	3	William Driscoll
6.	1 st Suffolk	\$171,907	2	Nicholas Collins
7.	3 rd Suffolk	\$130,266	2	Lydia Edwards
8.	Worcester & Hampshire	\$110,517	2	Peter Durant
9.	Norfolk, Worcester & Middlesex	\$108,998	2	Rebecca Rausch
10.	2 nd Essex	\$100,433	2	Joan Lovely

The highest amount ever spent for a Senate race was \$809,637 in 2002, when three candidates were vying for an open seat in the Middlesex, Suffolk and Essex District. The winner was Jarrett Barrios of Cambridge.

TOP FUNDRAISERS

The top fundraiser in 2024 was Senate President Karen Spilka of Ashland, who reported \$323,600 in contributions. The top fundraiser in 2022 was Barry Finegold of Andover, who reported \$350,569 in receipts.

The highest amount ever raised by any Senate candidate in an election year was \$1.358 million in 2000 by Thomas Birmingham, who ran unopposed.

SENATE CANDIDATES RAISING THE MOST MONEY IN 2024

	Candidate	City or Town	Receipts	Opposed	Winner
1.	Karen Spilka	Ashland	\$323,600	No	Yes
2.	Dylan Fernandes	Falmouth	\$322,493	Yes	Yes
3.	Michael Rodrigues	Westport	\$270,612	No	Yes
4.	Julian Andre Cyr	Provincetown	\$213,739	Yes	Yes
5.	John Cronin	Fitchburg	\$169,583	Yes	Yes
6.	Nicholas Collins	Boston	\$164,637	Yes	Yes
7.	Mathew Muratore	Plymouth	\$161,759	Yes	No
8.	James Eldridge	Marlborough	\$154,777	No	Yes
9.	Nicholas Pirro	Lunenburg	\$152,767	Yes	No
10.	Barry Finegold	Andover	\$134,025	No	Yes

The winning candidate who raised the least in 2024 was Mark Montigny of New Bedford, who reported \$2,855 in receipts. Montigny also raised the least in 2022, \$1,579 in receipts.

TOP EXPENDITURE TOTALS

Dylan Fernandes of Falmouth, a former state representative, reported the highest expenditures total in 2024, \$428,063. Barry Finegold of Andover holds the spending record, \$622,149 set in 2022.

The candidate who spent the least and won was John Keenan of Quincy, who reported \$10,502. Expenditures were reported by all but two Senate candidates, both of whom were unsuccessful.

SENATE CANDIDATES WITH THE HIGHEST EXPENDITURE TOTALS IN 2024

	Candidate	City or Town	Expenditures	Opposed	Elected
1.	Dylan Fernandes	Falmouth	\$428,063	Yes	Yes
2.	Karen Spilka	Ashland	\$367,305	No	Yes
3.	Julian Andre Cyr	Provincetown	\$279,907	Yes	Yes
4.	Mathew Muratore	Plymouth	\$181,760	Yes	No
5.	Michael Rodrigues	Westport	\$173,337	No	Yes
6.	Nicholas Collins	Boston	\$170,000	Yes	Yes
7.	Nicholas Pirro	Lunenburg	\$151,903	Yes	No
8.	Lydia Edwards	Boston	\$129,660	Yes	Yes
9.	Kelly Dooner	Taunton	\$128,367	Yes	Yes
10.	William Driscoll	Milton	\$126,491	Yes	Yes

I = Incumbent

The record amount spent by all Senate candidates was \$7,620,649 in 2004.

V. Ending Balances

Candidates for the Senate reported ending 2024 with \$5,403,467 in cash on hand.

The candidate with the greatest amount of money on hand at the end of 2024 was Michael Rodrigues of Westport with \$876,320. The record of \$2.2 million was held by former Senate President Thomas Birmingham in 2000.

As was the case in every election year since 1998, the candidates with the ten highest ending balances in 2024 were all incumbents (cash on hand as of Dec. 31, 2024).

SENATE CANDIDATES WITH THE HIGHEST CASH ON HAND 2024

	Candidate*	City or Town	Balance**	Opposed	Winner
1.	Michael Rodrigues	Westport	\$876,320	No	Yes
2.	Mark Montigny	New Bedford	\$757,397	Yes	Yes
3.	Bruce Tarr	Gloucester	\$519,436	No	Yes
4.	James Eldridge	Marlborough	\$338,660	No	Yes
5.	Karen Spilka	Ashland	\$289,898	No	Yes
6.	Barry Finegold	Andover	\$254,933	No	Yes
7.	Ryan Fattman	Sutton	\$214,797	Yes	Yes
8.	William Brownsberger	Belmont	\$191,941	No	Yes
9.	Michael Barrett	Lexington	\$158,952	No	Yes
10.	Julian Andre Cyr	Provincetown	\$155,343	Yes	Yes

*All 10 are incumbents

**Cash on hand as of Dec. 31, 2024, including savings balances.

Three Senate candidates reported having no money at the end of the election year. The winner with the lowest ending balance was William Driscoll of Milton with \$3,187.

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

SECTION II: THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The number of state representative candidates decreased from 274 in 2022 to 251 in 2024.

A total of 251 candidates sought election to the House in 2024 – 177 Democrats, 52 Republicans and 22 unenrolled or another party. The largest number of House candidates recorded in an OCPF study was 401 in 1990.

The new House that took office in January 2025 was composed of 19 new representatives – 15 Democrats and four Republicans.

OVERVIEW OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY FOR HOUSE CANDIDATES

	<i>2016</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2024</i>
<i>Number of candidates</i>	268	301	260	274	251
<i>Total receipts</i>	\$8,251,605	\$9,588,925	\$7,529,841	\$9,041,061	\$8,813,392
<i>Average receipts per candidate</i>	\$30,789	\$31,856	\$28,960	\$32,997	\$35,113
<i>Total expenditures</i>	\$7,738,573	\$9,689,456	\$7,383,574	\$8,950,186	\$8,463,962
<i>Average expenditures per candidate</i>	\$28,875	\$32,190	\$28,398	\$32,665	\$33,720
<i>Total on hand at end</i>	\$6,658,564	\$6,744,387	\$6,947,806	\$8,486,384	\$9,382,997

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

Total receipts decreased in 2024, from \$9 million in 2022 to \$8.8 million in 2024. Expenditures also decreased, from \$9 million in 2022 to \$8.5 million in 2024.

The findings in greater detail:

I. Success of Campaigns

Winning candidates comprised 64 percent of the field and accounted for 80 percent of spending.

Twelve candidates were outspent in 2024 but still won their races.

HOUSE CANDIDATES' RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY SUCCESS OF CAMPAIGNS 2024

	<i>Successful (160)</i>	<i>Unsuccessful (91)</i>
<i>Total Receipts</i>	\$6,755,335	\$2,058,056
<i>Average Receipts</i>	\$42,220	\$22,616
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$6,335,851	\$2,128,110
<i>Average Expenditures</i>	\$39,599	\$23,385

19 new state representatives took office in January, 2025:

Michelle Badger, D, Plymouth
Leigh Davis, D, Great Barrington
Dennis Gallagher, D, Bridgewater
John Gaskey, R, Carver

Homer Gomez, D, Easthampton
Tara Hong, D, Lowell
Hadley Luddy, D, Orleans
Thomas Moakley, D, Falmouth
Bridget Plouffe, D, Brockton
Sean Reid, D, Lynn
Amy Sangiolo, D, Newton
Greg Schwartz, D, Newton
Ken Sweezey, R, Pembroke
Mark Sylvia, D, Fairhaven
John Tarsky, D, Needham
Justin Thurber, R, Somerset
Richard Wells, D, Milton
Michael Chaisson, R, Foxboro
Steven Ouellette, D, Westport

II. Party Affiliation

Democrats were the dominant party in terms of expenditures in 2024. The 177 Democrats represented 83 percent of all expenditures.

The 52 Republicans running in 2024 accounted for 14 percent of the total expenditures.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY PARTY AFFILIATION

2024

	<i>Democrats (177)</i>	<i>Republicans (52)</i>	<i>Unenrolled or minor party (22)</i>
<i>Total Receipts</i>	\$7,383,509	\$1,200,869	\$229,013
<i>Average Receipts</i>	\$41,714	\$23,093	\$10,409
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$7,020,935	\$1,210,474	\$232,552
<i>Average Expenditures</i>	\$39,666	\$23,278	\$10,570

Of the 22 unenrolled or minor party candidates, one won – Susannah Whipps of Athol.

III. Contested and Uncontested Races

There were 101 House races in 2024 that featured unopposed candidates (82 in 2022). The 102 unopposed races in 2008 was the highest number recorded since OCPF began studying legislative campaign finance activity in 1990.

The remaining races in 2024 were contested, featuring two or more candidates.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BY HOUSE CANDIDATES

OPPOSED AND UNOPPOSED: 2024

	<i>Opposed (150)</i>	<i>Unopposed (101)</i>
<i>Total Receipts</i>	\$4,955,886	\$3,857,506
<i>Average receipts</i>	\$33,039	\$38,193
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$4,952,169	\$3,511,793
<i>Average Expenditures</i>	\$33,014	\$34,770

Candidates who were opposed in 2024 outspent unopposed candidates as a group.

In the 59 contested House races in 2024, the candidate who spent the most money won 47 times, a success rate of 80 percent (it was 87 percent in 2022).

Winning candidates who were outspent by at least one other candidate in 2024

Steven Xiarhos (R)
Michael Chaisson (R)
Justin Thurber (R)
Steven Ouellette (D)
Kelly Pease (R)
David Linsky (D)

Carmine Gentile (D)
 Richard Wells (D)
 Michelle Badger (D)
 John Gaskey (R)
 Kenneth Sweezey (R)
 Rita Mendes (D)

IV. Most Active Candidates and Races

While 59 of the 160 seats in the House were contested in the 2024 election, each election varied in factors such as the level of competition and campaign finance activity.

CONTESTED HOUSE RACES WITH THE HIGHEST EXPENDITURE TOTALS

2024

	District	Total spent	Number of candidates	Winner
1.	25 th Middlesex	\$331,455	2	Marjorie Decker (I)
2.	1 st Plymouth	\$263,751	6	Michelle Badger
3.	12 th Middlesex	\$225,388	3	Gregory Schwartz
4.	35 th Middlesex	\$214,161	3	Paul Donato (I)
5.	1 st Middlesex	\$170,995	2	Margaret Scarsdale (I)
6.	6 th Plymouth	\$164,693	3	Kenneth Sweezey
7.	3 rd Berkshire	\$150,692	4	Leigh Davis
8.	7 th Norfolk	\$147,549	4	Richard Wells
9.	13 th Norfolk	\$138,830	4	Joshua Tarsky
10.	Barnstable, Dukes & Nantucket	\$134,107	2	Thomas Moakley

I = Incumbent.

TOP FUNDRAISERS AND SPENDERS

Rep. Aaron Michlewitz of Boston topped the fundraising list, raising \$544,537 in 2024. He also reported the highest fundraising in 2022, with \$471,619. Former House Speaker Robert DeLeo set the fundraising record in 2016, with \$569,200.

Six House candidates reported no receipts in 2024 and all were unsuccessful.

HOUSE CANDIDATES RAISING THE MOST MONEY IN 2024

	Candidate	City/Town	Total	Opposed	Elected
1.	Aaron Michlewitz (I)	Boston	\$544,537	No	Yes
2.	Michael Moran (I)	Brighton	\$175,065	No	Yes
3.	Marjorie Decker (I)	Cambridge	\$172,415	Yes	Yes
4.	Jeffrey Turco (I)	Winthrop	\$120,058	No	Yes
5.	Jeffrey Roy (I)	Franklin	\$115,776	Yes	Yes
6.	Christopher Worrell (I)	Dorchester	\$113,759	No	Yes
7.	Margaret Scarsdale (I)	Pepperell	\$108,441	Yes	Yes
8.	Adrian Madaro (I)	East Boston	\$108,069	No	Yes
9.	John Lawn (I)	Watertown	\$103,217	No	Yes
10.	Mark Sylvia	Fairhaven	\$101,557	Yes	Yes

I = Incumbent.

Note: All 10 are Democrats

TOP FUNDRAISERS BY YEAR

2024 Aaron Michlewitz of Boston \$544,537

2022 Aaron Michlewitz of Boston \$471,619

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*

HOUSE CANDIDATES WITH THE HIGHEST EXPENDITURE TOTALS IN 2024

	Candidate	City/Town	Total	Opposed	Elected
1.	Aaron Michlewitz (I)	Boston	\$377,343	No	Yes
2.	Ronald Mariano (I)	Quincy	\$308,910	No	Yes
3.	Marjorie Decker (I)	Cambridge	\$263,328	Yes	Yes
4.	Michael Moran (I)	Brighton	\$157,840	No	Yes
5.	John Lawn (I)	Watertown	\$128,032	No	Yes
6.	Christopher Worrell (I)	Dorchester	\$123,924	No	Yes
7.	Adrian Madaro (I)	E. Boston	\$123,874	No	Yes
8.	Paul Donato (I)	Medford	\$121,701	Yes	Yes
9.	Rebecca Coletta	Pembroke	\$101,466	Yes	No
10.	Jeffrey Roy (I)	Franklin	\$99,936	Yes	Yes

I = Incumbent

Note: All 10 are Democrats

Aaron Michlewitz reported the highest expenditure total in 2024 at \$377,343. Former House Speaker Robert DeLeo holds the spending record, \$537,357, set in 2014.

Six candidates reported spending no money in 2024, and one was successful – incumbent Brian Murray of Milford reported no expenditures in his uncontested race.

V. Ending Balances

Candidates for the House in 2024 reported a total ending balance of \$9,382,997.

The 160 winning candidates held \$9,164,302 at the end of 2024, nearly all cash on hand.

HOUSE CANDIDATES WITH THE HIGHEST CASH ON HAND 2024

	Candidate	City/Town	Balance*	Opposed	Elected
1.	Aaron Michlewitz	Boston	\$1,278,873	No	Yes
2.	Tackey Chan	Quincy	\$455,430	Yes	Yes
3.	Tram Nguyen	Andover	\$277,531	No	Yes
4.	Jeffrey Roy	Franklin	\$272,484	Yes	Yes
5.	Michael Moran	Brighton	\$270,377	No	Yes
6.	Jeffrey Turco	Winthrop	\$254,440	No	Yes
7.	Bradley Jones	North Reading	\$251,368	No	Yes
8.	Angelo Puppolo	Springfield	\$244,910	No	Yes
9.	Ronald Mariano	Quincy	\$240,506	No	Yes
10.	Antonio Cabral	New Bedford	\$233,058	No	Yes

Note: All are incumbents

*Cash on hand as of Dec. 31, 2024, including savings.

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