

MASSACHUSETTS

Offshore wind public opinion brief · March 2026

78%

of Massachusetts voters favor offshore wind construction off their state's coast — a 7-point gain over 14 months, during a period in which the industry faced significant attacks from the executive branch. Offshore wind ranks second only to solar as the energy resource Massachusetts voters most want as part of the state's electricity solution.

85%

support **adding more renewables** to Massachusetts' energy mix

66%

are not very confident that the MA grid can meet demand over the next 10 years

74%

say it's very important the Federal government **honor previously permitted offshore wind projects**

MASSACHUSETTS VOTER SUPPORT FOR OFFSHORE WIND CONSTRUCTION BY AFFILIATION

Across political affiliations, a **majority of voters** support offshore wind development.

Democrats

94%

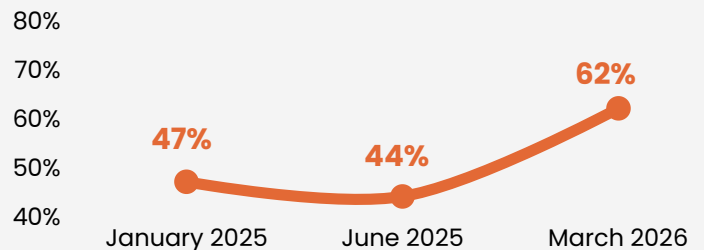
Independents

69%

Republicans

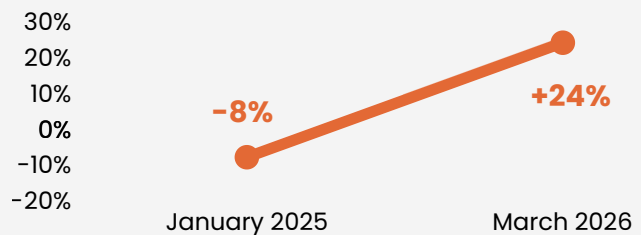
62%

MA GOP VOTER SUPPORT FOR OSW CONSTRUCTION



Massachusetts Republican voter support has increased substantially since Jan 2025.

MA GOP VOTER CANDIDATE NET SUPPORT SWING



Since January 2025, Massachusetts Republican voters have become significantly **more likely** to vote for a candidate that is pro offshore wind.

MASSACHUSETTS WORKERS BUILDING OFFSHORE WIND

The New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal is the first facility of its kind in the country: the first U.S. port purpose-built for staging, assembling, and deploying offshore wind components. Spanning more than 21 acres of heavy-lift capacity on New Bedford Harbor, it served as the primary staging ground for Vineyard Wind 1, the first commercial-scale offshore wind farm to begin construction in America. Tower sections, blades, and nacelles moved through this port, loaded onto specially outfitted barges and pulled out through the hurricane barrier toward the installation site offshore.

The terminal is already expanding, with \$45 million committed to upgrades that will increase heavy-lift storage by 24% and quayside capacity by 20%, part of a broader \$180 million regional port investment. For a region like New Bedford whose economy has long been tied to the working waterfront, adding offshore wind to their story isn't novel; it's continuing the kind of work the people have long been involved in.

Two workers marvel at the scale of the offshore wind blades and towers at the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal. Credit: Vineyard Wind and Oceantic Network.



NATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN FOOTPRINT

Across the nation:

- **2,135+** supplier contracts generated across **40** states, supporting a national supply chain
- **\$25+ billion** in total investment driven by the U.S. offshore wind industry
- **51%** of supply chain investment is flowing to Republican congressional districts, from Gulf Coast shipyards to Midwestern steel mills
- **\$1.8 billion** invested in shipyards, across 26 facilities in 15 states

WHAT MA VOTERS BELIEVE

67%

reject the claim that offshore wind drives up energy prices for consumers

65%

reject the claim that offshore wind affects military radar systems

*Opposition claims are broadly encountered but **not deeply held**, creating room for education.*

OSW 10× CHEAPER THAN STORM PRICES

During Winter Storm Fern in Jan 2026, Vineyard Wind hit a 75% capacity factor, better than the region's best gas plants. Vineyard's contracted price to ratepayers is **\$84.23 / MWh**

During the storm, spot wholesale prices in New England spiked to over **\$870 / MWh**

MA utilities were forced to fire up expensive oil-burning backup plants instead, **a gap that more fully operational offshore wind capacity could have helped close at a fraction of the cost.**