



## Grocery prices rising faster in Massachusetts

Some point to region’s fragmented market, higher energy, transportation costs

By Thomas Lee  
GLOBE STAFF

No, it’s not just you. Those trips to the super-market are indeed testing our collective pocket-books — and patience.

Grocery bills in Massachusetts, especially the Boston area, have been rising faster than in most of the country, even as overall inflation has

►Four ways to lower your shopping bill. D1.

cooled. Bay Staters are often paying more for beverages, meat, cereal, and vegetables, whether they shop at Market Basket, Stop & Shop, Shaw’s, or Whole Foods.

For example, five years ago at this time, consumers could buy Florida Natural orange juice for \$1.99; today the same product goes for \$4.49.

“The prices are insane,” said Karla Cohen, 46, of Lincoln.

Consumers who live in cities with higher costs of living tend to pay more for groceries. But over the past 15 months, shoppers in Boston have seen their grocery bills rise considerably faster com-

**GROCERY PRICES, Page A7**

## ‘Millionaires tax’ has already generated \$1.8b Surtax on high earners exceeds state’s expectations

By Matt Stout  
GLOBE STAFF

Massachusetts’ so-called “millionaires tax” appears primed to actually deliver billions.

State officials said Monday that the voter-approved surtax on high earners has generated more than \$1.8 billion in revenue this fiscal year — with still three months left to go — meaning state officials could have hundreds of millions of surplus dollars to spend on transportation and education initiatives.

The estimated haul is already \$800 million more than what Governor Maura Healey and state lawmakers planned to spend from its revenue in fiscal year 2024, the first full year of its implementation. Most of the additional money raised beyond the \$1 billion already budgeted would flow to a reserve account, from which state policymakers can pluck money for one-time investments into projects or programs.

The Department of Revenue won’t certify the official amount raised until later this year. But the estimates immediately buoyed supporters’ claims that the surtax would deliver much-needed revenue for the state despite fears it could drive out some of the state’s wealthiest residents.

“Opponents of the Fair Share Amendment claimed that multi-millionaires would flee Massachusetts rather than pay the new tax, and they are being proven wrong every day,” said Andrew Farnitano, a spokesperson for Raise Up Massachusetts, the union-backed group which pushed the 2022 ballot initiative.

“With this money from the ultra-rich, we can do even more to improve our public schools and colleges, invest in roads, bridges, and public transit, and start building an economy that works for everyone,” Farnitano said.

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## Netanyahu warrant is sought

International court prosecutor also targets Hamas leaders, citing crimes against humanity

By Patrick Kingsley  
and Matthew Mpoke Bigg  
NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM — The chief prosecutor at the world’s top criminal court Monday announced that he was seeking arrest warrants for the leaders of both Israel and Hamas on charges of crimes against humanity, a strong rebuke that equated Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel with his Hamas counterpart, Yehia Sinwar, and compounded the growing international alarm at Israel’s

conduct in the Gaza Strip.

In a statement, Karim Khan, the chief prosecutor at the International Criminal Court, said that after investigating Hamas’s Oct. 7 attack on Israel and Israel’s counterattack on Gaza, he had decided to apply for arrest warrants for Sinwar, Hamas’s leader with in Gaza; Mohammed Deif, Hamas’s military leader; and Ismail Haniyeh, the movement’s Qatar-based political leader. Khan also said he was requesting warrants for Netanyahu and for Defense Minister Yoav Gallant of Israel.

While Khan’s request must still be approved by judges from the court, the announcement forms one of the harshest rebukes of Israel’s strategy in its seven-month campaign against Hamas that has killed tens of thousands of civilians in Gaza. It also heightens scrutiny of Hamas’s actions at the start of the war in October, when Hamas fighters led a raid that killed more than 1,000 people and abducted hundreds more.

“Today we once again underline that international law and the laws of armed conflict apply to all,” Khan said in his statement. “No foot soldier, no commander, no civilian leader — no one — can act with impunity.”

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‘Domestically, repression is going to increase.’

HAMIDREZA AZIZI, a visiting fellow at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs



ATTA KENARE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Iranians gathered at Valiasr Square in central Tehran on Monday to mourn the deaths of President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian, and several others who perished in a helicopter crash on Sunday.

## Iran president’s death adds to volatility in Middle East

Increasing risk of miscalculation with Israel feared

By Kareem Fahim, Nilo Tabrizy,  
and Susannah George  
WASHINGTON POST

The death of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash Sunday quickly set in motion a leadership transition that officials insisted would leave the Islamic republic in steady hands and would likely lead to

little change in the country’s direction, analysts said.

“The Iranian nation shouldn’t be worried,” said Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran’s supreme leader, according to state media. Raisi was seen as an enforcer of Khamenei’s edicts, rather than an independent actor, according to analysts.

But if there was uncertainty caused by Raisi’s death, it was in its timing: during an escalating confrontation between Iran and Israel that has stoked alarm in the Middle East and beyond. The conflict, a hair-trigger affair set off by the war in Gaza, has manifested in rising violence on Lebanon’s southern border, in the Red Sea, and in Syria and Iraq.

Last month, direct fighting between Israel and Iran raised the level of anxiety. After Israeli strikes killed Iranian military commanders in Syria, Iran responded by firing a barrage of hundreds of munitions toward Israel.

Between the two regional rivals, “the old rules of the game are out. And the new rules

**IRAN, Page A5**

GARY WASHBURN  
ON BASKETBALL

## The Celtics are favored, but they can’t beat themselves

With the defending champion Nuggets eliminated from the playoffs, the Celtics enter the Final Four as the favorite to win their first NBA championship in 16 years. At least that’s what they are hearing.

The Celtics have said little this postseason about their expectations, as they have focused on the next game, the next series. They were able to topple the shorthanded Heat, a rival and Achilles’ heel for a decade, and then the Cavaliers in five games.

And the perception is they’ve yet to be tested. The Pacers should provide more resistance than the previous two opponents but the Celtics should win this series with ease if they play to their capabilities.

But they enter this round with considerable pressure. Anything short of a championship would be a disappointment. There is also a level of distrust in the Celtics because of their propensity for letting down against lesser opponents.

The Celtics lost Game 2 of the last two series at TD Garden and that is considered slippage, especially for a team with a history of losing winnable playoff games. Jaylen Brown, Jayson Tatum, and their teammates will

**ON BASKETBALL, Page C3**

‘You do your best to block it out, you’ve got to focus on what matters the most.’

JAYLEN BROWN  
On facing pressure to win



CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

The cargo ship (above) that destroyed Baltimore’s Francis Scott Key Bridge was freed from the wreckage and berthed in port. **A2.**

The judge in Donald Trump’s criminal trial cleared the courtroom after a defense witness scoffed at one of his rulings, while Michael Cohen completed testimony. **A2.**

Harvard said it would confer degrees to 13 undergrad seniors, who had been told they would be prevented from graduating due to their participation in the pro-Palestinian encampment. **B1.**

### A summer pace

**Tuesday:** Sunny, warm.  
High 79-84, low 59-64.  
**Wednesday:** Even warmer.  
High 82-87, low 63-68.  
Sunrise: 5:17. Sunset: 8:05.  
Obituaries, **C9-10.**  
Comics and Weather, **D5-6.**

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