

# The Boston Globe

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## Colleges' use of legacy admissions under attack

### Advocates question equity of using parents' status in enrollment decisions

By Hilary Burns  
GLOBE STAFF

Each year, many colleges showcase a profile of incoming classes that cites students' ethnicity, gender, regional representation, and expected majors. But there's one data point rarely included: the percentage of first years who were given admission preference because their parents or grandparents attended the school.

The century-old practice of legacy admissions, which overwhelming benefits white and wealthy students, is coming under heightened criticism as the US Supreme Court seems poised this year to bar the use of affirmative action in college admissions. Supporters of ending legacy preferences believe that case has given their cause momentum.

"If the Supreme Court says it's not fair to consider race, then why on earth is it fair to consider who your parents are?" said James Murphy, deputy director of higher education policy at Education Reform Now, a nonprofit think tank. "If you take away consideration of race, it will be important to get rid of anything that is working against diversity."

Experts estimate that in colleges nationwide that use the practice, legacies account for 10 to 20 percent of undergraduate student populations.

An analysis of Harvard admissions data, which became public through the affirmative action case, found that legacies made up about 14 percent of students accepted to the university between 2010

LEGACY ADMISSIONS, Page B2

## Former N.Y. rail boss tops list to lead T

### On-time performance improved under his watch

By Taylor Dolven and Samantha J. Gross  
GLOBE STAFF

Governor Maura Healey's administration's high stakes search for a new general manager of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority is closing in on Phillip Eng, the former president of the Long Island commuter rail system, according to two people familiar with the matter.

The people with knowledge of the decision said the administration had zeroed in on Eng and could make the announcement as soon as Monday, filling the vacant post atop the troubled agency after a months-long search.

Eng is currently executive vice president at the engineering consultant firm The LiRo group, according to its website. Before that, he was president of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Long Island Rail Road, or LIRR, from 2018 to early last year, when he announced his retirement.

A Healey spokesperson declined to comment Sunday.

As LIRR president, Eng oversaw a workforce of more than 7,000 people. Before he took the helm, the LIRR was providing its worst on-time performance in 18 years, the New York state

MBTA, Page A10

## Shakeup in Israel sparks protests

### Netanyahu ousts defense minister who spoke against judicial overhaul plan

By Patrick Kingsley  
NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM — Civil unrest broke out in parts of Israel on Sunday night after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu fired his defense minister for criticizing the government's divisive judicial overhaul, prompting protesters to surge into the streets, universities to shut their doors, and union leaders to hint of a

looming general strike.

Announced in a one-line statement by the prime minister's office, the dismissal of Yoav Gallant intensified an already dramatic domestic crisis — one of the gravest in Israeli history — set off by the government's attempt to give itself greater control over the selection of Supreme Court justices and to limit the court's authority over parliament.

Gallant's dismissal unleashed chaotic late-night demonstrations in and around Tel Aviv, where protesters blocked a multilane highway and set fires in at least two major roads, and in Jerusalem, where crowds broke through police barriers outside Netanyahu's private residence.

As midnight approached, it also prompted the heads of Israel's leading research universities to collectively announce that they were closing their classrooms for the immediate future; Israel's consul-general in New York to resign; and Histadrut,

the country's largest workers' union, to warn that it may announce a general strike Monday in conjunction with leading businesses.

The crisis over the future of Israel's judiciary had already spurred weeks of protest, tensions with the administration of US President Biden, and unrest in the military. Now, it has caused a rift in the governing coalition itself, unusual political coordination from senior academics, and rare political intervention from trade unionists.

ISRAEL, Page A6



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

Walter, now 19, began working overnight at a Central Massachusetts factory when he arrived in this country as a 16-year-old.

## Migrant teens work long hours at Mass. factories, fish plants

### Though labor rules are broken, need for money often tops safety concerns

By Katie Johnston  
GLOBE STAFF

Walter was 16 when he started working the overnight shift at a plastics factory in Central Massachusetts.

He had come from Guatemala on his own to join his father, desperate to escape a poor, violent country where two of his childhood friends were shot to death. From 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., Walter trimmed plastic with sharp knives and retrieved hot molds stuck inside machines, then went straight to Framingham High School, bleary eyed, often falling asleep in class. He later got a job at a massive commercial greenhouse, cleaning machines that planted and harvested produce, sometimes working until 5 a.m. In warm weather, he worked 50 hours a week — using his



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

The name of a New Bedford boat seemed ironic to a woman who worked in a fish processing plant there as a young teen.

'Sometimes I just feel like there is no way forward.'

WALTER, who emigrated from Guatemala as a 16-year-old and worked long overnight shifts while attending high school

earnings to pay rent and help his family back home, as well as a 16-year-old sister who recently arrived here.

Walter is one of an increasing number of young migrants making the long, dangerous journey to the United States not just in search of a better life, but to earn money for their families — often working long, late hours at grueling jobs in violation of child labor laws.

Now 19, and a high school senior, Walter feels stuck.

"Sometimes I just feel like there is no way forward," he said in Spanish through a translator. (Walter asked not to be fully identified, or to name his employers, to protect others currently working there.) "But I also remember that I come from a country where the opportunities to make something of yourself are about zero."

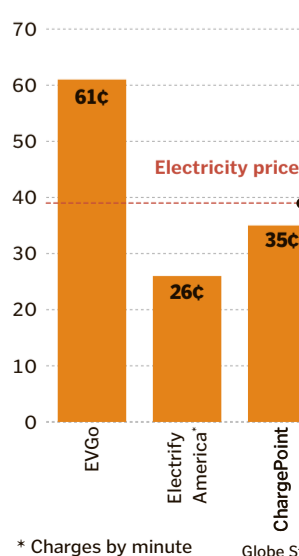
A recent New York Times investigation

MIGRANT TEENS, Page A7

## Quickly charging your electric vehicle can be pricey

### EV CHARGING PRICES AT MASS. LOCATIONS

In cents per kilowatt-hour



### Rising energy costs add another factor to the EV-buying equation

By Aaron Pressman  
GLOBE STAFF

Electric vehicle adoption is booming, even as the state is far behind in its plans to reduce carbon emissions from cars and trucks. But charging outside of the home is the Achilles heel of the EV industry, with inconsistent and sometimes high pricing policies, frequently broken equipment, and a lack of chargers in key locations for everyone but Tesla drivers.

It's enough to give EV drivers a constant headache — and to make people thinking about going electric wait a little longer. Compounding the frustration is that the price of electricity in Massachusetts has skyrocketed, and that increase is already hitting drivers looking to recharge.

To capture the current state of EV charging, the Globe did an informal survey of the pricing and performance of DC (Level 3) fast chargers around Greater Boston over the past three months. While most current EV owners charge at home overnight using slow-

CHARGING, Page A10



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

EV owner Nate Sykes checked on the status of his vehicle at an EVgo station at the Hampton Inn-Boston Logan.

An East Boston teen died after a skiing accident at New Hampshire's Pats Peak Ski Area. **B1.**

Russian President Vladimir Putin said he'd be able to position nuclear weapons in Belarus by the summer, a claim analysts called bluster but which underscored Moscow's determination to use its nuclear arsenal to pressure the West. **A4.**



### Hit the showers

**Monday:** Rain arriving. High: 50-55. Low: 35-40.  
**Tuesday:** Clouds take over. High: 45-50. Low: 34-39.  
Sunrise: 6:36 Sunset: 7:04  
Comics and Weather, **D4-5.**

Obituaries, **C10.**

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