

# 2025 Chicago Council Survey

Conducted by the NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

Funded by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs

*Interviews: 04/25-06/16/25*

*1,002 adults*

*Margin of error: +/- 4.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults*

*NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.*

*An asterisk symbol (\*) represents less than one percent of responses for a given response option.*

*A dash symbol (-) represents no recorded responses for a given response option.*

**NQ2C. I will read you topics that people might be interested in. As I read this list, please tell me for each topic whether or not you personally are interested in it.**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

| NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25                                    | Yes, I am<br>interested | No, I am not<br>interested | Don't know<br>enough to say | SKP/REF |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Business and personal<br>finance                          | 55                      | 44                         | *                           | -       |
| Domestic news and<br>domestic current events              | 78                      | 22                         | -                           | -       |
| International news and<br>international current<br>events | 65                      | 35                         | *                           | -       |
| Technology  | 74                      | 26                         | -                           | -       |
| Fashion   | 57                      | 43                         | -                           | -       |
| Sports  | 56                      | 44                         | -                           | -       |

*N=1,002*

**Q3. Do you think it will be best for the future of China if we take an active part in world affairs or if we stay out of world affairs?**

**[RESPONSE OPTIONS RANDOMIZED]**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Active part              | 90                     |
| Stay out                 | 9                      |
| Don't know enough to say | 1                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

*N=*

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**DQ33. In your opinion, how strong or weak is China's overall position in the world? Is China's position very strong, somewhat strong, somewhat weak or very weak?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Strong NET</b>        | <b>97</b>              |
| Very strong              | 43                     |
| Somewhat strong          | 54                     |
| <b>Weak NET</b>          | <b>3</b>               |
| Somewhat weak            | 2                      |
| Very weak                | 1                      |
| Don't know enough to say | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

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**DQ34. In the next five years how will China's position in the world change? Will it grow much stronger, grow somewhat stronger, decline somewhat, or decline greatly?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Stronger NET</b>      | <b>95</b>              |
| Grow much stronger       | 46                     |
| Grow somewhat stronger   | 49                     |
| <b>No change</b>         | <b>*</b>               |
| <b>Decline NET</b>       | <b>4</b>               |
| Decline somewhat         | 3                      |
| Decline greatly          | 1                      |
| Don't know enough to say | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

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*1,002*

**Q223C. How important do you think each of the following is to China's influence in the world today?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

| NORC<br>04/25-<br>06/16/25                              | <b>Important<br/>NET</b> | Very<br>important | Somewhat<br>important | <b>Not<br/>important<br/>NET</b> | Not very<br>important | Not<br>important<br>at all | Don't know<br>enough to say | SKP/<br>REF |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| China's<br>economic<br>power                            | <b>98</b>                | 73                | 25                    | <b>1</b>                         | 1                     | 1                          | *                           | -           |
| China's military<br>strength                            | <b>98</b>                | 79                | 19                    | <b>2</b>                         | 1                     | 1                          | -                           | -           |
| China's<br>technology and<br>innovation                 | <b>98</b>                | 76                | 22                    | <b>2</b>                         | 2                     | 1                          | -                           | -           |
| China's<br>economic<br>assistance to<br>other countries | <b>83</b>                | 37                | 45                    | <b>17</b>                        | 13                    | 4                          | *                           | -           |
| China's culture   | <b>96</b>                | 66                | 30                    | <b>4</b>                         | 2                     | 1                          | *                           | -           |

*N=1,002*

**NQ5. I'd like your opinion about some possible concerns for China. For each of the following items, do you think it is a major threat, a minor threat, or not a threat to China?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

| NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25  | Major<br>threat | Minor<br>threat | Not a threat | Don't know<br>enough to say | SKP/ REF |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Cyberattacks from other countries                                 | 46              | 35              | 19           | 1                           | -        |
| Global climate change   | 49              | 37              | 15           | *                           | -        |
| Tensions between North Korea and South Korea                      | 28              | 43              | 27           | 2                           | -        |
| Possible conflict between China and the United States over Taiwan | 57              | 24              | 18           | *                           | -        |
| Economic competition between China and the United States          | 55              | 26              | 18           | 1                           | -        |
| Territorial disputes between China and neighboring countries      | 48              | 34              | 18           | *                           | -        |
| A global economic downturn  | 51              | 34              | 15           | 1                           | -        |
| Economic inequality in China                                      | 50              | 33              | 16           | *                           | -        |

*N=1,002*

**Q11. What kind of leadership role should China play in the world? Should it be the dominant leader, play a shared leadership role, or should it not play any leadership role?**

|                               | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Be the dominant leader        | 41                     |
| Play a shared leadership role | 48                     |
| Not play any leadership role  | 11                     |
| Don't know enough to say      | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED               | -                      |

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**Q21. Some people say China has a unique character that makes it the greatest country in the world. Others say that every country is unique, and China is no greater than other nations. Which view is closer to your own?**

|                                   | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| The greatest country in the world | 69                     |
| No greater than other nations     | 30                     |
| Don't know enough to say          | 1                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED                   | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>                         | <i>1,002</i>           |

**DQX1. How important is China's participation in the United Nations in terms of influencing global policies?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Important NET</b>     | <b>97</b>              |
| Very important           | 68                     |
| Somewhat important       | 28                     |
| <b>Not important NET</b> | <b>3</b>               |
| Not very important       | 1                      |
| Not at all important     | 2                      |
| Don't know enough to say | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>                | <i>1,002</i>           |

**Q145. Please select whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: When dealing with international problems, China should be more willing to make decisions within the United Nations even if this means that China will sometimes have to go along with a policy that is not its first choice.**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-<br>06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Agree                    | 77                         |
| Disagree                 | 23                         |
| Don't know enough to say | *                          |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                          |

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**DQX2. How would you assess current economic conditions for China overall? Are they very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Good NET</b>          | <b>84</b>              |
| Very good                | 21                     |
| Somewhat good            | 63                     |
| <b>Bad NET</b>           | <b>16</b>              |
| Somewhat bad             | 13                     |
| Very bad                 | 4                      |
| Don't know enough to say | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

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**DQX3. Compared to 12 months ago, has the economic situation for China improved a lot, improved somewhat, stayed the same, worsened somewhat, or worsened a lot?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Improved NET</b>      | <b>61</b>              |
| Improved a lot           | 16                     |
| Improved somewhat        | 46                     |
| <b>Stayed the same</b>   | <b>23</b>              |
| <b>Worsened NET</b>      | <b>15</b>              |
| Worsened somewhat        | 23                     |
| Worsened a lot           | 13                     |
| Don't know enough to say | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

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**DQX4. And in the next 12 months, do you think China's overall economic situation will improve a lot, improve somewhat, stay the same, worsen somewhat or worsen a lot?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Improved NET</b>      | <b>68</b>              |
| Improved a lot           | 21                     |
| Improved somewhat        | 48                     |
| <b>Stayed the same</b>   | <b>23</b>              |
| <b>Worsened NET</b>      | <b>8</b>               |
| Worsened somewhat        | 6                      |
| Worsened a lot           | 2                      |
| Don't know enough to say | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

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**CCWHYEO. In your view, what has contributed most to China's economic outlook?**

**[RESPONSE OPTIONS RANDOMIZED]**

|                            | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| U.S. economic restrictions | 21                     |
| Property sector debt       | 15                     |
| Capital flight             | 16                     |
| COVID-19 pandemic          | 13                     |
| Government investments     | 13                     |
| Private sector investments | 2                      |
| Youth unemployment         | 19                     |
| Don't know enough to say   | 1                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED            | -                      |

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**Q190. Overall, do you think international trade is good or bad for the following?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

| NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25         | Good | Bad | Don't know<br>enough to say | SKP/REF |
|--------------------------------|------|-----|-----------------------------|---------|
| The Chinese economy            | 73   | 26  | 1                           | -       |
| Consumers like you             | 70   | 27  | 2                           | -       |
| Creating jobs in China         | 76   | 23  | *                           | -       |
| Your own standard of<br>living | 73   | 25  | 3                           | -       |

*N=1,002*

**PEWQ59. How much influence do you think the United States is having on economic conditions in China - a great deal of influence, a fair amount of influence, not too much influence, or no influence at all?**

|  | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>A great deal/fair amount of influence</b> | <b>72</b>              |
| A great deal of influence                    | 19                     |
| A fair amount of influence                   | 53                     |
| <b>Not too much/no influence at all</b>      | <b>27</b>              |
| Not too much influence                       | 21                     |
| No influence at all                          | 6                      |
| Don't know enough to say                     | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED                              | -                      |

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1,002

**Q193. Which of the following comes closest to your preferred trade policy. Should China pursue a policy of global free trade, create a trade bloc of friends and partners while excluding other nations, or reduce international trade and seek greater self-sufficiency in all areas?**

|   | NORC<br>04/25-<br>06/16/25 |
|---|----------------------------|
| Pursue a policy of global free trade                                      | 60                         |
| Create a trade bloc of friends and partners while excluding other nations | 21                         |
| Reduce international trade and seek greater self-sufficiency in all areas | 18                         |
| Don't know enough to say  | 1                          |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED   | -                          |

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1,002

**DQX5. Which description of how people are getting by best suits your situation?**

|   | NORC<br>04/25-<br>06/16/25 |
|---|----------------------------|
| We struggle to buy necessities            | 11                         |
| We can buy necessities, but not much more | 33                         |
| We can afford a few extras                | 47                         |
| We can afford expensive things            | 9                          |
| DON'T KNOW                                | -                          |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED                           | -                          |

*N=*

*1,002*

**DQX6. 12 months from now, do you expect to be economically worse, better off, or about the same?**

|                 | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Worse off       | 8                      |
| Better off      | 43                     |
| About the same  | 49                     |
| DON'T KNOW      | -                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED | -                      |

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*1,002*

**NQ45. For each of the following, please say if you think it's a friend to China or not?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

| NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25                                    | Yes | No | Don't know<br>enough to say | SKP/REF |
|---|-----|----|-----------------------------|---------|
| The United States   | 17  | 83 | *                           | -       |
| Japan   | 18  | 81 | 1                           | -       |
| South Korea   | 36  | 63 | *                           | -       |
| Russia  | 83  | 16 | 1                           | -       |
| North Korea   | 76  | 23 | 1                           | -       |
| The current authorities (zhengfu)<br>of the Taiwan Region | 44  | 55 | 2                           | -       |
| Our Taiwan compatriots<br>(tongbao)                       | 91  | 9  | *                           | -       |
| The European Union  | 50  | 49 | 2                           | -       |
| India   | 37  | 62 | 1                           | -       |
| Vietnam   | 47  | 52 | 1                           | -       |
| The Philippines   | 37  | 61 | 3                           | -       |
| Australia   | 51  | 47 | 2                           | -       |

*N=1,002*

**NQX. What do you think is the most important basis for the relationship between China and the following. Is it trade and economic ties, shared values, or common security interests?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

| NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 | Trade and<br>economic ties | Shared values | Common<br>security<br>interests | Don't know<br>enough to say | SKP/REF |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| The United States      | 56                         | 15            | 27                              | 2                           | -       |
| Russia                 | 33                         | 22            | 44                              | 1                           | -       |
| North Korea            | 21                         | 28            | 50                              | 1                           | -       |
| The European Union     | 58                         | 15            | 25                              | 1                           | -       |

*N=1,002*

**Q336. At the present time, which nation do you feel is stronger in terms of military power, the United States or China or do you think they are about equal militarily?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| The United States        | 29                     |
| China                    | 31                     |
| About equal              | 39                     |
| Don't know enough to say | 1                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

*N=*

*1,002*

**Q337. At the present time, which nation do you feel is stronger in terms of economic power, the United States or China or do you think they are about equal economically?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| The United States        | 37                     |
| China                    | 32                     |
| About equal              | 31                     |
| Don't know enough to say | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |

*N=*

*1,002*

**Q350A. In dealing with the United States, do you think China should undertake friendly cooperation with the U.S., actively work to limit U.S. power, or undertake friendly cooperation when appropriate and limit U.S. power when appropriate?**

|  | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--|------------------------|
| China should undertake friendly cooperation with the U.S.  | 23                     |
| China should actively work to limit U.S. power   | 15                     |
| China should undertake friendly cooperation when appropriate and limit U.S. power when appropriate | 61                     |
| Don't know enough to say   | 1                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED  | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>  | <i>1,002</i>           |

**Q354A. Does trade between China and the U.S. do more to strengthen China's national security or weaken China's national security?**

|                          | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| More to strengthen       | 71                     |
| More to weaken           | 28                     |
| Don't know enough to say | 1                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED          | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>                | <i>1,002</i>           |

**M2: Urban/rural residency**

|           | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------|------------------------|
| Urban     | 74                     |
| Rural     | 26                     |
| <i>N=</i> | <i>1,002</i>           |

### M3. Macro Region

|               | NORC<br>04/25-<br>06/16/25 |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| East          | 24                         |
| North         | 14                         |
| North East    | 7                          |
| North West    | 4                          |
| South Central | 35                         |
| South West    | 15                         |
| <i>N=</i>     | <i>1,002</i>               |

### D1. Gender

|           | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------|------------------------|
| Man       | 51                     |
| Woman     | 49                     |
| <i>N=</i> | <i>1,002</i>           |

### D2. Age

|           | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 18-29     | 19                     |
| 30-44     | 28                     |
| 45-59     | 35                     |
| 60+       | 18                     |
| <i>N=</i> | <i>1,002</i>           |

### D3. Education

|  | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--|------------------------|
| Less than a high school diploma            | 10                     |
| High school graduate or equivalent         | 22                     |
| College graduate                           | 66                     |
| Post graduate study or professional degree | 2                      |
| DON'T KNOW                                 | -                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED                            | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>                                  | <i>1,002</i>           |

#### D4. Employment Status

|  | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|--|------------------------|
| Working full-time  | 46                     |
| Working part-time  | 5                      |
| Unemployed and looking for work  | 5                      |
| Unemployed and not looking for work                                    | 2                      |
| Housewife/homemaker  | 3                      |
| Student/apprentice/job training  | 2                      |
| Unable to work due to health or disability                             | *                      |
| Retired  | 24                     |
| Business owner/entrepreneur  | 1                      |
| Self-employed in gig economy (delivery rider/similar)                  | 4                      |
| Self-employed in traditional economy (e.g. tradesperson/craftsman/etc) | 3                      |
| Other (Specify)  | 5                      |
| DON'T KNOW   | -                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED  | -                      |

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*Asked if employed*

#### D5. And what is your current or most recent job?

|   | NORC<br>04/25-<br>06/16/25 |
|---|----------------------------|
| Unskilled Manual worker (e.g. factory manual worker, dish cleaner, etc.)                                      | 8                          |
| Skilled Manual worker (e.g. driveway construction worker, embroiderer   | 19                         |
| Ordinary or lower level technical personnel (e.g. Junior auto and elevator technician)                        | 7                          |
| Middle level technical personnel (e.g. Experienced auto and elevator technician, laboratory technician, etc.) | 7                          |
| High level technical personnel (e.g. aircraft maintenance technician)   | 2                          |
| Sales Worker (e.g. Auto sales, Insurance sales, etc.)   | 10                         |
| Service Worker (e.g. Customer services, waiter, etc.)   | 10                         |
| Support/Secretary/Clerical Staff (e.g. receptionists, key punchers, data entry, etc.)                         | 11                         |
| Professional (e.g. lawyers, doctors, professors etc.)   | 3                          |
| Middle Management (Brand/Product managers)  | 6                          |
| Senior Management (CEO/Directors/GMs/Senior Managers)   | 1                          |
| Executive Staff (Non-Managerial)  | 5                          |
| Cadre in Party and Government offices   | *                          |
| Farmer  | 2                          |
| Other (Specify)   | 10                         |
| DON'T KNOW  | -                          |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED   | *                          |

N=

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**D6. Are you a holder of an urban or rural Hukou?**

|                 | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Urban hukou     | 64                     |
| Rural hukou     | 36                     |
| DON'T KNOW      | -                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>       | <i>1,002</i>           |

**D7. What is your household's current monthly income from all sources?**

|                       | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 7,000 yuan or less    | 20                     |
| 7,001-10,000 yuan     | 26                     |
| 10,001-14,000 yuan    | 9                      |
| 14,001-17,000 yuan    | 12                     |
| 17,001-21,000 yuan    | 16                     |
| More than 21,000 yuan | 17                     |
| DON'T KNOW            | *                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED       | *                      |
| <i>N=</i>             | <i>1,002</i>           |

**D8. Do you currently own the home you are living in or not?**

|                 | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Own             | 85                     |
| Do not own      | 15                     |
| DON'T KNOW      | -                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>       | <i>1,002</i>           |

**D9. Have you ever traveled outside China?**

|                 | NORC<br>04/25-06/16/25 |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Yes             | 34                     |
| No              | 66                     |
| DON'T KNOW      | -                      |
| SKIPPED/REFUSED | -                      |
| <i>N=</i>       | <i>1,002</i>           |