

# The NORC ChicagoSpeaks Poll

**Conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago**

*Interviews: 6/23-07/09/2025*

*1,111 adults*

*Margin of sampling error: +/- 4.35 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults*

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

**PULSE\_FEAR.** Is there any area around your home- that is, within a mile- where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?

	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 3/20-4/7/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 11/14-12/2/2024	ChicagoSpeaks 6/24-7/10/2024
Yes	66	66	65	66
No	34	34	35	33
DON'T KNOW	-	-	-	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	-	-	*	*
N=	1,111	1,084	1,097	1,254

**PULSE\_LETIN1A.** Do you think the number of immigrants to America nowadays should be...

	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 3/20-4/7/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 11/14-12/2/2024	ChicagoSpeaks 6/24-7/10/2024
<b>Increased a lot/a little NET</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>
Increased a lot	12	10	13	11
Increased a little	13	12	8	8
<b>Remain the same as it is</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Reduced a little/ a lot NET</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>53</b>
Reduced a little	18	20	22	19
Reduced a lot	18	23	26	34
DON'T KNOW	-	-	-	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*	1	*	1
N=	1,111	1,084	1,097	1,254

**PULSE\_IMM\_CURR. What should be done about immigrants who are currently living in the U.S. illegally?**

	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 3/20-4/7/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 6/24-7/10/2024
They should be allowed to become citizens, provided they meet certain requirements	63	59	51
They should be allowed to become permanent legal residents, but not citizens	18	17	18
They should be identified and deported	18	23	28
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1	2	2

N= 1,111 1,084 1,254

**PULSE\_JOBLOSE. Thinking about the next 12 months, how likely do you think it is that you will lose your job or be laid off?**

*Among employed respondents*

	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 3/20-4/7/2025	ChicagoSpeaks 11/14-12/2/2024	NORC 6/24-7/10/2024
<b>Very/fairly likely NET</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
Very likely	7	8	6	6
Fairly likely	16	17	15	16
<b>Not too/not at all likely NET</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>78</b>
Not too likely	48	51	47	39
Not at all likely	29	24	31	39
DON'T KNOW	-	-	-	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*	1	1	*

N= 773 735 784 729

**PULSE\_WORRY.** How much, if at all, do you worry about each of the following problems facing the country?

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED, HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025	<b>A great deal/a fair amount NET</b>	A great deal	A fair amount	<b>Only a little/not at all NET</b>	Only a little	Not at all	DK	SKP/ REF
Economy	<b>88</b>	54	34	<b>11</b>	9	2	-	1
Inflation	<b>84</b>	50	34	<b>15</b>	13	3	-	1
Federal spending and the budget deficit	<b>78</b>	41	37	<b>20</b>	15	6	-	1
Social Security system	<b>77</b>	43	34	<b>22</b>	17	5	-	1
Size and power of the federal government	<b>79</b>	44	35	<b>21</b>	14	6	-	1
Quality of the environment	<b>78</b>	43	36	<b>20</b>	14	6	-	2
Illegal immigration	<b>54</b>	25	30	<b>44</b>	24	20	-	2
Race relations	<b>71</b>	34	37	<b>28</b>	19	9	-	1

*N=1,111*

**PULSE\_CONFIDENCE. How much confidence do you have in each of the following institutions in American society?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED, HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025	<b>A great deal/quite a lot NET</b>	A great deal	Quite a lot	<b>Some/very little NET</b>	Some	Very little	DK	SKP/ REF
The Church or organized religion	<b>29</b>	13	17	<b>70</b>	33	37	-	1
The military	<b>42</b>	18	24	<b>58</b>	37	21	-	*
The Supreme Court	<b>24</b>	10	14	<b>75</b>	37	38	-	1
Banks	<b>34</b>	12	23	<b>65</b>	44	21	-	1
Public schools	<b>33</b>	11	21	<b>66</b>	44	23	-	1
Newspapers	<b>26</b>	8	18	<b>73</b>	46	27	-	*
Congress	<b>19</b>	8	11	<b>79</b>	35	45	-	1
Television news	<b>23</b>	8	14	<b>76</b>	43	34	-	1
Organized labor	<b>31</b>	10	21	<b>68</b>	50	18	-	1
The presidency	<b>24</b>	13	11	<b>75</b>	20	55	-	1
The police	<b>31</b>	12	20	<b>68</b>	42	26	-	1
The medical system	<b>38</b>	14	25	<b>61</b>	45	17	-	*
The criminal justice system	<b>24</b>	9	15	<b>75</b>	40	35	-	1
Higher education	<b>44</b>	17	28	<b>55</b>	41	14	-	*

*N=1,111*

**PULSE\_POPE1. How much have you heard or read about Pope Leo XIV?**

**[HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025	NORC 06/05-09/2025
<b>A lot/some NET</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>30</b>
A lot	20	5
Some	41	26
<b>Only a little/nothing at all NET</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>69</b>
Only a little	29	43
Nothing at all	11	26
DON'T KNOW	-	-
SKIPPED/REFUSED	*	*
	<i>N=1,111</i>	<i>N=1,056</i>

**PULSE\_POPE2.** As you may know, Pope Leo XIV was recently elected to lead the Catholic Church. He is the first pope in the Church's 2,000-year history to come from the United States.

How well do each of the following words describe your feelings about the new pope being from the United States?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED, HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

		<b>Extremely/ very well NET</b>	Extremely well	Very well	<b>Somewhat well</b>	<b>Not very/ not at all well NET</b>	Not very well	Not at all well	DK	SKP/ REF
Proud	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>45</b>	20	25	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	10	13	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>28</b>	12	15	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	17	19	-	3
Concerned	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>17</b>	6	11	<b>18</b>	<b>64</b>	22	42	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>10</b>	3	6	<b>19</b>	<b>68</b>	23	44	*	4
Indifferent	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>33</b>	17	16	<b>29</b>	<b>37</b>	17	21	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>33</b>	21	12	<b>31</b>	<b>33</b>	15	18	*	3
Hopeful	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>43</b>	21	22	<b>34</b>	<b>22</b>	11	12	-	*
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>32</b>	14	18	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	10	18	*	3
Excited	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>42</b>	19	23	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	13	14	-	*
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>24</b>	11	13	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	19	19	*	3
Happy	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>43</b>	20	23	<b>34</b>	<b>22</b>	11	12	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>28</b>	12	16	<b>40</b>	<b>29</b>	14	15	-	3
Upset	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>11</b>	4	7	<b>13</b>	<b>75</b>	17	58	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>8</b>	3	5	<b>14</b>	<b>74</b>	16	58	-	3

**PULSE\_POPE3. How important is it to you for the new pope to do each of the following?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

		<b>Not at all/ not very important NET</b>	Not at all important	Not very important	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Very/ extremely important</b>	Very important	Extremely important	DK	SKP/ REF
Strengthen unity within the Catholic Church	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>27</b>	17	10	<b>31</b>	<b>41</b>	23	18	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>27</b>	17	10	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	21	14	*	3
Address global conflicts	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>16</b>	9	7	<b>32</b>	<b>51</b>	28	23	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>24</b>	15	9	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	23	16	*	3
Modernize Catholic traditions	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>27</b>	16	11	<b>28</b>	<b>44</b>	24	19	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>37</b>	22	15	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>	17	11	1	3
Address the needs and concerns of the poor	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>10</b>	6	4	<b>21</b>	<b>68</b>	32	36	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>14</b>	9	5	<b>30</b>	<b>52</b>	27	26	*	3
Bring more people into the Catholic faith	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>43</b>	25	18	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	15	13	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>51</b>	28	22	<b>28</b>	<b>19</b>	11	8	*	3



**PULSE\_POPE4. How important is it to you that the new pope demonstrate each of the following?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

		<b>Not at all/not very important NET</b>	Not at all important	Not very important	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Very/ extremely important</b>	Very important	Extremely important	DK	SKP/ REF
Moral leadership	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>7</b>	5	3	<b>14</b>	<b>77</b>	30	47	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>10</b>	8	3	<b>20</b>	<b>67</b>	11	47	-	3
Non- partisanship	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>20</b>	9	11	<b>28</b>	<b>51</b>	23	28	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>17</b>	10	6	<b>28</b>	<b>51</b>	23	28	*	4
Spiritual leadership	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>12</b>	8	5	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	27	41	-	*
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>15</b>	11	5	<b>20</b>	<b>62</b>	23	38	*	4
Honesty	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>7</b>	4	3	<b>10</b>	<b>83</b>	23	59	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>9</b>	7	2	<b>14</b>	<b>74</b>	19	56	-	2
Humility	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>9</b>	6	4	<b>19</b>	<b>71</b>	30	41	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>11</b>	7	4	<b>22</b>	<b>64</b>	25	39	-	3
Compassion	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23- 07/09/2025 (N=1,111)	<b>8</b>	5	3	<b>12</b>	<b>79</b>	28	51	-	1
	NORC 06/05- 09/2025 (N=1,056)	<b>10</b>	6	4	<b>17</b>	<b>70</b>	23	47	*	3

**PULSE\_CUBS\_SOX. Do you consider yourself a fan of the Cubs, White Sox, both equally, or neither?**

**[HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	ChicagoSpeaks 06/23-07/09/2025
Cubs	27
White Sox	23
Both	23
Neither	27
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED/REFUSED	1

*N=1,111*

**PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?**

*If Democrat:*

**PIDA. Do you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Democrat?**

*If Republican:*

**PIDB. Do you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Republican?**

*If independent, none of these, don't know, skipped, or refused:*

**PIDI. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?**

**Combines PID1, PIDI, PIDA, and PIDB.**

**[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>63</b>
Strong Democrat	30
Not so strong Democrat	20
Lean Democrat	14
<b>Independent/None – Don't lean</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>17</b>
Lean Republican	6
Not so strong Republican	5
Strong Republican	6
DK/SKP/REF	*

*N=*

*1,111*

**D3. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, moderate, or conservative?**

*If liberal:*

**D4. Do you consider yourself very liberal or somewhat liberal?**

*If conservative:*

**IDEO. Do you consider yourself very conservative or somewhat conservative?**

**Combines D3, D4, D5:**

**[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
<b>Liberal NET</b>	<b>35</b>
Very liberal	20
Somewhat liberal	15
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Conservative NET</b>	<b>16</b>
Somewhat conservative	9
Very conservative	7
DK/SKP/REF	1

N=

1,111

**RELIG. What is your present religion, if any?**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
Protestant	15
Roman Catholic	27
Mormon	*
Orthodox	1
Jewish	3
Muslim	1
Buddhist	1
Hindu	1
Atheist	6
Agnostic	10
Nothing in particular	15
Just Christian	14
Unitarian	*
Something else	3
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,111

**AGE**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
18-29	23
30-44	30
45-59	23
60+	24

*N=**1,111***SEX**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
Male	48
Female	52

*N=**1,111***RACE/ETHNICITY**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
White, non-Hispanic	34
Black or African American	27
Hispanic	28
Other	11

*N=**1,111***EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
Employed	64
Not employed	36

*N=**1,111*

## EDUCATION

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
Less than a high school diploma	7
High school graduate or equivalent	26
Some college	23
College graduate	25
Post grad study/professional degree	20
N=	1,111

## MARITAL

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
Married	34
Not married	66
N=	1,111

## INCOME

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
Under \$10,000	9
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	8
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	9
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	10
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	7
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	18
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	11
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	16
\$150,000 or more	12
N=	1,111

**CHICAGO REGION**

	ChicagoSpeaks 6/23-7/9/2025
North Central	27
Northwest	16
South	19
Southwest	20
West	18

*N= 1,111*

## Study Methodology

Funded and operated by NORC at the University of Chicago, ChicagoSpeaks® is a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the Chicago household population. NORC conducted the ChicagoSpeaks summer 2025 survey using three sample sources: (1) NORC's AmeriSpeak® Panelists who reside in Chicago, (2) NORC's ChicagoSpeaks Panelists, and (3) Chicago residents from Dynata's web panel.

AmeriSpeak and ChicagoSpeaks are probability-based panels and Dynata is a non-probability panel. The final survey estimates were calibrated to account for these different sample sources. This research was done to support a scientifically rigorous, community-driven research resource for informing policymakers and the public with accurate information about the experiences and opinions of all Chicago residents.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between June 23 and July 9, 2025 with Chicago residents aged 18 and older, the overall study target population. Overall, 1,111 Chicago residents completed the survey including 533 probability cases and 578 non-probability cases. AmeriSpeak panelists were invited through the password-protected AmeriSpeak Mobile App and received email reminders and SMS reminders. ChicagoSpeaks panelists received a combination of email and SMS communications while Dynata used their typical panel recruitment methods. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference, using an on-line survey. Respondents were offered a small monetary incentive for completing the survey. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.35 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect.

Sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error and there may be other unmeasured error in this or any other survey.

Quality assurance checks were conducted to ensure data quality. In total, 24 interviews were removed for nonresponse to at least 50% of the questions asked of them or for completing the survey in less than one-third the median interview time for the full sample. These interviews were excluded from the data file prior to weighting.

The final TrueNorth weights for the combined sample are developed in three major steps. First, a weighted tree model is fit to the combined probability and nonprobability sample. Second, based on the fitted tree model, NORC estimates the probabilities of inclusion in the combined probability and nonprobability sample and computes the initial weights as the inverse of the estimated probabilities. Third, poststratification adjustments, including calibration to benchmarks and weight trimming, are made to the initial weights to create the final weights.

Poststratification variables included Chicago region, age, gender, race/ethnicity, and educational attainment. The sociodemographic characteristics are weighted to benchmarks from the American Community Survey 2023 1-year estimates.

For more information, email [ChicagoSpeaks-bd@norc.org](mailto:ChicagoSpeaks-bd@norc.org) or visit [AmeriSpeak.norc.org](https://www.norc.org/amerispeak).

<https://www.norc.org/chicagospeaks.html>