



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
HARRIS SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC POLICY



NORC at the
University of
Chicago

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC Poll

Conducted by the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and The Associated Press-NORC
Center for Public Affairs Research

With funding from the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

Interviews: 8/21-25/2025

1,121 adults

Margin of error: +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults

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

POVERTY1. In the past 25 years, do you think poverty has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same in each of the following places?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same	DK	SKP/REF
The United States as a whole	68	12	19	*	1
Your state	60	11	28	*	1
Your local community	47	13	38	*	1

N = 1,121

POVERTY2. How much responsibility does each of the following have to help address poverty?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025	A great deal/a moderate amount NET	A great deal	A moderate amount	Only a little/none at all NET	Only a little	None at all	DK	SKP /REF
The federal government	76	43	33	23	17	6	-	1
State and local governments	78	42	36	21	16	5	-	1
Charities	65	27	38	34	27	7	-	1
Very wealthy individuals	56	27	29	42	25	17	*	1

N = 1,121

POVERTY3. Would you say each of the following is a major factor, minor factor, or not a factor in why people remain in poverty?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025	Major factor	Minor factor	Not a factor	DK	SKP/REF
Bad luck	19	50	29	*	2
Personal choices	62	31	6	*	2
Lack of government support	41	41	17	*	2
Systems that are unfair	46	37	15	*	2

N = 1,121

POVERTY4. Do you think the government is spending too much, too little or the right amount on assistance for those in need?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
Too much	22
Too little	54
About the right amount	22
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,121</i>

POVERTY5. Which of these statements comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
It is more important to ensure no one abuses government assistance for those in need	43
It is more important to ensure that everyone who qualifies for government assistance for those in need receives help	54
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,121</i>

POVERTY6. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following:

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025	Strongly/ somewhat favor NET	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Strongly/ somewhat oppose NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	D K	SKP /REF
Removing homeless encampments in U.S. cities	43	24	19	31	24	16	9	*	1
Requiring working age adults with Medicaid to prove they are working or looking for work	55	31	23	27	18	11	7	*	1
Expanding the child tax credit to very low-income families	54	29	25	31	13	6	8	1	1
Providing a universal basic income, where every person receives a regular cash payment without work requirements or other conditions	23	11	12	29	46	15	32	*	1

N = 1,121

HOMELESS1. Over the past 25 years, do you think homelessness has increased, decreased or stayed the same in each of the following places?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same	DK	SKP/REF
The United States as a whole	83	4	12	*	1
Your state	72	5	22	*	1
Your local community	55	9	36	*	1

N = 1,121

HOMELESS2. How much responsibility should each of the following have to help address homelessness?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025	A great deal/a moderate amount NET	A great deal	A moderate amount	Only a little/none at all NET	Only a little	None at all	DK	SKP /REF
The federal government	79	47	32	19	14	5	-	2
State and local governments	82	49	33	16	13	4	-	1
Charities	66	27	40	31	24	8	*	2
Very wealthy individuals	55	26	29	43	24	19	-	2

N = 1,121

HOMELESS3. Would you say each of the following is a major factor, minor factor, or not a factor in why people are homeless?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025	Major factor	Minor factor	Not a factor	DK	SKP/REF
Job loss or lack of job skills	63	29	5	*	2
Mental health issues	75	19	3	*	2
Substance abuse	76	18	4	*	2
Lack of affordable housing	64	27	6	-	3
Lack of family support	50	42	5	*	2
Lack of government support	45	38	15	-	2
Personal choices	63	30	5	*	2
Challenges after being released from prison	54	38	5	1	2

N = 1,121

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.

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
Democrat NET	37
Strong Democrat	15
Not so strong Democrat	13
Lean Democrat	9
Independent/None – Don't lean	20
Republican NET	42
Lean Republican	10
Not so strong Republican	16
Strong Republican	15

N=

1,121

DM5. How would you describe the community you live in now?

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
Urban area	22
Suburban area	54
Rural area	22
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,121

RELIG. What is your present religion, if any?

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
Protestant	25
Roman Catholic	22
Mormon	1
Orthodox	1
Jewish	1
Muslim	*
Buddhist	1
Hindu	*
Atheist	5
Agnostic	5
Nothing in particular	15
Just Christian	21
Unitarian	1
Something else	1

*N=**1,121***AGE**

	UChicago Harris/AP- NORC 8/21-25/2025
18-29	20
30-44	26
45-59	23
60+	31

*N=**1,121***GENDER**

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
Male	49
Female	51

*N=**1,121*

RACE/ETHNICITY

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
White, non-Hispanic	60
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	18
Other	10

N=*1,121***MARITAL STATUS**

	UChicago Harris/AP- NORC 8/21-25/2025
Married	46
Not married	54

N=*1,121***EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

	UChicago Harris/AP- NORC 8/21-25/2025
Employed	56
Not employed	44

N=*1,121***EDUCATION**

	UChicago Harris/AP-NORC 8/21-25/2025
Less than a high school diploma	9
High school graduate or equivalent	29
Some college	26
College graduate or above	23
Post grad study/professional degree	14

N=*1,121*

CENSUS REGION

	UChicago Harris/AP- NORC 8/21-25/2025
Northeast NET	17
New England	5
Mid-Atlantic	13
Midwest NET	20
East North Central	14
West North Central	6
South NET	39
South Atlantic	21
East South Central	6
West South Central	12
West NET	24
Mountain	8
Pacific	16

*N=**1,121***HOME OWNERSHIP**

	UChicago Harris/AP- NORC 8/21-25/2025
Owned or being bought by you or someone in your household	65
Rented for cash	30
Occupied without payment of cash rent	5

*N=**1,121*

INCOME

	UChicago Harris/AP- NORC 8/21-25/2025
Under \$10,000	5
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	10
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	11
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	8
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	8
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	17
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	11
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	17
\$150,000 or more	15
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,121</i>

Study Methodology

This survey was conducted by the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research with funding from the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy. Staff from Harris Public Policy and the AP-NORC Center collaborated on all aspects of the study.

Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a bi-monthly multi-client survey using NORC's probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97 percent of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between August 21 through August 25, 2025, with adults aged 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,121 completed the survey — 1,041 via the web and 80 by telephone. Panel members were invited by email or by phone from an NORC telephone interviewer. Interviews were conducted in English. Respondents were offered a small monetary incentive for completing the survey. The final stage completion rate is 15.4 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 26.3 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 78 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 3.2 percent.

The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups. For example, the margin of sampling error is 5.8 percentage points for Democrats, 6.3 percentage points for Republicans, and 9.7 percentage points for independents.

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, 72 interviews were removed for nonresponse to at least 50% of the questions asked of them, for completing the survey in less than one-third the median interview time for the full sample, or for straight-lining all grid questions asked of them. These interviews were excluded from the data file prior to weighting.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design.

Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2024 Current Population Survey and the final results for 2024 presidential vote turnout and vote choice. The weighted data reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over.

Complete questions and results are available at: www.apnorc.org.

Additional information on the AmeriSpeak Panel methodology is available at:
<https://amerispeak.norc.org/about-amerispeak/Pages/Panel-Design.aspx>.

For more information, email info@apnorc.org.

About the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

One of the largest graduate professional schools at the University of Chicago, Harris Public Policy has been driven by the belief that evidence-based research, not ideology or intuition, is the best guide for public policy. For more than three decades, our exceptional community of scholars, students, and alumni have applied this exacting perspective to the world's most pressing problems using the latest tools of social science. Through our undergraduate and graduate programs, we empower a new generation of data-driven leaders to create a positive social impact throughout our global society. For more information visit <https://harris.uchicago.edu/>

About the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

- The Associated Press (AP) is an independent global news organization dedicated to factual reporting. Founded in 1846, AP remains today the most trusted source of fast, accurate, unbiased news in all formats and the essential provider of the technology and services vital to the news business. More than half the world's population sees AP journalism every day.
www.ap.org
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest objective and nonpartisan research institutions in the world. www.norc.org

The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals. Learn more at www.apnorc.org