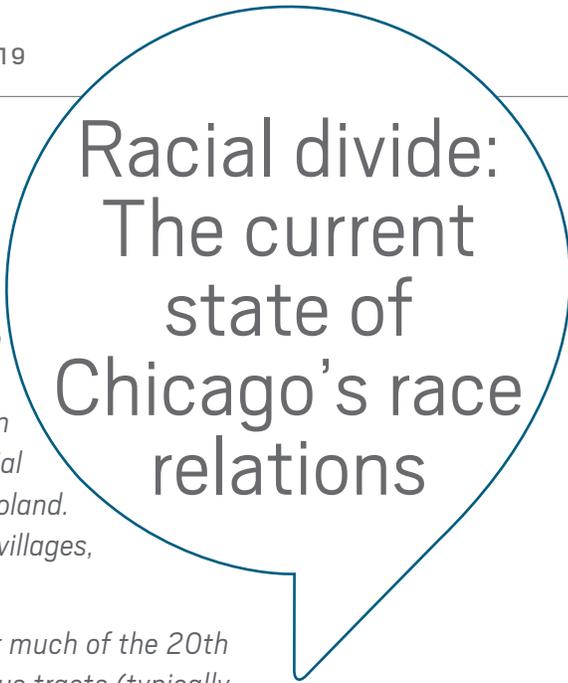


Conversation Guide

Race relations

Most victims of violent crimes have been African-American, in or from neighborhoods already racked with poverty, poor housing and low-performing schools. How did we get here? According to the Metropolitan Planning Council's "The Cost of Segregation" report, economic and racial segregation has strangled opportunities for millions of people in Chicagoland. Disinvestment has devastated entire city neighborhoods and suburban villages, towns and cities. Lack of diversity also hurts affluent communities.

In a city where housing segregation was official government policy for much of the 20th century, 72 percent of whites actually still live in majority-white Census tracts (typically made up of a few blocks) and as a result, minorities have been found to live among themselves as well.



Racial divide:
The current
state of
Chicago's race
relations

In selecting this topic, your Table will discuss Chicago's race relations. Here are some points to consider:

- Only 30% of Latinos and African Americans reported their Chicago neighborhoods as being "diverse" according to a 2016 New York Times poll.

- Chicago is the 13th most segregated metro area in U.S.
- Over 30% of black Chicago families and around 25% of Latinx Chicago families live under the poverty line. Meanwhile, the city's poverty rate is less than 10% for white families.

- According to the Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy at UIC, white Chicagoans on average actually end up living in a neighborhood that is almost three-fourths white even though they state a desire to live in a neighborhood that's about

46% white. Black and Latinx Chicagoans end up living in neighborhoods that are 66% black and 51% Latinx (as opposed to their stated preferences of 37% black and 32% Latinx).

Here are some resources to assist you as you prepare to discuss the state of race relations in the Chicago area.

- [A conversation on race](#)
- [Segregation holds back the entire region](#)
- [A look back at Chicago's segregation origin story](#)
- [An analysis of Chicago history of "red lining"](#)
- [A report showing Chicago's journey to integration](#)
- [A Tale of Three Cities: The State of Racial Justice in Chicago Report](#)

Here are some suggested questions for your Table discussion:

1. How do you experience Chicago's segregation? Do you live, work or attend school in communities that are populated largely by people of the same race?
2. How have race relations improved in Chicago?
3. How have race relations gotten worse in Chicago?
4. What do you think our recent mayoral election says about the state of the city's race relations?
5. Do schools, courts, healthcare or other systems in Chicago operate with intentional practices against people because of their race?