## 2017 Chicago Community Area Economic Hardship Index

### Introduction:

The aim of this index is to examine the conditions of economic hardship within Chicago community areas. Economic hardship is the difficulty resulting from not having enough collective economic resources available to families in a specified area.

Indicators of economic hardship have been developed into an index to measure the economic conditions of Chicago Community Areas. This economic hardship index utilizes multiple indicators to provide a more comprehensive view of economic hardship than single indicators. Utilizing American Community Survey data, this fact sheet contains economic hardship index values for Chicago Community Areas.

### Methodology:

The Chicago Community Area economic hardship index calculation is based on the "Intercity Hardship Index." By Richard P. Nathan and Charles F. Adams, Jr. in "Understanding Urban Hardship," Political Science Quarterly 91 (Spring 1976): 47-62.

### **Economic Hardship Scores:**

The economic hardship score is the average of six variables that have been standardized on a scale from 0 to 100.

The six variables include:

- Unemployment (over the age of 16 years),
- Education (over 25 years of age without a high school diploma)
- Per capita income level
- Poverty (below the federal poverty level)
- Crowded housing (housing units with more than one person per room)

• Dependency (population under 18 or over 64 years of age)

Higher hardship index scores indicate worse economic conditions.

A chart of economic hardship index values can be found on page 3. Variable values can be found on pages 4-6.

## Data Source:

The U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey is a national monthly survey that produces demographic, socioeconomic, employment, income, education and behavioral estimates for households and individuals. About 3.54 million addresses are sampled each year nationwide. 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year estimates were used to calculate index values by census tracts. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software was used to aggregate census tract data and geographies into Chicago Community Area boundaries. However, some Census tracts do not directly overlay with Community Area boundaries. Therefore, some data that is within the tract, but outside the boundary may be included. This data is generally marginal.

### Data Highlights:

• The three community areas with the lowest Hardship Index Score were the same as in 2014: Near North Side (8), Loop (9.0), and Lakeview (9.9).

- The next two lowest scores are Lincoln Park (10.3) and Near South Side (11.2). The five community areas with the lowest Hardship Index Score all share borders, and are all located along Lake Michigan.
- North Center was included in the bottom six lowest scores, but has increased its Hardship Index Score from 14.9 in 2014 to 16.9 in 2017.

• The community areas with the highest hardship index score are Riverdale on the far South Side (84.2), South Lawndale (70.6) and Englewood (70.5).

• As with the previous survey, Logan Square (25.6 hardship index score), West Town (18.7), and Near West Side (26.6) border the area with the lowest hardship index score to their east.

• There were four community areas that saw an increase in hardship index values by over five points. Armor Square had the highest increase from 56.6 in 2013, to 63.5 in 2017. North Park, South Deering, and Avalon Park also had increases of more than five points.

• Six community areas saw a decrease in their hardship index values of over five points. The largest decrease was New City, from 69.1 in 2013 to 62.6 in 2017. The other five community areas with large decreases were: Washington Park, Irving Park, Lower West Side, North Lawndale, and Gage Park.



# 2017 Chicago Community Area Economic Hardship Index

Number Community 9 21.8 **Rogers Park** 2 1 1 39.4 47.3 2 West Ridge 12 3 77 Uptown 13 10 26.7 28.9 28.2 11 42.8 76 4 Lincoln Square 4 76 31.3 33.8 21.7 5 North Center 14 45.7 3 33.8 31.5 6 Lakeview 15 16 32.3 5 17 16.9 7 36.2 6 Lincoln Park 33.4 21 38.6 9.9 8 Near North Side 18 43.9 19 20 9 Edison Park 22 55.9 54.3 25.6 10.3 10 Norwood Park 23 Jefferson Park 11 25 8 24 12 Forest Glen 53.1 18.7 86 Hardship Index Score 13 North Park 27 26 8.6 - 15.0 32 28 58.9 14 Albany park 9 26.6 15.1 - 30.0 29 59.8 15 Portage Park 33 30.1 - 45.0 Irving Park 11.2 16 34 31 30 17 Dunning 50. 45.1 - 60.0 60 5 35 59 41.9 42.5 18 Montclare 36 60.1 - 84.2 51.5 **Belmont Cragin** 58 19 37 38 57 61 39 34.6 20 Hermosa 63 21 Avondale 62 41 40 56 25.3 22 Logan Square 50 Pullman 49.2 67 38.7 68 66 South Deering 42 50.4 Humboldt Park 23 51 64 38.8 **65** 59.2 24 West Town 52 East Side 69 43 51.4 54.3 25 Austin 53 West Pullman 70 71 45 46 26 West Garfield Park 54 Riverdale 44 40.8 47 54.9 51.5 27 East Garfield Park 55 Hegewisch 47.9 47 48 38.4 28 Near West Side 56 Garfield Ridge 51.2 73 72 49 52 29 North Lawndale 57 Archer Heights 43.3 50 56. 24.5 52.6 30 South Lawndale 58 **Brighton Park** 51 74 25.6 43.3 59 **McKinley Park** 31 Lower West Side 75 58.1 36.7 Bridgeport 32 Loop 60 53 33 Near South Side 61 New City 55 54 37 34 Armour Square 62 West Elsdon 35 Douglas 63 Gage Park 36 Oakland 64 Clearning 10 – Miles 0 2.5 5 37 **Fuller Park** 65 West Lawn Grand Boulevard 38 66 Chicago Lawn 39 Kenwood 67 West Englewood Source: Variables from 2013-2017 American 40 Washington Park 68 Englewood Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Hyde Park 69 Greater Grand Crossing 41 Census Bureau. Hardship Index created by Richard P. Nathan and Charles F. Adams, Jr. Woodlawn 70 42 Ashburn South Shore Auburn Gresham 43 71 Map created by the Great Cities Institute. 44 Chatham 72 Beverly Prepared by: Anish Tailor. 45 Avalon Park 73 Washington Heights

Hardship Index Values in Chicago Community Areas, 2013-2017



Mount Grenwood

Morgan Park

Edgewater

O'Hare

74

75

76

77

46

47

48

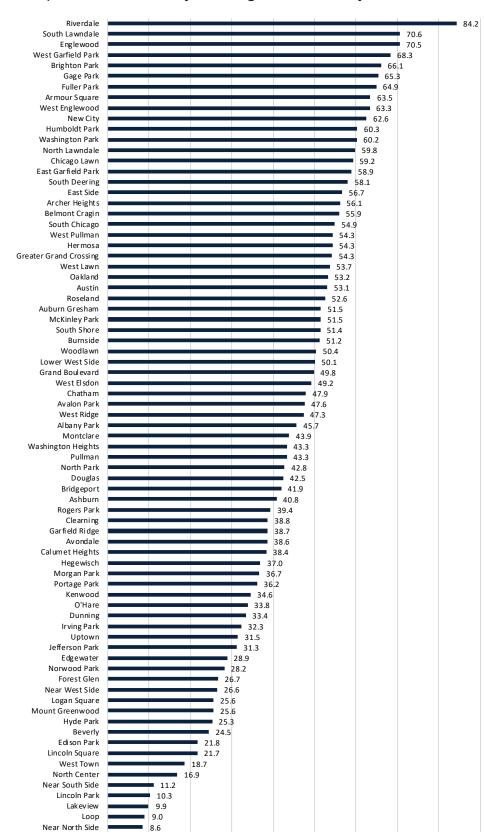
49

South Chicago Burnside

**Calumet Heights** 

Roseland

# Hardship Index Values by Chicago Community Areas, 2013-2017



Great Cities Institute

|                    |    | Hardship<br>Index Score |     | holds with Income | Unemployment<br>rate for popula-<br>tion Age 16 and<br>Over | Percent Aged 25 and<br>Over with no High<br>School Diploma | Percent of Popula-<br>tion Under Age 18<br>and Over Age 64 | Per Capita<br>Income |
|--------------------|----|-------------------------|-----|-------------------|---|--|--|----------------------|
| Rogers Park        | 1  | 39.4                    | 6.6 | 22.6              | 7.7   | 9.5  | 26.2   | \$25,874             |
| West Ridge         | 2  | 47.3                    | 7.7 | 16.8              | 8.6   | 11.7   | 37.9   | \$24,721             |
| Uptown             | 3  | 31.5                    | 4.7 | 21.3              | 6.6   | 7.8  | 24.3   | \$37,869             |
| Lincoln Square     | 4  | 21.7                    | 1.7 | 10.8              | 4.2   | 6.0  | 25.8   | \$44,432             |
| North Center       | 5  | 16.9                    | 0.7 | 5.2               | 3.6   | 4.4  | 32.2   | \$64,494             |
| Lakeview           | 6  | 9.9                     | 1.6 | 9.2               | 3.1   | 1.6  | 19.5   | \$67,066             |
| Lincoln Park       | 7  | 10.3                    | 1.1 | 10.7              | 3.1   | 1.7  | 22.9   | \$73,965             |
| Near North Side    | 8  | 8.6                     | 1.9 | 10.8              | 3.9   | 1.9  | 23.7   | \$91,948             |
| Edison Park        | 9  | 21.8                    | 1.0 | 4.3               | 2.9   | 3.6  | 37.7   | \$51,423             |
| Norwood Park       | 10 | 28.2                    | 1.3 | 8.0               | 4.7   | 5.7  | 38.7   | \$40,219             |
| Jefferson Park     | 11 | 31.3                    | 2.9 | 7.4               | 5.7   | 8.2  | 35.2   | \$35,183             |
| Forest Glen        | 12 | 26.7                    | 1.0 | 6.5               | 3.8   | 3.8  | 42.8   | \$47,342             |
| North Park         | 13 | 42.8                    | 5.0 | 15.5              | 7.0   | 8.7  | 42.7   | \$28,173             |
| Albany Park        | 14 | 45.7                    | 8.6 | 16.5              | 7.1   | 14.3   | 32.0   | \$25,848             |
| Portage Park       | 15 | 36.2                    | 3.5 | 13.2              | 7.0   | 10.7   | 33.0   | \$28,866             |
| rving Park         | 16 | 32.3                    | 3.5 | 10.3              | 5.8   | 10.3   | 30.2   | \$31,043             |
| Dunning            | 17 | 33.4                    | 2.0 | 9.6               | 5.1   | 9.0  | 37.4   | \$29,080             |
| Montclare          | 18 | 43.9                    | 4.7 | 15.6              | 7.5   | 15.3   | 36.9   | \$26,831             |
| Belmont Cragin     | 19 | 55.9                    | 8.2 | 18.7              | 9.2   | 22.2   | 36.6   | \$17,965             |
| Hermosa            | 20 | 54.3                    | 6.6 | 22.3              | 7.4   | 24.0   | 35.1   | \$17,896             |
| Avondale           | 21 | 38.6                    | 3.3 | 16.4              | 5.5   | 16.4   | 30.5   | \$26,860             |
| Logan Square       | 22 | 25.6                    | 2.7 | 13.0              | 4.2   | 7.9  | 26.0   | \$41,065             |
| Humboldt Park      | 23 | 60.3                    | 9.1 | 30.1              | 12.1  | 16.9   | 38.5   | \$15,849             |
| Nest Town          | 24 | 18.7                    | 2.0 | 11.5              | 4.7   | 7.0  | 21.0   | \$54,429             |
| Austin             | 25 | 53.1                    | 4.4 | 28.1              | 15.4  | 13.6   | 38.6   | \$17,586             |
| Nest Garfield Park | 26 | 68.3                    | 8.0 | 40.5              | 20.0  | 15.5   | 43.0   | \$12,483             |



| Community Area     | Community Area<br>Number | Hardship<br>Index Score | Percent of<br>Crowded<br>Housing | Percent of House-<br>holds with Income<br>Below Poverty<br>Level | Unemployment<br>rate for popula-<br>tion Age 16 and<br>Over | Percent Aged 25<br>and Over with<br>no High School<br>Diploma | Percent of Popula-<br>tion Under Age 18<br>and Over Age 64 | Per Capita<br>Income |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|----------------------|
| East Garfield Park | 27                       | 58.9                    | 4.7                              | 40.7   | 18.5  | 12.7  | 38.5   | \$14,638             |
| Near West Side     | 28                       | 26.6                    | 4.2                              | 20.5   | 8.3   | 5.6   | 22.2   | \$50,394             |
| North Lawndale     | 29                       | 59.8                    | 4.4                              | 37.8   | 19.9  | 14.2  | 38.9   | \$13,236             |
| South Lawndale     | 30                       | 70.6                    | 13.6                             | 30.3   | 8.7   | 28.8  | 35.3   | \$11,345             |
| Lower West Side    | 31                       | 50.1                    | 6.1                              | 22.1   | 7.0   | 22.2  | 32.0   | \$21,131             |
| Loop               | 32                       | 9.0                     | 2.8                              | 11.3   | 4.6   | 1.4   | 16.7   | \$77,722             |
| Near South Side    | 33                       | 11.2                    | 2.4                              | 10.0   | 3.0   | 2.7   | 24.1   | \$82,859             |
| Armour Square      | 34                       | 63.5                    | 5.7                              | 38.2   | 11.7  | 25.0  | 40.4   | \$19,067             |
| Douglas            | 35                       | 42.5                    | 2.4                              | 32.8   | 15.0  | 7.7   | 30.4   | \$24,056             |
| Oakland            | 36                       | 53.2                    | 2.5                              | 33.2   | 22.6  | 9.1   | 40.1   | \$20,884             |
| Fuller Park        | 37                       | 64.9                    | 1.7                              | 33.8   | 30.7  | 20.0  | 41.7   | \$17,515             |
| Grand Boulevard    | 38                       | 49.8                    | 2.0                              | 32.5   | 19.6  | 9.7   | 38.7   | \$24,616             |
| Kenwood            | 39                       | 34.6                    | 1.8                              | 23.7   | 10.8  | 5.5   | 35.4   | \$42,491             |
| Washington Park    | 40                       | 60.2                    | 3.9                              | 38.9   | 23.2  | 10.0  | 42.2   | \$14,203             |
| Hyde Park          | 41                       | 25.3                    | 1.6                              | 23.3   | 6.7   | 2.2   | 26.4   | \$41,719             |
| Woodlawn           | 42                       | 50.4                    | 3.5                              | 35.2   | 16.9  | 8.2   | 36.7   | \$19,117             |
| South Shore        | 43                       | 51.4                    | 3.2                              | 36.9   | 18.9  | 7.5   | 37.5   | \$20,067             |
| Chatham            | 44                       | 47.9                    | 2.9                              | 26.1   | 19.0  | 8.0   | 37.9   | \$21,416             |
| Avalon Park        | 45                       | 47.6                    | 1.9                              | 23.5   | 17.8  | 9.8   | 40.6   | \$22,578             |
| South Chicago      | 46                       | 54.9                    | 3.4                              | 28.9   | 20.3  | 11.6  | 41.1   | \$16,996             |
| Burnside           | 47                       | 51.2                    | 1.3                              | 24.9   | 22.3  | 10.4  | 41.1   | \$17,678             |
| Calumet Heights    | 48                       | 38.4                    | 2.0                              | 13.7   | 12.3  | 8.1   | 37.8   | \$27,488             |
| Roseland           | 49                       | 52.6                    | 2.2                              | 24.0   | 24.3  | 9.6   | 41.8   | \$19,755             |
| Pullman            | 50                       | 43.3                    | 2.0                              | 21.1   | 17.4  | 8.6   | 35.9   | \$23,659             |
| South Deering      | 51                       | 58.1                    | 3.2                              | 27.3   | 22.4  | 14.1  | 43.4   | \$16,207             |
| East Side          | 52                       | 56.7                    | 5.3                              | 18.5   | 18.1  | 18.1  | 41.0   | \$17,931             |



| Community Area         | Community<br>Area Number | Hardship<br>Index Score | Percent of<br>Crowded<br>Housing | Percent of House-<br>holds with Income<br>Below Poverty<br>Level | Unemployment<br>rate for popula-<br>tion Age 16 and<br>Over | Percent Aged 25<br>and Over with<br>no High School<br>Diploma | lation Under Age | Per Capita<br>Income |  |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|------------------|----------------------|--|
| West Pullman           | 53                       | 54.3                    | 3.2                              | 23.9   | 25.1  | 10.1  | 41.1             | \$18,007             |  |
| Riverdale              | 54                       | 84.2                    | 10.5                             | 58.8   | 35.6  | 9.3   | 47.6             | \$9,601              |  |
| Hegewisch              | 55                       | 37.0                    | 3.0                              | 15.2   | 8.3   | 9.5   | 34.3             | \$27,546             |  |
| Garfield Ridge         | 56                       | 38.7                    | 3.6                              | 6.3  | 9.4   | 12.4  | 37.5             | \$28,925             |  |
| Archer Heights         | 57                       | 56.1                    | 9.7                              | 15.9   | 9.2   | 17.9  | 40.2             | \$18,497             |  |
| Brighton Park          | 58                       | 66.1                    | 12.7                             | 23.2   | 10.9  | 24.2  | 37.7             | \$15,552             |  |
| McKinley Park          | 59                       | 51.5                    | 5.5                              | 23.1   | 12.0  | 18.4  | 34.6             | \$19,923             |  |
| Bridgeport             | 60                       | 41.9                    | 4.7                              | 18.4   | 8.9   | 15.1  | 30.2             | \$25,373             |  |
| New City               | 61                       | 62.6                    | 8.2                              | 28.0   | 18.3  | 17.1  | 39.4             | \$14,267             |  |
| West Elsdon            | 62                       | 49.2                    | 6.4                              | 10.7   | 11.8  | 16.2  | 37.7             | \$19,283             |  |
| Gage Park              | 63                       | 65.3                    | 12.1                             | 18.5   | 13.7  | 22.4  | 39.0             | \$13,605             |  |
| Clearning              | 64                       | 38.8                    | 3.6                              | 9.9  | 10.1  | 9.9   | 36.4             | \$25,722             |  |
| West Lawn              | 65                       | 53.7                    | 6.8                              | 14.5   | 13.1  | 18.6  | 38.7             | \$18,633             |  |
| Chicago Lawn           | 66                       | 59.2                    | 5.2                              | 27.4   | 22.0  | 17.2  | 37.2             | \$14,618             |  |
| West Englewood         | 67                       | 63.3                    | 3.3                              | 30.5   | 31.6  | 14.0  | 41.8             | \$14,836             |  |
| Englewood              | 68                       | 70.5                    | 4.0                              | 42.4   | 34.1  | 16.1  | 41.5             | \$12,777             |  |
| Greater Grand Crossing | 69                       | 54.3                    | 3.2                              | 35.4   | 22.0  | 9.1   | 37.9             | \$16,719             |  |
| Ashburn                | 70                       | 40.8                    | 3.3                              | 11.3   | 13.0  | 9.6   | 36.9             | \$23,990             |  |
| Auburn Gresham         | 71                       | 51.5                    | 1.9                              | 27.9   | 21.1  | 11.3  | 39.2             | \$18,473             |  |
| Beverly                | 72                       | 24.5                    | 0.3                              | 5.5  | 6.2   | 2.3   | 39.7             | \$44,979             |  |
| Washington Heights     | 73                       | 43.3                    | 1.4                              | 20.2   | 18.3  | 7.2   | 38.2             | \$22,275             |  |
| Mount Greenwood        | 74                       | 25.6                    | 2.4                              | 4.6  | 3.1   | 2.8   | 36.4             | \$36,365             |  |
| Morgan Park            | 75                       | 36.7                    | 0.4                              | 15.5   | 11.7  | 5.8   | 41.4             | \$29,636             |  |
| O'Hare                 | 76                       | 33.8                    | 2.8                              | 14.1   | 7.7   | 8.8   | 31.2             | \$28,606             |  |
| Edgewater              | 77                       | 28.9                    | 4.1                              | 15.8   | 6.2   | 7.3   | 25.2             | \$38,748             |  |

