

Campaign Zero

Cincinnati Survey - July 2026



Sample Online sample of 350 voters fielded from July 23 to July 31, 2026.
 Margin of Error ±6.8%

1. What are the top issues in Cincinnati today? Select up to 5.

Crime	49%
Inflation	48%
Housing	47%
Jobs and the economy	44%
The budget, taxes, and the federal deficit	32%
Healthcare policy, including Medicare and Medicaid	30%
Racism and race relations	30%
Education policy	21%
Income inequality	20%
Gun policy	20%
Immigration policy	18%
Social Security	17%
Abortion policy	13%
Election integrity and voting rights	11%
Climate change and the environment	10%
Democracy	9%
War and other international military conflicts	9%
Foreign trade and tariffs	6%
LGBTQ rights	4%
Other	1%
N	350

2. A recent independent study found that Cincinnati Police stop Black people while driving 3.2 times more often than White people. Researchers found that these racial disparities are not caused by factors including crime levels, but by the demographics of each neighborhood. The study concluded that the more White the neighborhood, the more likely a Black person is to be stopped there. Generally speaking, these findings...

Do not surprise me. These racial disparities match what I would expect here in Cincinnati	61%
Surprise me. These racial disparities do not match what I would expect here in Cincinnati	14%
I do not think these findings are accurate	16%
Not sure	9%
Totals	100%
N	350

3. A recent independent study found that Cincinnati Police stop Black pedestrians 5.4 times more often than White pedestrians. Researchers found that these racial disparities are not caused by crime levels, but by the demographics of each neighborhood. The study concluded that the more White the neighborhood, the more likely a Black person is to be stopped there. Generally speaking, these findings...

Do not surprise me. These racial disparities match what I would expect here in Cincinnati	59%
Surprise me. These racial disparities do not match what I would expect here in Cincinnati	17%
I do not think these findings are accurate	16%
Not sure	7%
Totals	99%
N	350

4. Until 2012, Cincinnati had an “early warning system” that tracked whether police unfairly stopped people of different races at different rates. Out of the last several years, 2012 had the lowest racial disparity in traffic stops: 1.3 times, meaning that in an area with equal populations of Black and White people, police stopped 1.3 Black people for every 1 White person they stopped. This racial disparity rose to 3.2 times in 2025, meaning that police stopped over 3 Black people for every 1 White person. Generally speaking, would you [support or oppose] Cincinnati bringing back a system that tracks whether police are stopping people of different races at different rates?

Asked only of respondents in Split A

Strongly support	41%
Somewhat support	29%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	18%
Not sure	4%
Totals	100%
N	175

5. Generally speaking, would you [support or oppose] Cincinnati creating a system that tracks whether police are stopping people of different races at different rates?

Asked only of respondents in Split B

Strongly support	39%
Somewhat support	26%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	14%
Not sure	10%
Totals	100%
N	175

6. The Citizen Complaint Authority (CCA) is an oversight agency in Cincinnati that investigates serious incidents by police officers – including shots fired, deaths in custody and major uses of force, and resolves citizen complaints against police officers. The CCA consists of a board of seven citizens appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council, a full-time Executive Director appointed by the City Manager, and a team of professional investigators. The City Manager, also appointed by the Mayor, has final approval over its internal procedures. Generally speaking, should the CCA operate as a fully independent body, reporting directly to the City Council? This would mean the CCA would not report to the City Manager.

Yes	51%
No	16%
Not sure	33%
Totals	100%
N	350

7. In Cincinnati, it is a crime to jaywalk, meaning it could result in a fine of up to \$100 for a first offense (with possible jail time resulting from a second offense). Data from the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts shows that police stops for these low-level offenses are on the rise. Generally speaking, do you feel safer knowing police are enforcing jaywalking laws or should police focus on more serious crimes?

Arresting people for jaywalking makes Cincinnati a safer place	15%
Jaywalking does not impact public safety and should not be criminal offenses	67%
Not sure	17%
Totals	99%
N	350

8. In Cincinnati, it is a crime to spit on the ground in public, meaning it could result in a fine of up to \$150. Generally speaking, do you feel safer knowing police are enforcing public spitting laws or should police focus on more serious crimes?

Arresting people for spitting in public makes Cincinnati a safer place	14%
Spitting does not impact public safety and should not be criminal offenses	74%
Not sure	11%
Totals	99%
N	350

9. Now, imagine that when it came to minor violations like jaywalking and spitting in public, new data showed that these laws were being used in Cincinnati to stop Black residents far more often than White residents. Even if it isn't exactly right, which of the following is closer to your view:

Jaywalking should be de-criminalized but still cited – people should receive a citation and fine for doing it, but shouldn't get a criminal misdemeanor for it	43%
Jaywalking should not be a criminal or civil offense – police should not stop, arrest, cite, or fine people for jaywalking	41%
Jaywalking should remain a criminal offense	9%
Not sure	6%
Totals	99%
N	350

10. A recent independent study found that some individual police officers in Cincinnati stop Black people 10 times to 20 times more often than White people. Would you [support or oppose] the following additional steps taken for police officers who consistently stop Black people at much higher rates than White people?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
Conduct an investigation into the root cause of the disparity findings for each officer	42%	32%	5%	13%	8%
Additional racial bias trainings for each officer	47%	25%	4%	15%	9%
Suspension with pay and additional racial bias trainings	26%	29%	9%	25%	11%
Suspension without pay for these officers	29%	23%	15%	21%	12%
Termination of these officers	26%	19%	21%	24%	11%

11. Would you [support or oppose] a new policy requiring any specialized police unit focused on specific crimes to be reviewed to see whether they are stopping Black and White residents at different rates?

Strongly support	35%
Somewhat support	29%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	14%
Not sure	12%
Totals	99%
N	350

12. Would you [support or oppose] a policy ensuring Cincinnati residents can file an anonymous complaint against a police officer?

Yes, I support this policy - anonymous complaints should be fully permissible	82%
No, I oppose this policy - police should have access to the name of the person who filed a complaint against them	11%
Not sure	6%
Totals	99%
N	350

13. Currently, the city of Cincinnati does not disclose some of the information collected in contact cards regarding police stops, including the officer's name, the supervisor's name, the officer's written account of the stop, and the officer's recorded assessment of the stopped person's attitude. Additionally, the Cincinnati Open Data Portal stopped publishing this data after 2024. Should the city be required to post full, up-to-date records of every police stop in a place where any resident can easily look them up online?

Yes, strongly	38%
Yes, somewhat	29%
No, somewhat	10%
No, strongly	9%
Not sure	14%
Totals	100%
N	350

14. Recently, the City of Cincinnati issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for another independent analysis of police stops in the city. The RFP did not include any requirement that the results of this second analysis be made public. Generally speaking, do you [support or oppose] making the upcoming independent analysis of police stops available to the public?

Strongly support	45%
Somewhat support	30%
Somewhat oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	7%
Not sure	12%
Totals	100%
N	350

15. In Cincinnati, per the police union contract, if a police officer is disciplined for up to 7 days (one week), the record of this discipline must be removed from the police officer's file three years after the date of the incident that led to the discipline. Do you think records of a police officer being disciplined for up to 7 days should be kept permanently in their employee file, or is it okay for those records to be removed after 3 years?

Records of police misconduct should be kept permanently in their employee file	66%
Records of police misconduct should be removed after 3 years have passed	20%
Not sure	13%
Totals	99%
N	350

16. In Cincinnati, per the police union contract, if a police officer is disciplined for 8 days or more (greater than one week), the record of this discipline must be removed from the police officer's file seven years after the date of the incident that led to the discipline. Do you think records of a police officer being disciplined for 8 days or more should be kept permanently in their employee file, or is it okay for those records to be removed after 7 years?

Records of police misconduct should be kept permanently in their employee file	64%
Records of police misconduct should be removed after 7 years have passed	24%
Not sure	13%
Totals	101%
N	350

17. In Cincinnati, per the police union contract, any records related to charges or allegations against an officer that were “not sustained” or “unfounded” (in other words, the charges or allegations did not result in additional disciplinary action) must be removed from the officer’s personnel file immediately and destroyed. Do you think records of allegations, even if not sustained or unfounded, should be kept permanently in their employee file, or is it okay for those records to be removed after a certain amount of time?

Records of allegations of police misconduct should be kept permanently in their employee file	54%
Records of allegations of police misconduct should be immediately removed and destroyed	29%
Not sure	17%
Totals	100%
N	350

18. Cincinnati's police union contract creates a 3 year statute of limitations for wrongdoing by a police officer. If 3 years (or more) have passed from the date of an incident, the City may not impose discipline on an officer, even if the allegations are proven to be true. If a police officer is found guilty of misconduct, but the incident happened more than 3 years ago, should the city still be able to discipline them?

Yes, there should be no time limit on discipline for proven misconduct	66%
No, there should be a statute of limitations on police misconduct within a few years of an incident	19%
Not sure	15%
Totals	100%
N	350

19. Currently, Cincinnati's Use of Force Policy bans chokeholds (blocking someone's airway) but does not ban carotid holds / strangleholds (restricting someone's neck muscles and blood flow). The restriction of both air and blood flow can be deadly. Generally speaking, which is closest to your view?

CPD should ban both chokeholds and strangleholds	63%
CPD should ban chokeholds but not strangleholds	4%
Neck restraints should be allowed	16%
Not sure	17%
Totals	100%
N	350

20. Some proponents consider a police officer pointing their gun at a citizen as a use of force. Should police departments be required to log every time an officer uses force against a civilian, including pointing a firearm at someone, even if it is never fired?

Yes, every use of force should be documented	75%
No, police should only have to report use of force when the incident results in death or injury	10%
No, current reporting requirements are sufficient	9%
Not sure	5%
Totals	99%
N	350

21. And even if it isn't exactly right, which of the following is closer to your view?

Law enforcement is the primary solution for improving public safety	31%
Community investment – including jobs, housing, recreational centers, and treatment programs – is the primary solution for improving public safety	60%
Not sure	9%
Totals	100%
N	350

22. Next, you will see policies that some people may support and some people may oppose. For each of those, please say if you personally would [support or oppose] that policy in Cincinnati.

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
Expand the use of “supervised release,” so that people serving a prison sentence spend time under supervision upon their return to their community	36%	34%	9%	9%	12%
Expand taxpayer funding for 911 services to ensure first responder lines are fully funded, even if it means raising taxes	37%	29%	13%	8%	12%
Expand the authority of civilian oversight of policing in Cincinnati to monitor and discipline police who violate the law / department policy	38%	31%	11%	9%	11%
Eliminating the use of “civil asset forfeiture,” which allows police to seize people’s cash and sell their property, regardless of their guilt / innocence in court	34%	19%	13%	23%	12%
Expand the use of “diversion” as an alternative to traditional criminal prosecution, which allows people charged with offenses to pay fines or engage in community service rather than face prosecution and conviction	33%	35%	7%	14%	11%
Expand access to testing strips that allow residents to test drugs, regardless of whether they are illegal, for the presence of fentanyl	45%	30%	6%	8%	12%

This survey is based on 350 interviews conducted by YouGov on the internet of registered voters in Hamilton County, Ohio predominantly within the city of Cincinnati. The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race/ethnicity, education, and U.S. Census region based on voter registration lists, the U.S. Census American Community Survey, and the U.S. Census Current Population Survey, as well as 2020 Presidential vote and approximate 2024 Presidential vote based on available results, and party identification estimates based on Pew Research Center's National Public Opinion Reference Survey. Respondents were selected from YouGov to be representative of registered voters in Hamilton County, Ohio predominantly within the city of Cincinnati. The weights range from 0.08 to 6.05 with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 0.81.

The margin of error (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the subsetted sample is approximately 6.8%. It is calculated using the formula:

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + CV^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.