

MEETING SAFELY IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO
CHOOSE CHICAGO

When it comes to large events and attractions, no city compares to Chicago. From multi-day concerts like Lollapalooza to some of the largest tradeshows in the world at McCormick Place, Chicago has a long and successful track record of keeping visitors safe at large events.

Across the United States, every city is facing public safety challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic. We know that public safety is top of mind for many people traveling for meetings and conventions, and we want to provide assurance: **you can safely meet in Chicago.**



THE FACTS ABOUT PUBLIC SAFETY IN CHICAGO

The general depiction of crime in our city does not fully reflect reality. Violent crime actually occurs at a lower rate in Chicago than in many other cities, with some large cities experiencing a crime rate double that of Chicago. Chicago is one of the only major cities in the country that saw a double-digit percentage decrease in gun crime in 2022.



BUSINESS TRAVELERS AND TOURISTS HAVE RETURNED TO CHICAGO IN DROVES

In 2022, tens of millions of visitors returned to Chicago to safely experience all that our world-class city has to offer. Our tourist attractions are thriving, our streets are full, and our meeting spaces are booked.

- In total, Chicago welcomed nearly 50 million visitors in 2022 – 60% more than 2021 and 80% of 2019 levels.
- Group hotel room demand (representing delegates to large meetings and events) reached over 3 million rooms, which is over 150% higher than 2021 and 83% of 2019 levels.

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Safety measures are in place for all visitors whether they are attending conventions, taking part in business meetings or visiting popular tourist attractions. The Chicago Police Department has increased personnel downtown, and the city launched an Ambassador Program for the Magnificent Mile, with patrols that connect with businesses, residents, and visitors along Michigan Avenue and some of the surrounding area to curb illegal activity.

MEETING SAFELY AT MCCORMICK PLACE

Chicago is proud to have the largest convention center in North America, and we work tirelessly to ensure that exhibitors and attendees are able to safely attend meetings and conventions at McCormick Place. Choose Chicago, McCormick Place and the Chicago Police Department work hand-in-hand to ensure safety at large events:

- McCormick Place staffs a central security command center and has expert, 24/7 security staff in all buildings
- The Chicago Police Department maintains a beat dedicated to the McCormick Place campus, with patrol vehicles and bike patrol officers
- McCormick Place has 1,400 closed-circuit cameras that security staff monitor 24/7 along with a robust emergency communications system.
- For all large events, the Chicago Police Department work closely with Choose Chicago, McCormick Place and the event organizer to develop a security plan and share information regarding the days of the show, the hotels in the room block, shuttles and any offsite events planned.



Learn more about visiting
and meeting in Chicago

