

2027 College Free Speech Rankings

University of Virginia

9
OVERALL
RANK

C

SPEECH
CLIMATE

GREEN

SPOTLIGHT
RATING

Executive Summary

FOR THE SEVENTH YEAR in a row, the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE), a nonprofit organization committed to defending and sustaining the individual rights of all Americans to free speech and free thought, and College Pulse surveyed college undergraduates about their perceptions and experiences regarding free speech on their campuses. The College Free Speech Rankings combine student survey data, written speech policies, and recent speech-related controversies.

This year's survey includes 62,997 student respondents from 262 colleges and universities. Students who were enrolled in four-year degree programs were surveyed via the College Pulse mobile app and web portal from Jan. 2 through June 3, 2026. The College Free Speech Rankings are available [online](#) in an interactive dashboard, and the full pre-registered methodology is available on the Open Science Framework's [website](#).

We surveyed 320 University of Virginia undergraduates. Key findings include:

- University of Virginia ranks 9 out of 261¹ schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings. The university earned a score of 76.0 and a speech climate grade of C.
- UVA's strongest survey components are "Political Tolerance," which measures students' willingness to allow controversial speakers on campus, "Self-Censorship," which measures how often students refrain from sharing views, and "Openness," which measures how many topics students do not identify as difficult to discuss.
- UVA students were more willing than students nationally to allow all six controversial speakers tested in the survey. Even so, only 24% of UVA students would allow a speaker who says "Black Lives Matter is a hate group," and only 28% would allow a speaker who says "transgender people have a mental disorder."
- UVA students were more likely than students nationally to say shouting down a speaker or blocking students from attending a speech is at least "rarely" acceptable. They were less likely than students nationally to say the same about using violence to stop a campus speech.
- UVA's weakest survey components are "Comfort Expressing Ideas," which measures students' comfort speaking in different campus settings, and "Administrative Support," which measures whether students think the administration protects and would defend speech.
- UVA has a "green light" Spotlight rating, has adopted the Chicago Statement or a substantially similar statement, and has adopted an institutional neutrality policy. These formal commitments are a major strength in its ranking.
- University of Virginia has no speech controversies that influenced the school's rankings.

¹ This year, 262 colleges and universities were surveyed. One school, Regis University, was given a Warning rating for its speech policies and was therefore excluded from the rankings. As a result, the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings includes 261 colleges and universities. The detailed methodology can be found at rankings.fire.org/methodology.

UVA STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF FREE SPEECH

UVA students are comparatively tolerant of controversial speakers

University of Virginia ranks 54 on “Political Tolerance,” indicating UVA students are more willing to allow controversial speakers on campus compared to students nationally. UVA improved from 163 last year.

The largest gaps were for the controversial liberal speakers.

- 24% of students would allow a speaker who says “Black Lives Matter is a hate group.” Nationally, 22% of students would allow this speaker.
- 28% of students would allow a speaker who says “transgender people have a mental disorder.” Nationally, 26% of students would allow this speaker.
- 43% of students would allow a speaker who says “the Catholic church is a pedophilic institution.” Nationally, 36% of students would allow this speaker.
- 45% of students would allow a speaker who says “abortion should be completely illegal.” Nationally, 40% of students would allow this speaker.
- 46% of students would allow a speaker who says “the police are just as racist as the Ku Klux Klan.” Nationally, 36% of students would allow this speaker.
- 59% of students would allow a speaker who says “children should be able to transition without parental consent.” Nationally, 47% of students would allow this speaker.

UVA Students Who Would Allow Each Speaker on Campus (%)

- Transgender people have a mental disorder.
- Abortion should be completely illegal.
- Black Lives Matter is a hate group.
- The Catholic church is a pedophilic institution.
- The police are just as racist as the Ku Klux Klan.
- Children should be able to transition without parental consent.

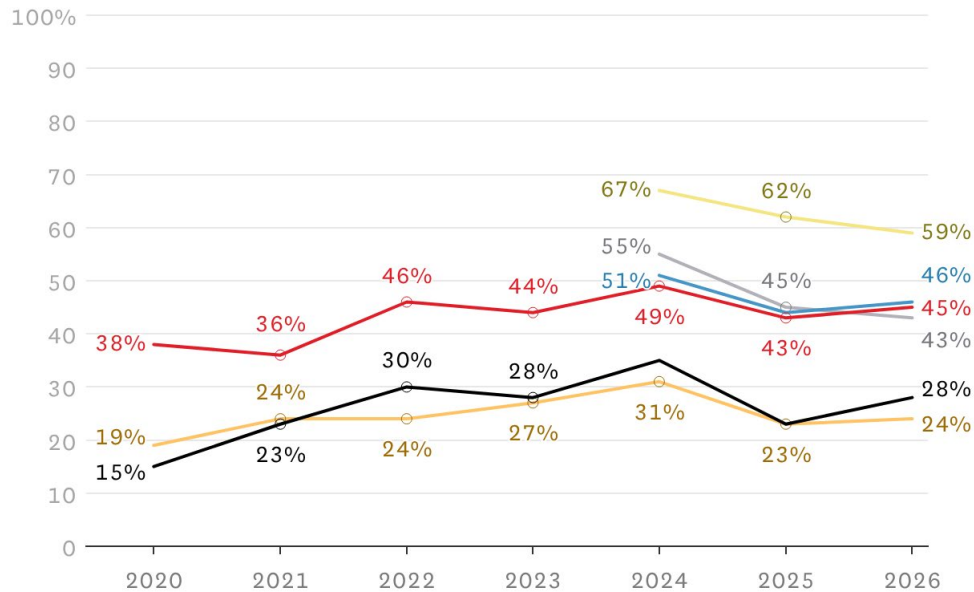


Chart: Emily Nayyer • Source: FIRE/College Pulse

UVA students self-censor less often than many of their peers

UVA ranks 56 on “Self-Censorship.” This is a substantial improvement from 183 last year.

UVA students reported self-censoring at rates close to or below national averages across all four settings.

A majority of UVA students said they self-censored at least “occasionally” in conversations with other students on campus (58%), conversations with professors (58%), and classroom discussions (64%). These rates were similar to the national rates of 57%, 60%, and 62%, respectively. UVA students were less likely than students nationally to report self-censoring in conversations with school administrators: 50% compared with 57%.

Frequent self-censorship was less common at UVA than nationally. In each setting, 18% to 21% of UVA students said they self-censored at least “a couple of times a week,” compared with 24% to 27% of students nationally.

UVA Students Who Engage in Self-Censorship At Least Occasionally (%)

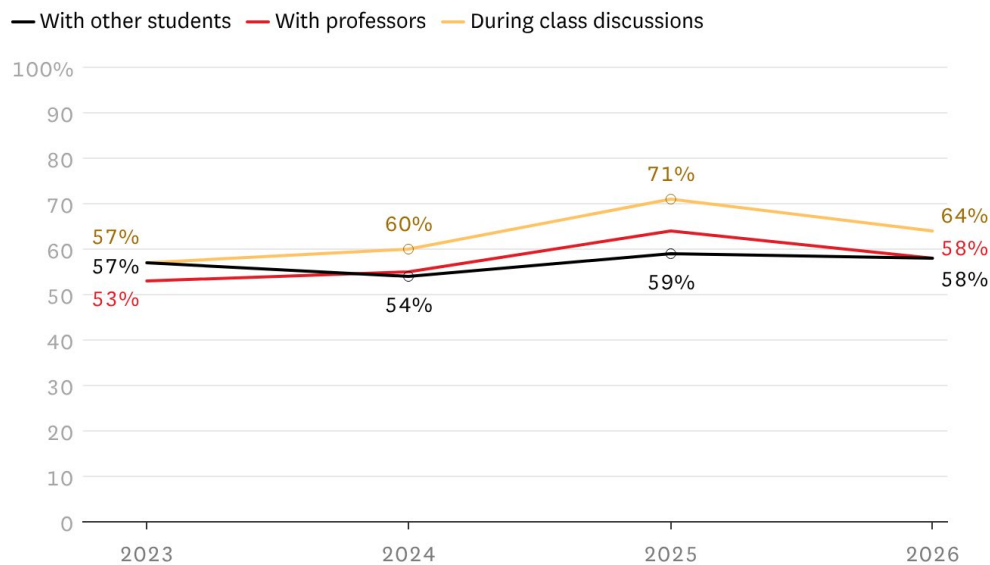


Chart: Emily Nayyer • Source: FIRE/College Pulse

The broader self-expression question showed little change: 37% of UVA students said they at least “occasionally” felt that they could not express their opinion because of how students, a professor, or the administration would respond, compared with 35% last year and 40% nationally.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains UVA’s hardest topic

UVA ranks 59 on “Openness.” This component measures how many topics students identify as difficult to discuss openly and honestly on campus. UVA improved from 114 last year and returned close to its 2025 performance, when it ranked 54.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict was the clear exception to UVA’s broader openness profile. It was the topic UVA students most often identified as difficult to discuss, selected by 54% of students, slightly above the national rate of 50%.

Other controversial topics were less likely to stand out at UVA. Students selected abortion, Charlie Kirk, Donald Trump, and transgender rights at rates below the national average. UVA students were also less likely than students nationally to say freedom of speech itself was difficult to discuss: 12% compared with 20%

UVA Students Who Have Difficulty Talking About Each Topic (%)

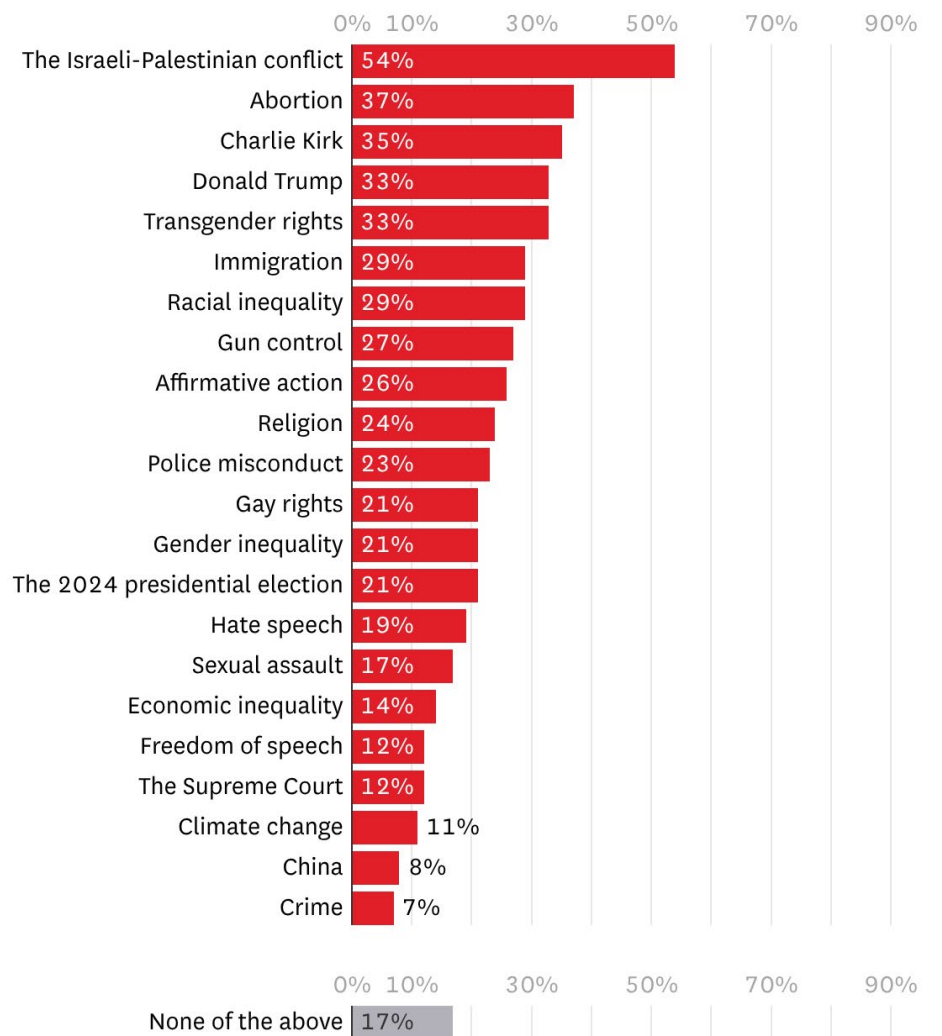


Chart: Emily Nayyer • Source: FIRE/College Pulse

UVA students are too accepting of shoutdowns and blocking access

UVA ranks 171 on “Disruptive Conduct.” This component measures acceptance of disruptive tactics used to protest a campus speaker, with higher scores reflecting less acceptance of disruption. UVA’s score changed little from last year, when it ranked 165.

UVA students were more likely than students nationally to deem shoutdowns at least “rarely” acceptable. At UVA, 76% of students said shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus was at least “rarely” acceptable, compared with 69% nationally.

UVA students were also more likely than students nationally to deem blocking access at least “rarely” acceptable: 57% of UVA students said blocking other students from attending a campus speech was at least “rarely” acceptable, compared with 50% nationally.

UVA students were less accepting of violence than students nationally: 28% said using violence to stop a campus speech was at least “rarely” acceptable, compared with 31% nationally. This improved from 33% last year and 34% in the 2025 College Free Speech Rankings.

UVA Students Who Said a Type of Disruptive Conduct Was At Least Rarely Acceptable (%)

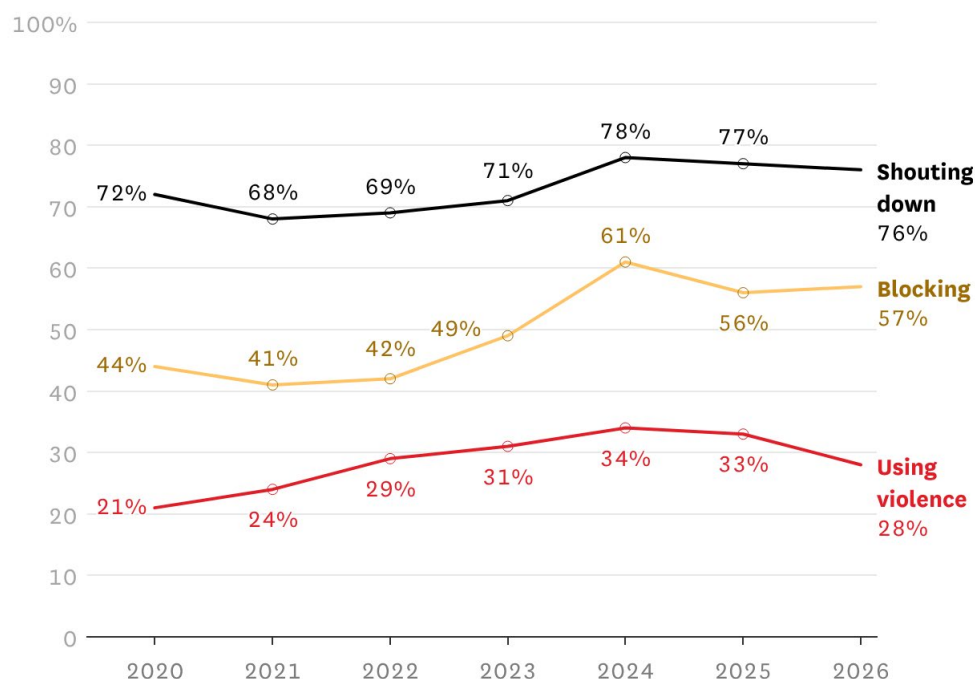


Chart: Emily Nayyer • Source: FIRE/College Pulse

Students have middling confidence in administrative support for free speech

UVA ranks 178 on “Administrative Support.” This component measures whether students think the administration protects free speech and would defend a speaker’s rights during a controversy. UVA improved from 210 last year, but it remains well below its 2024 performance, when it ranked 15.

Thirty percent of UVA students said it was “very” or “extremely” clear that the administration protects free speech on campus, compared with 40% nationally. Another 54% said it was “somewhat” clear. Sixteen percent said it was “not at all” or “not very” clear, roughly matching the 17% national figure.

When asked how likely the administration would be to defend a speaker’s right to express their views if a controversy over offensive speech occurred on campus, 21% of UVA students said “very” or “extremely”

likely, compared with 26% nationally. Twenty-five percent said “not at all” or “not very” likely, compared with 24% nationally.

These results suggest that students do not broadly distrust the administration, but many remain unsure whether UVA would actively defend expression during controversy. Given UVA’s strong formal policies, improving this component likely depends on making those commitments more visible and consistently explaining how they apply in contested cases.

Student Perspectives in UVA's Administrative Support

- Very or extremely clear that college administration protects free speech on campus
- If a controversy over offensive speech were to occur on campus, it is very or extremely likely that the administration would defend the speaker's right to express their views

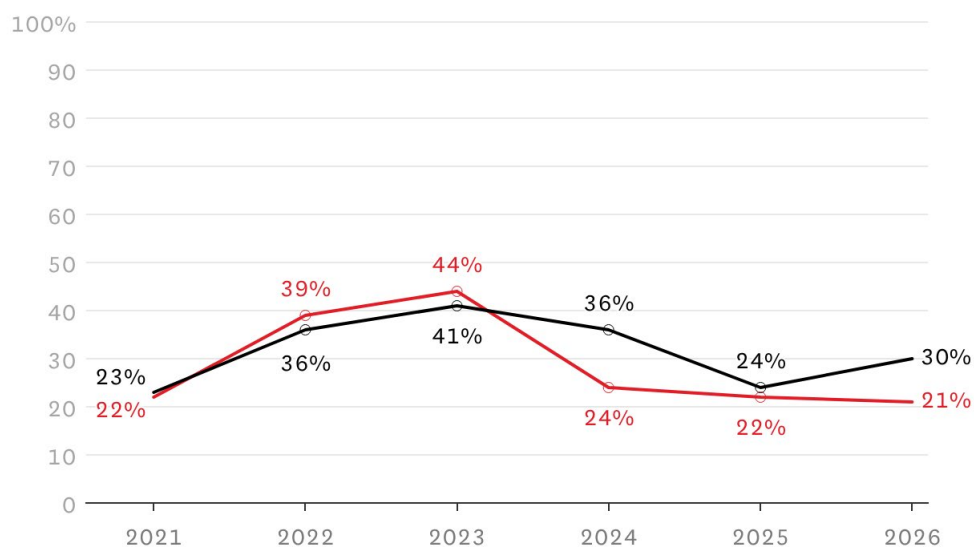


Chart: Emily Nayyer • Source: FIRE/College Pulse

Students least comfortable on social media, challenging professors

UVA ranks 185 on “Comfort Expressing Ideas.” This component measures how comfortable students are expressing views on controversial political topics in five campus settings.

UVA students reported their greatest discomfort is with social media and public disagreement with professors:

- 71% of UVA students said they would feel at least “somewhat uncomfortable” expressing an unpopular political opinion to other students on a social media account tied to their name, compared with 62% nationally.
- 62% said they would feel at least “somewhat uncomfortable” publicly disagreeing with a professor about a controversial political topic, compared with 57% nationally.

- 54% said the same about expressing their views during an in-class discussion, compared with 48% nationally.

UVA students were more comfortable in two other settings:

- 45% said they would feel at least “somewhat uncomfortable” disagreeing with a professor in a written assignment, compared with 47% nationally.
- 41% said they would feel at least “somewhat uncomfortable” discussing their views with other students in a common campus space, compared with 43% nationally.

UVA Students Who Felt At Least Somewhat Uncomfortable by Context (%)

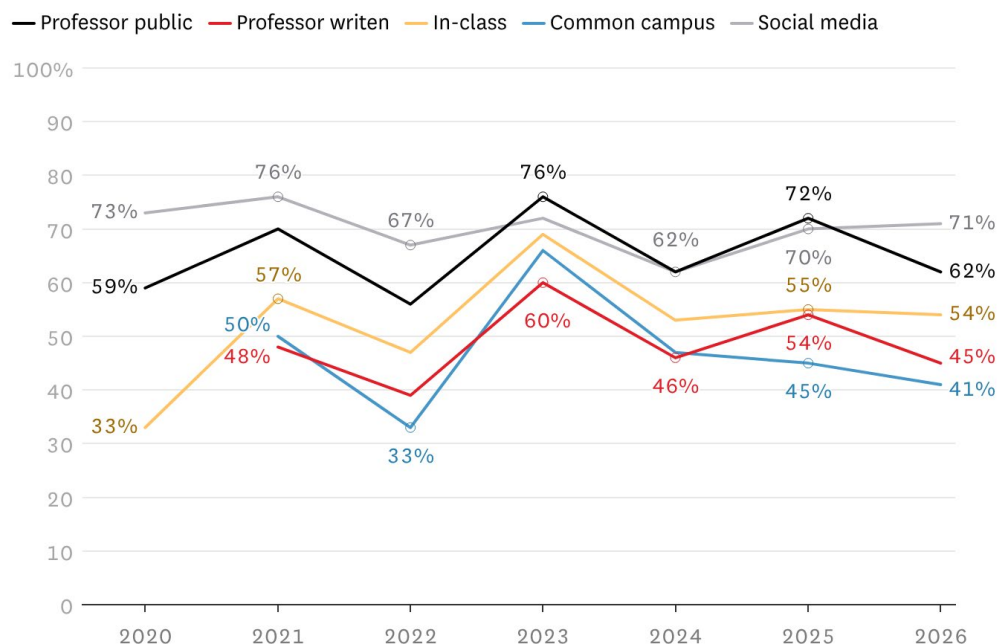


Chart: Emily Nayyer • Source: FIRE/College Pulse

UVA HAS STRONG FORMAL SPEECH PROTECTIONS

The University of Virginia earns an overall “green light” **Spotlight rating** for its written policies governing student expression and has adopted both the Chicago Statement and institutional neutrality. The institution maintains student conduct policies that do not seriously imperil free speech of students on campus and openly advertises its commitment to the First Amendment. While the university is governed by two harassment policies that earn “yellow light” ratings, these policies do not implicate UVA’s overall green light rating, because they qualify for a limited exception to FIRE’s Spotlight rating system.²

² <https://www.fire.org/research-learn/using-fires-spotlight-database>

UVA HAD NO SPEECH CONTROVERSIES AFFECTING ITS RANKING

No qualifying speech controversies occurred at the University of Virginia in this year's College Free Speech Rankings.

Avoiding penalties is important. Because UVA already has strong policy scores, future controversies could have an outsized effect on the university's overall position if administrators failed to protect expression or if events were disrupted, canceled, or punished in ways that restricted protected speech.

HOW CAN UVA IMPROVE?

UVA begins from a strong formal baseline and already has many of the tools needed to improve its speech climate. The university should preserve its “green light” policies, its Statement on Free Expression and Free Inquiry, and its institutional neutrality policy, and avoid weakening any of those protections. Because UVA already receives full credit on these policy components, the clearest path to improvement is not adopting new formal commitments, but making its existing commitments more visible, predictable, and credible to students.

UVA should build on existing efforts such as its [free speech website](#), [various resources](#), and dialogue programs. These projects already align with the report's recommendations, but UVA's survey results suggest it may need to reach more students and become more integrated into ordinary campus life.

UVA should focus especially on “Comfort Expressing Ideas” and “Administrative Support.” Administrators, deans, and faculty should continue explaining that protected expression will not be punished and should do so in settings students regularly encounter: orientation, residence life, classrooms, student organization training, event-planning processes, and administrator communications during controversy. Faculty could also make fuller use of UVA's existing teaching resources by setting discussion norms, assigning serious competing arguments, and making clear that students are evaluated on reasoning, evidence, and command of the material rather than viewpoint.

UVA should also continue clarifying the distinction between protected protest and disruption. Its existing policies already state that protest may not prevent a speaker from being heard or an event from proceeding, but students' survey responses suggest the university should explain those principles more often before controversial events occur.

Finally, UVA could use its existing dialogue infrastructure to address the topics students most often identified as difficult to discuss. Rather than creating a new program from scratch, UVA could use the [Civic Cornerstone Fellowship](#), [Talking Across Difference](#), and classroom-based deliberation exercises to host more structured conversations on contested issues, including the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, abortion, Charlie Kirk, Donald Trump, and transgender rights.

University of Virginia's 2027 College Free Speech Rankings scores by component

COMPONENT	UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA	NATIONAL AVERAGE	MINIMUM VALUE	MAXIMUM VALUE
Comfort Expressing Ideas	9.62	9.81	5	15
Self-Censorship	13.18	12.79	4	20
Disruptive Conduct	15.46	15.71	3	20
Administrative Support	11.42	11.66	2	20
Openness	7.67	7.25	0	10
Political Tolerance	7.63	7.10	3	15
Chicago Statement	3 (Yes)	-	0 (No)	3 (Yes)
Institutional Neutrality	3 (Yes)	-	0 (No)	3 (Yes)
Spotlight Rating	5 (Green)	-	-10 (Red)	5 (Green)
Campus Deplatformings	0	-	∞ Penalties	∞ Bonuses
Scholars Under Fire	0	-	∞ Penalties	∞ Bonuses
Students Under Fire	0	-	∞ Penalties	∞ Bonuses
Overall score	75.98	61.35		

Topline Results: 2027 College Free Speech Rankings

University of Virginia-Main Campus

School sample: datayear 2026.

Total number of students surveyed = 320.

Margin of error = +/- 5.5%.

How clear is it to you that your college administration protects free speech on campus?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Not at all clear	3	1%	6
Not very clear	50	15%	60
Somewhat clear	173	54%	156
Very clear	70	22%	79
Extremely clear	24	8%	19

If a controversy over offensive speech were to occur on your campus, how likely is it that the administration would defend the speaker's right to express their views?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Not at all likely	5	2%	8
Not very likely	73	23%	74
Somewhat likely	174	54%	170
Very likely	55	17%	57
Extremely likely	12	4%	11

How comfortable would you feel doing the following on your campus? [Presented in randomized order]

Publicly disagreeing with a professor about a controversial political topic.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Very uncomfortable	73	23%	72
Somewhat uncomfortable	125	39%	133
Somewhat comfortable	97	30%	89
Very comfortable	25	8%	26

Expressing disagreement with one of your professors about a controversial political topic in a written assignment.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Very uncomfortable	36	11%	32
Somewhat uncomfortable	107	33%	111
Somewhat comfortable	138	43%	141
Very comfortable	39	12%	36

Expressing your views on a controversial political topic during an in-class discussion.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Very uncomfortable	39	12%	40
Somewhat uncomfortable	133	42%	130
Somewhat comfortable	114	35%	123
Very comfortable	34	11%	27

Expressing your views on a controversial political topic to other students during a discussion in a common campus space such as a quad, dining hall, or lounge.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Very uncomfortable	32	10%	30
Somewhat uncomfortable	99	31%	104
Somewhat comfortable	143	45%	134
Very comfortable	46	14%	52

Expressing an unpopular political opinion to your fellow students on a social media account tied to your name.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Very uncomfortable	92	29%	96
Somewhat uncomfortable	134	42%	133
Somewhat comfortable	75	23%	71
Very comfortable	19	6%	20

This next series of questions asks you about self-censorship in different settings. For the purpose of these questions, self-censorship is defined as follows:

Refraining from sharing certain views because you fear social (e.g., exclusion from social events), professional (e.g., losing job or promotion), legal (e.g., prosecution or fine), or violent (e.g., assault) consequences, whether in person or remotely (e.g., by phone or online), and whether the consequences come from state or non-state sources. [Presented in randomized order]

How often do you self-censor during conversations with other students on campus?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	27	8%	29
Rarely	106	33%	113
Occasionally, once or twice a month	123	38%	108
Fairly often, a couple of times a week	55	17%	60
Very often, nearly every day	9	3%	10

How often do you self-censor during conversations with your professors?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	34	11%	27
Rarely	102	32%	110
Occasionally, once or twice a month	120	37%	114
Fairly often, a couple of times a week	50	15%	54
Very often, nearly every day	15	5%	15

How often do you self-censor during classroom discussions?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	19	6%	20
Rarely	96	30%	105
Occasionally, once or twice a month	138	43%	127
Fairly often, a couple of times a week	59	18%	56
Very often, nearly every day	8	3%	12

How often do you self-censor during conversations with school administrators?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	51	16%	45
Rarely	108	34%	115
Occasionally, once or twice a month	102	32%	93
Fairly often, a couple times a week	46	14%	52
Very often, nearly every day	12	4%	15

How acceptable would you say it is for students to engage in the following action to protest a campus speaker? [Presented in randomized order]

Shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Always acceptable	11	4%	11
Sometimes acceptable	112	35%	110
Rarely acceptable	120	37%	121
Never acceptable	77	24%	78

Blocking other students from attending a campus speech.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Always acceptable	1	<1%	4
Sometimes acceptable	73	23%	65
Rarely acceptable	108	34%	116
Never acceptable	138	43%	135

Using violence to stop a campus speech.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Always acceptable	9	3%	4
Sometimes acceptable	26	8%	24
Rarely acceptable	56	17%	60
Never acceptable	230	72%	232

Student groups often invite speakers to campus to express their views on a range of topics. Regardless of your own views on the topic, should your school ALLOW or NOT ALLOW a speaker on campus who has previously expressed the following idea? [Presented in randomized order]

Transgender people have a mental disorder.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Definitely should not allow this speaker	101	32%	129
Probably should not allow this speaker	128	40%	112
Probably should allow this speaker	60	19%	53
Definitely should allow this speaker	31	10%	26

Abortion should be completely illegal.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Definitely should not allow this speaker	77	24%	84
Probably should not allow this speaker	100	31%	100
Probably should allow this speaker	98	31%	86
Definitely should allow this speaker	45	14%	50

Black Lives Matter is a hate group.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Definitely should not allow this speaker	119	37%	147
Probably should not allow this speaker	125	39%	101
Probably should allow this speaker	47	15%	48
Definitely should allow this speaker	28	9%	24

The Catholic church is a pedophilic institution.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Definitely should not allow this speaker	60	19%	67
Probably should not allow this speaker	122	38%	110
Probably should allow this speaker	95	30%	106
Definitely should allow this speaker	42	13%	37

The police are just as racist as the Ku Klux Klan.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Definitely should not allow this speaker	52	16%	50
Probably should not allow this speaker	121	38%	126
Probably should allow this speaker	107	33%	104
Definitely should allow this speaker	40	12%	40

Children should be able to transition without parental consent.

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Definitely should not allow this speaker	29	9%	29
Probably should not allow this speaker	102	32%	94
Probably should allow this speaker	139	44%	147
Definitely should allow this speaker	50	16%	50

Some students say it can be difficult to have conversations about certain issues on campus. Which of the following issues, if any, would you say are difficult to have an open and honest conversation about on your campus? [Presented in randomized order with none of the above always listed last]

Abortion

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	200	63%	190
Yes	120	37%	130

Affirmative action

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	237	74%	231
Yes	83	26%	89

Charlie Kirk

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	209	65%	196
Yes	111	35%	124

China

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	296	92%	295
Yes	24	8%	25

Climate change

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	284	89%	286
Yes	36	11%	34

Crime

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	298	93%	290
Yes	22	7%	30

Donald Trump

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	215	67%	203
Yes	105	33%	117

Economic inequality

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	275	86%	267
Yes	45	14%	53

Freedom of speech

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	282	88%	273
Yes	38	12%	47

Gay rights

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	254	79%	246
Yes	66	21%	74

Gender inequality

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	252	79%	259
Yes	68	21%	61

Gun control

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	233	73%	225
Yes	87	27%	95

Hate speech

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	259	81%	252
Yes	61	19%	68

Immigration

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	227	71%	207
Yes	93	29%	113

The Israeli/Palestinian conflict

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	147	46%	131
Yes	173	54%	189

Police misconduct

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	247	77%	231
Yes	73	23%	89

The 2024 presidential election

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	252	79%	251
Yes	68	21%	69

Racial inequality

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	228	71%	221
Yes	92	29%	99

Religion

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	242	76%	235
Yes	78	24%	85

Sexual assault

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	266	83%	259
Yes	54	17%	61

The Supreme Court

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	283	88%	284
Yes	37	12%	36

Transgender rights

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	213	67%	205
Yes	107	33%	115

None of the above

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	267	83%	274
Yes	53	17%	46

On your campus, how often have you felt that you could not express your opinion on a subject because of how students, a professor, or the administration would respond?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	58	18%	55
Rarely	144	45%	136
Occasionally, once or twice a month	82	26%	91
Fairly often, a couple of times a week	30	9%	30
Very often, nearly every day	7	2%	8

Have you ever been disciplined by your college's administration for expression on campus?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Yes, I have been disciplined.	7	2%	3
No, but I have been threatened with discipline.	30	9%	27
I have not been disciplined nor threatened with discipline.	283	88%	290

How often, if at all, do you think your college would punish you for saying ...

"Bigots who say hateful things deserve to be shot."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	36	11%	35
Rarely	65	21%	63
Sometimes	67	21%	74
Fairly often	98	31%	95
Always	49	16%	50

"Gun nuts worship their AR-15s more than they value human lives."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	112	36%	114
Rarely	105	33%	110
Sometimes	67	21%	59
Fairly often	26	8%	27
Always	5	2%	7

"Illegal immigrants should be arrested and deported."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	75	24%	74
Rarely	68	22%	89
Sometimes	111	35%	88
Fairly often	50	16%	51
Always	11	3%	15

"Debate me. Prove me wrong."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	204	65%	212
Rarely	62	20%	65
Sometimes	39	12%	26
Fairly often	5	2%	7
Always	4	1%	7

"If a trans-identified male is in a female-only space, he is committing a violent, abusive act."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	63	20%	67
Rarely	75	24%	91
Sometimes	114	36%	97
Fairly often	49	16%	50
Always	13	4%	12

If a professor on your campus said any of the following statements on social media after Charlie Kirk's assassination, SHOULD THEY or SHOULD THEY NOT be fired from their job?

"It's O.K. to punch a Nazi."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
The professor definitely should not be fired from their job	103	33%	100
The professor probably should not be fired from their job	135	43%	137
The professor probably should be fired from their job	59	19%	61
The professor definitely should be fired from their job	14	5%	17

"These fascist Bible-thumpers want to drag us back to the Dark Ages."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
The professor definitely should not be fired from their job	48	16%	49
The professor probably should not be fired from their job	134	43%	125
The professor probably should be fired from their job	103	33%	112
The professor definitely should be fired from their job	27	9%	29

"We are going to make America great again."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
The professor definitely should not be fired from their job	67	21%	62
The professor probably should not be fired from their job	147	47%	145
The professor probably should be fired from their job	70	23%	81
The professor definitely should be fired from their job	29	9%	27

"Our colleges and universities are progressive indoctrination centers."

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
The professor definitely should not be fired from their job	51	16%	47
The professor probably should not be fired from their job	144	46%	148
The professor probably should be fired from their job	87	28%	90
The professor definitely should be fired from their job	30	10%	30

How often do you attend church or religious services?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	114	37%	105
Less than once a year	20	7%	30
Once or twice a year	41	13%	41
Several times a year	38	12%	51
Once a month	15	5%	17
2-3 times a month	19	6%	21
About weekly	22	7%	17
Weekly	29	9%	20
Several times a week	15	5%	13

Are you currently a member of the armed services?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	312	100%	315
Yes	0	0%	0

Are you a veteran of the armed services?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	312	100%	315
Yes	0	0%	0

How often would you say that you feel anxious?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	9	13%	7
Less than half the time	21	30%	20
About half the time	22	31%	18
Most of the time, nearly every day	16	22%	16
Always	3	4%	3

How often would you say that you feel lonely or isolated?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	16	26%	17
Less than half the time	33	54%	43
About half the time	4	7%	8
Most of the time, nearly every day	7	11%	4
Always	1	2%	1

How often would you say that you feel like you have no time for yourself?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	4	6%	6
Less than half the time	20	33%	21
About half the time	23	38%	22
Most of the time, nearly every day	9	15%	11
Always	5	8%	5

How often would you say that you feel depressed?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	30	42%	26
Less than half the time	20	29%	18
About half the time	19	27%	10
Most of the time, nearly every day	0.4	1%	1
Always	0.8	1%	1

How often would you say that you feel stressed, frustrated, or overwhelmed?

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
Never	3	5%	3
Less than half the time	13	23%	12
About half the time	21	37%	25
Most of the time, nearly every day	20	35%	22
Always	0	0%	0

Where do you get your news? Please select all that apply.

Social media

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	42	13%	38
Yes	278	87%	282

Television

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	210	66%	201
Yes	110	34%	119

Radio

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	298	93%	293
Yes	22	7%	27

Radio or television website

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	297	93%	291
Yes	23	7%	29

Podcast

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	242	76%	240
Yes	78	24%	80

Newspaper (print)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	301	94%	305
Yes	19	6%	15

Newspaper (online)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	170	53%	154
Yes	150	47%	166

Student newspaper (print)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	291	91%	291
Yes	29	9%	29

Student newspaper (online)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	253	79%	237
Yes	67	21%	83

What forms of violence, if any, do you consider acceptable to stop a campus speech?

Threats of bodily harm to people in attendance

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	313	98%	312
Yes	7	2%	8

Using physical force to prevent people from entering the event

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	305	95%	306
Yes	15	5%	14

Physical assault on people in attendance

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	309	97%	311
Yes	11	3%	9

Physical assault on the speaker

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	308	96%	308
Yes	12	4%	12

Throwing projectiles (e.g., pies, eggs, rocks, bottles)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	309	97%	310
Yes	11	3%	10

Use of chemical irritants (e.g., bear spray)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	306	96%	310
Yes	14	4%	10

Incendiaries or fireworks aimed at the venue

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	313	98%	314
Yes	7	2%	6

Smoke or "stink" bombs to force evacuation of the event

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	317	99%	316
Yes	3	1%	4

Bomb threats

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	316	99%	316
Yes	4	1%	4

Use of sharp objects (e.g., knife)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	318	99%	317
Yes	2	1%	3

Use of firearms (e.g., rifle)

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	317	99%	316
Yes	3	1%	4

Arson

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	318	99%	316
Yes	2	1%	4

Kidnapping

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	318	99%	317
Yes	2	1%	3

Detaining or restraining people

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	317	99%	314
Yes	3	1%	6

Murder

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	314	98%	314
Yes	6	2%	6

Something else (please specify):

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	319	100%	319
Yes	1	<1%	1

None of the above

Response	Weighted n	Percent	Unweighted n
No	265	83%	261
Yes	55	17%	59



FIRE

Foundation for Individual
Rights and Expression

P.O. Box 40128
Philadelphia, PA 19106
T: 215.717.3473
www.fire.org

DOWNLOAD THE 2027 COLLEGE
FREE SPEECH RANKINGS REPORT

rankings.fire.org



@thefireorg