

Learning from Three Mayors

At the Forefront
Learning from the Leadership Styles of Three Legendary Chicago Majors



DEPAUL
UNIVERSITY
CHADDICK INSTITUTE FOR
METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT

- **Harold Washington**, 51st mayor, 1983-1987
- David Duvall Orr, 52nd mayor, 1987
- Eugene Sawyer, 53rd mayor, 1987-1989
- **Richard M. Daley**, 54th mayor, 1989-2011
- **Rahm Emanuel**, 55th mayor, 2011-2019
- Lori Lightfoot, 56th mayor, 2019-2023
- Brandon Johnson, 57th mayor, 2023-

Memorable Personalities; Remarkable Legacies



(Chicago Sun-Times)

Joe in the Blues Brothers Movie



(Blue's Brothers, 1980,
Scene at *Chicago City Hall*)

Harold Washington, 1983-87, Committed to Reform

Mayor Harold Washington

April 29, 1983 – November 25, 1987

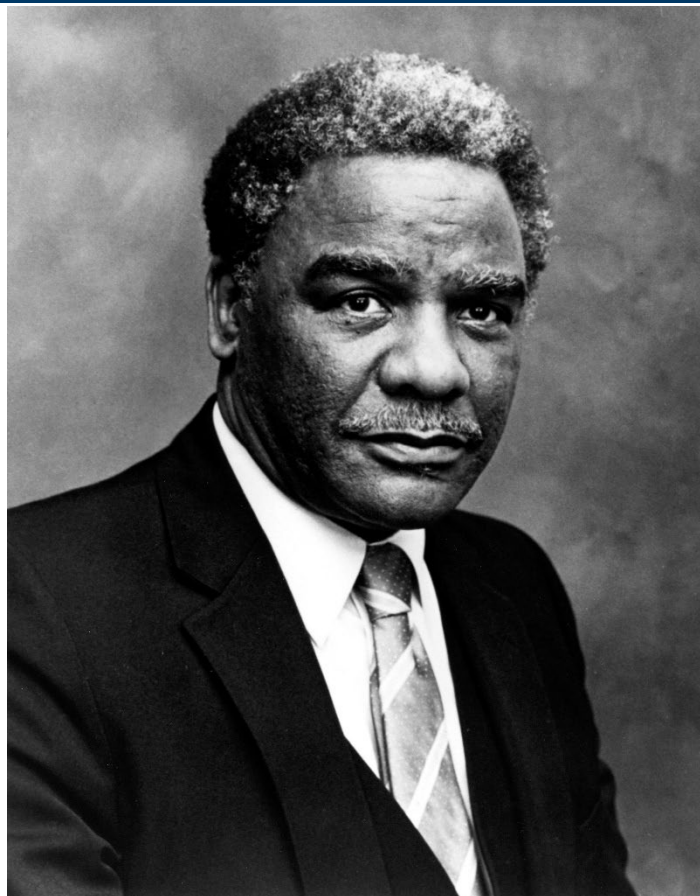




Harold Washington speaking at the commissioning of USS Chicago, September 1986.

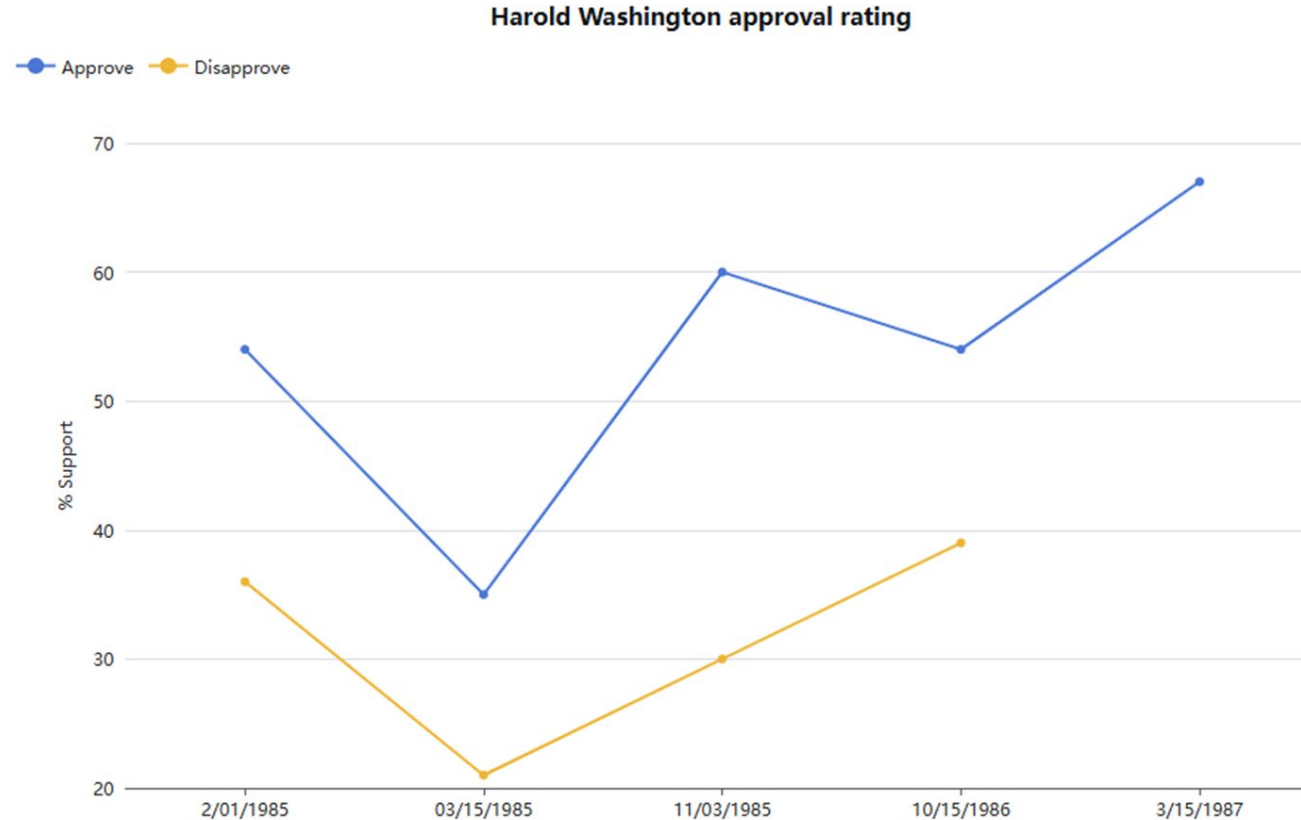


Washington holds a press conference for his 1983 campaign at the Hyatt Regency Chicago on December 13, 1982.



Washington, circa 1982

Washington's Approval Rating



Corporate leaders like Washington

Corporate Leaders Similar to Harold Washington

Satya Nadella - CEO of Microsoft



Mary Barra - CEO of General Motors



Mayor's death stuns city

Washington suffers heart attack; Orr is interim chief

Factions huddle to fill the void

By Thomas Hardy and R. Bruce Dold

Even before the official announcement of Mayor Harold Washington's death, Chicago politicians began to be drawn toward the winners they already seemed to favor.

This did not suggest a lack of respect. It was only a response to political forces that operate in Chicago—just as they do in Washington or London or Moscow—as naturally as a law of physics.

With memories of the succession battle that followed the death of Mayor Richard J. Daley in 1976, the politicians began to assess the strength of the various political factions and of individuals who might lay claim to leading them.

And while the question that followed Daley's death was who could run the machine he had built, the question this time was who, if anyone, could gather enough power to govern despite the deep political and racial divisions Mayor Washington had only recently overcome.

City Council leaders, fearful that the mayor's unexpected death would rip apart the coalition Washington solidified after his reelection in April, sought to avoid public talk of succession. But privately they began to assess strengths and weaknesses and to maneuver.

"I would hope that in his memory we will make an effort to be together as one Chicago," said Ald. Eugene Sawyer (D-5). See *Factions*, pp. 8.



Police Officer Curtis Jones stands guard Wednesday afternoon outside the City Hall office of the late Mayor Harold Washington. Photo photo by Frank Walker.

Black leader, 65, on verge of dream

By Robert Davis

Mayor Harold Washington, 65, Chicago's first Black mayor, died Wednesday, leaving an indelible imprint on political history but an uncertain future for the city he had just begun to control.

Washington, who often vowed to serve the city as mayor for at least 20 years, was in his 65th year in office when he was stricken by a heart attack at his desk in City Hall.

Ernest Buefield, the mayor's chief of staff, announced late Wednesday that there will be an interdenominational service at 3 p.m. Friday at the Daley Center, after which the mayor's body will be in state on the first floor of City Hall from 4 p.m. Friday to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday at Christ Universal Temple, 11905 S. Ashland Ave.

In many ways, Washington's legacy is not what he did, but what he was on the verge of doing. Trying to destroy the old Democratic machine, he finally managed to control it firmly only this year.

Trying to run the city government his way, he finally managed to garner the votes to do it. And he managed to solidify, at last behind his popular leadership, a united Black community that, aligned with a large number of Hispanic and white voters, formed the voice of racism in a city that had given a national reputation for election.

It was the first mayor of the city that had given a national reputation for election. He was the first mayor of the city that had given a national reputation for election.



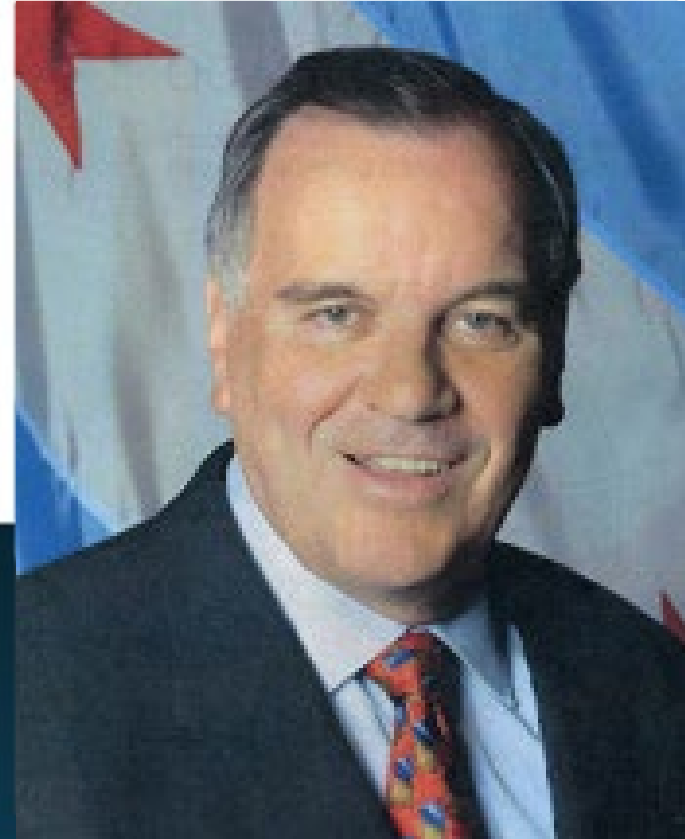
Harold Washington, Chicago's 42nd mayor, died Wednesday after suffering a heart attack and collapsing in his City Hall office. Photo photo by Chuck Sarnecki.

(Chicago Tribune)

Richard M. Daley: 1989 - 2011, The Pragmatic Manager

Mayor Richard M. Daley

April 24, 1989, to May 16, 2011





Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley at the opening of the 2005 Revealing Chicago Exhibition in the Boeing Gallery and Chase Promenade in Millennium Park.



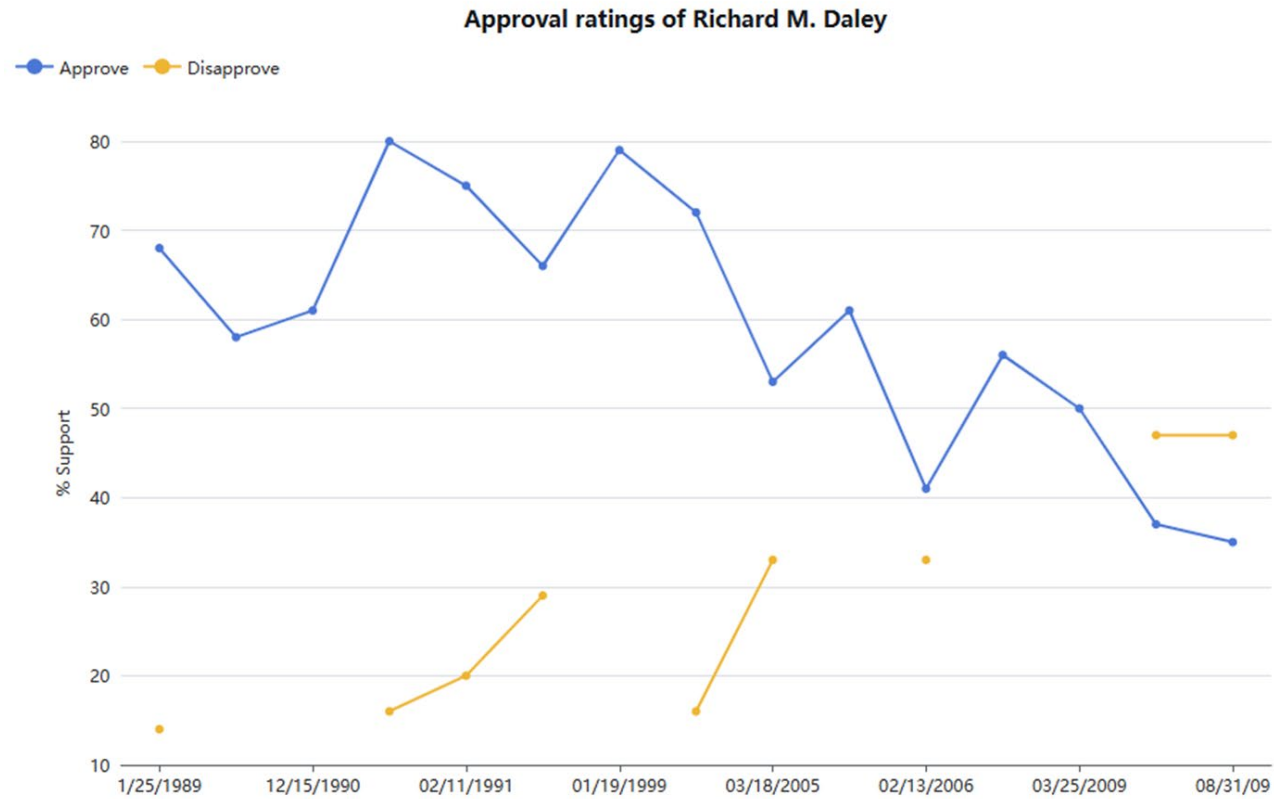
Chief of Staff of the United States Army Gen. George W. Casey, Jr. and Daley recite the Pledge of Allegiance during a wreath laying ceremony on May 24, 2008, City of Chicago Memorial Day observance



Daley in Chicago City Hall

Daley's Approval Rating

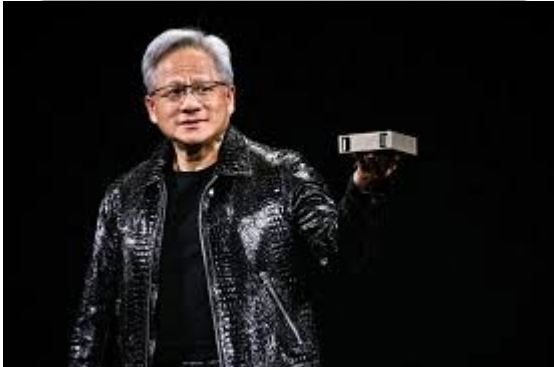
Approval ratings [\[edit \]](#)




Corporate leaders like Daley

**Corporate Leaders Similar to
Richard M. Daley**

Jensen Huang Nvidia - Architect-Operator
Approach

A photograph of Jensen Huang, CEO of Nvidia, wearing a black leather jacket and glasses, holding a small white object in his hand.

**Tim Cook (Apple - Operational Precision & Civic
Stance)**

A portrait of Tim Cook, CEO of Apple, wearing glasses and a dark shirt.

NEWS

Daley says he will not run for re-election



By **CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

PUBLISHED: September 7, 2010 at 1:00 AM CDT | UPDATED: August 23, 2021 at 3:56 AM CDT

(Chicago Tribune)

Rahm Emanuel: Focused & Impatient Policy Achiever, 2011-19

**Mayor Rahm
Emanuel**





Emanuel at a Chicago round table with United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture Robert Flider on June 8, 2012



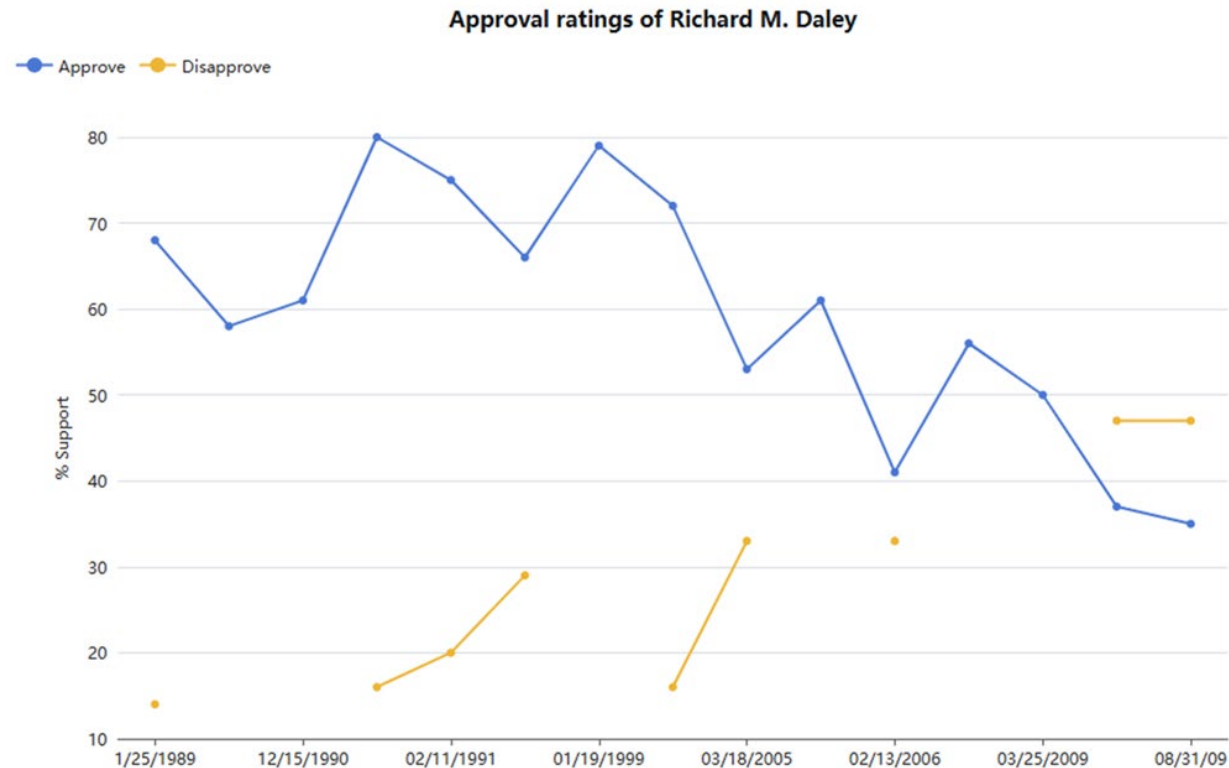
Emanuel with President Bill Clinton in 1993

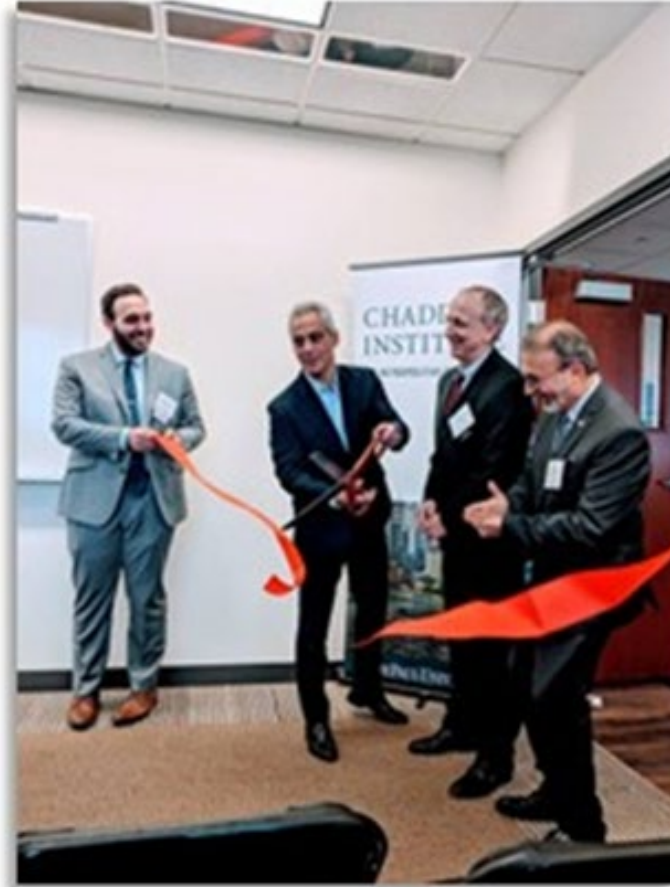


Emanuel (left) at the 2012 Hyde Park Obama presidential reelection campaign office

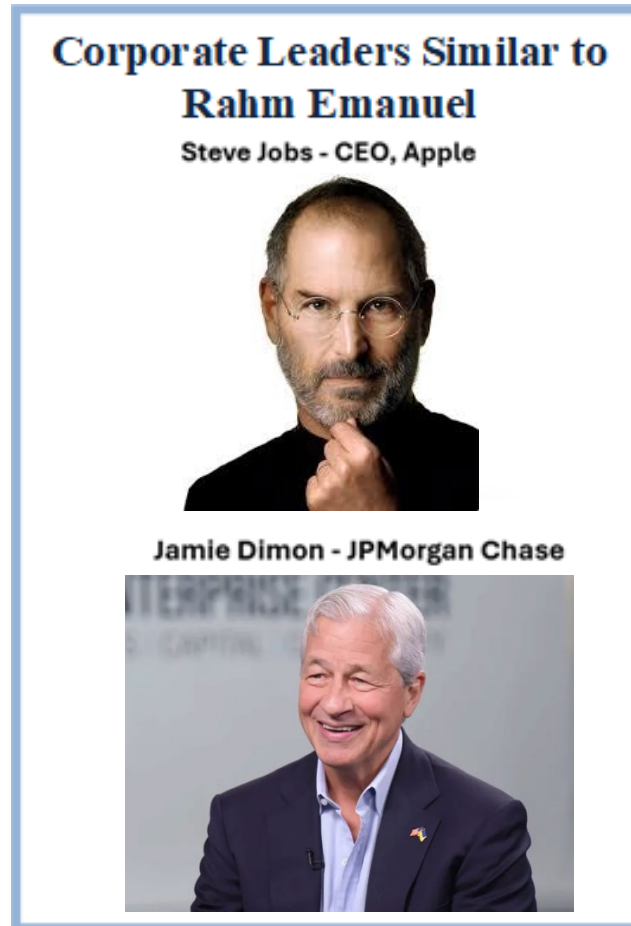
Emanuel's Approval Rating

Approval ratings [\[edit \]](#)





Corporate leaders like Emanuel



NATIONAL

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel Not Seeking Re-Election

SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 · 12:44 PM ET

By [Camila Domonoske](#), [David Schaper](#)



With wife Amy Rule by his side, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel announces Tuesday at City Hall in Chicago that he will not seek a third term in office.

Stacey Wescott/Chicago Tribune/TNS via Getty Images

Mayor Lori Lightfoot

May 20, 2019 – May 15, 2023



Mayor Brandon Johnson

May 15, 2023-Present



“What Can We Learn from the Mayors?”