2017 marked the 40th anniversary of the Bank of America Chicago Marathon. The annual event unites runners from across the city, nation and world providing benefits to the Chicago community well beyond race weekend. Here are key elements of the 2017 Bank of America Chicago Marathon’s economic impact based on a study conducted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s Regional Economics Applications Laboratory.

Overall Economic Impact Generated in 2017
A $56 million increase from 2016

$338M = 2,264 full-time jobs & $113M wages & salary income
Marks the first time the economic impact of the Marathon has exceeded $300 million

General Information

45,273 total participants from 50 states & 140 countries
23% international runners – a nearly 40% increase from 2016

1.7M spectators 12,000 volunteers 350 Bank of America employee volunteers

$18.5M raised for charity in 2017 170 charity partners

Tourism Impact

More than $137 million direct impact to the tourism industry

Total Spent (per person per day)

- Accommodations: $278
- Shopping: $152
- Food: $84
- Transportation: $55
- Entertainment: $51

Average Stay

visitors average stay: 3.9 days

Transportation

- Airplane: 52%
- Car: 26%
- Live in Chicago: 24%
- Train: 15%
- Other: 4%

Accommodations

- Hotel/Motel: 79%
- Family/Friends House: 14%
- Housing Share: 8%
- Other: 1%

Sustainability

Race recognized by the Council for Responsible Sport for environmental stewardship and socially responsible practices

70 tons of waste collected was composted or recycled
22 tons of food, water and clothing was donated