

Ranked Choice Voting will be Question 1 on the ballot this November!

This November, New Yorkers will decide whether or not to adopt a top five candidate Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) system for all city offices in primary and special elections to be implemented by 2021.

What is Ranked Choice Voting?

Instead of voting for just 1 candidate, voters can choose to rank their top 5 candidates in our local primary and special elections. If voters still want to vote for just one candidate, they can.

A candidate who collects a majority of the vote, fifty percent plus one, wins. If no candidate receives over 50 percent of the first choice preferences, the candidate with the fewest first choice preferences is eliminated and voters who ranked that candidate first have their ballots instantly counted for their second choice preference. The process is repeated until there's a final pair with a majority winner.

Sample Ranked Choice Voting Ballot

Candidate	1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice	4th choice	5th choice
A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
B	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write in candidate:	<input type="radio"/>				

How does this change our local elections?

With Ranked Choice Voting:

- » Politicians have to compete everywhere and pay attention to every community.
- » Your vote has more impact and puts more power in the hands of New Yorkers.
- » Candidates win with a clear majority, greater than 50% of the vote.
- » Saves money by avoiding costly citywide runoffs.
- » Helps New Yorkers make sense of crowded elections.



A citywide education and outreach initiative from Common Cause/NY.

Get Involved.

We're educating New Yorkers from the Bronx to Bay Ridge and everywhere in between. Get involved at www.rcv.nyc

Vote Early on Ranked Choice Voting from October 26—November 3 or on Election Day November 5.

Experience with Ranked Choice Voting

Ranked Choice Voting has been road-tested around the country in cities like San Francisco, Oakland, Santa Fe and Minneapolis/St. Paul and in states like Maine. And for decades, in countries like Australia and Ireland.

- » RCV has increased representation of women and communities of color running for office and winning in the four **Bay Area** cities that have had it the longest. Ranked Choice Voting helped **San Francisco** elect its first Asian-American mayor in 2011 and its first African-American mayor in 2018.
- » Ranked Choice Voting has helped **Minneapolis** elect its most diverse city council in 2017, including an African-American councilmember, 2 transgender people of color and the re-election of the first Somali-American and Latina councilmembers. The first African-American mayor was elected in **St. Paul**, MN with ranked choice voting that same year.
- » Exit polling shows that voters find RCV easy to use by overwhelming majorities in jurisdiction after jurisdiction and election after election.
 - » In 2017, 83% of St. Paul voters and 92% of Minneapolis voters said that “RCV was simple to use.”
 - » In 2018 exit polling during **Maine**’s first ranked choice voting election, more than 74% of Maine voters said ranking choices was either somewhat or very easy, compared with 10 percent who said it was either somewhat or very hard.
 - » More than 94 percent of **Santa Fe** voters polled during that city’s first ranked choice voting election in 2018 said they were satisfied with their voting experience.

Groups that backed putting Ranked Choice Voting on the ballot this November:

Brooklyn Voters Alliance (BVA), Chhaya CDC, Chinese American Planning Council, Citizen Action, Citizens Union, Common Cause/NY, Minkwon Center for Community Action, NYPIRG, The New York Immigration Coalition, Reinvent Albany



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