



RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN UTAH CITIES

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Almost 20 years ago Ranked Choice Voting was introduced to Utah's Republican and Democratic political parties.

At caucuses and conventions, delegates saw ranked choice voting in action. Benefits in the party process included a much shorter day because delegates and neighbors only had to vote once and winners garnered majorities of the vote.

On March 13, 2018, Governor Gary Herbert signed legislation allowing cities in Utah to use ranked choice voting in their elections. The bill passed with an overwhelming majority of 22-0 in the Senate and 67-3 in the House.

WHAT IS RANKED CHOICE VOTING?

Ranked choice voting (also known as instant runoff voting) has voters rank their choices, first, second, third and so on. If someone wins over 50% during the first round, that's your winner. But if no one crosses that threshold, the last place finisher is eliminated, and that candidate's supporters are reallocated to their next backup choice. That process is repeated until someone wins over 50% of the votes.

MERITS OF RANKED CHOICE

Ensures a Majority Winner

Ranked choice voting ensures that a candidate wins with over 50% of the vote.

Encourages Civility

Candidates conduct more civil campaigns by addressing the issues and working to appeal to a broader spectrum of voters when they actively seek second and third choice support from backers of other candidates.

More Robust Debate Of Issues

To win a ranked choice voting election, a candidate reaches out to all voters in order to seek first, second and third choice support. Candidates talk about issues; not only their issues, but their opponent's issues as well.

More Engaged Voters

Voters become more informed about the candidates and issues since they have reasons to consider candidates beyond their 1st choice.

Voters More Fully Express Their Will

Ranking their choices, voters can freely vote for the candidate they most support, even if that candidate isn't favored to win. There are no wasted votes.

Fiscal Savings For Cities

Taxpayers' dollars are saved by allowing the city to hold one election in November rather than two elections.

Shorter, Less Expensive City Campaigns

Candidates can focus on a single election in November, rather than an August primary followed by November election.

Ready For Cities To Implement

Voting equipment and software used in elections throughout Utah are fully ranked choice voting ready. 23 cities in Utah voted to use ranked choice voting in 2021.

Eliminates Vote Splitting

Longshot candidates do not win when more than one mainstream candidate split the majority of the vote.

Ends Spoiler Effect

Longshot candidates don't draw votes away from a candidate who is preferred by most voters.

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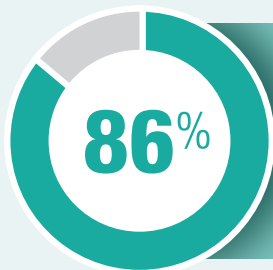
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BETTER. FASTER. CHEAPER. IT WORKS.



After the election, a survey was conducted to learn about voters' experiences using ranked choice voting. The results showed that ranked choice voting was overwhelmingly popular with voters.

According to a scientific study conducted by Y2 Analytics, the overwhelming majority of Utah voters who used Ranked Choice Voting in 2021 were satisfied with the process.

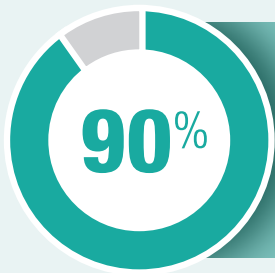
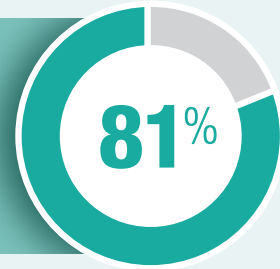


An overwhelming majority of RCV participants were satisfied with their voting experience.

64% reported being very satisfied and 22% somewhat satisfied.

8-out-of-10 voters who filled out a RCV ballot found it easy to use.

52% said it was very easy while 29% felt it was somewhat easy.

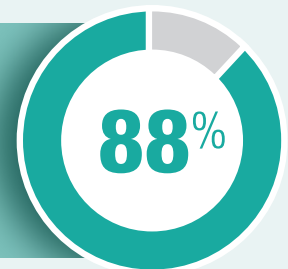


Nearly all RCV participants indicated that the instructions for how to fill out their ballot were clear.

63% called the instructions very clear, 27% somewhat clear.

Almost 9-out-of-10 voters who used RCV said they were confident that their ballot would be counted accurately.

65% felt very confident and 23% somewhat confident.



To learn more about ranked choice voting, please visit UtahRCV.com