

Knowledge is Power

I would like to state a few of “my” findings on ranked Choice Voting and invite others to do their own research too.

First, if three candidates are running and citizens cast ballots for their first-choice candidate, as well as second and third choices; if one candidate receives a majority of the first-choice votes, that person DOES NOT win unless he has at least 50% of the vote. RANK CHOICE VOTING IS NOT A POPULAR VOTE!

If no one receives 50% in the first round of voting the candidate with the fewest first choice votes is eliminated and all the voters who had that losing candidate down as their first choice, gets their second-choice votes assigned to the other two candidates. IS THIS ONE PERSON ONE VOTE?? IF YOU VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATE THAT LOSES THE FIRST ROUND YOUR SECOND CHOICE VOTE WILL BE COUNTED TOO??

A hypothetical election among three candidates to illustrate: In round one Julie gets 39% of the vote Bob gets 38% , and Greg gets 23% of the votes. Since no one reached 50% of the vote, Greg is eliminated. So, everyone who voted for Greg on the first round will now have their second and third choice votes divided up between Julie and Greg. Now everyone that voted for the loser(Greg) gets their second choice added to the other candidates(Julie or Greg). After the votes are sent away to a tabulation center (BECAUSE MOST LOCAL COUNTIES DO NOT HAVE THE MACHINES TO COUNT RCV) the retabulated votes come back (THIS MAY TAKE DAYS EVEN WEEEEKS).

As the above scenario continues, Bob now gets another 13% in second-choice votes form Greg, and Julie gets an extra 10% in second-choice votes. Now Bob has a total of 51% of the votes from two rounds of voting when Greg’s votes were redistributed. Julie has a total of 49% of the votes after the second-round redistribution.

Now you can see, the winner would not be Julie who received most of the votes or was the popular vote getter on the first round. The winner would be Bob with 51% of the votes on the second round of voting after throwing out Greg’s first round votes and redistributing his remaining votes.

Therefore, if no one gets 50% on the first vote, you will have to do multiple rounds to determine a winner. THIS TAKES MORE TIME AND MONEY!

Ranked Choice Voting exacerbates economic and racial disparities. According to, the policy director of American Civil Liberties Unions of Kansas, “In Minneapolis, for example, nearly 10% of ranked choice ballots were not counted, most of these in low-income communities of color. Other municipalities have seen similar effects.”

We need to keep voting simple. We need one person one vote! RCV is overly complicated and confusing. I believe it deprives voters of a genuinely informed choice in our elections.

Rank Choice Voting is not a good choice!