



Comparing Single-Winner Methods

	Choose One (Plurality)	Choose One + Top Two Runoff	Ranked Choice (IRV)	Approval	STAR
Spoiler Effect / Vote Splitting	YES	In primary but not in general election	YES - With 3 or more viable candidates	NO	NO
Wasted Votes	Not voting for a frontrunner is a wasted vote	Not voting for a frontrunner is a wasted vote	Relevant rankings can be ignored and voided ballots are common	Not approving a frontrunner is a wasted vote	NO
Ballots tabulated locally?	Local tally	Local tally	Centralized Tally	Local tally	Local tally
Tabulation Complexity	Add up votes	Add up votes	Multiple elimination rounds and vote transfers	Add up approvals	Add up stars, then add up votes
Gives an unfair advantage to polarizing or non-polarizing candidates?	Strongly favors polarizing candidates	Favors polarizing candidates	Favors polarizing candidates	Favors non-polarizing candidates	NO
Voters incentivised to exaggerate support for lesser-evil candidates?	Strong lesser-evil voting incentive	Minimal lesser-evil voting incentive	Moderate lesser-evil voting incentive	Voters should also approve lesser-evil	Voters should show honest preference order
Most Effective Strategy * (PVS)	Favorite Betrayal 14%	Favorite Betrayal 1%	Favorite Betrayal 3%	Exclusive Approvals 10%	Honest Inflation 2%
Accuracy * (Voter Satisfaction Efficiency)	70% – 87%	89% – 91%	92%	94% – 98%	98% – 99%

EQUAL.VOTE

Key: Worst to Best



* Data from "STAR Voting, Equality of Voice, and Voter Satisfaction", Constitutional Political Economy, 2023

Is it time to
think beyond
Ranked Choice
Voting?



EQUAL VOTE
COALITION

Learn More: equal.vote/beyond_rcv



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Does RCV deliver?

Fair? Most rankings voters put down will never be counted. Rankings that could have made a difference may be ignored. (1)

Easy? Voter errors increase under RCV and honest behaviors like ranking candidates equally can void your ballot. (2)

Equitable? Low-income voters are more likely to cast voided ballots or have their vote not transfer as intended. (3)

No more voting lesser evil? RCV still has the spoiler effect if there are more than two viable candidates. It's not necessarily safe to rank your favorite first. (4)

Representative? Doesn't ensure a true majority winner. The candidate preferred over all others can be eliminated in the first round. (5) (6)

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**We want to vote
our conscience.**

**But is RCV really
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Citations: equal.vote/beyond_rcv_zine

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RCV In The Real World

Voter Errors: Voter errors rates triple under RCV. Low income voters are hardest hit. (7)

Centralized Tabulation: RCV's central tabulation requirement undermines election security and delays results. (8)

Mistallies: Tallying RCV is complex. Two jurisdictions have mistallied their elections and reported incorrect results. (9) (10)

Results Failures: At least three public RCV elections have failed to elect the candidate preferred over all others. (11)

Repeals and Bans: 16 states have banned RCV and 16 jurisdictions have repealed it. (12)

Constitutionality: RCV was found to be unconstitutional in Maine and faces serious constitutionality issues in most states. (13)

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