Voting Methods

Analysis from the Perspective of the Elected Officials who Administer Elections

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

The Unifying Voice for County Government

Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

	Subject	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Voter Experience	Ballot Look and Feel		
	Voter Exhaustion		
	Gaming the System		
	Transparency		
	Voter Turnout		
	Impact on Minorities		
Election Processes	Logistical & Security Issues		
	Processing Time		
	Adjudication & Spoiled ballots		
	Tabulation of Results		
	Release of Results		
	Auditability		
	Plurality		
Costs	Voter Education		
	Primary Election		

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

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	Transparency		
	Voter Turnout		
	Impact on Minorities		

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

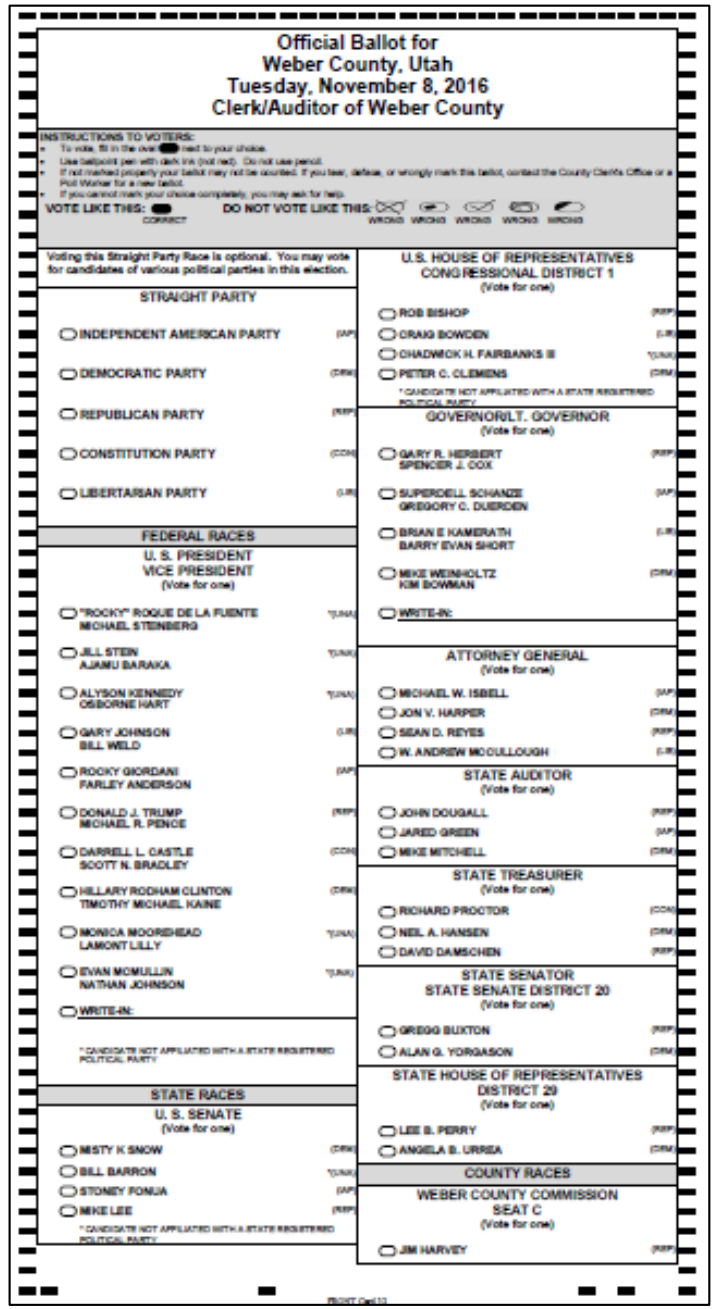
Voter Experience & Confidence

Ballot Look and Feel

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Doubles (or more) the ballot length – some races RCV, some not	Same length as traditional format. One additional line of instruction
New ballot look (grid format)	Same format as traditional ballot

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Current / Approval Voting (1 card front and back -- 1 ½ pages)



Official Ballot for
Weber County, Utah
Tuesday, November 8, 2016
Clerk/Auditor of Weber County

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:
- To vote, fill in the oval next to your choice.
- Use ballpoint pen with dark ink (not red). Do not use pencil.
- If not marked properly your ballot may not be counted. If you tear, deface, or wrongly mark this ballot, contact the County Clerk's Office or a Poll Worker for a new ballot.
- If you cannot mark your choice completely, you may ask for help.

VOTE LIKE THIS: ● CORRECT DO NOT VOTE LIKE THIS: WRONG WRONG WRONG WRONG WRONG

Voting this Straight Party Race is optional. You may vote for candidates of various political parties in this election.

STRAIGHT PARTY

- INDEPENDENT AMERICAN PARTY (IAP)
- DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DEM)
- REPUBLICAN PARTY (REP)
- CONSTITUTION PARTY (CON)
- LIBERTARIAN PARTY (LIB)

FEDERAL RACES

U. S. PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
(Vote for one)

- "ROCKY" ROQUE DE LA FUENTE / MICHAEL STEINBERG *(UNA)
- JILL STEIN / AJAMU BARAKA *(UNA)
- ALYSON KENNEDY / OSBORNE HART *(UNA)
- GARY JOHNSON / BILL WELD (LIB)
- ROCKY GIORDANI / FARLEY ANDERSON (IAP)
- DONALD J. TRUMP / MICHAEL R. PENCE (REP)
- DARRELL L. CASTLE / SCOTT N. BRADLEY (CON)
- HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON / TIMOTHY MICHAEL KAINE (DEM)
- MONICA MOOREHEAD / LAMONT LILLY *(UNA)
- EVAN MCMULLIN / NATHAN JOHNSON *(UNA)
- WRITE-IN:

* CANDIDATE NOT AFFILIATED WITH A STATE REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY

STATE RACES

U. S. SENATE
(Vote for one)

- MISTY K SNOW (DEM)
- BILL BARRON *(UNA)
- STONEY PONJA (IAP)
- MIKE LEE (REP)

* CANDIDATE NOT AFFILIATED WITH A STATE REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1
(Vote for one)

- ROB BISHOP (REP)
- CRAIG BOWDEN (LIB)
- CHADWICK H. FAIRBANKS III *(UNA)
- PETER C. CLEMENS (DEM)

* CANDIDATE NOT AFFILIATED WITH A STATE REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR
(Vote for one)

- GARY R. HERBERT / SPENCER J. COX (REP)
- SUPERDELL SCHANZE / GREGORY C. DUERDEN (IAP)
- BRIAN E KAMERATH / BARRY EVAN SHORT (LIB)
- MIKE WEINHOLTZ / KIM BOWMAN (DEM)
- WRITE-IN:

ATTORNEY GENERAL
(Vote for one)

- MICHAEL W. ISBELL (IAP)
- JON V. HARPER (DEM)
- SEAN D. REYES (REP)
- W. ANDREW MCCULLOUGH (LIB)

STATE AUDITOR
(Vote for one)

- JOHN DOUGALL (REP)
- JARED GREEN (IAP)
- MIKE MITCHELL (DEM)

STATE TREASURER
(Vote for one)

- RICHARD PROCTOR (CON)
- NEIL A. HANSEN (DEM)
- DAVID DAMSCHEN (REP)

STATE SENATOR
STATE SENATE DISTRICT 20
(Vote for one)

- GREGG BUXTON (REP)
- ALAN G. YORGASON (DEM)

STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
DISTRICT 29
(Vote for one)

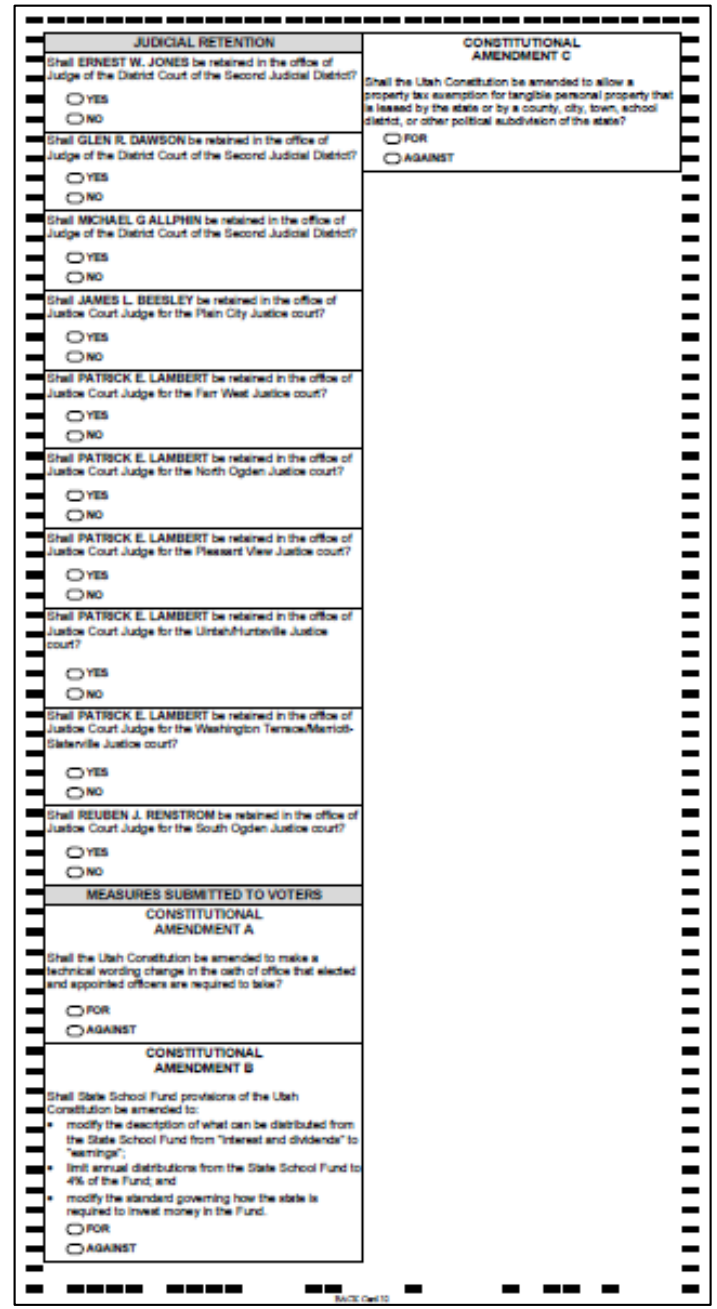
- LEE B. PERRY (REP)
- ANGELA B. URREA (DEM)

COUNTY RACES

WEBER COUNTY COMMISSION
SEAT C
(Vote for one)

- JIM HARVEY (REP)

FRONT Card 1/2



JUDICIAL RETENTION

Shall ERNEST W. JONES be retained in the office of Judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District?
- YES
- NO

Shall GLEN R. DAWSON be retained in the office of Judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District?
- YES
- NO

Shall MICHAEL G ALLPHIN be retained in the office of Judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District?
- YES
- NO

Shall JAMES L. BEESLEY be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Plain City Justice court?
- YES
- NO

Shall PATRICK E. LAMBERT be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Farr West Justice court?
- YES
- NO

Shall PATRICK E. LAMBERT be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the North Ogden Justice court?
- YES
- NO

Shall PATRICK E. LAMBERT be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Pleasant View Justice court?
- YES
- NO

Shall PATRICK E. LAMBERT be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Uintah/Huntsville Justice court?
- YES
- NO

Shall PATRICK E. LAMBERT be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Washington Terrace/Marriott-Slaterville Justice court?
- YES
- NO

Shall REUBEN J. RENSTROM be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the South Ogden Justice court?
- YES
- NO

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO VOTERS

CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT A

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to make a technical wording change in the oath of office that elected and appointed officers are required to take?
- FOR
- AGAINST

CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT B

Shall State School Fund provisions of the Utah Constitution be amended to:
- modify the description of what can be distributed from the State School Fund from "interest and dividends" to "earnings";
- limit annual distributions from the State School Fund to 4% of the Fund; and
- modify the standard governing how the state is required to invest money in the Fund.

- FOR
- AGAINST

CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT C

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to allow a property tax exemption for tangible personal property that is leased by the state or by a county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision of the state?
- FOR
- AGAINST

BACK Card 1/2

Ranked Choice Voting (2 cards front and back -- 4 pages)

Official Ballot for
Weber County, Utah
Tuesday, November 8, 2016
Clerk/Auditor of Weber County

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:
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VOTE LIKE THIS: ● CORRECT **DO NOT VOTE LIKE THIS:**

Voting for this Straight Party Race is optional. You may vote for candidates of various political parties in this election.

STRAIGHT PARTY		
INDEPENDENT AMERICAN PARTY	(IAP)	○
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	(DEM)	○
REPUBLICAN PARTY	(REP)	○
CONSTITUTION PARTY	(CON)	○
LIBERTARIAN PARTY	(LIB)	○

FEDERAL RACES

U.S. PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice	9th Choice	10th Choice	11th Choice
"ROCKY" ROQUE DE LA FUENTE MICHAEL STEINBERG	*(UNA)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
JILL STEIN AJAMU BARAKA	*(UNA)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
ALYSON KENNEDY OSBORNE HART	*(UNA)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
GARY JOHNSON BILL WELD	(LIB)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
ROCKY GIORDANI FARLEY ANDERSON	(IAP)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
DONALD J. TRUMP MICHAEL R. PENCE	(REP)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
DARRELL L. CASTLE SCOTT N. BRADLEY	(CON)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON TIMOTHY MICHAEL KAINE	(DEM)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
MONICA MOOREHEAD LAMONT LILLY	*(UNA)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
EVAN MCMULLIN NATHAN JOHNSON	*(UNA)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
WRITE-IN:_____		○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

STATE RACES

U. S. SENATE (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
BILL BARRON	*(UNA)	○	○	○	○
STONEY FONUA	(IAP)	○	○	○	○
MIKE LEE	(REP)	○	○	○	○
MISTY K SNOW	(DEM)	○	○	○	○

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1 (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
CHADWICK H. FAIRBANKS III	*(UNA)	○	○	○	○
CRAIG BOWDEN	(LIB)	○	○	○	○
ROB BISHOP	(REP)	○	○	○	○
PETER CLEMENS	(DEM)	○	○	○	○

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
BRIAN E KAMERATH BARRY EVAN SHORT	(LIB)	○	○	○	○	○
GARY R. SCHANZE GREGORY C. DUERDEN	(IAP)	○	○	○	○	○
GARY R. HERBERT SPENCER J. COX	(REP)	○	○	○	○	○
MIKE WEINHOLTZ KIM BOWMAN	(DEM)	○	○	○	○	○
WRITE-IN:_____		○	○	○	○	○

ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
W. ANDREW MCCULLOUGH	(LIB)	○	○	○	○
MICHAEL W. ISBELL	(IAP)	○	○	○	○
SEAN D. REYES	(REP)	○	○	○	○
JON V. HARPER	(DEM)	○	○	○	○

STATE RACES

STATE AUDITOR (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice
JARED GREEN	(IAP)	○	○	○
JOHN DOUGALL	(REP)	○	○	○
MIKE MITCHELL	(DEM)	○	○	○

STATE TREASURER (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice
DAVID DAMSCHEN	(REP)	○	○	○
RICHARD PROCTOR	(CON)	○	○	○
NEIL A. HANSEN	(DEM)	○	○	○

STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 10 (Vote for one)			2nd Choice	3rd Choice
DERRYCK GORDON	(LIB)	○	○	○
DIXON M. PITCHER	(REP)	○	○	○
JESUS (JESSIE) GARCIA	(DEM)	○	○	○

COUNTY RACES

WEBER COUNTY COMMISSION SEAT C (Vote for one)		
JIM HARVEY	(REP)	○

LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD

OGDEN CITY SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 5 (Vote for one)		2nd Choice
SUE ANN BURTON	○	○
NANCY BLAIR	○	○

JUDICIAL RETENTION

Shall **ERNEST W. JONES** be retained in the office of Judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **GLEN R. DAWSON** be retained in the office of Judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District?	YES	○
	NO	○

JUDICIAL RETENTION

Shall **MICHAEL G ALLPHIN** be retained in the office of Judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **ANDREA W. LOCKWOOD** be retained in the office of Justic Court Judge for the Ogden City Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **JAMES L. BEESLEY** be retained in the office of Justic Court Judge for the Plain City Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **PATRICK E. LAMBERT** be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Farr West Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **PATRICK E. LAMBERT** be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the North Ogden Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **PATRICK E. LAMBERT** be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Pleasant View Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **PATRICK E. LAMBERT** be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Uintah/Huntsville Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **PATRICK E. LAMBERT** be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the Washington Terrace/Marriott-Slaterville Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○
Shall **REUBEN J. RENSTROM** be retained in the office of Justice Court Judge for the South Ogden Justice Court?	YES	○
	NO	○

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO VOTERS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT A Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to make a technical wording change in the oath of office that elected and appointed officers are required to take?	FOR	○
	AGAINST	○
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT B Shall State School Funding provisions of the Utah Constitution be amended to: • modify the description of what can be distributed from the State School Fund from "interest and dividends" to "earnings"; • limit annual distributions from the State School Fund to 4% of the Fund; and • modify the standard governing how the state is required to invest money in the Fund.	FOR	○
	AGAINST	○
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT C Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to allow a property tax exemption for tangible personal property that is leased by the state or by a county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision of the state?	FOR	○
	AGAINST	○

RCV - More than 10 Candidates

TEST BALLOT

RCV Election
California Certification
Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Instructions to Voters:

Please rank your candidate choices from ONE to TEN by filling the Oval beside only 1 candidate for each choice column. Fill in no more than 1 oval per candidate.

IRV - Preferential Choices

Rank no more than TEN Choices

ONE Candidate to be Elected

	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 4	Rank 5	Rank 6	Rank 7	Rank 8	Rank 9	Rank 10
Candidate 1 *Party 1 Occupation 1*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 2 *Party 2 Occupation 2*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 3 *Party 3 Occupation 3*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 4 *Party 4 Occupation 4*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 5 *Party 5 Occupation 5*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 6 *Party 6 Occupation 6*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 7 *Party 7 Occupation 7*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 8 *Party 8 Occupation 8*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 9 *Party 9 Occupation 9*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 10 *Party 10 Occupation 10*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 11 *Party 11 Occupation 11*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 12 *Party 12 Occupation 12*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Write-in	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

STV - Preferential Choices

Rank no more than TEN Choices

FOUR Candidates to be Elected

	Rank 1	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 4	Rank 5	Rank 6	Rank 7	Rank 8	Rank 9	Rank 10
Candidate 13 *Party 13 Occupation 13*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 14 *Party 14 Occupation 14*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 15 *Party 15 Occupation 15*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 16 *Party 16 Occupation 16*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 17 *Party 17 Occupation 17*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 18 *Party 18 Occupation 18*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 19 *Party 19 Occupation 19*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 20 *Party 20 Occupation 20*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 21 *Party 21 Occupation 21*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 22 *Party 22 Occupation 22*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 23 *Party 23 Occupation 23*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Candidate 24 *Party 24 Occupation 24*	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Write-in	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Write-in	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Write-in	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Write-in	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

Voter Experience & Confidence

Voter Exhaustion

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Exhaustion rate between 9% – 27%[1]	Near 0% exhaustion rate
[1]Burnett & Kogan, (2015) "Ballot (and voter) "exhaustion" under Instant Runoff Voting: An examination of four ranked-choice elections" Electoral Studies, *Vol. 15* pp. 41-49	

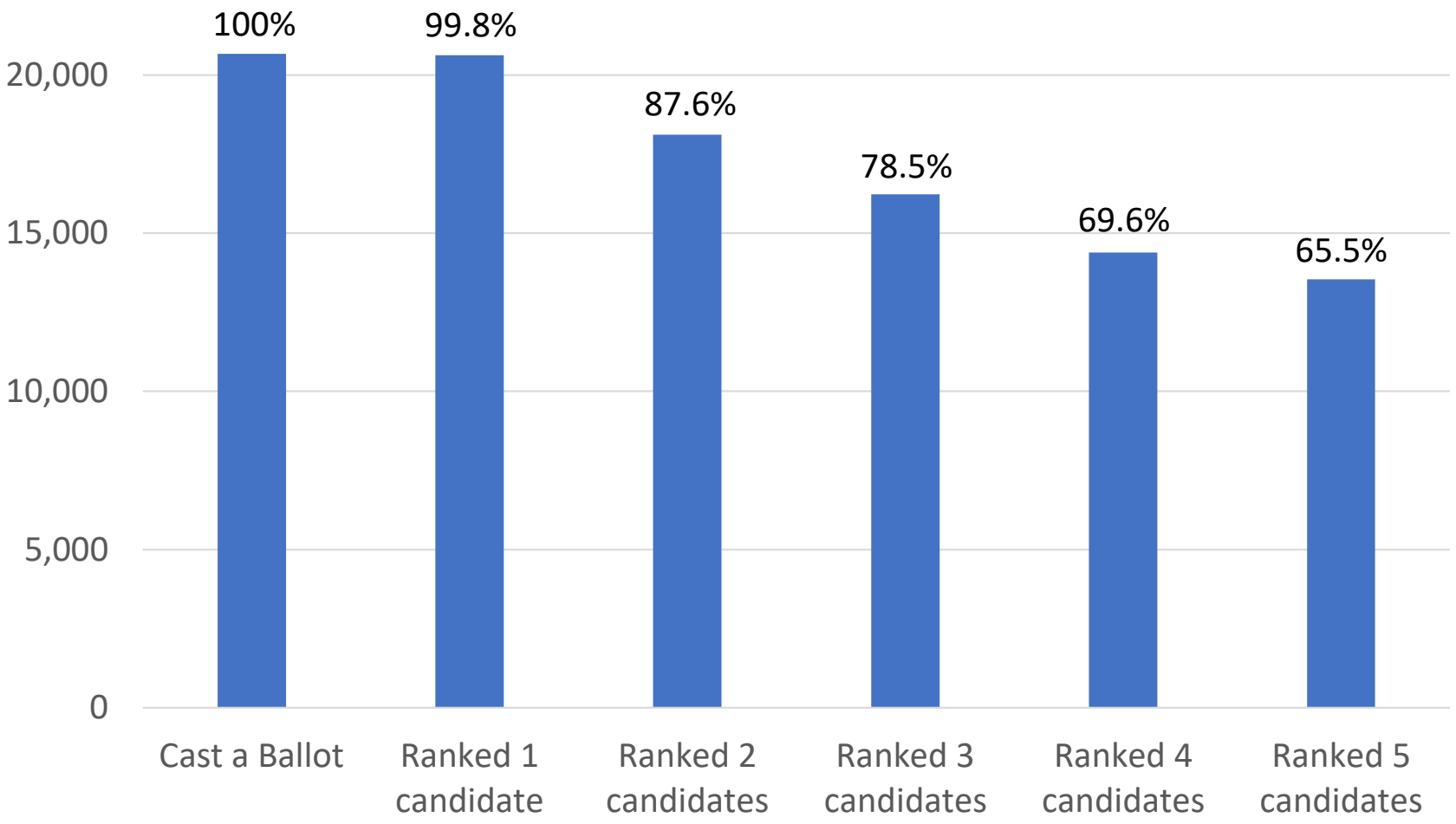
Table 3
Rate of ballot exhaustion.

	Oakland	Pierce county	San Francisco	San Leandro
First-Round Votes	119,408	298,912	194,046	22,421
Rate of Exhaustion	11.6%	10.2%	27.1%	9.6%

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Ballot Exhaustion – Santa Fe, 2018

Percentage of voters who ranked up to five candidates



UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Voter Experience & Confidence

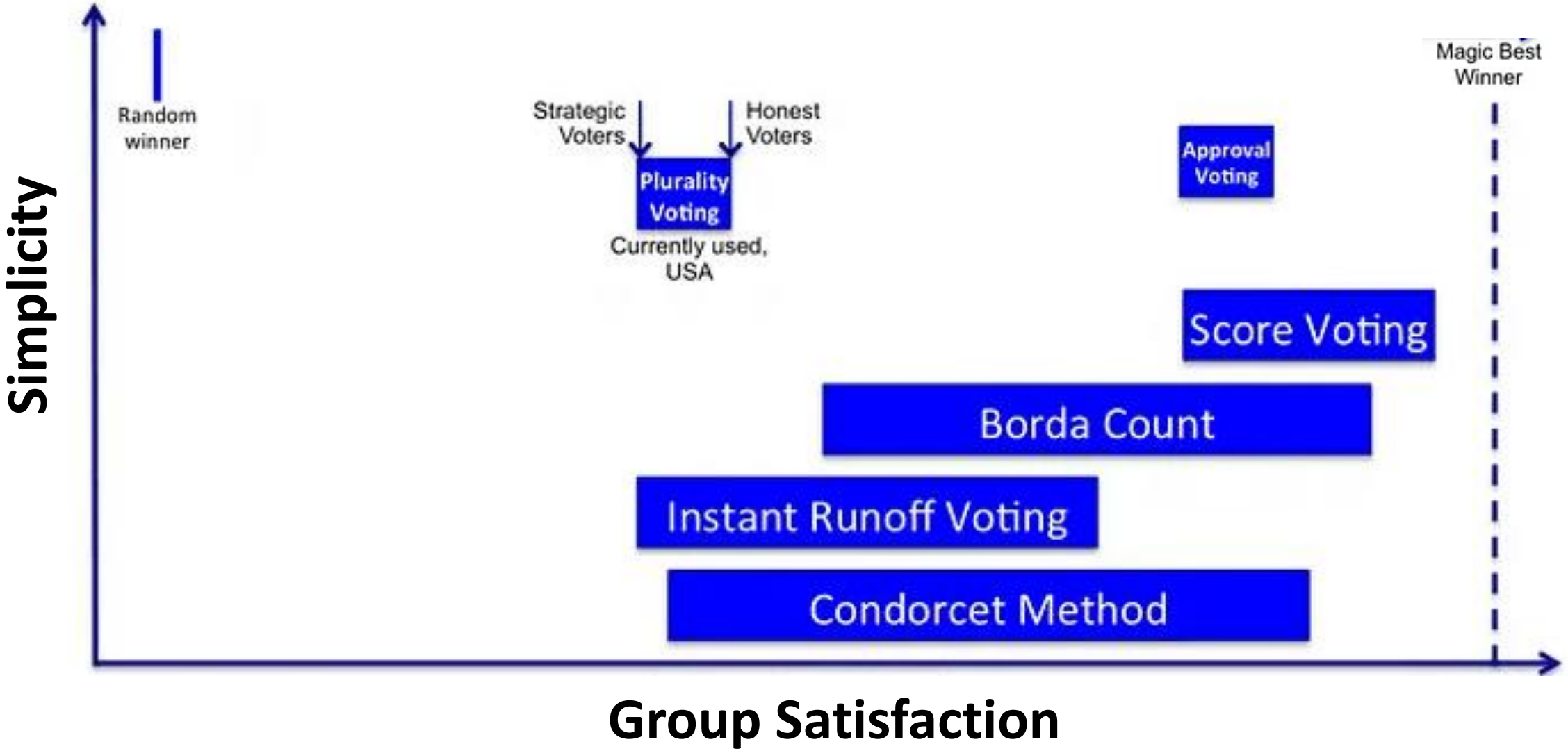
Gaming the System/Vote Splitting/Spoiler Effect

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Better than traditional voting	Better than traditional voting

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Voter Satisfaction

Bayesian Regret computer simulation with 2.2M trials



Poundstone, W. (2009) Gaming the Vote, p. 239

Voter Experience & Confidence

Transparency

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
“The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and voters who picked that candidate as ‘number 1’ will have their votes count for their next choice. This process continues until there’s a majority winner or a candidate won with more than half of the vote.”	“The candidate with the most votes wins.”
For multi-winner races (“Utah Method”): If a candidate has enough votes to win in a round, then they are elected and a new round begins. Voters who picked that candidate as ‘number 1’ will have their votes count for their next choice. If no candidate has enough votes to win in a round, then the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and a new round begins. Voters who picked that candidate as ‘number 1’ will have their votes count for their next choice.	“The candidates with the most votes win.”

Voter Confidence and Transparency

Voter Turnout

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Reduces turnout 3-5%[1] Turnout reduction not as strong for minorities[2] Increases turnout 9.6%[3] Limited impact on turnout, but increases turnout 10% over replaced primaries[4]	Unknown
[1]2019 San Francisco Univ. study of 200 RCV elections from 1990 to 2018 [2]2012 Stanford Univ. thesis [3]2020 Univ. of Technology Sydney study of Minneapolis elections [4]2016 study Univ. of Missouri-St. Louis	

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Voter Experience & Confidence

Impact on Minorities

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Stanford 2012 study – Minority voters complete less of an RCV ballot than other voters[1]	Survey: 74% of voters of color said they are more likely to vote under approval voting[2]
Opposed by: Memphis NAACP; Black, Latino, Asian Caucus of NYC	
[1]2012 Stanford Thesis - Holtzman	[2]2019 Poll by Change Research of 502 St. Louis registered voters. Margin of error 4.4%

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

	Subject	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Voter Experience	Ballot Look and Feel	✗	✓
	Voter Exhaustion	✗	✓
	Gaming the System	✓	✓
	Transparency	✗	✓
	Voter Turnout	?	?
	Impact on Minorities	?	?

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

	Subject	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Election Processes	Logistical & Security Issues		
	Processing Time		
	Adjudication & Spoiled ballots		
	Tabulation of Results		
	Release of Results		
	Auditability		
	Plurality		

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Election Processes

Processing Time

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
If only one card is needed:	
Minor increase in processing (adjudication)	No change
If more than one card is needed:	
Reconciliation challenges: 1 voter = multiple cards	Reconciliation – no change: 1 voter = 1 card
Ballot extraction, handling & scanning – 15%-20% increase in cost of election	Ballot extraction and handling – no change

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
The Unifying Voice for County Government

Election Processes

Adjudication & Spoiled Ballots

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Rate of spoiled/incorrect ballots: Santa Fe – 4.5% Payson & Vineyard – 5.0% Oakland – 5.7% *7.4% for predominantly African American/Latino communities *1.6% for predominantly White communities	No more overvotes (most common cause of adjudication). Drawback: system does not catch corrected overvotes
Utah law prevents counting after skipped round	

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Election Processes

Tabulation of Results

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Single winner – negligible increase	Single winner – no change
Multi winner – requires manual manipulation for each round	Multi winner – no change

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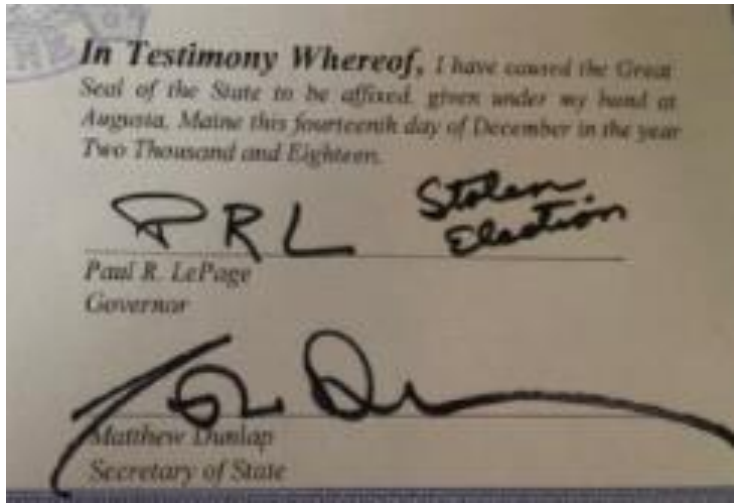
Election Processes

Release of Results

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Results could vary widely with each new round of ballots. The outcome could change in the any round, invalidating previously released results (i.e., Maine, 2018).	No change from current system – All new ballot counts are additive.
Statewide results: must wait for all counties	Statewide results: same as current



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Election Processes

Auditability

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
1 to 1 comparison (compare ballot to system-generated “cast vote record”)	1 to 1 comparison (compare ballot to system tabulation of ballot)
Must audit: *the elimination of candidates *the redistribution of votes *the integrity of the transfer of the “cast vote record” file (for state, 29 files X 5)	Must audit: *the aggregation of all votes (same as current system)
Best practice: Run “cast vote record” through independent system	All auditable processes are performed within the fully EAC-certified system.

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Election Processes

Plurality

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Generally solves plurality. Possible to have winners without majority.	Generally solves plurality. Possible to have winners without majority.
2018 San Francisco Mayor (8 candidates): Winner: 51% of final round (46% of total votes)	Fargo 2020 City Commission (7 candidates): Two winners: 55% & 53% approval (3rd place had 49% approval)

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Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

	Subject	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Election Processes	Logistical & Security Issues	✗	✓
	Processing Time	✗	✓
	Adjudication & Spoiled ballots	✗	✓
	Tabulation of Results	✗	✓
	Release of Results	✗	✓
	Auditability	✗	✓
	Plurality	✓	✓

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Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

Subject	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Costs		
Voter Education		
Primary Election		

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Election Cost

Voter Education

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Significant Voter Education Required	Minimal Voter Education Required

City	Cost per Voter	Cost per Voter	City
San Francisco	$ 1.96		
Santa Fe	$ 1.19		
Payson/Vineyard	$ 0.80		
		$ 0.55	Fargo
		$ 0.17	St. Louis
Salt Lake County (est.)	$ 0.46	$ 0.15	Salt Lake County (est.)

Salt Lake County Cost Estimate

Estimated costs to educate voters

Category	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Voter Education	$283,600	$94,533

Factors Influencing Cost

- Approval voting is more familiar to voters than RCV
- Estimate includes cost for:
  - Design
  - Digital Ads
  - Printed Collateral
  - Instructional Video

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Salt Lake County Cost Estimate

Estimated additional costs to run an election

Category	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Labor	$26,324	$0
Annual Software Licensing	$25,000	$0
Printing	$10,572	$0
Two-Card Ballot	$194,000	$0
TOTAL	**$255,896**	**$0**

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Election Cost

Primary Election

Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Could avoid primary election, if desired	Could avoid primary election, if desired

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Salt Lake County Cost Comparison

Estimated savings without a primary election

Category	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Savings - No Primary Election	$623,000	$623,000
Cost - Voter Education	($283,600)	($94,533)
Cost - Additional Costs	($255,896)	($0)
NET SAVINGS	**$83,504**	**$528,467**
% SAVINGS	**15%**	**85%**

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Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

Subject	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Costs		
Voter Education	✗	✓
Primary Election	✓	✓

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Comparison between RCV and Approval Voting

	Subject	Ranked Choice Voting	Approval Voting
Voter Experience	Ballot Look and Feel	✗	✓
	Voter Exhaustion	✗	✓
	Gaming the System	✓	✓
	Transparency	✗	✓
	Voter Turnout	?	?
	Impact on Minorities	?	?
Election Processes	Logistical & Security Issues	✗	✓
	Processing Time	✗	✓
	Adjudication & Spoiled ballots	✗	✓
	Tabulation of Results	✗	✓
	Release of Results	✗	✓
	Auditability	✗	✓
	Plurality	✓	✓
Costs	Voter Education	✗	✓
	Primary Election	✓	✓

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