June 2021 Primary Elections

Elections are changing in New York. Here's what you need to know.

Why?

Does voting matter? Yes! Queens's 31st District is home to the largest number of family shelter units in the borough, and a race there last month came down to just a few votes. Control of that seat ended up depending on New York City's new voting system: Ranked Choice Voting.

Fact: Only 6% of eligible voters voted in the last year's primary election. That means that a small number of voters are choosing what the future of this city will look like.



When? Where? How?

By Mail: All registered voters can vote by mail in this election because of COVID-19. You have until June 15th to request a ballot, but don't wait! Vote by mail allows you to fill out the ballot, which looks different this time, at your own pace. You must mail your ballot in before June 22nd, or bring it to a polling site and drop it off.

Early Voting: There are 9 days of early voting from June 12th to June 20th. Early voting is safe, since you don't need to worry about crowded polling places. Your early polling place might be different from your regular polling place. See the link below.

In person: If you don't vote by mail or vote early, you can always vote in person.

Double check your early polling site and election day polling site on findmypollsite.vote.nyc



Who?

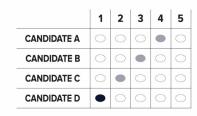
Races: Check out the page below to learn more about the races and who's running.

newdestinyhousing.org/voting

What is Ranked Choice Voting?

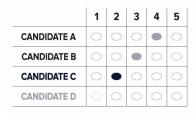
How: When you vote in this election, there will be something new: five columns numbered 1 through 5. Your top choice goes in the first column, your second choice goes in the second column and so on.

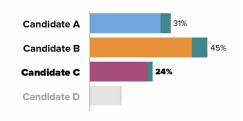
With Ranked Choice Voting, if someone wins more than 50% of the vote they win the race, just like always. But what if no one wins 50% of the vote? That's when your ranking matters.



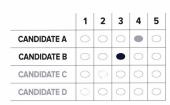


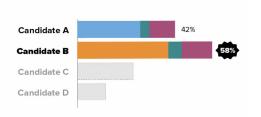
The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and everyone who voted for that person then gets their second choice vote counted.





This is repeated until one candidate has more than 50% of the vote. Then that person wins!





Why: The hope is that Ranked Choice Voting will discourage negative campaigning and make space for women and people of color to run for office. Also, you can vote for the candidate you like the most without worrying about throwing away your vote on long shot.