

To: Interested Parties
Fr: Expedition Strategies
Re: MN Ranked Choice Voting Results
Date: March 2, 2023

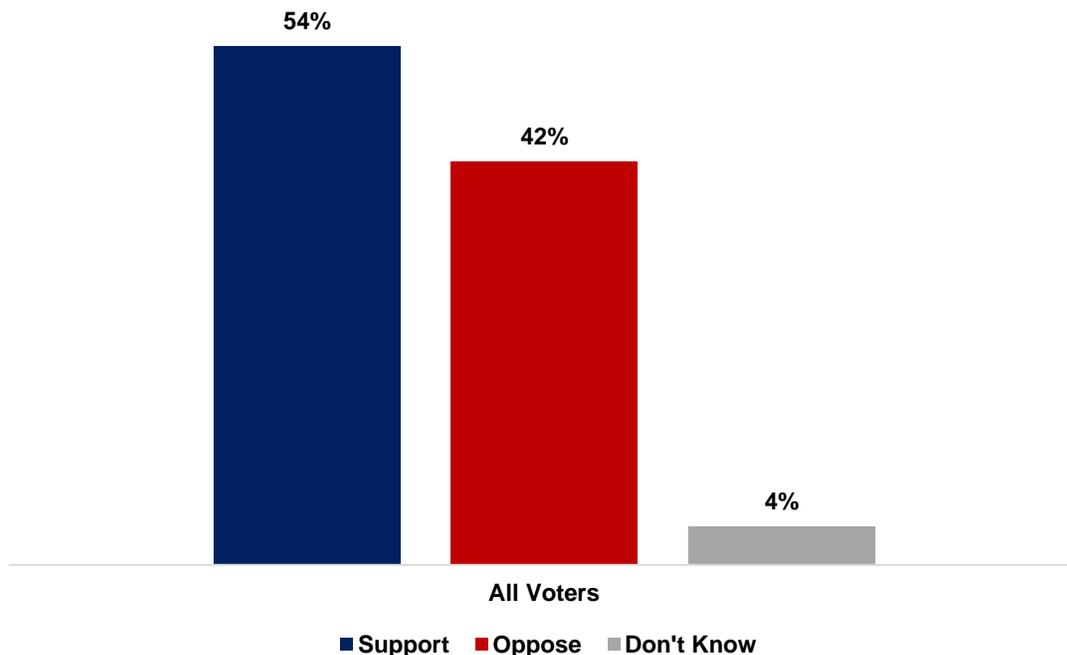
This report covers the results of our recent poll.¹ Expedition Strategies conducted a statewide poll of 701 likely voters, which was weighted to the likely 2024 general election electorate.

Key Findings

- 1. A majority of Minnesota voters support changing election laws in Minnesota to use ranked choice voting for state and Federal elections by 2026.**

Question: Ranked choice voting allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference so they can pick a first, second, and third choice. If any candidate gets a majority of the first-choice votes, they win the election. But if no candidates win a majority of first-choice votes, the candidate with the fewest votes gets eliminated and their second-choice votes are now counted. This continues until a candidate receives a majority of the votes. This system acts similar to a runoff election, but it all takes place on the same day. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose Minnesota changing its election laws to use ranked choice voting in all primary and general elections for state and Federal offices by 2026?

Support for Ranked Choice Voting



¹ This report covers the results of our research: 701 total interviews in Minnesota with a sample of likely 2022 general election voters – the poll was weighted to a likely 2024 general election electorate. The interviews were conducted February 23-27, 2023. The margin of error for overall results is $\pm 3.70\%$ and higher among subgroups.

2. Messages about increasing civility and reducing partisanship in politics and giving voters more choices are compelling reasons to support a switch to ranked choice voting.

Question: Does this make you much more likely, somewhat more likely, somewhat less likely, or much less likely to support legislation expanding ranked choice voting in Minnesota?

Messages by All

% Total More Likely / % Total Less Likely	All
Civility: Ranked choice voting encourages candidates to campaign positively about issues that matter instead of resorting to personal attacks, because they are trying to attract second- and third-choice votes. This leads to more civil elections and encourages candidates, once in office, to be accountable to all Minnesotans	70/28
Reduce Partisanship: Ranked choice voting will help reduce the partisanship and divisiveness in Minnesota politics that have prevented us from acting on issues that have wide and bipartisan support, because it helps attract more moderate candidates that can build bigger coalitions of voters rather than campaigning on things that a small minority of a political party believes	66/28
Choice: Ranked choice voting allows Minnesotans greater choice and power when it comes to voting, because even if a voter's first-choice candidate does not win, they can still have an impact on the outcome of the election by also selecting a second-choice preference	66/30

3. After giving positive information about ranked choice voting support increases to more than six in ten voters.

Ballot Progression

Do you...expanding the use of ranked choice voting in all primary and general elections for state and Federal offices by 2026?		
	Initial	Post Positive Messages
Difference	+14	+31
Total Support	54	64
Strongly support	23	32
Somewhat support	31	32
Total Oppose	40	33
Somewhat oppose	16	10
Strongly oppose	26	23
Don't know	4	3

4. Providing more choices and strengthening democracy stand out as the main offerings of ranked choice voting in Minnesota.

RCV View

Regardless of whether you support or oppose ranked choice voting, which is closer to how you view ranked choice voting?	
	All
More choice for voters	39
It can strengthen and improve democracy in Minnesota.	26
It can improve how elections work in Minnesota.	18
Don't know	16

Conclusions

A majority of voters support changing election laws in Minnesota to use ranked choice voting in all state and Federal elections by 2026. Increasing civility in politics, reducing partisanship and giving voters more choices stand out as compelling reasons to make the switch and resonate with voters as to how they view ranked choice voting. If the Minnesota Legislature acts to change the laws to adopt ranked choice voting in Minnesota, it will do so with the majority of the public behind them.

About Expedition Strategies

Expedition Strategies has provided strategic public opinion research to 13 heads of states and governments worldwide and has helped elect 6 United States Senators and 3 Governors including Minnesota Governor Walz who has been a client since 2008.