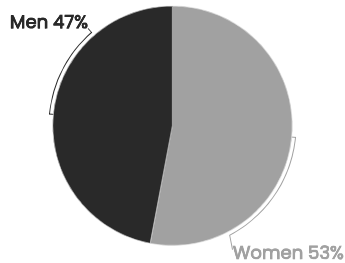


Ranked Choice Voting and Women's Representation

Local Level Data

Women make up 53% of seats on city councils in RCV cities



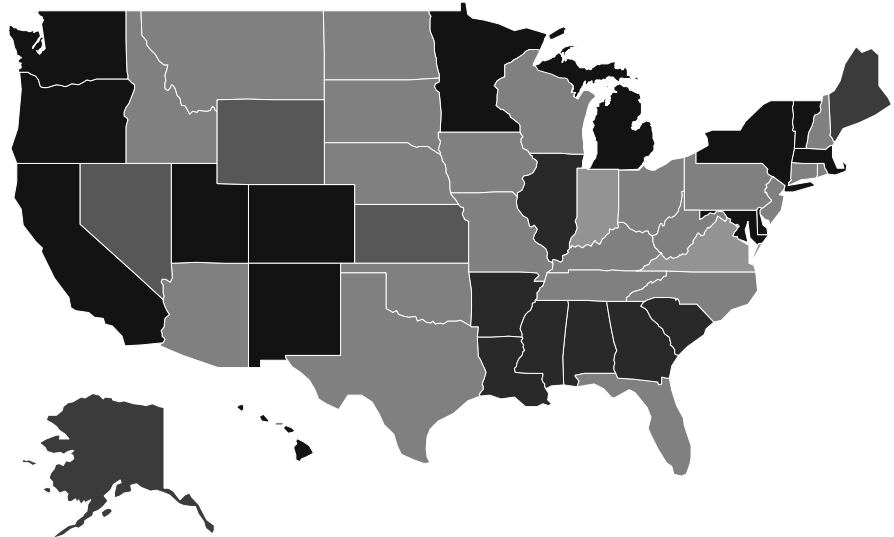
Women represent 12 of the 32 sitting mayors elected in RCV cities



● Women ● Men

Updated January 2024

Where Ranked Choice Voting is Used/Enacted in the U.S

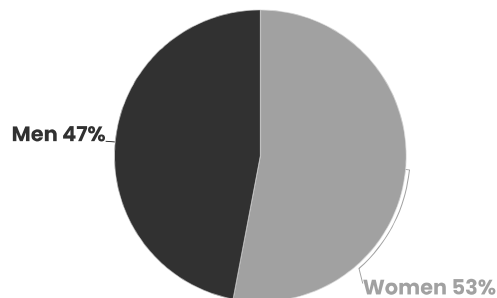


- Used For Military & Overseas Voting
- Used For Statewide & Federal Elections
- Not in Use
- Used For Local Elections
- Used for Party Elections
- Used For 2020 Presidential Primaries

Data true as of December 2023, Numbers refer to officeholders as of January 2024

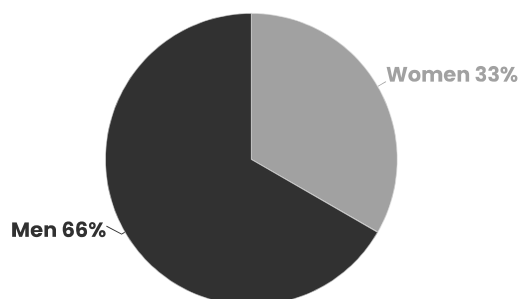
Ranked Choice Voting - City Councils

RCV Elected City Councils



Updated January 2024

City Councils of 100 Largest Cities



Updated January 2023

As of January 2024, 41 cities have used ranked choice elections to elect their sitting city councils. Of the seats, 53% are filled by women while women hold just 33% of all city council seats in the 100 largest cities.

*Note, 45 cities have RCV in place but not all have had 3+ candidate races.

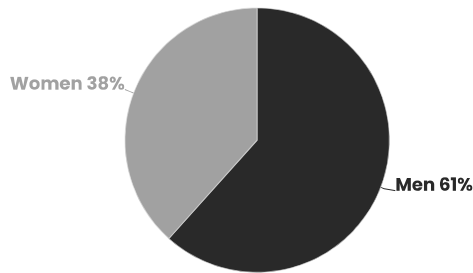
Below is a chart that lists all city councils elected by ranked choice voting.

City	State	% Women	Election Type	Last RCV Election
Albany	CA	25%	General	2022
Berkeley	CA	38%	General	2022
Oakland	CA	63%	General	2022
San Francisco	CA	36%	General	2022
San Leandro	CA	33%	General	2022
Arden	DE	71%	General	2023
Cambridge	MA	56%	General	2023
Easthampton	MA	22%	General	2023
Takoma Park	MD	50%	General	2022
Portland	ME	75%	General	2023
Eastpointe	MI	25%	General	2021
Bloomington	MN	33%	General	2023
Minneapolis	MN	62%	General	2023
Minnetonka	MN	100%	General	2023
St. Louis Park	MN	67%	Primary	2023
St. Paul	MN	100%	General	2023
Las Cruces	NM	83%	General	2023
Santa Fe	NM	75%	General	2023
New York City	NY	61%	General	2023
Corvallis	OR	67%	General	2022
Bluffdale	UT	40%	General	2023

Race/ethnicity breakdowns are unavailable for certain jurisdictions. For more information about race/ethnicity, please contact us : info@representwomen.org

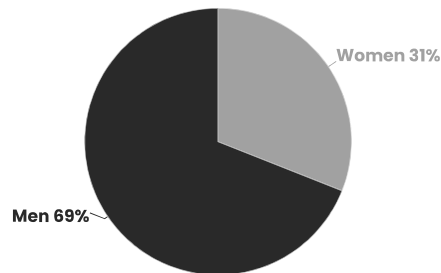
Ranked Choice Voting – Mayors

RCV Elected Mayors



Updated January 2024

Mayors of 100 Largest Cities



Updated January 2023

As of November 2023, 32 cities have used ranked choice elections to elect their sitting mayors. 38% percent of these mayors are women while only 31% of the 100 most populous cities in the U.S. have women mayors.

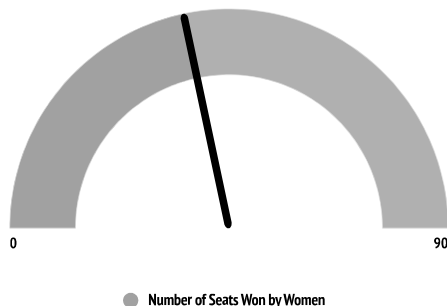
Below is a chart that lists all mayors elected by ranked choice voting as of January 2024.

Mayor	City	State	Woman Mayor?	Person of Color?	Last RCV Election
Jesse Arreguin	Berkeley	CA	No	Yes	2022
Sheng Thao	Oakland	CA	Yes	Yes	2022
London Breed	San Francisco	CA	Yes	Yes	2022
Juan Gonzalez III	San Leandro	CA	No	Yes	2022
Bill Kane	Basalt	CO	No	No	2020
Aaron Brockett	Boulder	CO	No	No	2023
Sumbul Siddiqui	Cambridge	MA	Yes	Yes	2021
Nicole LaChapelle	Easthampton	MA	Yes	No	2021
Talisha Searcy	Takoma Park	MD	Yes	Yes	2022
Mark Dion	Portland	ME	No	No	2023
Tim Busse	Bloomington	MN	No	No	2021
Jacob Frey	Minneapolis	MN	No	No	2021
Brad Wiersum	Minnetonka	MN	No	No	2021
Nadia Mohamed	St. Louis Park	MN	Yes	Yes	2023
Melvin Carter III	St. Paul	MN	No	Yes	2021
Eric Enriquez	Las Cruces	NM	No	Yes	2023
Alan Webber	Santa Fe	NM	No	No	2021
Eric Adams	New York City	NY	No	Yes	2021
Charles	San Jose	CA	No	No	2022

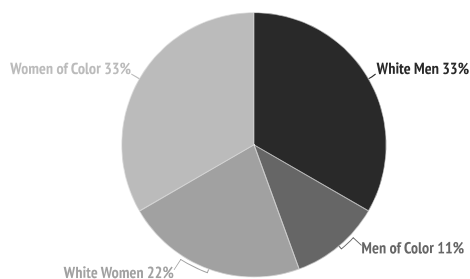
Demographic information for the mayors of the largest cities is courtesy of the Center of American Women and Politics.

2021 Case Study – Cambridge, MA

Number of Seats Won by Women 2010–2021



Gender and Race Breakdown of 2024 City Council



Data true as of January 2024

	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
Election	Number of Candidates	Women Candidates	Percent Women	Winners	Woman	
School Committee	11	4	36%	Alfred B. Fantini	No	
				Patricia M. Nolan	Yes	
				Alice L. Turkel	Yes	
				Mervan Osborne	No	
City Council	18	4	22%	Richard Harding Jr.	No	
				Marc C. McGovern	No	
				Leland Cheung	No	
				Timothy	No	

History of Ranked Choice Voting in Cambridge, MA

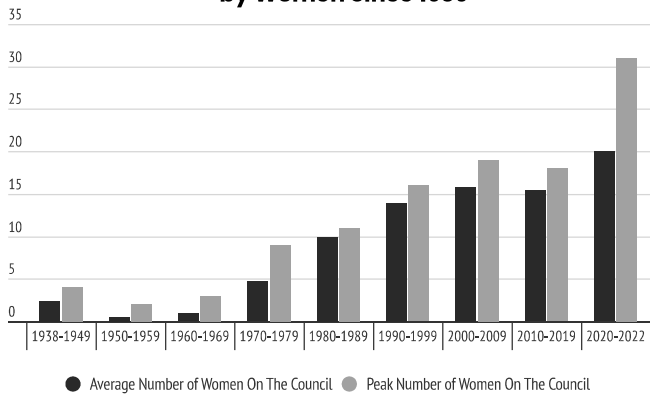
Voters in Cambridge, MA adopted RCV to elect the School Committee and City Council in 1940; and, first used RCV in the 1941 municipal elections.

Cambridge uses ranked choice voting in at-large districts, where candidates must reach a threshold of votes and additional votes are redistributed to the voter's second choice. The threshold is determined by the number of ballots cast divided by the number of seats open + 1.

From 2010–2020, women won 35% of the 74 seats up for election. Women of color won 38% of the seats won by women, and 16% of seats overall.

2021 Case Study – New York City, NY

Average and Peak Number of NYC Council Seats Held by Women Since 1939



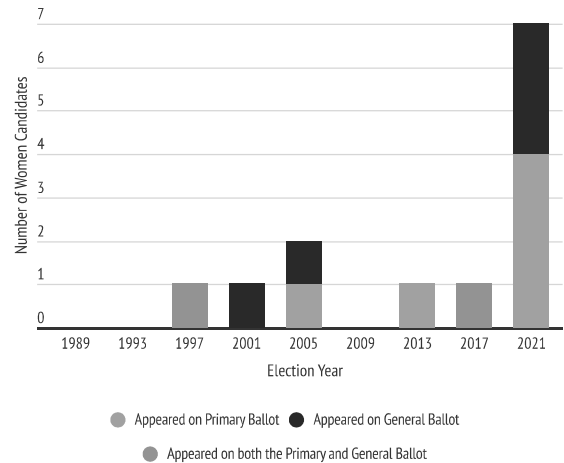
NYC Council Gender Balance as of January 2022



In 2021, history was made when 31 women were elected to the New York City Council – the first time ever the council would have a women majority. Of those women, 25 are women of color. Twenty-six of those women won ranked choice election primaries.

Data true as of December 2022

NYC Women Mayoral Candidates From 1989–2021

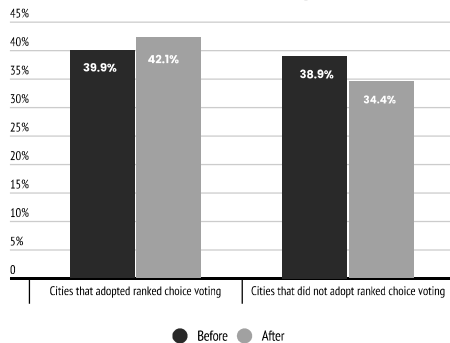


Since 1989, only 13 women have ever appeared on either a primary ballot or on the general ballot in NYC mayoral elections. Seven of those women (54%) ran in 2021. Two women – Kathryn Garcia and Maya Wiley – came within inches of winning the Democratic nomination and likely becoming the first ever woman mayor of NYC.

Post election, Maya Wiley published an opinion piece in *The Washington Post* titled, **"Opinion: Maya Wiley: I lost the NYC mayoral race, but women and minorities win with ranked-choice voting"**

2016 Case Study – Bay Area

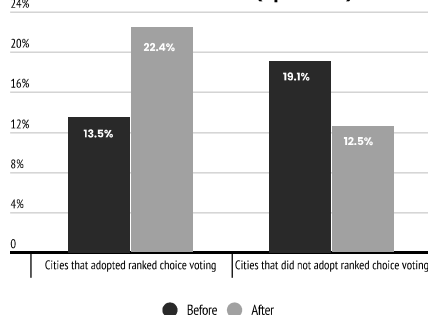
Percentage of Women Winning Office, before and after RCV (up to 2016)



In 2016, RepresentWomen published a report on the use of ranked choice voting in four cities in the Bay Area – Berkeley, Oakland, San Francisco, and San Leandro. RCV was implemented in San Francisco in 2004 and 2010 for the other three cities.

As part of the report, they tested the impact of RCV by studying the percentage of women and women of color that won in those four cities compared to seven control cities in California. The time span of the elections the report studied was from 1995–2014.

Percentage of Women of Color Winning Office, before and after RCV (up to 2016)

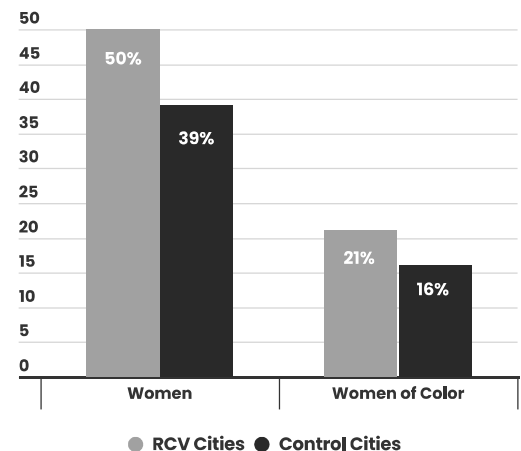


Results from that report are reflected in the graphs to the left. As a key:

"Before" references the statistics for elections in the time span before RCV was implemented in the four test cities.

"After" references the statics for elections in the time span after RCV was implemented.

Percentage of Women and Women of Color In Office as of January 2022 (RCV vs Control Cities)



As of January 2022, RCV cities still have a higher percentage of women and women of color on their city councils.

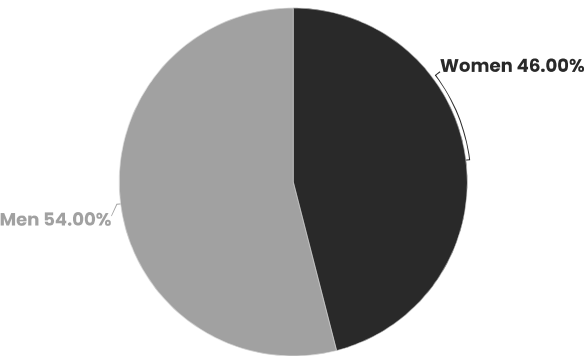
Also true as of January 2022, of the four RCV cities, 3 (75%) have women mayors. Of the seven control cities, only 2 (28.6%) have women mayors.

Data true as of December 2022

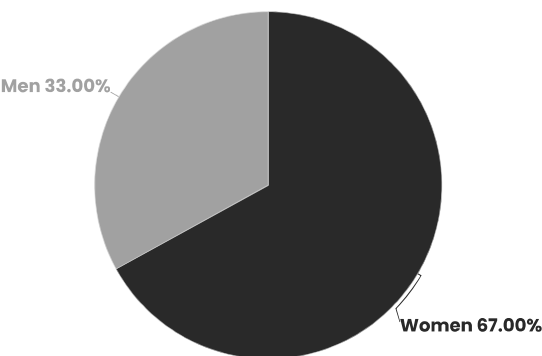
In 2021, 23 cities in Utah opted into a pilot program to use ranked choice voting for local elections. Of the 23, 20 actually held ranked choice elections (elections with 3+ candidates) with 19 cities using the system for the first time.

Women made up 32.5% of the candidates that ran to fill 46 seats that had races that used ranked choice voting (had 3+ candidates). Women won 37% of all RCV seats, but when looking at only the races that had women candidates, women won **46%** of them. **67%** (4 of 6) of mayoral seats that were contested by women were won by women.

**Gender Breakdown of All RCV Seats
Contested by Women (2021)**



**Winners of Mayoral Races
Contested By Women (2021)**



Of the 17 Utah cities that held RCV elections for their city councils, women make up 40% of their city councils.

Data true as of December 2022