

Elections, Public Opinion Polls, and Ranked Choice Voting "Mock" Election

What's the difference?

	Ranked Choice Voting Mock Election	Public Opinion Poll	Real Election
Purpose	Demonstrate the ease and versatility of ranked choice voting	Provide a snapshot of how people feel about a particular issue or election	Choose who will serve in office
Participants	Open to all with internet access, with VTers encouraged to participate	Often screened to include registered voters and weighted to be representative of a certain population	Registered voters
Process	Participants get to rank their candidate preferences	Varies	Voters get to vote for only one candidate per office
Format	Online voting only	Can be conducted in-person, online or over the phone	Registered VT voters can cast ballots by mail, through official drop boxes and in-person at town clerks' offices starting 45 days prior to a statewide election, or they can cast ballots in-person at the polls on Election Day
Results Used For...	Demonstration of RCV purposes only	Information for the media, public and campaign strategists	Determining who will serve in office
Write-in Candidates Allowed?	No	Depends	Yes