



Buffalo, New York Voter Survey

June 2026

This data is compiled from 409 registered voters in Buffalo, New York.

Key Findings:

Open Primaries:

- Voters don't know the current primary system: When asked, voters are equally likely to say that Buffalo uses an open primary system (**31%**), a closed primary system (**32%**), or admit they are not sure (**37%**).
- **Two-thirds of Buffalo voters support open primaries**, with majorities believing that open primaries would give voters more say (**60%**) and make elections more fair (**59%**).
 - Once again the strongest supporters are under 35 (**73%**), and white (**71%**).
 - Notably, nearly three-quarters of unaffiliated voters (**74%**) support open primaries.

Ballot Access:

- An overwhelming majority of voters believe that the number of signatures required for independent candidates should be the same as (**65%**) – if not lower than (**23%**) – their major party counterparts. Only 12% of voters believe that independent candidates should have to clear a higher bar to be on the ballot.
- The question of ballot access performs similarly to that of open primaries: **67%** support reducing the signature requirement of independent candidates to match that of major party candidates, with around two-thirds of voters believing that this move would give voters like them more say (**67%**) and make elections more fair (**68%**).

RCV:

- There exists low familiarity of RCV: just **15%** of Buffalo voters are very familiar with ranked choice voting. In contrast, nearly 6 in 10 are not that familiar or not familiar at all.
- Just under half (**49%**) of Buffalo voters support the implementation of RCV in local elections
- Around half (**51%**) believe RCV will give voters more say, and that it will make elections more fair (**47%**).