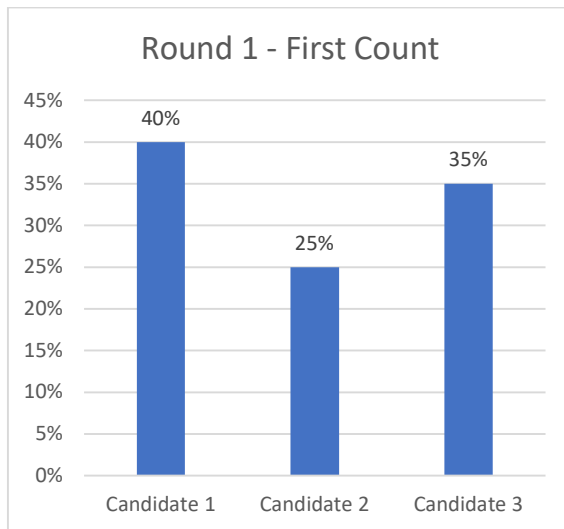


Question: Will voting independent split and waste my vote?

Answer: No

Splitting the vote happens in **first-past-the-post** electoral systems because each voter can only vote for a single preferred candidate.

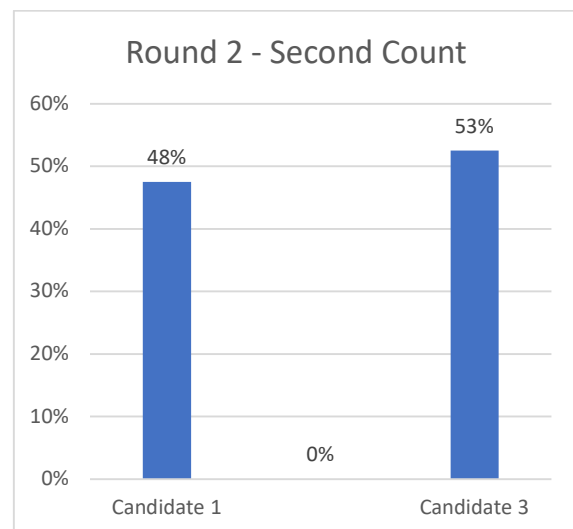


This doesn't happen in **preferential voting** systems like Australia's where people can vote for their first preference and then mark all their following preferences in order.

In the preferential system, all the preferences are counted, not just the first preference. They are counted in rounds, with the first round being a simple count of first preferences which could look like the results above. It is what comes next that is interesting.

In Round 2, the lowest scoring candidate is eliminated, and their voters' second preferences are allocated to the remaining candidates. So, Candidate 2 is knocked out and the result might look like this if the second preferences of Candidate 2 are distributed 30:70 across Candidates 1 and 3.

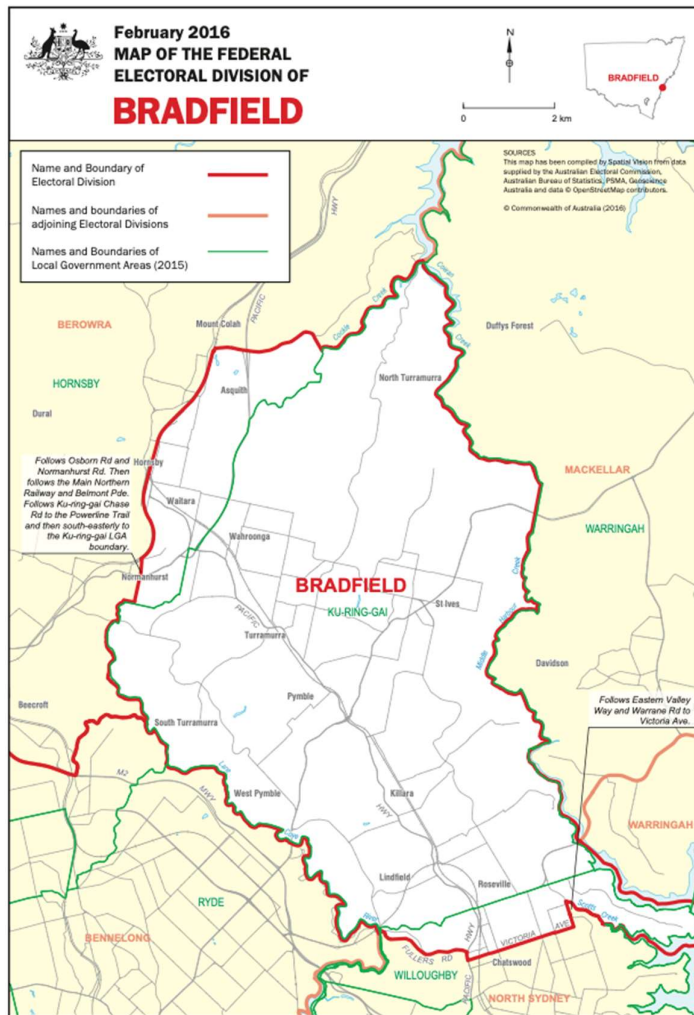
Candidate 3 is the winner, despite not having as many votes as Candidate 1 in the first round, because in our system **every vote counts**, not just the majority's.



Bradfield Electorate – Facts and Figures

The Bradfield electorate was established in 1949. It occupies sandstone country whose traditional owners are the Darramurragal and Guringai clans.

It has always been won by the Liberal Party.



Overview of Bradfield

(Census 2016)

Median Age – 41

Sex - 52% female, 48% male

Education - 47% Bachelor degree or above

Language at home not English – 28%.

Country of Birth - 57% Australia, 39% Overseas – 7% China, 7% UK, S Africa 3%.

Religion - 33% no religion, 25% Catholic, 20% Mainline Protestant.

Families - 47% couple with children, 14% older couples without children.

Dwellings – 27% medium/high density, 63% free-standing.

Employment - 60% full time (60% professionals/managers), 34% part time, 5% unemployed. 28% did Volunteer work.

Household Income (weekly) – 40% had income \$2,500+, 9% under \$650 pw.

Transport - 50% drive to work, 26% Train.

Citizens – 83%.

Educated and Wealthy

Bradfield is one of the most highly educated electorates in the country, and one of the wealthiest.

Voices of Bradfield supports community wishes to see competent and effective government, a strong Federal Integrity Commission, effective Covid management, and compassionate polices that support a fairer, more equal society for all Australians.