The Effects of Spouses on Voting in the Active Duty Military Population

Introduction

Past research shows that married individuals are, on average, more likely to vote than those who are unmarried. This difference in voting propensity has often been attributed to the fact that spouses discuss politics with one another and naturally share information about voting. If spouses can provide information about Department of Defense (DoD) and Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) voting assistance resources, a marketing campaign directly targeting spouses of military members could potentially have a positive effect on the awareness of voting assistance resources in the active duty military (ADM) population.

This research note uses data from the 2012 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military to examine whether marital status is salient to ADM voting propensity. The analysis finds that being married does not have a significant effect on the likelihood of voting for domestic ADM, but that married ADM who live overseas are approximately 10 percentage points more likely to vote than unmarried ADM located overseas.

The first section of this research note reviews previous research concerning marriage and voting. The second section describes the data sources and the methodology used in this analysis. The third section presents the key findings. The conclusion summarizes the findings and considers how they can inform FVAP's ADM voter education efforts going forward.

Spousal Influence on Voting Behavior

For many U.S. citizens, the act of voting can be a complicated process. In order to vote, individuals have to navigate several obstacles. A voter has to become informed about the election's candidates and issues and then has to vote in the election, either in person or by absentee ballot (Aldrich 1993). This process causes complications for many civilian voters, and these difficulties are amplified for military personnel, who are often away from their home voting jurisdiction (Alvarez, Hall, & Roberts, 2007; Inbody, 2015). Military personnel in a given unit are likely to be voting in different jurisdictions, which have their own electoral contests, contact points, and procedures for requesting an absentee ballot. Military personnel typically have to request absentee ballots for the election, have them delivered physically or electronically to the locations where they are stationed, and then return the ballots. These potential challenges may be somewhat mitigated by the strong positive influence of marital status on voting.

Marriage and Voting

Previous research has consistently shown that married couples are more likely to vote than those who have never married or who are separated, divorced, or widowed (Campbell, Converse, Miller, & Stokes, 1960; Wolfinger & Rosenstone, 1980; Stoker & Jennings, 1995; Wolfinger & Wolfinger, 2008; Hobbs, Christakis, & Fowler, 2014). One analysis of Current Population Survey data showed that 74% of married respondents voted in 2000, compared with only 66% widowed, 60% divorced, 52% separated, and 51% of never married respondents (Wolfinger & Wolfinger, 2008). The correlation of voter participation with marital status has been observed consistently in the United States as well as nations abroad, even when controlling for the effects of age, mobility, and education.

Conversations Between Spouses About Voting

The positive influence of marriage likely results from three interrelated processes: information transmission, interpersonal mobilization, and political interest (Hobbs et al., 2014). Research shows that married people identify their spouse as their main political discussion partner, and they talk more about politics than non-married individuals (Beck, 1991; Stoker & Jennings, 1995; Hobbs et al., 2014). For married couples, voter turnout efforts targeting one spouse are highly effective in convincing the other to vote (Stoker & Jennings, 1995; Nickerson, 2008). This is reflected in the fact that, in married households, if one spouse votes, there is approximately a 90% chance that the other spouse also votes (Cutts & Fieldhouse, 2009).

Being married also lowers the opportunity costs associated with gathering election information. Once one married partner learns about some aspect of the election, sharing those voting resources and information is costless. The couple also benefits from increased political discussion. One member of a couple can fulfill the duties of coordinating election resources, such as obtaining absentee ballots, finding the polling place, or retrieving and sending absentee ballots (Wolfinger & Wolfinger, 2008). For a military voter, having a spouse may increase the probability that resources such as Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs), Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices, and FVAP website are utilized to assist in absentee voting.[1]

Spouses are also likely to experience interpersonal mobilization (Campbell et al., 1960; Nickerson, 2008; Hobbs et al., 2014). A motivated spouse is quite likely to encourage an unmotivated partner to vote, increasing voter turnout (Glaser, 1959). People tend to imitate the voting behavior of individuals they are in close proximity with, which can lead to a "turnout cascade" within a couple's immediate social network (Fowler, 2005). Gerber, Green, and Larimer (2008) suggest that voters who feel social pressure to vote from their social network are substantially more likely to do so in order to avoid the stigma associated with not voting. Married UOCAVA voters may be mobilized to vote because the information costs are lower for them than for the unmarried, and married couples encounter a combination of direct motivation and social pressure from their spouses.

One might think that military personnel, living in close quarters, would be more likely to vote as well. However, research has shown that individuals who reside in larger households (e.g., with five or more potential voters) are actually less likely to vote than even those living alone (Cutts & Fieldhouse, 2009). This may be because multi-adult households have less intimate political discussion, whereas married households are more open to discuss political ideas and more deliberately share voting resources. This suggests that military personnel, even living in close quarters with others, are not necessarily in an environment where more election-related discussions will occur or pressures to vote will be present.

Marriage and Obstructions/Time

Some research has found that married couples face different pressures on their time that may result in different levels of voter turnout. Specifically, respondents with children are less likely to vote than respondents without children, across all marital statuses (Wolfinger & Wolfinger, 2008). Married voters are more likely to have children than unmarried voters; however, they may have more shared time to handle childcare duties.

Marriage and Social Networks

Marriage is not the only social tie that influences the probability of voting. Some studies have emphasized the role of both friends (Bond et al., 2012) and acquaintances (Valenzuela, Kim, & Zuniga, 2012) in sharing election information and encouraging various forms of political participation. Social psychologists have found evidence that marriage can have a negative influence on the number of these "weaker" social ties (Kalmijn, 2012).

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1 For further discussion of these resources, see FVAP Research Note: Assessing the Impact of FVAP Resources, retrieved from https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/News/2014_FVAP_Research-Note-2_Final_Approved.pdf

Although prior research examining the relationship between marriage and voting is consistent with a net positive influence of marriage on the probability of voting, it is possible that marriage may have an indirect negative effect on the propensity to vote by limiting an individual's social network.

Key Research Questions

Research Note 4 tests the following research questions:
- Married ADM are more likely to vote than unmarried ADM.
- Married ADM are more likely to receive information from family and friends than unmarried ADM.
- Overseas married ADM are more likely to vote than overseas unmarried ADM.

Studying military personnel provides a unique opportunity to study the effects spouses have on one another's voting behavior, because ADM couples may live apart for months or more than a year at a time. If married ADM vote at higher rates and use different means of learning about voting compared with unmarried ADM, it can inform the direction of FVAP mobilization efforts.

Data and Methodology

The primary data source used in this analysis is the 2012 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military (hereafter referred to as "PEV Survey"), conducted by the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) and FVAP. [2] The PEV Survey was fielded from November 7, 2012 to January 16, 2013 to a sample of ADM. The PEV Survey asked a number of questions concerning respondents' voting behavior and location during the 2012 General Election. Additional socioeconomic information about the respondents, including marital status, has been made available either through questions in the PEV Survey itself or administrative data appended to the PEV Survey data file. The analysis was conducted on registered UOCAVA ADM in the PEV Survey. [3] Although a post-election survey of ADM spouses was also conducted, FVAP is unable to link spousal survey respondents to PEV Survey respondents. [4] Consequently, we are unable to link the behavior of spousal respondents directly to ADM voting behavior. For that reason, the focus of our analysis is the PEV Survey.

The analyses that follow focus on three key questions from the PEV Survey:

1. Did the respondent vote in the 2012 General Election? [5]
2. Did the respondent receive voting information from family and friends in 2012?
3. Did the respondent receive voting information from the FVAP website or a VAO in 2012?

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2 The Federal Voting Assistance Program (2012). 2012 Post-Election Report to Congress can be retrieved from http://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Reports/2012report.pdf, and the survey instrument can be retrieved from http://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Surveys/2012adm.pdf

3 UOCAVA status was determined based on whether respondents indicated that they were 50 or more miles from their place of voting residence during the 2012 general election.

4 The Federal Voting Assistance Program (2012). 2012 Post-Election Voting Survey of Active Duty Military Spouses can be retrieved from http://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Surveys/2012admssummary.pdf

5 The specific wording is: "In the election held on November 6, 2012, did you definitely vote in person on election day, definitely complete an absentee ballot by mail, e-mail, fax, or online on or before November 6, 2012, definitely not vote, or are you not completely sure whether you voted in that election?"

It is well understood that certain demographic characteristics – such as age, education, and income – are associated with the likelihood of voting (Leighley & Nagler, 2013). Older, better-educated, and higher-income people tend to vote more often than younger, less-educated, lower-income individuals. The analysis that follows examines the differences between married and unmarried ADM, taking into account the variations that naturally exist across key demographic groups, including the respondent's age, sex, education, race and ethnicity, continuous years of service, whether the respondent is Active Duty or a Reservist, whether the respondent has been in combat operations or changed duty stations in the last year, and the competitiveness of the State where the respondent voted.[6]

Based on the research on marriage and voting, it is expected that the differences in the likelihood of voting between married and unmarried ADM will be larger for overseas ADM than for domestic ADM. This is because unmarried ADM may have fewer friends or acquaintances who can help them access election information, compared with domestic unmarried ADM. By contrast, married ADM may be able to receive voting information from the spouse regardless of whether the ADM is located overseas or domestically. Consequently, this analysis examines whether overseas married ADM are more likely to receive voting information from friends and family than overseas unmarried ADM, and how voting behavior differs between married and unmarried ADM both overseas and domestically.

Results

Overseas Married ADM Are More Likely to Vote

Results for the analysis of ADM voting are presented in Table 2 (see Appendix). The results show that the differences in voting rates between married and unmarried ADM are positive and larger for overseas ADM than for domestic ADM. For domestic ADM, there is no clear difference in the likelihood of voting based on being married or unmarried. However, for overseas ADM, those who are married are approximately 10 percentage points more likely to vote than those who are unmarried. One possible explanation for this is the idea that overseas married ADM benefit from having a spouse who compensates for a lack of access to other sources of election information.

Consistent with previous research, voting likelihood increases with age, education, and pay grade. However, changing duty stations does not present the same barrier to voter participation as a change of residence does in the civilian population. Sex and number of children were not significant predictors of voting likelihood when controlling for other variables. Of the three military-specific variables, only Reserve status was significant, and was associated with an increased likelihood of voting over non-Reservists. ADM in States with more permissive electronic voting laws and more competitive elections were also more likely to vote.

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6 In order to take these differences into account in our analyses, each of the questions above was tested using a linear probability model (ordinary least squares regression) that allows for the estimation of the difference between marriage and our voting behavior for both domestic and overseas ADM, while holding other characteristics constant. TSee the appendix for definitions of these control variables. While our dependent variable is dichotomous, for our primary resuts. we estimated a linear voting model using Ordinary Least Squares (OLS). Our parameter of interest is the percentage point difference in the probability of voting or voting rates between similar married and unmarried ADM. OLS has been shown in simulation studies to provide similar estimates of such marginal effects similar to those obtained with logit even when the true data generating process is a logistic model (Bech, 2015). he results were qualitatively similar when using logistic regression.

7 Unlike the regression results in Table 1 (see Appendix), these estimated voting rates do not hold the control variables constant. However, the results are qualitatively similar to the regression results.

The results from Table 2 can be seen graphically in Figure 1A, which shows voting rates for registered UOCAVA ADM by marriage and overseas status.[7] The gap between married and unmarried ADM is much larger for overseas ADM; in fact, overseas married ADM are only slightly less likely to vote than domestic married ADM.

FIGURE 1A: AVERAGE PREDICTED VOTING RATES (FOR REGISTERED ADM), BY MARRIAGE AND OVERSEAS STATUS
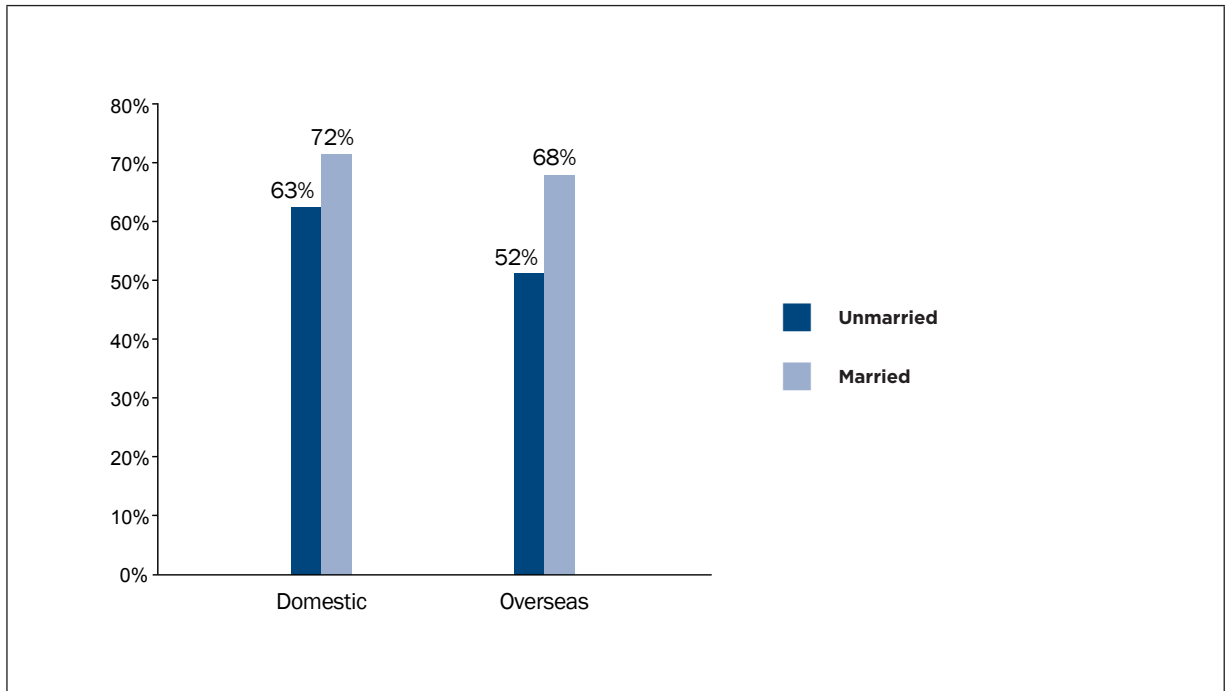
Note: Model-predicted voting rates are the average of the predicted probability of voting for individual respondents by marriage-overseas strata. The individual predictions are weighted by non-response and post-stratification weights so that the demographics of the sample more closely match those of the population.

Importance of Family and Friends

The results in Table 2 show that overseas married ADM are more likely to vote than overseas unmarried ADM. In order to test whether a spouse is important in obtaining information about voting, FVAP examined the response to the question in the PEV Survey concerning whether respondents received voting information from "family or friends."

Table 3 (see Appendix) presents data related to whether a respondent answered "yes" when asked whether he or she received voting information from "family or friends." Domestic unmarried ADM, who have access to their social network, have a higher probability of receiving voting information from family and friends than both domestic married ADM and overseas unmarried ADM. Domestic married ADM were slightly less likely than domestic unmarried ADM to have received voting information from family or friends (3 percentage points). Overseas unmarried ADM were substantially less likely than domestic unmarried ADM to have received voting information from family or friends (16.5 percentage points). However, overseas married ADM were 10.5

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8 The interaction effect of being married and overseas is 13.8; subtracting 3.3, the negative effect of marriage, gives the 10.5 result.

percentage points more likely than overseas unmarried ADM to have received voting information from family and friends, which indicates that spouses are the most likely source of this information.[8] This provides evidence that spouses have an effect on overseas ADM voting because they provide voting information, however the effect could also be a result of the social expectations that a spouse expresses regarding the importance of voting.

The results from Table 3 can be seen graphically in Figure 1B, which shows that a substantially lower percentage of overseas unmarried ADM obtained information from a friend or family member, and similar proportions of overseas and domestic married ADM obtained information from friends or family.

FIGURE 1B: AVERAGE PREDICTED RATE OF REGISTERED ADM RECEIVING VOTING INFORMATION FROM FRIENDS/FAMILY, BY MARRIAGE AND OVERSEAS STATUS
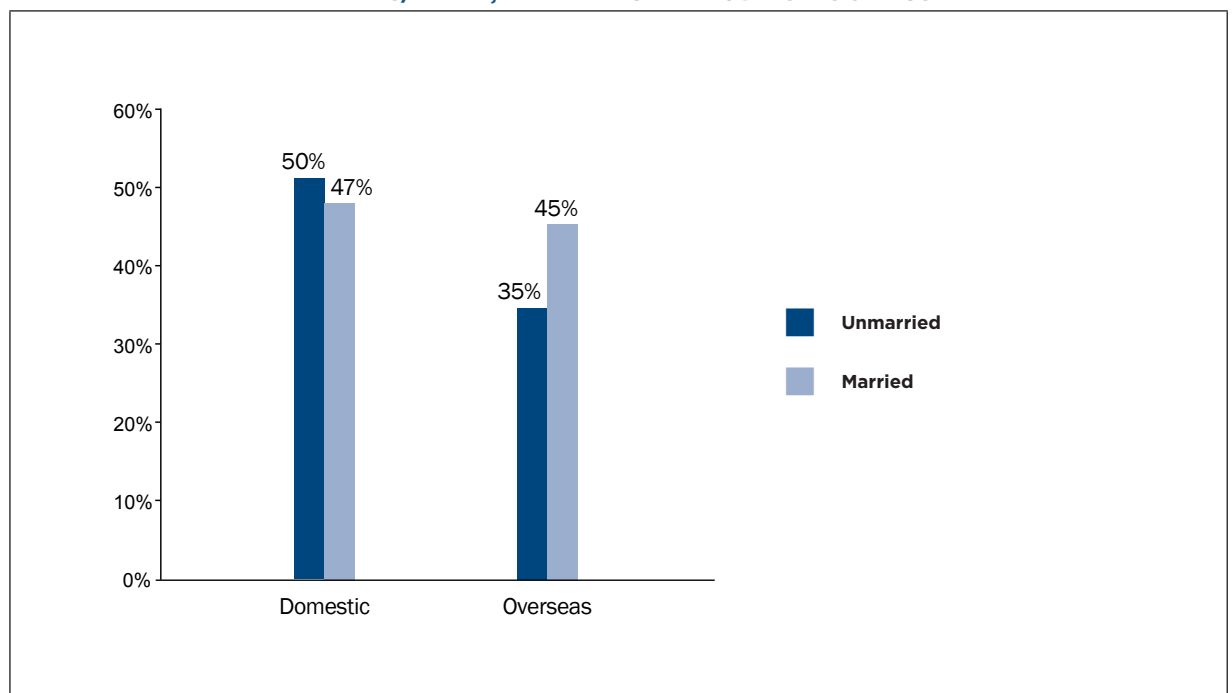
Note: Model-predicted percentage of registered ADM who received voting information from friends or family are the average of the predicted probability of received voting information from friends or family for individual respondents by marriage-overseas strata. The individual predictions are weighted by non-response and post-stratification weights so that the demographics of the sample more closely match those of the population.

Marriage and the Use of DoD/FVAP Voting Assistance Resources

In Tables 3 through 5 (see Appendix), we consider whether marriage affects the use of DoD resources – FVAP's website, IVA Offices, and UVAOs. In Table 3, we see that overseas ADM are most likely to use the FVAP website, but there is no difference in use between married and unmarried ADM. In Tables 4 and 5, we see that overseas ADM use the UVAO more than domestic ADM; marriage does not have an effect on use of a UVAO or IVA Office. The lack of evidence for a relationship between being married and the use of DoD resources is consistent with the findings from the 2012 Post-Election Voting Survey of Active Duty Military Spouses, which found that 90% of spouses did not use the FVAP website, and that of those non-users, 49% were not aware of or did not have access to the website.[9]

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9   Federal Voting Assistance Program (2012). 2012 Post-Election Survey Report to Congress.

Policy Recommendations

Several conclusions come from our analysis:

- Spouses can have a strong direct influence on the ADM's probability of receiving voting information as well as the probability of voting. This would suggest that information about voting resources provided to spouses may reach the ADM.
- Although unmarried ADM do not have access to information from a spouse, they likely do obtain information from other social contacts. Gathering more information about their social networks may assist FVAP in marketing its services to all ADM, especially those who are unmarried.
- The data presents little evidence that spouses influence ADM voting through increased utilization of DoD/FVAP resources. This may indicate that spouses are unaware of these resources, and thus a marketing campaign targeting spouses could positively affect ADM voting.

Although these results are consistent with FVAP's hypotheses, the analysis reported in this research note relied on a number of assumptions. Future research into the effect of being married on ADM voting would benefit from using the PEV Survey to solicit more detailed information about the social networks of ADM and what role, if any, their friends, family, and acquaintances played in their voting process.

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Appendix

One potential problem with drawing conclusions about the direct effect of the spouse on married ADM voting by comparing voting behavior of overseas married and unmarried ADM is that there could be differences in the locations where overseas married and unmarried ADM are located. If married ADM tend to be located in countries that are geographically proximate to the United States and have well-developed infrastructure (perhaps to facilitate family co-location), and unmarried ADM are located in more distant and less developed locales, overseas married ADM may find it easier to vote based on their location. To determine if differences exist between where married and unmarried ADM are located, a linear regression model was tested where the dependent variable is whether the ADM is married or unmarried. The three key variables in this model are the distance of the ADM's host country from the United States, the country's composite Worldwide Governance Indicators (a proxy for the quality of the host country's infrastructure), and whether the ADM was involved in combat operations (a proxy for being in a location with a high level of conflict. On the whole, the results (see Table 1) show little evidence of asymmetry in the geographic distribution of married and unmarried ADM, with the exception of distance.

TABLE 1: CORRELATES OF MARRIAGE FOR OVERSEAS ADM (*N* = 960)

VARIABLE		COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE LOWER BOUND	95% CONFIDENCE UPPER BOUND
DISTANCE FROM U.S.	Quartile 2	-0.042*	0.019	-0.080	-0.004
	Quartile 3	0.015	0.057	-0.099	0.129
	Quartile 4	0.076	0.065	-0.054	0.206
WORLDWIDE GOVERNANCE INDICATORS	Quartile 2	0.071	0.083	-0.096	0.237
	Quartile 3	0.037	0.043	-0.050	0.124
	Quartile 4	0.088	0.062	-0.036	0.213
STATE VARIABLES	State Electronic Ballot Return Laws	-0.001	0.124	-0.250	0.249
	Absolute Difference in Two-Party Vote in State, 2008	0.171	0.086	-0.001	0.344
MILITARY VARIABLES	Is in the Reserves	0.455***	0.027	0.401	0.510
	In Combat Operations	-0.031	0.033	-0.098	0.036
	Changed Duty Stations	-0.044	0.031	-0.106	0.017
PAY GRADES	E6-E9	-0.043	0.027	-0.097	0.011
	W1-W5	-0.015	0.056	-0.127	0.096
	01-03	0.020	0.043	-0.066	0.107
	04-06	0.063	0.056	-0.050	0.176
CONTINUOUS YEARS OF SERVICE	1-5 years	0.124***	0.034	0.056	0.192
	6-8 years	0.192**	0.065	0.062	0.323
	9-11 years	0.145**	0.050	0.044	0.245
	12-16 years	0.191***	0.042	0.108	0.275
	17+ years	0.229***	0.043	0.142	0.315
DEMOGRAPHICS	Male	0.132	0.077	-0.022	0.285
	Has Children	0.016	0.066	-0.116	0.149
RACE/ ETHNICITY	Black	-0.037	0.024	-0.086	0.012
	Hispanic	0.041	0.044	-0.046	0.129
	Other Race	-0.037	0.040	-0.118	0.044
EDUCATION	Some College	0.005	0.040	-0.076	0.086
	4-Year Degree	-0.018	0.041	-0.101	0.065
	Grad. Degree	-0.043	0.044	-0.130	0.044
AGE RANGE	25-29	0.155**	0.051	0.053	0.257
	30-34	0.186***	0.027	0.132	0.240
	35-44	0.176***	0.028	0.119	0.232
	45 or Older	0.213***	0.039	0.134	0.292

Note: Dependent variable is whether a respondent is married. Robust standard errors are clustered by country (55 countries). Wald tests of the Distance and Worldwide Governance Indicators indicate that they are statistically insignificantly different from 0 ($p = 0.0203$ and $p = 0.5386$, respectively). Region effects are controlled for but not presented.

ADM variable descriptions and coding

The specific variables used in the model for the 2012 ADM models are listed below. [10]

- Absolute Difference in Two-Party Vote in State, 2008 (absolute difference in the 2008 two-party vote share in a respondent's State)
- Age (1 is 18-24, 2 is 25-29, 3 is 30-34, 4 is 35-44, 5 is older than 45)
- Changed Duty Stations (1 if changed duty station in 12 months before election, 0 if not)
- Children (1 if respondent has children, 0 if not)
- Combat Operations (1 if respondent involved in combat operations in two months before election, 0 if not)
- Continuous Years of Service (1 for less than a year, 2 for 1-5 years, 3 for 6 to 8 years, 4 for 9-11 years, 5 for 12-16 years, 6 for 17+ years)
- Distance from U.S. (distance of respondent host country from the United States, by quartile (e.g., quartile 1 indicates residence in one of the closest 25% of countries, quartile 4 indicates residence in one of the furthest 25% of countries)
- Education (1 if less than high school or unknown, 2 if some college or associate degree, 3 if 4-year degree in college, 4 if graduate/professional degree)
- FVAP website (1 if respondent utilized FVAP website in lead-up to 2012 election, 0 if not)
- In Reserves (1 if respondent in Reserve service, 0 if not)
- IVA Office (1 if respondent utilized IVA Office in lead-up to 2012 election, 0 if not)
- State Electronic Ballot Policies (mean ranging from 1 if State allows all indicators to 0 if State allows none for the following: ballot requests by email, ballot requests by fax, ballot requests by State voting website, transmission of ballots by email, transmission of ballots by fax, transmission of ballots by State voting website, receives ballots by fax, receives ballots by email, receives ballots by State website)
- Male (1 for males, 0 for females)
- Married (1 if respondent married, 0 if not)
- Overseas (1 if respondent located overseas, 0 if not)
- Pay Grade (1 for E1-E5, 2 for E6–E9, 3 for W1-W5, 4 for O1-O3, 5 for O4-O6)
- Race/Ethnicity (1 for non-minority, 2 for non-Hispanic Black, 3 for Hispanic, 4 for all others)
- Received Voting Information from Family or Friends (1 if stated received voting information from family or friend, 0 if not)
- Region (Region of U.S. containing respondent's legal residence)
- UVAO (1 if respondent utilized UVAO in lead-up to 2012 election, 0 if not)
- Voted (1 if stated voted in 2012, 0 if did not vote)[11]
- Worldwide Governance Indicators (composite indicators of the quality of governance produced by the World Bank, by quartile (e.g. quartile 1 indicates residence in one of the 25% least well-governed countries, quartile 4 indicates residence in one of the 25% most well-governed countries)

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10 When possible, administrative data with information about the entire sampling frame was used rather than variables reliant on individual survey responses. The specific variables used were: voted, famstat, RSV_CATG, MARRIED, CHILDREN, RESERVE, changeduty, csex, CRACE_ETH, .XCPAY2, CYOS, ceduc, AGE_%, ballotpolicies, votedifference, i.legalresr

11 In the analyses used in FVAP's 2012 and 2014 reports to Congress, respondents who reported being unsure about voting were included with non-voters; in this analysis as well as that undertaken in the previous research note, such respondents were not included in the samples for either the CVAP or ADM population. This was done because the theory used to justify the included co-variates addresses the distinctions between voters and nonvoters, but has little to say about the distinction between known voters and those who are unsure about whether they voted or did not respond to the survey. As discussed by Hur and Achen (2013), this coding also complicates the comparison of participation rates over time.

TABLE 2: VOTING MODEL (*N* = 5,276)

VARIABLE		COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE LOWER BOUND	95% CONFIDENCE UPPER BOUND
Baseline (Constant)		0.452***	0.054	0.344	0.561
Married		0.010	0.017	-0.025	0.045
Located Overseas		-0.112***	0.031	-0.175	-0.049
Married and Located Overseas		0.086*	0.041	0.004	0.168
STATE VARIABLES	State Electronic Ballot Return Laws	0.149**	0.053	0.043	0.254
	Absolute Difference in Two-Party Vote in State, 2008	-0.169	0.086	-0.341	0.003
MILITARY VARIABLES	In Reserves	0.044*	0.019	0.006	0.082
	Changed Duty Stations	-0.012	0.011	-0.034	0.011
PAY GRADES	E6-E9	0.089***	0.024	0.041	0.137
	W1-W5	0.155***	0.029	0.096	0.215
	O1-O3	0.144***	0.019	0.106	0.182
	O4-O6	0.151***	0.025	0.100	0.202
CONTINUOUS YEARS OF SERVICE	1-5 years	0.028	0.024	-0.021	0.077
	6-8 years	0.037	0.029	-0.022	0.096
	9-11 years	0.019	0.030	-0.041	0.080
	12-16 years	0.013	0.030	-0.047	0.073
	17+ years	0.042	0.036	-0.030	0.115
DEMOGRAPHICS	Male	-0.018	0.015	-0.049	0.013
	Has Children	-0.029	0.022	-0.073	0.015
RACE/ ETHNICITY	Black	0.045**	0.014	0.018	0.073
	Hispanic	-0.013	0.019	-0.050	0.024
	All Other Race	0.039	0.028	-0.017	0.095
EDUCATION	Some College	0.069***	0.013	0.042	0.096
	College Graduate	0.077***	0.021	0.035	0.120
	Graduate Degree	0.104***	0.020	0.065	0.143
AGE CATEGORIES	25-29	0.085***	0.020	0.044	0.126
	30-34	0.109***	0.030	0.050	0.168
	35-44	0.134***	0.028	0.078	0.191
	45+	0.158***	0.029	0.099	0.217

Dependent variable is whether the respondent voted. Robust standard errors are clustered by state (50 states and the District of Columbia). Region effects are controlled for but not presented. *$p<.05$. **$p<.01$. ***$p<.001$.

TABLE 3: SOURCE OF VOTING INFORMATION MODEL (N = 5,276)

VARIABLE		COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE LOWER BOUND	95% CONFIDENCE UPPER BOUND
Baseline (Constant)		0.621***	0.048	0.524	0.718
Married		-0.033*	0.015	-0.062	-0.004
Located Overseas		-0.165***	0.029	-0.223	-0.107
Married and Stationed Overseas		0.138***	0.035	0.067	0.209
STATE VARIABLES	State Electronic Ballot Return Laws	0.096	0.072	-0.049	0.242
	Absolute Difference in Two-Party Vote in State, 2008	-0.100	0.101	-0.303	0.102
MILITARY VARIABLES	In Reserves	-0.040	0.020	-0.081	0.000
	Changed Duty Stations	0.008	0.011	-0.013	0.029
PAY GRADES	E6-E9	0.018	0.026	-0.034	0.070
	W1-W5	0.008	0.040	-0.071	0.087
	O1-O3	0.065*	0.026	0.013	0.117
	O4-O6	0.061	0.034	-0.008	0.129
CONTINUOUS YEARS OF SERVICE	1-5 years	-0.003	0.028	-0.060	0.054
	6-8 years	-0.082*	0.033	-0.148	-0.015
	9-11 years	-0.077	0.039	-0.155	0.001
	12-16 years	-0.019	0.043	-0.106	0.067
	17+ years	-0.060	0.041	-0.142	0.022
DEMOGRAPHICS	Male	-0.085***	0.019	-0.123	-0.046
	Has Children	0.045**	0.016	0.014	0.076
RACE/ ETHNICITY	Black	0.055**	0.017	0.020	0.090
	Hispanic	-0.040	0.022	-0.084	0.005
	All Other Race	0.021	0.028	-0.035	0.077
EDUCATION	Some College	0.017	0.018	-0.019	0.053
	College Graduate	0.050	0.030	-0.009	0.110
	Graduate Degree	0.008	0.041	-0.074	0.091
AGE CATEGORIES	25-29	0.006	0.024	-0.042	0.054
	30-34	-0.010	0.027	-0.064	0.044
	35-44	-0.004	0.030	-0.064	0.056
	45+	-0.011	0.031	-0.073	0.051

Dependent variable is whether the respondent received voting information from family or friends. Robust standard errors are clustered by state (50 states and the District of Columbia). Region effects are controlled for but not presented.
*p < .05. **p < .01. ***p < .001.

TABLE 4: USE OF THE FVAP WEBSITE (*N* = 5,276)

VARIABLE		COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE LOWER BOUND	95% CONFIDENCE UPPER BOUND
Baseline (Constant)		0.313***	0.076	0.160	0.467
Married		-0.012	0.015	-0.042	0.018
Located Overseas		0.089**	0.028	0.034	0.144
Married and Located Overseas		0.032	0.034	-0.035	0.100
STATE VARIABLES	State Electronic Ballot Return Laws	-0.070	0.069	-0.209	0.070
	Absolute Difference in Two-Party Vote in State, 2008	-0.078	0.128	-0.335	0.179
MILITARY VARIABLES	In Reserves	-0.039	0.030	-0.100	0.022
	Changed Duty Stations	0.010	0.012	-0.014	0.033
PAY GRADES	E6-E9	0.086***	0.023	0.040	0.131
	W1-W5	0.091	0.054	-0.018	0.200
	O1-O3	0.121***	0.021	0.079	0.162
	O4-O6	0.068**	0.027	0.013	0.122
CONTINUOUS YEARS OF SERVICE	1-5 years	0.060*	0.030	0.001	0.120
	6-8 years	0.135***	0.036	0.061	0.208
	9-11 years	0.126**	0.040	0.047	0.206
	12-16 years	0.128**	0.047	0.034	0.222
	17+ years	0.162***	0.044	0.073	0.250
DEMOGRAPHICS	Male	-0.051**	0.016	-0.083	-0.019
	Has Children	0.040**	0.015	0.010	0.071
RACE/ ETHNICITY	Black	0.032	0.025	-0.018	0.083
	Hispanic	0.006	0.017	-0.029	0.041
	All Other Race	0.051	0.026	-0.001	0.103
EDUCATION	Some College	0.035	0.030	-0.025	0.095
	College Graduate	0.048*	0.022	0.003	0.093
	Graduate Degree	0.055	0.034	-0.014	0.124
AGE CATEGORIES	25-29	0.004	0.026	-0.048	0.056
	30-34	-0.007	0.023	-0.053	0.040
	35-44	-0.055*	0.028	-0.111	0.000
	45+	-0.081*	0.035	-0.151	-0.011

Dependent variable is whether the respondent used the FVAP website prior to the 2012 election. Robust standard errors are clustered by state (50 states and the District of Columbia). Region effects are controlled for but not presented.
*$p < .05$. **$p < .01$. ***$p < .001$.

TABLE 5: USE OF UVAOS (*N* = 5,276)

VARIABLE		COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE LOWER BOUND	95% CONFIDENCE UPPER BOUND
Baseline (Constant)		0.303***	0.055	0.192	0.413
Married		0.028	0.022	-0.017	0.072
Located Overseas		0.094*	0.041	0.012	0.176
Married and Located Overseas		-0.048	0.046	-0.141	0.045
STATE VARIABLES	State Electronic Ballot Return Laws	-0.041	0.071	-0.183	0.101
	Absolute Difference in Two-Party Vote in State, 2008	0.141	0.104	-0.068	0.350
MILITARY VARIABLES	In Reserves	-0.051*	0.022	-0.095	-0.008
	Changed Duty Stations	0.032*	0.015	-0.062	-0.002
PAY GRADES	E6-E9	0.036	0.025	-0.014	0.086
	W1-W5	0.013	0.061	-0.110	0.136
	O1-O3	0.099***	0.021	0.057	0.142
	O4-O6	0.049	0.039	-0.028	0.126
CONTINUOUS YEARS OF SERVICE	1-5 years	0.072**	0.026	0.020	0.124
	6-8 years	0.143***	0.026	0.091	0.196
	9-11 years	0.190***	0.031	0.128	0.253
	12-16 years	0.245***	0.036	0.173	0.317
	17+ years	0.296***	0.044	0.208	0.384
DEMOGRAPHICS	Male	0.023	0.018	-0.012	0.059
	Has Children	0.002	0.016	-0.030	0.034
RACE/ ETHNICITY	Black	-0.004	0.029	-0.062	0.054
	Hispanic	0.004	0.019	-0.034	0.042
	All Other Race	-0.010	0.024	-0.058	0.038
EDUCATION	Some College	0.055*	0.021	0.012	0.098
	College Graduate	0.061**	0.021	0.019	0.103
	Graduate Degree	0.076**	0.027	0.022	0.131
AGE CATEGORIES	25-29	-0.032	0.020	-0.071	0.008
	30-34	-0.034	0.027	-0.088	0.019
	35-44	-0.085**	0.027	-0.140	-0.029
	45+	-0.101**	0.036	-0.174	-0.028

Dependent variable is whether the respondent used the UVAO prior to the 2012 election. Robust standard errors are clustered by state (50 states and the District of Columbia). Region effects are controlled for but not presented.
*p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001.

TABLE 6: USE OF IVA OFFICES (*N* = 5,276)

VARIABLE		COEFFICIENT	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE LOWER BOUND	95% CONFIDENCE UPPER BOUND
Baseline (Constant)		0.093*	0.041	0.011	0.176
Married		0.012	0.015	-0.018	0.042
Located Overseas		0.047	0.034	-0.022	0.116
Married and Located Overseas		0.003	0.038	-0.074	0.080
STATE VARIABLES	State Electronic Ballot Return Laws	0.027	0.049	-0.072	0.125
	Absolute Difference in Two-Party Vote in State, 2008	0.059	0.061	-0.063	0.182
MILITARY VARIABLES	In Reserves	-0.040	0.023	-0.087	0.007
	Changed Duty Stations	-0.022	0.014	-0.051	0.006
PAY GRADES	E6-E9	0.020	0.018	-0.016	0.056
	W1-W5	-0.001	0.035	-0.070	0.069
	O1-O3	0.014	0.022	-0.029	0.058
	O4-O6	-0.007	0.030	-0.067	0.053
CONTINUOUS YEARS OF SERVICE	1-5 years	0.038	0.021	-0.004	0.081
	6-8 years	0.045	0.029	-0.013	0.102
	9-11 years	0.079**	0.027	0.024	0.134
	12-16 years	0.105***	0.025	0.054	0.155
	17+ years	0.153***	0.030	0.092	0.213
DEMOGRAPHICS	Male	0.006	0.011	-0.017	0.029
	Has Children	-0.015	0.015	-0.045	0.014
RACE/ ETHNICITY	Black	0.033	0.019	-0.005	0.071
	Hispanic	0.061*	0.026	0.010	0.113
	All Other Race	0.028	0.020	-0.012	0.068
EDUCATION	Some College	0.008	0.022	-0.036	0.053
	College Graduate	0.028	0.017	-0.007	0.062
	Graduate Degree	0.016	0.024	-0.031	0.064
AGE CATEGORIES	25-29	0.000	0.027	-0.053	0.054
	30-34	-0.004	0.028	-0.060	0.051
	35-44	0.009	0.025	-0.042	0.059
	45+	0.042	0.031	-0.020	0.104

Dependent variable is whether the respondent used the IVA Office prior to the 2012 general election. Robust standard errors are clustered by state (50 states and the District of Columbia). Region effects are controlled for but not presented.
*p < .05. **p < .01. ***p < .001.