2020 Overseas Citizen Population Analysis Report

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FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

The Overseas Citizen Population Analysis (OCPA) is an effort sponsored by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) to learn more about the U.S. overseas citizen population and the ways in which they navigate the voting process.[1] FVAP is statutorily mandated to report on the registration and voting activities of the populations it serves—including U.S. citizens living overseas—after each general election. A four-step process is used to better understand this population:

1. Estimate the participation rate of the Overseas Citizen Voting Age Population (OCVAP) in the 2020 General Election;
2. Compare the level of participation to that of the voting age population living in the United States;
3. Determine the degree to which estimated difference in participation between the two populations is due to voting obstacles unique to the OCVAP; and
4. Assess the extent to which policies designed to mitigate these obstacles are successful.

Overseas Citizens Citizens of the United States who are living or located in another country.

Overseas Citizen Voting Age Population (OCVAP) The subset of overseas citizens who are at least 18 years of age. This constitutes the voting-eligible population for the purposes of this study.

Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) The corresponding population of voting age individuals living within the United States. This group serves as a comparison point for the OCVAP.

Participation Rate The fraction of the voting age population that submitted a ballot and had a vote recorded within state vote history records.

Estimating the voting participation rate of the OCVAP is difficult because the nature of living abroad makes it hard to know how many overseas citizens there are, where they are located, and the number that are eligible to vote. Estimates produced by host country statistical agencies for the total number of U.S. born or U.S. citizen population are available from some countries for some years, but comprehensive estimates for any given election year are generally unavailable and information on the more relevant subpopulation of U.S. citizens who are voting age is even harder to obtain. The OCPA addresses this problem by using a statistical model averaging methodology to estimate the number of OCVAP individuals and their distribution across countries. This model has been used to generate estimates for 186 countries for each year in the period of 2000–2018. The most recent population estimates are the ones reported in the 2018 OCPA. There are no new estimates reported in the 2020 OCPA because there was not enough available data to perform new estimates at the time this report was written.[2]

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[1] The OCPA was first conducted for the 2014 General Election and was released in February 2016. The report can be found here: https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Reports/FVAP-OCPA_201609_final.pdf
The report for the 2016 General Election, released September 2018, can be found at: https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Reports/FVAP-2016-OCPA-FINAL-Report.pdf

[2] The report for the 2018 General Election, released September 2018, can be found at: https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Reports/2018-Overseas-Citizen-Population-Analysis-Report.pdf

Using this method results in a 2018 estimate of approximately 2.9 million voting age citizens living abroad. At the same time, there were an estimated 135,507 votes attributed to individuals with non-U.S. addresses identified in state and local government absentee ballot records. This yields an estimated 2020 OCVAP voting rate of 7.8%, as compared to a 2020 General Election voting rate of approximately 79% for the CVAP—implying a substantial difference in participation between the CVAP and the OCVAP.

How much of this voting gap is due to systemic obstacles that are unique to the OCVAP, rather than individual factors such as differences in motivation? The answer lies, in part, in country-specific population estimates and vote totals derived from state and local absentee ballot request and voter files. In particular, by comparing the OCVAP voting rates between countries with different levels of international mailing-related obstacles to voting, the relationship between these obstacles and voting rates were estimated at the country level. These estimated relationships were used to generate a prediction for what the voting rate would have been without the OCVAP-specific obstacles for each country. These estimates are combined to create a predicted, obstacle-free OCVAP estimated participation rate of approximately 47.7%. The difference between the estimated predicted participation rate and the estimated actual OCVAP participation rate (39.9%) implies that over half of the estimated 70 percentage point voting gap between the CVAP and the OCVAP is due to obstacles to voting that are specific to the OCVAP.

The OCPA also relies heavily on data from the Overseas Citizen Population Survey (OCPS) to gain insight into how overseas citizens mitigate these obstacles—and thus how policy changes might help this group. The OCPS is conducted as a part of FVAP's analysis of the overseas citizen population and was distributed to overseas citizens who requested an absentee ballot for the 2020 General Election. The OCPS asks respondents to share the means by which they requested and returned their absentee ballots. Data from the OCPS is analyzed in conjunction with overseas population estimations to reveal geographic patterns in obstacles to voting and to help better understand how various policies can affect voting from around the world. Survey results are discussed below, and full cross-tabulations can be found in Volume 2.

Analysis of the OCPS data reveals that absentee ballot requesters who are located in countries where mail or geography make receiving a physical ballot challenging are more likely to receive and return their ballots electronically. These findings suggest that policies permitting electronic ballot receipt and return can overcome issues of international mailing reliability. However, this still does not reflect the majority of overseas voters' experiences; many absentee ballot requesters did not receive their ballot electronically, and only a minority of voters with the option to return their ballot electronically actually did so. This suggests that knowledge about electronic modes of absentee voting may be imperfect, and points to a potentially significant role that FVAP can play in reducing the voting gap.

2020 Overseas Citizen Population Analysis

Volume 1: Population and Participation Estimates and Features of Overseas Ballot Requesters

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OVERSEAS CITIZEN POPULATION ESTIMATES

The estimates for the size of the OCVAP are derived using a model-averaging approach based on[3]

- Foreign government estimates (FGEs), or total counts of U.S. citizens living in non-U.S. countries produced by the country's government, typically available in 5- or 10-year increments for the period 2000–2018; and
- U.S. administrative records and other data sources on subpopulations of U.S. citizens overseas.

These FGEs are modeled as functions of different features of the country or FGE, including:

- which population was counted (e.g., U.S.-born versus U.S. citizens);
- how the population was counted (e.g., a census or a migrant registry);
- counts of particular subpopulations of U.S. citizens residing in the country (e.g., those who have declared foreign income to the Internal Revenue Service [IRS] or receive social security benefits); and
- multiple sets of predictors of the size of the migrant population derived from the academic literature on migration (e.g., distance between the country and the United States and the country or trade between the United States and the country).

These models are used to generate predictions of the number of U.S. citizens (including individuals with dual citizenship) that the foreign government would have counted in 2018 had it used a census.

For each region, predictions across models are averaged for each country to arrive at the final estimate of the size of the population of U.S. citizens residing in the country. A similar methodology is used to generate estimates of the fraction of the total population that is of voting age. Summing the resulting estimates of the CVAP for each country produces an estimate of the total 2018 OCVAP.[4]

[3] Modeled estimates are used instead of government census and registry estimates because (1) the latter are not available for every country in 2018; (2) the latter may count U.S. born rather than U.S. citizens; and (3) among those which do count U.S. citizens, it is unclear whether they count dual citizens. See Chapter 1 of OCPA Volume 3 for more information about modeling methodology.

[4] More detailed information about the methodology used to produce this estimate, as well as validation of the estimate, is presented in Chapter 1 of Volume 3. See Chapter 2 of OCPA Volume 3 for comparisons to World Bank and State Department population estimates.

The Total Overseas Citizen Population

There were an estimated 4.8 million U.S. citizens living overseas in 2018. This represents an increase of slightly less than 1 million (23%) since 2010.[5] These citizens are distributed across 186 countries, with the largest populations in Europe and the Western Hemisphere, including Canada. The greatest U.S. citizen population growth since 2010 has been in Oceania, which had an estimated U.S. citizen population increase of 39% from 2010 to 2018. The U.S. citizen population in Europe also increased substantially, with the 2018 population estimated to be about 27% larger than in 2010.

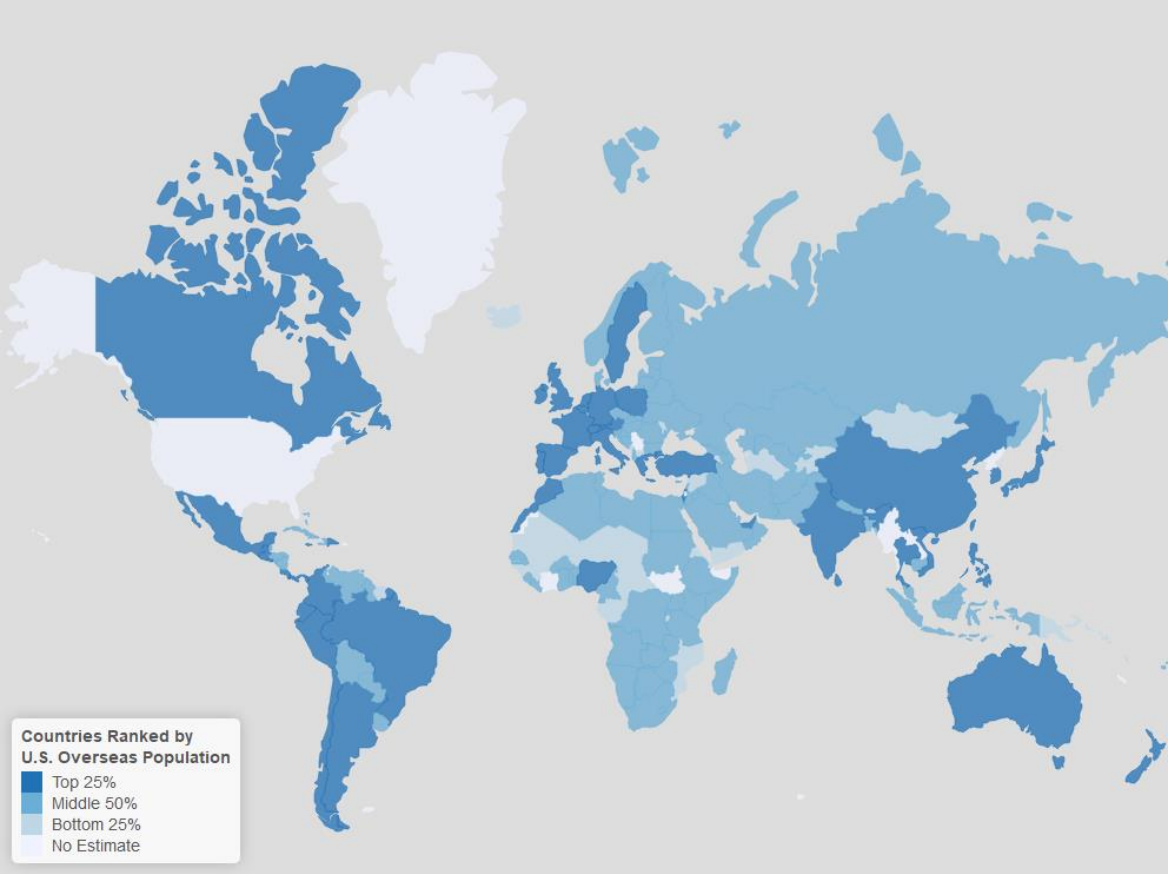
Table 1. Total Overseas Citizen Population, by Region

Region	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	% Change, 2010–2018
North America	1,195,770	1,251,683	1,284,478	1,395,053	1,447,712	21%
South/Central America / Caribbean	530,000	567,893	583,375	570,422	590,187	11%
Europe	1,042,781	1,104,502	1,173,681	1,237,040	1,322,113	27%
Sub-Saharan Africa	91,406	100,379	99,416	102,432	113,747	24%
Middle East / North Africa	286,936	306,028	322,139	332,925	362,531	26%
North/Central/South Asia	116,270	117,961	119,439	125,279	123,653	6%
East Asia	368,401	413,410	430,522	447,725	466,212	27%
South East Asia	120,737	128,759	134,292	143,789	149,402	24%
Oceania	147,348	164,914	175,156	188,549	204,372	39%
Total	**3,899,649**	**4,155,529**	**4,322,498**	**4,543,214**	**4,779,929**	**23%**

[5] Totals from 2010–2016 will differ from those reported in previous OCPA reports due to (1) estimates having been generated for more countries (186 in 2018 versus 170 in 2016) and (2) lower average estimates, a result of differences in data used to fit the model. See Chapter 2 in OCPA Volume 3 for more information about differences between the 2014, 2016, and 2018 estimates.

Figure 1 shows the estimated 2018 overseas population by country. Mexico, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and Israel have the largest total populations of overseas citizens. By far the largest populations were in countries that share a border with the United States—Canada had an estimated population of more than 861,000 U.S. citizens in 2018, followed by Mexico, with an overseas citizen population of about 587,000. The next largest population was found in the United Kingdom, which was estimated to have about 391,000 U.S. citizens in 2018. France and Israel had estimated populations of about 248,000 and 205,000 U.S. citizens, respectively.

Figure 1. Total Overseas Citizen Population Estimates by Country, 2018



The OCVAP

Not every individual in the overseas citizen population is 18 years of age or older and thus old enough to vote. Of the estimated 4.8 million overseas citizens in 2018, about 2.9 million were of voting age. Table 2 shows the estimated OCVAP from 2010 to 2018.

Table 2. Total OCVAP by Region

Region	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	% Change, 2010–2018
North America	528,927	573,973	597,458	568,448	597,196	13%
South/Central America / Caribbean	242,729	266,444	269,779	251,777	262,858	8%
Europe	789,661	840,581	897,147	940,834	1,018,514	29%
Sub-Saharan Africa	52,885	60,740	62,404	64,624	72,500	37%
Middle East / North Africa	230,103	248,013	263,261	272,069	299,251	30%
North/Central/South Asia	54,000	53,819	52,635	55,311	52,120	-3%
East Asia	229,175	261,034	277,113	287,264	306,193	34%
South East Asia	60,751	67,893	72,263	77,828	82,127	35%
Oceania	121,651	137,305	148,345	160,026	174,829	44%
Total	**2,309,882**	**2,509,802**	**2,640,406**	**2,678,181**	**2,865,590**	**24%**

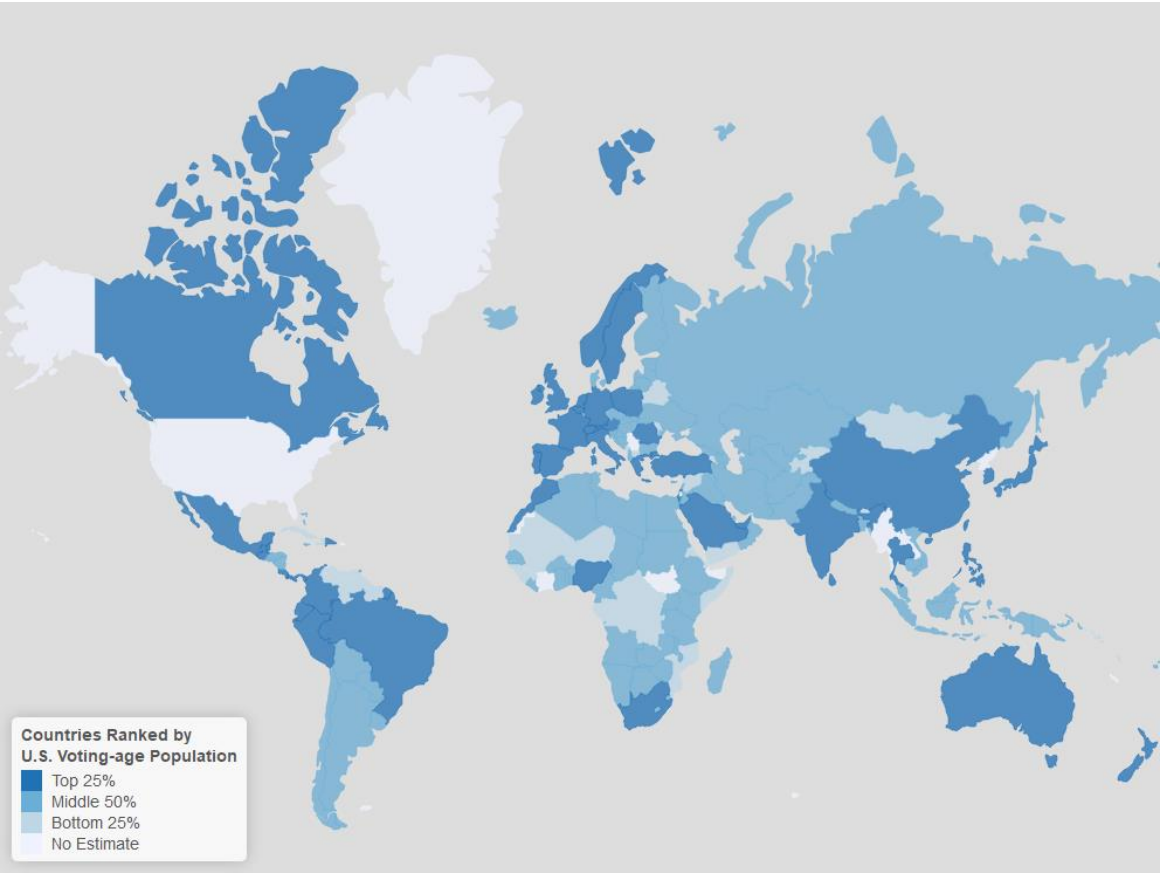
Demographic Characteristics of the OCVAP in 2018

- **Education:** The OCVAP is estimated to be highly educated compared to its domestic counterpart—67% of the OCVAP have obtained a bachelor's degree, compared to 32% of the CVAP.
- **Age:** The OCVAP skews younger than the CVAP. Nine percent are of retirement age (65+), compared to 21% domestically. The proportion who are working age (25–65) is 75%, compared to 68% of the CVAP.
- **Gender:** The overseas voting age population is more male (67%), compared to 49% of the CVAP.

The OCVAP grew at a similar rate to the total U.S. population in recent years; the total overseas citizen population grew by 23% between 2010 and 2018 and the OCVAP grew 24% over the same period. However, the age distribution of the overseas citizen population is not uniform across countries. Only about 42% of the estimated 124,000 U.S. citizens living in North/Central/South Asia are of voting age, as compared to nearly 86% of U.S. citizens in the Oceania region. Europe, the region with one of the largest total overseas citizen populations, has an estimated OCVAP of just over one million. This translates to about 77% of the overseas citizen population in Europe being of voting age. By contrast, only about 41% of the U.S. citizens living in North America, the region with the highest overseas citizen population, are of voting age.

Figure 2 shows the distribution of the estimated OCVAP in each country. Overall, the countries with the largest estimated overseas citizen populations are also among those with the largest estimated OCVAP. Despite having a relatively young overseas citizen population, Mexico is still among the countries with the largest OCVAP, with about 81,000 U.S. citizens 18 years or older.

Figure 2. Total OCVAP Estimates by Country, 2018



Knowing both the total population as well as its geographic distribution is important to policy assessments of federal laws like the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (*UOCAVA*) and the *Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act*, which were designed to assist these voters. Not only do overseas citizens face challenges when trying to cast their ballots, but these challenges are likely to vary with respect to geographic location, with individuals located in certain areas experiencing greater challenges than others. As seen in the next section, assessing the overseas ballot request and voting rates, particularly in comparison to CVAP participation rates, can help better identify where in the voting process challenges might occur.

2020 OVERSEAS CITIZEN BALLOT REQUEST AND VOTING RATES

In 2020, a total of 336,155 overseas citizens requested an official ballot from their local election officials (LEOs), as indicated by unique absentee ballot requests with an overseas address identified in administrative records (see Volume 3 for technical details). This represents an overall absentee ballot request rate of 11.7% among the OCVAP across the 186 countries for which population estimates were available. In total, an estimated 224,139 votes were cast by overseas citizens in the 2020 General Election, equivalent to an OCVAP voting rate of 7.8% worldwide. For comparison, Table 3 below highlights the trends in the OCVAP participation rate since 2014 by region.

Table 3. OCVAP Participation Rate by Region[6]

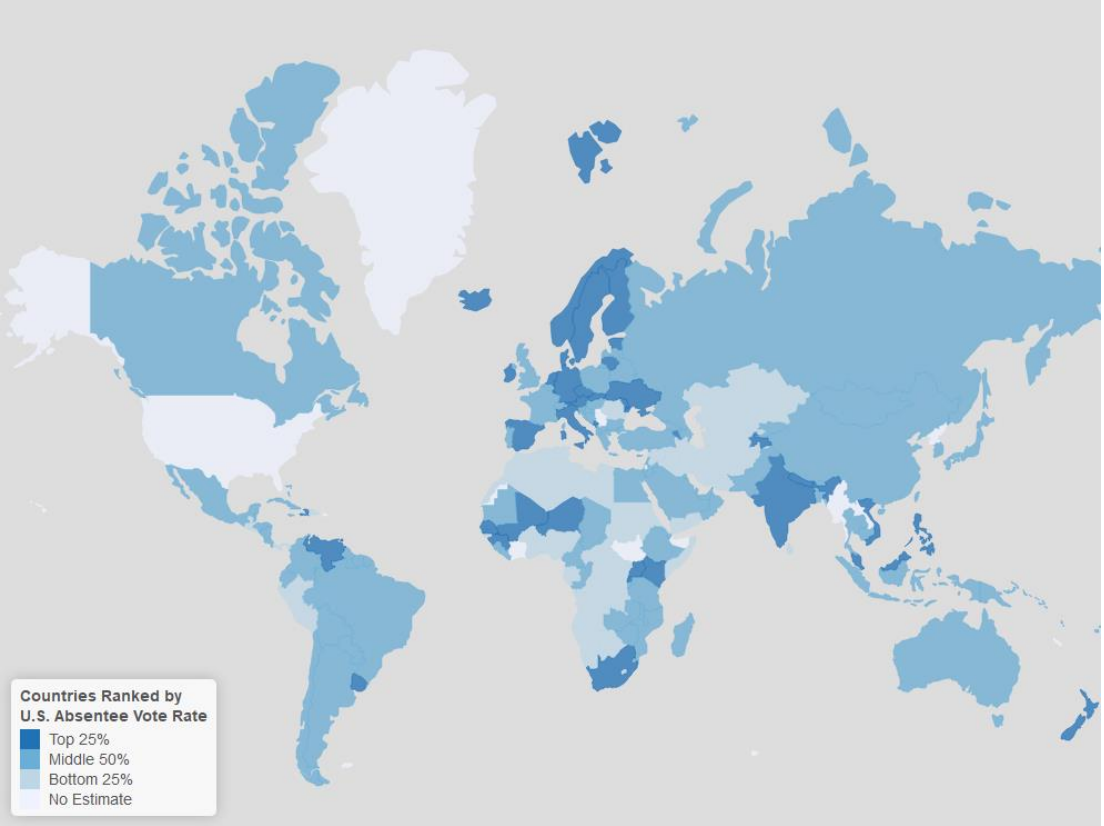
Region	2014	2016	2018	2020	% Change, 2014–2020
North America	3.0%	6.6%	4.5%	7.8%	17.3%
South/Central America / Caribbean	2.1%	4.4%	2.4%	4.2%	-4.0%
Europe	5.1%	10.8%	6.8%	10.4%	-4.3%
Sub-Saharan Africa	2.7%	6.3%	3.1%	4.8%	-23.1%
Middle East / North Africa	2.2%	4.8%	1.9%	4.8%	-0.2%
North/Central/South Asia	2.6%	6.4%	2.9%	6.0%	-6.2%
East Asia	2.4%	5.2%	3.1%	5.3%	0.9%
South East Asia	5.7%	10.4%	5.9%	10.3%	-1.4%
Oceania	3.8%	8.9%	5.1%	8.8%	-1.1%
Global	**3.6%**	**7.8%**	**4.7%**	**7.8%**	**0.4%**

The overseas ballot request rate was highest in South East Asia, where an estimated 15.6% of the OCVAP requested an absentee ballot. South East Asia had the second highest voting rate among regions, with about 10.3% of the OCVAP living in this region returning an absentee ballot for the 2018 General Election. The highest regional voting rate was in Europe, where about 10.4% of the estimated one million U.S. citizens of voting age who were living in these countries voted, according to administrative records. In 2020, the lowest voting rates were among overseas U.S. citizens in South/Central America/the Caribbean. In these countries, just 4.2% voted in the 2018 General Election.

[6] These estimates incorporate updates to the size of the OCVAP in 2014 and 2016, and thus will not be consistent with 2014 and 2016 rates reported in prior OCPA reports.

Table 4. Overseas Absentee Ballot Request and Voting Rates, Overall and by Region					
Region	Ballot Requesters	Ballot Request Rate	Votes Recorded	Voting Rate	CVAP Voting Rate Gap
North America	63, 116	10.6%	46, 456	7.8%	71.4%
South/Central America / Caribbean	20, 466	77.8%	11, 063	4.2%	75.0%
Europe	157, 959	15.5%	105, 499	10.4%	68.9%
Sub-Saharan Africa	5, 363	7. 4%	3, 5092	44.8%	74.4%
Middle East / North Africa	26, 427	8.8%	14, 465	4.8%	74.4%
North/Central/South Asia	4, 914	9. 4%	3, 121	6.0%	73.2%
East Asia	23, 640	7.7%	16, 155	5.3%	73.9%
South East Asia	12, 842	15.6%	8, 435	10.3%	68.9%
Oceania	21, 428	12.3%	15, 436	8.8%	70.4%
Total	**336, 155**	**11.7%**	**224, 139**	**7.8%**	**71.4%**

Figure 3. Voting Rate Estimates by Country, 2020



By comparison, the voting rate among the CVAP was approximately 79.2% in the 2020 General Election.[7] The 71 percentage-point voting rate gap between the OCVAP and the CVAP suggests that a citizen living within the United States is more than 10 times more likely to vote than a U.S. citizen abroad.[8] The sizable voting rate gap suggests that living overseas has a negative effect on the likelihood of voting, either because there are obstacles that make voting more difficult or because an individual is less motivated to do it.[9]

Table 5. Registration and Voting in Countries with the 10 Largest Estimated Overseas Citizen and Voting Age Citizen Populations

	Overseas Citizen Population		OCVAP		Ballot Request Rate	Voting Rate
	Total	Rank	Total	Rank		
Canada	860,783	1	516,309	1	10.7%	8.0%
Mexico	586,929	2	80,887	8	9.7%	6.5%
United Kingdom	391,141	3	327,245	2	13.7%	9.0%
France	248,168	4	181,393	4	9. 2%	5.8%
Israel	204,542	5	183,499	3	10.0%	5.0%
Australia	146,889	6	126,703	5	12.0%	8.5%
China	120,982	7	43,470	15	8.9%	5.6%
Japan	105,275	8	92,879	6	10.0%	7.5%
Switzerland	98,008	9	87,705	7	10.5%	7.4%
Hong Kong	95,086	10	64,809	10	5.8%	3.3%
Germany	89,679	11	75,142	9	34.0%	24.7%

[7] Note that the CVAP voting rate is calculated in a different manner here than in other reports, for comparability with the overseas citizen population in this study. To obtain an estimate of the participation rate for the CVAP, this report uses data from the November supplement of the Census Bureau's current population survey (CPS), a monthly in-person survey of approximately 56,000 households. Although primarily intended as a survey about employment status, a subset of individuals who are voting age and U.S. Citizens were asked additional questions about voting behavior in the days following the 2020 General Election (November 13–19). Specifically, respondents were asked, "in any election, some people are not able to vote because they are sick or busy or have some other reason, and others do not want to vote. Did (you/name) vote in the election held on Tuesday, November 8, 2020?" Including only respondents who answered "yes" or "no" to this question produces an implied CVAP participation rate of approximately 72.9%. This differs from the Census Bureau estimated participation rate of 68%, which counts those answering "don't know," refusals, and nonresponses as non-voters. For comparability with the overseas citizen population, and because it is unknown whether individuals who refused this question voted or not, these responses are excluded in the CVAP voting rate used in this report. Description of the CPS data collection methodology and instrument can be found at: https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsnov16.pdf.

[8] It should be noted that although the CVAP voting rate is a survey-based estimate using self-reported voting, the OCVAP voting rate is an administrative measure of voting. Survey-based measures of voting turnout are typically higher than those based on administrative records (see: http://www.pewresearch.org/2018/02/15/political-data-in-voter-files/). As a result, comparison of these estimates will tend to produce a larger voting rate gap than might be found using alternative measures. In addition, CPS does not include institutionalized individuals as part of the survey, but similarly ineligible voting age overseas citizens are included in OCVAP voting rate estimates. Some absentee ballot request records that did not include an address may have originated from overseas, but these were not included as part of the overseas vote count. In Appendix F, the sensitivity of the voting gap to the use of different measures of the overseas participation rate and an administrative CVAP participation rate is examined. Generally, the voting gap remains large regardless of which sets of overseas and domestic participation rates are used. Results for the decomposition analysis using this administrative voting proxy can be found in Appendix D.

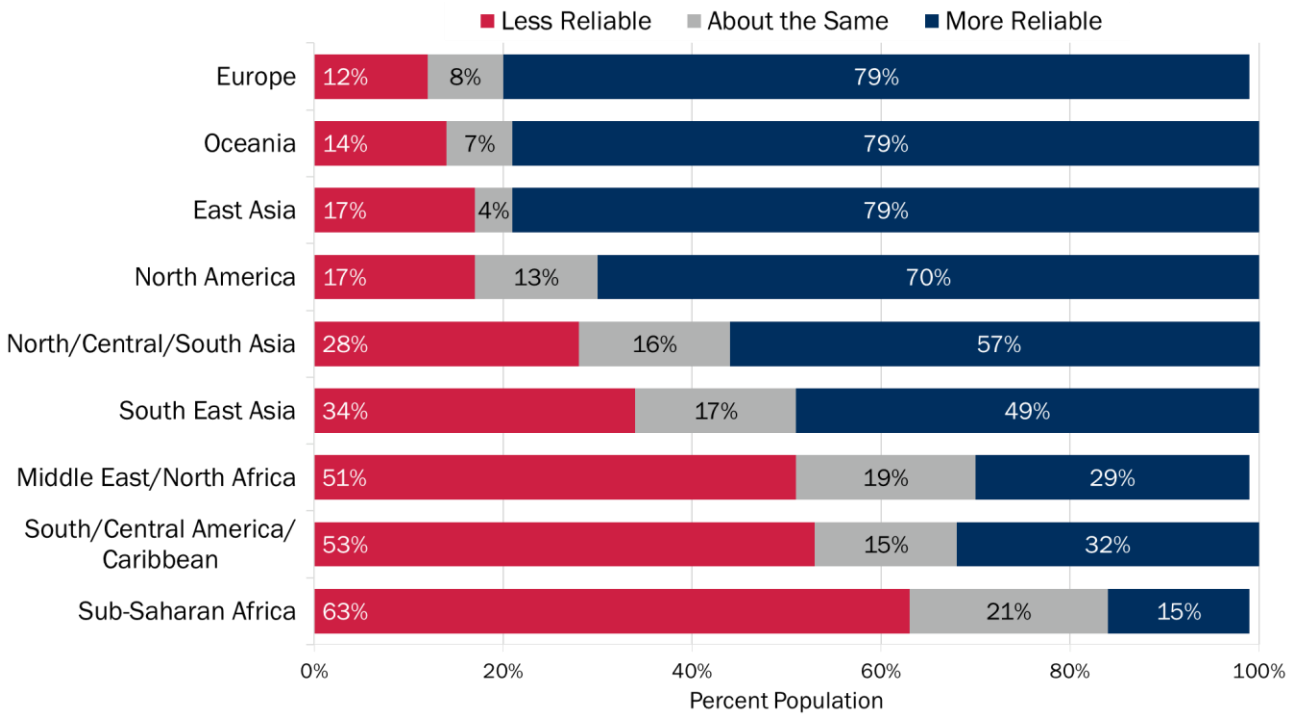
[9] A part of the residual gap may be due to differences in motivation that are in turn due to differences in the demographic composition between the overseas and CVAP. To understand what part of the residual gap would exist absent this difference in composition, voting rates for individual age-gender-education strata of the CVAP were derived from the CPS, and weighted average of these strata calculated, where the weights were determined by the fractions of the OCVAP in each strata. The result is an estimate of the voting rate of the CVAP population that is identical to the OCVAP with respect to observable demographic characteristics. This adjusted CVAP participation rate is 87%, implying a voting gap of 79 percentage points and a residual gap of 39 percentage points.

EXAMINING THE CVAP–OCVAP VOTING GAP

Opportunity, *motivation*, and *ability* are key factors determining whether an individual will vote, and can help conceptualize the potential drivers of the CVAP–OCVAP voting gap. In 1986, the *UOCAVA* created the legal basis for the voting rights of U.S. citizens living overseas, guaranteeing that these citizens have the *opportunity* to vote in all federal elections. However, the uniqueness of overseas citizens' social environments and the absentee voting process may limit the *ability* of overseas citizens to exercise this right, even if they are *motivated* to do so. FVAP provides information, tools, and resources to help overcome these challenges and ensure that overseas citizens are able to exercise their right to vote wherever they are.

The social context in which one lives strongly affects one's likelihood of voting (McClurg, 2003). Social connections can create a sense of shared community interest and civic responsibility, and serve as a source of procedural information about when, where, and how to vote (Putnam, 2000; Stoker & Jennings, 1995; Gerber, Green, and Larimer, 2008; Verba, Schlozman, & Brady, 1995).

Figure 4. Perceived Postal Reliability Relative to the U.S. Postal Service by Region



In Figure 4 above, results from the 2020 OCPS[10] demonstrate a common challenge that overseas citizens encounter when voting: mailing systems outside of the United States are often perceived as unreliable.[11] About one-fifth of respondents to the 2020 OCPS reported that the postal system in their country was somewhat or very unreliable. This percentage may even underestimate mail-related obstacles facing the OCVAP given that even mail systems that are otherwise reliable may be unreliable with respect to international mail due to a variety of geographic and logistical factors. However, there are clear regional differences in perceived mail reliability, with respondents in

[10] The survey reflects only a subset of the overseas citizen population.
[11] This reflects postal service reliability in overseas citizens' countries of residence and does not include military postal service.

Europe, Oceania, North America, and East Asia more likely to respond that their local mailing system is somewhat or very reliable. In the next section, it is shown that these regional differences in responses are associated with differences in mailing times to the United States and the level of development of the country—both factors that one would expect to be associated with obstacles to returning a completed absentee ballot to the United States.

Though differences in *motivation* may explain some of the gap in the voting rate between the CVAP and the OCVAP, regional patterns in the voting gap suggest that overseas citizens face obstacles that hinder their ability to vote, and that these obstacles are greater for those in some countries and regions than in others. To what extent is the voting rate gap between the CVAP and the OCVAP attributable to obstacles versus differences in motivation?

Defining the CVAP–OCVAP Voting Gap

To better understand the factors contributing to the difference in CVAP and OCVAP voting rates, the CVAP–OCVAP voting gap can be broken down into two component parts: the obstacles gap and the residual overseas gap. The obstacles gap is the portion of the voting gap that can be attributed to country-level infrastructure obstacles that hinder citizens' ability to vote from overseas. The residual overseas gap accounts for other factors—such as motivational differences, election salience, or connection to U.S. politics—that contribute to the difference in voting rates. There are several federal statutes that were created to help overseas citizens overcome the obstacles associated with overseas voting. These statutes make special provisions for U.S. citizens voting from overseas, and FVAP works to educate overseas citizens on these special provisions and the resources available to them to help them vote in the face of increased obstacles. Examining the obstacles gap and how it varies across countries will help FVAP understand where obstacles to voting are greatest, and more importantly, where obstacles are having the largest impact on voters' ability to vote.

> *Voting Gap = Obstacles Gap + Residual Overseas Gap*
>
> *Obstacles Gap: the part of the difference between the OCVAP and CVAP voting rates that is attributable to differences in ability to vote due to infrastructural obstacles[12] encountered when voting from overseas versus voting domestically*
>
> *Residual Overseas Gap: the remaining difference between the OCVAP and CVAP voting rates that is due to other motivational and internal differences between overseas and domestic voting age populations*

One major problem for overseas citizens attempting to vote in U.S. elections is the time it takes for election materials to travel between an overseas voter and their LEO. An overseas citizen must first send registration and ballot request forms to the LEO. The LEO then sends the voter a blank ballot, which must be completed and returned to the LEO by the statutory deadline for absentee ballot receipt in order for it to be counted. If each step is conducted by mail, this can become a lengthy process because of the ballot transit time involved. Over the last two decades, a number of federal laws and regulations have attempted to address the election materials transit time problem and make it easier for overseas citizens to cast ballots in U.S. elections.

[12] The obstacles gap is calculated by comparing voting rates in countries with differing levels of mailing times and levels of infrastructure to the United States. Due to lack of data, it does not reflect differences in obstacles due to the demographics of the OCVAP in the country or absentee voting policies of the states of legal residence of the OCVAP in the country. See Appendix C for more information.

Among the key provisions of *UOCAVA* are the creation of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). The FPCA is accepted in all states and allows a citizen covered under *UOCAVA* to register to vote and request an absentee ballot using a single form. By standardizing this process, *UOCAVA* sought to reduce the barriers to voting caused by complex and inconsistent procedures across states and local jurisdictions. The FWAB is a back-up ballot that citizens covered by *UOCAVA* may use to vote in any federal election if they do not receive their regular absentee ballot in time to return before statutory deadlines.

In 2009, Congress again acted to address the ballot transit time problem by passing the *MOVE Act*. This law requires states to send absentee ballots to *UOCAVA* voters no later than 45 days before a federal election if the voter has submitted a valid ballot request by that date. Further, the *MOVE Act* requires U.S. states to offer an electronic method of receiving blank ballots. This is an important protection, especially for those in countries with unreliable mail systems. Research had shown that, before the *MOVE Act*, *UOCAVA* voters in 25 U.S. states and the District of Columbia did not have enough time to cast their ballots because these jurisdictions sent ballots out to voters too close to Election Day. The 45-day voting period was intended to address this problem by providing a lengthy period for voting, ensuring there would be enough time for ballot transit between the voter and LEO.

The Obstacles Gap

To assess the extent to which overseas citizens vote at lower rates due to the obstacles associated with being overseas, the baseline voting gap is broken down into two parts:

- The part of the gap that is due to the obstacles, particularly those that affect one's ability to transmit and receive election related materials in a timely manner; and
- The part of the gap attributable to motivation or other internal factors.

To frame it another way, the obstacles gap is the difference between the actual participation rate of the OCVAP and the participation rate expected if the obstacles they faced were similar to those faced by domestic voters.

The obstacles to voting encountered by the OCVAP are not consistent across the entire population. Using cross-country variation in OCVAP voting rates and observable indicators of obstacles to voting that are specific to the OCVAP, the impact of obstacles is assessed by (1) estimating the effect of these obstacles on voting rates, and then (2) predicting what the participation rate would be in a hypothetical country if these obstacles were removed. The full methodology and model can be found in Appendix C.

Impact of Voting Obstacles in 2020

The estimated OCVAP voting rate in 2020 was 7.8%. As seen in Figure 5, if obstacles to voting from overseas were removed, the expected OCVAP voting rate would have been 47.7%, which is a difference of 39.9 percentage points. Absent obstacles, a substantial voting gap would still exist in the overall voting rate gap between the CVAP and the OCVAP, but the size of the gap would be reduced from 71.4 percentage points to 31.5 percentage points. In other words, elimination of obstacles to voting reduces the voting gap by almost half.

Figure 5. Decomposition of the Voting Gap

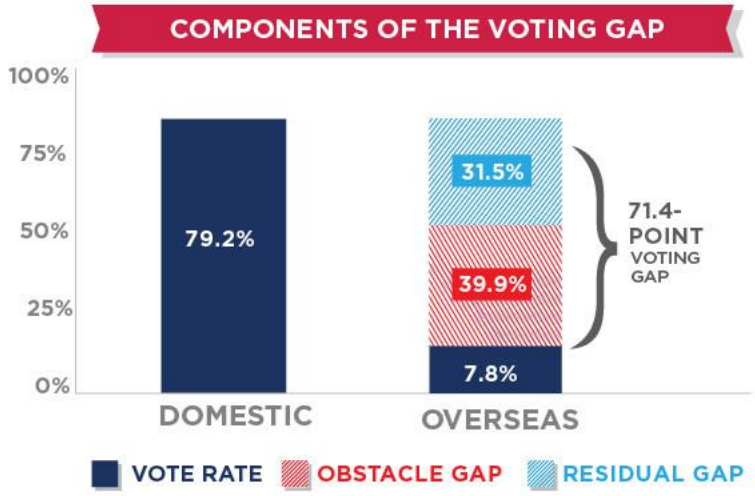
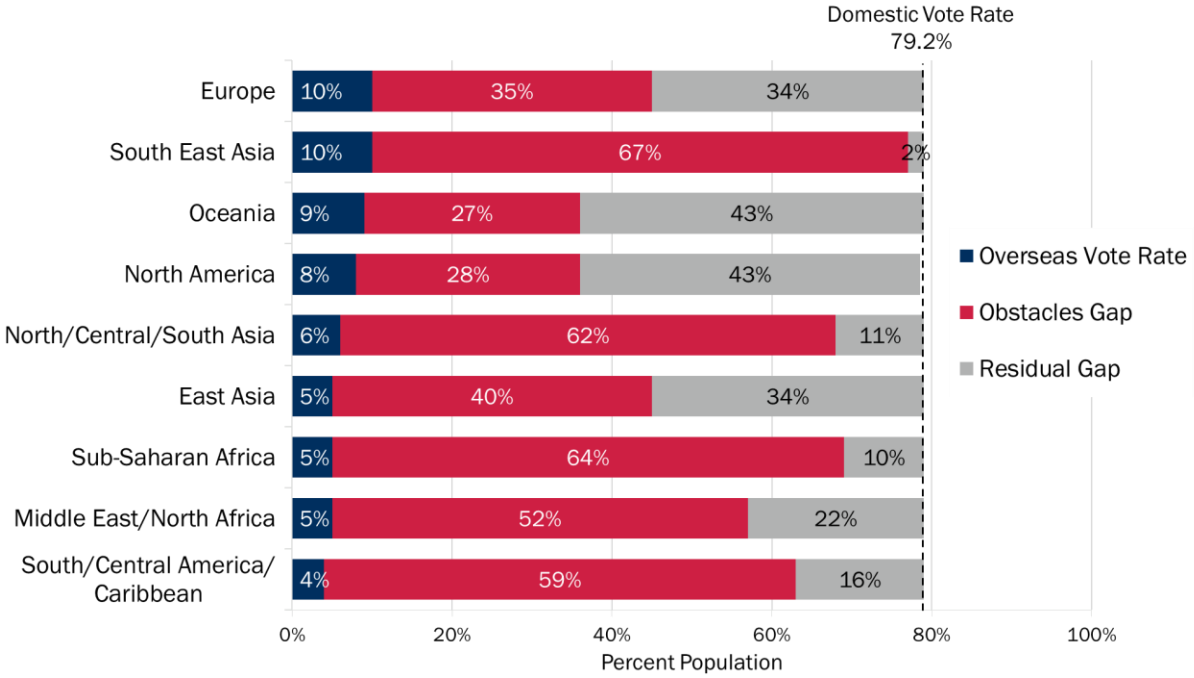


Figure 6 implies that obstacles to voting explain a relatively large fraction of the voting gap between the OCVAP residing in Sub-Saharan Africa, North/Central/South Asia, and South East Asia and the CVAP, while differences in the residual gap play more of a role in explaining the voting gap in North America and Oceania.

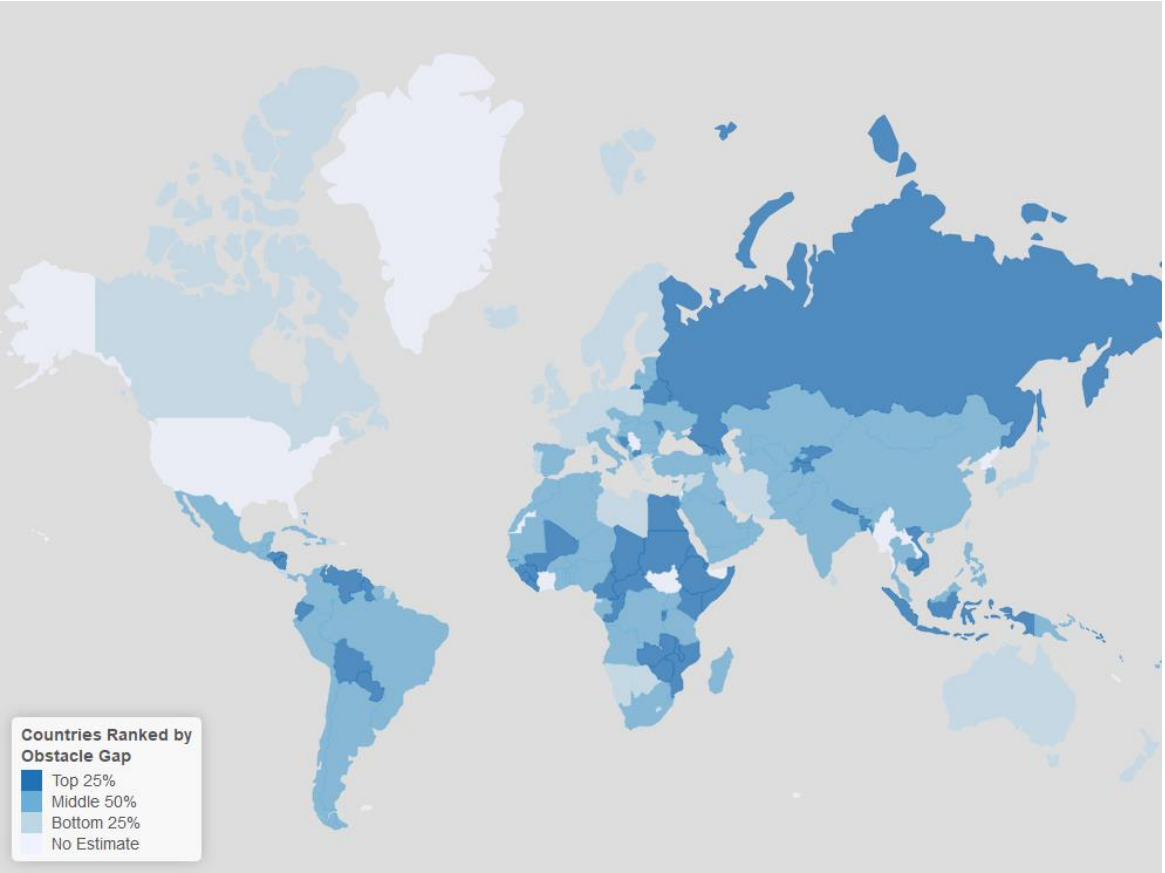
Figure 6. Decomposition of the Voting Gap by Region[13]



[13] Note that there is variance within world regions regarding the obstacles associated with each country. World regions are organized according to the geographic proximity and conventional groups—not by voting variables. In particular, although the obstacles gaps appear to be high overall in Sub-Saharan Africa and South and Central Asia regions, some countries—such as Algeria, Australia, and New Zealand—have much lower obstacles gaps than most other countries in their region. Additionally, some Sub-Saharan African and South and Central Asian countries have very small sample sizes of overseas citizens.

Country-specific obstacles gaps can be calculated by taking the differences in the observed voting rates by country and the estimated voting rate if obstacles were removed by country. As shown in Figure 7, high-obstacle countries are concentrated in Eastern Europe / Asia, Latin America, and Africa, regions generally associated with low levels of development.

Figure 7. Obstacles Gap as Percentage of OCVAP by Country



Countries with similar obstacles may have substantially different obstacles gaps because obstacles only prevent individuals who would have otherwise voted from doing so. In other words, larger obstacles gaps may reflect differences in propensity to vote rather than differences in obstacles to vote between countries. To control for differences in propensity across regions, the regional obstacles gaps can be divided by the total fraction of OCVAP in the region that the model predicts would have voted absent obstacles. Using this adjusted obstacles gap reveals that overseas citizens in Central / South America / Caribbean are most negatively affected by obstacles, with obstacles preventing 93.3% of those who would have otherwise voted from doing so. However, even in Oceania—the region with the lowest adjusted obstacles gap—over half (75.5%) of the OCVAP who are inclined to vote do not due to obstacles. Figure 8 presents the country-level estimates of this adjusted obstacles gap. These country-level estimates imply that participation rates by OCVAP residing in the Middle East and North Africa, North / Central / South Asia, and West Africa who otherwise would have voted are particularly negatively affected by OCVAP-specific obstacles to voting.

Figure 8. Number of Voters Impacted by Obstacle Effect

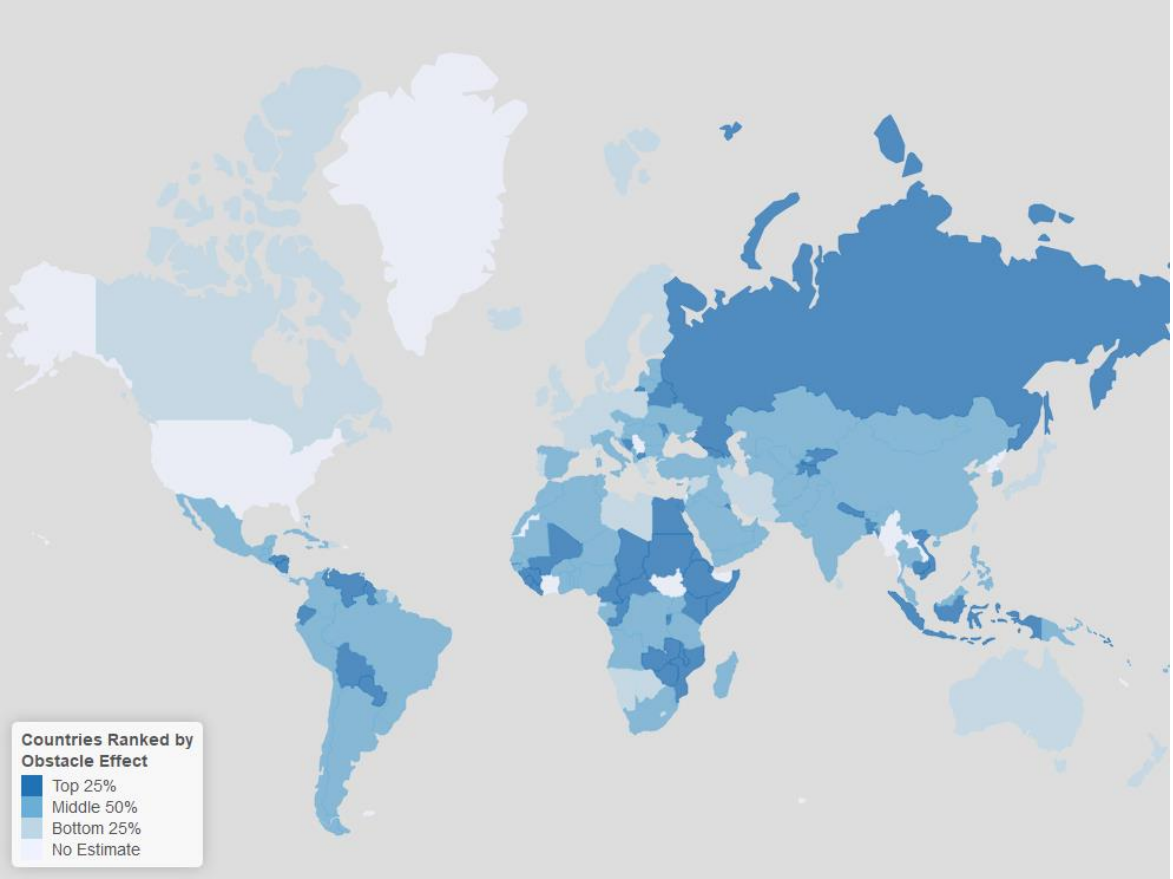
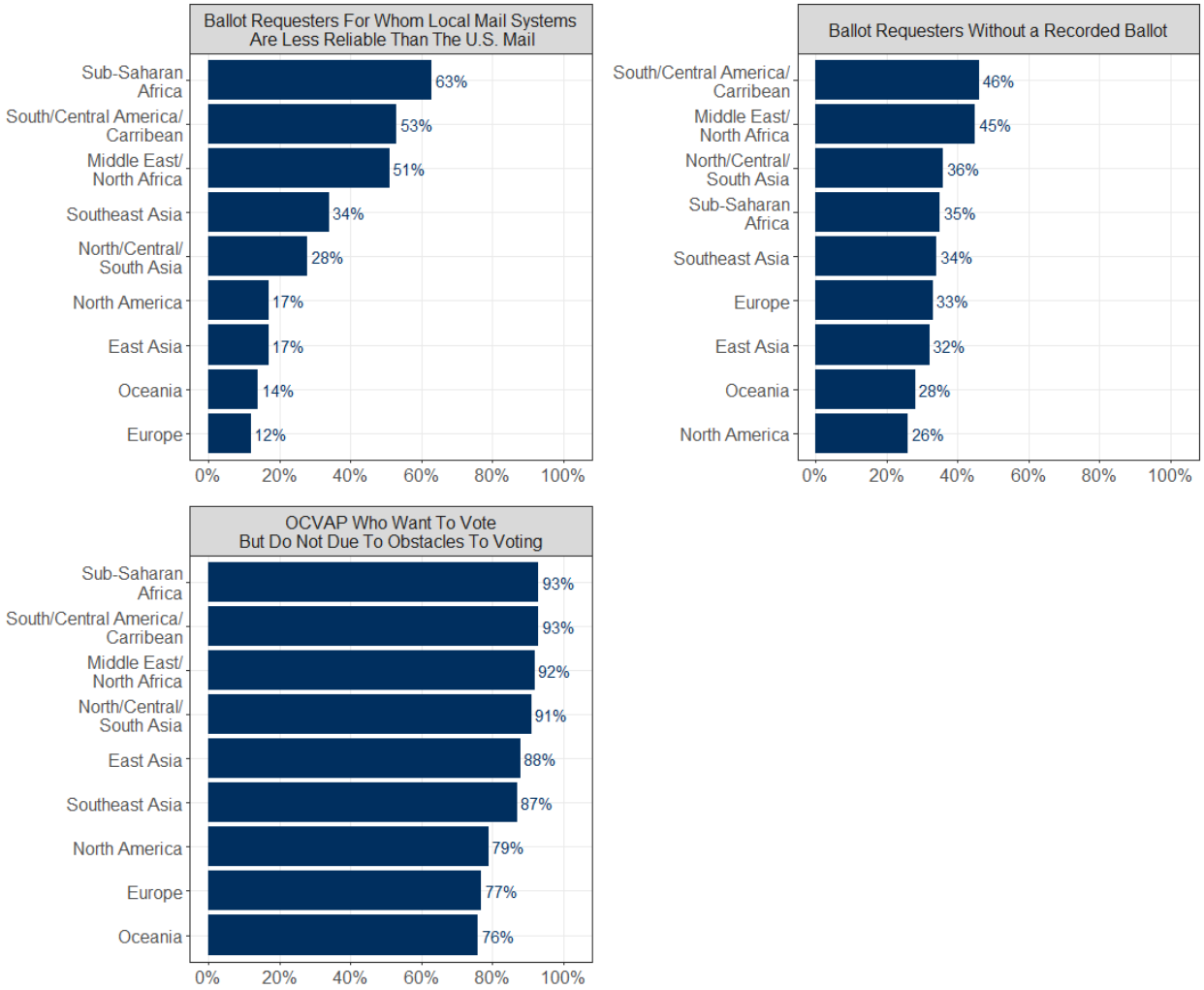


Figure 9 presents the obstacles gap as a percentage of likely OCVAP voters by region along with two other measures that may reflect obstacles to voting: the percentage of transmitted absentee ballots for which a vote is not recorded and the fraction of OCPS respondents who reported that the local mail system was "unreliable." It is apparent that regions where it is estimated that a relatively large fraction of likely voters do not vote due to obstacles to voting (South / Central America, Sub Saharan Africa, the Middle East / North Africa, and Central Asia) are also regions where a relatively large fraction of transmitted ballots are not returned, and/or where a relatively large fraction of OCPS respondents perceive their local mailing systems to be "unreliable." Although these other measures suffer from significant limitations,[14] this provides reassurance that the obstacles gap reflects actual obstacles to voting.

[14] Specifically, because not every "likely" voter will request a ballot due to obstacles to ballot request and obstacles to voting more generally, the ballot non-return rate underestimates the fraction of individuals who do not vote due to obstacles to voting, and this underestimation is likely to vary across regions based on obstacles to voting.

The fraction of OCPS respondents who report that their mail is unreliable does not necessarily reflect the unreliability of mail sent and received from the United States. And because OCPS respondents are also absentee ballot requesters, they may have more reliable mail service than the OCVAP in their respective countries/regions more generally.

Figure 9. Obstacles Gap as Percentage of Likely OCVAP Voters by Region

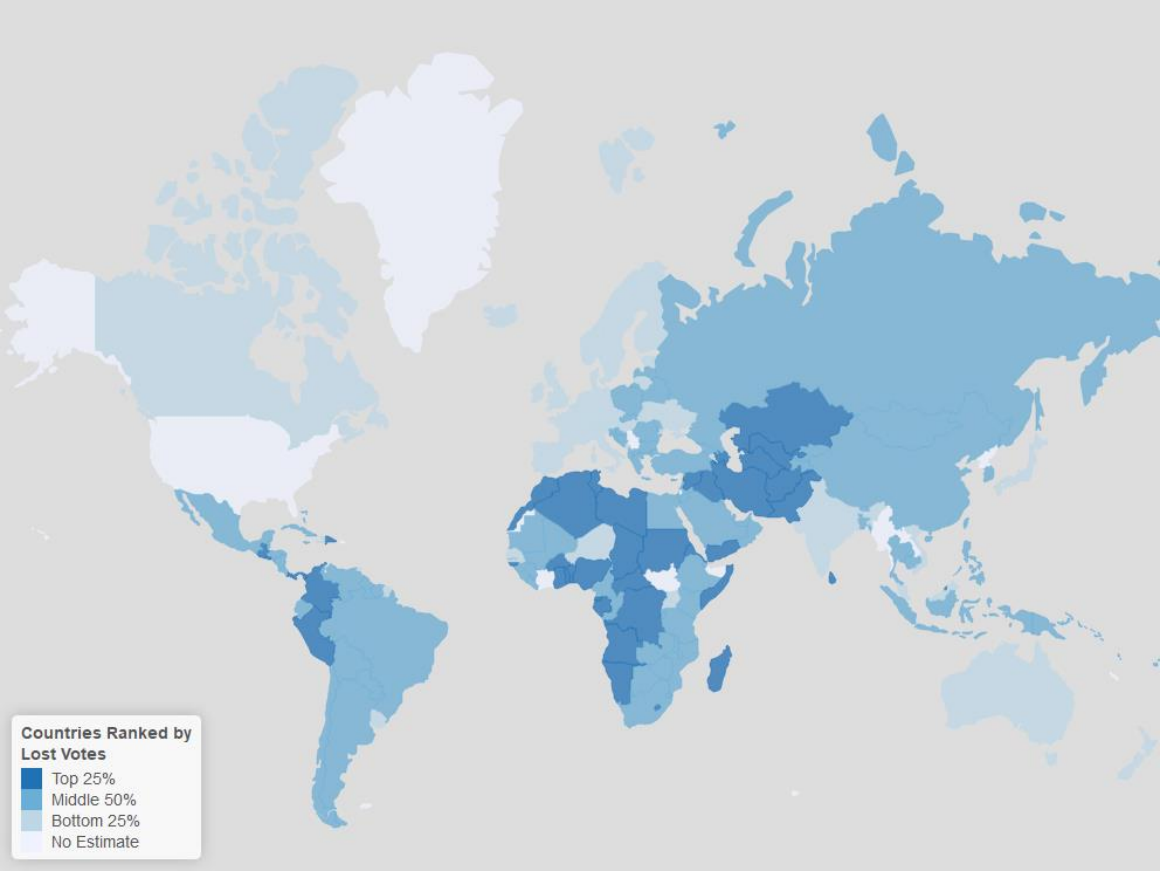


What implications does this have for the impact of obstacles on the overall number of votes coming from overseas citizens? A simple, more concrete way to conceptualize the impact of the obstacles gap is to calculate the number of votes "lost" from overseas citizens as a result of these obstacles to voting. Note that this does not refer to ballots actually being physically missing—rather, it is a way to conceptualize the number of votes that would have existed absent the obstacles to overseas voting that have been discussed.[15]

> *Estimated "lost" votes:* The total number of votes that would have existed if obstacles to overseas voting were removed. This is a way of conceptualizing the magnitude of impact that obstacles to voting have on the overseas citizen vote count.

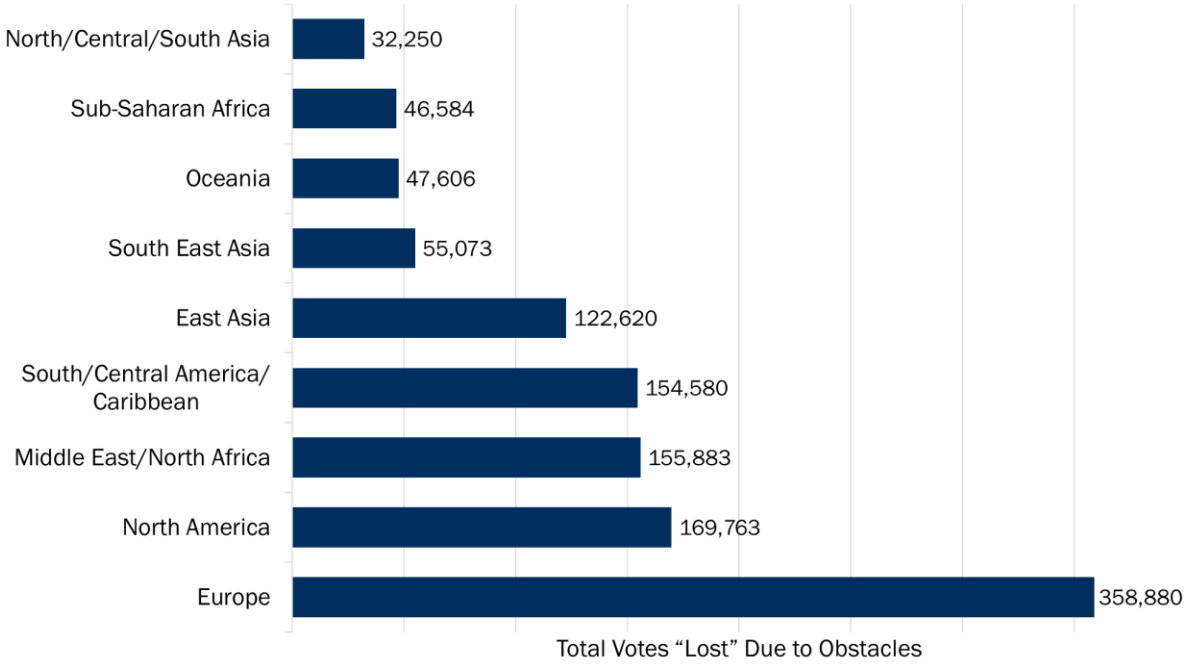
[15] Another issue with interpreting the estimated obstacles gap and "lost" votes is that measured obstacles to voting may be correlated with unobserved differences with respect to motivation to vote. For example, if obstacles lead someone to not vote in one election, the individual might not vote in subsequent elections even if obstacles to voting were removed in those future elections. This would be due to the individual no longer being in the "habit" of voting. This limitation should be kept in mind when interpreting these estimates.

Figure 10. Estimated Total "Lost" Votes by Country



Multiplying the number of eligible OCVAP in a country by its obstacles gap gives the estimated number of votes "lost." Although figures 6, 7, and 8 demonstrate that obstacles to voting are generally greatest in less developed areas, Figures 10 and 11 show that the magnitude of their impact is lower there because of the smaller eligible populations. Though they are less prone to obstacles than less developed regions, Europe and North America have large numbers of "lost" votes due to their substantially larger voting age populations. This again underscores the importance of addressing obstacles to voting even in more developed countries.

Figure 11. Estimated "Lost" Votes Due to Obstacles by Region



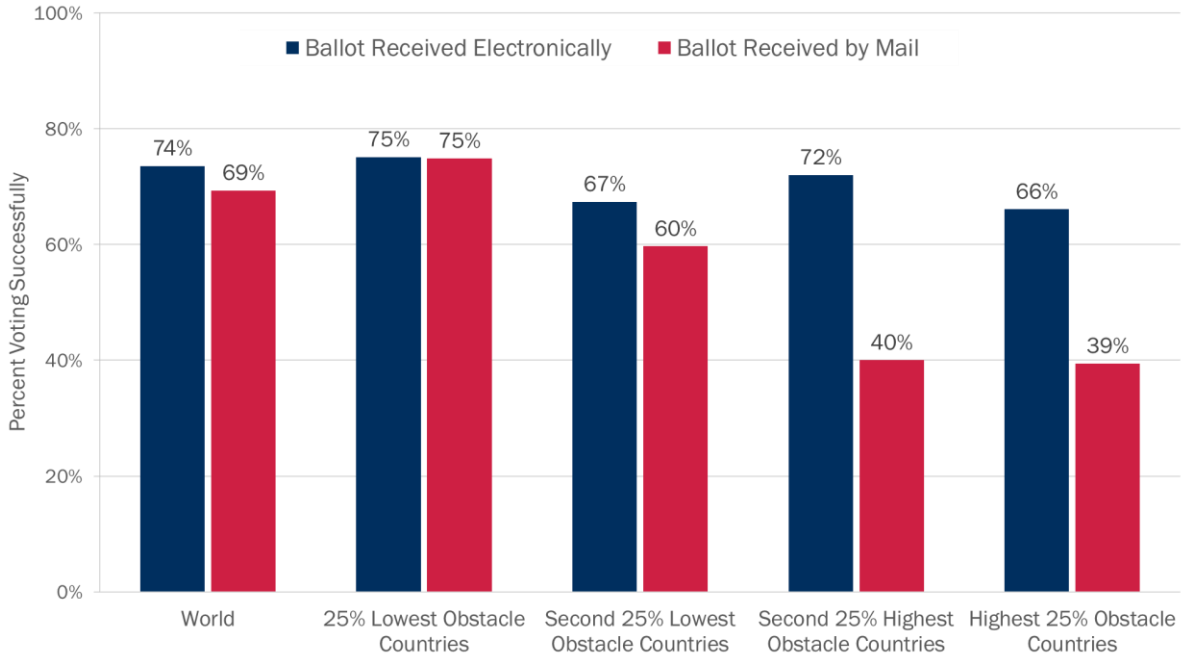
IMPACT OF CHANGES IN BALLOT DELIVERY AND RETURN MODES

Obstacles associated with sending and receiving voting materials still preclude substantial numbers of overseas citizens from exercising their right to vote. However, provisions in the *MOVE Act* requiring each state to offer at least one electronic mode of ballot transmission were intended to mitigate these mailing obstacles by allowing overseas citizens to bypass the international mailing system and cut the overall transit time in half. Further, for potential overseas voters from some states, the availability of additional non-mail-based return modes may further mitigate the impact of mailing-related obstacles, but further analysis is required to determine how effective these options are for increasing voting rates.

For those confronting greater voting obstacles in their country, the mode through which one receives an absentee ballot is related to the likelihood that one votes successfully. Overall, there is a large difference observed in the rate of successful voting among those reporting electronic versus mail receipt of an absentee ballot. The advantage of electronic mail return varies based on a country's obstacle level. In the lowest obstacle countries, those who received their ballots electronically had a similar likelihood to have had a vote recorded as those who received their ballot by mail.[16] In the highest obstacle countries, those who received electronic ballots were close to 50% more likely to have had a vote recorded than those who received mail ballots.

[16] Here we define level of obstacles as the obstacles gap divided by the fraction of "likely" voters.

Figure 12. Ballot Receipt Mode and Voting Success by Obstacles to Voting

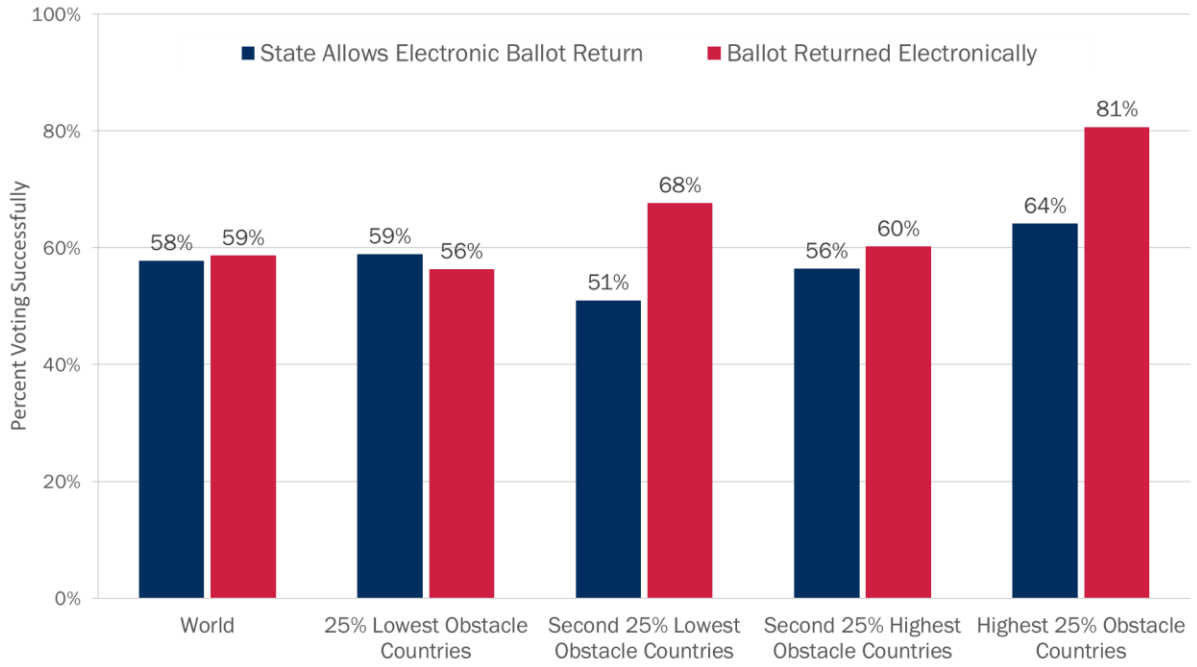


While *UOCAVA* requires that all states offer some form of electronic blank ballot transmission to voters, some states also allow overseas voters to return their ballots electronically. In approximately 34 states, overseas voters are permitted to return their voted absentee ballot electronically—that is, through email, fax, or an online portal system.[17,18]

Evidence from this study supports that electronic ballot return minimized the effects of obstacles to voting in 2020. If electronic return mitigated obstacles to voting, one would expect to observe not only higher volume of absentee ballots returned, but also a disproportionate number of absentee ballot requests originating in states that allowed electronic ballot return. This is because electronic return is hypothesized to increase the probability that a ballot is returned successfully, and thus individuals who can return their ballot electronically are more likely to perceive requesting an absentee ballot as worth the burdens associated with the request. Thus, holding the distribution of *UOCAVA* voters in a country across states of legal residence constant, one would expect a positive association between electronic ballot request and obstacles to voting. Overall, about 58% of ballot requesters who responded to the survey were from states that had electronic ballot return options available. There is little evidence that this fraction increases with obstacles to voting. Only 59% of ballot returners from states that allow electronic ballot return actually return their ballot electronically. The percentage of those using electronic return options, when voting in states where these options are available, increases as obstacles increase. In the lowest obstacle countries, slightly more than half (56%) take advantage of electronic return options available in their state. In countries with the highest voting obstacles, the overwhelming majority (81%) use electronic return options allowed by their state.

[17] Federal Voting Assistance Program (2019). "2020–2021 Voting Assistance Guide."
[18] Some states have special requirements for being able to return a voted absentee ballot electronically, such as living in a hostile fire area or a disrupted USPS service area.

Figure 13. State Ballot Return Policy and Electronic Return Use by Level of Obstacles to Voting

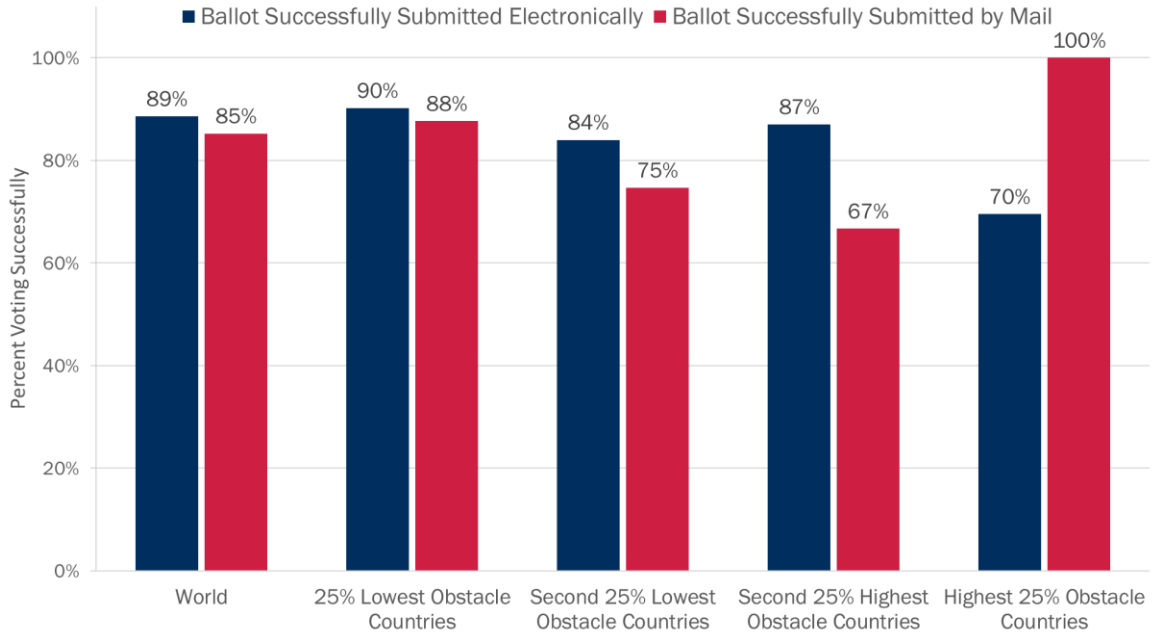


A key question is whether the ability to vote successfully relates to the voting options an individual has available. Prior FVAP research using transaction-level absentee voting data has found that many electronic ballots are returned later than mail ballots.[19] This could reflect later receipt of absentee ballots by the ballot requester, and thus higher obstacles to voting faced by electronic ballot requesters. On the other hand, it could simply reflect electronic ballot requesters choosing to wait longer to return their ballot because mail times are less of a concern, and thus the mode would have little effect on the probability that a vote was returned.

Globally, OCPS results indicate that those who reported returning their absentee ballot by mail were less likely to have a vote recorded than those who reported using an electronic method of ballot return, though this difference was not statistically significant. This is consistent with electronic ballot return increasing the probability of having a vote recorded.

[19] Federal Voting Assistance Program (2018). "Data Standardization and the Impact of Ballot Transmission timing and Mode on *UOCAVA* Voting." Available at https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Reports/609-ResearchNote11_DataStd_FINAL.pdf

Figure 14. Ballot Return Mode and Success by Level of Obstacles to Voting



The degree to which electronic ballot submission increased the probability of voting varied based on whether the respondent was in a high- or low-obstacle country. For OCPS respondents in the countries with the highest obstacles, the use of electronic return options is associated with a 30% lower probability of success, However the difference in voting rates are not statistically significant and the number of respondents from electronic ballot return states residing in the highest obstacle countries who reported returning their ballot by mail is extremely small (n = 11), Excluding the small number of respondents from the lowest obstacle countries who submitted a ballot, there is a more apparent trend for electronic ballot return to be associated with higher probability of having a vote recorded as obstacles increase. The probability of successfully voting for those who submitted their ballot electronically does not change much moving from the lowest obstacle countries to the second highest obstacle countries. By contrast, for those respondents who submitted by mail, the probability of having a vote recorded decreases from 88% in the lowest obstacle countries to 67% for respondents residing in the second 25% highest obstacle countries.

It is notable that even among those in the OCVAP who returned a ballot and for whom the option to return their ballot electronically was available, more than 40% chose not to do so. This may imply that many *UOCAVA* voters, even those who are inclined to vote, are not aware of their options when it comes to modes of ballot return or may have other views on the relative success associated with electronic return. At a minimum, this research implies that procedural information is critical. Voters need to know what options are available and understand the obstacles that they face in the country they reside in and how those obstacles can best be overcome. Further exploring this phenomenon requires transactional data showing the dates and modes of ballot request and return, like the data collected as part of the Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) Section B Data Standard, or the ESB Data Standard, which examines customer interactions with local election offices more directly using administrative records.[20]

[20] Federal Voting Assistance Program (2018). "Data Standardization and the Impact of Ballot Transmission timing and Mode on *UOCAVA* Voting." Available at https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Reports/609-ResearchNote11_DataStd_FINAL.pdf

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

This report analyzes the size and level of participation in the 2020 General Election of the population of non-military voting-age U.S. citizens living abroad. FVAP is statutorily mandated to report on the overseas citizen absentee registration and voting rates, which has historically been difficult due to a lack of data on the size of the overseas voting population. This project is an effort to improve FVAP's mandatory reporting abilities and conduct additional, more detailed analysis of the OCVAP.

This study found that approximately 7.8% of the OCVAP voted in the 2020 General Election, versus approximately 79.2% of the CVAP. As mentioned previously, since not enough population data was available to perform new 2020 estimates, the most recent population estimates are those reported in the 2018 OCPA. Based on the estimated relationship between proxies for mail reliability and OCVAP voting rates across countries, approximately 48% of the OCVAP would have voted if it were not for these obstacles to voting. This in turn implies that approximately half of the voting gap is due to OCVAP-specific obstacles to voting.

This report also found that absentee voters who returned their ballots electronically were disproportionately concentrated in high-obstacle countries, consistent with the theory that electronic modes of ballot return mitigate the effect of mailing-related obstacles to voting. However, more than 40% of voters who had the option to return their ballot electronically actually did so, with most still opting to return their ballot by mail. This speaks to a potential lack of awareness among absentee ballot returners concerning options for electronic modes of return—or larger concerns about electronic return. To the degree that those who lack awareness of effective modes of absent ballot request and return are less likely to even request an absentee ballot, a lack of procedural information among the broader OCVAP may explain at least part of the voting gap attributed to obstacles to voting. FVAP marketing efforts that target the broader OCVAP with information concerning options for modes of absentee ballot request, transmission, and return may mitigate this voting gap.

Next Steps

Given the findings from this study, the following research and outreach activities are recommended as next steps:

1. **Ensure that overseas citizens are aware of all voting mode options available to them.** Obstacles associated with differences in postal system infrastructure around the world can create barriers to voting from overseas. For the subset of overseas voters who are aware of and make use of electronic voting options, these policies may help them overcome the obstacles. However, many overseas voters may not be aware of the availability of electronic options for navigating the absentee voting process and how these options might offer particular benefits to this at-risk population. FVAP and other elections stakeholders should ensure that overseas citizens are aware not only of their right to vote, but also of all the voting options available to *UOCAVA* voters in the state that they vote in.

2. **Promote use of the FPCA by overseas citizens as a means of registration and ballot request.** Awareness and use of the FPCA by *UOCAVA* voters can help guarantee that overseas citizens are granted full *UOCAVA* protections. Use of the FPCA ensures that *UOCAVA* ballots are transmitted to voters no later than 45 days before an election, allowing overseas citizens more time to navigate the voting process regardless of the voting mode they use. Additionally, use of the FPCA allows overseas voters to select from all available ballot delivery methods, reinforcing the first step.

3. **Assess overseas citizens' use of the FPCA versus state or other registration forms.** States differ in terms of the prerequisites for conveying *UOCAVA* protections. The extent to which states consistently classify overseas voters as *UOCAVA* voters if they use the state form to register instead of the FPCA has not been studied in detail. Future research should examine these processes and the types of forms overseas citizens are using to register in order to determine the impact that states' practices are having on the overseas vote to ensure the broadest level of awareness of benefits enacted since the passage of the *MOVE Act* of 2009.

4. **Continue to assess and improve the methodology for estimating the overseas citizen population.** FVAP last updated its overseas population estimates in early 2020 as part of the 2018 OCPA report. While some additional data sources were updated since those estimates, many 2020 FGEs and other data used to create estimates have not yet been released. As a result, FVAP chose to use the population estimates included in the 2018 report as the population baseline for participation estimates in 2020. Since the inception of OCPA in 2014, FVAP has received feedback from many stakeholders, including foreign Census agencies; identified variation in the reliability of data sources; and made minor updates to its estimating methodology. The decennial U.S. Census provides an ideal opportunity to rigorously evaluate the data sources used for the estimates and assess and refine the methodology so that future OCPA iterations produce the most accurate and empirically sound estimates possible.

FEATURES OF OVERSEAS BALLOT REQUESTERS: EVIDENCE FROM THE OVERSEAS CITIZEN POPULATION SURVEY

Introduction

Since 2014, the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) has fielded the Overseas Citizen Population Survey (OCPS) after every federal general election, seeking to describe the voting experiences of registered U.S. citizens who live abroad and requested an absentee ballot.

The OCPS consisted of 81 open- and close-ended questions asking respondents (1) the country in which they were located, (2) the length of time they resided outside of the United States, (3) their absentee voting experiences and behavior leading up to the 2020 General Election, and (4) other relevant demographic information. FVAP uses this survey to collect specific, accurate information on voting-relevant demographic variables to make comparisons between the overseas, domestic, and active duty military (ADM) populations that are important to FVAP's mission. The OCPS provides important information on voting-related behaviors that can help FVAP better understand one of the populations it serves and explain different voting patterns among individuals covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA),* observed across and within other countries. The survey instrument was designed to parallel FVAP's Post-Election Voting Survey of ADM (PEVS-ADM) and the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS), facilitating FVAP's ability to compare the registration and voting behavior of the overseas U.S. citizen civilian population, citizen voting age population (CVAP), and ADM. Notable differences in the 2020 OCPS include a higher proportion of those who reported voting compared to both 2018 and 2016, higher awareness of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) across all age groups, the increased use of email as the mode of ballot receipt across all world regions, and higher awareness of FVAP.

The 2020 OCPS was a push-to-web survey that mirrored the 2018 version. A number of new survey items were added to the 2020 survey to better capture the experiences of overseas citizens and align with FVAP surveys of other segments of the *UOCAVA* population. Like previous years, the 2020 OCPS was administered to a sample of 45,000 potential respondents.[21] One key change made for the 2020 OCPS was the timing of data collection. While previous surveys were fielded in the fall following an election year, the 2020 OCPS was fielded in spring following the General Election to gather data about overseas citizens closer to the election.

Sample members received an initial mail contact directing them to a secure website to complete the online survey. Sample members who did not respond to the online survey were then sent up to seven reminders, including emails, postcards sent to their international address, and a postcard sent to their domestic address on file. This was implemented to increase the overall response rate, as the sample included individuals who had been overseas during the 2020 General Election but had since moved back to the United States. Reminder communications were sent approximately every one to two weeks. Those who had already completed the survey or who indicated they needed to be removed from the mailing list were cut from the mailing file before the fourth and sixth reminders were mailed. Respondents for whom a valid email address was provided received some reminder communications by email only, while some received mail-only reminders. Each sample member

[21] Whereas the 2014 instrument was a multi-mode (i.e., print and web) survey and the 2016 web-only iteration had a "treatment" and a "control" version of the instrument, the 2018 and 2020 surveys were web-only with no treatment conditions.

received up to eight total communications. Table 6 provides a schedule of the OCPS communications plan and mailing dates.

Table 6. OCPS Communications Schedule					
3/15/21	3/25/21	4/6/21	4/22/21	5/3/21	5/21/215
Invitation	Postcard/ Email	Postcard	Letter/Email	Domestic Postcard/Email	Postcard/ Email

Of the total sample of 45,000 individuals, 4,516 had a jurisdiction-provided valid email address. Email communications used similar wording and design choices to corresponding postal mail reminders. Sample members whose email communications bounced back were added back to postal mail files for subsequent reminder communications. This mixed-mode design[22] has significant benefits over soliciting potential respondents by email, as email-only contact can increase the potential for higher nonresponse bias and lower response rates. A mixed-mode design ensures that all registered U.S. civilians living overseas have a known probability of being contacted and have the potential to participate, rather than just those with a listed email address. The mixed-mode design can also help reduce the impact of international mailing delays; outgoing mail to several countries saw delays or suspended service in 2021 due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on survey sampling and weighting, see Volume 3.

Who are Overseas Ballot Requesters?

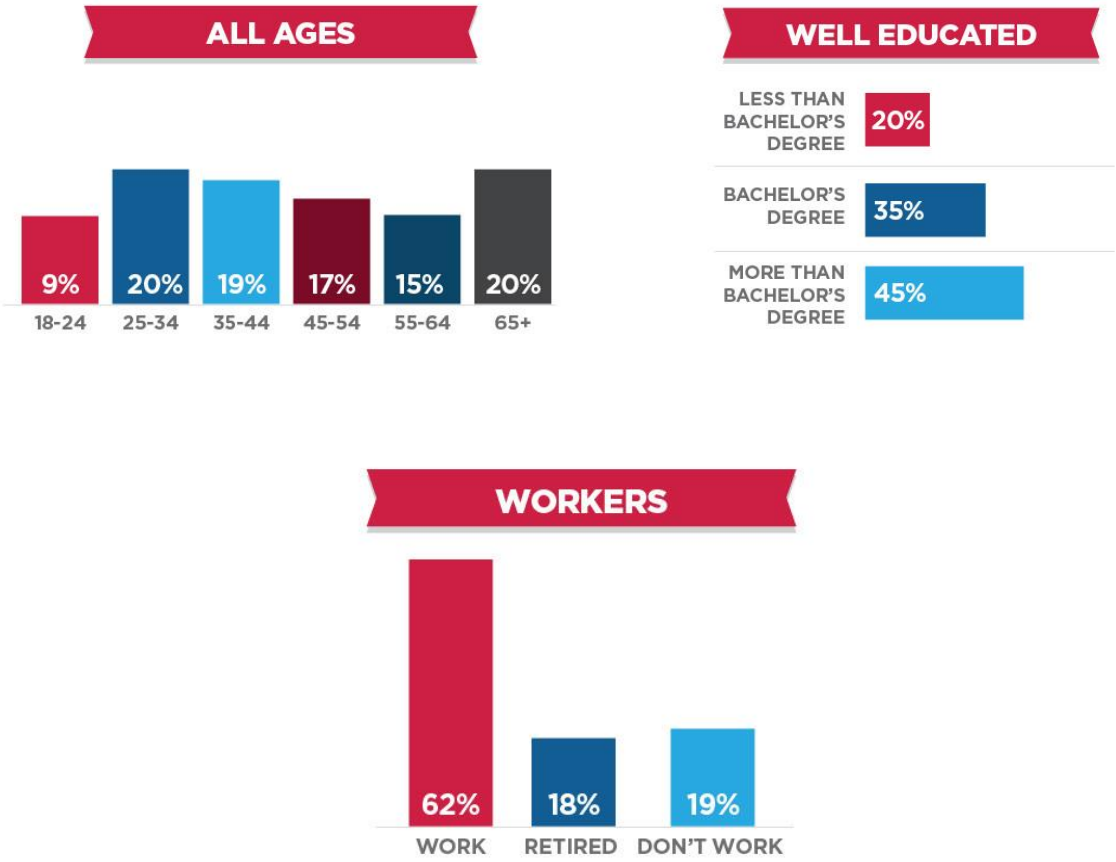
The OCPS included a series of demographics items (e.g., age, gender, race/ethnicity, and education) to describe the sample of 45,000 overseas citizens and for use in descriptive cross-tabulations. For a full breakdown of survey items by respondent demographics, see Volume 2.

Demographics

The population of overseas ballot requesters in 2020 was similar to that of previous election cycles. Survey results indicated that respondents were most commonly between the ages of 25 and 34 or 65 and up, with a median age of 45. They were most commonly married, employed, and highly educated. The next largest age group was individuals between 35 and 44 (19%). Individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 were the smallest proportion of the sample (9%). Over half (60%) of respondents were married or separated, 29% had never been married, and 12% were either widowed or divorced. Almost half (45%) of respondents reported having a degree higher than a bachelor's degree, with a further 35% having obtained a bachelor's degree and 20% having less than a bachelor's degree.

[22] Lonna Rae Atkeson, Alex N. Adams, and R. Michael Alvarez, Nonresponse and Mode Effects in Self- and Interviewer-Administered Surveys, Political Analysis, published online May 28, 2014, doi: 10.1093/pan/mpt049.

Figure 15. Age, Education Level, and Employment



Employed or retired individuals comprised over three-quarters of all respondents; 62% reported working either full- or part-time jobs, and 18% were retired. Smaller proportions of respondents reported that they did not work due to caretaker responsibilities, disability, or being unable to work. A further 11% did not work for another unspecified reason. Of respondents who reported their income, 15% earned $19,999 or less, 40% earned between $20,000 and $74,999, and almost half (45%) earned over $75,000. Table 7 below provides a full demographic breakdown by region.

Table 7. Key Demographic Characteristics by World Region (N = 5,282)	Overall	North America	South/Central America and Caribbean	Europe	Sub-Saharan Africa	Middle East / North Africa	North/Central / South Asia	East Asia	South East Asia	Oceania
Respondents	100%	18%	6%	49%	2%	7%	2%	7%	4%	6%
Age										
Age 18 to 24	9%	9%	11%	11%	3%	1%	19%	9%	4%	5%
Age 25 to 34	20%	14%	12%	23%	21%	17%	12%	27%	16%	20%
Age 35 to 44	19%	16%	19%	19%	23%	19%	16%	32%	19%	20%
Age 45 to 54	17%	14%	13%	17%	18%	19%	22%	18%	15%	20%
Age 55 to 64	15%	15%	15%	15%	18%	17%	18%	9%	18%	16%
Age 65 and up	20%	31%	29%	16%	18%	27%	13%	5%	29%	19%
Sex										
Male	44%	43%	42%	41%	44%	54%	50%	54%	63%	41%
Female	56%	57%	58%	59%	56%	46%	50%	46%	37%	59%
Income										
$0–$19,999	15%	7%	36%	17%	24%	19%	30%	10%	19%	3%
$20,000–$74,999	40%	39%	37%	40%	45%	39%	31%	48%	39%	35%
$75,000+	45%	54%	27%	43%	31%	42%	39%	42%	42%	62%
Race										
White	80%	87%	52%	85%	76%	93%	30%	54%	63%	89%
Black	3%	2%	9%	2%	18%	1%	0%	3%	1%	1%
Hispanic	7%	4%	34%	7%	2%	2%	3%	4%	5%	4%
Other Race	10%	8%	5%	5%	3%	4%	67%	38%	31%	6%
Education										
Less Than Bachelor's	20%	24%	24%	21%	10%	11%	21%	10%	18%	20%
Bachelor's Degree	35%	39%	37%	32%	28%	31%	33%	46%	41%	33%
More Than Bachelor's	45%	37%	38%	47%	62%	58%	45%	44%	41%	48%
Marital Status										
Married	60%	67%	52%	57%	60%	66%	57%	54%	63%	66%
Never Married	29%	20%	31%	32%	29%	18%	37%	42%	26%	23%
Other	12%	13%	17%	11%	11%	16%	7%	3%	12%	11%
Employment Status										
Employed	62%	58%	51%	63%	69%	62%	52%	77%	53%	68%
Retired	18%	27%	26%	15%	16%	20%	11%	5%	31%	19%
Unable/Caretaker[23]	8%	8%	12%	8%	9%	8%	15%	8%	9%	8%
Other	11%	7%	11%	14%	7%	10%	22%	11%	7%	5%

[23] This category collapses the "No, I was disabled," "No, I was unable to work," and "No, I was a caretaker or stay-at-home parent" response options.

Living Abroad

This section delves into overseas citizen ballot requesters' lives outside of the United States by examining the reasons they were abroad during the 2020 General Election, the amount of time they had spent living overseas, and the countries where those individuals held dual citizenship. Reasons for being overseas varied (e.g., dual citizenship, family-related reasons, employment opportunities), and OCPS asked respondents to choose from a multiple-choice list.[24]

A common reason for 2020 respondents to live abroad was employment or volunteering; almost 40% of all respondents lived abroad due to employment or volunteer opportunities. Given the high level of employment (62%) among overseas citizens, it is not surprising to see work cited as one of the primary motivators for living abroad. About a third of respondents reported being overseas due to being born overseas or being a citizen of the destination country, or to be with family (33% and 32% respectively). Less frequently cited reasons for living abroad include quality of life concerns (25%), education or research opportunities (12%), and retirement (10%). Additionally, data shows that 13% of respondents listed "other" reasons for living abroad.

As noted, a common reason for living abroad at the time of the survey was being born outside of the United States or having been a citizen of a different country. Accordingly, 42% of respondents reported that they held citizenship in the country they were residing in during the 2020 General Election, and 8% said that they held citizenship in a country other than the United States or their country of residence. Of the 60% of respondents with spouses, 37% reported that their spouse held U.S. citizenship, 68% reported that their spouse held citizenship in their country of residence, and 13% said that their spouse held citizenship in a country other than the United States or their country of residence. Additionally, of the 52% of respondents who have children, 83% reported that their children had U.S. citizenship, 70% said that their child had citizenship in the country of residence, and 10% said their child had citizenship in a country other than the United States or their country of residence.

Respondents were also asked to report the length of time they had lived abroad and in their current country of residence. These questions were asked primarily to assess any relationship between time spent living overseas and the likelihood of successfully completing the absentee voting process. Thirty-five percent of respondents had lived in their country of residence for six years or less, 21% of respondents lived in their country of residence for six to 12 years, and 44% of respondents had lived in their country of residence for more than 12 years. Individuals over the age of 65 and those between the ages of 55 and 64 most often reported living in their country of residence for more than 12 years, and those ages 25 to 34 were the most likely to live in their country of residence for six years or less.

[24] Question 6 answer options were condensed into the seven categories reported in the Volume 2 topline tables. While this was originally a single-select item in 2018, 2020 respondents were able to choose multiple responses from the list. This change may affect the comparability of this item for 2020 and previous years.

Participation in the 2020 General Election

Voting

In the previous OCPS, 69% of respondents reported that they definitely voted in the election. Respondent voting rates were higher in 2020, consistent with expected increase between a midterm and presidential election. [25] The Census Bureau reported that voter turnout rates in the 2020 presidential election were the highest of the 21st century.[26] This is consistent with differences in voting participation reported in the 2016 and 2020 surveys; overall, 91% of 2020 respondents reported that they definitely voted, compared to 83% in 2016. The number of respondents that reported not being sure whether they voted was consistent between 2016 and 2020, with 3% not being sure in 2016 and 2% not being sure in 2020. Almost all (98%) of 2020 respondents reported that they had planned to vote in the months leading up to the election.

Among survey respondents who requested an absentee ballot, 95% reported that they had submitted an absentee ballot for the 2020 General Election. Of those who indicated that they voted and returned the ballot, 75% had a vote recorded in administrative vote history files. The rate of successful voting (i.e., the percentage of self-reported ballot returners identified as having cast a ballot in administrative records) varies across countries with differing obstacle levels.[27] Among those in countries with the lowest level of obstacles, approximately 77% of self-reported voters have a successful vote recorded, as compared to 68% from countries with the highest level of voting obstacles.

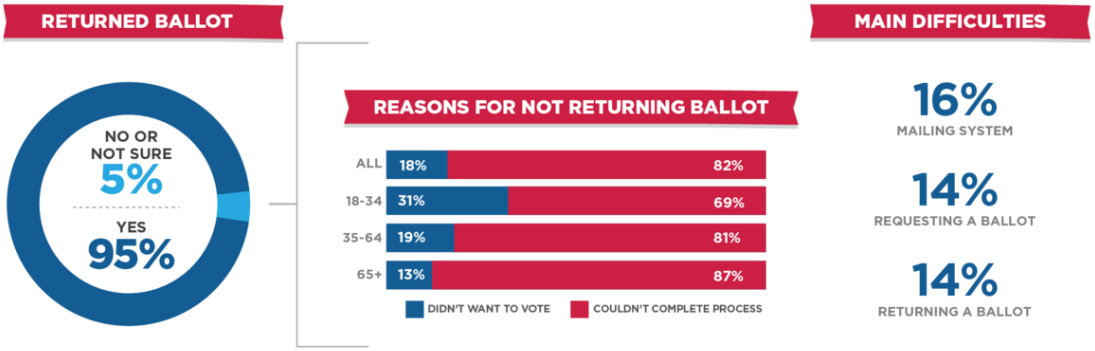
Of the subset of 2020 respondents who reported not returning their absentee ballot or FWAB, or being unsure whether they returned their absentee ballot or FWAB, those who reported doing so because they did not want to vote were most commonly between the ages of 55 and 64. In comparison, respondents between the ages of 25 and 34 most often reported trying or wanting to vote, but not being able to complete the process. Additionally, all respondents in the regions of South / Central America / Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East / North Africa, and almost all respondents (97%) in North / Central / South Asia, reported that the reason they did not vote was because they were unable to complete the process.

[25] Pew Research Center, (2014). "Voter Turnout Always Drops Off for Midterm Elections, but Why?" Available at https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/07/24/voter-turnout-always-drops-off-for-midterm-elections-but-why/

[26] United States Census Bureau, (2021). "2020 Presidential Election Voting and Registration Tables Now Available." Available at https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2021/2020-presidential-election-voting-and-registration-tables-now-available.html

[27] This is based on the estimated fraction of likely OCVAP voters in the country who do not vote due to voting obstacles.

Figure 16. Voting Overseas in the 2020 General Election



Most respondents (89%) reported being very interested in the 2020 General Election,[28] while 6% reported being somewhat interested. This is higher than the results following the 2018 Midterm Election and about the same as the results following the previous 2016 Presidential Election. Most respondents (69%) guessed that other U.S. citizens in their country of residence would be about as equally interested in the election as they were, whereas 16% said that other U.S. citizens were somewhat less interested. Additionally, most (86%) reported having a strong preference regarding the candidates in the election.

Regardless of interest, overseas citizens experience unique voting challenges that in-person voters would not have to experience. Respondents were asked to report whether they experienced voting obstacles, such as registration difficulties and ballot request and transmission issues, and were also asked to evaluate their knowledge of important voting deadlines. Overall, the youngest respondents (ages 18 to 24) more often reported difficulty requesting a ballot, being unsure of the address to use, and (along with those aged 25 to 34) difficulty with the mailing system in their country of residence compared to other age groups. FWAB and FPCA awareness was low overall (35% and 33%) though awareness of the FWAB increased since 2018; all age groups reported higher FWAB awareness, especially the youngest respondents. Overall, most respondents reported good or excellent knowledge of their states' deadlines for registration, how to request an absentee ballot, and how to return an absentee ballot.

Absentee Ballots

OCPS contains a series of questions about absentee ballot requests, transmissions, and returns, seeking to understand how overseas citizens engage with the materials required for overseas voting. Although the OCPS sample is drawn from overseas U.S. citizens whose state voter files indicate they requested an absentee ballot, respondents were asked to confirm whether they requested one. Overall, 91% of respondents reported requesting an absentee ballot for the 2020 General Election, an increase from 72% of respondents in 2018.[29] A further 5% reported that they did not request an absentee ballot, and 4% reported being unsure. All respondents were then asked to report whether they had expected to receive an absentee ballot automatically from an election official, and just over half (51%) of respondents reported that they did. This is consistent with 2018, in which 56% of

[28] Interest in voting among OCPS respondents may not reflect the attitudes of all overseas citizens, as the OCPS sample consists of absentee ballot requesters.

[29] For comparison, 87% of 2016 respondents reported requesting an absentee ballot.

respondents reported expecting to receive their absentee ballot automatically. Similarly, 47% of 2016 OCPS respondents reported expecting to receive an absentee ballot automatically from an election official. Slightly more respondents reported requesting an absentee ballot while living in their country of residence for the first time in 2020 (37%) than did respondents in 2018 (32%). Additionally, more 2020 respondents obtained a FWAB (38%) than did 2018 respondents (28%).

Overseas citizens can request absentee ballots through multiple modes. Most respondents requested their absentee ballots electronically (79%), including 38% that requested a ballot on a state election website and 1% that requested by fax. Postal mail was a less common ballot request mode (15%). There was no significant difference between different age groups in the proportion of respondents that requested their ballots by postal mail, whereas the oldest respondents (aged 65 and up) were least likely to request a ballot by website, and the proportion of those who requested ballots by email increased with age. OCPS asked respondents the reason they chose to receive absentee ballots by the modes they reported; slightly less than half (41%) chose the ballot receipt mode due to its convenience, whereas 16% chose it due to its reliability. Less common reasons were the ease of use, speed, and choosing the ballot receipt mode out of habit.

Unlike in 2018 and 2016, email was the most common mode of ballot receipt in 2020. This was consistent across all regions and particularly in South / Central America / Caribbean, where 75% of respondents reported receiving their absentee ballot or FWAB by email However, like in 2018 and 2016, postal mail was the most common mode of ballot return. Respondents living in South / Central America / Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa returned absentee ballots by email more than other regions, and those in South / Central America / Caribbean returned ballots by postal mail less than other regions. Of respondents who submitted their ballots by mail, those in South / Central America / Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, and North / Central / South Asia reported using the country of residence's national mail service the least.

These results align with the findings related to countries with different levels of obstacles to voting, with obstacles being mostly related to postal service reliability. Although 92% of all respondents who reported requesting an absentee ballot said that they received their ballot for the 2020 General Election, those from low-obstacle countries experienced fewer issues receiving their ballots, with 94% of those from low-obstacle countries reporting receiving their ballots as compared to 87% in high-obstacle countries. Among those who reported receiving a ballot, modes of receipt varied depending on the level of obstacles within a country. Whereas 37% of those in low-obstacle countries who received an absentee ballot reported doing so by mail, in the highest obstacle countries, only 14% reported receiving their ballot by mail. This difference is statistically significant. As obstacles increase, so did the percentage overseas U.S. citizens who reported receiving absentee ballots through an electronic mode.

Most overseas voters reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the overall absentee voting process (77%), though slight differences in age were observed between those who reported they were satisfied and those who reported they were very satisfied. Generally, the proportion of those who reported being satisfied decreased as age increased, while the proportion of those who reported being very satisfied increased as age increased. Satisfaction also varied slightly across world regions, with those in North America most often reporting being very satisfied with the overall absentee voting process (48%).

FVAP Resources

The percentage of 2020 respondents who were aware of FVAP (42%) was higher than in previous years—36% in 2018, 39% in 2016, and 29% in 2014. Respondents in Sub-Saharan Africa and North/Central/South Asia were the most aware of FVAP, while respondents in North America and Oceania were the least aware. In addition to awareness, the 2020 OCPS asked whether respondents heard, saw, or received any messages from FVAP about the 2020 General Election. Thirty-five percent of respondents said they had received such messages. The percentages varied by world region but aligned with FVAP awareness results—the region with the lowest proportion of participants reporting hearing, seeing, or receiving FVAP messages was North America (29%). The 2020 survey also added a question about whether respondents had seen a specific advertisement from FVAP (see Figure 17). Respondents more often reported recalling Advertisement 4 (20%) and Advertisement 3 (11%).

Figure 17. FVAP Advertisements

Advertisement 1

Advertisement 2

Advertisement 3

Advertisement 4

Individuals who visited the FVAP.gov website or used the FVAP Online Assistant Tool in anticipation of the 2020 General Election rated their satisfaction highly, consistent with 2018 respondents. Overall, 2020 respondents reported using FVAP products and services before the election more than 2018 respondents did. In 2020, 72% reported using FVAP.gov, compared to 58% in 2018 and 67% in 2016, 41% reported using the FVAP Online Assistant Tool in 2020 compared to 33% in 2018, and 9% used FVAP staff support in 2020 compared to 7% in 2018. Usage of the FVAP Online Assistant Tool and FVAP staff support was consistent between 2016 and 2020.

The use of resources, including FVAP.gov and state election websites, tended to decrease as age increased, as illustrated in Table 8.

Table 8. Use of Voting Resources by Age

	18–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65 and up
FVAP.gov	87%	82%	67%	71%	71%	56%
FVAP staff support	11%	9%	7%	7%	8%	11%
FVAP Online Assistant Tool	49%	40%	40%	43%	39%	30%
State or local election office website	75%	73%	71%	71%	67%	58%
U.S. Government resources	18%	12%	13%	14%	11%	12%

Those who reported using at least two of the voting resources listed in Table 8 were asked which resource they found the most useful. FVAP.gov was categorized as the most useful resource by 40% of respondents, followed by state or local election office websites (37%).

Sources of Voting Information

In the months leading to the 2020 General Election, overseas citizens had the opportunity to access voting information through different channels and from different sources. The internet (not including social media) was the most-used source of voting information among survey respondents (54%), while newspapers, magazines, television, and radio were among the least popular sources of information, regardless of whether they were U.S. media sources (used by 16% of respondents) or non-U.S. media sources (used by 13% of respondents). When asked which sources overseas citizens used at least once a month to obtain news or new headlines about U.S. politics and elections, the most popular among the respondents were international news outlets (58%), web searches (56%), and U.S. national newspapers (47%).

The second most popular sources of voting information among respondents were LEOs or state election officials (SEOs). When sending overseas ballots, SEOs and LEOs often include sample ballots or other supplementary voting information. Election offices also maintain websites or other online resources where voters can access more information about who and what is on their ballots. Thirty-four percent of all survey respondents reported receiving information from these officials, with higher percentages among males (37%) and older adults (36% or more among those aged 45 and up). Notably, males and older individuals were among the respondents that reported receiving voting procedure information from SEOs or LEOs at higher rates in 2018, 2016, and 2014 as well (see Table 9).

Table 9. Percent of Respondents that Received Voting Information from SEOs/LEOs									
Year	All Respondents	Female	Male	Age 18–24	Age 25–34	Age 35–44	Age 45–54	Age 55–64	Age 65+
2020	34%	32%	37%	26%	28%	31%	38%	36%	42%
2018	30%	26%	34%	25%	22%	26%	33%	34%	38%
2016	27%	24%	31%	17%	20%	25%	29%	34%	36%
2014	48%	46%	51%	28%	42%	47%	49%	56%	53%

The high and widespread use of the internet is accompanied by high reliance on online resources to obtain voter information. Like in 2016 and 2018, the internet (not including social media) was the most common source of information among respondents in 2020. This was particularly true for younger respondents, who reported higher rates of internet usage than older participants in 2020 (52% to 62% among age groups of ages 44 or less, compared to 45% to 51% among age groups of ages 55 or more).

Similarly, use of social media as a source of voting information was most common among younger respondents (40% of participants ages 18 to 24, a significant increase from 22% in 2018), and least common for older age groups (14% of participants 65 years old and up). Participants were also asked about their social media use when sharing political stories, posting comments about political issues, and other actions related to politics. Generally, over one-third of respondents reported engaging in such activities on social media, with the most common action being "liking" or promoting material related to political or social issues that others posted (51% of respondents reported having done that). Female respondents were more engaged than males in the use of social media to share or discuss political issues. In particular, 55% of female respondents reported "liking" material related to politics or social issues compared to 46% of male respondents, and 45% of female respondents indicated that they had used social media to encourage other people to vote compared to 35% of male respondents.

In addition to online interactions, respondents were asked to estimate their number of social connections. For OCPS purposes, this meant the number of voting-age U.S. citizens that respondents knew in their country of residence. Over half of respondents reported knowing between one and 10 U.S. citizens, with only nine percent of respondents reporting not knowing any. When respondents were asked to report how many U.S. citizens they discussed absentee voting with, the greatest proportion responded one or two (33%) or none (21%).

Although discussion with other U.S. citizens tended to be low, participants tended to be more open to discussing voting procedures with family members or friends. Twenty-eight percent of respondents reported receiving information on the absentee voting process from family or friends in their country of residence, and 23% reported receiving such information from family or friends outside of that country. Younger respondents reported receiving absentee voting information from family or friends at considerably higher rates than older respondents. For example, 49% of respondents between the ages of 18 and 24 reported receiving information from family or friends in their country of residence, compared to 26% of respondents between the ages of 35 and 44. This difference may be related to older respondents having more experience and knowledge of the absentee voting process and younger respondents requiring more assistance in this process from more experienced family members or friends.

Among other sources used to receive information about the absentee voting process overseas, organizations of U.S. citizens living abroad remained popular, as almost one in three respondents reported having received information from these types of organizations. Thirteen percent of respondents reported receiving absentee information from candidates or parties, which is comparable with what was reported in 2014 and higher than both 2016 (8%) and 2018 (8%).

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APPENDIX A – COUNTRY AND STATE CATEGORIES

Countries and Regions

The 186 countries[30] used in this study are from the U.S. Department of State's official list of countries.[31] Areas missing from this list may not be officially recognized by the Department of State and thus were excluded from analysis due to challenges associated with collecting adequate data.

North America

Canada, Mexico

South/Central America / Caribbean

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela

Europe

Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom

Sub-Saharan Africa

Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Middle East / North Africa

Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Egypt, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

North/Central/South Asia

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

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[30] Countries without estimates were those without sufficient data to predict the citizen population. See the first chapter of Volume 3 for a list of country-level predictors.

[31] https://www.state.gov/misc/list/index.htm

East Asia

China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Mongolia, South Korea, Taiwan

South East Asia

Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam

Oceania

Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu

APPENDIX B – VARIABLES USED IN THE MODEL OF COUNTRY-LEVEL VOTING RATES

Variable	Description	Source(s)
Dependent Variable		
Voting Rate	Number of votes counted in 2018 General Election originating from host country/number of voting age eligible population residing in host country in 2018	Numerator is taken from OCPS frame. See Chapter 3 of Volume 3; denominator is imputed using model averaging methodology. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Proxies for Obstacles to Voting		
Worldwide Governance Indicators	Mean of 1996–2018 averages of World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators	World Bank. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Ln(Minimum Time to Respond)	Natural log of number of days that passed between when invitations to participate in the OCPS were sent and the first survey start from a respondent in the country who was contacted by mail	Computed from the OCPS using start date. See text.
Control Variables		
Ln(Distance to the United States)	Natural log of minimum straight-line distance between U.S.–host country agglomeration pair. Agglomerations are taken from 2014 United Nations Urbanization Prospects	City agglomerations and their locations are taken from the United Nations Urbanization Prospects. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Ln(GDP per capita), U.S. – Ln(GDP per capita), Host Country	Difference in natural log of GDP per capita of the host country and that of the United States in 2018	World Bank World Development Indicator and Penn World Tables. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
English	Indicator for whether English is a primary language in the country	Ethnologue. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Spanish	Indicator for whether Spanish is a primary language in the country	Ethnologue. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Region of the World	Indicators for the country's region of the world as defined by the U.S. Department of State	Appendix A
Fraction of CVAP with Post-Secondary Education	Fraction of eligible population in the country with post-secondary educational attainment	Imputed as part of OCPA. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Fraction of CVAP that is Male	Fraction of eligible population in the country that is male	Imputed as part of OCPA. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Fraction of CVAP, Age 25–64	Fraction of eligible population in the country whose age is between 25–64	Imputed as part of OCPA. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.

Fraction of CVAP, Age 65+	Fraction of eligible population in the country whose age is 65 or greater	Imputed as part of OCPA. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Ln(Eligible Population)	Natural log of number of voting age eligible population residing in host country in 2018	Imputed using model averaging methodology. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.
Ln(Country Population)	Natural log of country's total population	Penn World Tables. See Chapter 1 of Volume 3.

APPENDIX C – VOTING GAP DECOMPOSITION METHODOLOGY

This appendix presents the model used to generate predictions of the obstacles gap. The following model is fitted using fractional logistic regression:[32]

$$Voting\ Rate_i = \frac{e^{\beta_1 Ln(Min\ Mailing\ Time)_i + \beta_2 WGI_i + \beta_3 (Ln(Min\ Mailing\ Time)_i * WGI_i) + \beta X_i + constant}}{1 + e^{\beta_1 Ln(Min\ Mailing\ Time)_i + \beta_2 WGI_i + \beta_3 (Ln(Min\ Mailing\ Time)_i * WGI_i) + \beta X_i + constant}}$$

$Voting\ Rate_i$ is the 2020 voting rates of the OCVAP residing in country i. Obstacles are operationalized by two variables. The first, $Ln(Min\ Mailing\ Time)_i$, is the natural log of the minimum time it took a 2016 OCPS respondent to respond to the survey after invitations to take the survey were mailed, a proxy for between-country mailing times.[33] This variable captures the influence of mailing times between the United States and the country of residence on the probability that someone votes. The second variable is the country's mean Worldwide Governance Indicator (WGI), which is an index of governance quality based on multiple surveys and expert opinions (see Volume 3). The WGI captures various institutional and infrastructural aspects of a country that may impact the probability that a blank requested ballot is received by a *UOCAVA* voter once entering the country of residence or that a completed ballot successfully leaves the country of residence. These may include various aspects of mail reliability (e.g., road quality and mail transport time, mail theft, government censorship). Because between-country mailing times would conceivably only influence the probability that a ballot is received and returned on time if the ballot successfully navigates the mailing system of the country of residence, the effect of between-country mailing times is allowed to vary based on the country's WGI.

X_i are a set of control variables that might be related to differences in the perceived benefit of voting across countries. These include: *Ln(distance between the country and the U.S.)*; difference in *Ln(GDP per capita)* between host country and the United States; indicators for whether the country speaks English or Spanish; indicators for the region of the world that the country is in; the imputed fraction of the OCVAP with post-secondary education; the imputed fraction of the OCVAP that is male; and the imputed fractions of the population that are age 25–64 and 65+. Description as sources for the predictor variables are reported in Appendix A.

Once the model is fitted, predictions are made for what each country's voting rate would have been if (1) OCPS mailing times were only 6 days (the minimum mailing time observed in the data) for all countries and (2) WGI for all countries was that of the country with the max WGI.[34] The estimate of obstacle-free OCVAP voting rate is the average of these predicted voting rates weighted by the size of the eligible population. In other words, the model is used to predict what participation would be if long mailing times or mail unreliability were not an obstacle to OCVAP

[32] Model is fit using Stata's fracreg command. Countries are weighted by the size of their estimated OCVAP. The sample is weighted in order to mitigate the effect of sampling variability associated with low-population countries and obtain a representative estimate of the effect of obstacles to voting on vote rates.

[33] This variable is not available for countries for which there was not at least one 2016 OCPS respondent. For these countries, this variable was imputed through a linear regression model, where the predictor included: (logged) distance between the country and the United States; difference in (logged) GDP per capita between the country and the United States; mean WGI; and region of the world fixed effects. The 2016 OCPS is used rather than the 2018 or 2020 OCPS because more countries had at least one respondent in the 2016 OCPS and the 2016 frame was more complete with respect to U.S. jurisdictional coverage.

[34] In practice, generating this prediction involves adjusting the log-odds of voting in the country for a change in obstacle variables. For countries with zero votes, the voting rate is zero and the log-odds are undefined. For these countries, the baseline (before adjustment) log-odds were set such that the implied voting rate was 1%.

voting.

APPENDIX D – EVIDENCE FOR OBSTACLES TO VOTING USING EVIDENCE FROM AROUND TIME OF MIGRATION

This appendix presents evidence that the voting gap is at least partly explained by obstacles to voting and not just differences in motivation to vote. The methodology involves comparing voting rates from the 2016 General Election of individuals who had recently emigrated (recent migrants) from the United States, and were thus outside the United States, to a group who had not yet emigrated but would soon do so (future migrants).[35] Because individuals in both groups emigrated around the same time, differences in voting rates are less likely to be explained by pre-emigration differences in motivation to vote. And because individuals in the OCVAP group are comprised of recent migrants, it is unlikely that the overseas group's motivation to vote has been affected by spending a long period of time outside the United States. For these reasons, the differences in voting rates can be plausibly attributed to obstacles to voting associated with residing outside the United States.

Data used in this analysis is drawn from the OCPS sample. A benefit of this survey is that it includes detailed questions about individuals' migration history, which allows the determination of whether a respondent was residing within the United States or within their 2020 country of residence for each midterm and presidential election in the period 2000–2018. In addition, voting history for the OCPS sample is available for many respondents for the period 2000–2020, which allows one to account for any differences in voting history for each group in the period before migration. The OCPS subsample used for this analysis includes respondents who were residing in the United States during November 2014 and whose only post-2010 destination country was their 2020 country of residence. Within this sample, the 2016 voting rates of individuals who reported being in the United States during November 2016 is compared to that of individuals who resided in their 2020 country of residence during November 2016.

Specifically, the data for this subsample is used to fit the following logistic model:

$$P(Voted_{2016}|Overseas_{2014} = 0) = \frac{e^{\beta_1 Overseas_{2016} + \beta_2 Voted_{2014} + \beta_3 Voted_{2012} + \beta_4 Voted_{2014} * Voted_{2012} + \beta X}}{1 + e^{\beta_1 Overseas_{2016} + \beta_2 Voted_{2014} + \beta_3 Voted_{20012} + \beta_4 Voted_{2014} * Voted_{2012} + \beta X}}$$

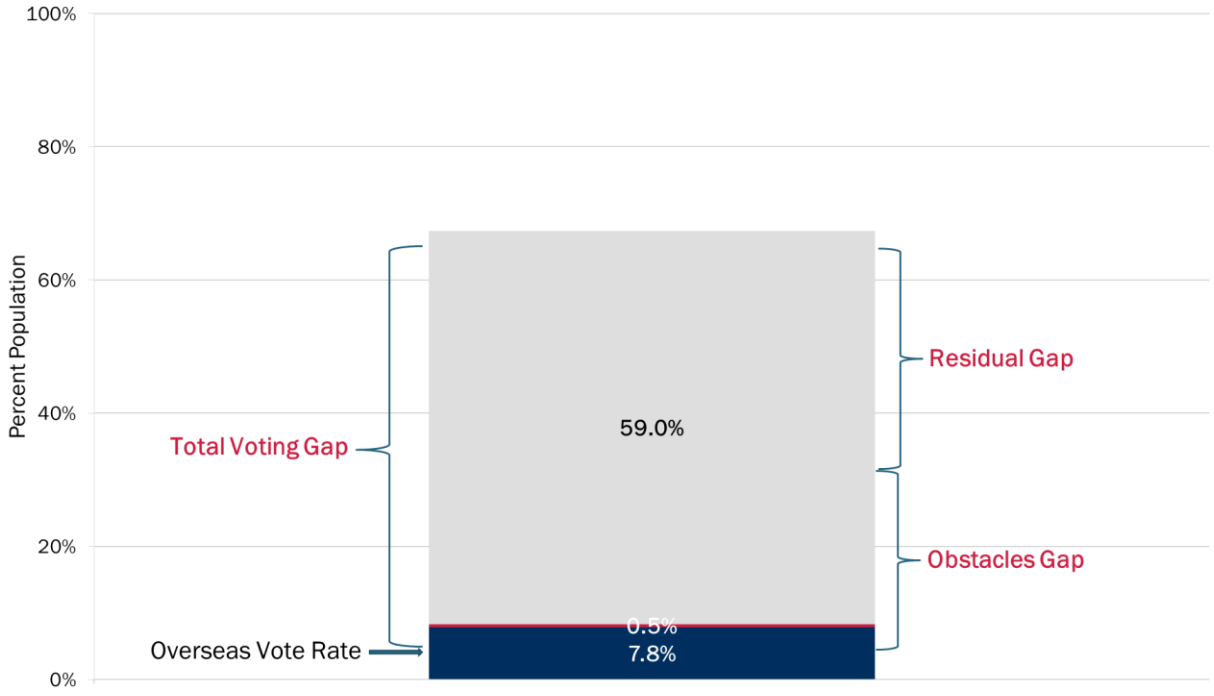
Where X includes a set of demographic and geographic controls (age, age squared, gender, race/ethnicity, educational attainment, and 2020 state of legal residence). The estimation sample is weighted such that both the overseas and U.S. groups are representative of the 2020 total eligible population with respect to the WGI, mailing time, and region of their 2020 country of residence.

The model is then used to generate predicted voting rates assuming the entire estimation sample overseas (59%) or in the United States (63%). The estimated voting rates imply that for every

[35] One concern with this strategy is that the estimate may be capturing the effect of mobility, rather than overseas obstacles per se. To mitigate this concern, a similar model is estimated, but restricted to OCPS respondents who were outside the United States in 2014. Individuals who remained outside the United States are thus compared to those who returned to the Unites States between November 2014 and November 2016. If mobility were driving the results, then the overseas group would be expected to have a higher predicted probability of voting, because they were immobile relative to the domestic group. The results indicate statistically significantly lower voting rates among the overseas group, which is consistent with the effect of being outside the United States, rather than mobility.

overseas voter, there were 1.06 (calculated as 63% / 59% = 1.06) overseas residents who would have voted had they been in the United States. Given that the estimated participation rate of the OCVAP was 7.8%, this implies that if there were no obstacles that were specific to overseas voting, the participation rate would have been 8.3%. The implied obstacles gap is .5 percentage points, while the implied residual gap is 59.0 percentage points. This decomposition is also consistent with differences in motivation explaining the overwhelming majority of the voting gap between the OCVAP and non-*UOCAVA* CVAP population.

Figure D1. Decomposition of the Voting Gap using Migrant Sub-Sample



However, there is strong reason to believe that the obstacles gap is underestimated and the residual gap overestimated when using this methodology. The primary drawback of this methodology is that the OCPS sample is drawn from the population of overseas absentee ballot requesters in 2020. These are individuals who requested an absentee ballot in 2020, and thus might not be representative of the overseas eligible population with respect to obstacles to voting or motivation to vote. Specifically, because OCPS respondents attempted to vote and successfully requested an absentee ballot, the obstacles to voting associated with residing outside the U.S. for these individuals may be less likely to affect the voting rate than the general eligible population, because absentee ballot requesters perceived enough benefit in voting that they would attempt to vote regardless. This implies that the resulting obstacles gap is underestimated and the residual gap overestimated. A related concern is that because data on voting comes from the 2016 election, obstacles and motivation of the OCVAP in 2016 may not be representative of obstacles and motivation in 2020. Also, the FPCA, FWAB, and other voting resources are not consistently available in languages other than English, and the survey was conducted only in English; therefore, obstacles related to support for limited English proficiency overseas voters may not be fully captured.

The primary benefit of this decomposition methodology over the methodology presented in the main body of the text, which compares voting rates among the OCVAP in countries with different

levels of obstacles, is that it uses information about the actual voting behavior of a group residing in the United States that is comparable to the geographically representative overseas population. This means the counterfactual voting rate is independent of the overseas-specific obstacles to voting, unlike the counterfactual absentee ballot request rate generated from the cross-country model. This is because all of the data for the cross-country analysis comes from individuals who are residing outside of the United States, and probably still reflects obstacles to voting. In addition, although individuals residing in high- and low-obstacle countries may differ with respect to features associated with the motivation to vote, the two weighted samples compared in the migration analysis are similar with respect to the timing of their migration as well as features of their destination countries, and thus are less likely to differ with respect to motivation to vote.

APPENDIX E – ADMINISTRATIVE CVAP VOTING RATE

As discussed in the main body of this report, our baseline *UOCAVA* CVAP participation rate is based on various administrative data, while our baseline CVAP participation rate is based on self-reported participation taken from survey data. This section presents alternative estimates of the participation rate based on an administrative-based estimate of the CVAP participation rate. To obtain an administrative-based estimate of the participation rate for the CVAP, this report uses data from the United States Elections Project (USEP).[36]

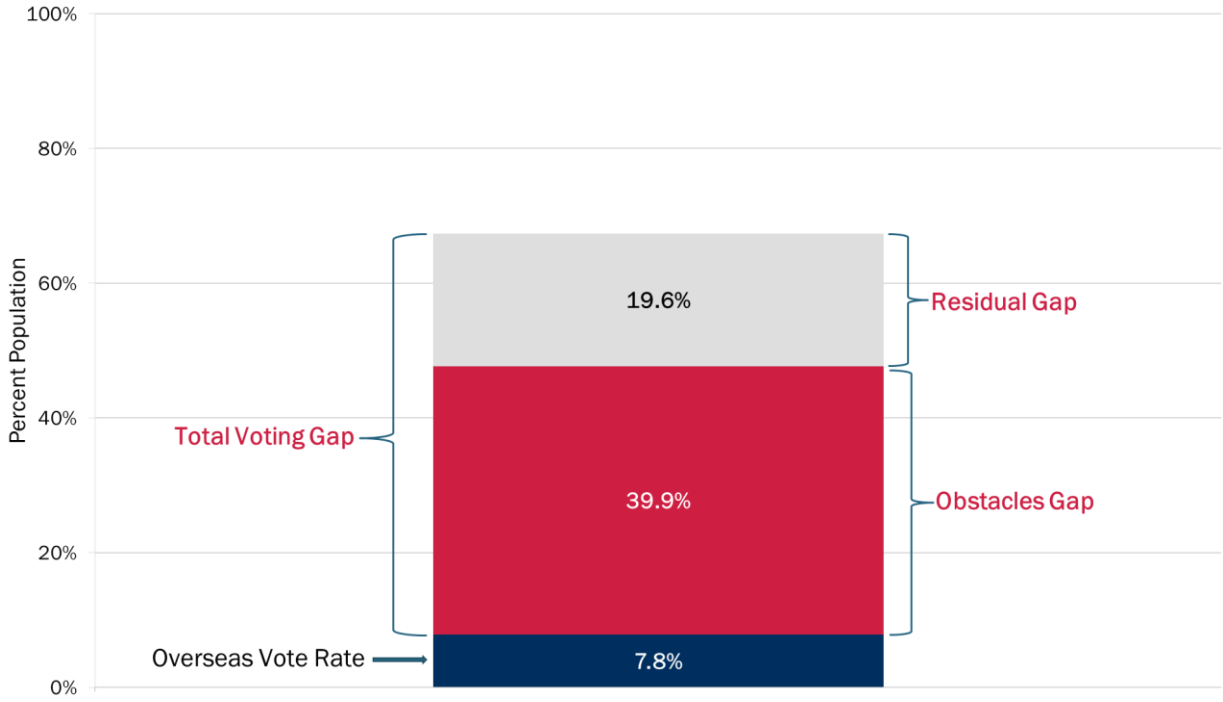
The starting point for the size of the CVAP is the domestic voting age population, which the USEP reports as being 257,605,008. Then, the approximately 7.8% of this population that are non-citizens are excluded. Because the comparison of interest is to the CVAP who have an option to vote non-absentee, this count is further reduced by excluding the domestic *UOCAVA* ADM population. This estimate of the domestic *UOCAVA* voters reported is obtained from the 2020 PEVS-ADM (pg. 74) and is approximately 968,739. This results in a total CVAP of approximately 236,543,078.

For the total number of votes attributable to this population, the starting point is the 159,738,337 votes counted in the 2020 General Election. From this total, the approximately 224,139 votes attributed to the OCVAP are subtracted. In addition, votes attributed to the *UOCAVA* ADM population are excluded. The number of votes attributable to the *UOCAVA* ADM population is taken from the 2020 EAVS report. As a result, an additional 329,445 votes are excluded, resulting in a final estimate of 159,184,753 votes originating from the CVAP.

To calculate the participation rate for the domestic population, the total 159,184,753 votes cast are divided by the estimated size of the domestic population. This results in an estimated domestic participation rate of approximately 67%. Figure E1 presents an alternative decomposition based on the baseline administrative CVAP participation rate. The primary difference between the decompositions using the survey and administrative CVAP participation rates is that a smaller fraction of the gap in the administrative-based decomposition is ascribed to differences in motivation between the two populations.

[36] Data available at http://www.electproject.org/2018g

Figure E1. Decomposition using Administrative CVAP Participation Rate



APPENDIX F – VOTING GAPS UNDER ALTERNATIVE OCVAP VOTING RATES

The baseline estimates for the participation rates for the OCVAP and the CVAP reveal a voting gap between the two populations of approximately 71 percentage points. Put another way, these initial estimates imply that the domestic population is approximately 10 times more likely to vote than the overseas population.

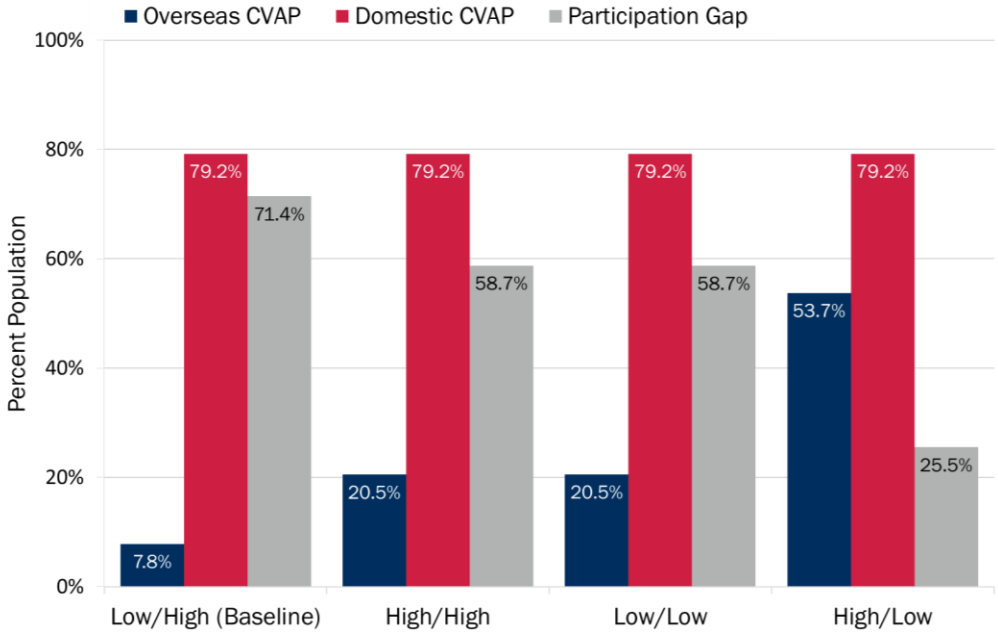
To test whether the magnitude of the estimated gap is sensitive to the choices concerning how to measure the participation rate, alternative measures of the numerator (number of votes) and denominator (size of the population) are employed. Specifically, the baseline numerator for the OCVAP participation rate is used as a "low" estimate and the baseline denominator is defined as the "high" estimate. "High" and "low" estimates of the numerator and denominator respectively are then substituted into the OCVAP participation rate to observe how small the voting gap can conceivably be.

For the "high" estimate of the numerator, the count of returned and non-rejected regular absentee ballots and FWABs from the 2020 EAVS, conducted after each Federal election cycle through a cooperative agreement between FVAP and the U.S. Election Assistance commission, are used. This count is not used as the baseline numerator because it is likely inflated by (1) the fact that it is unclear what criteria the SEOs and LEOs who responded to the survey used to identify civilian *UOCAVA*, and (2) there is some degree of double counting between different fields of the survey. These problems are less severe with the individual-level data used to generate the baseline numerator, though it is conceivable that the LEO survey count includes votes that were not identified in the search of absentee ballot request/return files.

For the "low" estimate of the denominator of the OCVAP participation rate, the total number of individuals who are estimated to have reported foreign income to the IRS or individuals who claimed social security benefits from an overseas address (1,092,206 in 2020) is used. This is not used as a baseline estimate since it is almost surely an undercount that only includes individuals who are (1) employed or retired and (2) reside overseas for a long enough period of time to make their overseas address their permanent address.

Alternative participation rates for the OCVAP based on different combinations of "high" and "low" numerators and denominators are presented in Figure F1. Regardless of how the participation rate is measured, the voting gap between the OCVAP and CVAP remains considerable. Even under the highest estimate of the OCVAP participation rate, the CVAP is 25 percentage points higher in 2020 than the OCVAP. The estimates are thus consistent with the existence of a substantial difference in the level of participation between the two populations.

Figure F1. Voting Gap under Different Assumptions



APPENDIX G – COMMUNICATIONS

Initial Invitation – Letter

Dear first_name last_name,

The Federal Voting Assistance Program is the federal program responsible for ensuring the right of overseas U.S. citizens to request, receive, and return absentee voting materials for federal offices. To ensure that all Americans abroad know of their right to vote and are able to successfully cast ballots, we are currently trying to learn more about your experiences during the absentee voting process. You were randomly selected because state voting records show that you were living at a foreign address during the November 2020 election, and that qualifies you to give us the feedback that is vital to our success.

As the Director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), **I personally invite you to participate in a short, 15-minute survey regarding your experience with the 2020 election, whether you voted or not.**

We invite you to complete the *2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey* online at:
https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

So that we do not re-contact you, enter your personal **Ticket Number: code.**

The act of voting is one of the most fundamental rights associated with democracy, and many citizens consider it to be an important experience. You may be aware that Americans who live and work abroad have the right to vote in American elections, but difficulties exercising this right do occur—in fact, you might have directly experienced difficulty in trying to cast an absentee ballot from outside of the United States. The United States government specifically established FVAP to ensure that all citizens living abroad are aware of their right to vote and have the tools to do so from anywhere in the world. We need your participation in this survey to help us make sure we are doing all we can to fulfill that mission. The information gathered in this survey will help us as we work to improve the absentee voting process for all U.S. citizens living abroad.

The survey is voluntary. It does not collect any information regarding your political party affiliation or other political choices, and your responses to the survey will be kept confidential and will not be associated with your name.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please send an e-mail to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or call our Survey Help Desk at 877-257-3277. If you have any questions or suggestions about the survey, please visit our website at www.FVAP.gov/info/contact.

Thank you for your help as we work to ensure that all Americans abroad know of their right to vote and have all the information and tools necessary to exercise that right.

Sincerely,

David Beirne
Director, FVAP

Second Letter

Dear first_name last_name,

About a week ago you should have received a letter inviting you to participate in an important survey sponsored by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). FVAP is the federal office dedicated to ensuring that American citizens living outside the United States are aware of their right to vote and have the tools to do so. We asked for your feedback in order to learn more about the experiences of Americans living outside the United States so we can improve the services that we provide them. Our hope is that all citizens living abroad, like you, have the opportunity to cast their vote no matter where they are located around the world. Your participation in this survey will provide us with critical information to make this possible.

If you have already completed the online survey, we thank you for sharing your experiences. If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete the survey, we encourage you to do so today.

To complete the short, 15-minute *2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey* go to:
https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

So that we do not re-contact you, enter your personal **Ticket Number: code**.

Although the survey is voluntary, we want to hear from everyone selected—voters and non-voters alike.
Our goal is to receive replies from as many different citizens as possible and to use those replies to better understand the needs of citizens of the United States residing in other nations. The survey does not collect any information regarding your political party affiliation or other political choices. Your responses to the survey will be kept confidential and will not be associated with your name.

Our Survey Help Desk is available to assist you with completing the survey or to answer any questions you may have. You may contact us by e-mail at helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or by calling 877-257-3277.

If you have any additional questions or suggestions about the sur vey, please visit our website at www.FVAP.gov/info/contact.

Thank you for your help as we work to ensure that all Americans abroad know of their right to vote and have the information and tools to exercise that right from anywhere in the world.

Sincerely,

David Beirne
Director, FVAP

Third Letter (or First Email)

Subject: Request for Information from the Federal Voting Assistance Program

Dear first_name last_name,

You might have received a letter inviting you to participate in an important survey sponsored by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). FVAP is the federal office dedicated to ensuring that American citizens living outside the United States are aware of their right to vote and have the tools to do so. We asked for your feedback in order to learn more about the experiences of Americans living outside the United States so we can improve the services that we provide them.

If you have already completed the online survey, we thank you for sharing your experiences. If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete the survey, we encourage you to do so today.

To complete the short, 15-minute *2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey* go to:
https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

So that we do not re-contact you, enter your personal **Ticket Number: code**.

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If you have any additional questions or suggestions about the sur vey, please visit our website at www.FVAP.gov/info/contact.

Thank you for your help as we work to ensure that all Americans abroad know of their right to vote and have the information and tools to exercise that right from anywhere in the world.

Sincerely,

David Beirne
Director, FVAP

First Postcard

Recently, you should have received an invitation to complete a survey about your experience as an American citizen living abroad. If you have already completed the survey, we thank you for your feedback. The information you provided will help us improve and support the absentee voting process for all citizens living outside of the United States.

If you have not yet completed the survey, please take a few moments to do so now by going to this website: https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

To access the survey, enter your personal Ticket Number, which is located above your name on the other side of this postcard.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please send an e-mail to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or call our Survey Help Desk at 877-257-3277.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PARTICIPATION!

Second Email

Subject: Reminder: Request for Information from the Federal Voting Assistance Program

Dear first_name last_name,

You might have received invitations to participate in an important survey sponsored by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). FVAP is the federal office dedicated to ensuring that American citizens living outside the United States are aware of their right to vote and have the tools to do so. We asked for your feedback in order to learn more about the experiences of Americans living outside the United States so we can improve the services that we provide them.

If you have already completed the online survey, we thank you for sharing your experiences. If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete the survey, we encourage you to do so today.

To complete the short, 15-minute *2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey* go to: https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

So that we do not re-contact you, enter your personal **Ticket Number: code**.

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If you have any additional questions or suggestions about the sur vey, please visit our website at www.FVAP.gov/info/contact.

Thank you for your help as we work to ensure that all Americans abroad know of their right to vote and have the information and tools to exercise that right from anywhere in the world.

Sincerely,

David Beirne
Director, FVAP

Second Postcard

Recently, you should have received an invitation to complete a survey about your experience as an American citizen living abroad. If you have already completed the survey, we thank you for your feedback. The information you provided will help us improve and support the absentee voting process for all citizens living outside of the United States.

If you have not yet completed the survey, please take a few moments to do so now by going to this website: https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

To access the survey, enter your personal Ticket Number, which is located above your name on the other side of this postcard.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PARTICIPATION!

Third Postcard

Recently, you should have received an invitation to complete a survey about your experience as an American citizen living abroad. If you have already completed the survey, we thank you for your feedback. The information you provided will help us improve and support the absentee voting process for all citizens living outside of the United States.

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To access the survey, enter your personal Ticket Number, which is located above your name on the other side of this postcard.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please send an e-mail to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or call our Survey Help Desk at 877-257-3277.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PARTICIPATION!

Fourth Postcard

Recently, you should have received an invitation to complete a survey about your experience as an American citizen living abroad. We understand that international mail can take some time, so you may have already completed the survey by the time you receive this notice. If this is the case, thank you for your time and effort. The information you provided will help us improve and support the absentee voting process for all citizens living outside of the United States.

If you have not yet completed the survey, please take a few moments to do so now by going to this website: https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

To access the survey, enter your personal Ticket Number, which is located above your name on the other side of this postcard.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please send an e-mail to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or call our Survey Help Desk at 877-257-3277.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PARTICIPATION!

Fifth Postcard

Recently, you should have received an invitation to complete a survey about your experience as an American citizen living abroad. We understand that international mail can take some time, so you may have already completed the survey by the time you receive this notice. If you have already completed the survey, we thank you for your feedback. If you have not completed the survey, we invite you to do so as soon as possible. The information you provided will help us improve and support the absentee voting process for all citizens living outside of the United States.

If you have not yet completed the survey, please take a few moments to do so now by going to this website: https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

To access the survey, enter your personal Ticket Number, which is located above your name on the other side of this postcard.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please send an e-mail to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or call our Survey Help Desk at 877-257-3277.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PARTICIPATION!

Optional Email 1

Subject: Reminder: Request for Information from the Federal Voting Assistance Program

Dear first_name last_name,

You might have received invitations to participate in an important survey sponsored by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). FVAP is the federal office dedicated to ensuring that American citizens living outside the United States are aware of their right to vote and have the tools to do so. We asked for your feedback in order to learn more about the experiences of Americans living outside the United States so we can improve the services that we provide them.

If you have already completed the online survey, we thank you for sharing your experiences. If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete the survey, we encourage you to do so today.

To complete the short, 15-minute *2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey* go to:
https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

So that we do not re-contact you, enter your personal **Ticket Number: code**.

The survey does not collect any information regarding your political party affiliation or other political choices. Your responses to the survey will be kept confidential and will not be associated with your name.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please send an e-mail to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or call our Survey Help Desk at 877-257-3277.

If you have any additional questions or suggestions about the survey, please visit our website at www.FVAP.gov/info/contact.

Thank you for your help as we work to ensure that all Americans abroad know of their right to vote and have the information and tools to exercise that right from anywhere in the world.

Sincerely,

David Beirne
Director, FVAP

If you have any difficulties accessing the survey via the link above, please try accessing the survey via your unique survey URL:
embedded link

Optional Email 2

Subject: Reminder: Request for Information from the Federal Voting Assistance Program

Dear first_name last_name,

You might have received invitations to participate in an important survey sponsored by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). FVAP is the federal office dedicated to ensuring that American citizens living outside the United States are aware of their right to vote and have the tools to do so. We asked for your feedback in order to learn more about the experiences of Americans living outside the United States so we can improve the services that we provide them.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete the survey, we encourage you to do so today. We are still accepting responses.

To complete the short, 15-minute *2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey* go to:
https://www.OverseasCitizenSurvey.com

So that we do not re-contact you, enter your personal **Ticket Number: code**.

The survey does not collect any information regarding your political party affiliation or other political choices. Your responses to the survey will be kept confidential and will not be associated with your name.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please send an e-mail to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com or call our Survey Help Desk at 877-257-3277.

If you have any additional questions or suggestions about the survey, please visit our website at www.FVAP.gov/info/contact.

Thank you for your help as we work to ensure that all Americans abroad know of their right to vote and have the information and tools to exercise that right from anywhere in the world.

Sincerely,

David Beirne
Director, FVAP

If you have any difficulties accessing the survey via the link above, please try accessing the survey via your unique survey URL:
embedded link

2020 Overseas Citizen Population Analysis

Volume 2: Tabulation of Survey Results

TABULATION OF SURVEY RESULTS

The 2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey (OCPS) was distributed to 45,000 overseas citizens who requested an absentee ballot for the 2020 General Election. Conducted as a part of the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) analysis of the overseas citizen voting process, the OCPS asked respondents questions about (1) the country in which they were located, (2) the length of time they had resided outside of the U.S., (3) their absentee voting experiences and behaviors leading up to the 2020 General Election, and (4) other relevant demographic information. Results for key survey items are reported in this volume, broken down by demographic subpopulations based on age, sex, income, race, education, marital status, and world region. Sample sizes (*N*) are included for each question and footnotes indicate which items were only shown to subsets of respondents. A full narrative of survey results is available in Volume 1 of this report.

Respondent Demographics[37] This table provides a breakdown of survey respondents by world region and key demographics. World regions: (1) North America; (2) South/Central America and Caribbean; (3) Europe; (4) Sub-Saharan Africa; (5) Middle East / North Africa; (6) North/Central/South Asia; (7) East Asia; (8) South East Asia; (9) Oceania [*N* = 5,282].[38]

Key Characteristics by World Region										
	Overall	(1) N. America	(2) S./C. America & Caribbean	(3) Europe	(4) Sub-Saharan Africa	(5) Middle East/N. Africa	(6) N./C./ S. Asia	(7) E. Asia	(8) S.E. Asia	(9) Oceania
Respondents	100%	18%	6%	49%	2%	7%	2%	7%	4%	6%
Age										
Age 18 to 24	9%	9%	11%	11%	3%	1%	19%	9%	4%	5%
Age 25 to 34	20%	14%	12%	23%	21%	17%	12%	27	16%	20%
Age 35 to 44	19%	16%	19%	19%	23%	19%	16%	32	19%	20%
Age 45 to 54	17%	14%	13%	17%	18%	19%	22%	18	15%	20%
Age 55 to 64	15%	15%	15%	15%	18%	17%	18%	9%	18%	16%
Age 65 and up	20%	31%	29%	16%	18%	27%	13%	5%	29%	19%
Sex										
Male	44%	43%	42%	41%	44%	54%	50%	54	63%	41%
Female	56%	57%	58%	59%	56%	46%	50%	46	37%	59%
Income										
$0–$19,999	15%	7%	36%	17%	24%	19%	30%	10	19%	3%
$20,000–$74,999	40%	39%	37%	40%	45%	39%	31%	48	39%	35%
$75,000+	45%	54%	27%	43%	31%	42%	39%	42	42%	62%
Race										
White	80%	87%	52%	85%	76%	93%	30%	54	63%	89%
Black	3%	2%	9%	2%	18%	1%	0%	3%	1%	1%
Hispanic	7%	4%	34%	7%	2%	2%	3%	4%	5%	4%
Other Race	10%	8%	5%	5%	3%	4%	67%	38	31%	6%
Education										
Less Than Bachelor's	20%	24%	24%	21%	10%	11%	21%	10	18%	20%
Bachelor's Degree	35%	39%	37%	32%	28%	31%	33%	46	41%	33%
More Than Bachelor's	45%	37%	38%	47%	62%	58%	45%	44	41%	48%
Marital Status										
Married	60%	67%	52%	57%	60%	66%	57%	54	63%	66%
Never Married	29%	20%	31%	32%	29%	18%	37%	42	26%	23%
Other	12%	13%	17%	11%	11%	16%	7%	3%	12%	11%

[37] Information on age, sex, and country of residence was obtained from the survey frame. Other demographic variables—race (Q46 and Q47), income (Q55), education (Q48), and marital status (Q51)—were obtained from survey responses.
[38] There are 24 observations that are not assigned to any world region because they had an embassy or diplomatic address.

Q4. What was the last month and year in which your primary residence was in the United States? *Please estimate if you are unsure of the exact month and year.* [*N* =5,034]

Years Living Outside of the United States			
	6 years or less	6+ to 12 years	More than 12 years
Respondents	32%	21%	48%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	50%	13%	37%
Age 25 to 34	57%	28%	15%
Age 35 to 44	33%	31%	36%
Age 45 to 54	20%	22%	58%
Age 55 to 64	22%	13%	65%
Age 65 and up	20%	13%	67%
Sex			
Male	31%	20%	49%
Female	32%	22%	46%
Region			
North America	23%	17%	60%
South/Central America / Caribbean	35%	28%	37%
Europe	31%	20%	49%
Sub-Saharan Africa	45%	17%	38%
Middle East / North Africa	31%	24%	45%
North/Central/South Asia	39%	31%	29%
East Asia	46%	22%	32%
South East Asia	42%	24%	35%
Oceania	27%	24%	48%
Income			
$0–$19,999	36%	21%	43%
$20,000–$74,999	33%	21%	46%
$75,000+	29%	21%	50%
Race			
White	29%	20%	51%
Black	31%	16%	53%
Hispanic	33%	29%	39%
Other Race	43%	22%	35%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	27%	17%	56%
Bachelor's Degree	36%	22%	43%
More Than Bachelor's	29%	22%	49%
Marital Status			
Married	27%	21%	52%
Never Married	45%	20%	35%
Other	20%	20%	60%

Q5. In the 12 months before November 3, 2020, how many times had you traveled to the United States? [*N* = 5,221]

Number of Travels to the U.S. in Previous Year				
	None	One	Two	Three or more
Respondents	46%	33%	12%	9%
Age				
Age 18 to 24	52%	33%	9%	5%
Age 25 to 34	49%	37%	9%	6%
Age 35 to 44	43%	35%	11%	10%
Age 45 to 54	47%	32%	13%	8%
Age 55 to 64	39%	33%	16%	11%
Age 65 and up	48%	28%	12%	12%
Sex				
Male	48%	31%	11%	10%
Female	44%	35%	13%	8%
Region				
North America	29%	28%	18%	26%
South/Central America / Caribbean	37%	47%	9%	7%
Europe	50%	34%	11%	5%
Sub-Saharan Africa	43%	43%	11%	3%
Middle East / North Africa	51%	26%	14%	9%
North/Central/South Asia	60%	26%	7%	6%
East Asia	53%	32%	10%	5%
South East Asia	55%	33%	8%	5%
Oceania	60%	29%	8%	4%
Income				
$0–$19,999	53%	32%	10%	5%
$20,000–$74,999	50%	34%	9%	7%
$75,000+	40%	33%	15%	13%
Race				
White	47%	32%	12%	10%
Black	47%	32%	11%	10%
Hispanic	35%	47%	12%	7%
Other Race	51%	31%	10%	8%
Education				
Less Than Bachelor's	52%	26%	11%	11%
Bachelor's Degree	46%	35%	11%	9%
More Than Bachelor's	44%	34%	13%	9%
Marital Status				
Married	45%	32%	13%	11%
Never Married	50%	35%	10%	5%
Other	44%	32%	13%	11%

Q6. For what reason(s) were you in [COUNTRY] on November 3, 2020? *Mark all that apply.* (1) Was born overseas/citizen of destination country (2) Could be with family (3) Could retire (4) Employment/volunteer activities (5) Education or research opportunities (6) Quality of life (7) Other reason [*N* = 5,282] (Based on Q6)[39]

Reason for Being Outside the United States							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Respondents	33%	32%	10%	39%	12%	25%	13%
Age							
Age 18 to 24	51%	26%	0%	17%	39%	18%	6%
Age 25 to 34	28%	28%	0%	52%	19%	27%	10%
Age 35 to 44	28%	34%	0%	55%	12%	31%	11%
Age 45 to 54	28%	34%	1%	47%	7%	24%	15%
Age 55 to 64	31%	33%	12%	39%	5%	26%	18%
Age 65 and up	39%	29%	43%	19%	4%	23%	17%
Sex							
Male	33%	29%	14%	45%	12%	29%	10%
Female	33%	34%	8%	35%	12%	23%	15%
Region							
North America	48%	35%	13%	31%	8%	23%	13%
South/Central America / Caribbean	22%	30%	18%	35%	9%	23%	20%
Europe	33%	33%	9%	38%	16%	28%	14%
Sub-Saharan Africa	10%	18%	11%	54%	7%	10%	24%
Middle East / North Africa	44%	30%	9%	36%	9%	18%	5%
North/Central/South Asia	12%	49%	10%	37%	9%	9%	18%
East Asia	12%	24%	5%	73%	13%	23%	7%
South East Asia	9%	25%	27%	48%	5%	27%	11%
Oceania	43%	30%	9%	35%	8%	31%	17%
Income							
$0–$19,999	34%	30%	9%	24%	24%	21%	14%
$20,000–$74,999	34%	32%	14%	39%	12%	26%	13%
$75,000+	34%	32%	8%	48%	10%	26%	12%
Race							
White	35%	30%	11%	39%	12%	25%	13%
Black	22%	34%	10%	33%	7%	26%	19%
Hispanic	30%	37%	7%	38%	13%	23%	16%
Other Race	27%	40%	8%	46%	15%	26%	11%
Education							
Less Than Bachelor's	43%	36%	15%	16%	12%	20%	15%
Bachelor's Degree	31%	32%	9%	40%	9%	28%	13%
More Than Bachelor's	32%	30%	10%	49%	15%	26%	12%
Marital Status							
Married	29%	38%	12%	40%	7%	26%	15%
Never Married	41%	21%	2%	43%	26%	25%	8%
Other	39%	30%	23%	29%	7%	24%	14%

[39] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the reasons for living abroad. Respondents could select as many reasons as appropriate in this question.

Q7. During the months leading up to the election, did you ever plan to vote in that election, or did you not plan to vote? [*N* = 5,277]

	Voting Plans	
	Did plan to vote	Did not plan to vote
Respondents	98%	2%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	98%	2%
Age 25 to 34	98%	2%
Age 35 to 44	99%	1%
Age 45 to 54	99%	1%
Age 55 to 64	99%	1%
Age 65 and up	98%	2%
Sex		
Male	99%	1%
Female	98%	2%
Region		
North America	99%	1%
South/Central America / Caribbean	98%	2%
Europe	98%	2%
Sub-Saharan Africa	96%	4%
Middle East / North Africa	98%	2%
North/Central/South Asia	97%	3%
East Asia	99%	1%
South East Asia	97%	3%
Oceania	99%	1%
Income		
$0–$19,999	97%	3%
$20,000–$74,999	99%	1%
$75,000+	99%	1%
Race		
White	98%	2%
Black	96%	4%
Hispanic	99%	1%
Other Race	98%	2%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	97%	3%
Bachelor's Degree	99%	1%
More Than Bachelor's	99%	1%
Marital Status		
Married	99%	1%
Never Married	98%	2%
Other	98%	2%

Q8. Did you vote in the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 5,275]

	Voted		
	Yes, definitely voted	No, definitely did not vote	Not sure if I voted
Respondents	91%	7%	2%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	91%	5%	4%
Age 25 to 34	90%	7%	3%
Age 35 to 44	93%	6%	1%
Age 45 to 54	90%	8%	2%
Age 55 to 64	94%	5%	2%
Age 65 and up	89%	9%	2%
Sex			
Male	91%	6%	2%
Female	92%	7%	2%
Region			
North America	94%	4%	2%
South/Central America / Caribbean	83%	14%	4%
Europe	94%	4%	2%
Sub-Saharan Africa	93%	6%	1%
Middle East / North Africa	80%	19%	0%
North/Central/South Asia	85%	12%	3%
East Asia	89%	8%	2%
South East Asia	89%	7%	4%
Oceania	91%	6%	2%
Income			
$0–$19,999	82%	12%	6%
$20,000–$74,999	92%	6%	2%
$75,000+	95%	4%	1%
Race			
White	93%	6%	2%
Black	90%	3%	7%
Hispanic	82%	14%	3%
Other Race	89%	9%	2%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	86%	11%	3%
Bachelor's Degree	93%	5%	2%
More Than Bachelor's	93%	6%	1%
Marital Status			
Married	92%	7%	1%
Never Married	91%	6%	3%
Other	92%	7%	1%

Q9. Did you request an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 5,269]

Absentee Ballot Request			
	Yes	No	Not sure
Respondents	91%	5%	4%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	91%	1%	8%
Age 25 to 34	94%	4%	3%
Age 35 to 44	95%	4%	1%
Age 45 to 54	88%	6%	6%
Age 55 to 64	91%	5%	4%
Age 65 and up	86%	9%	5%
Sex			
Male	92%	5%	3%
Female	91%	5%	4%
Region			
North America	91%	6%	3%
South/Central America / Caribbean	94%	4%	2%
Europe	91%	5%	5%
Sub-Saharan Africa	96%	4%	1%
Middle East / North Africa	91%	6%	3%
North/Central/South Asia	92%	4%	4%
East Asia	96%	2%	2%
South East Asia	88%	6%	6%
Oceania	87%	6%	6%
Income			
$0–$19,999	85%	8%	7%
$20,000–$74,999	93%	4%	3%
$75,000+	93%	4%	3%
Race			
White	92%	5%	3%
Black	89%	7%	4%
Hispanic	87%	7%	6%
Other Race	94%	3%	3%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	87%	5%	8%
Bachelor's Degree	92%	4%	3%
More Than Bachelor's	92%	5%	3%
Marital Status			
Married	92%	5%	3%
Never Married	92%	3%	5%
Other	85%	9%	5%

Q9A. How did you request an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 4,892][40]

Absentee Ballot Request Mode					
	Mail	Email	Website	Fax	I'm unsure how I submitted an absentee ballot request.
Respondents	15%	40%	38%	1%	7%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	18%	34%	41%	2%	4%
Age 25 to 34	13%	37%	43%	1%	6%
Age 35 to 44	15%	37%	41%	0%	7%
Age 45 to 54	16%	38%	39%	1%	6%
Age 55 to 64	13%	41%	38%	0%	7%
Age 65 and up	17%	47%	27%	0%	9%
Sex					
Male	15%	39%	39%	1%	6%
Female	14%	41%	37%	1%	8%
Region					
North America	17%	41%	33%	1%	8%
South/Central America / Caribbean	8%	46%	39%	2%	5%
Europe	16%	37%	40%	0%	7%
Sub-Saharan Africa	16%	50%	28%	1%	5%
Middle East / North Africa	16%	43%	32%	0%	10%
North/Central/South Asia	10%	51%	31%	2%	6%
East Asia	11%	44%	40%	1%	5%
South East Asia	11%	44%	40%	1%	5%
Oceania	9%	45%	38%	1%	7%
Income					
$0–$19,999	19%	35%	37%	0%	8%
$20,000–$74,999	14%	43%	36%	1%	6%
$75,000+	14%	39%	39%	1%	7%
Race					
White	15%	40%	38%	0%	7%
Black	15%	36%	46%	0%	3%
Hispanic	17%	34%	40%	2%	7%
Other Race	16%	42%	34%	1%	6%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	19%	36%	37%	1%	7%
Bachelor's Degree	15%	40%	38%	0%	7%
More Than Bachelor's	13%	41%	38%	1%	7%
Marital Status					
Married	14%	41%	37%	1%	7%
Never Married	14%	37%	41%	1%	7%
Other	19%	40%	32%	0%	8%

[40] This question was shown to respondents who answered "yes" to whether they requested an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q9).

Q10. Did you expect to receive an absentee ballot automatically from an election official for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 5,279]

Automatic Ballot			
	Yes	No	Not sure
Respondents	51%	36%	13%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	39%	41%	20%
Age 25 to 34	43%	44%	12%
Age 35 to 44	50%	38%	12%
Age 45 to 54	54%	35%	11%
Age 55 to 64	59%	31%	10%
Age 65 and up	60%	28%	12%
Sex			
Male	50%	38%	12%
Female	51%	36%	13%
Region			
North America	49%	38%	13%
South/Central America / Caribbean	55%	33%	12%
Europe	50%	37%	13%
Sub-Saharan Africa	49%	41%	10%
Middle East / North Africa	62%	27%	11%
North/Central/South Asia	57%	30%	13%
East Asia	47%	39%	14%
South East Asia	52%	38%	10%
Oceania	52%	41%	7%
Income			
$0–$19,999	54%	30%	17%
$20,000–$74,999	52%	35%	12%
$75,000+	48%	41%	11%
Race			
White	49%	39%	12%
Black	56%	33%	11%
Hispanic	58%	27%	16%
Other Race	57%	28%	15%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	52%	33%	15%
Bachelor's Degree	51%	37%	12%
More Than Bachelor's	51%	38%	12%
Marital Status			
Married	53%	36%	10%
Never Married	43%	40%	16%
Other	58%	28%	14%

Q10A. Was this the first time you requested an absentee ballot or expected to receive one automatically while living in [COUNTRY]? [*N* = 5,146][41]

Absentee Ballot Request Experience		
	Yes	No
Respondents	37%	63%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	74%	26%
Age 25 to 34	48%	52%
Age 35 to 44	36%	64%
Age 45 to 54	26%	74%
Age 55 to 64	25%	75%
Age 65 and up	23%	77%
Sex		
Male	40%	60%
Female	35%	65%
Region		
North America	36%	64%
South/Central America / Caribbean	45%	55%
Europe	35%	65%
Sub-Saharan Africa	51%	49%
Middle East / North Africa	30%	70%
North/Central/South Asia	57%	43%
East Asia	50%	50%
South East Asia	42%	58%
Oceania	30%	70%
Income		
$0–$19,999	48%	52%
$20,000–$74,999	36%	64%
$75,000+	35%	65%
Race		
White	35%	65%
Black	31%	69%
Hispanic	42%	58%
Other Race	49%	51%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	52%	48%
Bachelor's Degree	37%	63%
More Than Bachelor's	31%	69%
Marital Status		
Married	32%	68%
Never Married	51%	49%
Other	28%	72%

[41] This question was shown to respondents who answered "yes" to whether they requested an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q9) or "yes" to whether they expected to receive a ballot automatically (Q10).

Q11. Did you receive an absentee ballot from an election official for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 5,270]

Absentee Ballot Receipt			
	Yes	No	Not Sure
Respondents	85%	7%	8%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	81%	4%	14%
Age 25 to 34	83%	9%	9%
Age 35 to 44	85%	7%	8%
Age 45 to 54	85%	6%	8%
Age 55 to 64	90%	6%	5%
Age 65 and up	84%	10%	6%
Sex			
Male	85%	7%	7%
Female	84%	7%	9%
Region			
North America	88%	5%	7%
South/Central America / Caribbean	83%	12%	5%
Europe	85%	6%	9%
Sub-Saharan Africa	86%	9%	5%
Middle East / North Africa	75%	17%	8%
North/Central/South Asia	76%	10%	14%
East Asia	87%	8%	5%
South East Asia	81%	12%	7%
Oceania	88%	6%	6%
Income			
$0–$19,999	80%	9%	11%
$20,000–$74,999	85%	7%	7%
$75,000+	89%	5%	6%
Race			
White	86%	7%	7%
Black	80%	12%	8%
Hispanic	79%	12%	9%
Other Race	83%	8%	9%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	80%	9%	11%
Bachelor's Degree	85%	7%	8%
More Than Bachelor's	88%	6%	6%
Marital Status			
Married	87%	7%	7%
Never Married	83%	6%	11%
Other	84%	11%	6%

Q11A. Did you obtain a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 5,254]

FWAB Receipt			
	Yes	No	Not sure
Respondents	38%	23%	39%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	38%	18%	44%
Age 25 to 34	36%	17%	47%
Age 35 to 44	32%	25%	43%
Age 45 to 54	36%	22%	42%
Age 55 to 64	39%	25%	36%
Age 65 and up	41%	29%	30%
Sex			
Male	35%	27%	38%
Female	39%	21%	41%
Region			
North America	37%	23%	40%
South/Central America / Caribbean	47%	24%	29%
Europe	37%	21%	42%
Sub-Saharan Africa	49%	27%	24%
Middle East / North Africa	35%	31%	34%
North/Central/South Asia	43%	22%	35%
East Asia	37%	23%	40%
South East Asia	35%	29%	35%
Oceania	34%	25%	41%
Income			
$0–$19,999	40%	19%	41%
$20,000–$74,999	40%	23%	37%
$75,000+	34%	26%	41%
Race			
White	36%	24%	40%
Black	56%	15%	30%
Hispanic	42%	22%	36%
Other Race	44%	20%	37%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	42%	21%	38%
Bachelor's Degree	39%	22%	39%
More Than Bachelor's	35%	25%	40%
Marital Status			
Married	38%	25%	37%
Never Married	36%	19%	46%
Other	42%	23%	34%

Q11B. How did you receive your absentee ballot or obtain a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 4,788][42]

	Absentee Ballot Receipt Mode				
	Mail	Email	Website	Fax	Not sure
Respondents	34%	53%	9%	0%	4%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	29%	52%	11%	0%	8%
Age 25 to 34	30%	57%	10%	0%	3%
Age 35 to 44	31%	55%	10%	0%	4%
Age 45 to 54	36%	54%	9%	0%	2%
Age 55 to 64	36%	48%	10%	0%	6%
Age 65 and up	41%	46%	8%	0%	5%
Sex					
Male	33%	52%	10%	0%	5%
Female	34%	54%	9%	0%	4%
Region					
North America	40%	49%	8%	0%	4%
South/Central America / Caribbean	12%	75%	9%	0%	4%
Europe	37%	49%	9%	0%	5%
Sub-Saharan Africa	13%	68%	11%	0%	8%
Middle East / North Africa	33%	54%	8%	0%	5%
North/Central/South Asia	19%	66%	12%	0%	3%
East Asia	30%	53%	12%	0%	6%
South East Asia	22%	63%	13%	0%	3%
Oceania	32%	58%	9%	0%	2%
Income					
$0–$19,999	37%	49%	8%	0%	6%
$20,000–$74,999	33%	52%	11%	0%	4%
$75,000+	31%	55%	9%	0%	4%
Race					
White	33%	53%	10%	0%	4%
Black	40%	48%	7%	0%	5%
Hispanic	35%	53%	9%	0%	2%
Other Race	35%	49%	9%	0%	6%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	39%	47%	9%	0%	5%
Bachelor's Degree	33%	53%	10%	0%	5%
More Than Bachelor's	32%	54%	9%	0%	4%
Marital Status					
Married	34%	53%	9%	0%	4%
Never Married	29%	55%	11%	0%	5%
Other	41%	45%	9%	0%	5%

[42] This question was shown to respondents who answered "yes" to either receiving an absentee ballot from an election official (Q11) or obtaining a FWAB for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q11A).

Q12. For which of the following reasons did you choose to receive your absentee ballot by [Q11B answer]? (1) Convenience (2) Reliability (3) Ease of use (4) Cost (5) Speed (6) Habit (7) Other reason [*N* = 4,609][43]

Reason for Ballot Receipt Mode							
	(1) Convenience	(2) Reliability	(3) Ease of Use	(4) Cost	(5) Speed	(6) Habit	(7) Other
Respondents	41%	16%	11%	0%	10%	8%	13%
Age							
Age 18 to 24	43%	17%	13%	0%	13%	5%	9%
Age 25 to 34	45%	11%	10%	0%	12%	7%	16%
Age 35 to 44	42%	15%	10%	1%	10%	10%	13%
Age 45 to 54	41%	17%	10%	0%	10%	7%	15%
Age 55 to 64	37%	17%	12%	0%	8%	9%	16%
Age 65 and up	39%	21%	12%	0%	8%	9%	10%
Sex							
Male	45%	16%	10%	0%	9%	8%	11%
Female	39%	16%	12%	0%	11%	8%	15%
Region							
North America	40%	16%	11%	0%	10%	8%	14%
South/Central America /	35%	22%	15%	2%	15%	4%	7%
Europe	42%	16%	11%	0%	9%	8%	13%
Sub-Saharan Africa	48%	14%	12%	0%	10%	3%	13%
Middle East / North Africa	42%	16%	10%	0%	8%	11%	14%
North/Central/South Asia	54%	14%	10%	1%	10%	2%	9%
East Asia	45%	17%	8%	0%	10%	7%	12%
South East Asia	48%	13%	10%	1%	15%	4%	8%
Oceania	37%	14%	10%	0%	17%	6%	16%
Income							
$0–$19,999	35%	18%	15%	1%	11%	8%	12%
$20,000–$74,999	41%	16%	12%	0%	10%	7%	13%
$75,000+	45%	16%	10%	0%	10%	8%	12%
Race							
White	41%	16%	12%	0%	9%	8%	14%
Black	38%	15%	9%	0%	19%	5%	15%
Hispanic	42%	21%	10%	2%	12%	9%	6%
Other Race	44%	14%	12%	0%	10%	7%	14%
Education							
Less Than Bachelor's	39%	20%	14%	0%	11%	5%	11%
Bachelor's Degree	40%	17%	12%	0%	10%	9%	13%
More Than Bachelor's	43%	15%	10%	0%	10%	8%	14%
Marital Status							
Married	41%	17%	10%	0%	10%	8%	13%
Never Married	44%	14%	12%	0%	11%	7%	12%
Other	40%	19%	14%	0%	8%	8%	11%

[43] This question was shown to respondents who selected "Mail", "Email", "Website" or "Fax" as the mode they received their absentee ballot or FWAB for the November 3, 2020 General Election (Q11B).

Q13. Did you return your absentee ballot or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 4,787][44]

Submission of Absentee Ballot			
	Yes	No	Not sure
Respondents	95%	4%	1%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	94%	4%	2%
Age 25 to 34	95%	3%	2%
Age 35 to 44	96%	3%	0%
Age 45 to 54	95%	4%	1%
Age 55 to 64	95%	3%	1%
Age 65 and up	95%	3%	1%
Sex			
Male	95%	3%	2%
Female	96%	3%	1%
Region			
North America	97%	3%	1%
South/Central America / Caribbean	87%	10%	3%
Europe	97%	2%	1%
Sub-Saharan Africa	92%	7%	1%
Middle East / North Africa	92%	8%	0%
North/Central/South Asia	94%	6%	0%
East Asia	92%	6%	2%
South East Asia	95%	4%	1%
Oceania	97%	3%	0%
Income			
$0–$19,999	90%	7%	2%
$20,000–$74,999	96%	3%	1%
$75,000+	97%	2%	1%
Race			
White	96%	3%	1%
Black	96%	3%	1%
Hispanic	90%	8%	2%
Other Race	94%	5%	1%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	94%	5%	2%
Bachelor's Degree	96%	3%	1%
More Than Bachelor's	96%	3%	1%
Marital Status			
Married	96%	3%	1%
Never Married	94%	4%	2%
Other	96%	4%	0%

[44] This question was shown to respondents who answered "yes" to either receiving an absentee ballot from an election official (Q11) or obtaining a FWAB for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q11A).

Q13A. How did you return your absentee ballot or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 4,607][45]

Absentee Ballot Submission Mode					
	Mail	Email	Website	Fax	I'm unsure how I submitted an absentee ballot.
Respondents	63%	24%	5%	5%	2%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	56%	30%	7%	3%	5%
Age 25 to 34	63%	25%	7%	4%	1%
Age 35 to 44	64%	22%	7%	5%	2%
Age 45 to 54	68%	19%	6%	6%	1%
Age 55 to 64	62%	23%	4%	7%	3%
Age 65 and up	66%	22%	4%	7%	1%
Sex					
Male	60%	26%	7%	5%	2%
Female	65%	23%	4%	5%	2%
Region					
North America	67%	23%	4%	4%	2%
South/Central America / Caribbean	43%	36%	7%	8%	7%
Europe	66%	22%	5%	5%	2%
Sub-Saharan Africa	51%	35%	3%	3%	9%
Middle East / North Africa	71%	22%	3%	3%	2%
North/Central/South Asia	57%	23%	7%	11%	2%
East Asia	61%	25%	7%	4%	3%
South East Asia	51%	31%	5%	11%	1%
Oceania	53%	30%	7%	9%	1%
Income					
$0–$19,999	64%	23%	7%	4%	2%
$20,000–$74,999	66%	24%	5%	5%	1%
$75,000+	61%	25%	6%	6%	2%
Race					
White	63%	26%	5%	5%	1%
Black	80%	13%	0%	5%	2%
Hispanic	64%	18%	4%	9%	4%
Other Race	65%	21%	5%	6%	3%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	63%	23%	5%	6%	2%
Bachelor's Degree	62%	27%	5%	5%	1%
More Than Bachelor's	64%	23%	6%	5%	2%
Marital Status					
Married	63%	25%	5%	6%	2%
Never Married	63%	24%	6%	4%	2%
Other	65%	22%	5%	6%	2%

[45] This question was shown to respondents who answered "yes" to returning their absentee ballot or FWAB for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q13).

Q13B. What type of mail service did you use to submit your absentee ballot? (1) National mail service owned or operated by the government of [COUNTRY] (2) FedEx, UPS, DHL or other private delivery carrier (3) Mail service provided by the U.S. Government in [COUNTRY] (e.g., U.S. consulate, military base) (4) Other [*N* = 2,979][46]

Absentee Ballot Mail Type				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Respondents	77%	9%	10%	4%
Age				
Age 18 to 24	79%	4%	13%	4%
Age 25 to 34	76%	10%	8%	5%
Age 35 to 44	75%	8%	12%	5%
Age 45 to 54	78%	8%	12%	2%
Age 55 to 64	74%	11%	11%	4%
Age 65 and up	79%	9%	6%	6%
Sex				
Male	76%	9%	10%	5%
Female	78%	9%	9%	4%
Region				
North America	87%	6%	2%	5%
South/Central America / Caribbean	32%	19%	40%	9%
Europe	87%	6%	5%	2%
Sub-Saharan Africa	21%	21%	47%	11%
Middle East / North Africa	53%	19%	13%	15%
North/Central/South Asia	36%	19%	41%	4%
East Asia	56%	13%	22%	9%
South East Asia	45%	22%	31%	3%
Oceania	72%	9%	18%	0%
Income				
$0–$19,999	77%	10%	11%	2%
$20,000–$74,999	77%	9%	9%	4%
$75,000+	76%	10%	10%	5%
Race				
White	79%	9%	8%	4%
Black	68%	9%	20%	2%
Hispanic	73%	8%	10%	9%
Other Race	66%	9%	20%	4%
Education				
Less Than Bachelor's	80%	6%	12%	2%
Bachelor's Degree	77%	10%	8%	5%
More Than Bachelor's	76%	10%	10%	4%
Marital Status				
Married	79%	8%	9%	4%
Never Married	73%	11%	13%	4%
Other	80%	10%	6%	4%

[46] This question was shown to respondents who answered "Mail" to the method used to return their absentee ballot or FWAB for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q13A).

Q14. For the election held on November 3, 2020, did you complete and submit a ballot at a polling station in the United States on Election Day? [*N* = 170][47]

Voted at a Poll in the United States			
	Voted in person	Did not vote in person	Not sure
Respondents	3%	97%	1%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	0%	100%	0%
Age 25 to 34	0%	100%	0%
Age 35 to 44	2%	98%	0%
Age 45 to 54	3%	97%	0%
Age 55 to 64	5%	95%	0%
Age 65 and up	9%	91%	0%
Sex			
Male	3%	97%	0%
Female	3%	96%	1%
Region			
North America	6%	94%	0%
South/Central America / Caribbean	4%	96%	0%
Europe	3%	95%	1%
Sub-Saharan Africa	17%	83%	0%
Middle East / North Africa	0%	100%	0%
North/Central/South Asia	0%	100%	0%
East Asia	0%	100%	0%
South East Asia	0%	100%	0%
Oceania	0%	100%	0%
Income			
$0–$19,999	0%	100%	0%
$20,000–$74,999	3%	95%	2%
$75,000+	5%	95%	0%
Race			
White	4%	96%	1%
Black	0%	100%	0%
Hispanic	0%	100%	0%
Other Race	0%	100%	0%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	0%	98%	2%
Bachelor's Degree	4%	96%	0%
More Than Bachelor's	3%	97%	0%
Marital Status			
Married	3%	97%	0%
Never Married	1%	98%	1%
Other	5%	95%	0%

[47] This question was shown to respondents who answered "No" or "Not sure" to returning their absentee ballot or FWAB for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q13).

Q15. What was the *main reason* you did not vote in the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 135][48]

	Reason Did Not Vote	
	I wanted or tried to vote but did not or could not complete the process	I did not want to vote
Respondents	82%	18%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	67%	33%
Age 25 to 34	94%	6%
Age 35 to 44	82%	18%
Age 45 to 54	85%	15%
Age 55 to 64	63%	37%
Age 65 and up	87%	13%
Sex		
Male	75%	25%
Female	87%	13%
Region		
North America	52%	48%
South/Central America / Caribbean	100%	0%
Europe	73%	27%
Sub-Saharan Africa	100%	0%
Middle East / North Africa	100%	0%
North/Central/South Asia	97%	3%
East Asia	92%	8%
South East Asia	70%	30%
Oceania	91%	9%
Income		
$0–$19,999	91%	9%
$20,000–$74,999	93%	7%
$75,000+	57%	43%
Race		
White	73%	27%
Black	100%	0%
Hispanic	100%	0%
Other Race	93%	7%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	71%	29%
Bachelor's Degree	90%	10%
More Than Bachelor's	81%	19%
Marital Status		
Married	78%	22%
Never Married	84%	16%
Other	85%	15%

[48] This question was shown to respondents who answered "No" or "Not sure" to returning their absentee ballot or FWAB for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q13).

Q17. How confident are you that your vote in the November 3, 2020 General Election was counted as you intended? [*N* = 4,610][49]

Voter Confidence				
	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident
Respondents	60%	31%	6%	3%
Age				
Age 18 to 24	57%	33%	7%	3%
Age 25 to 34	61%	28%	7%	4%
Age 35 to 44	59%	33%	5%	2%
Age 45 to 54	56%	32%	8%	4%
Age 55 to 64	64%	29%	5%	2%
Age 65 and up	62%	30%	4%	4%
Sex				
Male	62%	30%	5%	4%
Female	60%	31%	6%	3%
Region				
North America	63%	29%	5%	3%
South/Central America / Caribbean	57%	37%	2%	3%
Europe	61%	30%	6%	3%
Sub-Saharan Africa	60%	29%	6%	6%
Middle East / North Africa	48%	34%	16%	1%
North/Central/South Asia	61%	28%	6%	5%
East Asia	62%	29%	6%	3%
South East Asia	63%	26%	7%	4%
Oceania	51%	33%	6%	10%
Income				
$0–$19,999	57%	32%	6%	5%
$20,000–$74,999	60%	30%	6%	4%
$75,000+	63%	29%	6%	2%
Race				
White	61%	30%	6%	3%
Black	56%	37%	3%	4%
Hispanic	55%	35%	6%	4%
Other Race	57%	32%	8%	4%
Education				
Less Than Bachelor's	59%	30%	6%	5%
Bachelor's Degree	60%	29%	7%	3%
More Than Bachelor's	61%	32%	5%	2%
Marital Status				
Married	61%	30%	6%	3%
Never Married	59%	31%	7%	3%
Other	62%	30%	4%	5%

[49] This question was shown to respondents who answered "Yes" to returning their absentee ballot or FWAB for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q13).

Q18. Did you experience any of the following situations leading up to the November 3, 2020 General Election? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.* (1) Difficulty requesting a ballot [*N* = 5,170] (2) Ballot arrived late [*N* = 5,151] (3) Difficulty returning ballot [*N* = 5,157] (4) Difficulty with mailing system [*N* = 5,170] (5) Unsure of address to use [*N* = 5,136] (6) Difficulty accessing state election website [*N* = 5,136][50]

Difficulty Voting						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Respondents	14%	10%	14%	16%	11%	10%
Age						
Age 18 to 24	25%	11%	17%	22%	25%	19%
Age 25 to 34	16%	10%	17%	21%	14%	14%
Age 35 to 44	12%	9%	17%	18%	11%	8%
Age 45 to 54	14%	11%	13%	14%	8%	9%
Age 55 to 64	10%	9%	12%	12%	7%	7%
Age 65 and up	9%	10%	13%	13%	6%	6%
Sex						
Male	13%	10%	15%	16%	11%	10%
Female	14%	9%	14%	16%	11%	10%
Region						
North America	10%	6%	10%	11%	10%	7%
South/Central America / Caribbean	17%	14%	24%	31%	11%	10%
Europe	14%	8%	12%	14%	11%	10%
Sub-Saharan Africa	14%	16%	19%	21%	16%	7%
Middle East / North Africa	13%	16%	24%	23%	7%	12%
North/Central/South Asia	17%	15%	27%	21%	21%	11%
East Asia	14%	14%	18%	22%	13%	13%
South East Asia	14%	15%	17%	23%	11%	12%
Oceania	18%	14%	14%	20%	9%	15%
Income						
$0–$19,999	18%	15%	18%	25%	17%	14%
$20,000–$74,999	14%	9%	14%	15%	9%	10%
$75,000+	11%	8%	13%	14%	11%	9%
Race						
White	13%	8%	13%	14%	10%	10%
Black	11%	9%	9%	16%	9%	7%
Hispanic	18%	11%	22%	29%	16%	11%
Other Race	16%	16%	19%	18%	13%	14%
Education						
Less Than Bachelor's	16%	11%	13%	15%	16%	12%
Bachelor's Degree	13%	10%	16%	19%	10%	11%
More Than Bachelor's	12%	8%	13%	14%	9%	8%
Marital Status						
Married	10%	8%	13%	14%	8%	8%
Never Married	19%	12%	17%	21%	17%	14%
Other	16%	11%	13%	13%	7%	10%

[50] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the challenges for voting. Respondents could select as many challenges as appropriate in this question.

Q19_1. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge of your state's deadline to register to vote. [*N* = 5,261]

Knowledge of Registration Deadline					
	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
Respondents	11%	7%	22%	32%	28%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	15%	6%	23%	40%	15%
Age 25 to 34	10%	9%	27%	30%	23%
Age 35 to 44	11%	5%	26%	32%	26%
Age 45 to 54	12%	8%	24%	26%	30%
Age 55 to 64	8%	5%	17%	36%	33%
Age 65 and up	8%	6%	17%	32%	36%
Sex					
Male	11%	7%	20%	31%	31%
Female	10%	6%	24%	32%	27%
Region					
North America	10%	6%	24%	31%	28%
South/Central America / Caribbean	5%	4%	24%	30%	37%
Europe	11%	7%	21%	34%	27%
Sub-Saharan Africa	7%	6%	19%	35%	33%
Middle East / North Africa	16%	11%	21%	23%	29%
North/Central/South Asia	6%	7%	16%	39%	32%
East Asia	9%	7%	27%	28%	30%
South East Asia	8%	4%	22%	35%	31%
Oceania	14%	6%	22%	32%	24%
Income					
$0–$19,999	11%	8%	21%	33%	27%
$20,000–$74,999	10%	7%	23%	33%	28%
$75,000+	10%	7%	22%	33%	28%
Race					
White	11%	7%	21%	33%	28%
Black	5%	11%	22%	39%	23%
Hispanic	9%	5%	30%	29%	27%
Other Race	10%	7%	24%	29%	30%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	13%	6%	18%	34%	29%
Bachelor's Degree	10%	7%	24%	30%	29%
More Than Bachelor's	10%	7%	22%	33%	27%
Marital Status					
Married	10%	6%	22%	31%	30%
Never Married	11%	9%	24%	34%	22%
Other	10%	5%	18%	33%	33%

Q19_2. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge of your state's deadline to request an absentee ballot. [*N* = 5,237]

Knowledge of Ballot Request Deadline					
	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
Respondents	11%	7%	23%	31%	27%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	17%	8%	22%	35%	18%
Age 25 to 34	11%	9%	30%	29%	21%
Age 35 to 44	11%	7%	25%	31%	25%
Age 45 to 54	12%	8%	25%	25%	29%
Age 55 to 64	9%	6%	17%	36%	33%
Age 65 and up	9%	6%	19%	30%	36%
Sex					
Male	11%	7%	21%	31%	30%
Female	11%	7%	25%	31%	26%
Region					
North America	10%	8%	25%	29%	29%
South/Central America / Caribbean	5%	4%	26%	31%	34%
Europe	12%	7%	22%	33%	26%
Sub-Saharan Africa	7%	5%	20%	34%	34%
Middle East / North Africa	17%	11%	26%	19%	28%
North/Central/South Asia	7%	6%	23%	32%	33%
East Asia	9%	8%	27%	30%	26%
South East Asia	9%	6%	20%	35%	29%
Oceania	16%	8%	24%	30%	23%
Income					
$0–$19,999	13%	7%	24%	31%	26%
$20,000–$74,999	10%	7%	23%	33%	26%
$75,000+	10%	8%	23%	30%	28%
Race					
White	11%	8%	22%	31%	28%
Black	4%	10%	22%	45%	19%
Hispanic	9%	6%	34%	27%	24%
Other Race	12%	6%	26%	25%	30%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	14%	8%	20%	31%	28%
Bachelor's Degree	10%	7%	26%	30%	27%
More Than Bachelor's	11%	8%	23%	32%	27%
Marital Status					
Married	11%	7%	24%	30%	29%
Never Married	12%	10%	25%	32%	21%
Other	11%	7%	18%	33%	31%

Q19_3. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge of your state's deadline return an absentee ballot. [*N* = 5,234]

Knowledge of Ballot Return Deadline					
	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
Respondents	9%	6%	20%	32%	33%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	15%	3%	23%	37%	22%
Age 25 to 34	9%	8%	25%	31%	26%
Age 35 to 44	8%	6%	21%	33%	31%
Age 45 to 54	10%	7%	20%	28%	35%
Age 55 to 64	7%	4%	15%	35%	39%
Age 65 and up	7%	5%	16%	31%	41%
Sex					
Male	10%	6%	18%	31%	35%
Female	8%	6%	21%	33%	32%
Region					
North America	8%	6%	22%	31%	33%
South/Central America / Caribbean	7%	2%	17%	33%	41%
Europe	9%	5%	19%	34%	32%
Sub-Saharan Africa	5%	5%	19%	35%	36%
Middle East / North Africa	15%	14%	17%	24%	31%
North/Central/South Asia	5%	7%	18%	32%	37%
East Asia	7%	7%	25%	31%	30%
South East Asia	8%	6%	17%	37%	32%
Oceania	12%	7%	20%	29%	32%
Income					
$0–$19,999	13%	5%	22%	29%	31%
$20,000–$74,999	8%	6%	19%	35%	32%
$75,000+	8%	6%	20%	32%	34%
Race					
White	9%	6%	19%	33%	33%
Black	4%	5%	18%	46%	26%
Hispanic	8%	5%	27%	30%	30%
Other Race	11%	6%	23%	28%	32%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	12%	5%	16%	34%	32%
Bachelor's Degree	8%	6%	22%	31%	33%
More Than Bachelor's	8%	7%	19%	33%	33%
Marital Status					
Married	8%	6%	20%	31%	35%
Never Married	11%	7%	22%	34%	27%
Other	11%	5%	12%	36%	36%

Q20. Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process? [*N* = 5,274]

Satisfaction with Voting Process					
	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Respondents	4%	8%	12%	37%	40%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	2%	6%	17%	46%	30%
Age 25 to 34	6%	9%	12%	42%	31%
Age 35 to 44	3%	8%	13%	39%	36%
Age 45 to 54	5%	7%	13%	37%	38%
Age 55 to 64	3%	6%	9%	32%	49%
Age 65 and up	5%	6%	9%	31%	49%
Sex					
Male	4%	8%	11%	36%	41%
Female	3%	7%	12%	38%	39%
Region					
North America	3%	5%	10%	34%	48%
South/Central America / Caribbean	8%	8%	14%	32%	39%
Europe	4%	7%	11%	40%	39%
Sub-Saharan Africa	4%	6%	13%	39%	37%
Middle East / North Africa	8%	8%	19%	35%	30%
North/Central/South Asia	2%	9%	11%	42%	35%
East Asia	5%	8%	12%	37%	38%
South East Asia	3%	10%	14%	34%	40%
Oceania	6%	15%	11%	34%	34%
Income					
$0–$19,999	6%	8%	15%	36%	34%
$20,000–$74,999	5%	8%	10%	36%	41%
$75,000+	2%	8%	10%	39%	41%
Race					
White	3%	8%	11%	36%	42%
Black	0%	7%	7%	48%	38%
Hispanic	9%	7%	14%	37%	34%
Other Race	6%	6%	12%	43%	32%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	5%	7%	12%	38%	38%
Bachelor's Degree	4%	8%	12%	36%	39%
More Than Bachelor's	4%	7%	10%	37%	41%
Marital Status					
Married	4%	7%	11%	36%	42%
Never Married	4%	8%	12%	42%	34%
Other	6%	8%	11%	31%	44%

Q21. Before taking this survey, were you aware of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) or its services? [*N* = 5,265]

FVAP Awareness		
	Yes	No
Respondents	42%	58%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	45%	55%
Age 25 to 34	42%	58%
Age 35 to 44	42%	58%
Age 45 to 54	40%	60%
Age 55 to 64	48%	52%
Age 65 and up	39%	61%
Sex		
Male	42%	58%
Female	42%	58%
Region		
North America	39%	61%
South/Central America / Caribbean	56%	44%
Europe	40%	60%
Sub-Saharan Africa	62%	38%
Middle East / North Africa	41%	59%
North/Central/South Asia	57%	43%
East Asia	46%	54%
South East Asia	47%	53%
Oceania	37%	63%
Income		
$0–$19,999	43%	57%
$20,000–$74,999	42%	58%
$75,000+	43%	57%
Race		
White	42%	58%
Black	55%	45%
Hispanic	46%	54%
Other Race	42%	58%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	40%	60%
Bachelor's Degree	41%	59%
More Than Bachelor's	44%	56%
Marital Status		
Married	42%	58%
Never Married	44%	56%
Other	40%	60%

Q22. Did you hear, see, or receive any messages from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in the past year about the November 2020 election, such as through the web, social media, email, or an organization? [*N* = 5,224]

FVAP Messaging		
	Yes	No
Respondents	35%	65%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	29%	71%
Age 25 to 34	33%	67%
Age 35 to 44	36%	64%
Age 45 to 54	35%	65%
Age 55 to 64	42%	58%
Age 65 and up	36%	64%
Sex		
Male	33%	67%
Female	36%	64%
Region		
North America	29%	71%
South/Central America / Caribbean	47%	53%
Europe	34%	66%
Sub-Saharan Africa	53%	47%
Middle East / North Africa	42%	58%
North/Central/South Asia	47%	53%
East Asia	34%	66%
South East Asia	38%	62%
Oceania	33%	67%
Income		
$0–$19,999	37%	63%
$20,000–$74,999	35%	65%
$75,000+	36%	64%
Race		
White	35%	65%
Black	46%	54%
Hispanic	41%	59%
Other Race	34%	66%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	28%	72%
Bachelor's Degree	35%	65%
More Than Bachelor's	39%	61%
Marital Status		
Married	36%	64%
Never Married	34%	66%
Other	36%	64%

Q22A. Please specify where you heard, saw, or received messages from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). (1) FVAP.gov or other FVAP communication (2) Social media (3) News stories (4) Word of mouth (5) Web search (6) Official U.S. government source (7) Work or school (8) Civic organization, political party, or organization for Americans living abroad. [*N* = 1,913][51,52]

Specify FVAP Messaging								
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Respondents	62%	20%	5%	10%	24%	23%	1%	18%
Age								
Age 18 to 24	73%	24%	5%	22%	46%	36%	0%	12%
Age 25 to 34	67%	21%	4%	12%	29%	19%	1%	12%
Age 35 to 44	54%	27%	7%	13%	24%	30%	1%	21%
Age 45 to 54	63%	17%	5%	7%	23%	25%	1%	16%
Age 55 to 64	65%	17%	4%	7%	19%	20%	1%	19%
Age 65 and up	60%	11%	3%	7%	15%	18%	0%	21%
Sex								
Male	60%	19%	6%	10%	26%	23%	1%	16%
Female	63%	21%	4%	11%	22%	23%	1%	19%
Region								
North America	64%	15%	3%	5%	24%	12%	0%	17%
South/Central America / Caribbean	64%	19%	6%	11%	20%	31%	2%	15%
Europe	63%	21%	4%	11%	23%	22%	0%	21%
Sub-Saharan Africa	59%	19%	7%	9%	18%	47%	1%	13%
Middle East / North Africa	58%	21%	7%	21%	22%	9%	0%	16%
North/Central/South Asia	64%	24%	9%	13%	20%	41%	5%	6%
East Asia	56%	23%	10%	12%	29%	32%	4%	14%
South East Asia	61%	24%	5%	11%	21%	34%	2%	15%
Oceania	60%	14%	2%	6%	30%	28%	0%	11%
Income								
$0–$19,999	68%	26%	7%	11%	21%	21%	0%	13%
$20,000–$74,999	65%	18%	5%	11%	25%	21%	0%	17%
$75,000+	59%	18%	4%	9%	24%	26%	1%	21%
Race								
White	62%	18%	5%	10%	23%	22%	1%	20%
Black	66%	10%	7%	9%	23%	24%	1%	6%
Hispanic	68%	26%	4%	6%	17%	27%	0%	15%
Other Race	58%	25%	5%	17%	31%	27%	1%	11%
Education								
Less Than Bachelor's	61%	19%	7%	12%	28%	25%	1%	13%
Bachelor's Degree	63%	20%	5%	11%	26%	26%	1%	16%
More Than Bachelor's	62%	19%	4%	10%	20%	21%	1%	21%
Marital Status								
Married	61%	18%	5%	10%	21%	23%	1%	18%
Never Married	67%	21%	5%	13%	32%	26%	1%	15%
Other	56%	21%	5%	8%	20%	17%	0%	26%

[51] This question was shown to respondents who answered "Yes" to hearing, seeing, or receiving messages from FVAP in the past year regarding the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q22).
[52] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the sources where they heard, saw, or received messages from FVAP. Respondents could select as many sources as appropriate in this question.

Q23. Which, if any, of the following advertisements do you recall seeing, reading, or hearing about from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)? *Mark all that apply.*[53,54]

	FVAP Advertisements			
	Ad 1	Ad 2	Ad 3	Ad 4
Respondents	1%	2%	11%	20%
Age				
Age 18 to 24	3%	4%	10%	24%
Age 25 to 34	1%	4%	9%	21%
Age 35 to 44	1%	3%	11%	21%
Age 45 to 54	1%	1%	12%	25%
Age 55 to 64	1%	1%	15%	20%
Age 65 and up	1%	0%	10%	15%
Sex				
Male	1%	1%	11%	19%
Female	1%	3%	11%	21%
Region				
North America	1%	1%	9%	14%
South/Central America / Caribbean	4%	7%	13%	25%
Europe	1%	1%	11%	21%
Sub-Saharan Africa	1%	4%	20%	27%
Middle East / North Africa	2%	2%	8%	22%
North/Central/South Asia	5%	2%	24%	30%
East Asia	1%	4%	17%	25%
South East Asia	1%	2%	16%	26%
Oceania	1%	3%	10%	17%
Income				
$0–$19,999	3%	4%	12%	25%
$20,000–$74,999	1%	2%	11%	20%
$75,000+	1%	2%	12%	22%
Race				
White	1%	2%	10%	20%
Black	3%	1%	24%	22%
Hispanic	2%	3%	14%	26%
Other Race	1%	3%	15%	25%
Education				
Less Than Bachelor's	2%	3%	12%	20%
Bachelor's Degree	1%	2%	11%	20%
More Than Bachelor's	1%	2%	11%	22%
Marital Status				
Married	1%	1%	11%	20%
Never Married	2%	4%	11%	24%
Other	1%	1%	13%	17%

[53] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the advertisements they recalled seeing. Respondents could select as many advertisements as appropriate for this question.
[54] For specific advertisement images, see Question 23 in Appendix B.

Q24. In preparation for the *2020 primaries or General Election*, did you use any of the following resources? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.* (1) FVAP.gov [*N* = 2,230] (2) FVAP staff support [*N* = 2,074] (3) FVAP Online Assistant tool [*N* = 2,138] (4) State or local election office website [*N* = 5,117] (5) U.S. government voting assistance resources in country of residence [*N* = 4,935][55,56]

Use of FVAP Resources					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Respondents	72%	9%	41%	69%	13%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	87%	11%	49%	75%	18%
Age 25 to 34	82%	9%	40%	73%	12%
Age 35 to 44	67%	7%	40%	71%	13%
Age 45 to 54	71%	7%	43%	71%	14%
Age 55 to 64	71%	8%	39%	67%	11%
Age 65 and up	56%	11%	30%	58%	12%
Sex					
Male	71%	8%	40%	69%	12%
Female	73%	9%	40%	69%	14%
Region					
North America	74%	8%	42%	71%	11%
South/Central America / Caribbean	68%	24%	35%	64%	16%
Europe	72%	6%	40%	68%	12%
Sub-Saharan Africa	85%	8%	41%	71%	17%
Middle East / North Africa	69%	12%	40%	59%	13%
North/Central/South Asia	81%	9%	48%	59%	20%
East Asia	71%	5%	37%	76%	18%
South East Asia	78%	12%	53%	72%	15%
Oceania	72%	14%	41%	73%	17%
Income					
$0–$19,999	78%	8%	49%	62%	14%
$20,000–$74,999	74%	9%	41%	69%	13%
$75,000+	72%	9%	39%	72%	13%
Race					
White	72%	8%	40%	70%	12%
Black	71%	15%	47%	53%	19%
Hispanic	72%	12%	33%	55%	15%
Other Race	77%	10%	44%	68%	18%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	72%	12%	45%	63%	15%
Bachelor's Degree	72%	9%	43%	71%	13%
More Than Bachelor's	73%	8%	37%	70%	12%
Marital Status					
Married	69%	7%	38%	68%	12%
Never Married	83%	11%	44%	73%	15%
Other	62%	15%	47%	60%	13%

[55] Question items about FVAP resources were shown to respondents who answered "Yes" to whether they were aware of FVAP (Q21).
[56] Percentages reflect each of the resources that respondents used in preparation for the 2020 primaries or General Election. Respondents could select as many sources as appropriate for this question.

Q24A. Of the following resources, which did you consider to be the most useful? (1) FVAP.gov (2) FVAP staff support (3) FVAP Online Assistant tool (4) State or local election office website (5) U.S. government voting assistance resources in country of residence [*N* = 1,773][57]

Usefulness of FVAP Resources					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Respondents	40%	4%	12%	37%	7%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	52%	6%	5%	26%	11%
Age 25 to 34	43%	5%	8%	40%	4%
Age 35 to 44	36%	4%	18%	36%	6%
Age 45 to 54	41%	1%	11%	42%	5%
Age 55 to 64	39%	2%	15%	38%	6%
Age 65 and up	33%	5%	13%	42%	8%
Sex					
Male	37%	5%	11%	43%	5%
Female	42%	4%	13%	34%	8%
Region					
North America	36%	4%	16%	40%	5%
South/Central America / Caribbean	38%	20%	14%	20%	9%
Europe	42%	2%	10%	39%	7%
Sub-Saharan Africa	50%	2%	11%	32%	5%
Middle East / North Africa	50%	0%	19%	29%	2%
North/Central/South Asia	52%	8%	13%	22%	5%
East Asia	36%	3%	11%	41%	9%
South East Asia	45%	2%	11%	35%	6%
Oceania	29%	10%	11%	47%	4%
Income					
$0–$19,999	49%	3%	9%	30%	9%
$20,000–$74,999	38%	5%	14%	37%	6%
$75,000+	39%	4%	11%	39%	7%
Race					
White	39%	3%	13%	39%	6%
Black	49%	13%	13%	17%	9%
Hispanic	49%	8%	8%	24%	11%
Other Race	41%	4%	10%	38%	7%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	45%	6%	11%	25%	13%
Bachelor's Degree	37%	5%	13%	39%	6%
More Than Bachelor's	41%	3%	12%	41%	4%
Marital Status					
Married	40%	3%	13%	38%	6%
Never Married	41%	5%	10%	35%	8%
Other	37%	6%	12%	37%	7%

[57] This question was shown to respondents who reported using two or more of the information resources listed in Q24.

Q25. Overall, how satisfied were you with the FVAP.gov website when you visited it in anticipation of the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 1,684][58]

Satisfaction with FVAP website					
	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Respondents	32%	50%	15%	2%	0%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	17%	61%	18%	4%	0%
Age 25 to 34	25%	48%	25%	2%	0%
Age 35 to 44	32%	54%	11%	3%	1%
Age 45 to 54	35%	46%	17%	1%	1%
Age 55 to 64	42%	44%	12%	2%	1%
Age 65 and up	43%	43%	12%	1%	1%
Sex					
Male	30%	49%	18%	2%	0%
Female	33%	50%	14%	2%	1%
Region					
North America	37%	49%	12%	1%	0%
South/Central America / Caribbean	38%	39%	20%	3%	0%
Europe	29%	53%	15%	3%	1%
Sub-Saharan Africa	36%	55%	6%	2%	0%
Middle East / North Africa	38%	38%	24%	0%	0%
North/Central/South Asia	47%	40%	9%	2%	1%
East Asia	24%	53%	21%	1%	1%
South East Asia	34%	49%	15%	2%	0%
Oceania	28%	52%	17%	4%	0%
Income					
$0–$19,999	36%	46%	13%	5%	1%
$20,000–$74,999	33%	52%	12%	2%	0%
$75,000+	31%	50%	17%	2%	0%
Race					
White	32%	50%	15%	2%	0%
Black	49%	39%	12%	0%	0%
Hispanic	34%	49%	14%	3%	0%
Other Race	31%	52%	15%	1%	1%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	32%	50%	13%	5%	0%
Bachelor's Degree	32%	47%	18%	2%	1%
More Than Bachelor's	33%	51%	14%	1%	0%
Marital Status					
Married	37%	47%	13%	2%	0%
Never Married	24%	54%	20%	2%	0%
Other	36%	50%	11%	1%	1%

[58] This question was shown to respondents who reported using "FVAP.gov" or the "FVAP Online Assistant tool" in preparation for the 2020 primaries or General Election (Q24).

Q26. Please indicate which, if any, FVAP products or services you have used for voting assistance during *any election before the 2020 General Election*. *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.* (1) FVAP.gov [*N* = 2,199] (2) FVAP staff support [*N* = 2,098] (3) FVAP Online Assistant tool [*N* = 2,123] (4) State or local election office website [*N* = 5,072] (5) U.S. government voting assistance resources in [COUNTRY] [*N* = 4,935][59,60]

	FVAP Services				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Respondents	58%	7%	26%	60%	11%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	62%	10%	29%	52%	8%
Age 25 to 34	59%	9%	23%	63%	11%
Age 35 to 44	56%	6%	28%	65%	11%
Age 45 to 54	63%	6%	23%	63%	14%
Age 55 to 64	62%	7%	27%	60%	12%
Age 65 and up	47%	6%	22%	56%	11%
Sex					
Male	53%	6%	23%	60%	9%
Female	61%	8%	27%	61%	13%
Region					
North America	52%	9%	26%	60%	8%
South/Central America / Caribbean	57%	19%	31%	54%	13%
Europe	62%	6%	24%	61%	12%
Sub-Saharan Africa	66%	5%	23%	57%	17%
Middle East / North Africa	45%	8%	36%	47%	9%
North/Central/South Asia	63%	9%	29%	51%	14%
East Asia	58%	3%	20%	63%	11%
South East Asia	64%	7%	32%	61%	14%
Oceania	49%	4%	22%	65%	11%
Income					
$0–$19,999	66%	6%	34%	53%	12%
$20,000–$74,999	60%	10%	24%	61%	11%
$75,000+	54%	5%	25%	62%	11%
Race					
White	56%	5%	25%	61%	11%
Black	66%	13%	24%	50%	14%
Hispanic	60%	14%	25%	47%	16%
Other Race	62%	14%	35%	59%	14%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	54%	10%	27%	47%	12%
Bachelor's Degree	61%	10%	28%	61%	11%
More Than Bachelor's	57%	5%	24%	64%	12%
Marital Status					
Married	56%	6%	24%	61%	11%
Never Married	62%	10%	27%	61%	11%
Other	55%	9%	30%	52%	13%

[59] Only respondents who responded "Yes" to being aware of FVAP or its services before taking the survey (Q21) were asked if they had used "FVAP.gov," "FVAP staff support." and "the FVAP Online Assistant tool" before the 2020 General Election.
[60] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the sources. Respondents could select as many sources as appropriate.

Q27. What source led you to visit your state or local election office website when you visited in anticipation of the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 3,567][61]

Source of State/Local Website						
	FVAP.gov	Internet Search	State or Local Election Official	Family or Friend	State Department or Consular Services	Other
Respondents	15%	51%	10%	10%	3%	11%
Age						
Age 18 to 24	16%	53%	5%	24%	1%	1%
Age 25 to 34	12%	62%	5%	11%	3%	7%
Age 35 to 44	15%	53%	10%	9%	3%	10%
Age 45 to 54	15%	54%	11%	5%	5%	10%
Age 55 to 64	20%	43%	13%	5%	3%	15%
Age 65 and up	14%	38%	22%	8%	2%	17%
Sex						
Male	13%	53%	13%	9%	3%	10%
Female	16%	51%	9%	11%	3%	11%
Region						
North America	15%	51%	12%	9%	1%	13%
South/Central America / Caribbean	17%	41%	15%	7%	8%	12%
Europe	14%	52%	9%	11%	3%	11%
Sub-Saharan Africa	25%	48%	7%	6%	8%	7%
Middle East / North Africa	17%	46%	9%	6%	4%	18%
North/Central/South Asia	30%	37%	9%	12%	7%	5%
East Asia	19%	56%	6%	9%	5%	5%
South East Asia	14%	46%	14%	12%	6%	8%
Oceania	8%	57%	15%	5%	1%	14%
Income						
$0–$19,999	18%	48%	8%	13%	5%	8%
$20,000–$74,999	14%	49%	12%	11%	3%	11%
$75,000+	14%	54%	10%	8%	2%	12%
Race						
White	14%	51%	11%	10%	3%	12%
Black	16%	43%	9%	15%	2%	14%
Hispanic	25%	50%	13%	5%	4%	4%
Other Race	17%	53%	5%	11%	4%	10%
Education						
Less Than Bachelor's	13%	51%	10%	17%	4%	6%
Bachelor's Degree	15%	53%	9%	8%	4%	12%
More Than Bachelor's	15%	49%	12%	8%	2%	13%
Marital Status						
Married	15%	49%	12%	8%	4%	12%
Never Married	14%	57%	6%	15%	2%	7%
Other	15%	41%	16%	7%	4%	18%

[61] This question was shown to respondents who answered "Yes" to using their state or local election office website in preparation for the 2020 primaries or General Election (Q24_4).

Q28. Before taking this survey, were you aware that you could use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register to vote and request an absentee ballot? [*N* = 3,572]

FPCA Awareness		
	Yes	No
Respondents	33%	67%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	39%	61%
Age 25 to 34	33%	67%
Age 35 to 44	36%	64%
Age 45 to 54	30%	70%
Age 55 to 64	37%	63%
Age 65 and up	31%	69%
Sex		
Male	33%	67%
Female	33%	67%
Region		
North America	27%	73%
South/Central America / Caribbean	46%	54%
Europe	33%	67%
Sub-Saharan Africa	41%	59%
Middle East / North Africa	34%	66%
North/Central/South Asia	42%	58%
East Asia	39%	61%
South East Asia	39%	61%
Oceania	29%	71%
Income		
$0–$19,999	40%	60%
$20,000–$74,999	31%	69%
$75,000+	33%	67%
Race		
White	34%	66%
Black	36%	64%
Hispanic	33%	67%
Other Race	32%	68%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	30%	70%
Bachelor's Degree	30%	70%
More Than Bachelor's	38%	62%
Marital Status		
Married	32%	68%
Never Married	36%	64%
Other	34%	66%

Q28A. Did you use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to request your absentee ballot or did you use another method? (1) Yes, I used an FPCA to request an absentee ballot. (2) No, I used a state or local form to request an absentee ballot. (3) No, I used a non-government website (e.g., Rock the Vote [RTV], Overseas Vote Foundation [OVF]) to request an absentee ballot. (4) No, I used another method. (5) Other [*N* = 1,173][62]

	Used FPCA				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Respondents	50%	37%	4%	6%	3%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	59%	32%	4%	5%	1%
Age 25 to 34	50%	38%	1%	9%	2%
Age 35 to 44	60%	25%	5%	6%	4%
Age 45 to 54	40%	45%	6%	6%	3%
Age 55 to 64	51%	35%	7%	3%	4%
Age 65 and up	45%	44%	1%	5%	6%
Sex					
Male	47%	42%	3%	6%	2%
Female	53%	33%	5%	6%	4%
Region					
North America	49%	41%	3%	5%	1%
South/Central America / Caribbean	60%	20%	2%	16%	2%
Europe	52%	35%	4%	4%	4%
Sub-Saharan Africa	43%	36%	3%	14%	4%
Middle East / North Africa	46%	39%	14%	1%	0%
North/Central/South Asia	55%	21%	1%	16%	7%
East Asia	49%	39%	5%	4%	3%
South East Asia	48%	36%	4%	5%	6%
Oceania	33%	56%	2%	3%	6%
Income					
$0–$19,999	58%	29%	8%	3%	2%
$20,000–$74,999	43%	41%	5%	7%	4%
$75,000+	53%	35%	3%	6%	3%
Race					
White	48%	38%	4%	6%	4%
Black	50%	37%	9%	5%	0%
Hispanic	63%	25%	4%	8%	0%
Other Race	57%	35%	3%	2%	3%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	52%	35%	5%	5%	2%
Bachelor's Degree	46%	39%	4%	9%	3%
More Than Bachelor's	52%	36%	4%	4%	4%
Marital Status					
Married	50%	36%	4%	6%	4%
Never Married	53%	37%	3%	5%	2%
Other	41%	40%	12%	4%	3%

[62] This question was shown to respondents who answered "Yes" to requesting an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020, General Election (Q9) and also responded "Yes" to being aware that FPCAs can be used to register to vote and request a ballot (Q28).

Q29. Before taking this survey, were you aware of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)? [*N* = 5,171]

FWAB Awareness		
	Yes	No
Respondents	35%	65%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	43%	57%
Age 25 to 34	38%	62%
Age 35 to 44	33%	67%
Age 45 to 54	32%	68%
Age 55 to 64	35%	65%
Age 65 and up	30%	70%
Sex		
Male	34%	66%
Female	35%	65%
Region		
North America	30%	70%
South/Central America / Caribbean	37%	63%
Europe	35%	65%
Sub-Saharan Africa	47%	53%
Middle East / North Africa	27%	73%
North/Central/South Asia	54%	46%
East Asia	42%	58%
South East Asia	36%	64%
Oceania	38%	62%
Income		
$0–$19,999	36%	64%
$20,000–$74,999	36%	64%
$75,000+	34%	66%
Race		
White	34%	66%
Black	50%	50%
Hispanic	31%	69%
Other Race	39%	61%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	37%	63%
Bachelor's Degree	34%	66%
More Than Bachelor's	34%	66%
Marital Status		
Married	34%	66%
Never Married	36%	64%
Other	34%	66%

Q30. Did you receive information about the absentee voting process from any of the following sources in 2020? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.* (1) State or local election official [*N* = 4,934] (2) U.S. newspapers, magazines, radio, or TV [*N* = 4,872] (3) International newspapers, magazines, radio, or TV [*N* = 4,865] (4) Family or friends living outside of [COUNTRY] [*N* = 4,868] (5) Family or friends living in [COUNTRY] [*N* = 4,891] (6) Internet other than social media [*N* = 4,963] (7) Social media [*N* = 4,878] (8) Directly from candidates/parties [*N* = 4,860] (9) Employer/HR department [*N* = 4,840] (10) An organization for Americans living abroad [*N* = 4,945] (11) Other [*N* = 4,350][63]

Procedural Information											
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Respondents	34%	16%	13%	23%	28%	54%	27%	13%	2%	32%	6%
Age											
Age 18 to 24	26%	18%	14%	36%	49%	62%	40%	15%	2%	24%	8%
Age 25 to 34	28%	15%	10%	32%	35%	62%	36%	14%	2%	29%	7%
Age 35 to 44	31%	13%	9%	23%	26%	52%	34%	12%	3%	35%	7%
Age 45 to 54	38%	16%	13%	17%	25%	52%	23%	14%	2%	32%	7%
Age 55 to 64	36%	17%	15%	17%	20%	51%	16%	13%	2%	35%	7%
Age 65 and up	42%	16%	16%	17%	17%	45%	14%	14%	1%	35%	5%
Sex											
Male	37%	16%	11%	19%	26%	55%	24%	14%	2%	32%	5%
Female	32%	15%	13%	26%	29%	53%	29%	13%	2%	33%	7%
Region											
North America	35%	16%	14%	18%	22%	52%	23%	12%	0%	29%	5%
South/Central	30%	15%	18%	25%	31%	51%	27%	16%	5%	31%	14%
Europe	33%	17%	12%	24%	28%	54%	26%	15%	1%	34%	6%
Sub-Saharan Africa	32%	7%	7%	23%	29%	53%	23%	10%	5%	24%	14%
Middle East / North	33%	11%	17%	25%	33%	48%	25%	10%	7%	46%	5%
North/Central/South	34%	18%	8%	30%	35%	58%	25%	8%	5%	25%	14%
East Asia	28%	14%	11%	25%	37%	58%	38%	10%	2%	29%	9%
South East Asia	37%	17%	15%	22%	30%	55%	28%	13%	3%	33%	11%
Oceania	38%	13%	8%	22%	18%	57%	26%	10%	1%	25%	4%
Income											
$0–$19,999	27%	18%	16%	32%	30%	52%	28%	11%	1%	28%	7%
$20,000–$74,999	34%	16%	13%	24%	26%	54%	27%	14%	2%	33%	7%
$75,000+	35%	16%	11%	19%	29%	55%	28%	13%	3%	35%	6%
Race											
White	36%	15%	12%	22%	27%	54%	26%	13%	2%	34%	6%
Black	25%	18%	11%	21%	27%	50%	20%	14%	2%	35%	6%
Hispanic	20%	19%	18%	24%	27%	52%	31%	16%	1%	29%	9%
Other Race	25%	17%	13%	27%	31%	55%	37%	11%	1%	25%	9%
Education											
Less Than Bachelor's	28%	16%	16%	26%	30%	48%	27%	12%	1%	23%	6%
Bachelor's Degree	31%	16%	11%	21%	27%	55%	27%	12%	2%	33%	6%
More Than Bachelor's	37%	15%	12%	22%	27%	55%	26%	15%	2%	36%	7%
Marital Status											
Married	36%	15%	12%	19%	23%	51%	24%	13%	2%	33%	6%
Never Married	28%	17%	13%	31%	38%	61%	35%	13%	2%	31%	6%
Other	34%	16%	16%	21%	23%	46%	22%	15%	1%	35%	9%

[63] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the sources of information. Respondents could select as many sources as appropriate in this question.

Q31. Which of the following do you use at least once a month to get news or news headlines about U.S. politics and/or elections? *Mark all that apply.* (1) U.S. national TV news (2) Local TV news in country of residence (3) Local newspaper in country of residence (4) U.S. national newspapers (5) Print or online news magazines (6) Online-only news websites (7) U.S. public radio stations (8) International news outlets (9) Web search (10) Other. [*N* = 5,282][64]

News About Politics										
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Respondents	43%	39%	31%	47%	27%	30%	27%	58%	56%	10%
Age										
Age 18 to 24	40%	40%	29%	46%	25%	32%	15%	51%	68%	16%
Age 25 to 34	29%	33%	23%	46%	29%	31%	30%	61%	60%	11%
Age 35 to 44	38%	30%	27%	53%	33%	31%	35%	61%	56%	10%
Age 45 to 54	44%	39%	33%	51%	28%	30%	29%	62%	56%	9%
Age 55 to 64	52%	44%	36%	46%	26%	32%	23%	58%	55%	8%
Age 65 and up	57%	46%	40%	43%	22%	27%	23%	54%	47%	7%
Sex										
Male	44%	36%	32%	47%	29%	36%	26%	57%	57%	10%
Female	43%	41%	31%	48%	26%	25%	28%	59%	55%	10%
Region										
North America	56%	42%	32%	41%	29%	30%	32%	48%	58%	10%
South/Central America / Caribbean	61%	34%	32%	44%	20%	34%	24%	49%	51%	10%
Europe	39%	43%	34%	50%	28%	27%	27%	64%	54%	10%
Sub-Saharan Africa	36%	13%	12%	45%	26%	29%	24%	51%	48%	9%
Middle East / North Africa	31%	28%	30%	39%	22%	31%	20%	53%	59%	7%
North/Central/South Asia	52%	28%	28%	44%	21%	34%	18%	49%	66%	7%
East Asia	37%	25%	19%	52%	33%	38%	29%	60%	65%	11%
South East Asia	47%	19%	19%	46%	25%	40%	24%	58%	58%	7%
Oceania	40%	48%	37%	51%	26%	29%	24%	61%	55%	12%
Income										
$0–$19,999	42%	38%	25%	36%	16%	26%	20%	52%	60%	13%
$20,000–$74,999	43%	40%	31%	45%	29%	30%	27%	60%	58%	12%
$75,000+	46%	39%	36%	59%	34%	33%	32%	64%	57%	9%
Race										
White	44%	41%	33%	49%	29%	30%	28%	60%	57%	10%
Black	67%	38%	20%	32%	22%	32%	27%	55%	62%	15%
Hispanic	53%	39%	33%	50%	19%	32%	25%	58%	58%	12%
Other Race	42%	35%	28%	49%	28%	36%	29%	61%	61%	13%
Education										
Less Than Bachelor's	50%	49%	30%	31%	17%	30%	15%	52%	61%	12%
Bachelor's Degree	43%	39%	30%	45%	26%	29%	27%	57%	59%	12%
More Than Bachelor's	44%	37%	35%	59%	35%	32%	33%	65%	55%	8%
Marital Status										
Married	47%	40%	32%	50%	29%	31%	28%	60%	55%	10%
Never Married	38%	38%	32%	50%	29%	31%	27%	60%	63%	12%
Other	48%	44%	34%	41%	21%	23%	24%	59%	55%	8%

[64] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the news outlets. Respondents could select as many outlets as appropriate for this question.

Q32. How would you characterize the reliability of internet access in [COUNTRY]? [*N* = 5,162]

Internet Reliability					
	Very unreliable	Unreliable	Neither reliable nor unreliable	Reliable	Very reliable
Respondents	12%	2%	4%	27%	55%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	7%	2%	5%	29%	57%
Age 25 to 34	7%	2%	3%	24%	65%
Age 35 to 44	10%	3%	3%	22%	62%
Age 45 to 54	14%	2%	4%	22%	57%
Age 55 to 64	17%	2%	5%	26%	50%
Age 65 and up	16%	2%	5%	37%	40%
Sex					
Male	11%	2%	4%	27%	57%
Female	13%	3%	4%	27%	54%
Region					
North America	14%	0%	3%	30%	52%
South/Central America / Caribbean	7%	5%	8%	46%	34%
Europe	13%	1%	2%	22%	62%
Sub-Saharan Africa	6%	16%	17%	42%	20%
Middle East / North Africa	13%	4%	4%	21%	59%
North/Central/South Asia	7%	5%	12%	48%	28%
East Asia	14%	2%	5%	21%	57%
South East Asia	10%	6%	11%	36%	37%
Oceania	8%	4%	3%	33%	53%
Income					
$0–$19,999	9%	7%	6%	34%	44%
$20,000–$74,999	12%	2%	4%	28%	55%
$75,000+	13%	1%	3%	24%	60%
Race					
White	12%	2%	4%	26%	56%
Black	12%	3%	4%	32%	49%
Hispanic	13%	2%	3%	28%	54%
Other Race	8%	3%	6%	29%	55%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	13%	2%	5%	31%	49%
Bachelor's Degree	12%	2%	4%	27%	54%
More Than Bachelor's	11%	2%	4%	24%	59%
Marital Status					
Married	13%	2%	3%	26%	56%
Never Married	8%	3%	4%	26%	58%
Other	13%	2%	7%	30%	48%

Q33. How would you characterize the reliability of the postal service in [COUNTRY]? [*N* = 5,098]

Postal Service Reliability					
	Very unreliable	Unreliable	Neither reliable nor unreliable	Reliable	Very reliable
Respondents	12%	8%	11%	36%	33%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	7%	4%	8%	45%	36%
Age 25 to 34	10%	7%	11%	38%	35%
Age 35 to 44	10%	9%	12%	33%	37%
Age 45 to 54	13%	8%	8%	36%	35%
Age 55 to 64	15%	9%	12%	32%	31%
Age 65 and up	18%	11%	13%	37%	22%
Sex					
Male	10%	7%	11%	35%	37%
Female	14%	9%	11%	37%	30%
Region					
North America	13%	4%	13%	40%	30%
South/Central America / Caribbean	27%	25%	17%	25%	6%
Europe	9%	3%	9%	38%	41%
Sub-Saharan Africa	38%	26%	20%	13%	3%
Middle East / North Africa	21%	30%	20%	22%	7%
North/Central/South Asia	13%	16%	16%	47%	9%
East Asia	13%	4%	4%	30%	49%
South East Asia	17%	18%	17%	33%	16%
Oceania	5%	10%	7%	44%	34%
Income					
$0–$19,999	14%	10%	12%	36%	27%
$20,000–$74,999	12%	9%	11%	36%	32%
$75,000+	12%	7%	10%	35%	37%
Race					
White	12%	8%	11%	35%	34%
Black	13%	12%	18%	29%	29%
Hispanic	14%	9%	9%	45%	23%
Other Race	10%	7%	9%	40%	34%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	13%	6%	11%	39%	31%
Bachelor's Degree	13%	9%	11%	36%	31%
More Than Bachelor's	12%	8%	10%	35%	35%
Marital Status					
Married	12%	9%	10%	36%	33%
Never Married	10%	7%	10%	37%	35%
Other	18%	9%	12%	31%	30%

Q34. How interested or uninterested were you in the election held on November 3, 2020? [*N* = 5,150]

	Interest in Election				
	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Neither interested nor uninterested	Somewhat uninterested	Very uninterested
Respondents	89%	6%	1%	1%	4%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	82%	10%	3%	1%	3%
Age 25 to 34	82%	11%	0%	1%	5%
Age 35 to 44	89%	6%	1%	1%	3%
Age 45 to 54	92%	4%	1%	0%	4%
Age 55 to 64	91%	4%	0%	1%	4%
Age 65 and up	93%	2%	2%	0%	3%
Sex					
Male	88%	6%	1%	0%	4%
Female	90%	6%	1%	1%	4%
Region					
North America	93%	4%	1%	0%	2%
South/Central America / Caribbean	94%	4%	1%	0%	2%
Europe	89%	6%	1%	1%	4%
Sub-Saharan Africa	89%	4%	2%	0%	5%
Middle East / North Africa	78%	13%	4%	0%	5%
North/Central/South Asia	83%	11%	3%	0%	2%
East Asia	84%	10%	0%	1%	5%
South East Asia	86%	8%	1%	0%	4%
Oceania	91%	5%	0%	1%	3%
Income					
$0–$19,999	83%	9%	3%	2%	3%
$20,000–$74,999	89%	6%	1%	0%	4%
$75,000+	91%	5%	0%	0%	3%
Race					
White	90%	5%	1%	0%	3%
Black	93%	3%	2%	0%	3%
Hispanic	88%	8%	1%	1%	3%
Other Race	83%	10%	1%	1%	5%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	87%	7%	2%	1%	3%
Bachelor's Degree	89%	6%	1%	0%	4%
More Than Bachelor's	90%	5%	0%	0%	4%
Marital Status					
Married	90%	5%	1%	0%	4%
Never Married	86%	8%	1%	1%	4%
Other	92%	4%	1%	0%	3%

Q35. Did you have any preferences regarding the candidates in the U.S. elections held on November 3, 2020? [*N* = 5,149]

	Candidate Preference			
	No preference	Weak preference	Moderate preference	Strong preference
Respondents	2%	2%	10%	86%
Age				
Age 18 to 24	2%	1%	13%	84%
Age 25 to 34	2%	3%	12%	83%
Age 35 to 44	1%	3%	12%	84%
Age 45 to 54	1%	2%	11%	87%
Age 55 to 64	1%	1%	8%	90%
Age 65 and up	3%	2%	5%	90%
Sex				
Male	2%	2%	12%	84%
Female	1%	2%	8%	89%
Region				
North America	1%	1%	6%	92%
South/Central America / Caribbean	2%	1%	17%	80%
Europe	2%	2%	9%	88%
Sub-Saharan Africa	6%	1%	14%	79%
Middle East / North Africa	5%	5%	12%	78%
North/Central/South Asia	6%	2%	27%	64%
East Asia	1%	3%	13%	83%
South East Asia	1%	3%	14%	82%
Oceania	0%	1%	11%	89%
Income				
$0–$19,999	6%	4%	14%	76%
$20,000–$74,999	1%	1%	9%	88%
$75,000+	1%	2%	8%	90%
Race				
White	1%	2%	9%	88%
Black	0%	2%	6%	91%
Hispanic	3%	2%	14%	81%
Other Race	2%	4%	16%	79%
Education				
Less Than Bachelor's	4%	3%	12%	82%
Bachelor's Degree	1%	2%	9%	87%
More Than Bachelor's	1%	2%	9%	88%
Marital Status				
Married	2%	2%	9%	87%
Never Married	2%	3%	11%	84%
Other	2%	0%	6%	92%

Q36. How much attention did you pay in October 2020 to news about U.S. politics and the November 3, 2020 General Election? [*N* = 5,150]

Election News					
	A great deal	A lot	A moderate amount	A little	None at all
Respondents	68%	19%	10%	3%	0%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	54%	26%	16%	3%	1%
Age 25 to 34	62%	22%	13%	3%	0%
Age 35 to 44	66%	21%	10%	3%	1%
Age 45 to 54	71%	18%	8%	3%	1%
Age 55 to 64	76%	15%	7%	1%	0%
Age 65 and up	77%	14%	8%	1%	0%
Sex					
Male	70%	19%	8%	2%	1%
Female	68%	18%	11%	3%	0%
Region					
North America	74%	16%	7%	2%	1%
South/Central America / Caribbean	70%	21%	8%	1%	0%
Europe	69%	19%	10%	2%	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	62%	18%	13%	6%	0%
Middle East / North Africa	55%	22%	10%	10%	2%
North/Central/South Asia	46%	29%	19%	4%	1%
East Asia	64%	20%	13%	3%	0%
South East Asia	66%	20%	11%	3%	1%
Oceania	74%	18%	7%	1%	0%
Income					
$0–$19,999	56%	24%	16%	4%	1%
$20,000–$74,999	70%	19%	8%	2%	1%
$75,000+	73%	17%	8%	2%	0%
Race					
White	70%	18%	9%	2%	1%
Black	69%	19%	11%	1%	0%
Hispanic	67%	22%	8%	1%	1%
Other Race	59%	22%	16%	3%	0%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	61%	26%	11%	2%	1%
Bachelor's Degree	69%	17%	10%	3%	0%
More Than Bachelor's	71%	18%	8%	2%	1%
Marital Status					
Married	70%	18%	9%	2%	0%
Never Married	64%	20%	12%	3%	0%
Other	73%	17%	8%	2%	1%

Q37. Do you use any of the following social networking sites or apps at least once a month? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.* (1) Facebook [*N* = 5,018] (2) Instagram [*N* = 4,762] (3) Twitter [*N* = 4,679] (4) LinkedIn [*N* = 4,721] (5) Pinterest [*N* = 4,603] (6) Tumblr [*N* = 4,532] (7) Reddit [*N* = 4,550] (8) Snapchat [*N* = 4,533] (9) YouTube [*N* = 4,931] (10) Periscope [*N* = 4,500] (11) WhatsApp [*N* = 4,876] (12) TikTok [*N* = 4,539] (13) Other [*N* = 3,971][65]

Use of Social Networks													
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Respondents	69%	50%	29%	39%	18%	2%	17%	11%	82%	0%	70%	9%	9%
Age													
Age 18 to 24	70%	83%	37%	35%	22%	7%	31%	48%	94%	0%	70%	27%	8%
Age 25 to 34	78%	70%	35%	47%	23%	4%	35%	17%	90%	0%	75%	10%	6%
Age 35 to 44	69%	55%	33%	43%	15%	2%	23%	5%	82%	0%	77%	5%	10%
Age 45 to 54	73%	45%	32%	46%	16%	0%	8%	6%	82%	0%	74%	8%	10%
Age 55 to 64	66%	34%	25%	40%	16%	2%	7%	4%	77%	0%	68%	6%	15%
Age 65 and up	57%	18%	15%	21%	14%	2%	2%	1%	69%	0%	57%	2%	8%
Sex													
Male	62%	40%	31%	42%	6%	2%	23%	8%	82%	0%	66%	6%	11%
Female	74%	56%	28%	37%	26%	3%	13%	13%	81%	0%	73%	11%	8%
Region													
North America	66%	43%	28%	32%	17%	2%	19%	10%	76%	0%	42%	8%	7%
South/Central America / Caribbean	76%	54%	26%	35%	27%	0%	12%	8%	85%	0%	93%	13%	8%
Europe	69%	54%	30%	43%	18%	2%	18%	12%	82%	0%	81%	9%	8%
Sub-Saharan Africa	65%	42%	26%	38%	17%	1%	6%	5%	79%	0%	92%	8%	8%
Middle East / North Africa	66%	28%	24%	39%	14%	5%	5%	9%	84%	0%	83%	11%	8%
North/Central/South Asia	56%	51%	30%	43%	17%	5%	17%	14%	89%	2%	93%	4%	14%
East Asia	73%	57%	35%	34%	17%	5%	29%	12%	90%	0%	34%	8%	26%
South East Asia	69%	44%	30%	35%	14%	3%	16%	5%	82%	0%	65%	8%	15%
Oceania	71%	44%	23%	37%	17%	2%	15%	12%	77%	0%	60%	7%	4%
Income													
$0–$19,999	69%	59%	32%	35%	19%	4%	16%	18%	88%	0%	74%	14%	11%
$20,000–$74,999	73%	48%	29%	31%	19%	2%	18%	11%	85%	0%	69%	9%	9%
$75,000+	67%	50%	31%	49%	15%	2%	19%	10%	77%	0%	71%	9%	9%
Race													
White	69%	47%	28%	39%	17%	2%	17%	11%	80%	0%	69%	8%	8%
Black	62%	43%	31%	40%	19%	1%	12%	6%	88%	0%	77%	11%	11%
Hispanic	71%	65%	35%	44%	26%	2%	14%	11%	86%	0%	86%	18%	10%
Other Race	71%	61%	37%	42%	19%	5%	25%	18%	89%	0%	66%	11%	17%
Education													
Less Than Bachelor's	66%	51%	28%	24%	19%	4%	18%	22%	81%	0%	62%	14%	8%
Bachelor's Degree	71%	54%	29%	38%	20%	3%	19%	12%	83%	0%	67%	9%	10%
More Than Bachelor's	69%	46%	30%	46%	15%	2%	15%	6%	81%	0%	76%	7%	9%
Marital Status													
Married	67%	41%	27%	37%	16%	1%	15%	5%	78%	0%	67%	6%	9%
Never Married	72%	72%	36%	43%	21%	5%	26%	26%	92%	0%	76%	17%	9%
Other	69%	35%	21%	35%	15%	1%	7%	3%	78%	0%	70%	6%	11%

[65] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the social networking sites or apps. Respondents could select as many sites or apps as appropriate for this question.

Q38. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.* (1) Post links to political stories or articles for others to read [*N* = 5,067] (2) Post your own thoughts or comments on political or social issues [*N* = 5,061] (3) Encourage other people to take action on a political or social issue that is important to you [*N* = 5,055] (4) Encourage other people to vote [*N* = 5,063] (5) Repost content related to political or social issues that was originally posted by someone else [*N* = 5,055] (6) "Like" or promote material related to political or social issues that others have posted [*N* = 5,072][66]

Social Network Activity						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Respondents	34%	35%	34%	41%	37%	51%
Age						
Age 18 to 24	37%	36%	44%	44%	45%	71%
Age 25 to 34	33%	33%	37%	43%	40%	57%
Age 35 to 44	35%	39%	35%	42%	37%	54%
Age 45 to 54	34%	38%	33%	41%	35%	50%
Age 55 to 64	36%	36%	32%	38%	34%	47%
Age 65 and up	33%	29%	29%	38%	34%	39%
Sex						
Male	30%	34%	30%	35%	32%	46%
Female	37%	36%	38%	45%	41%	55%
Region						
North America	33%	34%	34%	42%	36%	49%
South/Central America / Caribbean	44%	41%	41%	46%	43%	60%
Europe	33%	34%	34%	39%	36%	51%
Sub-Saharan Africa	25%	34%	29%	36%	28%	44%
Middle East / North Africa	33%	41%	29%	41%	41%	45%
North/Central/South Asia	24%	22%	27%	38%	24%	36%
East Asia	35%	35%	35%	42%	36%	53%
South East Asia	39%	39%	38%	41%	36%	50%
Oceania	40%	40%	41%	44%	42%	54%
Income						
$0–$19,999	30%	34%	32%	40%	36%	52%
$20,000–$74,999	41%	41%	41%	46%	44%	56%
$75,000+	32%	33%	31%	39%	34%	49%
Race						
White	34%	35%	34%	40%	36%	50%
Black	39%	46%	34%	42%	43%	58%
Hispanic	45%	40%	40%	52%	47%	61%
Other Race	32%	32%	36%	41%	38%	53%
Education						
Less Than Bachelor's	35%	35%	34%	43%	39%	55%
Bachelor's Degree	33%	35%	34%	42%	36%	50%
More Than Bachelor's	35%	36%	36%	39%	37%	50%
Marital Status						
Married	32%	34%	31%	38%	33%	47%
Never Married	37%	36%	39%	43%	43%	60%
Other	42%	40%	39%	48%	42%	51%

[66] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the actions taken in networking sites. Respondents could select as many actions as appropriate for this question.

Q39. In the past year, which of the following groups or organizations for Americans living abroad have you engaged with? *Mark all that apply.* (1) Political party-based organization(s) (2) American Citizens Abroad (3) Expat Exchange (4) Association of Americans Resident Overseas (5) American Women's Club (6) Overseas Vote Foundation (7) Other [*N* = 5,282][67]

Organizations Abroad							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Respondents	17%	12%	2%	1%	2%	3%	6%
Age							
Age 18 to 24	17%	9%	1%	1%	1%	4%	3%
Age 25 to 34	15%	11%	2%	0%	0%	2%	4%
Age 35 to 44	18%	12%	1%	0%	2%	4%	5%
Age 45 to 54	16%	12%	2%	1%	2%	4%	6%
Age 55 to 64	17%	15%	4%	1%	3%	4%	5%
Age 65 and up	19%	15%	3%	4%	2%	4%	7%
Sex							
Male	17%	11%	2%	1%	1%	4%	5%
Female	17%	13%	2%	1%	2%	3%	6%
Region							
North America	20%	10%	1%	0%	1%	4%	4%
South/Central America / Caribbean	16%	12%	5%	1%	1%	2%	4%
Europe	19%	14%	3%	2%	2%	4%	6%
Sub-Saharan Africa	8%	10%	4%	1%	1%	1%	6%
Middle East / North Africa	9%	13%	2%	2%	0%	3%	7%
North/Central/South Asia	6%	16%	4%	4%	2%	2%	8%
East Asia	13%	10%	1%	0%	1%	3%	7%
South East Asia	18%	15%	4%	2%	2%	5%	7%
Oceania	16%	12%	0%	1%	1%	3%	6%
Income							
$0–$19,999	15%	14%	3%	1%	0%	4%	8%
$20,000–$74,999	18%	14%	3%	2%	1%	4%	5%
$75,000+	21%	13%	2%	1%	3%	3%	5%
Race							
White	18%	12%	2%	1%	1%	4%	5%
Black	19%	14%	2%	0%	1%	6%	7%
Hispanic	22%	15%	5%	1%	2%	4%	5%
Other Race	12%	17%	3%	1%	3%	3%	7%
Education							
Less Than Bachelor's	13%	15%	3%	1%	1%	4%	7%
Bachelor's Degree	17%	12%	2%	1%	2%	3%	5%
More Than Bachelor's	21%	13%	2%	1%	1%	3%	6%
Marital Status							
Married	18%	13%	3%	1%	2%	3%	5%
Never Married	17%	11%	1%	0%	1%	4%	5%
Other	21%	16%	4%	3%	1%	3%	9%

[67] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the groups or organizations for Americans living abroad. Respondents could select as many groups or organizations as appropriate for this question.

Q40. How many U.S. citizens aged 18 and older would you estimate you know who resided in [COUNTRY] on November 3, 2020? [*N* = 4,867]

Social Connections in Country of Residence							
	None	1-2	3-4	5-10	11-20	21-50	51+
Respondents	9%	16%	14%	28%	11%	11%	12%
Age							
Age 18 to 24	8%	23%	15%	33%	8%	6%	7%
Age 25 to 34	9%	17%	16%	32%	10%	8%	8%
Age 35 to 44	9%	13%	13%	29%	10%	11%	15%
Age 45 to 54	7%	13%	14%	29%	10%	12%	13%
Age 55 to 64	8%	17%	12%	24%	11%	12%	16%
Age 65 and up	11%	17%	12%	23%	12%	12%	14%
Sex							
Male	10%	16%	12%	27%	10%	11%	13%
Female	8%	16%	15%	29%	11%	10%	11%
Region							
North America	11%	22%	15%	27%	11%	8%	6%
South/Central America / Caribbean	9%	11%	9%	23%	15%	17%	17%
Europe	10%	17%	15%	31%	10%	7%	10%
Sub-Saharan Africa	6%	11%	8%	19%	16%	15%	24%
Middle East / North Africa	3%	6%	3%	12%	9%	30%	36%
North/Central/South Asia	10%	20%	11%	19%	14%	11%	15%
East Asia	5%	8%	8%	27%	13%	20%	18%
South East Asia	6%	10%	12%	19%	18%	13%	22%
Oceania	9%	19%	22%	29%	6%	7%	8%
Income							
$0–$19,999	13%	18%	15%	27%	8%	9%	10%
$20,000–$74,999	8%	17%	13%	28%	11%	11%	10%
$75,000+	7%	14%	14%	29%	11%	11%	14%
Race							
White	9%	16%	14%	27%	11%	11%	12%
Black	14%	20%	10%	21%	10%	11%	12%
Hispanic	10%	12%	11%	31%	13%	7%	15%
Other Race	8%	17%	14%	30%	10%	10%	12%
Education							
Less Than Bachelor's	13%	19%	17%	25%	10%	8%	8%
Bachelor's Degree	8%	16%	15%	28%	11%	11%	11%
More Than Bachelor's	7%	15%	12%	29%	11%	11%	15%
Marital Status							
Married	9%	15%	13%	28%	10%	11%	14%
Never Married	8%	18%	15%	30%	11%	9%	9%
Other	12%	15%	13%	23%	13%	11%	13%

Q40A. How many U.S. citizens in [COUNTRY] that you know would you estimate you talked to about absentee voting procedures? [*N* = 4,394][68]

Discuss Absentee Voting with Social Connections in Country of Residence							
	None	1-2	3-4	5-10	11-20	21-50	51+
Respondents	21%	33%	16%	20%	5%	3%	2%
Age							
Age 18 to 24	21%	40%	20%	14%	3%	1%	2%
Age 25 to 34	19%	39%	16%	18%	5%	1%	1%
Age 35 to 44	20%	30%	16%	22%	5%	5%	2%
Age 45 to 54	21%	31%	14%	24%	6%	4%	1%
Age 55 to 64	21%	32%	14%	22%	6%	3%	2%
Age 65 and up	26%	29%	14%	20%	5%	3%	2%
Sex							
Male	24%	32%	15%	20%	4%	3%	2%
Female	19%	34%	16%	21%	6%	3%	2%
Region							
North America	25%	35%	15%	18%	5%	1%	1%
South/Central America / Caribbean	21%	28%	10%	28%	8%	2%	2%
Europe	20%	36%	16%	19%	4%	3%	2%
Sub-Saharan Africa	16%	24%	20%	28%	7%	3%	2%
Middle East / North Africa	19%	15%	15%	28%	9%	10%	3%
North/Central/South Asia	24%	30%	11%	18%	7%	4%	5%
East Asia	17%	29%	18%	23%	4%	7%	2%
South East Asia	19%	27%	15%	23%	8%	4%	3%
Oceania	30%	30%	15%	18%	4%	1%	2%
Income							
$0–$19,999	25%	33%	14%	20%	6%	2%	0%
$20,000–$74,999	21%	32%	16%	21%	4%	3%	2%
$75,000+	20%	32%	17%	20%	6%	3%	2%
Race							
White	21%	33%	16%	20%	5%	3%	2%
Black	34%	21%	11%	24%	6%	3%	1%
Hispanic	19%	33%	13%	24%	7%	3%	1%
Other Race	23%	33%	18%	18%	3%	3%	1%
Education							
Less Than Bachelor's	25%	35%	18%	16%	4%	1%	1%
Bachelor's Degree	20%	33%	17%	20%	5%	4%	1%
More Than Bachelor's	21%	32%	14%	22%	6%	3%	2%
Marital Status							
Married	22%	31%	15%	22%	5%	4%	2%
Never Married	19%	37%	18%	18%	5%	2%	2%
Other	23%	31%	15%	21%	5%	3%	2%

[68] This question was shown to respondents who reported knowing at least one U.S. citizen age 18 or older in their country of residence (Q40).

Q40B. Of the U.S. citizens aged 18 and older who you knew in [COUNTRY] on November 3, 2020, how many of them would you estimate requested an absentee ballot or had an absentee ballot sent to them for the election held on November 3, 2020? [*N* = 3,331][69]

Estimated Social Connections in Country of Residence that Receive Ballot							
	None	1-2	3-4	5-10	11-20	21-50	51+
Respondents	6%	42%	19%	22%	6%	3%	2%
Age							
Age 18 to 24	9%	48%	21%	16%	4%	1%	2%
Age 25 to 34	5%	50%	18%	20%	6%	1%	1%
Age 35 to 44	4%	36%	20%	26%	8%	5%	3%
Age 45 to 54	7%	37%	19%	25%	6%	4%	1%
Age 55 to 64	5%	42%	15%	25%	7%	3%	3%
Age 65 and up	8%	38%	20%	22%	6%	4%	2%
Sex							
Male	6%	42%	20%	23%	5%	2%	2%
Female	6%	41%	19%	22%	7%	4%	2%
Region							
North America	7%	47%	20%	20%	5%	0%	1%
South/Central America / Caribbean	8%	38%	14%	26%	7%	2%	3%
Europe	6%	44%	20%	21%	5%	3%	1%
Sub-Saharan Africa	2%	34%	18%	36%	6%	2%	1%
Middle East / North Africa	2%	22%	15%	41%	12%	5%	4%
North/Central/South Asia	8%	40%	14%	17%	11%	6%	3%
East Asia	6%	40%	17%	23%	6%	6%	2%
South East Asia	8%	35%	18%	22%	9%	5%	3%
Oceania	5%	46%	22%	18%	6%	2%	3%
Income							
$0–$19,999	14%	38%	18%	22%	6%	2%	0%
$20,000–$74,999	5%	41%	21%	23%	5%	3%	2%
$75,000+	4%	42%	20%	21%	7%	4%	2%
Race							
White	5%	42%	20%	23%	6%	3%	2%
Black	10%	31%	13%	32%	7%	5%	2%
Hispanic	12%	37%	16%	24%	6%	4%	1%
Other Race	8%	44%	21%	18%	5%	4%	1%
Education							
Less Than Bachelor's	8%	47%	20%	19%	3%	1%	1%
Bachelor's Degree	6%	41%	21%	21%	7%	4%	1%
More Than Bachelor's	5%	40%	18%	25%	7%	3%	3%
Marital Status							
Married	5%	40%	19%	24%	6%	4%	2%
Never Married	6%	47%	20%	18%	7%	1%	1%
Other	8%	38%	19%	25%	5%	4%	2%

[69] This question was shown to respondents who reported talking to at least one U.S. citizen age 18 or older in their country of residence about absentee voting procedures (Q40A).

Q40C. How many U.S. citizens aged 18 and older resided at your primary address in [COUNTRY] on November 3, 2020? [*N* = 3,407][70]

Number of U.S. Citizens Ages 18+ Living in Current Address				
	None	One	Two	Three or more
Respondents	14%	53%	25%	9%
Age				
Age 18 to 24	15%	37%	28%	20%
Age 25 to 34	19%	59%	17%	5%
Age 35 to 44	11%	61%	24%	4%
Age 45 to 54	9%	54%	29%	7%
Age 55 to 64	12%	44%	32%	13%
Age 65 and up	14%	52%	25%	10%
Sex				
Male	13%	49%	27%	10%
Female	14%	55%	23%	8%
Region				
North America	9%	57%	24%	9%
South/Central America / Caribbean	7%	43%	36%	14%
Europe	16%	53%	24%	7%
Sub-Saharan Africa	6%	47%	36%	11%
Middle East / North Africa	14%	31%	34%	21%
North/Central/South Asia	19%	46%	21%	14%
East Asia	11%	68%	16%	5%
South East Asia	12%	46%	33%	10%
Oceania	15%	55%	20%	10%
Income				
$0–$19,999	21%	50%	15%	14%
$20,000–$74,999	12%	58%	22%	8%
$75,000+	13%	50%	29%	8%
Race				
White	14%	52%	25%	9%
Black	17%	61%	19%	3%
Hispanic	11%	55%	26%	8%
Other Race	14%	60%	16%	11%
Education				
Less Than Bachelor's	18%	46%	26%	10%
Bachelor's Degree	14%	54%	23%	9%
More Than Bachelor's	12%	55%	25%	8%
Marital Status				
Married	10%	49%	32%	9%
Never Married	19%	56%	15%	10%
Other	18%	66%	12%	3%

[70] This question was shown to respondents who reported talking to at least one U.S. citizen age 18 or older in their country of residence about absentee voting procedures (Q40A).

Q41. Thinking about the other U.S. citizens you know in [COUNTRY], would you say they are more or less interested in U.S. elections than you are? [*N* = 4,771]

Citizen Interest in Election					
	Much more interested	Somewhat more interested	About equally as interested	Somewhat less interested	Much less interested
Respondents	4%	8%	69%	16%	4%
Age					
Age 18 to 24	7%	9%	59%	19%	5%
Age 25 to 34	4%	11%	62%	18%	4%
Age 35 to 44	2%	9%	71%	17%	1%
Age 45 to 54	5%	7%	72%	13%	3%
Age 55 to 64	2%	7%	73%	14%	4%
Age 65 and up	3%	6%	69%	16%	6%
Sex					
Male	3%	7%	66%	19%	4%
Female	4%	9%	70%	14%	3%
Region					
North America	3%	6%	69%	17%	5%
South/Central America / Caribbean	4%	13%	67%	13%	3%
Europe	4%	8%	71%	15%	3%
Sub-Saharan Africa	7%	6%	70%	11%	7%
Middle East / North Africa	4%	11%	62%	20%	3%
North/Central/South Asia	5%	16%	58%	17%	4%
East Asia	5%	8%	65%	18%	5%
South East Asia	5%	8%	65%	17%	5%
Oceania	2%	10%	67%	20%	1%
Income					
$0–$19,999	8%	11%	56%	19%	5%
$20,000–$74,999	3%	7%	68%	17%	4%
$75,000+	2%	7%	72%	16%	3%
Race					
White	3%	7%	70%	16%	4%
Black	7%	6%	67%	16%	4%
Hispanic	5%	13%	61%	19%	2%
Other Race	5%	10%	64%	17%	4%
Education					
Less Than Bachelor's	7%	9%	63%	16%	5%
Bachelor's Degree	3%	9%	67%	17%	3%
More Than Bachelor's	3%	7%	72%	15%	3%
Marital Status					
Married	3%	8%	70%	16%	3%
Never Married	5%	8%	66%	17%	4%
Other	3%	10%	70%	12%	5%

Q42. Did you live outside of the United States during the following dates? (1) November 2000 [*N* =3,431] (2) November 2002 [*N* =3,249] (3) November 2004 [*N* =3,052] (4) November 2006 [*N* =2,794] (5) November 2008 [*N* =2,528] (6) November 2010 [*N* =2,249] (7) November 2012 [*N* =1,937] (8) November 2014 [*N* =1,594] (9) November 2016 [*N* =1,192] (10) November 2018 [*N* =721][71]

Primary Residence Out of the United States in Previous Elections										
	(1) Nov 2000	(2) Nov 2002	(3) Nov 2004	(4) Nov 2006	(5) Nov 2008	(6) Nov 2010	(7) Nov 2012	(8) Nov 2014	(9) Nov 2016	(10) Nov 2018
Respondents	24%	20%	19%	18%	19%	20%	20%	22%	23%	28%
Age										
Age 18 to 24	25%	22%	22%	24%	26%	30%	28%	28%	29%	32%
Age 25 to 34	19%	16%	14%	14%	14%	13%	15%	19%	19%	23%
Age 35 to 44	20%	15%	17%	17%	17%	18%	22%	26%	26%	22%
Age 45 to 54	27%	24%	21%	17%	18%	14%	17%	17%	17%	20%
Age 55 to 64	25%	22%	22%	21%	21%	25%	24%	20%	23%	28%
Age 65 and up	27%	21%	21%	19%	22%	28%	24%	28%	35%	45%
Sex										
Male	23%	19%	18%	17%	19%	21%	21%	22%	23%	25%
Female	24%	19%	20%	19%	19%	19%	20%	22%	24%	30%
Region										
North America	19%	15%	15%	14%	17%	19%	21%	19%	20%	29%
South/Central America / Caribbean	30%	23%	22%	17%	23%	25%	22%	19%	35%	32%
Europe	24%	20%	20%	19%	19%	18%	17%	19%	17%	21%
Sub-Saharan Africa	24%	21%	25%	24%	21%	28%	23%	25%	22%	48%
Middle East / North Africa	33%	32%	29%	24%	24%	16%	20%	29%	29%	43%
North/Central/South Asia	28%	28%	32%	29%	26%	27%	25%	24%	30%	39%
East Asia	19%	16%	14%	16%	14%	18%	26%	31%	37%	36%
South East Asia	24%	20%	20%	19%	22%	28%	29%	36%	37%	41%
Oceania	23%	19%	17%	16%	22%	22%	26%	26%	22%	25%
Income										
$0–$19,999	31%	27%	26%	25%	32%	31%	26%	29%	29%	36%
$20,000–$74,999	20%	18%	18%	18%	17%	16%	19%	23%	25%	34%
$75,000+	23%	19%	18%	16%	16%	18%	20%	18%	19%	18%
Race										
White	22%	19%	19%	18%	19%	20%	21%	22%	21%	28%
Black	20%	10%	15%	20%	18%	30%	31%	35%	29%	50%
Hispanic	31%	25%	21%	14%	15%	14%	7%	12%	34%	16%
Other Race	22%	19%	16%	18%	15%	18%	23%	26%	30%	32%
Education										
Less Than Bachelor's	23%	21%	21%	22%	25%	27%	24%	26%	28%	25%
Bachelor's Degree	22%	17%	16%	14%	16%	18%	20%	20%	22%	33%
More Than Bachelor's	25%	21%	21%	21%	20%	18%	19%	22%	22%	22%
Marital Status										
Married	22%	19%	18%	16%	18%	18%	19%	20%	20%	27%
Never Married	25%	22%	23%	22%	20%	22%	23%	24%	25%	26%
Other	25%	18%	16%	17%	20%	21%	20%	26%	31%	39%

[71] This question was shown to respondents who reported that the last time that their primary residence was in the United States was on or after November 2000 (Q4).

Q43. In which month and year did you *most recently* move to [COUNTRY]? *Please estimate if you are unsure of the exact month and year.* [*N* = 4,773] [72]

Years in Country of Residence			
	6 years or less	6+ to 12 years	More than 12 years
Respondents	35%	21%	44%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	52%	12%	36%
Age 25 to 34	60%	25%	15%
Age 35 to 44	40%	30%	30%
Age 45 to 54	24%	26%	50%
Age 55 to 64	27%	14%	59%
Age 65 and up	19%	14%	67%
Sex			
Male	35%	21%	45%
Female	36%	21%	43%
Region			
North America	24%	18%	58%
South/Central America / Caribbean	39%	24%	37%
Europe	36%	19%	45%
Sub-Saharan Africa	56%	15%	30%
Middle East / North Africa	29%	32%	39%
North/Central/South Asia	46%	31%	23%
East Asia	49%	21%	30%
South East Asia	49%	26%	25%
Oceania	29%	26%	45%
Income			
$0–$19,999	39%	20%	41%
$20,000–$74,999	36%	21%	43%
$75,000+	35%	21%	44%
Race			
White	33%	20%	47%
Black	34%	19%	47%
Hispanic	41%	25%	34%
Other Race	47%	22%	31%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	29%	17%	54%
Bachelor's Degree	39%	21%	39%
More Than Bachelor's	34 %	22%	44%
Marital Status			
Married	31%	21%	48%
Never Married	51%	19%	31%
Other	20%	24%	56%

[72] This question was shown to respondents that reported the last time their primary residence was in the United States (Q4), and only allowed dates that were the same or more recent than the date reported in Q4.

Q44. Did you live in [COUNTRY] during the following dates? (1) November 2000 [*N* = 963] (2) November 2002 [*N* = 837] (3) November 2004 [*N* = 812] (4) November 2006 [*N* = 775] (5) November 2008 [*N* = 747] (6) November 2010 [*N* = 750] (7) November 2012 [*N* = 700] (8) November 2014 [*N* = 640] (9) November 2016 [*N* = 563] (10) November 2018 [*N* = 358]

Primary Residence in Current Country During Previous Elections										
	(1) Nov 2000	(2) Nov 2002	(3) Nov 2004	(4) Nov 2006	(5) Nov 2008	(6) Nov 2010	(7) Nov 2012	(8) Nov 2014	(9) Nov 2016	(10) Nov 2018
Respondents	47%	46%	44%	40%	39%	37%	35%	37%	39%	37%
Age										
Age 18 to 24	45%	61%	68%	64%	63%	54%	51%	55%	49%	43%
Age 25 to 34	44%	36%	39%	37%	39%	36%	41%	41%	46%	29%
Age 35 to 44	49%	44%	42%	38%	31%	26%	21%	30%	26%	31%
Age 45 to 54	49%	52%	40%	35%	35%	29%	26%	24%	33%	38%
Age 55 to 64	45%	43%	36%	36%	38%	35%	38%	38%	36%	38%
Age 65 and up	52%	50%	54%	44%	38%	56%	54%	52%	62%	58%
Sex										
Male	45%	48%	41%	34%	38%	36%	35%	36%	46%	36%
Female	48%	45%	46%	44%	39%	38%	36%	39%	36%	37%
Region										
North America	60%	63%	56%	51%	42%	63%	68%	74%	49%	32%
South/Central America / Caribbean	42%	60%	63%	51%	46%	62%	35%	57%	50%	44%
Europe	45%	44%	42%	37%	36%	30%	29%	31%	32%	31%
Sub-Saharan Africa	51%	43%	39%	29%	28%	21%	24%	25%	30%	49%
Middle East / North Africa	43%	36%	23%	27%	25%	22%	22%	28%	29%	5%
North/Central/South Asia	51%	50%	59%	67%	59%	49%	53%	51%	54%	62%
East Asia	50%	45%	52%	43%	41%	34%	36%	37%	46%	44%
South East Asia	42%	43%	37%	42%	43%	34%	39%	33%	43%	58%
Oceania	43%	35%	43%	47%	58%	55%	38%	43%	62%	45%
Income										
$0–$19,999	47%	53%	49%	38%	37%	37%	38%	46%	46%	39%
$20,000–$74,999	45%	45%	45%	43%	44%	39%	44%	44%	52%	44%
$75,000+	48%	45%	41%	41%	39%	38%	31%	32%	28%	32%
Race										
White	47%	47%	44%	40%	38%	34%	32%	34%	34%	31%
Black	30%	33%	43%	31%	28%	50%	39%	55%	38%	47%
Hispanic	49%	42%	41%	31%	30%	47%	30%	38%	48%	37%
Other Race	47%	48%	50%	52%	55%	49%	53%	54%	53%	58%
Education										
Less Than Bachelor's	51%	61%	62%	58%	54%	43%	42%	51%	51%	52%
Bachelor's Degree	49%	47%	52%	46%	41%	43%	41%	40%	45%	39%
More Than Bachelor's	43%	41%	33%	32%	31%	30%	28%	30%	29%	28%
Marital Status										
Married	48%	45%	44%	41%	38%	37%	32%	35%	34%	35%
Never Married	45%	48%	44%	39%	39%	37%	36%	38%	41%	36%
Other	45%	41%	42%	37%	42%	36%	45%	46%	56%	50%

Q45. In which month and year did you *most recently* move to your current address in [COUNTRY]? *Please estimate if you are unsure of the exact month and year.* [*N* = 4,667][73]

Years at Current Address			
	6 years or less	6+ to 12 years	More than 12 years
Respondents	56%	18%	25%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	70%	9%	21%
Age 25 to 34	88%	9%	4%
Age 35 to 44	69%	23%	8%
Age 45 to 54	48%	28%	24%
Age 55 to 64	41%	17%	42%
Age 65 and up	31%	19%	50%
Sex			
Male	57%	18%	26%
Female	57%	18%	25%
Region			
North America	47%	19%	34%
South/Central America / Caribbean	54%	20%	26%
Europe	58%	17%	25%
Sub-Saharan Africa	65%	19%	16%
Middle East / North Africa	49%	25%	27%
North/Central/South Asia	53%	29%	18%
East Asia	71%	14%	16%
South East Asia	62%	20%	17%
Oceania	61%	18%	21%
Income			
$0–$19,999	60%	15%	25%
$20,000–$74,999	55%	20%	25%
$75,000+	60%	17%	24%
Race			
White	56%	18%	26%
Black	56%	15%	29%
Hispanic	59%	18%	23%
Other Race	65%	18%	17%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	50%	18%	32%
Bachelor's Degree	59%	19%	22%
More Than Bachelor's	58%	18%	25%
Marital Status			
Married	52%	19%	29%
Never Married	75%	11%	14%
Other	40%	28%	33%

[73] This question was shown to respondents who reported the month and year they most recently moved to their current country of residence (Q43), and only allowed dates that were the same or more recent than the date reported in Q43.

Q45A. Did you also live at your current address during the following dates? (1) November 2000 [*N* = 3,646] (2) November 2002 [*N* = 3,579] (3) November 2004 [*N* = 3,448] (4) November 2006 [*N* = 3,278] (5) November 2008 [*N* = 3,072] (6) November 2010 [*N* = 2,773] (7) November 2012 [*N* = 2,559] (8) November 2014 [*N* = 2,286] (9) November 2016 [*N* = 1,818] (10) November 2018 [*N* = 1,204]

Primary Residence at Current Address During Previous Elections										
	(1) Nov 2000	(2) Nov 2002	(3) Nov 2004	(4) Nov 2006	(5) Nov 2008	(6) Nov 2010	(7) Nov 2012	(8) Nov 2014	(9) Nov 2016	(10) Nov 2018
Respondents	28%	29%	30%	33%	36%	39%	44%	49%	54%	61%
Age										
Age 18 to 24	18%	26%	27%	34%	37%	39%	39%	41%	43%	53%
Age 25 to 34	15%	12%	14%	16%	18%	19%	28%	39%	47%	60%
Age 35 to 44	14%	15%	21%	26%	34%	40%	48%	56%	61%	63%
Age 45 to 54	36%	40%	40%	44%	47%	49%	56%	64%	64%	64%
Age 55 to 64	41%	41%	41%	42%	45%	47%	48%	47%	53%	59%
Age 65 and up	44%	43%	42%	42%	43%	47%	48%	49%	57%	58%
Sex										
Male	29%	30%	30%	34%	38%	41%	45%	50%	55%	58%
Female	27%	27%	29%	31%	34%	37%	42%	48%	53%	62%
Region										
North America	33%	33%	36%	40%	43%	46%	55%	55%	57%	59%
South/Central America / Caribbean	22%	25%	26%	25%	31%	34%	38%	42%	55%	54%
Europe	30%	30%	32%	34%	37%	39%	42%	48%	52%	61%
Sub-Saharan Africa	17%	20%	31%	29%	30%	26%	28%	35%	40%	52%
Middle East / North Africa	37%	35%	26%	35%	33%	29%	34%	51%	62%	64%
North/Central/South Asia	21%	27%	35%	35%	31%	35%	34%	39%	36%	45%
East Asia	18%	20%	21%	24%	25%	29%	38%	47%	56%	63%
South East Asia	22%	20%	20%	24%	29%	31%	33%	40%	51%	59%
Oceania	23%	23%	28%	31%	40%	47%	58%	60%	66%	69%
Income										
$0–$19,999	29%	29%	27%	29%	37%	37%	41%	49%	53%	59%
$20,000–$74,999	27%	26%	28%	31%	33%	35%	40%	45%	53%	63%
$75,000+	27%	28%	31%	35%	38%	42%	48%	51%	55%	59%
Race										
White	29%	29%	31%	34%	38%	41%	45%	51%	55%	64%
Black	32%	32%	36%	39%	41%	45%	55%	63%	62%	73%
Hispanic	31%	28%	26%	25%	27%	30%	29%	42%	53%	52%
Other Race	21%	23%	23%	26%	28%	33%	41%	43%	53%	50%
Education										
Less Than Bachelor's	32%	34%	35%	41%	47%	48%	51%	52%	57%	63%
Bachelor's Degree	27%	26%	28%	28%	30%	35%	40%	44%	50%	58%
More Than Bachelor's	28%	28%	30%	34%	37%	38%	44%	52%	57%	62%
Marital Status										
Married	29%	29%	31%	34%	38%	40%	45%	51%	56%	61%
Never Married	22%	25%	27%	29%	30%	33%	37%	45%	50%	60%
Other	39%	37%	37%	41%	47%	49%	55%	58%	66%	68%

Q49. As of November 3, 2020, in which country or countries did you hold citizenship? *Mark all that apply*. [*N* = 5,282][74]

	Citizenship		
	United States	Country of Residence	Other
Respondents	95%	42%	8%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	93%	58%	9%
Age 25 to 34	95%	30%	9%
Age 35 to 44	94%	35%	10%
Age 45 to 54	94%	35%	8%
Age 55 to 64	96%	45%	6%
Age 65 and up	95%	55%	3%
Sex			
Male	94%	41%	7%
Female	95%	43%	8%
Region			
North America	96%	59%	5%
South/Central America / Caribbean	92%	39%	10%
Europe	95%	42%	10%
Sub-Saharan Africa	92%	17%	3%
Middle East / North Africa	90%	55%	6%
North/Central/South Asia	94%	12%	2%
East Asia	93%	15%	6%
South East Asia	96%	15%	6%
Oceania	97%	49%	5%
Income			
$0–$19,999	97%	48%	8%
$20,000–$74,999	99%	43%	7%
$75,000+	99%	44%	10%
Race			
White	99%	46%	8%
Black	97%	30%	11%
Hispanic	97%	42%	13%
Other Race	99%	36%	6%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	97%	55%	6%
Bachelor's Degree	98%	39%	7%
More Than Bachelor's	99%	43%	10%
Marital Status			
Married	99%	41%	8%
Never Married	98%	46%	10%
Other	98%	55%	5%

[74] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the citizenship options. Respondents could select as many citizenship options as appropriate for this question.

Q50. In the week before November 3, 2020, did you work either full-time or part-time? [*N* = 5,046]

Employment Status						
	Yes	No, I was retired	No, I was disabled	No, I was unable to work	No, I was a caretaker or stay-at-home parent	No, other
Respondents	62%	18%	1%	2%	5%	11%
Age						
Age 18 to 24	46%	0%	0%	6%	1%	47%
Age 25 to 34	82%	0%	0%	3%	3%	12%
Age 35 to 44	79%	0%	1%	1%	12%	6%
Age 45 to 54	81%	1%	1%	1%	9%	6%
Age 55 to 64	63%	17%	3%	2%	5%	9%
Age 65 and up	20%	74%	1%	1%	0%	3%
Sex						
Male	65%	20%	1%	3%	2%	10%
Female	60%	17%	1%	2%	8%	12%
Region						
North America	58%	27%	1%	2%	5%	7%
South/Central America / Caribbean	51%	26%	2%	3%	7%	11%
Europe	63%	15%	1%	2%	5%	14%
Sub-Saharan Africa	69%	16%	1%	5%	3%	7%
Middle East / North Africa	62%	20%	0%	0%	8%	10%
North/Central/South Asia	52%	11%	1%	6%	8%	22%
East Asia	77%	5%	1%	2%	5%	11%
South East Asia	53%	31%	1%	3%	5%	7%
Oceania	68%	19%	0%	2%	6%	5%
Income						
$0–$19,999	45%	19%	4%	6%	3%	24%
$20,000–$74,999	63%	21%	1%	2%	5%	8%
$75,000+	72%	13%	0%	1%	5%	8%
Race						
White	63%	19%	1%	2%	5%	10%
Black	62%	17%	1%	4%	5%	11%
Hispanic	55%	14%	2%	4%	8%	16%
Other Race	61%	11%	1%	4%	7%	16%
Education						
Less Than Bachelor's	39%	26%	2%	5%	4%	24%
Bachelor's Degree	65%	16%	1%	2%	7%	10%
More Than Bachelor's	71%	17%	1%	1%	4%	6%
Marital Status						
Married	63%	21%	1%	1%	8%	6%
Never Married	68%	3%	1%	4%	1%	24%
Other	48%	43%	3%	2%	1%	3%

Q52. Do you have children? [*N* = 5,011]

Children		
	Yes	No
Respondents	52%	48%
Age		
Age 18 to 24	1%	99%
Age 25 to 34	16%	84%
Age 35 to 44	57%	43%
Age 45 to 54	69%	31%
Age 55 to 64	70%	30%
Age 65 and up	73%	27%
Sex		
Male	55%	45%
Female	48%	52%
Region		
North America	57%	43%
South/Central America / Caribbean	49%	51%
Europe	48%	52%
Sub-Saharan Africa	58%	42%
Middle East / North Africa	76%	24%
North/Central/South Asia	54%	46%
East Asia	41%	59%
South East Asia	54%	46%
Oceania	53%	47%
Income		
$0–$19,999	34%	66%
$20,000–$74,999	47%	53%
$75,000+	61%	39%
Race		
White	52%	48%
Black	59%	41%
Hispanic	47%	53%
Other Race	45%	55%
Education		
Less Than Bachelor's	46%	54%
Bachelor's Degree	50%	50%
More Than Bachelor's	56%	44%
Marital Status		
Married	72%	28%
Never Married	4%	96%
Other	68%	32%

Q53. As of November 3, 2020, in which country or countries did your spouse hold citizenship? *Mark all that apply*. [*N* = 3,178][75,76]

	Spouse Citizenship		
	United States	Country of Residence	Other
Respondents	37%	68%	13%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	32%	87%	27%
Age 25 to 34	27%	65%	14%
Age 35 to 44	38%	64%	15%
Age 45 to 54	35%	60%	17%
Age 55 to 64	43%	71%	12%
Age 65 and up	46%	77%	7%
Sex			
Male	43%	65%	12%
Female	33%	71%	14%
Region			
North America	34%	84%	7%
South/Central America / Caribbean	53%	64%	7%
Europe	32%	67%	15%
Sub-Saharan Africa	68%	38%	17%
Middle East / North Africa	59%	65%	18%
North/Central/South Asia	64%	34%	16%
East Asia	29%	63%	12%
South East Asia	54%	42%	18%
Oceania	34%	69%	16%
Income			
$0–$19,999	32%	74%	8%
$20,000–$74,999	36%	71%	10%
$75,000+	40%	66%	16%
Race			
White	38%	69%	13%
Black	30%	71%	21%
Hispanic	37%	70%	9%
Other Race	41%	60%	17%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	34%	80%	6%
Bachelor's Degree	37%	66%	12%
More Than Bachelor's	39%	66%	16%
Marital Status			
Married	37%	68%	13%
Never Married	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A

[75] This question was shown to respondents who answered "Married" to their marital status (Q51).
[76] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the citizenship options. Respondents could select as many citizenship options as appropriate for this question.

Q54. As of November 3, 2020, in which country or countries did your children hold citizenship? *Mark all that apply*. [*N* = 2,866][77,78]

	Children Citizenship		
	United States	Country of Residence	Other
Respondents	83%	70%	10%
Age			
Age 18 to 24	56%	100%	0%
Age 25 to 34	66%	70%	10%
Age 35 to 44	78%	75%	11%
Age 45 to 54	82%	66%	9%
Age 55 to 64	91%	69%	10%
Age 65 and up	85%	68%	8%
Sex			
Male	81%	67%	8%
Female	84%	73%	11%
Region			
North America	70%	86%	4%
South/Central America / Caribbean	94%	57%	7%
Europe	81%	71%	13%
Sub-Saharan Africa	96%	25%	16%
Middle East / North Africa	95%	74%	11%
North/Central/South Asia	91%	19%	12%
East Asia	93%	62%	8%
South East Asia	92%	29%	9%
Oceania	80%	72%	10%
Income			
$0–$19,999	80%	65%	11%
$20,000–$74,999	84%	73%	7%
$75,000+	83%	70%	12%
Race			
White	82%	73%	10%
Black	84%	62%	10%
Hispanic	89%	63%	11%
Other Race	84%	57%	9%
Education			
Less Than Bachelor's	78%	70%	5%
Bachelor's Degree	81%	72%	7%
More Than Bachelor's	86%	69%	14%
Marital Status			
Married	83%	70%	10%
Never Married	55%	68%	17%
Other	85%	69%	11%

[77] This question was shown to respondents who answered "Yes" to whether they had children (Q52).
[78] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each of the citizenship options. Respondents could select as many citizenship options as appropriate for this question.

Q56. As of November 3, 2020, did you own any of the following assets within the United States? *Mark all that apply*. [*N* = 5,282][79]

	U.S. Assets					
	Privately held home or other dwelling	Privately held business	Privately held land	Stocks or bonds	Checking or savings account	Other assets
Respondents	11%	2%	2%	30%	59%	7%
Age						
Age 18 to 24	2%	0%	0%	17%	41%	2%
Age 25 to 34	5%	1%	0%	28%	64%	5%
Age 35 to 44	13%	3%	2%	33%	67%	8%
Age 45 to 54	14%	3%	4%	30%	58%	9%
Age 55 to 64	17%	3%	4%	36%	59%	11%
Age 65 and up	13%	2%	4%	31%	58%	8%
Sex						
Male	11%	3%	3%	35%	60%	7%
Female	11%	1%	2%	26%	59%	7%
Region						
North America	8%	2%	3%	28%	49%	7%
South/Central America /	15%	1%	3%	25%	66%	9%
Europe	10%	2%	2%	27%	57%	6%
Sub-Saharan Africa	22%	5%	8%	41%	69%	11%
Middle East / North Africa	13%	3%	1%	38%	58%	10%
North/Central/South Asia	17%	4%	5%	31%	57%	5%
East Asia	14%	3%	3%	38%	74%	7%
South East Asia	15%	2%	5%	42%	78%	9%
Oceania	14%	1%	3%	30%	60%	12%
Income						
$0–$19,999	5%	1%	1%	17%	52%	5%
$20,000–$74,999	8%	2%	2%	28%	65%	6%
$75,000+	19%	3%	4%	44%	71%	11%
Race						
White	11%	2%	3%	32%	61%	8%
Black	8%	2%	0%	16%	48%	6%
Hispanic	15%	0%	1%	22%	65%	7%
Other Race	15%	2%	2%	34%	70%	5%
Education						
Less Than Bachelor's	6%	1%	2%	15%	45%	5%
Bachelor's Degree	11%	3%	3%	31%	63%	8%
More Than Bachelor's	14%	2%	3%	39%	67%	8%
Marital Status						
Married	15%	2%	3%	34%	64%	8%
Never Married	5%	1%	1%	26%	58%	4%
Other	10%	3%	2%	28%	59%	10%

[79] Percentages reflect respondents choosing each asset option. Respondents could select as many assets as appropriate for this question.

Appendix A: Margin of Error

This survey has a margin of error (MOE) of plus or minus 1.8 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.[80] For questions asked of all respondents, it can be reasonably asserted that the true population value will be within 1.8 percentage points of an estimated proportion, ignoring non-sampling errors.[81] For instance, if the survey were conducted 100 times, the population value for a proportion would be expected to be within the MOE of the point estimate 95 times. Note that precision will be lower for questions not asked of all respondents. Subpopulation MOEs are provided in Table A.1 below.

Table A.1. Margin of Error by Subgroup

Subgroup	Margin of Error
Overall	1.8%
Age	
Age 18 to 24	7.5%
Age 25 to 34	4.8%
Age 35 to 44	4.4%
Age 45 to 54	4.6%
Age 55 to 64	4.5%
Age 65 and up	4.1%
Sex	
Male	2.8%
Female	2.5%
Region	
North America	4.4%
South/Central America /Caribbean	9.0%
Europe	2.5%
Sub-Saharan Africa	8.7%
Middle East / North Africa	10.9%
North/Central/South Asia	7.6%
East Asia	5.8%
South East Asia	5.5%
Oceania	7.1%
Income	
$0–$19,999	5.7%
$20,000–$74,999	3.2%
$75,000+	2.8%
Race	
White	2.1%
Black	11.0%
Hispanic	8.4%
Other Race	5.5%

[80] For more information on MOE, see the weighting section of Volume 3.
[81] The MOE only reflects sampling error, which arises due to not interviewing the entire population. Nearly every survey has the potential for non-sampling errors (e.g., nonresponse and measurement errors), although the study design aimed to minimize such errors.

Table A.1. Margin of Error by Subgroup	
Subgroup	Margin of Error
Education	
Less Than Bachelor's	4.4%
Bachelor's Degree	3.2%
More Than Bachelor's	2.7%
Marital Status	
Married	2.4%
Never Married	3.7%
Other	5.3%

Appendix B: Survey Instrument

LOGIN PAGE

FVAP 2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey
Please enter your personal Ticket Number:

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY. IT EXPLAINS THE PURPOSE OF THE *2020 OVERSEAS CITIZEN POPULATION SURVEY* AND HOW THE FINDINGS OF THIS SURVEY WILL BE USED.

This survey is being conducted by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), which works to ensure that all Service members, their eligible family members and overseas citizens are aware of their right to vote and have the tools to do so—from anywhere in the world. This survey will provide FVAP with critical data to help improve the services and information available to voters residing outside of the United States. Data from this survey will be used in reports to the president and Congress; the Department of Defense is required to conduct this survey to meet its reporting requirements under the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (*UOCAVA*) as modified by the *Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment* (*MOVE*) *Act*. Some findings from this survey may also be published in professional journals or presented at conferences.

Completing this survey is voluntary. Most people can complete the survey in 15 minutes. This survey does not collect or use personally identifiable information (PII) and is not retrieved by personal identifier. There is no penalty if you choose not to respond. However, we strongly encourage you to participate so that the data will be complete and representative. Your responses will be treated as confidential. Identifying information will not be collected in this survey or delivered to FVAP.

[Page Break]

Additional Information

Survey Eligibility and Potential Benefits:

A sample of registered voters requesting absentee ballots to be sent to an international address was selected to participate in the survey. There is no direct benefit for your individual participation; however, your responses, when combined with the responses from other overseas citizens, will ***make a difference*** in helping identify absentee voting difficulties that arise and areas where FVAP's products and services can be improved.

Statement of Risk:

The data collection procedures do not involve any substantial risk of disclosure of data.

If you experience any difficulties completing the survey, please contact the Survey Processing Center by sending an email to helpdesk@overseascitizensurvey.com. If you have concerns about your rights as a research participant, please contact the OUSD (P&R) Research Regulatory Oversight Office at 703-681-6522/703-681-8320 or e-mail RDHA.R2O2.PR@mail.mil.

Once you start answering the survey, if you desire to withdraw your answers, please notify the Survey Processing Center before [DATE}. Please include in the email or phone message your name and ticket number. Unless withdrawn, partially completed survey data may be used after that date.

[Page Break]

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, Executive Services Directorate, Directives

Division, Office of Information Management, 4800 Mark Center Drive, East Tower, Suite 03F09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100 (0704-0539). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

Thank you for participating in our survey. It is only by hearing from everyone that we can be sure that the results are truly representative. Your participation is voluntary and you may choose not to answer specific questions.

INTRO AND SCREENER QUESTIONS

Q1. Are you a citizen of the United States?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No
-99	Refused

Q2. Were you serving in the military on November 3, 2020?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No
-99	Refused

Q3. On November 3, 2020, where was your country of residence? [Drop Down Menu]

Value	Value Label
XX	Country of Residence
-99	Refused

//If Q3 = United States, only allow dates on and after November, 2020.//

Q4. What was the last month and year in which your primary residence was in the United States? *Please estimate if you are unsure of the exact month and year.* [Drop Down Menu]

Value	Value Label
XX/XX	Month/Year
-99	Refused

Q5. In the 12 months before November 3, 2020, how many times had you traveled to the United States? [Open End Text]

Value	Value Label
XX	Traveled to US
-99	Refused

Q6. For what reason(s) were you in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame] on November 3, 2020? *Mark all that apply.*

//Randomize order of response options 1-8.//

Value	Value Label
1	Born outside the United States
2	Moved to be with family
3	Retirement
4	Employment opportunities
5	Citizen of the destination country
6	Educational or research opportunities
7	Volunteer work
8	Quality of life reasons
9	Other (please specify)

Value	Value Label
1	Selected
0	Not Selected
-99	Refused

//If Q6=9, continue to Q6A. Else skip to "YOUR 2020 VOTING EXPERIENCE" introduction page.//

Q6A. Please specify the additional reason(s) you were living in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame] on November 3, 2020. [Open End Text]

VOTING EXPERIENCE

YOUR 2020 VOTING EXPERIENCE

Many people were not able to vote because they weren't registered, they were sick, they didn't have time, or something else happened to prevent them from voting. And sometimes, people who usually vote or who planned to vote forget that something unusual happened on Election Day in a particular year that prevented them from voting. So please think carefully for a minute about the election held on November 3, 2020.

Q7. During the months leading up to the election, did you ever plan to vote in that election, or did you not plan to vote?

Value	Value Label
1	Did plan to vote
0	Did not plan to vote
-99	Refused

Q8. Did you vote in the November 3, 2020, General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes, definitely voted.
2	No, definitely did not vote.
-98	Not sure if I voted
-99	Refused

Q9. Did you request an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No
-98	Not sure
-99	Refused

//If Q9=1, continue to Q9A. Else skip to Q10.//

Q9A. How did you request an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Mail
2	Email
3	Website
4	Fax
-98	I'm unsure how I submitted an absentee ballot request.
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

Q10. Did you expect to receive an absentee ballot automatically from an election official for the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-98	Not sure
-99	Refused

//If Q9=1 OR Q10=1, continue to Q10A. Else skip to Q11.//

Q10A. Was this the first time you requested an absentee ballot or expected to receive one automatically while living in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in the frame]?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

Q11. Did you receive an absentee ballot from an election official for the November 3, 2020, General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
-98	Not sure
0	No
-99	Refused

Q11A. Did you obtain a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
-98	Not sure
0	No
-99	Refused

//If Q11=1 OR Q11A=1, continue to Q11B. Else skip to Q12.//

Q11B. How did you receive your absentee ballot or obtain a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Variable Text
1	Mail
2	Email
3	Website
4	Fax
5	I'm unsure how I received an absentee ballot
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q11B = (1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4), continue to Q12. Else skip to Q13.//

Q12. For which of the following reasons did you choose to receive your absentee ballot by [pipe Q11B answers]?

Value	Value Label
1	Convenience
2	Reliability
3	Ease of use
4	Cost
5	Speed

6	Habit
7	Other (please specify)
-99	Refused
-100	Valid skip

//If Q12=7, continue to Q12A. Else skip to Q13.//

Q12A. Please specify your reason for choosing to receive your absentee ballot by [pipe Q12 response]. [Open End Text]

//If Q11=1 OR Q11A=1, continue to Q13. Else skip to Q14.//

Q13. Did you return your absentee ballot or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-98	Not sure
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q13=1, continue to Q13A. Else skip to Q14.//

Q13A. How did you return your absentee ballot or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Mail
2	Email
3	Website
4	Fax
-98	I'm unsure how I submitted an absentee ballot.
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q13A=1, continue to Q13B. Else skip to Q14.//

Q13B. What type of mail service did you use to submit your absentee ballot?

Value	Value Label
1	National mail service owned or operated by the government of [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]
2	FedEx, UPS, DHL or other private delivery carrier
3	Mail service provided by the U.S. Government in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame] (e.g., U.S. consulate, military base)

4	Other
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q13=0 OR -98, continue to Q14. Else skip to Q15.//

Q14. For the election held on November 3, 2020, did you complete and submit a ballot at a polling station in the United States on Election Day?

Value	Value Label
1	Definitely voted in person
-98	Not sure
0	Definitely did not vote in person
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q13=0 OR -98, continue to Q15. Else skip to Q16.//

Q15. What was the main reason you did not vote in the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	I tried/wanted to vote but did not or could not complete the process
2	I did not want to vote
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q11=0 OR -98, AND Q14=0 OR -98, continue to Q16. Else skip to Q17.//

Q16. If you *had* voted, how confident are you that your vote in the November 3, 2020 General Election would have been counted as you intended?

Value	Value Label
1	Very confident
2	Somewhat confident
3	Not too confident
4	Not at all confident
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q16=3 OR 4, continue to Q16A. Else skip to Q17.//

Q16A. Why do you not feel confident that your vote would have been counted as you intended? [Open End Text]

//If Q13=1, continue to Q17. Else skip to Q18.//

Q17. How confident are you that your vote in the November 3, 2020 General Election was counted as you intended?

Value	Value Label
1	Very confident
2	Somewhat confident
3	Not too confident
4	Not at all confident
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q17=3 OR 4, continue to Q17A. Else skip to Q18.//

Q17A. Why do you not feel confident that your vote was counted as you intended?

Q18. Did you experience any of the following situations leading up to the November 3, 2020 General Election? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

//Randomize order of all subitems.//

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q18_1	Difficulty requesting absentee ballot
Q18_2	Absentee ballot arrived late
Q18_3	Difficulty returning ballot
Q18_4	Difficulty with mailing system
Q18_5	Unsure of address to use
Q18_6	Difficulty accessing State's election website

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

Q19. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge of voting deadlines in [pipe in state of registration].

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q19_1	Knowledge of your state's deadline to register to vote
Q19_2	Knowledge of your state's deadline to request an absentee ballot
Q19_3	Knowledge of your state's deadline to return an absentee ballot

Value	Value Label
5	Excellent
4	Good
3	Average
2	Fair
1	Poor
-99	Refused

Q20. Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process?

Value	Value Label
5	Very satisfied
4	Satisfied
3	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
2	Dissatisfied
1	Very dissatisfied
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q20=2 OR 1, continue to Q20A. Else skip to Q21.//

Q20A. Please specify why you were dissatisfied with the overall absentee voting process. [Open End Text]

VOTING RESOURCES

VOTING RESOURCES

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) provides the following services to help overseas citizens successfully complete the absentee voting process.

FVAP.gov:

FVAP.gov provides customized, voting-related information and resources for all citizens covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (*UOCAVA*).

The website also provides State-specific election information, including dates, deadlines and contact information that voters can rely on to adhere to their State's absentee voting process. Other products and services, such as fact sheets and FAQs, are also available at FVAP.gov.

FVAP staff support:

FVAP provides support through email at vote@fvap.gov and a toll-free telephone service, which allows American citizens living overseas who are eligible to vote to ask FVAP staff for voting information or assistance.

FVAP Online Assistant:

FVAP offers an easy-to-use Online Assistant at FVAP.gov to guide voters in completing Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA) and Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWAB).

The Online Assistant tool simplifies the completion of FPCAs and FWABs by providing State-specific information and instructions on how to download, print and return forms to election offices.

Q21. Before taking this survey, were you aware of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) or its services?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

Q22. Did you hear, see, or receive any messages from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in the past year about the November 2020 election, such as through the web, social media, email or an organization?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

//If Q22=1, continue to Q22A. Else skip to Q23.//

Q22A. Please specify where you heard, saw, or received messages from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP).

Value	Value Label
Q22A_1	FVAP.gov or other FVAP communication
Q22A_2	Social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.)
Q22A_3	News stories
Q22A_4	Word of mouth
Q22A_5	Web search on Google, Yahoo, or another search engine
Q22A_6	An official U.S. government source, i.e., embassy, consulate, State Department, or military installation
Q22A_7	Work or school
Q22A_8	A civic organization, political party, or organization for Americans living abroad
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Yes	0	Answered
0	No	1	Refused
-100	Valid Skip	-100	Valid Skip

Q23. Which, if any, of the following advertisements do you recall seeing, reading, or hearing from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)? *Mark all that apply.*

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Yes	0	Answered
0	No	1	Refused

//If Q21=1, show Q24_1, Q24_2, AND Q24_3.//

Q24. In preparation ***for the 2020 primaries or General Election***, did you use any of the following resources? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

//Randomize order of all subitems.//

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q24_1	Visited FVAP.gov
Q24_2	Used FVAP staff support
Q24_3	Visited FVAP Online Assistant tool
Q24_4	Visited State or local election office website
Q24_5	Used U.S. government voting assistance resources in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

// Show if 2 or more Q24 items = 1. Else skip to Q25.//

Q24A. Of the following resources, which did you consider to be the most useful? [Pipe in selections from Q24]

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q24A_*	[Q24 response]
Q24A_*	[Q24 response]
Q24A_*	[Q24 response]

Value	Value Label
1	Selected
0	Not Selected
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q24_1=1 OR Q24_3=1, continue to Q25. Else skip to Q26.//

Q25. Overall, how satisfied were you with the FVAP website when you visited it in anticipation of the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	Very satisfied
2	Satisfied
3	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
4	Dissatisfied
5	Very dissatisfied
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If Q21=1, show Q26_1, Q26_2, AND Q26_3.//

Q26. Please indicate which, if any, FVAP products or services you have used for voting assistance during ***any election before the 2020 General Election***. *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

//Randomize order of all subitems.//

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q26_1	Visited FVAP.gov
Q26_2	Used FVAP staff support
Q26_3	Visited FVAP Online Assistant tool
Q26_4	Visited state or local election website
Q26_5	Used U.S. government voting assistance resources in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

//If Q24_4=1, continue to Q27. Else skip to Q28.//

Q27. What source led you to visit your state or local election office website when you visited in anticipation of the November 3, 2020 General Election?

//Randomize order of response options1-5.//

Value	Value Label
1	FVAP.gov
2	Internet search
3	State or local election official
4	Family or friend
5	State Department or Consular Services
6	Other
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is a single form that you can use to register to vote and/or request an absentee ballot for federal elections.

Some states require eligible voters who vote absentee to use the FPCA to request an absentee ballot.

Q28. Before taking this survey, were you aware that you could use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register to vote and request an absentee ballot?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

//If Q28=1 AND Q9=1, continue to Q28A. Else skip to Q29.//

Q28A. Did you use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to request your absentee ballot or did you use another method?

//Randomize order of response options1-4.//

Value	Value Label
1	Yes, I used an FPCA to request an absentee ballot.
2	No, I used a state or local form to request an absentee ballot.
3	No, I used a non-government website (e.g., Rock the Vote [RTV], Overseas Vote Foundation [OVF]) to request an absentee ballot.
4	No, I used another method.
5	Other
-99	Refused

The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB; Standard Form 186) is a backup way to vote in case your requested absentee ballot does not arrive in time for you to vote and return your ballot. It lets you write in the names of the candidate you wish to vote for.

Please answer with the most appropriate response regarding the *November 3, 2020 General Election*.

Q29. Before taking this survey, were you aware of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

Q30. Did you receive information about the absentee voting process from any of the following sources in 2020? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

//Randomize order of subitems Q30_1-Q30_10.//

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q30_1	State or local election official
Q30_2	U.S. newspapers, magazines, radio, or TV
Q30_3	International newspapers, magazines, radio, or TV
Q30_4	Family or friends living outside of [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]
Q30_5	Family or friends living in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]
Q30_6	Internet other than social media
Q30_7	Social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, blogs)
Q30_8	Directly from candidates/parties
Q30_9	Employer/HR department
Q30_10	An organization for Americans living abroad
Q30_11	Other

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

Q31. Which of the following do you use at least once a month to get news or news headlines about U.S. politics and/or elections? *Mark all that apply.*

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q31_1	U.S. national TV news
Q31_2	Local TV news in your country of residence
Q31_3	Local newspaper in your country of residence
Q31_4	U.S. national newspapers such as Wall Street Journal, USA Today, or Washington Post
Q31_5	Print or online news magazines such as The Atlantic, Mother Jones, or National Review
Q31_6	Online-only news websites such as Breitbart, Politico, Vox, or Yahoo News
Q31_7	U.S. public radio station such as NPR
Q31_8	International news outlets (newspapers, magazines, radio, or TV)
Q31_9	Web search on Google, Yahoo, or another search engine
Q31_10	Other

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Selected	0	Answered
0	Not selected	1	Refused

//If Q31=10, continue to Q31A. Else skip to Q32.//

Q31A. Please specify the additional source(s) you use at least once a month to get news or news headlines about U.S. politics and/or elections. [Open End Text]

Q32. How would you characterize the reliability of internet access in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]?

Value	Value Label
1	Very unreliable
2	Unreliable
3	Neither reliable nor unreliable
4	Reliable
5	Very reliable
-99	Refused

Q33. How would you characterize the reliability of postal service in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]?

Value	Value Label
1	Very unreliable
2	Unreliable
3	Neither reliable nor unreliable
4	Reliable
5	Very reliable
-99	Refused

Q34. How interested or uninterested were you in the election held on November 3, 2020?

Value	Value Label
1	Very interested
2	Somewhat interested
3	Neither interested nor uninterested
4	Somewhat uninterested
5	Very uninterested
-99	Refused

Q35. Did you have any preferences regarding the candidates in the U.S. elections held on November 3, 2020?

Value	Value Label
1	No preference for a candidate/candidates
2	Weak preference for a candidate/candidates
3	Moderate preference for a candidate/candidates
4	Strong preference for a candidate/candidates
-99	Refused

Q36. How much attention did you pay in October 2020 to news about U.S. politics and the November 3, 2020 General Election?

Value	Value Label
1	A great deal
2	A lot
3	A moderate amount
4	A little
5	None at all
-99	Refused

Q37. Do you use any of the following social networking sites or apps at least once a month? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q37_1	Facebook
Q37_2	Instagram
Q37_3	Twitter
Q37_4	LinkedIn
Q37_5	Pinterest
Q37_6	Tumblr
Q37_7	Reddit
Q37_8	Snapchat
Q37_9	YouTube
Q37_10	Periscope
Q37_11	Whatsapp
Q37_12	TikTok
Q37_13	Other

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

//If Q37_13=1, continue to Q37A. Else skip to Q38.//

Q37A. Please specify the other social networking sites or apps you have used at least once a month. [Open End Text]

Q38. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

//Randomize order of subitems.//

Variable Name	Variable Text	Variable Label
Q38_1	Post links to political stories or articles for others to read	Q38_1 Social Network Activity: Post Political Stories
Q38_2	Post your own thoughts or comments on political or social issues	Q38_2 Social Network Activity: Post Comments
Q38_3	Encourage other people to take action on a political or social issue that is important to you	Q38_3 Social Network Activity: Encourage Action
Q38_4	Encourage other people to vote	Q38_4 Social Network Activity: Encourage Voting
Q38_5	Repost content related to political or social issues that was originally posted by someone else	Q38_5 Social Network Activity: Repost Content
Q38_6	"Like" or promote material related to political or social issues that others have posted	Q38_6 Social Network Activity: "Like" Posted Content

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

Q39. In the past year, which of the following groups or organizations of Americans living abroad have you engaged with? *Mark all that apply.*

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q39_1	Political party-based organization(s)
Q39_2	American Citizens Abroad
Q39_3	Expat Exchange
Q39_4	Association of Americans Resident Overseas
Q39_5	American Women's Club
Q39_6	Overseas Vote Foundation
Q39_7	Other

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Selected	0	Answered
0	Not selected	1	Refused

//If Q39_7=1, continue to Q29A. Else skip to Q40.//

Q39A. Please specify the additional organization(s) of Americans living abroad you have engaged with. [Open End Text]

Q40. How many U.S. citizens, aged 18 and older, would you estimate you know who resided in [pipe in country of residence if Q3 is blank; pipe Q3 response if not blank] on November 3, 2020? [Open End Text]

//If Q40>0, continue to Q40A. Else skip to Q41.//

Q40A. How many of the U.S. citizens in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame] that you know would you estimate you talked to about absentee voting procedures? [Open End Text]

//Limit maximum number to the response given in Q40.//

//If Q40A>0, continue to Q40B. Else skip to Q41.//

Q40B. Of the U.S. citizens, aged 18 and older, who you knew in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame] on November 3, 2020, how many of them would you estimate requested an absentee ballot or had an absentee ballot sent to them for the election held on November 3, 2020? [Open End Text]

//Limit maximum number to the response given in Q40A.//

//If Q40A>0, continue to Q40C. Else skip to Q41.//

Q40C. How many U.S. citizens, aged 18 and older, resided at your primary address in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame] on November 3, 2020? [Open End Text]

//Limit maximum number to the response given in Q40A.//

Q41. Thinking about the other U.S. citizens you know in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame], would you say they are more or less interested in U.S. elections as you are?

Value	Value Label
1	They are much more interested than I am.
2	They are somewhat more interested than I am.
3	They are about equally as interested as I am.
4	They are somewhat less interested than I am.

5	They are much less interested than I am.
-99	Refused

//If Q4 ≥ 11/2000 (i.e., on or after November, 2000), continue to Q42. Else skip to Q43.//

Q42. Did you live outside of the United States during the following dates?

Variable Name	Variable Text	SHOW IF
Q42_2000	November 2000	Q4 ≥ 11/2000
Q42_2002	November 2002	Q4 ≥ 11/2002
Q42_2004	November 2004	Q4 ≥ 11/2004
Q42_2006	November 2006	Q4 ≥ 11/2006
Q42_2008	November 2008	Q4 ≥ 11/2008
Q42_2010	November 2010	Q4 ≥ 11/2010
Q42_2012	November 2012	Q4 ≥ 11/2012
Q42_2014	November 2014	Q4 ≥ 11/2014
Q42_2016	November 2016	Q4 ≥ 11/2016
Q42_2018	November 2018	Q4 ≥ 11/2018

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused
-100	Valid Skip

//If respondent answered Q4, only allow dates on and after Q4 response.//

Q43. In which month and year did you ***most recently*** move to [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]? *Please estimate if you are unsure of the exact month and year.* [Drop Down Menu]

Value	Value Label
XX/XX	Month/Year
-99	Refused

Q44. Did you also live in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame] during the following dates?

Variable Name	Variable Text	SHOW IF
Q44_2000	November 2000	Q43≥11/2000 AND Q42_2000≠0
Q44_2002	November 2002	Q43≥11/2002 AND Q42_2002≠0
Q44_2004	November 2004	Q43≥11/2004 AND Q42_2004≠0
Q44_2006	November 2006	Q43≥11/2006 AND Q42_2006≠0
Q44_2008	November 2008	Q43≥11/2008 AND Q42_2008≠0
Q44_2010	November 2010	Q43≥11/2010 AND Q42_2010≠0
Q44_2012	November 2012	Q43≥11/2012 AND Q42_2012≠0
Q44_2014	November 2014	Q43≥11/2014 AND Q42_2014≠0
Q44_2016	November 2016	Q43≥11/2016 AND Q42_2016≠0
Q44_2018	November 2018	Q43≥11/2018 AND Q42_2018≠0

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

//If respondent answered Q43, only allow dates on and after Q43 response.//

Q45. In which month and year did you ***most recently*** move to your current address in [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]? *Please estimate if you are unsure of the exact month and year.* [Drop Down Menu]

Value	Value Label
XX/XX	Month/Year
-99	Refused

Q45A. Did you also live at your current address during the following dates?

Variable Name	Variable Text	SHOW IF
Q45A_2000	November 2000	Q45≥11/2000 AND Q44_2000≠0
Q45A_2002	November 2002	Q45≥11/2002 AND Q44_2002≠0
Q45A_2004	November 2004	Q45≥11/2004 AND Q44_2004≠0
Q45A_2006	November 2006	Q45≥11/2006 AND Q44_2006≠0
Q45A_2008	November 2008	Q45≥11/2008 AND Q44_2008≠0
Q45A_2010	November 2010	Q45≥11/2010 AND Q44_2010≠0
Q45A_2012	November 2012	Q45≥11/2012 AND Q44_2012≠0
Q45A_2014	November 2014	Q45≥11/2014 AND Q44_2014≠0
Q45A_2016	November 2016	Q45≥11/2016 AND Q44_2016≠0
Q45A_2018	November 2018	Q45≥11/2018 AND Q44_2018≠0

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

DEMOGRAPHICS

MORE ABOUT YOU

We would like to know more about you. These items are for statistical purposes only.

Q46. Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?

Value	Value Label
1	No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino
2	Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origins
-99	Refused

Q47. What is your race? *Mark all that apply.*

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q47_1	White
Q47_2	Black or African American
Q47_3	American Indian or Alaska Native
Q47_4	Asian (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese)
Q47_5	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (e.g., Samoan, Guamanian, or Chamorro)

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Selected	0	Answered
0	Not Selected	1	Refused

Q48. What is the highest degree or level of school that you have completed?

Value	Value Label
1	Twelve years or fewer of school
2	High school graduate—traditional diploma
3	High school graduate—alternative diploma (home school, GED, etc.)
4	Some college credit, but less than 1 year
5	One year or more of college, no degree
6	Associate degree (e.g., AA, AS)
7	Bachelor's degree (e.g., BA, AB, BS)
8	Master's, doctoral, or professional school degree (e.g., MA, Ph.D., JD)
-99	Refused

Q49. As of November 3, 2020, in which country or countries did you hold citizenship? *Mark all that apply.*

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q49_1	United States
Q49_2	[Pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]
Q49_3	Other

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Selected	0	Answered
0	Not Selected	1	Refused

//If Q49_3=1, continue to Q49A. Else skip to Q50.//

Q49A. Please specify the country where you hold citizenship other than the United States or [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]. [Drop Down Menu]

Q50. In the week before November 3, 2020, did you work either full-time or part-time?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No, I was retired
3	No, I was disabled
4	No, I was unable to work
5	No, I was a caretaker or stay-at-home parent
6	No, other
-99	Refused

Q51. What is your marital status?

Value	Value Label
1	Married
2	Separated
3	Divorced
4	Widowed
5	Never married
-99	Refused

Q52. Do you have children?

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
0	No
-99	Refused

//If Q51=1, continue to Q53. Else skip to Q54.//

Q53. As of November 3, 2020, in which country or countries did your spouse hold citizenship? *Mark all that apply.*

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q51_1	United States
Q51_2	[pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]
Q51_3	Other

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Selected	0	Answered
0	Not Selected	1	Refused
-100	Valid Skip	-100	Valid Skip

//If Q53_3=1, continue to Q53A. Else skip to Q54.//

Q53A. Please specify the country where your spouse holds citizenship other than the United States or [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]. [Drop Down Menu]

//If Q52=1, continue to Q54. Else skip to Q55.//

Q54. As of November 3, 2020, in which country or countries did your children hold citizenship? *Mark all that apply.*

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q54_1	United States
Q54_2	[pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame]
Q54_3	Other

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Selected	0	Answered
0	Not Selected	1	Refused
-100	Valid Skip	-100	Valid Skip

//If Q54_3=1, continue to Q54A. Else skip to Q55.//

Q54A. Please specify the country where your children hold citizenship other than the United States or [pipe in Q3 response or country indicated in frame].

Q55. Which category represents your household's total combined income (in USD) during the 12 months leading up to November 3, 2020?

Value	Value Label
1	Under $1,000
2	$1,000–$4,999
3	$5,000–$9,999
4	$10,000–$19,999
5	$20,000–$39,999
6	$40,000–$49,999
7	$50,000–$74,999
8	$75,000–$99,999
9	$100,000–$149,999
10	$150,000+
-99	Refused

Q56. As of November 3, 2020, did you own any of the following assets within the United States? *Mark all that apply.*

//Randomize order of response options 1-5.//

Variable Name	Variable Text
Q55_1	Privately held home or other dwelling
Q55_2	Privately held business
Q55_3	Privately held land
Q55_4	Stocks or bonds
Q55_5	Checking or savings account
Q55_6	Other assets

Valid Value	Value Label	Refused Value	Value Label
1	Selected	0	Answered
0	Not Selected	1	Refused

Q57. Thank you for participating in the survey. If you have comments or concerns that you were not able to express in answering this survey, please enter them in the space provided below. [Open End Essay]

//Limit to 500 characters//

2020 Overseas Citizen Population Analysis

Volume 3: Methodology

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(1) DATA AND METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY-LEVEL ESTIMATES OF POPULATION OF U.S. CITIZENS

In general, the U.S. Government does not keep track of where U.S. citizens travel overseas, or where they might be living, working, or studying while overseas. For some nations, it is likely that data on the number of U.S. citizens currently in their country do exist; countries with visa requirements for entry and exit, such as China, should be able to provide information on the number of U.S. citizens in their country at any given time. However, it is not always possible to gain access to these data. Thus, there is no exact count of the total number of overseas citizens, nor do many other nations produce a consistent enumeration of the number of overseas citizens who live within their borders.

Because of these issues and others discussed below, the Fors Marsh Group (FMG) team had to estimate the number of overseas citizens in any given country to be able to accurately measure voter participation among overseas U.S. citizens. These estimates were generated using three primary data sources: foreign country data on the number of U.S. citizens living within foreign countries' borders, U.S. Government administrative data on overseas citizens, and data from academic studies that have examined factors that affect the number of U.S. citizens living in any given country around the world.

The groundwork for this analysis was laid in 2015 when the FMG team conducted this analysis for the 2014 election and was refreshed to produce the updated estimates for the 2016 election. This section discusses the data collection, imputation, and estimation methodology from 2017, as well as how it was updated to produce new estimates for the 2018 election. As discussed in Volume 1, the 2018 OCVAP estimates are used as the denominator for the 2020 participation rate(s).

Foreign Government Estimates of their U.S. Citizen Population

There are several sources for foreign government estimates (FGEs) of the U.S. citizens living in each country. The FGEs used in the analyses come from several sources: (1) the United Nations Statistics Division, which collects data on migrant stocks from the statistical agencies from many countries; (2) census microdata collected and standardized by the Minnesota Population Center's Integrated Public Use Microdata Series IPUMS International; (3) documents released by countries' national statistical agencies; (4) the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) International Migration Database, which provides data on the number of U.S. citizens during the years 2000 to 2020 for most OECD countries; and (4) a U.S. Census Bureau internal document titled, "Estimating Native Emigration from the United States," which was compiled as part of a project to estimate U.S. net emigration.

The primary methods that foreign governments use to track the population of U.S. citizens in their country are censuses and registries. The FMG team used both census and registry data, in addition to an indicator variable, to account for the difference in collection method. Countries vary in who they consider to be a U.S. citizen for purposes of a census or registry. Some countries count only U.S. citizens and others count only individuals born in the United States. The groups defined

Foreign Government Estimates (FGE)

The term "foreign government estimate" (FGE) will be used throughout this report. These estimates refer to two different concepts, depending on the context. First, FGEs are the data that foreign governments have, through registries and census, on the number of U.S. citizens living in their country. Second, the term FGE is used to describe the updated estimates we generate for all countries—for those who have FGE data and those for whom we have to fully estimate the U.S. citizen population living in their country.

Census versus Registry

This report also uses the terms "census" and "registry," and it is important to understand the distinction between the two.

- *A census is a country-wide, periodic data collection that tallies all residents.*
- *A registry is a compilation of administrative records from numerous sources.*

Registries may provide more complete counts if they are updated often and if they are drawn from several different sources (such as tax records, visas, school forms, etc.). One major disadvantage of registries is that U.S. citizens may continue to appear on a foreign registry for several years after they no longer reside in that country.

by these two criteria have significant overlap, but a small proportion of individuals belong to only one of those groups. The FMG team accounted for this discrepancy by having an indicator variable for whether the country uses U.S. citizens or U.S.-born individuals, allowing ultimately for the estimation of the number of U.S. citizens, despite this variation by country. Because countries that allow dual citizenship may undercount resident U.S. citizens by counting dual citizens as their own, a variable was created to indicate countries that allow their citizens to maintain dual citizenship with the United States.

Some countries use ambiguous terminology, meaning it could not always be determined if a country was measuring U.S. citizens or U.S.-born individuals. The country of Kiribati in the Central Pacific serves as such an example. In Kiribati's census questionnaire, individuals are asked to list their "home country," but further clarification is not offered on whether the term refers to the individual's country of birth, country of citizenship, or an alternative definition. Other countries instead ask for each individual's nationality, but again do not specify how they define nationality. When these cases could not be resolved with certainty, they were excluded from the analysis.

FGEs are not available for every country, and many release estimates on a cycle of every five or 10 years. In addition, some countries with complete data—foreign government data on U.S. citizens in their country, U.S. administrative data, and all other variables—still have errors in their FGEs because of the differences between registries and censuses. To have a complete and accurate estimate of the total number of overseas U.S. citizens, the FMG team estimated models to generate FGEs for all countries—those with complete data including FGE, and those without an FGE. To accomplish this, U.S. administrative data on overseas citizens were collected, as well as additional predictors that research has demonstrated to be correlated with migration.

U.S. Administrative Records on Overseas Citizens

Several federal agencies collect data on overseas citizens and release statistics about subsets of that population. The FMG team used these data to estimate the total number of U.S. citizens in a given country. The key administrative data used were:

Number of U.S. Exchange Students, 2000–2018: This is the total number of U.S. exchange students attending foreign universities in each country for each year during the period of 2000–2018.

Number of Social Security Beneficiaries, 2000–2018: This is

the number of overseas Social Security beneficiaries, as reported annually by the U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA). Counts were available for each year during the period of 2000–2018.

Number of Foreign Earned Income Returns, 2000–2016: This is the estimated number of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 2555 returns (used to declare foreign income) filed by U.S. citizens living in a country in a given year (Hollenbeck & Kahr, 2009). Each form represents at least one U.S. citizen residing in the country. Data were not available for some countries, and for the subset of countries with estimates, they were only available for 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011, and 2016. Data were available on either a by-country or by-region basis.

Number of Civilian U.S. Federal Government Employees, 2000–2018: The number of civilian U.S. Federal Government employees residing in a country in a given year between 2000 and 2018, as reported to the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

There are additional administrative records in existence, such as overseas deaths, consulate registrations, and counts of military personnel. However, these data sources were not incorporated into this analysis for several reasons. Some of these data are classified, sensitive, or otherwise not available to the general public; including them in the analysis would have precluded other researchers from reproducing the results and, thus, undermined the transparency of these analyses. Another concern is that these additional sources of data are likely to be quite strongly associated with tourism or military presence, rather than resident citizens, and that including them would add error by overestimating the number of U.S. citizens in countries that have a U.S. military presence or a high volume of tourists from the United States.

Filling the Data Gap—Imputation and Estimation

Most modeling techniques require the predictor fields to be completely populated. Therefore, to be able to use the administrative data to model the U.S. overseas citizen population, missing data had to be addressed. In other countries, especially countries with low government capacity and with smaller populations, FGEs may be incomplete or nonexistent. Data from smaller countries may not be available because, as a rule, the U.S. Government does not report data when too few people meet a certain criterion. For example, there may be such a small number of U.S. tax filers living in Timor-Leste that the U.S. Government does not release records for Timor-Leste because of privacy considerations. It is probable that missing data is thus also correlated with migration, meaning that simply dropping country–years with missing data or filling them in with the mean would introduce bias into the estimates.

To be able to model the full set of country–years without biasing the estimates, additional data were collected to impute the missing data. As the OECD explains, “Imputation is the process used to determine and assign replacement values for missing, invalid or inconsistent data [...] This is done by changing some of the responses or assigning values when they are missing [...] to ensure that estimates are of high quality and that a plausible, internally consistent record is created.”

The FMG team imputed missing U.S. administrative data by creating a predictive model that relies on variables known to be associated with higher levels of migration between countries. These mobility variables include:

The Difference Between Foreign Country and U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita at Purchasing Power Parities (PPP) (Constant 2011 international dollars): This variable is the

difference between the PPP-converted GDP per capita of the foreign country and the United States in a given year in constant 2011 dollars, as reported by the World Bank's World Development Indicators. Research shows that countries with more favorable economic conditions are more attractive to U.S. citizens and, thus, have larger U.S. citizen populations. For countries for which this variable was missing (Taiwan, Cuba, and Somalia), the data was imputed by regressing the log of the World Bank GDP per capita on the log of the GDP per capita provided by the Penn World Tables for a sample of countries in which both estimates were available. The resulting model was then used to impute the World Bank estimate for those countries with only a Penn World estimate. Version 9.1 of the Penn World Tables was used for Taiwan, and version 7.1 was used for Cuba and Somalia. The resulting predictions for Cuba and Somalia were extrapolated to 2018.

Population: This variable refers to the population of the foreign country, as reported in World Bank's World Development Indicators. The literature on international migration has typically found that countries with larger populations and economies tend to attract more migrants (Lewer & Van den Berg, 2008).

Distance From the United States: This variable is the distance between the closest foreign city and U.S. city that both have a population over 750,000. For countries that do not have a city with a population over 750,000, the distance between the capital city of the foreign country and the closest U.S. city with a population of at least 750,000 was used. Distance has typically been found to be associated with lower levels of migration between two countries (Lewer & Van den Berg, 2008), likely because the larger distance is related to higher costs of migration (owing to factors such as travel and moving expenses).

Trade with the United States: This variable refers to the mean end-of-year product trade (imports plus exports) between the United States and the foreign country, limited to the years 2000–2018, as reported by the Census Bureau. Trade has been linked to migration between trading countries (Felbermayr & Toubal, 2012; Sangita, 2013).

Institutional Quality: This variable is the average of the six World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI)—Voice and Accountability, Political Stability and Absence of Violence, Government Effectiveness, Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law, and Control of Corruption—averaged across the years 1996–2018. This variable serves two purposes: First, research has found that institutional quality, and particularly the degree of political stability, is a determinant of net migration to countries (Ziesemer, 2010). Countries with good institutional quality are expected to have higher numbers of U.S. citizens. Second, countries with low governance quality are also likely to have poor FGEs, because they are unlikely to invest in the human capital of their bureaucracy.

Number of Immigrants in the United States: This variable is the number of immigrants from a foreign country ages 25 and older in the United States in the year 2000, as reported by Artuc et al. (2013). One type of potential out-migrant from the United States is an immigrant from a foreign country (or their offspring) who then decides to return to his or her country of origin (Scheuren, 2012). A more general justification for the inclusion of this variable is that it may proxy for factors that promote or inhibit migration both to and from the United States, such as transportation costs. Consequently, countries with larger numbers of immigrants in the United States would be expected to have larger numbers of U.S. citizens. On the other hand, the number of immigrants in the United States from a country may also be negatively associated with the number of U.S. citizens in that country, if factors that affect migration flows asymmetrically (such as political instability) are salient. The uncertainty regarding relationship direction is not a limitation for this predictor because the estimation strategy does not require an assumption of a positive or negative relationship.

U.S. Military Aid: This variable refers to the total amount of military assistance in constant dollars made by the United States to the foreign country between 1946 and 2015 as reported by United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Aid to foreign countries by the U.S. Government, and the associated interaction between those governments, may promote migration from the United States to the foreign beneficiary countries by facilitating the transfer of information about the foreign country to potential U.S. migrants (Berthelemy, Beuran, & Maurel, 2009). In addition, aid may be a proxy for general diplomatic ties (Alesina & Dollar, 2000) associated with foreign government policies that are advantageous to U.S. migrants, leading to increased U.S. migration to the country.

English or Spanish: This is a variable regarding whether English or Spanish is spoken in the foreign country. The information is taken from *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (Lewis, Grimes, Simons, & Huttar, 2009). These variables may proxy for cultural distance between the United States and the foreign country as well as for the ability to succeed in the host country's labor market (Adsera & Pytlikova, 2012). Given that English and Spanish are the two most widely spoken languages in the United States, countries where these languages are commonly spoken are expected to attract more U.S. citizens.

Trend: This is a linear trend variable that controls for trends in the size of the overseas U.S. citizen population common to all countries and not explained by other theoretical variables. It accounts for variation in factors that affect migration to all other countries, such as advances in communication technology, changes in transportation costs, or general geopolitical factors. These factors may include population growth through births of U.S. citizens, whether overseas or within the United States, which would be expected to affect the total number of overseas U.S. citizens. This variable may also capture changes in transportation costs over the 2000–2018 period of study, which would also be expected to affect the tendency of U.S. citizens to migrate.

To impute data on exchange students, log-linear interpolation and extrapolation methods were used to determine values for missing years, as needed. Countries without a count for any year were assigned a value of zero.

For the SSA and IRS data, the FMG team imputed the missing data for countries for which there were no data. For the SSA data, most years had very reliable administrative counts on the total number of beneficiaries from a region (e.g., Africa) and by country. To impute the number of beneficiaries for African countries without counts, the number of beneficiaries from those countries that had a country count from the SSA was subtracted from the region total. For example, if there were 10,000 beneficiaries for Africa, only South Africa was provided with a count, and 500 beneficiaries were listed from South Africa, 500 were subtracted from the 10,000 regional total. There would be a remaining 9,500 beneficiaries to allocate to the countries without specific counts. To allocate the remaining beneficiaries, a model was created using the variables listed above.

The FMG team used this model to generate predicted numbers for those countries without estimates and distributed the unassigned beneficiaries of a region in proportion to that prediction. For example, a highly populated African country where English is the primary language and that has a relatively high GDP has more beneficiaries allocated to it than does a highly populated French-speaking country in Africa with a relatively low GDP. A similar methodology was employed to generate estimates for the number of IRS returns for those countries for which the IRS does not already provide estimates. Once all countries have an estimate for the years for which data are available, estimates for the remaining years are produced using log-linear interpolation or extrapolation.

Dual Citizens

One critical issue that needed to be addressed in this model was the handling of dual citizens. Many countries encourage dual citizenship as a way to promote continued engagement with their expatriate populations (Lafleur, 2012). These policies may therefore promote return migration, reflected in a larger FGE. Therefore, including DUAL in the model, and allowing predictions to vary with DUAL, is important in the present circumstance because whether a country allows dual citizenship with the United States may have an effect on the size of the U.S. citizen population given that the prospect of gaining citizenship in the host country while retaining U.S. citizenship may encourage immigration to that country. In addition, DUAL may proxy for unobserved policies that encourage U.S. citizen migration as well as historical connections with the United States.

The collected and imputed data yield the final set of variables that will be used to model the foreign country population estimates.

Estimating the Overseas Citizen Population

Because of the complexity of migration, there is no clear indication of which variables—and which combination of variables—will be the most predictive, and there are too many possible combinations to include all of them. To address this uncertainty, a variant of a method called ensemble Bayesian model averaging (EBMA) was used. EBMA has been found to yield more accurate predictions than using a single model when predicting armed conflicts or the outcome of presidential campaigns (Montgomery et al., 2012). The general approach of EBMA is to take predictions from multiple models (i.e., ensembles) and create an average of all the estimates weighted by the model's fit to the data in combination with each model's correlation or redundancy with predictions derived from other models. The resulting estimate is designed to be more accurate than the estimates derived from any single model by minimizing the effects of overfitting the data resulting from individual model specifications. At the same time, this method allows the final estimate to incorporate as much information as possible from the predictor variables.

The data collected, along with the data imputations, yield the final set of variables that will be used to model the foreign country population estimates. As noted above, FGEs are only available for some countries for some years, and counts of demographic subgroups are available for even fewer countries and years. In addition, some countries with complete data—foreign government data on Americans in their country, U.S. administrative data, and all other variables—will still have errors in their FGEs because of the issues associated with registries, censuses, and other factors. Therefore, the FMG team ran models to generate FGEs for all countries: those with complete data, including FGEs, and those without FGEs.

Several possible models and approaches can be used to develop this type of estimate. These models differ both in the underlying mathematical algorithms and in the choice of variables used to create the predictions. In an effective predictive model, the outcome variable (in this case, the population of U.S. citizens) is related to the predictor variables in a systematic way. Because the FGE is strictly positive and bounded from below at zero, each model was estimated using a Poisson regression. The FMG team ran this model for every combination of predictor variables and then derived an average prediction.

The *N* models take the form:

$$\mathbf{FGE}_{\mathbf{it}}^{\mathbf{m}} = \mathbf{e}^{\beta \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{it}} + \beta \mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{it}}^{\mathbf{m}} + \gamma 1 \mathbf{REGISTRY}_{\mathbf{it}} + \gamma 2 \mathbf{CITIZEN}_{\mathbf{it}} + \gamma 3 \mathbf{DUAL}_{\mathbf{it}} + \gamma 4 (\mathbf{DUAL}_{\mathbf{it}} * \mathbf{CITIZEN}_{\mathbf{it}}) + constant}$$

In this model,

- *FGE* is the foreign government estimate of the size of the U.S. citizen population in country *i* in year *t* (i.e., there is at most one estimate for every country–year for the period 2000 to 2018).
- *C* is a vector of variables reflecting the (natural log of the) size of particular subpopulations of the U.S. citizen population and is thus highly likely to be correlated with the FGE. For this reason, these variables are included in every model. In these models, these variables are all of the U.S. Government administrative data for each country for each year.
- *X* is a vector of predictor variables that are likely to explain variations in the U.S. citizen population of country *i* included in model *m*. These include the mobility variables described in the previous section. Because it is unknown which, if any, of the mobility variables improve model fit most effectively over a model with just subpopulation counts, models were run for every combination of mobility variables (including one specification with no such variables).
- *REGISTRY* is a variable that takes a value of 1 if the country's FGE is based on a registry count, and 0 otherwise.
- *CITIZEN* is a dummy variable that takes a value of 1 if the FGE pertains to the number of U.S. citizens in the country, and 0 otherwise.
- *DUAL* is a dummy variable that takes a value of 1 if the country allows dual citizenship with the United States, and 0 otherwise.[82]
- *DUAL * CITIZEN* is an interaction variable that takes a value of 1 if the country allows both dual citizenship and has an FGE that counts U.S citizens, and 0 otherwise.

The goal is to estimate the difference between the number of overseas U.S. citizens in countries that both allow dual citizenship and count the number of U.S. citizens, and countries that do not meet one or both of these conditions. Specifically, predictions are generated under the assumption that no country meets both of these conditions (i.e., DUAL*CITIZEN = 0), as it is under such circumstances that one is most likely to encounter citizenship misclassification and, thus, inaccurate citizen counts. In other words, citizenship-based FGEs for countries that allow dual citizenship are adjusted in such a way that the prediction incorporates dual citizens. To generate these predictions, REGISTRY is assumed to equal 0, CITIZEN is assumed to equal 1, and (DUAL * CITIZEN) is assumed to equal 0 for all countries. The constraints applied to REGISTRY, CITIZEN, and the DUAL*CITIZEN product make the final predictions more comparable with respect to the population. To be specific, a count of U.S. citizens (i.e., CITIZEN = 1) is enumerated using a census (REGISTRY = 0).

[82] "Dual citizenship" in this case means individuals can be citizens both of the country and the United States. Consequently, this variable is also coded as 1 for countries with that allow for citizenship for more than those two countries.

Averaging Across Models

Estimating the overseas U.S. citizen population was complicated because it was not clear which variables—and which combination of variables—should be used to model this population. To address this uncertainty, the FMG team used EBMA, which has been found to yield more accurate predictions than using a single model when applied to predict armed conflict or the outcome of presidential campaigns (Montgomery et al., 2012). The general approach of EBMA is to take predictions from multiple models (i.e., ensembles) and create an average of all the estimates weighted by the model's fit to the data in combination with each model's correlation or redundancy with predictions derived from other models. The resulting estimate is designed to be more accurate than the estimates derived from any single model by minimizing the effects of overfitting the data resulting from individual model specifications. At the same time, this method allows the final estimate to incorporate as much information as possible from the predictor variables.

Models

For the estimates of the overseas U.S. citizen population, the baseline model includes (1) all U.S. Government administrative data, (2) data about whether a country has a registry or census, (3) how that country counts a U.S. citizen, and (4) if the country allows dual U.S. citizenship. Additional models that include every combination of the migration research variables are also estimated.

The model space from which this average prediction is derived takes the form of all possible combinations of predictor variables. For *k* predictors, the number of models, *N*, equals 2^ (*k*) (including the model with no theoretical predictors, as described above). As applied to the estimation of overseas U.S. citizens, this approach is not likelihood-based (instead, it is based on root mean square error; see below) and, therefore, is not Bayesian. Consequently, the modeling approach is simply referred to as ensemble model averaging (EMA).

The final estimate of the overseas U.S. citizen population for country *i* in year *t* is:

$$\exp\left(P_{it}\right) = \exp\left(\sum_{m=1}^{N} w^{m} P_{it}^{m}\right)$$

or the anti-log of the average of all linear predictions for the country across *N* models, weighted by model validation metric *w*.

The model validation metric *w* can be expressed in reduced form as:

$$w^{m} = \frac{f^{m} * c^{m}}{\sum_{m=1}^{N} f^{m} * c^{m}}$$

In which f^{m} is the component of the metric that indicates how well model *m* fit the data. f^{m} can be written as:

$$f^m = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{MSE^m}\right)}{\sum_{m=1}^{N}\left(\frac{1}{MSE^m}\right)}$$

in which the MSE is the mean squared error. The MSE is determined through *K*-fold cross-validation (Stone, 1977); each observation in the sample is randomly assigned to one of *K* subsamples, the model is estimated using the *K* – 1 subsamples, predictions are produced for the excluded validation sample, and the MSE (weighted by the selection bias weight α_i, from above) is generated for that subsample. The cross-validation procedure is repeated *K* times, with each subsample acting as the validation sample in turn. The cross-validation step is then repeated *S* times, with the average of the *S* * *K* MSEs used as the model MSE. In this application, *K* = 5 and *S* = 10.

Overfitting and In-Sample Data

Overfitting often occurs when a model is made overly complex so that the results best fit the data being used for estimation (the "in-sample" data). This overfitting can affect the quality of the forecasting and prediction. The approach used here helps alleviate concerns about model overfitting by using model averaging and cross-validation.

Each model's contribution to the final estimate is determined by its out-of-sample predictive ability, minimizing overfitting that could result from determining model performance based only on in-sample fit. Testing the model using countries that were not used to build the model allows for a more robust test as its predictive power is more likely due to variation in the U.S. citizen populations in these countries rather than random measurement error (Hawkins, 2004; Ward, Greenhill, & Bakke, 2010).

The other component of the model validation metric, c^m, captures the degree to which the predictions generated by a model are correlated with predictions generated by other models. Specifically:

$$c^m = \frac{1/\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \mathrm{Corr}\left(P^m, P^j\right)}{\sum_{m=1}^{N}\left(1/\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \mathrm{Corr}(P^m, P^j)\right)}$$

in which Corr is the correlation coefficient between models *m* and *j*. In other words, c^m is larger when a model is relatively uncorrelated with other models. The model validation metric w^m is larger when models simultaneously (1) make relatively accurate out-of-sample predictions, and (2) are uncorrelated or not redundant with predictions made from other models. The validation metric, therefore, focuses on the models that are best at prediction, while also being sure to include a diverse set of model specifications rather than just minor variations of the same model. The proposed validation metric thus rewards accuracy and penalizes redundancy.

Mitigating Selection Bias

One potential issue with the modeling strategy outlined so far is that countries for which FGEs are available may have different characteristics than those for which FGEs are not available. In particular, countries without FGEs tend to be poorly governed and tend to have relatively low economic output.

To account for the potential selection bias that may result from countries with FGEs being different in ways that may also affect the size of their overseas U.S. population, each country is given a weight for the purpose of model estimation:

$$\alpha_i = \frac{1}{\Pr(\mathrm{FGE})_i * n_i}$$

in which Pr(FGE) is the predicted probability that a country has an FGE during the years 2000 through 2018 based on its observable characteristics and *n* is the number of years for which country *i* has an FGE. The predicted probability of having an FGE is generated using a logit regression in which the sample is all countries for which predictions are made. Predictor variables include all variables in vectors *C* and *X* in the estimation equation along with U.S. State Department region dummy variables. Data for the predictor variables for this selection equation were obtained for the year 2000. The result of the weighting is that countries with FGEs that have a low probability of having an estimate (based on the selection bias equation) have more weight when generating model parameters and predictions, resulting in more accurate EMA predictions for countries without estimates, and more accurate parameter estimates than those that would be generated in an unweighted model. This mitigates selection bias when there is not an unobserved factor (i.e., one not included in the model) that affects both the size of the FGE and whether a country has an FGE (Wooldridge, 2002). Including *n* in the denominator of the weight accounts for the overrepresentation of some countries in the sample because they have had FGEs for multiple years.

Estimating the Eligible Voter Population

To estimate the number of U.S. overseas citizens who are eligible to vote, the modeled estimates needed to be filtered to include only individuals who were 18 years and older. The FMG team started the estimation process by using data from the Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC). This data set provides counts of international migrants 15 years of age and older in OECD and some non-OECD countries by country of origin, divided into demographic groups defined by age, education, and gender. There are three age categories (15–24, 25–64, 65 and older), three education categories (No Education/Primary Education, Secondary Education, Post-Secondary Education), and two gender categories, for a total of 18 demographic groups. The population of U.S. citizens under the age of 15 was estimated for a subset of the DIOC country–years by subtracting the total population ages 15 and older from an available FGE to get the population under age 15, resulting in a total of 19 demographic groups encompassing the entire U.S. citizen population in a country.

However, the DIOC has not released new estimates since 2014, so the FMG team collected additional estimates from IPUMS International data. The IPUMS International website organizes census microdata from countries across the world; these data were collected and aggregated to mirror the same population categories as the DIOC data. In cases in which data were available from both the DIOC and IPUMS for a given country–year, the IPUMS data were used. Unlike the

DIOC data, data for the under-age-15 population were available in the IPUMS data and did not require imputation.

The model-averaging methodology was used to obtain predictions for both the aggregate population as well as the sizes of each age-gender-education group for all countries in the frame for the years 1996 to 2018. The size of each stratum was then rescaled so that the total number of U.S. citizens in each country across all groups was equal to the total number of U.S. citizens in each country as estimated in the updated 1996–2018 populations. In practice, after allocating the population across groups for each country, the group of individuals who were under age 15 was removed first, as was a proportion of the age 15–24 group who were under age 18. This was done by removing a proportion of those who do not have a high school education, equivalent to the proportion of the relevant domestic U.S. population who are age 15–17. The estimated counts by demographic strata were then used to obtain an estimate of the size of the eligible population. This ultimately resulted in an estimate of the number of voting-eligible U.S. citizens residing in each country from the years 1996 to 2018.

(2) POTENTIAL FUTURE METHODOLOGICAL CHANGES AND VALIDATION

While the 2020 participation rate estimates use estimates of the OCVAP from 2018, as part of the 2020 OCPA several experimental changes to the methodology were considered and tested. These changes involve calibrating the estimates to more directly match more recent (and more reliable) FGEs. Specifically, the following steps were taken: (1) new data for the FGEs and predictors was collected following the guidelines laid out in the previous section such that the data was current as of 2020; (2) an additional data cleaning procedure was undertaken whereby the FGE series for countries that had extreme positive or negative 50% growth rates in their American population were audited and sources of FGEs for these countries for which data was either no longer available or poorly documented were dropped and substituted when more reliable data sources were available; (3) for countries with one or more FGEs and for each model, the FGEs from the most recent reliable sources were adjusted using the measurement error adjustments described above, such that the FGEs reflected the number of American citizens collected by a sentence; (4) for those countries for which adjusted FGEs are available, estimates for missing years with extrapolated and interpolated using the model based estimates while countries without FGEs used the model estimates; (5) estimates from different models were averaged using procedures described in the previous section to arrive at final estimates. Steps 3–5 were also applied to the subpopulation estimates.

The purposes of these methodological adjustments were to (1) incorporate more information about the size of a given country's OCVAP contained the FGEs rather than simply relying on the model and (2) produce estimates that are more stable from year to year than is the case for the purely model-based estimates, which will change as a result of more recent data. However, because the calibrated estimates more closely match the FGEs, they also incorporate measurement error from those same estimates. In addition, the additional data cleaning procedures drop some FGEs, thus lowering the size of the same used to estimate the model, potentially leading to noisier model-based estimates. Consequently, these methodological updates may not result in more reliable estimates.

To examine the degree to which these methodological changes improve the reliability of the OCVAP estimates, simple validation exercises were conducted involving the comparison of estimates derived from different methodologies to the numbers of ballot requesters by country, under the assumption that more reliable estimates should be more strongly correlated with the number of ballot requesters, both across countries in a given year, and within countries over time. Specifically, three sets of estimates were compared to the number of ballot requesters; (1) estimates using data updated for 2020 (Step 1), but no other changes; (2) estimates incorporating updated data and new data cleaning procedures (Steps 1 and 2), but not the calibration; (3) estimates using all of the steps described above. The results of the validation estimates found that the second set of estimates (those incorporating the additional data cleaning, but not calibration) dominated the calibrated estimates as well as, to a lesser degree, the estimates original methodology with respect to the correlation with the number of ballot requesters across countries within the same year. However, the old methodology marginally (1) dominated (2) with respect to the correlation with the number of ballot requesters within the same country over time. The calibrated estimates had a weaker correlation than the other two, both across countries and over time. Consequently, to the degree that FVAP changes its methodology, these changes will be more likely to take the form of additional data cleaning steps as opposed to calibrating the model-based estimates.

(3) SURVEY SAMPLING FOR THE OVERSEAS CITIZEN POPULATION SURVEY

The Overseas Citizen Population Survey (OCPS) is conducted as a part of the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) analysis of the overseas citizen population, and it is distributed to overseas citizens who requested an absentee ballot for the 2020 General Election. The OCPS asks respondents about their experiences leading up to and during the 2020 General Election, including questions about the length of time they have lived outside the United States, the process for requesting and receiving their ballots, their use of special voting forms like the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB), and demographic information. By themselves, these survey data provide a snapshot of who overseas voters are and how they navigate the voting process. Data from the OCPS are used in conjunction with broader population-level estimates to better understand how policies that provide special voting protections to overseas citizens affect their ability to vote.

Target Population

The target population for the OCPS is U.S. citizens who were registered to vote on November 3, 2020, were residing outside the United States, were not Uniformed Services voters, and who requested an absentee ballot for the 2020 General Election to be sent to an overseas address.

Absentee Voter Data Collection

Although the FMG team has been able to estimate the size of the overseas citizen population by country and by region, there is no registry of overseas citizens that records where each of these individuals resides overseas.[83] However, there is a subpopulation of overseas citizens for whom address information is often available: overseas citizens who have requested an absentee ballot. These data are not in a single federal database; instead, data on voter registration are held at the state or local level. For the current effort, the lack of a central repository of voter registration information meant that these data had to be collected from each state or local jurisdiction (as applicable) and combined in order to develop a comprehensive sampling frame.

This type of data collection can be especially cumbersome; fortunately, there are vendors with existing voter data infrastructure who create databases of domestic voters for use in national political campaigns. The task of compiling a sampling frame required a custom data collection effort since it involved registered overseas voters rather than registered domestic voters. The FMG team contracted with Aristotle, Inc., to carry out this effort because of its long history of providing high-quality data and political technology to a variety of campaigns, research groups, and advocacy organizations. Aristotle obtained the names and addresses of U.S. citizens voting from outside of the United States in the 2020 General Election. Specifically, the FMG team constructed a file containing data for individuals who had made a *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (*UOCAVA*) absentee ballot request as well as individuals who were registered at an overseas address in states that keep a permanent record of overseas addresses in their voter files. This variation in how the data were obtained by state (or locality) was necessary since states do not maintain or make available their voter data in a uniform fashion. For example, some states do not allow permanent registration from an overseas address, and states vary in their policies regarding how often they allow an overseas registration to last and how often they remove outdated

[83] U.S. citizens living or traveling overseas are advised, but not obligated, to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

addresses from their voter rolls.

The final data set of overseas citizens who requested an absentee ballot in 2020—referred to in this report as the absentee voter data—was compiled in the following manner:

1. Aristotle, which compiles state and local voter files into a nationwide voter file that represents registered voters across all 50 states and the District of Columbia, searched its nationwide voter file using custom database queries for each state, county, and town (as applicable), for voter characteristics that suggested a person was a registered overseas voter in the 2020 General Election. Examples of these characteristics included being tagged as a *UOCAVA* voter in the file, having a non-standard state listing or ZIP code, or having an overseas address listed. These queries had to be applied separately for voter file records originating from different states or localities because of inconsistencies in how states, counties, and towns maintain their voter files. Based on these searches, a record was created for each registered overseas voter that included their name and overseas address, the demographic information contained in the state or local voter record, and the voting history for that overseas citizen, as available.

2. Some states do not keep a permanent *UOCAVA* voter tag or maintain the overseas address where a ballot was sent in their voter file, but instead keep this information in a separate absentee ballot request file. Other states tag their voter file for overseas citizen ballot requests while also keeping an absentee ballot request file. Still other states may not explicitly maintain such a file, but may be able to obtain information on overseas ballot requests via database queries. To ensure that the absentee voter data set was as complete as possible, a custom data collection effort was conducted, which involved contacting every state (and counties and municipalities as needed) to obtain a list of individuals in the state or local absentee file for voters asking for an absentee ballot from an overseas location for the 2020 General Election. For each record collected from the absentee ballot request file, information from the individual's state or local voter record was appended to these records (as available).

For states (or localities) that had both a voter file and absentee request file, data sets were merged and de-duplicated to produce a single comprehensive file, with information retained on whether the voter was identified via a voter file, absentee request file, or both. The final data set contained a voter's name, overseas address, domestic address, state of legal residence, voting history, key demographics (e.g., age, gender), and source of originating voter data (i.e., voter file, absentee requester list, or both). For purposes of this report, information that was identified via both types of records are classified as being identified via an absentee requester list, with remaining records classified as being identified via a voter file only.

For two jurisdictions, FMG collected absentee data in lieu of or as a supplement to the Aristotle-collected data:

- Minnesota (MN): For privacy reasons, the MN Secretary of State did not provide Aristotle with names and addresses of overseas citizens who requested an absentee ballot. However, the office provided this information directly to FMG on behalf of FVAP, with restrictions on sharing this data or using the data for any purpose other than modeling and survey implementation. In the study, the key variables in the MN data are analogous to those in the overseas absentee voter data gathered by Aristotle, except that MN voting history was only obtained for the last four election cycles (2014, 2016, 2018, and the 2020 Primaries and General Elections).

- District of Columbia (DC): For this study, the DC data were constructed in a manner comparable to other states, the only difference being that certain data elements (i.e., overseas addresses) were housed solely at FMG. More specifically, although the DC Board of Elections (DCBOE) gave Aristotle an absentee voter file that provided a means of identifying overseas citizens who requested an absentee ballot, DCBOE withheld the overseas balloting addresses due to statutory requirements. However, DCBOE provided these addresses directly to FMG on behalf of FVAP; the addresses were used solely for modeling and survey implementation. FMG supplemented this information with the Aristotle-provided DC voter data, the latter of which were only missing the overseas addresses. As a result, the resulting DC data were analogous to the data from other states.

When obtaining absentee voter data, efforts were made to obtain absentee ballot requester lists from as many states and/or localities as possible. A key quality control effort that was implemented during the process of assembling the preliminary sampling frame entailed comparing record counts with OCPS 2016 and 2018 frame record counts and Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) 2016, 2018, and 2020 estimates of ballot transmissions to overseas voters by state and/or locality as a means of identifying jurisdictions where additional effort in obtaining records was merited. This process led to tangible improvements in frame coverage for several states.

For many states, some of the voters represented in the data did not have an overseas address listed, and the reasons for this were varied. Individuals without an overseas address were excluded from the final OCPS sampling frame, given that they could not be contacted via mail and, in most cases, could not be verified as overseas citizens. As a result, survey results cannot be generalized to this excluded portion of the sampling frame.

Sampling Frame Overview

There are many ways to conduct a survey to understand the behaviors or attitudes of a given population. For small populations—such as 100 people working in an office—it may be possible to survey everyone. By surveying the entire population, inferences can be made about the behaviors or attitudes of the people in that population, since everyone is represented in the survey (assuming full survey participation). However, for larger populations, such as the population of registered overseas voters, given the cost and time constraints, it is typically necessary to survey a subset of people and have those people represent the larger population. The mechanism for selecting survey invitees is known as sampling, and it typically entails a random process in which every individual has a known probability of being selected into the survey. The conduct of such a sample survey starts with the identification of a sampling frame.

The sampling frame is the basis for inference in surveys; generalizations can only be made to the sampled population (i.e., individuals who have a chance of being selected for the survey). Although survey efforts typically wish to learn about a certain group of individuals, known as the target population, there are sometimes differences between the target population and the sampled population due to factors such as the inability to obtain a perfect sampling frame. For the purposes of this survey, the target population consists of U.S. citizens living outside the United States on November 3, 2020, who had requested an absentee ballot and who were not considered a Uniformed Services voter.

Generally, there is a need to ensure that the sampling frame does a good job of reflecting the target population (i.e., has good coverage), which in this context means that it would ideally contain all states where voters are registered and all absentee requesters in these states. A

sampling frame is perfect when there is a one-to-one correspondence between members of the sampling frame and members of the target population. In practice, nearly every frame will encounter problems related to members of the target population who are not included in the frame and members outside of the target population who are included in the frame.

For this survey, "overcoverage" refers to any individuals in the sampling frame who are outside of the target population, such as Uniformed Services voters, individuals who were in the United States on November 3, 2020, and individuals who had died before November 3, 2020. "Undercoverage" in this survey refers to individuals who should be on the list but who were not on the list; for example, individuals for whom both of the following are true: (1) the state, county, or municipality of registration did not provide a list of absentee ballot requesters, and (2) the state or local voter file does not otherwise indicate an overseas address for the voter.

Sampling Frame

The FMG team constructed the survey sampling frame by using the absentee voter data, which consist of the voter information described previously for known overseas citizens who requested an absentee ballot during the 2020 General Election. The preliminary sampling frame consisted of 1,761,042 records for voters registered in the District of Columbia and the 50 states.

As previously described, the preliminary sampling frame used two main sources of records:

- **Absentee records**, which comprise individuals who had an overseas mailing address and were on a state-, county-, or municipality-provided list of individuals who requested an absentee ballot to vote in the 2020 General Election (i.e., by virtue of an explicit ballot request or from having permanent absentee status); and

- **Unconfirmed requester records,** which comprise individuals who had an overseas address listed in their state or local voter file but for whom there was not a record of a specific request for an absentee ballot in 2020 (i.e., generally due to the state, county, or municipality not having provided a list of absentee ballot requesters).

After obtaining the sampling frame, several rounds of address processing and quality control checks were conducted, given that the formats of addresses varied across state and local voter files and given that different countries have different address formats. Particular attention was paid toward identifying and correcting any issues that could have meaningful statistical implications, overall or for country-specific estimates. One of the major focuses entailed improving the accuracy of the country classifications via both manual and semi-automated reviews, given the importance of these classifications in sample design and in weighting. The other major focus entailed cleaning the addresses themselves, with the goal of increasing the contact rate for the survey. Quality control checks were performed at multiple stages and were used to inform improvements to the address processing.

In order to create a final sampling frame that most accurately reflected the target population, exclusion criteria were applied to remove cases that were outside of the target population, could not be contacted via mail, or were duplicates. Categories of excluded cases were removed sequentially, in the following order:

1. **No international address**: If the absentee voting address was not overseas, or no overseas address was available, the case was excluded. It appeared that some records may have been for domestic voters who had requested absentee ballots at a U.S. address, which

could have resulted from an overly inclusive search for overseas absentee voters. This category also included voters who had an Army Post Office (APO) or Fleet Post Office (FPO) military address or a missing address. Overall, among all cases with no international address, the vast majority (71.55%) had no address information or country information whatsoever, a sizable proportion (28.4%) had a U.S. or military address, and a small proportion (0.05%) had partial address information but no country.[84]

2. **Bad country code**: This category reflected cases with mailing addresses in overseas countries or territories outside the scope of the data collection effort. For the current data collection effort, the only country treated as outside of scope was North Korea. All other foreign countries, territories of foreign countries, microstates, or other overseas areas (e.g., Antarctica, cruise ships) were treated as country-eligible.

3. **Duplicates**: Next, processing was conducted to remove duplicates in the frame. As a first step, a search was conducted to verify that there were no sources of voter data that were duplicated in their entirety. Next, the file was searched for duplicates of various combinations of identifying variables. In determining which record to keep for a given set of cases resolving to a single entity, absentee records with attached voter file data were prioritized over unconfirmed requester records; holding this constant, the record with the most recent voter registration date was kept under the assumption that this would be the most up-to-date. The de-duplication process was conducted iteratively, and results of each de-duplication step were examined manually to prevent the removal of non-duplicates who had common names. For each step, the matches only applied to cases with complete data; for instance, if two cases had missing birthdate, they would not be treated as an exact match on birthdate. Before de-duplication, data hygiene steps were applied to clean and standardize the variables used for detecting duplicates. At multiple points, searches were conducted using overly inclusive search criteria and random clusters of matching records were manually examined to ensure the adequacy of the de-duplication procedures; results were used to refine the procedures and to validate the final procedures. The final set of de-duplication criteria included the following search parameters:

   - Exact match of first name, last name, and email address for voters for whom the state (or locality) had provided an email address.
   - Exact match of first name, last name, voter identification number, and state.
   - Exact match of first name, last name, and birthdate.
   - Exact match of first name, last name, and domestic ZIP code.
   - Exact match of Aristotle national voter file record ID.
   - Approximate match of first name and last name and exact match of birthdate, domestic county, and state. Approximate matches on names were obtained by applying the soundex algorithm to each name, then ascertaining whether the soundex-transformed first and last names matched exactly. The soundex algorithm indexes names by their English pronunciation, which in this case allows for identifying similarly pronounced names (e.g., in case of misspellings in voter files), although this could result in false positives, which is why there were stricter criteria for other fields.

[84] In most cases, foreign country is a necessary field for sending international mail. Two main exceptions, as apply to this study, include U.S. embassy addresses and diplomatic post office (DPO) addresses. (A third exception is for military addresses, which are out of scope for this survey.)

- Approximate match of first name and last name and exact match of birthdate, state, and country.

4. **Unconfirmed requesters from jurisdictions providing absentee record lists**: This category reflected voters who were not known to have requested an absentee record despite being in a jurisdiction in which such absentee request information was available. As previously described, the two sources of absentee voter data were absentee records (i.e., based on an explicit absentee ballot request or permanent absentee ballot status from the given jurisdiction) and unconfirmed requesters (i.e., based on having an overseas address available in the state or local voter file but for whom a specific absentee ballot request for 2020 could not be located). For states (or localities) where both types of records were available, only absentee records were used, under the assumption that such lists were authoritative when available. In such states, the existence of overseas addresses in the voter file could possibly reflect absentee ballot requests from previous elections.

Counts for the number of frame exclusions are provided in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1. Frame Exclusions for OCPS 2020

Reason for Exclusion	Number of Cases	Percentage of Exclusions
No international address	1,418,101	98.1%
Bad country code	8	<0.1%
Duplicates	12,470	0.9%
Unconfirmed requesters	14,844	1.0%
Total	**1,445,423**	**100.0%**

After removing 1,445,423 cases due to frame-level exclusions, the final sampling frame contained 315,619 records. Table 3.2 provides counts of the frame-level exclusions and final sampling frame by state and data source.

Table 3.2. Counts of Excluded and Included Records by State and Data Source

	Excluded Records			Included Records		
State	Records from Voter File	Absentee Records With Attached Voter Data	Total Exclusions	Records from Voter File	Absentee Records With Attached Voter Data	Final Total Frame Size
AK	1,166	14,401	15,567	0	1,700	1,700
AL	0	0	0	0	0	0
AR	242	2,793	3,035	0	494	494
AZ	2,498	8,354	10,852	0	4,184	4,184
CA	74,505	24,216	98,721	0	30,892	30,892
CO	3,341	20,771	24,112	0	18,489	18,489
CT	0	3,734	3,734	0	2,477	2,477
DC	0	417,658	396	0	5,007	5,007
DE	0	1,649	1,649	0	1,167	1,167
FL	21,600	0	21,600	34,813	0	34,813

Table 3.2. Counts of Excluded and Included Records by State and Data Source

State	Excluded Records			Included Records		
	Records from Voter File	Absentee Records With Attached Voter Data	Total Exclusions	Records from Voter File	Absentee Records With Attached Voter Data	Final Total Frame Size
GA	1,857	2,454	4,311	0	5,471	5,471
HI	0	72	72	0	429	429
IA	799	5,117	5,916	0	1,321	1,321
ID	0	325	325	0	1,690	1,690
IL	0	500,377	500,377	0	0	0
IN	13,706	7,245	20,951	0	4,808	4,808
KS	0	933	933	0	2,324	2,324
KY	77	0	77	49	0	49
LA	0	103	103	0	372	372
MA	0	1,641	1,641	0	5,013	5,013
MD	0	14,611	14,611	0	4,511	4,511
ME	0	3,851	3,851	0	0	0
MI	182	16,791	16,973	0	9,293	9,293
MN	0	6,778	6,788	0	12,994	12,994
MO	0	0	0	0	0	0
MS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MT	401	220	621	0	687	687
NC	650	4,113	4,763	0	16,102	16,102
ND	148	0	148	229	0	229
NE	1,921	161	2,082	0	36	36
NH	208	0	208	828	0	828
NJ	0	1,574	1,574	0	7,629	7,629
NM	0	4,990	4,990	0	1,190	1,190
NV	0	9,112	9,112	0	543	543
NY	6,465	11,694	18,159	0	70,789	70,789
OH	652	11,515	12,167	53	8,328	8,381
OK	342	6,189	6,531	0	2,206	2,206
OR	0	1,074	1,074	0	10,856	10,856
PA	1,425	2,713	4,138	336	3,237	3,573
RI	0	879	879	0	2,199	2,199
SC	0	13,897	13,897	0	3,310	3,310
SD	407	3,760	4,167	0	357	357
TN	0	0	0	0	0	0
TX	13,065	0	13,065	346	0	346
UT	3,303	0	3,303	61	0	61
VA	0	47,056	47,056	0	6,123	6,123

Table 3.2. Counts of Excluded and Included Records by State and Data Source						
	Excluded Records			Included Records		
State	Records from Voter File	Absentee Records With Attached Voter Data	Total Exclusions	Records from Voter File	Absentee Records With Attached Voter Data	Final Total Frame Size
VT	0	1,775	1,775	0	1,514	1,514
WA	1,706	97,401	99,107	0	28,305	28,305
WI	2,693	18,214	20,907	0	2,353	2,353
WV	0	88	88	0	281	281
WY	0	1,755	1,755	0	223	223
Total	153,359	1,292,064	1,445,423	36,715	278,904	315,619

Sampling Design Overview

The 2020 OCPS sample design aimed to yield a low margin of error (MOE) overall and lessen the impact of weighting while also meeting subgroup precision requirements. This was done via a single-stage stratified sample design, with equal probabilities of selection within design strata. For subgroups, the primary goal was to obtain a 5.5% MOE per world region. Therefore, the FMG team allocated the sample to world regions in a manner that aimed to achieve a low MOE overall while meeting domain precision requirements. This was done in a manner that accounted for the anticipated effects of weighting. Within world region, the sample allocation was then adjusted to account for differences in country characteristics that were closely related to response rates and key survey measures in the 2016 and 2018 OCPS, so as to improve representativeness of the responding sample and reduce the anticipated effects of weighting.

The sample allocation process summarized above entailed stratifying the sampling frame by world region and country characteristics. Next, the sample implementation aimed to further reduce sampling variability by using a sampling algorithm that ensures that key characteristics of the sample approximately reflect population distributions within strata. This was done by implicitly stratifying the sample based on type of absentee voter data, voting history, country characteristics, and domestic ZIP code.

Sampling Design

Upon the completion of the construction of the final sampling frame, a single-stage stratified sample of size 45,000 was drawn from the final frame of size 315,619. The three main steps for sampling are summarized below, with additional detail provided in subsequent sections:

1. **Strata assignment**: Sample stratification is a method that can be used in conjunction with a well-designed sample allocation to reduce sampling variance and ensure that precision goals for key subgroups are met. Explicit stratification was conducted by placing voters in one of several mutually exclusive groups, or strata, and then conducting sampling independently for each stratum. Stratification was based on the cross-classification of world region and WGI index score, the latter of which reflects country characteristics and is associated with response rates and key survey measures; cases with unknown world region (reflecting certain diplomatic addresses) were placed in a separate stratum.

2. **Sample allocation**: For this survey, sample allocation refers to how the total sample size of 45,000 was allocated to the different strata. This was done in a manner that compromised between domain estimation requirements (i.e., precision requirements for world region and other subgroups) and overall population estimation requirements. All the records with unknown world region were sampled. Given that this stratum was very small, the main sample allocation decisions entailed how to allocate the remaining sample of size 44,136. An initial sample allocation was computed by world region in a manner that aimed to produce a low overall MOE after meeting a minimum MOE of 5.5% for each region (when possible). Within world region, the sample allocation was then adjusted by WGI index score category to increase the sampling rates for voters in countries that respond at lower rates, reducing weight variability.

3. **Sampling implementation**: After allocating the sample to explicit strata, the next step was to draw the sample. This was done using a sampling algorithm that ensured equal probabilities of selection within explicit strata, while also incorporating implicit strata to reduce sampling variability. Implicit stratification was achieved by sorting the list based on type of voter record, voter participation history, WGI index score, and the ZIP code associated with the voter's U.S. address, and then taking the list ordering into account when drawing the sample. This allowed a more balanced sample to be achieved on these variables without explicitly dividing the sample along these lines. The sampling algorithm used was Chromy's method of sequential random sampling (Chromy, 1979), incorporating a constant measure of size and resulting in equal selection probabilities within explicit strata.

Strata Assignment

As noted above, sample stratification entailed assigning voters from the final sampling frame (N = 315,619) to mutually exclusive groups, or strata, so that sampling could be conducted independently for each stratum. Stratification can be used in conjunction with the sample allocation to meet subgroup precision requirements and reduce the sampling variance. For the 2020 OCPS, the sampling frame was stratified primarily by world region and secondarily by WGI index score category. Stratification by world region allowed the sample allocation to ensure adequate precision for estimates by world region. Within world region, further stratification by WGI index score category was applied to enable a sample allocation that would reduce weight variation. WGI index score is an average of the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI), which reflect the quality of a country's governance. The WGI index score is associated with the quality of a country's infrastructure and was found to be meaningfully associated with response rates and with key survey measures in the 2016 and 2018 OCPS.

The primary stratification variable for the sampling frame is world region. World region was classified into nine world regions, Including North America, South/Central America/Caribbean, Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East/North Africa, North/Central/South Asia, East Asia, South East Asia, and Oceania. Note also that a small number of frame records (N = 864) could not be classified by world region at the time of sampling, due to having an embassy or diplomatic post office (DPO) address with unknown foreign country. These records formed a separate category for sampling.

Each of the nine regions was then further divided into up to three different categories in a manner that reflected country characteristics.[85] The World Bank publishes six WGI, which aim to quantify

[85] This step did not apply to records with unknown world region.

the quality of governance in different countries (Kaufmann, Kraay, and Mastruzzi, 2011). These indicators are continuous variables and the unit of each is that of the standard normal distribution, as per World Bank methodology. For this survey, WGI index score was computed by first averaging the World Governance Indicators by measure across years (1996–2019) and then across the six measures. Note that WGI index score was unavailable for 0.12% of population members with known region, who were in geographic areas that were not included in the World Bank's database (mostly microstates or small territories of foreign countries). For purposes of stratification, missing WGI index scores were imputed to the region population mean. Next, the WGI index score was classified into three categories: WGI index score of less than 0; WGI index score of at least 0 but less than 1; and WGI index score of at least 1. The proportions of the frame population classified into these categories were 13.7%, 19.0%, and 67.3%, respectively.[86] For stratification, region was then cross-classified by WGI index score category. To avoid small strata, North, South, and Central Asia were treated as a single stratum, due to the three WGI index score categories having frame population sizes of 4,532, 14, and 0, respectively.

Ultimately, the sampling frame was partitioned into 19 mutually exclusive and exhaustive categories, including one category for cases with an unknown world region and 18 categories reflecting the cross-classification of world region by WGI index score category for the remaining population. Note that there were only 18 strata for world region by WGI index score category, given that some world regions did not have countries with WGI index scores at each of the three levels.

Sample Allocation

After the frame was divided into strata, the sample allocation process entailed allocating the total sample of 45,000 to the different strata. Given that a small proportion of frame records (0.3%) had unknown world region, a preliminary step entailed specifying a sampling fraction for this stratum at 100%, after which the focus was on allocating the remaining sample of size of 44,136 for frame records with known world region.

Certain regions of the world are home to relatively small numbers of overseas citizens. As a result, it is necessary to apply higher selection probabilities for certain regions to ensure there are enough respondents for estimating region-specific statistics. As a first step, a minimum region-specific sample size was specified as the lesser of: (1) the number of sample members necessary to produce the minimum MOE; and (2) the region frame population size (so as to avoid sampling rates of greater than 100%). Then, mathematical optimization methods were used to maximize the minimum sampling rate in any world region, subject to meeting the minimum region-specific sample size constraints and subject to achieving an overall sample size of no greater than 44,136. This resulted in sampling rates of 7.1% for the two most populous world regions (in terms of overseas citizens) and sampling rates that would yield an anticipated MOE of 5.5% for the other seven world regions.

For sample allocation purposes, the anticipated margin of error was for a 95% confidence interval of a population proportion parameter of 50%, taking into account the anticipated effects of nonresponse and weighting. Various simplifying assumptions were made, such as the use of a stratified simple random sampling (STSRS) design and an ignorable finite population correction. Survey response rates for each world region were assumed to be 90% of the design-weighted survey completion rates from the 2018 OCPS, computed as the proportion of sample members who were eligible respondents. This multiplicative factor of 0.9 was applied to reflect that response rates may be lower in 2020 due to factors such as the potential reduction in field period

[86] These quantities are reflective of the frame distributions for records with known world region (N = 314,755) and incorporate region-based imputations.

length and/or potential differences between midterm and presidential absentee ballot requesters.

The world region MOE calculations above further reflect the anticipated effects of weighting, which were simulated via 2018 OCPS data. It was necessary to simulate these effects, rather than directly use the estimated design effects from 2018 data, given that the 2018 sample design entailed disproportional sampling within world region, based primarily on WGI mean category and availability for longitudinal sampling. Thus, the first step of anticipating these effects entailed drawing a probability proportional to size with replacement (PPSWR) sample of size 50,000,000 from the full 2018 sample (n = 45,000), with selection probabilities proportional to the 2018 design weights. After restricting the sample to respondents, an adjustment to the final survey weight was applied as the inverse of the PPSWR selection probability. This can be thought of as roughly approximating the effect of undoing the disproportional sampling, by adding an additional sampling stage wherein the probability of selection is inversely proportional to the original base weights. Kish's design effect from weighting[87] was then computed separately by world region for the adjusted final weights to approximate the anticipated effects of nonresponse and calibration adjustments, and this approximate design effect was incorporated into the MOE calculations.

After allocating the sample to world regions, the sample allocation was then modified by the WGI index score category to oversample groups that respond at lower rates. This step aimed to reduce weight variability for the final set of survey respondents. This step did not affect the overall sample size for each world region, but did result in disproportional sample allocations within region for all regions. Within each applicable region, the sampling rate for each WGI group was specified as being inversely proportional to the 2018 response rate by WGI group. If the response patterns in 2020 were similar to those in 2018, this would result in a proportional allocation to WGI group within region for the set of responding sample members in that region. In computing this allocation, the FMG team computed response rates as the design-weighted survey completion rates for the 2018 OCPS for each applicable cross-classification of world region and WGI category.[88]

The final strata, frame population sizes, and sample sizes are displayed in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3. Strata Definitions, Population Sizes, and Sample Sizes

World Region[89]	WGI Category	Population Size	Sample Size
North America	WGI < 0	7,141	1,100
North America	1 ≤ WGI	51,770	3,074
South and Central America	WGI < 0	10,957	4,595
South and Central America	0 ≤ WGI < 1	6,862	2,445

[87] Kish's design effect from weighting, commonly known as the unequal weighting effect (UWE), is computed as $1 + L$, in which $L = n^{-1} \sum_s \frac{(w_i - \bar{w})^2}{\bar{w}^2}$ is the squared coefficient of variation of the sample weight w_i. This $1 + L$, termed the relative loss due to weighting (Kish, 1992), is used to evaluate weight variability and its effect on precision of the point estimates, and is a reasonable approximation for the design effect (DEFF) in single-stage designs in which the weights are unrelated to the outcome of interest (see Spencer, 2000).

[88] For South East Asia, the 2018 OCPS response rate for a WGI index of no greater than 1 was slightly higher than for the WGI index of greater than 1, which was contrary to patterns for other regions and may have resulted from sampling variability for estimating population-level response propensities. Therefore, these categories were pooled for response rate computations.

[89] Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and North Africa, and North, South and Central Asia do not have any countries with a WGI index score of greater than 1. North America does not have any countries with a WGI index score between 0 and 1. North, South, and Central Asia WGI categories of less than 0 and between 0 and 1, Southeast Asia WGI categories of less than 0 and between 0 and 1, Europe WGI categories of less than 0 and between 0 and 1, and Oceania WGI categories of less than 0, between 0 and 1, and greater than 1 were combined to avoid small strata sizes.

Table 3.3. Strata Definitions, Population Sizes, and Sample Sizes			
World Region[89]	WGI Category	Population Size	Sample Size
South and Central America	1 ≤ WGI	2,208	505
Europe	WGI < 1	24,586	2,266
Europe	1 ≤ WGI	123,256	8,209
Sub-Saharan Africa	WGI < 0	3,538	3,538
Sub-Saharan Africa	0 ≤ WGI < 1	1,469	1,454
Middle East and North Africa	WGI < 0	4,051	805
Middle East and North Africa	0 ≤ WGI < 1	20,902	2,518
North, South and Central Asia	Any	4,546	4,125
East Asia	WGI < 0	3,571	1,392
East Asia	0 ≤ WGI < 1	6,181	1,016
East Asia	1 ≤ WGI	12,044	1,186
Southeast Asia	WGI <1	8,873	2,731
Southeast Asia	1 ≤ WGI	2,940	905
Oceania	Any	19,860	2,272
Diplomatic		864	864
Total		**315,619**	**45,000**

Sampling Implementation

After allocating the sample to explicit strata, the final step was to draw the sample. This was done in a manner that ensured equal selection probabilities within explicit strata while incorporating implicit strata to reduce sampling variability. More specifically, sampling was conducted using Chromy's method of sequential random sampling (Chromy, 1979), using the explicit strata and sample allocations from the previous step, and assigning a measure of size of 1 to each unit so as to result in equal probabilities of selection within strata. Further, implicit stratification was achieved by sorting the list based on type of voter record, voter participation history, WGI index score, and the ZIP code associated with the voter's U.S. address. As previously indicated, implicit stratification was used to improve the balance of the resulting sample with respect to the variables used in implicit stratification. Sampling was implemented in Stata using the FMG-written *ppschromy* package (Mendelson, 2014).

Chromy's sequential selection algorithm implicitly stratifies the sample within each explicit stratum by selecting a sample sequentially after accounting for a sort ordering. This implicit stratification can yield benefits in terms of variance reduction by spreading the sample throughout the given explicit strata. Further, Chromy's algorithm uses hierarchic serpentine sorting within each explicit stratum, which is an improvement over simply sorting all variables in ascending order, by virtue of reversing the sort orderings for lower levels of sorting variables when the boundary for higher levels of sorting variables is crossed. This results in increased similarity of nearby cases in the sorted list.

Four sort ordering variables were used. These variables were selected primarily on the basis of their anticipated relationships with response propensity (i.e., an individual's likelihood to respond to the survey) and survey measures.

1. **Type of voter record** is a binary variable that refers to whether the record was from an absentee records list or unconfirmed requester data. This reflects the types of records that could be obtained from a given state or locality (as applicable). Type of voter record was previously found to be a strong predictor of estimated response propensity and key survey measures.

2. **Voter participation history** was computed based on whether voters had participated in the 2018 and/or 2020 General Elections, as indicated in the voter file. For jurisdictions with questionable 2020 GE data, vote history from the 2016 GE was used in place of 2020 GE data. The categories created were: (1) voted in neither, (2) voted in 2018 but not in 2016/2020, (3) voted in 2016/2020 but not in 2018, (4) voted in both, and (5) missing voter participation history data. Voter participation history was previously found to be a strong predictor of estimated response propensity and key survey measures.

3. **WGI index scores** were obtained. As previously described, these index scores had been computed for each country as a measure of the effectiveness of governance, and they are strongly related to per capita economic output. These scores were used collectively as a sorting variable, as they were previously found to relate strongly to estimated response propensities (e.g., level of infrastructure in a country could relate to contact rates) and survey measures. For purposes of implicit stratification, missing WGI index scores were imputed to the region population mean (where available) or to the global mean (for cases with unknown region).

4. **ZIP codes** were used as the final sorting variable. The ZIP codes reflected the low-level geography of the voters' U.S. addresses. In most cases, the ZIP+4 code was available. Although ZIP codes do not provide a perfect way of reflecting geography in the United States, the first two digits reflect a state-level ordering, and a small numerical difference between ZIP codes typically indicates that the areas are nearby. For the small proportion of cases with missing ZIP code data, this variable was imputed as the median ZIP code for the state to make sure that these cases were grouped with others from their state.

By incorporating sorting variables that reflected individual-, country-, and state-level characteristics, the sort ordering enabled the implicit stratification of the sampling frame in a manner such that nearby cases were of high similarity. Implicit stratification on these measures was expected to reduce sampling variability and, therefore, to increase the precision of estimates; this effect might be particularly meaningful for smaller domains.

(4) SURVEY WEIGHTING FOR THE OVERSEAS CITIZEN POPULATION SURVEY

Sample weighting was carried out to accomplish the following objectives:

- to adjust for differences in the probability of selection from the frame;
- to reduce possible biases that could occur because of frame coverage error, due primarily to members of the population who are not included in the frame;
- to reduce possible biases that could occur because the characteristics of nonrespondents may have been different from those of the respondents; and
- to improve the precision of the survey-based estimates (Skinner, Holt, & Smith, 1989).

The survey weights were computed in several steps:

1. A disposition code was assigned to each sample member indicating whether the sample member was an eligible respondent, an eligible nonrespondent, an ineligible sample member, or a sample member whose eligibility status was unknown.
2. The base weights were computed as the inverse of each sample member's probability of selection from the frame.
3. The base weights were adjusted to account for sample members whose eligibility for the survey could not be determined (i.e., sample members with unknown eligibility). These sample members neither returned a questionnaire nor provided any other information that could be used to determine whether they were eligible or ineligible for the study.
4. The weights were adjusted to account for eligible sample members who did not respond to the survey (i.e., eligible nonrespondents). These sample members were eligible but did not have usable survey data because they did not complete the survey.
5. The weights were calibrated using a raking technique to control totals, which was computed as population counts or estimated population counts from the sampling frame. Calibration adjustments were used because they help correct for distortions in the sums of weights caused by nonresponse.

Assignment of Disposition Codes

Before the weights were calculated, each case was assigned a disposition code indicating whether the sample member was an eligible respondent, an eligible nonrespondent, an ineligible sample member, or a sample member whose eligibility status was unknown. These disposition codes were a key input in weighting and in the computation of response rates. Disposition codes were assigned in accordance with the standards defined by the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR, 2016).

Eligibility Status

For the sample member to be considered eligible, they needed to be a U.S. citizen who was registered to vote on November 3, 2020, was residing outside the United States on November 3, 2020, and was not a Uniformed Services voter. Eligibility was based on information from the sampling frame, information collected from the sample member or an acceptable proxy (e.g., a spouse or other household member) as part of the fielding process, and responses to three key survey questions. Individuals surveyed were assumed to be registered voters based on the source of the sampling records; eligibility based upon the remaining criteria was determined primarily in relation to responses to survey screening questions, which will be detailed in this section.

Question 3, which asked for sample members' primary residence as of the 2020 General Election, was used to determine whether the individual was residing outside of the United States on that date. If the sample member indicated being in a country other than the United States on November 3, 2020, then they were determined to be *overseas eligible*. Sample members who indicated that they resided in the United States or its territories during the November 2020 General Election were determined to be *overseas ineligible*. If the sample member did not provide an answer to Question 1, then they were considered neither *overseas eligible* nor *overseas ineligible*, and were treated as having *unknown overseas eligibility*.

Question 6, which asked for the primary reason that the voter was outside of the United States as of the 2020 General Election, was used to determine whether an individual was *civilian eligible*; that is, not a Uniformed Services voter (i.e., a military member, spouse, or dependent). Sample members were considered *civilian ineligible* if they indicated that the primary reason that they were outside of the United States on November 3, 2020, was that the sample member, a partner, or a family member was serving in the military. Sample members who selected other options were determined to be *civilian eligible*. Given that nearly all individuals replying to Question 6 were determined to be *civilian eligible* (99.9%), individuals who did not provide a response to Question 6 but who met all other survey eligibility criteria were assumed to be *civilian eligible*.

Question 49, which asked for the voter's country or countries of citizenship, was used to determine whether an individual was *citizenship eligible*. An individual who indicated being a citizen of another country and did not affirmatively indicate being a citizen of the United States was treated as *citizenship ineligible*. Sample members who did not select any of the main response options (i.e., indicated neither U.S. citizenship nor foreign citizenship) were treated as having *unknown citizenship eligibility*.

Completion Status

In order for the questionnaire to be considered complete, the sample member needed to complete at least 25% of the total questionnaire. For the purposes of computing completion status, any question allowing the sample member to select multiple responses (e.g., Question 31) was counted as one item instead of as multiple items.

Case Dispositions

Final case dispositions for weighting were determined using information from field operations and returned surveys. Case dispositions were assigned for weighting purposes based on eligibility and completion of the survey.

1. **Questionnaire returned—Complete/Eligible:** The sample member completed at least 25% of the questionnaire and was determined to be eligible.

2. **Explicit refusal of survey (by sample member):** The sample member contacted the FMG team to indicate that they were not willing to participate in the survey.

3. **Returned too incomplete to process:** The survey was returned with less than 25% completed.

4. **Unavailable during entire fielding:** The sample member, or an acceptable proxy, contacted the FMG team to indicate they were unavailable to complete the survey during the fielding period.

5. **Nothing ever returned:** No reply was received from the sample member, nor were the survey materials returned by the postal system.

6. **Refused by addressee:** Delivery of the survey materials was explicitly refused at the point of delivery.

7. **Cannot be delivered as addressed:** The survey materials did not reach the sample member. They were returned by the postal system as "return to sender."

8. **Sample member moved, no forwarding address:** The survey materials were returned by the postal system because the sample member moved and no forwarding address was available.

9. **Unknown citizenship eligibility:** The sample member did not provide an answer to the question determining citizenship eligibility.

10. **Unknown overseas eligibility:** The sample member did not provide an answer to the question determining overseas eligibility.

11. **Unknown military eligibility:** The sample member did not provide an answer to the question determining military eligibility.

12. **Ineligible—Not overseas on November 3, 2020:** The sample member (or an acceptable proxy) corresponded with the FMG team to indicate that the sample member was not overseas on November 3, 2020.

13. **Ineligible—Uniformed Services voter:** The sample member (or an acceptable proxy) corresponded with the FMG team to indicate that he or she was living out of the country on November 3, 2020 due to being in the military or due to his or her partner or family member being in the military.

14. **Ineligible—Not U.S. citizen:** The sample member (or an acceptable proxy) corresponded with the FMG team to indicate that he or she was not a U.S. citizen as of November 3, 2020.

Final Disposition Code (DISP)

Collapsing across the case dispositions resulted in the final disposition code (DISP) for each case with the categories below.

- **ER—Eligible respondents**: This group consisted of all sample members who returned a nonblank questionnaire that indicated they were eligible and completed 25% or more of the survey.

- **ENR—Eligible nonrespondents**: This group consisted of all sample members who explicitly refused to participate in the survey, returned an incomplete questionnaire, or were unavailable during the fielding period.

- **IN—Ineligible sample members**: This group consisted of sample members who were not overseas, were Uniformed Services members, or were not U.S. citizens as of November 3, 2020. This was determined using information from survey questionnaires or through some other communication.

- **UNK—Other sample members whose eligibility was unknown**: This group consisted of sample members for whom nothing was ever returned, for whom delivery was refused, whose survey materials could not be delivered as addressed, who moved without leaving a forwarding address, or for whom U.S. citizenship status, overseas residency, or military status on November 3, 2020, could not be established.

Table 4.1 provides the frequencies for the case dispositions for each final disposition code.

Table 4.1. Case Dispositions and Final Disposition Codes[90]

DISP	Case Disposition	Number of Cases	% Sample Cases
Eligible Respondents			
ER	Questionnaire returned: Complete/Eligible	5,282	11.74%
Eligible Nonrespondents			
ENR	Explicit refusal of survey (by sample member)	27	0.06%
ENR	Returned too incomplete to process	564	1.25%
ENR	Unavailable during entire fielding	174	0.39%
Ineligible			
IN	Ineligible: Not overseas on November 3, 2020	197	0.44%
IN	Ineligible: Uniformed Services voter	3	0.01%
IN	Ineligible: Not a U.S. citizen	10	0.02%
Unknown Eligibility			
UNK	Nothing ever returned	31,250	69.44%
UNK	Refused by addressee	99	0.22%
UNK	Cannot be delivered as addressed	4,572	10.16%
UNK	Moved, left no forwarding address	2,818	6.26%
UNK	Unknown citizenship eligibility	1	<0.01%
UNK	Unknown overseas eligibility	2	<0.01%
UNK	Unknown military eligibility	1	<0.01%

[90] Figures may not add up to displayed total due to rounding.

Table 4.1. Case Dispositions and Final Disposition Codes[90]			
DISP	Case Disposition	Number of Cases	% Sample Cases
	TOTAL	45,000	100.00%

Calculation of Base Weights

After the disposition codes were determined, the first step in computing the weights was to calculate the base weight for each sample member. The base weight was equal to the inverse of the probability of being selected from the frame. Given that the probability of selection varied by world region and WGI index score category, this step allowed for unbiased estimates that reflected the sample design before any nonresponse.

The sampling frame of *N* = 315,619 units was partitioned into *H* = 19 nonoverlapping strata. Each stratum consisted of N_h units, so that:

$$N = \sum_{h=1}^{H} N_h$$

A sequential random sample of n_h units was selected without replacement from each stratum population of N_h, with individuals within a given stratum having an equal probability of selection. Given this design, the base weight for the *i*th sampled unit in a given stratum *h* was calculated as:

$$d_{hi} = \frac{N_h}{n_h} \qquad i = 1, \dots, n_h$$

Thus, for each person classified in stratum h, the base weight was computed as the ratio of the total population for that stratum to the number sampled for that stratum. Note that n_h is the number of units initially sampled in stratum h without regard to whether they ultimately participated in the survey.

Nonresponse Weighting Adjustments

In an ideal survey, all the units in the inferential population would be eligible to be selected into the sample, and all those selected to participate in the survey would actually do so. In practice, however, these conditions rarely occur. Often, some of the sampled units do not respond, some sample units are discovered to be ineligible, and the eligibility status of some units cannot be determined. If these problems are not addressed in the weighting scheme, the estimates of the survey may be biased. Thus, nonresponse weighting adjustments are used to deal with sample members with unknown eligibility and eligible nonrespondents.

To compensate for unit nonresponse, the weights were adjusted in two stages: first, for sample members with unknown eligibility; next, for survey completion among eligible sample members. The first stage of nonresponse adjustment accounted for the fact that the eligibility status of some sample members could not be determined. The second stage of nonresponse adjustment addressed the fact that some sample members known to be eligible did not complete the questionnaire (for instance, by returning an incomplete questionnaire). At each stage, the weights of usable cases were inflated to account for ones that were unusable.

For the first nonresponse adjustment, a logistic regression model was estimated to predict each sample member's probability of having known eligibility for the survey (known eligibility vs. unknown eligibility). The logistic model was weighted by the base weights. The predictors used in the final model were voter participation history,[91] world region,[92] age,[93] age squared, World Governance Indicator (WGI) index score,[94] and state.[95] These variables were selected because they had a meaningful association both with estimated response propensity and with key survey metrics; special care was taken in accounting for the patterns of missing data.

Before computing nonresponse adjustments, additional steps were taken at the frame level to validate and improve the initial country classifications. With respect to validation, a comparison of initial country classifications with survey responses for Question 3, which asked for country of residence, did not suggest the need for any edits for cases with a known country.[96] Thus, efforts were focused on improved classifications for diplomatic addresses, which entailed a review of all diplomatic addresses in the frame. This resulted in a reduction of item-missing data for country (and world region) from 0.25% to 0.06%, after which the updated country and region classifications were used for nonresponse and calibration weighting adjustments. Although country is ordinarily a required part of international addresses, this is not the case for two types of diplomatic addresses: (1) embassy addresses (e.g., diplomatic pouch addresses), which are generally identifiable by use of the ZIP codes 20189 or 20521; and (2) diplomatic post office (DPO) addresses, which are analogous to the military's Army Post Office (APO) and Fleet Post Office (FPO) addresses. Although initially missing for most embassy addresses, a country could be identified in most cases by matching the addresses to lists of official embassies from the State Department and/or based on the foreign city name contained in the address (where it was unambiguous).[97] Note that country was generally identifiable for DPO-style addresses if not already available in the frame.[98]

Adjustment factors were computed for cases with known eligibility as the inverse of model-estimated probabilities. The weights of cases with known eligibility were multiplied by this adjustment factor, whereas the weights of cases with unknown eligibility were removed, thereby redistributing the weights of cases with unknown eligibility to cases with known eligibility.

For the second nonresponse adjustment, the weights of eligible nonrespondents were redistributed to eligible respondents to account for eligible sample members who did not complete the survey. A logistic regression model was estimated to predict the probability of survey completion (i.e., an individual being an eligible respondent) among eligible individuals (i.e., eligible respondents and eligible nonrespondents), weighted by the known-eligibility-adjusted weights. The

[91] Voter participation history was treated as categorical and included four substantive categories and one category reflecting missing data. The substantive categories reflected the four-way cross-classification of whether individuals voted in the 2018 and/or 2020 General Elections.

[92] The world region categories were based on the nine-way classification described in the sampling chapter. Imputation for records with unknown world region (due to diplomatic addresses) was applied using a hot deck procedure. In applying imputation, five donor cells were formed based on address characteristics (i.e., embassy-style address versus DPO-style addresses, with the latter divided into four categories based on the state abbreviation [AA, AE, or AP] associated with the individual's ZIP code, as well as an unknown category).

[93] Individuals with missing age data had their age imputed to the mean and then were reflected separately in the model via indicator variables, reflecting the pattern of missing data.

[94] Individuals in countries with no WGI index score had their score imputed to the world region population mean for individuals in the world region. For individuals with unknown world region (i.e., diplomatic addresses with unknown country), this was done in a manner that incorporated the previously imputed values for world region.

[95] A categorical variable was included in the model for state. States with fewer than 250 sample members were combined into a single category, which was then split into two categories based on the source of voter data (e.g., absentee records vs. unconfirmed requesters).

[96] This review did not identify any systematic issues relating to country misclassification, and overall concordance was very high.

[97] Among the 1,225 embassy addresses in the final sampling frame, this process reduced the item-missing rate for the country variable from 71% to 17%.

[98] Among 171 DPO addresses in the final sampling frame, this process reduced the item-missing rate for the country variable from 0.6% to 0%.

predictors considered for inclusion were the same as those included in the known eligibility model, except with simplifications to voter participation history and state variables to reflect the smaller number of cases entering the model.[99] The predictors in the final model were world region, state, age, age squared, WGI index score, and an indicator variable for missing age data;[100] voter participation history was dropped due to lack of significance. After estimating the probability of survey completion, the known-eligibility-adjusted weights for eligible respondents were multiplied by the multiplicative inverse of this model-estimated probability, whereas the weights of eligible nonrespondents were removed, thereby redistributing the weights of eligible nonrespondents to eligible respondents. Ineligible individuals received an adjustment factor of 1 (i.e., their weights were not modified).

Applying nonresponse adjustments resulted in the final weights before calibration. Distributions of the base weights, adjustment factors, and final weights before calibration by final disposition code are shown in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2. Distribution of Weights and Adjustment Factors by Final Disposition Code

Disposition Code Category	Statistic	Base Weight (d_i)	Eligibility Status Adj. Factor (f_i^{A1})	Complete Status Adj. Factor (f_i^{A2})	Final Weight Before Calibration (w_i^{NR})
Eligible Respondents	N	5,282	5,282	5,282	5,282
	MIN	1.00	1.52	1.02	2.01
	MAX	16.84	103.41	3.17	1,281.42
	MEAN	10.29	6.50	1.15	58.20
	STD	5.80	6.53	0.16	53.89
Eligible Nonrespondents	N	765	765	765	765
	MIN	1.00	1.80	--	--
	MAX	16.84	117.68	--	--
	MEAN	7.44	12.19	--	--
	STD	5.84	13.93	--	--
Ineligible	N	210	210	210	210
	MIN	1.00	1.91	1.00	2.99
	MAX	16.84	72.51	1.00	293.90
	MEAN	6.12	11.34	1.00	44.57

[99] For voter participation history, the three categories of cases with missing data were combined into a single category. For state, the minimum sample size threshold for allowing a state to receive its own indicator variable (rather than being combined into one of the two "other" categories) was increased from 250 to 1,000 members of the original sample.

[100] These are variables that are observed for everyone in the sample and are potential predictors of both nonresponse and outcomes of interest. As per Little & Rubin (2002), the modern statistical literature distinguishes between three types of missing data: data that are missing completely at random (MCAR), missing at random (MAR), and not missing at random (NMAR). Methods for accounting for unit nonresponse in surveys via weighting, both in this survey and more generally, typically assume that the mechanism for unit-missing data is MAR—that is, conditional on observed characteristics, that the data missingness is independent of the outcome measures. However, respondents and nonrespondents may also differ with respect to other, unobserved outcome-relevant characteristics for which data are not available for the full sample, violating this MAR assumption. One potential example of such an unobserved characteristic would be English-language proficiency, which potentially affects response propensity due to the survey instrument only being available in English, as well as outcomes of interest such as exposure to election-oriented media. Consequently, the weighted sample of respondents may still differ from the full sample with respect to outcomes of interest, leading to biased estimates of population average outcomes.

Table 4.2. Distribution of Weights and Adjustment Factors by Final Disposition Code					
Disposition Code Category	Statistic	Base Weight (d_i)	Eligibility Status Adj. Factor (f_i^{A1})	Complete Status Adj. Factor (f_i^{A2})	Final Weight Before Calibration (w_i^{NR})
	STD	5.69	11.94	0.00	41.93
Unknown Eligibility	N	38,743	38,743	38,743	38,743
	MIN	1.00	--	--	--
	MAX	16.84	--	--	--
	MEAN	6.56	--	--	--
	STD	5.54	--	--	--

Thus, after both adjustment stages, the nonresponse-adjusted weight for sample member (*i*) could be written as $w_i^{NR} = d_i \cdot f_i^{A1} \cdot f_i^{A2}$. The weight w_i^{NR} was the final weight before calibration. Note that after the two stages of nonresponse adjustments, only the eligible respondents (*ER*) and ineligible sample members (*IN*) had nonzero weights. The weights of sample members with unknown eligibility (*UNK*) had been removed during the first adjustment stage, and the weights of eligible nonrespondents (*ENR*) had been removed during the second adjustment stage. The ineligible sample members (*IN*) represented a unique and well-defined group whose weights could not be redistributed to the other eligibility categories.

Calibration of Weights

The final step in the calculation of the weights involved modifying the nonresponse-adjusted weights so that the sample distribution of important demographic characteristics was similar to the known distribution in the population. This is referred to as calibration, and can be used to decrease variance and improve the efficiency of estimators (Valliant, Dever, and Kreuter, 2013).

When sampling is conducted, a finalized frame containing the most complete count of population members possible (subject to coverage issues) is typically used. However, for OCPS 2020, 24,123 cases were added to the frame after sampling was conducted. As a result, this addition of cases introduced undercoverage error in some states, especially in states that had no eligible cases in the sampling frame. Calibration weighting is used to reduce potential bias caused by undercoverage for states that had eligible cases in the original sampling frame and additional cases added after sampling was conducted. Table B1 in Appendix B shows the population counts from the frame used for sampling and the frame used for calibration weighting.

Calibration adjustments were calculated using raking (i.e., iterative proportional fitting). Raking is an iterative method that results in consistency between complete population counts and sample data for a series of marginal distributions. Raking is used in situations in which poststratification to the full cross-classification of all adjustment variables would result in cells that are too small for efficient estimation or in which some cells have unknown population counts.

The weights were raked on the four raking dimensions toward population totals or estimated population totals from the weighting frame.[101] Each raking dimension incorporated a cross-

[101] The weighting frame contained an additional 24,183 cases compared to the sampling frame. For the purposes of calibration, these additional cases were included in the population counts. See Appendix B for breakdown by State.

classification with voter participation history, given that this was strongly associated both with response rates and with key survey measures. Categories with insufficient numbers of respondents were collapsed with other similar categories when necessary. Voter participation history was initially computed by cross-classifying the individual's general election voter participation history from 2020 and 2018, forming four categories:

1. Voted in neither the 2018 nor 2020 General Election;
2. Voted in the 2018 General Election only;
3. Voted in the 2020 General Election only; and
4. Voted in both the 2018 and 2020 General Elections.

There were too few cases in Category 3, above, to fully cross-classify this category within every raking dimension. Thus, Categories 2 and 3 were combined.

The four raking dimensions used were:

1. Voter participation history by country (Raking Dimension 1);
2. Voter participation history by state (Raking Dimension 2);
3. Voter participation history by sex (Raking Dimension 3); and
4. Voter participation history by age group (Raking Dimension 4).

In certain cases, there were limited amounts of missing data that had to be taken into account during the weighting process. One option for accounting for missing data in weighting is to allow such cases to form their own raking cells. However, in some cases, this would produce small cell sizes that could substantially drive up design effects; further, in "zero cells" in which there are population members but zero respondents, it is impossible to directly apply adjustments. Another option for dealing with missing data is to combine groups with other similar groups where they exist. An additional option is to use an imputation approach for purposes of assigning cases to the raking categories.

The general approach taken for missing frame data was to avoid collapsing cells when possible; in limited cases in which similar cells were available and it was necessary to do so, this option was used. However, in cases in which a similar cell was not available and the number of respondents was very low, a hot deck imputation approach was used. This imputation approach took into account the frame distribution of the variables for individuals in a given category (e.g., voter participation history group), and each missing value in the frame was replaced with a non-missing value from a random donor in the frame with non-missing data within the category (with replacement of donors). This ensured that the distribution of the imputed variables within a given category was approximately equal to the distribution of non-missing data within that category. Given that internal consistency of control totals is important in allowing the raked weights to converge, for raking dimensions in which imputation was necessary, imputed values were incorporated into estimated population totals to ensure internally consistent control totals across raking dimensions.

The decision rules for creating raking categories, collapsing cells, and conducting imputation were as follows:

- Voter participation history: As previously indicated, the three main voter participation categories of interest were (1) those who voted in neither the 2018 nor 2020 General Election; (2) those who voted in the 2018 General Election only or the 2020 General Election only; and (3) those who voted in both the 2018 and 2020 General Elections. Those with any missing voter participation history data were allowed to form a separate category.

- Raking Dimension 1 (voter participation history by country): For each country[102] for which at least 800 individuals were sampled, the voter participation history categories were cross-classified by country. Countries with fewer than 800 sample members were combined by world region into an "other" category before cross-classifying with voter participation history. Records with unknown world region incorporated the previously computed world region imputations,[103] after which they were grouped by voter participation history into the relevant "other" category. Cells were collapsed as follows:

    - Due to a small number of individuals who had missing voter participation history data, these individuals were cross-classified by world region rather than by country.

    - For Brazil, Mexico, and Other-Oceania, the category of individuals who voted in neither the 2018 nor the 2020 General Election was combined with the category of individuals who voted in only one of the 2018 and 2020 General Elections and the category of individuals who voted in both the 2018 and 2020 General Elections, due to small cell sizes.

    - For Israel, the category of individuals who voted in only one of the 2018 and 2020 General Elections was combined with the category of individuals who voted in both the 2018 and 2020 General Elections, due to small cell sizes.

    - For Other-Middle East and North Africa, the category of individuals who voted in neither the 2018 nor the 2020 General Election was combined with the category of individuals who voted in only one of the 2018 and 2020 General Elections, due to small cell sizes.

- Raking Dimension 2 (voter participation history by state): For each state for which at least 450 individuals were sampled, the voter participation categories were cross-classified by state. States with fewer than 450 sample members were combined into a single category, which was then divided by record source (e.g., absentee records versus unconfirmed requesters) before cross-classifying by voter participation history. After cross-classifying state (or group of states) by voter participation history, changes were made to this dimension as follows:

    - For Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, and Ohio, the category of individuals in the given state who voted in neither the 2018 nor 2020 General Election was combined with the category of individuals who voted in only one of the 2018 or 2020 General Elections.

[102] For purposes of simplicity in reporting, we use the term "country" in this chapter to refer to any country, microstate, overseas territory of a foreign country (e.g., French Polynesia), or other foreign area (e.g., Antarctica).

[103] As described earlier, this entailed the use of hot deck imputation, using five donor cells that reflected address characteristics (embassy addresses; DPO AA addresses; DPO AE addresses; and DPO AP addresses, and DPO Unknown addresses).

- For New Jersey, the category of individuals in the given state who voted in both the 2018 and 2020 General Election was combined with the category of individuals who had missing vote history.

- For Massachusetts, the category of individuals in the given state who voted in neither the 2018 nor 2020 General Election was combined with the category of individuals who voted in only one of the 2018 or 2020 General Elections and the category of individuals who voted in both the 2018 and 2020 General Elections.

- For states with fewer than 450 sample members, the sources of absentee records and unconfirmed requesters were combined for each of the category of individuals who voted in neither the 2018 nor 2020 General Election, the category of individuals who voted in only one of the 2018 or 2020 General Elections, and the category of individuals who voted in both the 2018 and 2020 General Elections.

- Individuals with missing voter participation history in Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Oregon, and Virginia were combined into a single category across states, due to small cell sizes. This category was further combined with the category of unconfirmed requesters with missing voter participation history in smaller states (i.e., with fewer than 450 sample members).

- Raking Dimension 3 (voter participation history by sex): Voter participation history was cross-classified by sex. For individuals whose sex was not recorded on the voter file, imputation was applied as follows:

  - Initially, sex was missing for 15.22% of records in the frame. For these records, sex was imputed deterministically based on first name and birthdate (where available) using Social Security Administration (SSA) baby name data, and these predictions were used to reduce the proportion of missing data to 2.98%.[104]

  - Among the remaining individuals with unknown sex and whose first name could not be used to predict sex, but who had a middle name that could be classified based on predicted sex, the predicted sex from the middle name was used in forming donor cells to apply hot deck imputation. This step further reduced the proportion of missing data to 2.71%.[105]

  - The remaining individuals with unknown sex had their sex randomly imputed, with donor cells formed based on voter participation history group.

[104] More specifically, SSA baby name data were used to estimate the probability that individuals with a given first name were male or female based on birth year. Sex was imputed to male if the estimated probability of being male was above 50%; likewise, sex was imputed to female if the estimated probability of being female was above 50%. In order to validate this step, the same imputation procedures were applied to predict the sex of all members of the sampling frame for whom sex was already known, under the assumption that the frame variable was correct. Of these individuals, 96.7% of females and 95.9% of males were correctly classified based on first name, with generally high accuracy regardless of birth year.

[105] This step, which entailed stochastic imputation based on middle name, contrasted with the previous step for deterministic imputation based on first name. The overarching reason for this was that the SSA-based probabilities are based on first names, and have lessened predictive accuracy for scoring middle names, especially for females. With respect to the latter, scoring frame members' sex based on middle names, and classifying sex deterministically based on a cut-point of .5, would result in females' estimated misclassification rate (13.5%) markedly exceeding that of males (5.3%), based on records with non-missing sex.

- **Raking Dimension 4** (voter participation history by age group): Voter participation history was cross-classified by age group (18–29; 30–39; 40–49; 50–59; 60–69; 70+; and missing).

Population sizes for Raking Dimensions 2 and 4 and estimated population sizes[106] for Raking Dimension 1 and 3 are in Appendix A.

At the conclusion of the raking step, the FMG team evaluated the weights to determine whether weight trimming should be implemented. The goal of weight trimming is to reduce the mean square error by trimming extreme weights (Potter, 1993). To evaluate the effects of weight trimming, weights greater than four standard deviations from the mean were trimmed, after which the weights were rescaled via a flat multiplicative adjustment in order to preserve the sum of the weights, and the data were re-raked to population totals. Trimming but not re-raking produced a meaningful reduction in weight variation. Therefore, the final calibrated weights after trimming were used.

Ineligible sample members reflected a portion of the frame population whose weights could not be redistributed to the other eligibility categories and who were reflected in the population benchmarks. Therefore, ineligibles were included in the raking process. However, ineligibles were not of analytic interest and were, therefore, not included in the analysis data set. In effect, the weighting approach implicitly treats eligible individuals as a subpopulation of the frame population, with calibration adjustments conducted for the full population represented by the frame.

After the conclusion of the weighting process, there were $n = 5{,}282$ eligible respondents receiving weights.

Computation of Variance Estimates

Variance estimation procedures are developed to characterize the uncertainty in point estimates while accounting for complex sample design features like stratification, selection of a sample in multiple phases or stages, and survey weighting. The two main methods for variance estimation are Taylor series linearization and replication. Taylor series linearization involves approximating a statistic by applying the Taylor series expansion to the relevant non-linear function, and substituting this approximation into the appropriate variance formula for the given sample design; this method is commonly used in estimating variances for statistics such as means and proportions. Replication methods such as jackknife repeated replication (JRR), balanced repeated replication (BRR), or bootstrap methods are also sometimes used, depending on the complexity of the sample design and type of statistic. Although replication methods can be designed to reflect the impact of multiple steps of weighting adjustments, they also add computational complexity.

In this survey, Taylor series linearization methods were used to estimate variances. Taylor series linearization generally relies on the simplicity associated with estimating the variance for a linear statistic even with a complex sample design, and is valid in large samples. In this formulation, the variance strata, primary sampling units (PSU), and survey weights must be defined. For this survey, the variance strata were defined based on the explicit strata used in the sampling process. Specifically, as displayed in Table 4.3, the variance strata were based on world region and WGI index score category, as specified in the sampling chapter.

[106] As mentioned previously, imputed values were incorporated into the raking totals in order to ensure internally consistent benchmark totals and improve raking convergence. Thus, Raking Dimension 1 and 3 consist of estimated totals due to imputation for cases with missing world region and/or gender.

Table 4.3. Variance Strata		
Variance Stratum	World Region	WGI Category
1	North America	WGI < 0
2	North America	1 ≤ WGI
3	South and Central America	WGI < 0
4	South and Central America	0 ≤ WGI <1
5	South and Central America	1 ≤ WGI
6	Europe	WGI < 1
7	Europe	1 ≤ WGI
8	Sub-Saharan Africa	WGI < 0
9	Sub-Saharan Africa	0 ≤ WGI < 1
10	Middle East and North Africa	WGI < 0
11	Middle East and North Africa	0 ≤ WGI < 1
12	North, Central, and South Asia	All
13	East Asia	WGI < 0
14	East Asia	0 ≤ WGI <1
15	East Asia	1 ≤ WGI
16	Southeast Asia	WGI <1
17	Southeast Asia	1 ≤ WGI
18	Oceania	All
19	Unknown World Region	n/a

Finite Population Correction

Surveys often include a finite population correction (FPC) in order to give credit for a reduction in sampling variance obtained by sampling from a finite population without replacement. For example, in an extreme scenario, if a census is conducted and there is no nonresponse, then there would be zero sampling error. Although there is some debate on when and whether to apply FPCs (Rust et al., 2006), applying an FPC could lead to underestimates of variance when measurement error is a factor (Kalton, 2002) and might also over-characterize the certainty of estimates in not accounting for variability relating to missing data or to the weighting process. Thus, in order to provide more conservative confidence intervals, an FPC is not applied in this survey.

Margin of Error

The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of sampling variability that indicates the half-width of a confidence interval. Whereas variance estimates can differ for each quantity being estimated, the MOE is commonly reported as a single, study-wide measure so as to provide a rough measure of precision across the entire survey. For the 2020 Overseas Citizen Population Survey (OCPS), Table 4.4 indicates the MOE by subgroup for a 95% confidence interval and a proportion of 50%.[107] The MOE was computed as:

[107] A proportion of 50% was assumed, given that this produces the most conservative MOE.

$$MOE \approx 1.96\sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n/(1+L)}}$$

in which the population proportion p was assumed to be 50%, n is the number of eligible respondents, and $1+L$ is Kish's design effect from weighting (1992) and was used to approximate the effects of the sampling and weighting design on the sampling variance.[108] This formula was applied separately for each subgroup.[109]

Table 4.4. Margin of Error by Subgroup

Subgroup	Margin of Error
Overall	1.8%
Age	
Age 18 to 24	7.5%
Age 25 to 34	4.8%
Age 35 to 44	4.4%
Age 45 to 54	4.6%
Age 55 to 64	4.5%
Age 65 and up	4.1%
Sex	
Male	2.8%
Female	2.5%
Region	
North America	4.4%
South/Central America / Caribbean	9.0%
Europe	2.5%
Sub-Saharan Africa	8.7%
Middle East / North Africa	10.9%
North/Central/South Asia	7.6%
East Asia	5.8%
South East Asia	5.5%
Oceania	7.1%
Income	
$0–$19,999	5.7%
$20,000–$74,999	3.2%
$75,000+	2.8%
Race	
White	2.1%

[108] Kish's design effect from weighting, commonly known as the unequal weighting effect (UWE), is computed as $1+L$, in which $L = n^{-1}\sum_s \frac{(w_i-\bar{w})^2}{\bar{w}^2}$ is the squared coefficient of variation of the survey weights w_i. This $1+L$, termed the relative loss due to weighting, is used to evaluate weight variability and its effect on precision of the point estimates and is a reasonable approximation for the design effect (DEFF) in single-stage designs when the weights are unrelated to the outcome of interest (e.g., see Spencer, 2000).

[109] More specifically, the approximate MOE for a given subgroup was computed as $MOE_g \approx 1.96\sqrt{p_g(1-p_g)[n_g/(1+L_g)]^{-1}}$, where p_g was assumed to be 0.5, n_g was the sample size for the given subgroup, and L_g was the squared coefficient of variation of the survey weights for the given subgroup. This formula assumes an ignorable finite population correction.

Table 4.4. Margin of Error by Subgroup	
Subgroup	Margin of Error
Black	11.0%
Hispanic	8.4%
Other Race	5.5%
Education	
Less Than Bachelor's	4.4%
Bachelor's Degree	3.2%
More Than Bachelor's	2.7%
Marital Status	
Married	2.4%
Never Married	3.7%
Other	5.3%

Note that the table of MOEs above is only intended as a rough tool for summarizing precision across the entire survey, and will provide less accurate confidence intervals than those obtained using the variance estimation procedures described earlier in this section. Importantly, survey results will be less precise for questions not asked of all individuals in a given group (i.e., because of skip logic or item nonresponse). For questions that are asked of the entire group, the confidence intervals will tend to be overly conservative, particularly for proportions close to 0% or 100%, although it is possible that some confidence intervals may be overly narrow (because of the use of approximations in the MOE formula). Further, nearly every survey effort has the potential for non-sampling errors of a systematic nature, such as nonresponse bias and measurement bias, which will not be reflected in the MOE, although the study design is aimed to mitigate such issues.

Calculation of Outcome Rates

The outcome rates for this survey were computed in accordance with the standards defined by AAPOR (2016). Table 4.5 shows the AAPOR outcome rates obtained; Table 4.6 shows weighted outcome rates by world region; and Table 4.7 shows the frequencies of final disposition codes used to calculate outcome rates. The following section describes what these rates represent and how they were calculated. The base weights developed from the frame and the sample were used for the calculations of the weighted rates to adjust for differences in the probabilities of selection from the frame.

Table 4.5. AAPOR Outcome Rates		
	Unweighted	Weighted [110]
Response Rate 3	12.15%	17.58%
Contact Rate 2	13.50%	19.09%
Cooperation Rate 1	89.94%	92.11%
"e" (% eligible among unknowns)	96.64%	97.91%

Table 4.6. AAPOR Outcome Rates by World Region[111]									
Outcome Rate	North America	South Central America	Europe	Sub-Saharan Africa	Middle East + N Africa	North Cent South Asia	East Asia	South East Asia	Oceania
Response Rate 3	21.92%	3.14%	21.28%	6.22%	3.19%	7.93%	17.37%	14.86%	16.97%
Contact Rate 2	23.59%	4.22%	22.93%	7.55%	4.56%	9.23%	18.67%	16.00%	18.15%
Cooperation Rate 1	92.93%	74.41%	92.81%	82.56%	69.96%	85.95%	93.00%	92.90%	93.49%
"e" (% eligible among unknowns)	98.44%	89.99%	98.19%	92.53%	98.23%	93.96%	98.19%	96.65%	96.66%

Table 4.7. AAPOR Final Disposition Code Categories[112]					
Final Disposition	Symbol	Sample Count	Sample Percent	Weighted Count	Weighted Percent
Eligible respondents	ER	5,282	11.74%	54,330	17.21%
Refusals	R	591	1.31%	4,655	1.47%
Noncontacts	NC	174	0.39%	1,038	0.33%
Other eligible nonrespondents	O	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Unknown eligibility	UNK	38,743	86.10%	254,312	80.58%
Ineligible	IN	210	0.47%	1,284	0.41%
Total		**45,000**	**100.00%**	**315,619**	**100.00%**

Response Rate

The response rate is the number of eligible sample members who returned completed questionnaires divided by the estimated number of eligible individuals in the sample. For this survey, Response Rate 3 (RR3) was calculated. RR3 was chosen to account for sample members whose eligibility could not be determined. The formula for RR3 is:

[110] Weighted rates use the base weight.
[111] Rates are weighted by the base weight. World region does not include records with unknown region.
[112] Sample counts and percentages are unweighted. Weighted counts and percentages use the base weight. Totals may not add up to 100% or displayed total because of rounding.

$$RR3 = \frac{ER}{(ER + R + NC + O + e \cdot UNK)}$$

An important element of RR3 is *e*, the estimated proportion of unknown eligibility cases that are eligible. By incorporating "e" into the formula above, the denominator reflects the estimated number of eligible members of the sample (or population, if weighted). In this survey, "e" was calculated using the proportional allocation method, which assumes that the ratio of eligible to ineligible cases among cases with known eligibility also applies to cases with unknown eligibility.[113] Using this method, the formula for calculating "e" is:

$$e = \frac{(ER + R + NC + O)}{(ER + R + NC + O + IN)}$$

For this survey, "e" was equal to 97.91% (weighted; 96.64% unweighted), indicating that approximately 97.91% of the population represented by the sample can be assumed to be eligible. Therefore, RR3 was equal to 17.58% (weighted; 12.15% unweighted).

Contact Rate

The contact rate represents the proportion of eligible sample members who were actually contacted. This is equal to the number of eligible respondents and eligible nonrespondents who were contacted divided by the estimated number of eligible individuals in the sample. Contact Rate 2 (CON2) was calculated using the following formula:

$$CON2 = \frac{ER + R + O}{(ER + R + NC + O + e \cdot UNK)}$$

Contact Rate 2 was determined to be 19.09% (weighted; 13.50% unweighted).

Cooperation Rate

The cooperation rate represents the proportion of contacted eligible sample members who agreed to complete the survey. This is equal to the number of eligible respondents who returned complete questionnaires divided by the number of sample members who had been reached. Cooperation Rate 1 (COOP1) was calculated, for which the formula is:

$$COOP1 = \frac{ER}{(ER + R + O)}$$

Cooperation Rate 1 was determined to be 92.11% (weighted; 89.94% unweighted).

Design Effect

The design effect is a statistic that indicates the effect of using the selected sampling and weighting methodologies. This statistic demonstrates the impact that the survey design and weighting have on the variance of the point estimates relative to a simple random sample. The

[113] There is no single method to most accurately calculate "e" across all surveys, given that the proportion of unknown eligibility sample members who are eligible depends on design elements of the specific study (Smith, 2009). Thus, the AAPOR standards indicate that researchers should simply use the best available scientific information in calculating "e." Smith (2009) notes that the proportional allocation or Council of American Survey Research Organizations (CASRO) method is easily used and tends to produce conservative estimates (i.e., estimates that do not inflate the response rate).

design effect is calculated separately for each point estimate. Two pieces of information are necessary to calculate the design effect:

(1) The variance achieved using the selected design; and

(2) The variance that would have been achieved using a simple random sampling design.

The design effect is calculated as the ratio of these two pieces of information (Kish, 1965). Holding all else constant, it is desirable for the design effect to be as small as possible. A design effect of less than 1 means that the selected design resulted in a smaller variance (and smaller standard error) than would have been achieved with a simple random sample. A design effect greater than 1 means that the selected design resulted in a larger variance (and larger standard error) than would have been achieved using a simple random sample. It is important to note that the design effect is only one measure of the usefulness of a design plan; for instance, budget and feasibility must also factor into design decisions. Likewise, oversampling of small groups to achieve domain precision goals (as was necessary in this study) typically leads to design effects greater than 1. Note that since the variances are unknown, the design effect must be estimated.

Table 4.8 shows the design effects for five key estimates for all respondents. Table 4.9 shows the design effects for world region subpopulation estimates. The design effects were above 1 because of disproportional allocation, differential nonresponse, weighting adjustments for nonresponse, and calibration adjustments.

Table 4.8. Estimated Design Effects[114]

Question	Overall
Voted in 2020 General Election (% voted)[115]	3.15
Requested absentee ballot for 2020 General Election (% yes)[116]	2.27
Received a ballot for 2020 General Election (% yes)[117]	2.51
Aware of FVAP (% yes)[118]	1.83
Interested in 2020 General Election (% very)[119]	2.21

[114] For all metrics, item-missing data and non-substantive answers (e.g., "not sure") are excluded from the denominator.

[115] Question 8. "Did you vote in the November 3, 2020 General Election?" (Design effect is reported for the proportion of individuals who reported voting.)

[116] Question 9. "Did you request an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 General Election?" (Design effect is reported for the proportion of individuals who reported "yes.")

[117] Question 11. "Did you receive an absentee ballot from an election official for the November 3, 2020 General Election?" (Design effect is reported for the proportion of individuals who reported "yes.")

[118] Question 21. "Before taking this survey, were you aware of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) or its services?" (Design effect is reported for the proportion of individuals who reported "yes.")

[119] Question 34. "How interested or uninterested were you in the election held on November 3, 2020?" (Design effect is reported for the proportion of individuals who reported being "very interested.")

Table 4.9. Estimated Design Effects by World Region[120]									
Question	North America	South Central America	Europe	Sub-Saharan Africa	Middle East + N Africa	North Cent South Asia	East Asia	South East Asia	Oceania
Voted, 2020 GE	3.36	3.67	3.25	0.63	4.88	0.62	2.02	0.72	1.91
Requested absentee ballot	2.38	1.88	2.04	0.67	5.07	0.61	0.83	0.78	2.63
Received absentee ballot	2.31	3.48	2.27	0.62	4.65	0.55	1.79	1.17	1.68
Aware of FVAP	1.96	2.48	1.67	0.62	4.19	0.48	1.31	0.65	1.63
Interested in 2020 GE	2.56	1.82	2.02	0.80	4.86	0.56	1.37	0.91	1.56

[120] For all metrics, item-missing data and non-substantive answers (e.g., "not sure") are excluded from the denominator. World region does not include imputed values of records with unknown world region.

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APPENDIX A: POPULATION BENCHMARKS FOR RAKING

Table A1. Raking Dimension 1: Voter History by Country

Voter Participation History (2018–2020)	Country (or Region)	Population Estimate
Neither	Australia	2,848
2018 or 2020 only	Australia	6,128
Both	Australia	4,011
Any (Excluding Missing)	Brazil	1,898
Neither	Canada	8,213
2018 or 2020 only	Canada	21,510
Both	Canada	16,732
Neither	China	1,108
2018 or 2020 only	China	1,410
Both	China	889
Neither	France	3,233
2018 or 2020 only	France	6,579
Both	France	4,786
Neither	Germany	4,169
2018 or 2020 only	Germany	10,670
Both	Germany	7,288
Neither	India	863
2018 or 2020 only	India	1,452
Both	India	569
Neither	Israel	6,633
More Than Neither	Israel	9,883
Neither	Japan	1,379
2018 or 2020 only	Japan	3,655
Both	Japan	2,780
Any (Excluding Missing)	Mexico	6,650
Neither	Singapore	691
2018 or 2020 only	Singapore	1,268
Both	Singapore	741
Neither	South Africa	344
2018 or 2020 only	South Africa	550
Both	South Africa	373
Neither	Thailand	862
2018 or 2020 only	Thailand	1,480
Both	Thailand	1,103
Neither	United Kingdom	8,933
2018 or 2020 only	United Kingdom	18,281

Table A1. Raking Dimension 1: Voter History by Country		
Voter Participation History (2018–2020)	Country (or Region)	Population Estimate
Both	United Kingdom	12,105
Neither	South/Central America—Other	6,615
2018 or 2020 only	South/Central America—Other	6,696
Both	South/Central America—Other	4,319
Neither	Europe—Other	14,499
2018 or 2020 only	Europe—Other	28,253
Both	Europe—Other	19,215
Neither	Sub-Saharan Africa—Other	1,106
2018 or 2020 only	Sub-Saharan Africa—Other	1,684
Both	Sub-Saharan Africa—Other	1,212
Less Than Both	Middle East + North Africa—Other	5,354
Both	Middle East + North Africa—Other	1,857
Neither	North, South, and Central Asia—Other	449
2018 or 2020 only	North, South, and Central Asia—Other	610
Both	North, South, and Central Asia—Other	430
Neither	East Asia—Other	2,513
2018 or 2020 only	East Asia—Other	3,997
Both	East Asia—Other	2,350
Neither	South East Asia—Other	1,492
2018 or 2020 only	South East Asia—Other	2,109
Both	South East Asia—Other	1,305
Any (Excluding Missing)	Oceania—Other	5,394
Missing data	North America	9,985
Missing data	South/Central America	2,248
Missing data	Europe	20,555
Missing data	Sub-Saharan Africa	646
Missing data	Middle East + North Africa	3,146
Missing data	North, South, and Central Asia	739
Missing data	East Asia	3,848
Missing data	South East Asia	1,926
Missing data	Oceania	3,123
Total		339,742

Table A2. Raking Dimension 2: Voter History by State		
Voter Participation History (2018–2020)	State(s)	Population Count
Less than both	AZ	1,447
Both	AZ	1,587
Missing data	AZ	1,150
Less than both	CA	13,799
Both	CA	6,649
Missing data	CA	10,444
Neither	CO	2,445
2018 or 2020 only	CO	7,974
Both	CO	8,070
Less than both	DC	2,284
Both	DC	867
Missing data	DC	1,856
Less than both	FL	27,949
Both	FL	13,343
Less than both	GA	4,023
Both	GA	1,440
Less than both	IN	2,468
Both	IN	1,635
Missing data	IN	705
Any (Excluding Missing)	MA	1,380
Missing data	MA	3,633
Less than both	MD	2,832
Both	MD	1,662
Neither	MI	1,039
2018 or 2020 only	MI	5,236
Both	MI	3,018
Both	MN	3,800
Missing data	MN	9,194
Neither	NC	2,154
2018 or 2020 only	NC	8,190
Both	NC	5,750
Neither	NJ	2,385
2018 or 2020 only	NJ	3,684
Both/Missing Data	NJ	1,302
Neither	NY	27,186
2018 or 2020 only	NY	29,073
Both	NY	7,751

Table A2. Raking Dimension 2: Voter History by State		
Voter Participation History (2018–2020)	State(s)	Population Count
Missing data	NY	6,779
Less than both	OH	4,479
Both	OH	2,753
Missing data	OH	1,157
2018 or 2020 only	OR	5,399
Both	OR	5,447
Neither	VA	1,055
2018 or 2020 only	VA	2,877
Both	VA	2,187
Neither	WA	4,309
2018 or 2020 only	WA	7,828
Both	WA	8,983
Missing data	WA	7,185
Missing data	FL/GA/MD/NC/OR/VA or Other states—unconfirmed requesters	677
Neither	Other states	9,752
2018 or 2020 only	Other states	23,186
Both	Other states	12,849
Missing data	Other states—absentee records	3,436
Total		**339,742**

Table A3. Raking Dimension 3: Voter History by Sex		
Voter Participation History (2018–2020)	Sex	Population Estimate
Neither	Male	32,587
Neither	Female	38,761
2018 or 2020 only	Male	58,905
2018 or 2020 only	Female	73,816
Both	Male	39,931
Both	Female	49,526
Missing data	Male	21,243
Missing data	Female	24,973
Total		**339,742**

Table A4. Raking Dimension 4: Voter History by Age Group		
Voter Participation History (2018–2020)	Age Group	Population Count
Neither	18–29	11,752
Neither	30–39	15,285
Neither	40–49	12,779
Neither	50–59	11,196
Neither	60–69	8,545
Neither	70+	10,006
Neither	Missing data	1,785
2018 or 2020 only	18–29	23,911
2018 or 2020 only	30–39	28,266
2018 or 2020 only	40–49	22,717
2018 or 2020 only	50–59	20,596
2018 or 2020 only	60–69	17,209
2018 or 2020 only	70+	15,125
2018 or 2020 only	Missing data	4,897
Both	18–29	13,247
Both	30–39	18,153
Both	40–49	14,614
Both	50–59	14,294
Both	60–69	14,189
Both	70+	12,950
Both	Missing data	2,010
Missing data	18–29	5,535
Missing data	30–39	4,867
Missing data	40–49	3,727
Missing data	50–59	3,223
Missing data	60–69	2,681
Missing data	70+	1,901
Missing data	Missing data	24,282
Total		**339,742**

APPENDIX B: STATE FRAME COUNTS

Table B1. Comparison of Frame Counts between Sampling and Weighting Frames

State	Population Count (Sampling Frame)	Population Count (Weighting Frame)
AK	1,700	1,700
AL	0	984
AR	494	494
AZ	4,184	4,184
CA	30,892	30,892
CO	18,489	18,489
CT	2,477	3,252
DC	5,007	5,007
DE	1,167	1,167
FL	34,813	41,363
GA	5,471	5,471
HI	429	2,535
IA	1,321	1,321
ID	1,690	1,755
IL	0	0
IN	4,808	4,808
KS	2,324	2,324
KY	49	49
LA	372	372
MA	5,013	5,013
MD	4,511	4,511
ME	0	3,321
MI	9,293	9,293
MN	12,994	12,994
MO	0	5,519
MS	0	62
MT	687	687
NC	16,102	16,102
ND	229	229
NE	36	36
NH	828	828
NJ	7,629	7,629
NM	1,190	2,106

Table B1. Comparison of Frame Counts between Sampling and Weighting Frames		
State	Population Count (Sampling Frame)	Population Count (Weighting Frame)
NV	543	543
NY	70,789	70,789
OH	8,381	8,381
OK	2,206	2,206
OR	10,856	10,856
PA	3,573	3,573
RI	2,199	2,199
SC	3,310	3,310
SD	357	357
TN	0	0
TX	346	4,163
UT	61	61
VA	6,123	6,123
VT	1,514	1,514
WA	28,305	28,305
WI	2,353	2,353
WV	281	281
WY	223	223
Total	315,619	339,742