POST-ELECTION VOTING SURVEYS
ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY: TECHNICAL REPORT
2016

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FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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Introduction

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) seeks to ensure Service members, their eligible family members, and overseas citizens are aware of their right to vote and have the tools and resources to successfully do so—from anywhere in the world. To adhere to this purpose and to meet legislative and executive responsibilities, FVAP collects data on individuals covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (*UOCAVA*) and the network that supports them. Active duty military (ADM) stationed away from their voting jurisdiction represent one part of this *UOCAVA* population, which has led FVAP to biennially collect absentee voting-related data on ADM through the Post-Election Voting Survey of Active Duty Military (PEVS-ADM). This report focuses on two key goals related to the ADM population: (1) answering within-population absentee voting research questions and (2) describing the full survey methodology of the 2016 PEVS-ADM data collection, including survey design, survey administration, sampling and weighting.

This report is one of four interrelated documents evaluating the 2016 Post-Election Voting Surveys (PEVS). The 2016 PEVS Integrated Report focuses specifically on FVAP program effectiveness across the voting assistance populations. The 2016 Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) Technical Report and 2016 State Election Official (SEO) Technical Report each focus on the within-population research questions and survey methodology for their respective populations.

This introduction discusses FVAP's legislative responsibility for conducting the PEVS-ADM, highlights key findings and topics discussed in this report and ends by describing the full outline of this report.

1.1 | FVAP Legislative Responsibility for ADM Absentee Voting Data Collection

FVAP is responsible for carrying out the responsibilities of *UOCAVA* as amended by the *Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act*; the PEVS-ADM helps fulfills the required statistical analyses of this legislation. The *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (*UOCAVA*) of 1986, Section 101.b (1), 42 USC §1973ff, now 52 U.S.C. 20310, permits members of the Uniformed Services and Merchant Marine to vote in elections for federal offices. FVAP, under the guidance of the Under Secretary of Defense (USD) for Personnel

and Readiness (P&R), is charged with administering the federal responsibilities of *UOCAVA* and evaluating the effectiveness of its programs.

In addition, the PEVS-ADM fulfills ADM Section 20308(b) of 52 U.S.C., which requires FVAP to conduct statistical analyses to evaluate the effectiveness of the program in federal election years. Presidential Executive Order 12642, signed in 1988, names the Secretary of Defense as the Designee for administering *UOCAVA*. Further, Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 1000.04, Federal Voting Assistance Program, assigns the USD P&R as the Presidential designee; the responsibilities, however, are carried out by the FVAP Director. Under these authorities, FVAP provides voter registration and voting information to those eligible to vote in applicable U.S. elections.

In October 2009, *UOCAVA* was amended by the *MOVE Act,* Title V, Subtitle H of P.L. 111-84, National Defense Authorization Act Fiscal Year 2010. Among its provisions, the amended *UOCAVA* requires FVAP to evaluate the effectiveness of FVAP activities carried out under section 20305, assess voter registration and participation by absent Uniformed Services voters, describe the communication between States and the Federal Government in carrying out the requirements of *UOCAVA*, and describe the utilization of voter assistance under section 1566a of 10 U.S.C. As a result, FVAP contracted Fors Marsh Group (FMG) and the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) Defense Research, Surveys, and Statistics Center (RSSC) to design, administer and analyze the PEVS-ADM. Without the PEVS-ADM, the Department of Defense (DoD) would not be able to calculate ADM registration and participation rates nor evaluate and improve ADM experiences with absentee voting.

1.2 | ADM Research Topics and Key Findings

This report evaluates ADM voting measures and seeks to answer key research questions using the 2016 PEVS-ADM. This is done by focusing on five key topics specific to the ADM population:

- ADM 2016 voting measures: registration, ballot request, ballot receipt, ballot return and participation
- Differences in ADM to the citizen voting age population (CVAP) on 2016 voting measures
- Differences in ADM voting measures in 2012 and 2016
- The influence of ADM social connectivity on information transmission
- The influence of experiencing voting obstacles on first-time and experienced ADM voters

These topics are examined in this report using a range of methodologies, including descriptive statistics, ordinary least squares (OLS) and logistic regression, and decomposition analysis. Overall, these analysis sections report a number of key findings:

1) ADM tended to request and receive absentee ballots earlier in 2016 than 2012, but returned them later.

2) ADM have lower registration and participation rates than CVAP, a difference that is partially explained by differences in demographic and geographic characteristics of the two populations.

3) ADM registration and participation rates in 2016 were significantly below those in 2012, with the decline being particularly large among women and minorities.

4) Absentee ADM who were married are more likely to have discussed voting procedures than ADM who were not married, and ADM who discussed absentee procedures were more likely to participate, consistent with strong social connections facilitating voting in some circumstances.

5) ADM were significantly less likely to vote when experiencing an absentee ballot issue, but this negative effect was not significantly larger for first-time voters than experienced voters.

1.3 | Outline of Report

This report begins with five analysis sections devoted to answering research questions specific to the ADM population. The first analysis section provides an overview of voting measures for ADM in 2016 and analyzes the correlates of early ballot requests and early ballot returns. Following this are two comparison sections, whose purpose is to provide insight into the degree to which observed shifts in the general ADM population or subpopulation compositions might explain changes in ADM registration and participation rates in 2016. The second analysis section features a comparison of 2016 ADM and 2016 CVAP registration and participation rates and the third analysis section examines trends in ADM registration and participation rates by comparing those outcomes in the 2012 and 2016 General Elections. The final two analyses explore particular mechanisms that may explain variation in voting outcomes within the ADM population. The fourth analysis section examines the role of ADM social connections in the voting process by examining the degree to which ADM who are connected are more likely to discuss voting procedures than ADM who are less connected and whether these discussions are correlated with voting outcomes. The last analysis examines the impact of experiencing voting obstacles between first-time and experienced ADM voters and the degree to which experience may help ADM overcome these obstacles encountered in the absentee voting process.

Following these analyses, the report turns to describing the full survey methodology of the 2016 PEVS-ADM data collection. The methodology section begins by describing the design of the PEVS-ADM and the decision-making on how to update this survey to answer new research questions. Next, the survey administration section discusses the communication plan and how the survey was programmed, fielded and quality checked. The methodology section ends by reporting the sampling and weighting of the survey, including a discussion of the control voting title and experimental non-voting title sample. The report concludes with a discussion of what these analyses mean for improving FVAP resources and services for ADM, recommendations for future research, and limitations of these analyses. Appendix G provides a comparison of the control and experimental sample voting measures. Appendix H displays the survey instrument that ADM were asked to respond to and Appendix I contains the communications sent to PEVS-ADM sample members. Finally, Appendix J of the report includes the full descriptive survey results for each question of the 2016 PEVS-ADM, including each question broken out by age and *UOCAVA* status.

Overview of ADM Absentee Voting Process

2.1 | Introduction

One of the central purposes of the PEVS-ADM is to collect data for FVAP to evaluate the absentee voting process for ADM in each election. Although the absentee voting process includes many nuanced steps, the primary foci are the registration rate and participation rate, which are explored in-depth throughout this report. It is useful for FVAP to understand how the ADM experience has changed since 2012 with respect to five key voting measures: registration, ballot request, ballot receipt, ballot return and participation. Furthermore, FVAP this year sought to put greater emphasis on understanding the typical ADM registration process and to encourage ADM who want to vote to complete steps in the absentee voting process earlier.

This section begins with a discussion of research questions about the ADM experience with the absentee voting process and how this relates to the FVAP marketing campaign and research on early voting. Next, it discusses the 2012 and 2016 PEVS data used for analyses in this report as well as definitions of early ballot requests and early ballot returns. Results show that registration, ballot request and participation rates declined among ADM from 2012 to 2016, whereas ballot receipt rates increased. The decline in registration was proportional across the Services, although the participation rate was proportionally larger for Army and Air Force. Results also show that ADM tended to request and receive their absentee ballot earlier in 2016 than in 2012, but returned their ballot later. Overseas, older and White ADM were significantly more likely to request and return a ballot early. This section concludes with a discussion of how these results relate to FVAP marketing and communication related to key ADM deadlines and how FVAP can continue to refine policies to ensure ADM who want to vote are able to complete the absentee ballot process.

2.2 | Research Questions

This section analyzes a number of absentee voting process research questions on the ADM population:

- What are the registration, ballot request, ballot receipt, ballot return and participation rates for ADM in 2016? How have these changed since 2012?
- How do registration and participation rates vary by Service?
- When do ADM register to vote and return their absentee ballot? What are the demographic correlates of early registration and early ballot return? Are early registration and early ballot return behaviors impacted by receiving FVAP marketing materials?

2.3 | Early Voting and Completing the Absentee Ballot Process

Domestic research into the demographic correlates of early voting is useful for identifying likely early voting populations, although it is not directly comparable to absentee voting. Early voting domestically entails an individual casting his or her vote in person and within a specific early voting timeframe established by his or her State. This research shows that older, more educated and more politically engaged individuals tend to be more likely to be early voters.[1] There is ample debate, but researchers argue that individuals who vote early tend not to be an untapped part of the electorate, but rather the same motivated voters who would have voted anyways, but simply doing so early.[2] If these domestic findings have the same effect on the *UOCAVA* population, one would expect the same subgroups to be more likely to complete absentee ballot process steps earlier and also expect that increased awareness of recommended early deadlines may only impact a motivated ADM population.

A key part of the 2016 FVAP marketing and communication plan was to encourage ADM who want to vote to complete the steps of the *UOCAVA* absentee ballot process earlier. Due to the added complexity and length of time necessary to complete the absentee voting process, ADM who complete voting steps earlier in the election cycle should have a higher likelihood of completing the absentee voting process before their State deadlines. As the first step in the absentee process, ensuring that ADM who want to vote are able to register is critical for beginning the multistep process of voting absentee. Before the election, on June 21 and July 11, FVAP sent ADM nearly 1.3 million direct mail pieces that informed them that if they want to vote they should fill out a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) by August 1, 2016. This date was the suggested registration and ballot request date for all ADM. Then, on September 6 and September 22, FVAP again sent more than 1.2 million direct mail pieces to ADM that provided three recommended ballot return dates: October 10 for those deployed on a ship, October 15 for ADM outside the United States and November 1 for ADM who are stationed stateside. These direct mail efforts are presumed to have increased the likelihood that these motivated ADM requested, received and returned their absentee ballots earlier.

2.4 | Methodology

This section uses data from the 2016 PEVS-ADM and 2012 PEVS-ADM. Data are weighted with nonresponse and poststratification weights specific to that survey. Consistent with other 2016 PEVS-ADM analyses, all data are limited to ADM who reported living 50 miles or more from their voting jurisdiction; additionally, 2012 data are limited to active duty personnel only.

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[1] Gronke, Paul and Daniel Krantz Toffey. (2008). "The Psychological and Institutional Determinants of Early Voting." *Journal of Social Issues, 64*(3), 503–524.

[2] Neeleya, Grant W. and Lilliard E. Richardson Jr. (2001). "Who is Early Voting? An Individual Level Examination." *The Social Science Journal, 38*(3), 381–392.

This section operationalizes both early ballot requests and early ballot returns to evaluate the demographic correlates and the effect of FVAP's marketing campaign on these outcomes. Requesting a ballot early is conceptualized as ADM sending in their FPCA or other ballot request form before FVAP's suggested deadline of August 1, 2016.[3] Respondents who requested an absentee ballot and reported doing so in August or earlier are defined as early ballot requesters. It is hypothesized that respondents who received FVAP marketing materials will be more likely to request their ballot early due to the stated deadlines on the direct mailers. Returning a ballot early is conceptualized as ADM sending their completed ballot via mail or other State-sanctioned modes by FVAP's recommended October dates. These dates varied between October 10 and November 1 based on a Service member's location, and the self-reported survey question only collected data by month, not by exact date, meaning it is difficult to precisely define early ballot returns. In this analysis, respondents who received a ballot and reported returning it by October or earlier are defined as early ballot returners. For both early ballot requests and early ballot returns, respondents who could not recall the month they completed these actions were dropped from the regression models.

2.5 | Results

a. Absentee Voting Process, 2012 to 2016

When all ADM were asked if they voted in the general election, 52 percent reported in the 2012 PEVS-ADM that they definitely voted and 43 percent reported in the 2016 PEVS-ADM that they did. Voting, however, is the end result of a multipart absentee voting process. Table 2.1 displays the percentage of ADM who reported completing each step of the absentee voting process in both 2012 and 2016.[4] Seventy-eight percent of ADM said they were registered to vote in 2012 compared to 68 percent in 2016. There was a similar 10-percentage-point decrease from 2012 to 2016 in the percentage of ADM who said they requested an absentee ballot. In both years, 7 percent of ADM thought they would automatically receive a ballot even though they did not request one. Also, in both years, there was a 20-percentage-point gap between the percentage reporting they were registered and the percentage reporting they requested a ballot or expected to automatically receive one. When limiting the population to those who requested a ballot, nine percentage points more ADM in 2016 reported receiving their absentee ballot than in 2012. Of the ADM population that received a ballot, 86 percent returned their ballot in 2012 and 84 percent returned their ballot in 2016. These data suggest that the primary change in

[3] This self-reported measure does not control for ADM who submitted FPCAs in previous years and may have answered this question based on expectation of automatic ballot request.

[4] Voting measures reported here and in Appendix K may differ slightly for 2012 and 2016 from those reported in Section 3, Section 4 and Appendix G—as well as the 2016 Report to Congress—because they are weighted descriptive statistics for each cross-sectional survey. Voting measures in later sections combine data across years into a model, which requires respondents with missing data to be dropped, resulting in slightly different percentages for participation and registration rates.

the absentee ballot process from 2012 to 2016 was a decline in registration and ballot requests from ADM and not from an increase in absentee ballots not being received.

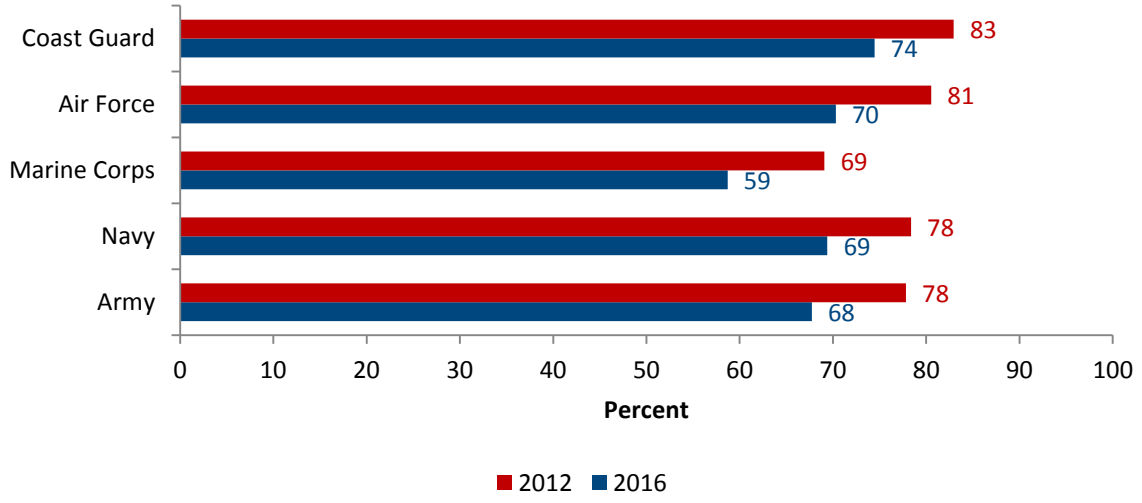
Table 2.1: ADM Voting Measures, 2012 to 2016

	2012	2016	Difference
Registered	78%	68%	-10%
Ballot Request: Yes	51%	41%	-10%
Ballot Request: Auto	7%	7%	0%
Ballot Receipt	75%	84%	+9%
Ballot Return	86%	84%	-2%
Voted	52%	43%	-9%

Note: Limited to ADM who were located outside their voting residence. "Ballot request" is the percentage who said "yes," that they requested an absentee ballot, which does not include those who said "No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official." Ballot receipt is limited to those who requested an absentee ballot. Ballot return is limited to those who received an absentee ballot. Voting rate sets those answering "don't know" to missing.

Figure 2.1 shows ADM registration rates in 2012 and 2016 by Service, showing a proportional decline in registration rates across each Service. ADM in the Coast Guard remain the most likely to be registered from 2012 to 2016 and ADM in the Marine Corps remain the least likely across both years.

Figure 2.1: ADM Registration by Service, 2012 to 2016

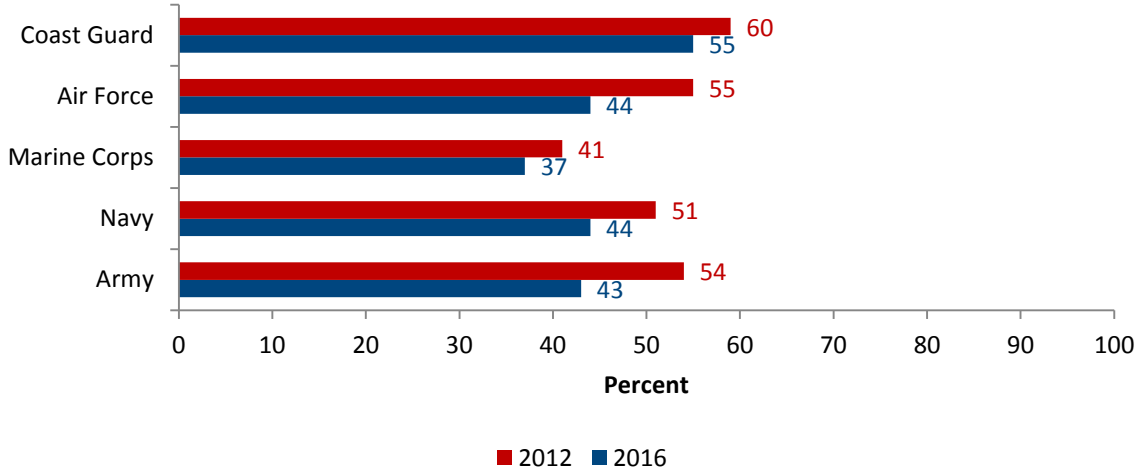


Note: Limited to ADM who were located outside their voting residence.

Figure 2.2 shows ADM participation rates in 2012 and 2016 by Service, also showing a proportional decline in participation rates across each Service. Proportionally, the decline in participation rate was highest for Army

(21%) and Air Force (20%), whereas the Navy (14%), Marine Corps (10%) and Coast Guard (8%) had smaller relative declines.

Figure 2.2: ADM Participation by Service, 2012 to 2016



Note: Limited to ADM who were located outside their voting residence.

b. Timing of the Absentee Voting Process, 2012 to 2016

The results above show that a higher percentage of ADM reported receiving their absentee ballot, whereas a lower percentage reported returning their ballot or voting. One explanation for these differences could be the timing of when ADM requested, received and returned their absentee ballot.

Table 2.2 shows the changes between 2012 and 2016 of when ADM reported first requesting their absentee ballot. There was a six-percentage-point increase in the percentage of ADM who requested an absentee ballot in July or earlier, before FVAP's recommended August 1 date. This shift primarily came from late requesters, as there was a three-percentage-point decline in the percentage of ADM who first requested their absentee ballot in both September or October. This increase in early ballot request is consistent with the higher ballot received percentage in 2016, as those requesting their ballot in later months in 2012 may not have ultimately received their ballot due to State deadlines or time constraints.

Table 2.2: ADM Ballot Request Month, 2012 to 2016

	2012	2016	Difference
July or earlier	18%	24%	+6
August	14%	13%	-1
September	25%	22%	-3
October	25%	22%	-3
November	3%	3%	0
Do not recall	14%	16%	+2

Note: Limited to ADM who were located outside their voting residence. Ballot request is limited to the percentage who said "yes," that they requested an absentee ballot, which does not include those who said "no," but expected to receive one.

Table 2.3 shows the changes between 2012 and 2016 of when ADM reported receiving their absentee ballot. Consistent with a greater percentage of ADM requesting earlier, there was a similar increase in the percentage of ADM who received their absentee ballot earlier. In 2012, 25 percent of ADM said they received their absentee ballot in September or earlier compared to 30 percent who did in 2016. The percentage who received their ballot in November or did not recall the month they received their ballot stayed roughly the same between the two elections.

Table 2.3: ADM Ballot Receipt Month, 2012 to 2016

	2012	2016	Difference
September or earlier	25%	30%	+5
October	53%	47%	-6
November	8%	8%	0%
Do not recall	14%	16%	+2

Note: Limited to ADM who were located outside their voting residence. Ballot receipt is limited to those who requested an absentee ballot.

Receiving a ballot early does not necessarily mean that a voter will immediately return his or her ballot. As shown in Table 2.4, ADM were actually more likely to return their ballot later in 2016 than in 2012. Sixty-seven percent of ADM returned their ballot in October 2012 compared to 57 percent who did so in October 2016, whereas 16 percent of ADM waited until November 2012 compared to 24 percent who did so in November 2016. Although Election Day in 2012 was November 6 compared to November 8 in 2016, these findings still suggest in general that ADM returned their ballot later in 2016.

Table 2.4: ADM Ballot Return Month, 2012 to 2016

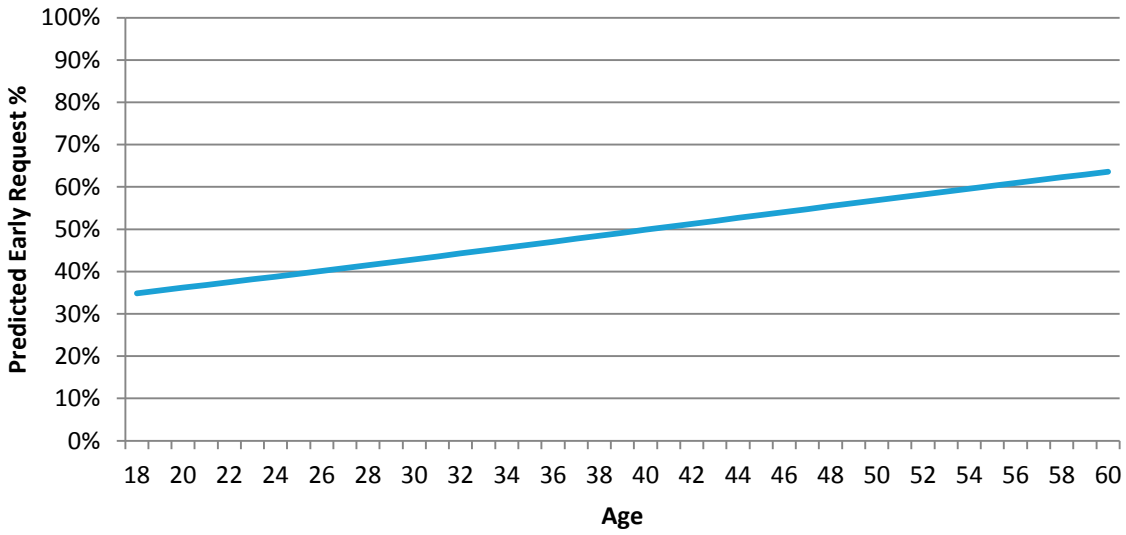
	2012	2016	Difference
September or earlier	10%	10%	0
October	67%	57%	-10
November	16%	24%	+8
Do not recall	7%	9%	+2

Note: Limited to ADM who were located outside their voting residence. Ballot return is limited to those who received an absentee ballot.

c. Early Ballot Request and Ballot Return

It is helpful for FVAP to know if certain demographic groups were less likely to request and return their absentee ballot early so that modifications can be made to future FVAP policies. Table B1 in Appendix B shows the correlates of requesting an absentee ballot early in Models 1, 2 and 3. ADM who were older, overseas and non-Black were significantly more likely to request an absentee ballot than younger, domestic and Black ADM, when controlling for all other variables. Those in the Navy and Coast Guard were also significantly more likely to request early than ADM in the Air Force. Figure 2.3 displays these results for age, showing that an 18-year-old had a 35 percent likelihood of requesting a ballot early, compared to a 64 percent likelihood for a 60-year-old. In Model 2, these effects hold when including receiving FVAP marketing, which is significantly associated with early ballot request. In Model 3, when comparing the population who received FVAP marketing to those who did not, those who were overseas and received FVAP marketing were significantly more likely to request a ballot early than those who were overseas and did not report receiving FVAP materials.

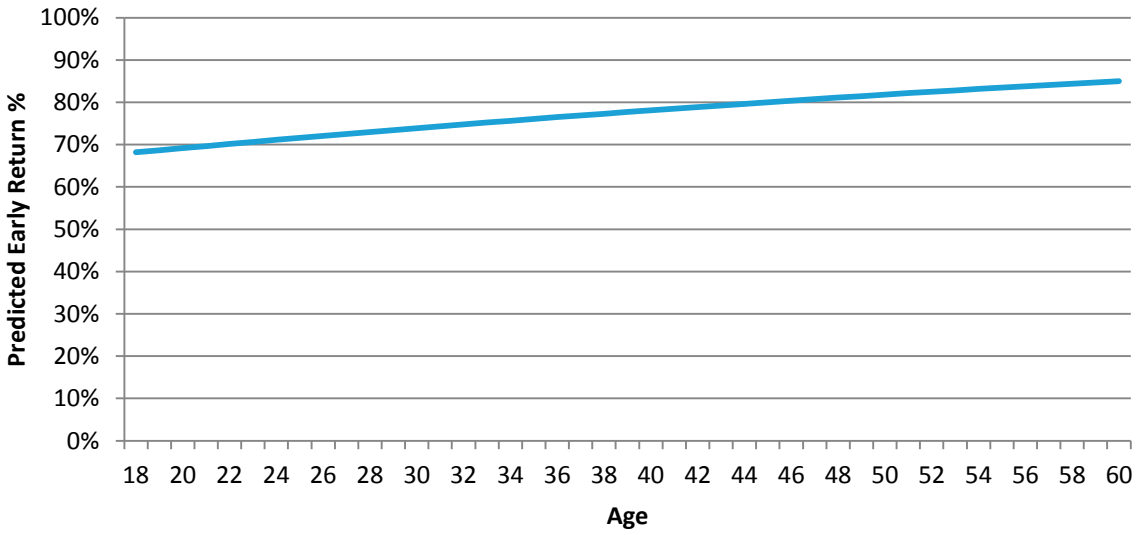
Figure 2.3: 2016 ADM Early Ballot Request by Age



Note: The percentages are the predicted probabilities from the model in Table B1 in Appendix B of the likelihood of requesting a ballot early, weighted, with all control variables held at their means so that the demographics of the sample more closely match those of the population.

Table B1 in Appendix B further shows the demographic correlates of returning a ballot early for ADM. When controlling for all other variables, respondents who were overseas, older, male and White were all significantly associated with a higher likelihood of returning a ballot early compared to other respondents. Figure 2.4 displays these results by age, showing that the likelihood of returning a ballot early increases from 68 percent for an 18-year-old ADM to 85 percent for a 60-year-old ADM, when controlling for other demographic factors. These effects held in Model 5 when controlling for receiving FVAP marketing materials, which was not significantly associated with returning a ballot early. These findings suggest, understandably, that the decision to return a ballot is influenced by more than awareness of deadlines and voting resources. In Model 6, when comparing the population that received and did not receive FVAP marketing materials, married and college-educated respondents who received FVAP marketing materials were significantly more likely to return their ballot early compared to those who did not receive these materials.

Figure 2.4: 2016 ADM Early Ballot Return by Age



Note: The percentages are the predicted probabilities from the model in Table B1 in Appendix B of the likelihood of returning a ballot early, weighted, with all control variables held at their means so that the demographics of the sample more closely match those of the population.

2.6 | Discussion and Conclusion

This analysis described the changes in ADM completing steps of the absentee voting process and evaluated the effect of FVAP's marketing materials that encouraged ADM who want to vote to complete these steps earlier in the election cycle. It shows a number of key findings:

- ADM registration, ballot request, and participation rates declined from 2012 to 2016. ADM ballot receipt rates increased from 2012 to 2016.
- The proportional decline in registration was relatively equal by Service and the decline in participation was highest for Army and Air Force.
- ADM requested and received their absentee ballots earlier in 2016 than in 2012, although returned their ballots later in 2016.
- Demographic differences and receiving FVAP marketing explained only a small number of which respondents requested or returned an absentee ballot early. Overseas, older and White ADM were significantly more likely to request and return a ballot early.

These results are consistent with FVAP marketing materials sent in June and July having a positive effect on increasing the opportunity to vote absentee by encouraging motivated ADM to register earlier. This suggests that the materials sent in September about returning an absentee ballot may not have had the desired effect, but this is most likely due to election effects. The 2016 Presidential election may have been more prone to late deciders

due to candidate effects, meaning that despite an ADM having more time between when they received their ballot and their State voting deadline, they still waited until closer to the election to make their final participation decision. These results are consistent with domestic research that older voters are more likely to take advantage of early voting, but did not, as expected, find that more educated or higher ranked ADM requested or returned their ballot early. By and large, early absentee voting appears to be related more to factors beyond demographic differences.

FVAP can incorporate this research into efforts to continue to refine its marketing plans and resources. FVAP could continue to make the deadline more prominent in marketing materials and integrate these recommended ballot request and ballot return deadlines into prominent positions on FVAP.gov and the online assistant. Encouraging Voting Assistance Officers (VAO) in training to stress these deadlines as well would be beneficial to creating a universal message and triangulating ADM voters. FVAP may consider changing the display of the ballot return deadline and how this message is targeted. Future marketing materials could explore targeting the domestic, overseas and on-ship ballot return deadlines only to those specific populations. Additionally, marketing materials and resources may want to experiment with conveying to ADM *why* they should adhere to these early ballot request and ballot return deadlines so that ADM understand the desired purpose of suggesting early voting.

The associations reported in this section could be subject to a number of important limitations. Changes in the FVAP marketing plan may have increased the percentage of ADM who requested an absentee ballot. This in turn could have changed the typical ballot requesting population to include more or less early ballot returning individuals. The changes from 2012 to 2016 also assume that the percentage of ADM requesting and returning a ballot early is fairly constant and were only modified by receipt of FVAP marketing materials. Earlier registration may be due to unmeasured election effects or motivation.

Future research should investigate the impact of early ballot requests and early ballot returns on the probability of voting absentee. This research on the impact of marketing early absentee actions could also be improved by attempting to refine self-reported survey questions about receiving FVAP marketing materials to either focus on the specific ballot request and ballot return materials received, the qualitative interpretation of those materials or by linking administrative marketing data.

Comparison of ADM and CVAP Voting Behavior

3.1 | Introduction

To meet the requirements of *UOCAVA* as amended by the *MOVE Act*, FVAP is responsible for assessing voter registration and participation by absent Uniformed Services voters. Factors that influence voting behavior of the ADM population in 2016 include both those that are specific to the ADM population as well as those that influence voting behavior among the general population. To properly understand 2016 ADM registration and participation rates, therefore, it is necessary to compare ADM registration and participation rates to overall voting measure trends within the general population. Specifically, it is useful to understand what differences might exist in registration and participation between ADM and the eligible domestic—or citizen voting age population (CVAP). The ADM population naturally tends to differ from the CVAP population demographically, such as being younger and more male, and geographically, such as being more mobile or overseas. It is necessary then to compare ADM voting measures to a demographically and geographically comparable CVAP population. Such a comparison may isolate the influence of ADM-specific factors on voting measures.

The results of this analysis indicate that 2016 ADM register and participate in elections at statistically significantly lower rates than 2016 CVAP. To a large extent, these lower registration and participation rates are due to differences in the demographic and geographic characteristics of the ADM and CVAP populations. The estimated ADM "disadvantage" is statistically significantly larger for ADM who are nonmobile and relatively educated.

This section begins by highlighting key reasons in the literature why CVAP and ADM rates may differ within elections based on substantive population differences. Next, the section discusses the PEVS-ADM and Current Population Survey (CPS) data used for these comparisons and the methodology of the decomposition analyses. The 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM registration and participation rates are then compared between the general CVAP and ADM populations, as well as between relevant demographic subpopulations in order to assess to what degree ADM's likelihood of voting might be negatively or positively impacted by factors unique to their Service. Following this is a discussion of these results and how they may inform FVAP policy.

3.2 | Research Questions

This section compares ADM to the CVAP population to explore the following specific research questions:

- How does the trend in 2016 ADM registration and participation rates compare to 2016 CVAP rates?
- How much of the difference in ADM and CVAP registration and participation rates can be explained from observed demographic differences?

3.3 | Differences in Registration and Participation Rates Between CVAP and ADM

There are multiple reasons why one might expect registration and participation rates of the ADM and CVAP populations to differ. In addition to time-based election effects discussed in the next section, there are within-election reasons why registration and participation could differ between two populations.

One reason is differences in demographics. Within the civilian population, individuals who are female, White, more educated, married or older are all associated with a higher likelihood of voting in an election.[5] Consequently, to the degree that the composition of the ADM population differs from the CVAP population, one would expect ADM registration and participation rates to differ from that of the CVAP. Consistent with this demographic explanation for differences in the voting behavior between the two populations, estimates of the demographic composition of the 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM populations derived from 2016 CPS and 2016 PEVS-ADM (see Table B1 for descriptive statistics for the ADM and CVAP populations for each demographic and geographic variable) indicate that the ADM population is younger, less educated, more male, and less likely to be White than the CVAP population.

Beyond differences in demographics, there may also be changes in the motivation to vote within particular demographic groups. Each election features different candidates and campaigns that may vary in their efforts to promote turnout among ADM versus CVAP.[6] To the degree that campaigns affect the ADM population differently than the civilian population, such as with campaign marketing or targeted resources, one would expect potentially significant differences in voting measures between the two populations.

The voting assistance networks and resources also differ between the civilian and ADM populations. ADM obtain assistance primarily from Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAO), Installation Voting Assistance Officers (IVAO), and FVAP. The CVAP obtains voting assistance from a wider range of sources, including State election officials (SEO), local election officials (LEO), the media and other domestic sources. To the extent that these resources differed in their ability to enable motivated voters to register and participate, the 2016 rates could have differed. To the degree that ADM voting assistance resources mitigate issues related to absentee voting, ADM resource

[5] See Leighley & Nagler (2013) and Wolfinger & Rosenstone (1980) for reviews of the relationship between individual demographics on turnout.

[6] Hillygus, D. S. (2005). "Campaign Effects and the Dynamics of Turnout Intention in Election 2000." Journal of Politics 67(1), 50-68.

availability and awareness may be associated with a higher participation of mobile ADM relative to mobile CVAP. For example, a major redesign of the FVAP website in 2010 was associated with a relatively larger increase in participation by overseas ADM who used the website to those who did not between the 2008 and 2012 election.[7]

Finally, there may have been significant differences in the opportunity to vote between ADM and CVAP. Residential mobility has been associated with differences in electoral turnout.[8] The proportion of ADM who changed permanent residence or were deployed in the year before the election was significantly higher than the proportion of CVAP who changed their permanent residence (Table B1). If ADM tended to be more mobile in 2016 than the CVAP population, this mobility may have decreased their opportunity to vote. Additionally, ADM and CVAP voters use different mailing systems and types of mailers, such as the DoD Label 11 envelope. Consequently, the opportunity of receiving and returning and absentee ballot may differ even between mobile ADM and mobile CVAP.

3.4 | Methodology

a. Data

To assess differences in registration and participation between 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM, this analysis uses data from the November Supplement of the 2016 Current Population Survey (CPS) and 2016 PEVS-ADM. The CPS is administered by the U.S. Census Bureau to a probability sample of 60,000 households. Households are subject to multiple in-person interviews over the course of the year. During November interviews in election years, CPS asks supplementary voting questions to the full sample of households. The target population for the November supplement are U.S. citizens who are 18 years or older and not members of the Military Services. The CPS and PEVS-ADM include questions concerning whether or not respondents registered to vote or participated in that year's general election, allowing for comparisons of voting behavior. In addition, administrative data concerning respondent demographics (e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, educational attainment) and geography (e.g., mobility and region of legal residence) are available in each survey. This availability allows for an assessment concerning to what degree differences in voting behavior between the two populations can be explained by differences in demographic and geographic characteristics between the ADM and CVAP populations. Table A1 in Appendix A contains a full list of demographic and geographic characteristics used in this analysis.

b. Methodology

The hypothesis of this analysis is that there are differences between ADM and CVAP voting behavior that are not completely explained by differences in the demographic and geographic composition between the two populations. Clarifying what explains registration and participation rates beyond these main demographic and geographic difference is important, but would require more in-depth, separate analyses focused on issues like

[7] Federal Voting Assistance Program. (2015). The Effects of the 2010 FVAP Website Redesign on Voting in the Active Duty Military Population.

[8] Hansen, J. H. (2016). "Residential Mobility and Turnout: The Relevance of Social Costs, Timing and Education." Political Behavior 38(4), 769-791.

voting assistance resource use, obstacles to voting, State factors, motivation or FVAP marketing. This analysis focuses on the observed and measurable differences between ADM and CVAP due to differences in the composition of each population.

This analysis uses a Blinder–Oaxaca Decomposition to understand the differences in ADM and CVAP registration and participation rates. The goal of this decomposition is to divide these rate differences into two parts: (1) the part due to differences in the demographic and geographic composition of the two populations, or the "explained" difference, and (2) those due to other causes.[9]

In the context of this analysis, Blinder–Oaxaca Decomposition involves using data from the 2016 CVAP to estimate models of registration and participation for the 2016 CVAP population based on observed geographic and demographic features of the CVAP population. This model is then used to generate predicted registration and participation rates for the 2016 ADM population, in which demographic and geographic data obtained from the 2016 PEVS-ADM are used as inputs in the model to generate the predictions. The registration and participation rates generated by these models represent the registration and participation rates of a subset of the 2016 CVAP population with demographic and geographic features that match those of the 2016 ADM population.

The difference between these "adjusted" registration and participation rates and the estimated registration and participation rates of the general 2016 CVAP population represent one part of the 2012–2016 change due to differences in the observable demographic and geographic characteristics of the ADM population. This is the "explained" difference. It is explained because the difference between the modeled and unmodeled 2016 CVAP registration and participation rates is a function only of observed geographic and demographic covariates.[10]

By contrast, the difference between the modeled 2016 CVAP and the observed 2016 ADM registration and participation rates is referred to the "unexplained" difference. It is unexplained because it is not due to differences in observable geographic and demographic characteristics between the 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM population, since the modeled 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM populations are identical with respect to these characteristics. Rather, the "unexplained" difference is due to unobserved characteristics that differ between the two populations that are related to voting behavior.

One additional benefit of the Blinder–Oaxaca methodology is that the "explained" difference can be further decomposed into parts due to differences in individual characteristics. Specifically, the CVAP model is used to generate predictions of what the change in registration and participation rates for the CVAP population would be

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9 See Jann (2008) for a full description of the Blinder-Oaxaca methodology.

10 Some respondents failed to provide a valid response to the voting questions and some of the demographic/geographic characteristics, meaning the observable demographic and geographic characteristics of the estimation sample will differ from those of the full population. Specifically, 14,086 respondents out of 62,081 total eligible respondents (23%) lacked complete data in the 2016 CPS sample whereas 1,928 out of 7,009 (28%) lacked valid data in the 2016 ADM-PEVS. These differences between the estimation sample and total sample may lead to some biases in inferences concerning the size of the unadjusted gap as well as the decomposition of that gap into observed and unobserved differences.

if the mean of a given demographic or geographic variable were changed from the observed CVAP mean to the mean of that variable for ADM, holding all other variables constant at the CVAP mean.[11] This change represents an estimate for the part of the explained difference that is due to differences between the CVAP and ADM populations with respect to that variable. Undertaking this procedure for each demographic and geographic variable in turn allows for the decomposition of the explained difference between the CVAP and ADM populations. To obtain insight into the demographic origins of the unobserved difference, the difference in registration and turnout is also examined by subgroup. This is accomplished by estimating logit models of registration and participation using data from both the 2016 CPS and 2016 PEVS-ADM in which the log-odds coefficients are allowed to vary based on election. This model is used to estimate predicted probabilities of registration and participation for particular 2016 ADM subpopulations under alternative scenarios in which all members of the subpopulation were members of CVAP versus members of ADM. Comparing the difference in the predicted probabilities of ADM and CVAP registration and participation across subgroups indicates the degree to which unobservable differences in the ADM population were concentrated in particular subpopulations.

3.5 | Results

a. CVAP and ADM Registration and Participation

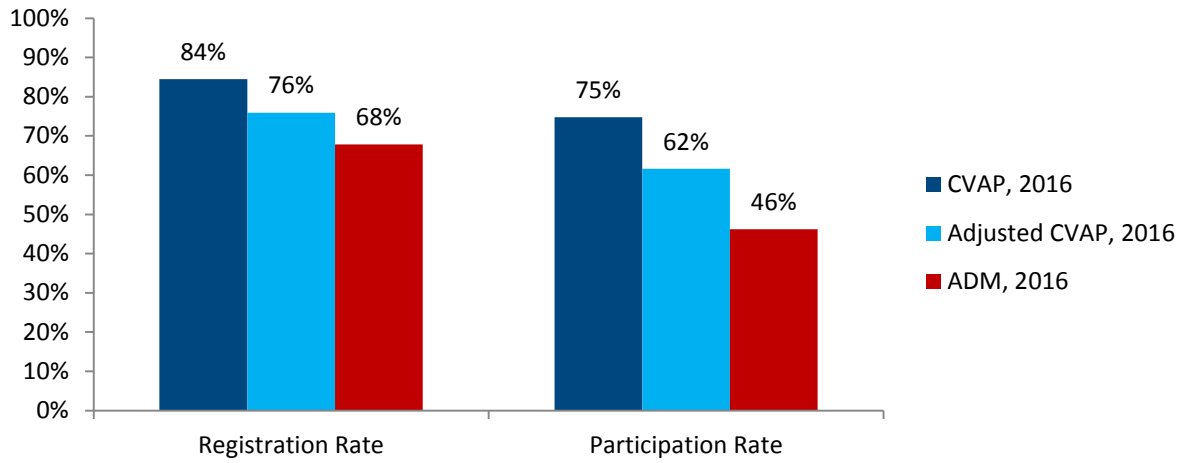
Estimated registration and participation rates for the 2016 CVAP population, the adjusted 2016 CVAP population and the 2016 ADM populations are presented in Figure 3.1. The estimated registration and participation rates for the 2016 CVAP population are 84 percent and 75 percent, respectively. The estimated registration and participation rates for 2016 ADM are 68 percent and 46 percent, respectively. Once the CVAP sample is adjusted to match the ADM sample with respect to observed demographic and geographic characteristics, the registration and participation rates drop to approximately 76 percent and 62 percent, respectively. Therefore, after making these two populations comparable, ADM had an 8-percentage-point lower registration rate and 16-percentage-point lower participation rate than the 2016 CVAP.

The lower estimated registration and participation rates of the "adjusted" 2016 CVAP population reflect the relatively greater proportion of certain groups, who were less likely to vote in the 2016 General Election, present within the 2016 ADM population. Detailed decompositions of the explained difference between the CVAP and ADM registration and participation rates are presented in Tables C2 and C3 in Appendix C. The results of these

11 Note that this decomposition is possible due to the use of linear probability models to generate "adjusted" 2016 CVAP registration and participation rates. One may be concerned that linear models may be biased due to the dichotomous nature of the registration and voting variables. To allay this concern, logistic models are estimated using pooled data from the 2012 CPS and 2016 PEVS-ADM in which the demographic and geographic characteristics are interacted with an indicator for whether the respondent is in the CPS or ADM sample. This model is then used to generate an average marginal effect of being in the ADM sample on the ADM population. This marginal effect corresponds to an estimate of the unexplained difference, and is very similar to that generated using the linear probability model. These logistic models are used to generate the predicted probabilities of registration and participation by mobility and education subgroups presented in Figures 3.2-3.5.

detailed decompositions indicate that the "explained" difference between 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM populations can be accounted for by differences in the average age, mobility and gender between the two populations.

Figure 3.1: 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM Registration and Voting Rates, Adjusted and Unadjusted Comparisons



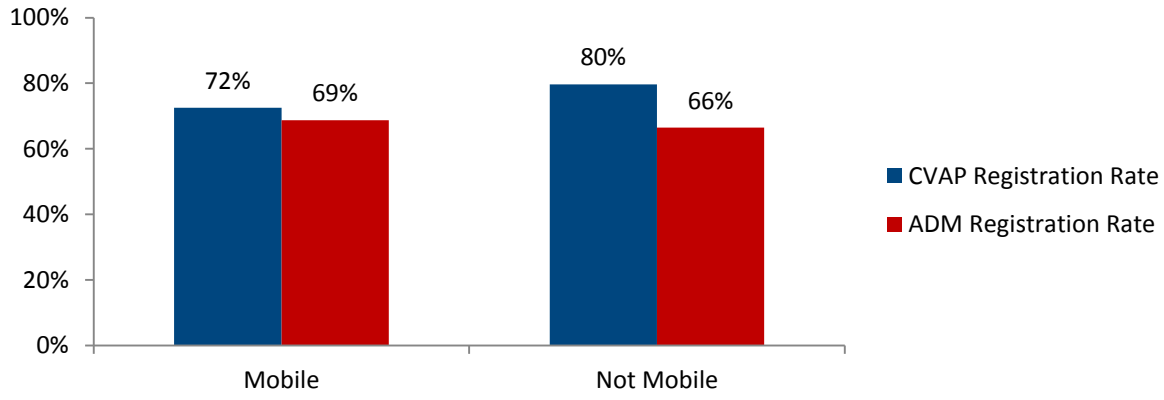
Note: The ADM and CVAP registration and participation rates for this analysis may differ from cross-sectional analyses of the 2016 PEVS-ADM or CPS. The analysis necessitates the exclusion of observations in the PEVS-ADM and November CPS, resulting in different turnout rates.

Approximately half of the differences in registration and participation rates can be explained by the observed demographic and geographic characteristics of the ADM population. Specifically, 9 percentage points of the unadjusted 17-percentage-point registration difference in registration rates is explained by differences in these demographic and geographic characteristics, and this difference is not statistically significantly different from zero. Thirteen percentage points of the unadjusted 29-percentage-point difference in the participation rate is explained by observed characteristics.

b. Mobility and the Effect on CVAP and ADM Registration and Participation

Comparing the CVAP and ADM models of registration and participation provides some hint as to which subpopulations were especially affected by the "unexplained" difference in registration and participation. As displayed in Tables C4–C7 in Appendix C, controlling for other characteristics, being ADM is associated with a larger relative decline in registration and participation rates among nonmobile individuals—those who had not changed their address in the previous 12 months. This relative drop is illustrated graphically in Figure 3.2, which presents predicted probabilities of registering for mobile and nonmobile ADM populations and modeled CVAP. Mobile ADM had a likelihood of being registered that was 3 percentage points lower than mobile-modeled CVAP, whereas nonmobile ADM had a likelihood of being registered that was 14 percentage points lower than nonmobile-modeled CVAP.

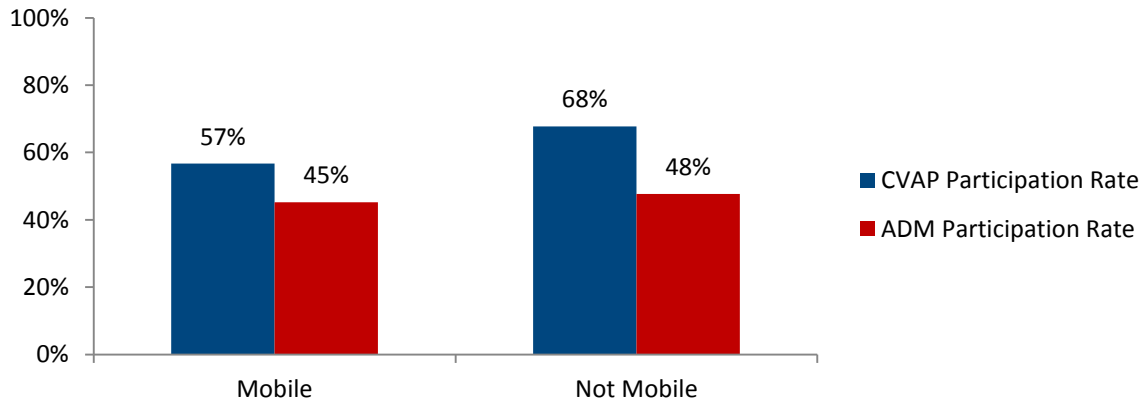
Figure 3.2: 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM Registration Rates By Mobility



Note: Figure presents predicted registration rates for mobile and nonmobile 2016 ADM under the scenarios in which the ADM are part of the CVAP population versus the ADM population. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

Figure 3.3 displays the predicted probabilities of participation for mobile and nonmobile ADM populations and modeled CVAP. Mobile CVAP had an approximately 12-percentage-point higher likelihood of participating than mobile ADM, whereas nonmobile CVAP had a 20-percentage-point higher likelihood of participating than nonmobile ADM.

Figure 3.3: 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM Participation Rates By Mobility

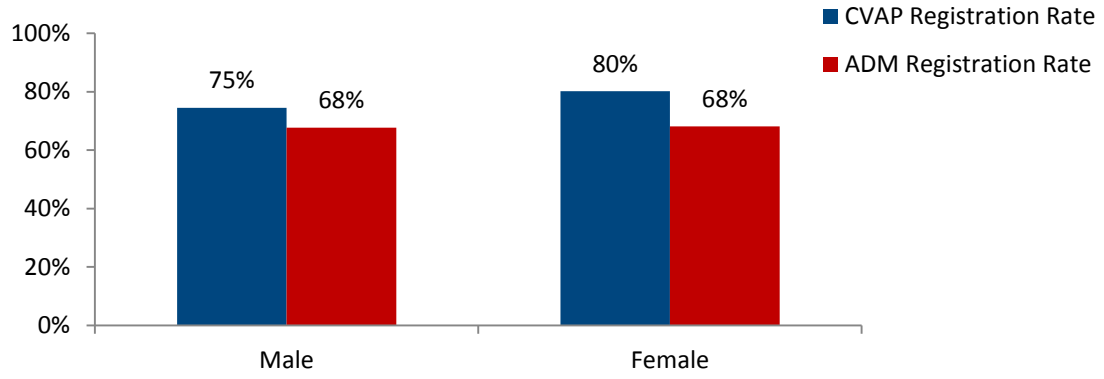


Note: Figure presents predicted participation rates for mobile and nonmobile 2016 ADM under the scenarios in which the ADM are part of the CVAP population versus the ADM population. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

c. Gender and the Effect on CVAP and ADM Registration and Participation

The difference in registration and participation associated with being members of the ADM or CVAP population also appears to have varied across ADM of different genders. Specifically, although being a member of the ADM population is associated with lower registration and participation rates for both genders, the CVAP–ADM gap is especially large for females. As displayed in Figure 3.4, ADM males have registration rates that are 7 percentage points lower than demographically similar CVAP males, and ADM female registration rates are 12 percentage points lower than their CVAP equivalents.

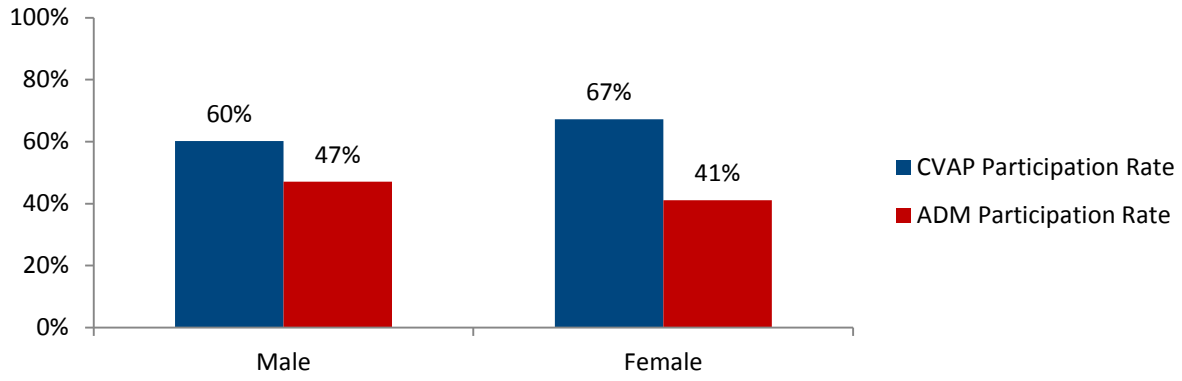
Figure 3.4: 2016 CVAP And 2016 ADM Registration Rates By Gender



Note: Figure presents predicted registration rates for male and female 2016 ADM under the scenarios in which the ADM are part of the CVAP population versus the ADM population. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

As displayed in Figure 3.5, ADM males have participation rates that are 13 percentage points lower than demographically similar CVAP males, and ADM female participation rates were 26 percentage points lower than CVAP females.

Figure 3.5: 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM Participation Rates By Gender



Note: Table presents predicted participation rates for male and female 2016 ADM under the scenarios in which the ADM are part of the CVAP population versus the ADM population. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

3.6 | Discussion and Conclusion

This section compares ADM and CVAP voting behavior and attempts to examine the degree to which any difference in behavior between the two populations could be explained by changes in the demographic and geographic composition between the two populations. The findings indicate that:

1) The registration and participation rates of the ADM population were statistically significantly lower than that of the CVAP population.

2) Half of the difference between ADM and CVAP voting measures can be explained by changes in demographics and geography.

3) The difference in ADM and CVAP participation rates are especially large among less mobile individuals and females.

Even when comparing the ADM population to a demographically and geographically similar CVAP population, the ADM population participates at a lower rate. The fact that about half of the difference in registration and participation rates cannot be explained by demographics or geography suggests that there were significant and substantive differences between the ADM and CVAP populations that must be accounted for by unobserved factors. These differences may be due to greater obstacles to voting or lower motivation to vote by the ADM population relative to CVAP.

The ADM–CVAP participation gap varies across the populations, with the gap being smaller among mobile and female ADM relative to observationally equivalent CVAP. There are multiple theoretical explanations for why the unexplained difference was stronger among some groups than others. ADM voting assistance resources can be

expected to be more effective in the case of ADM who are mobile, and thus more likely to vote absentee. The fact that the registration and participation decline associated with being a member of the ADM population is smallest for such groups, even after controlling for gender, education, geography, age, ethnicity, and family status,[12] is consistent with ADM voting assistance resources mitigating the impediments to voting associated with being ADM for this target mobile population. It may also simply be the case that mobile individuals are generally less motivated to vote, and thus are not affected as much by the obstacles to voting that result from being ADM. Future research is needed to test these theories on the intersection between motivation and obstacles to voting.

There are several limitations to the comparisons presented here. The comparisons rely on two different survey administrations, which differ on questionnaire design, sampling and communications. It is possible that the estimated difference in participation is due to these differences in survey administration. Specifically, although the ADM-PEVS is web-based and framed as a voting survey in the invitations to participation, the November CPS is collected through in-person interviews and panel methodology. The CPS is also not specifically identified as a voting survey. Differences in survey administration can have substantial effects on estimated registration and participation rates, as shown by the results of the survey framing experiment undertaken in the 2016 PEVS-ADM.[13] Specifically, differences in the PEVS-ADM administration may have resulted in lower propensity to respond among ADM who typically vote, leading to a relatively lower estimated ADM participation rate, even if the true participation rates of the two populations did not differ. It is also possible that either survey did not sample a truly representative sample. Beyond survey administration, the choices available to ADM with respect to candidates in 2016 may have led to lower turnout relative to 2016 CVAP. In addition, the jurisdictions in which ADM were registered to vote may have been less competitive with respect to either presidential or congressional races, which would decrease expected turnout.

There are also multiple theoretical explanations for the overall unexplained difference between the two populations. Many of these have already been mentioned, including population differences in motivation, resources, or campaign election effects. Future FVAP research may attempt to test these and other hypothesis for the drop in the estimated ADM turnout relative to CVAP.

13 See Appendix G for a description and results of this experiment.

Comparison of ADM Voting Measures, 2012 to 2016

4.1 | Introduction

To meet the requirements of *UOCAVA* as amended by the *MOVE Act*, FVAP must be aware of changes in the ADM registration and participation rates between elections and attempt to understand what is causing them. In this section, 2012 and 2016 registration and participation rates are compared both for the general ADM population, as well as relevant demographic subpopulations, in order to assess to what extent changes in the registration and participation rates from 2012 to 2016 were due to changes in the demographic and geographic characteristics of ADM.

The results of this analysis indicate that there was a statistically significant drop in registration and participation rates of the ADM population between 2012 and 2016. Only a small part of these declines was due to changes in observed ADM demographics and geographic characteristics. The drop in participation was statistically significantly larger for women and non-Whites even after controlling for differing trends among ADM by age, educational attainment and geography. These results show that the majority of the change in ADM registration and participation is associated with factors beyond demographic and geographic shifts between elections.

This section begins with a discussion of how registration rates and participation rates within the ADM may be prone to changing over time. Next, it discusses the 2012 and 2016 PEVS-ADM data used in this analysis, the hypotheses on testing these changes for shifts in observable demographic and geographic characteristics and the decomposition methodology used to test these hypotheses. Then follows the results of these decompositions for ADM 2012 and 2016 registration and participation rates at large and how these rates differ between subpopulations, specifically by gender and race/ethnicity. To evaluate whether these changes in voting behavior are unique to ADM, this section also evaluates changes in the CVAP population from 2012 to 2016 by gender and race/ethnicity. Results show that registration and participation rates were lower for ADM females and ADM non-Whites in 2016, but the same trend in 2016 for CVAP subpopulations was not found. This section ends with an interpretation of these results, a discussion of limitations, and possible paths for future research.

4.2 | Changes in Registration and Participation Rates Over Time

There are a number of reasons why one might expect estimates of registration and participation in the ADM population to have changed between 2012 and 2016. Domestically, the participation rate has fluctuated between an estimated 63 percent and 49 percent of the voting age population since 1960.[14] Most domestic research points to changes in demographics, motivation, and opportunity to vote as the three key reasons why registration and participation rates change.

The literature on political participation emphasizes the existence of consistent disparities in turnout rates among different demographic and socioeconomic groups. Specifically, individuals who are female, White, more educated, married and older are all associated with a higher likelihood of voting.[15] Consequently, to the degree that the composition of the ADM population has changed since 2012 with respect to these characteristics, one would expect ADM registration and participation rates to have changed as well. For example, if demographic groups that have particularly high or low propensity to participate in elections also become more likely to join or separate from the military between the two elections, one may expect registration and participation rates to change due to these shifts in the demographic composition of the military.

Beyond changes in demographics, there may also be changes over time in the motivation to vote within particular demographic groups. Motivation can change due to competitiveness, candidate options, campaign strategies, social pressure, the media and other factors. Changes in competitiveness as well as generational changes in the perceived value of voting have been linked to reductions in turnout across multiple western democracies.[16] Each election features different candidates and campaigns that vary in their efforts to promote turnout among specific subpopulations.[17] To the degree that motivation changes over time within the ADM population, as research shows they have with the civilian population, one would expect potentially significant trends and fluctuation in turnout for ADM over time.

Finally, there may have been significant changes in the opportunity to vote between 2012 and 2016 for the ADM population. Residential mobility has been associated with changes in electoral turnout.[18] Given this finding, if deployment rates in 2016 were lower than in 2012, then a smaller proportion of ADM might be required to use the absentee voting system in 2016 relative to in 2012. Voting assistance resources are meant to mitigate issues with the opportunity to vote, especially for *UOCAVA* voters who are likely to face more barriers to voting

14 U.S. Census Bureau. (2012). "Table 397. Participation in Elections for President and U.S. Representatives: 1932 to 2010" (PDF). U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the United States.

15 See Leighley & Nagler (2013) and Wolfinger & Rosenstone (1980) for reviews of the relationship between individual demographics on turnout.

16 Blais, A., & Rubenson, D. (2013). The Source of Turnout Decline New Values or New Contexts? Comparative Political Studies 46(1), 95-117.

17 Hillygus (2005)

18 Hanson (2016)

due to complexities within the absentee voting process. Although voting assistance resources may have improved between 2012 and 2016, State laws may fluctuate and require changes to resources. Awareness of these resources could also shift based on marketing campaigns. These changes in ADM resource availability and awareness may be associated with a change in the ADM registration and participation rates.

4.3 | Methodology

a. Data

To assess changes in registration and participation rates between 2012 and 2016, this analysis uses data from the 2012 and 2016 PEVS-ADM. Both years included questions concerning whether or not ADM registered to vote or participated in that year's general election, allowing for comparisons on identical questions. In addition, survey and administrative data were collected in both years about a respondent's demographics (e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, educational attainment) and geography (e.g., mobility and region of legal residence). These variables allow for an assessment concerning to what degree changes in voting behavior between the two elections can be explained by changes in demographic and geographic characteristics of the ADM population versus other unmeasured changes. See Appendix A for a full list of demographic and geographic characteristics used in this analysis.

b. Methodology

This analysis hypothesizes that there were changes in ADM voting behavior between 2012 and 2016 that are not explained by changes in demographic and geographic composition.

To evaluate this hypothesis, the analysis uses a Blinder–Oaxaca Decomposition to understand the changes in ADM registration and participation rates from 2012 to 2016. As stated in the previous section, the goal of this decomposition is to divide these rate changes into two parts: (1) the part due to shifts in the demographic and geographic composition of the ADM population, or the "explained" difference, and (2) those due to other causes, or the "unexplained" difference.[19]

In the context of this analysis, Blinder–Oaxaca Decomposition involves using data from the 2012 PEVS-ADM to estimate models of registration and participation for the 2012 ADM population based on observed geographic and demographic features of the ADM population. This model is then used to generate predicted registration and participation rates for the 2016 ADM population using demographic and geographic data obtained from the 2016 PEVS-ADM. The registration and participation rates generated by these models represent the registration and participation rates of a subset of the 2012 ADM population with demographic and geographic features adjusted to match that of those in the 2016 ADM population.

The difference between these "adjusted" registration and participation rates and the estimated registration and participation rates of the general 2012 ADM population represent one part of the 2012–2016 variance due to

[19] See Jann (2008) for a full description of the Blinder-Oaxaca methodology.

changes in the observable demographic and geographic characteristics of the ADM population. This is the "explained" difference; it is explained because the difference between the adjusted and unadjusted 2012 ADM registration and participation rates is a function only of observed geographic and demographic covariates.

By contrast, the difference between the adjusted 2012 and the observed 2016 registration and participation rates is referred to as the "unexplained" difference. It is unexplained because it is not due to differences in observable geographic and demographic characteristics between the 2012 and 2016 population, as the adjusted 2012 ADM and 2016 ADM population are identical with respect to these characteristics. Rather, the "unexplained" difference is due to unobserved differences in characteristics between the two populations that are related to voting behavior.

It should be noted that because some respondents did not provide a valid response to the voting questions and some of the demographic and geographic characteristics, the observable demographic and geographic characteristics of the estimation sample differ from those of the full ADM population. Specifically, 1,205 respondents out of 10,840 total eligible respondents (11%) lacked complete data in the 2012 ADM-PEVS sample whereas 1,928 out of 7,009 (28%) lacked valid data in the 2016 ADM-PEVS. These differences between the estimation sample and total sample may lead to some biases in inferences concerning the size of the unadjusted gap as well as the decomposition of that gap into observed and unobserved differences.

To obtain insight into the potential origins of the unobserved difference, the change in registration and turnout is also examined by subgroup. This examination is accomplished by estimating a logit model of registration and participation using data from both 2012 and 2016 PEVS-ADM in which the log-odds coefficients are allowed to vary based on election. This model is used to control for the differences in demographics and geography and then estimate predicted probabilities of registration and participation in 2012 and 2016 for particular 2016 subpopulations. Comparing the difference in the predicted probabilities of registration and participation across subgroups indicates the degree to which unobservable changes in the ADM population were concentrated in particular subpopulations.

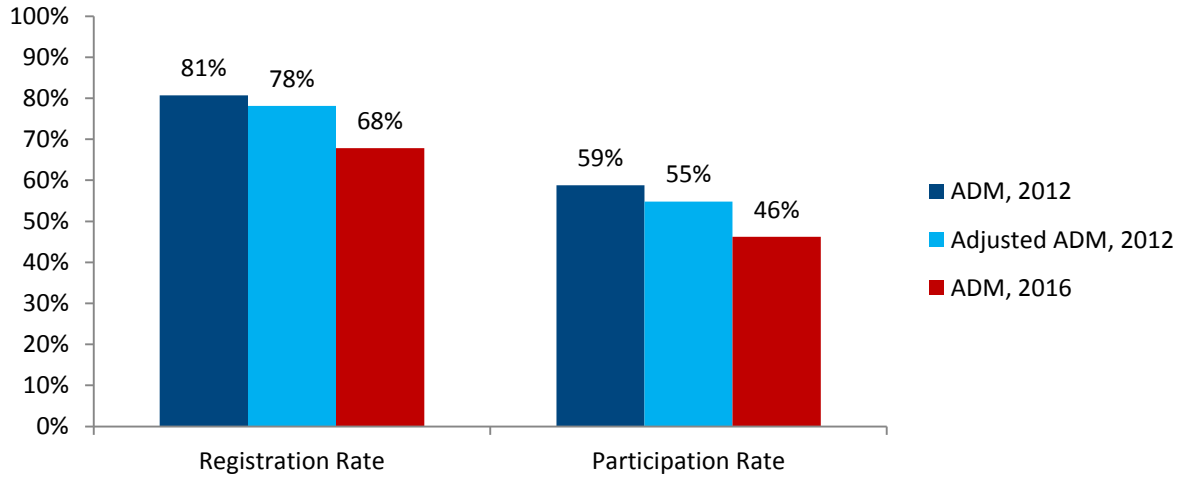
4.4 | Results

a. ADM Registration and Participation, 2012–2016

Estimated registration and participation rates for the 2012 ADM population, the adjusted 2012 ADM population and the 2016 ADM populations are presented in Figure 4.1. The estimated registration and participation rates for the 2012 ADM population are 81 percent and 59 percent, respectively. Before adjusting, there exists a 14-percentage-point lower registration rate for 2016 ADM and a 13-percentage-point lower participation rate compared to 2012 ADM. Once the 2012 sample is adjusted to match the 2016 sample with respect to observed demographic and geographic characteristics, the registration and participation rates drop to approximately 78 percent and 55 percent, respectively. The gap between years shrinks to a 10-percentage-point lower registration rate in 2016 and a 9-percentage-point lower participation rate compared to the adjusted 2012 ADM.

When analyzing the explained part due to demographic and geographic differences, the results of these decompositions indicate that the "explained" difference between 2012 and 2016 ADM populations can be accounted for by changes in the average age between the two populations. Specifically, the 2016 ADM population is, on average, one year younger than the 2012 ADM population. Detailed decompositions of the explained difference between the 2012 and 2016 registration and participation rates are presented in Tables D1 and D2 in Appendix D, respectively. Overall, compared to the 2012 ADM population, the 2016 ADM population had a greater proportion of the demographic subgroups that were less likely to vote in the 2012 General Election.

Figure 4.1: 2012 and 2016 ADM Registration and Voting Rates, Adjusted and Unadjusted Comparisons

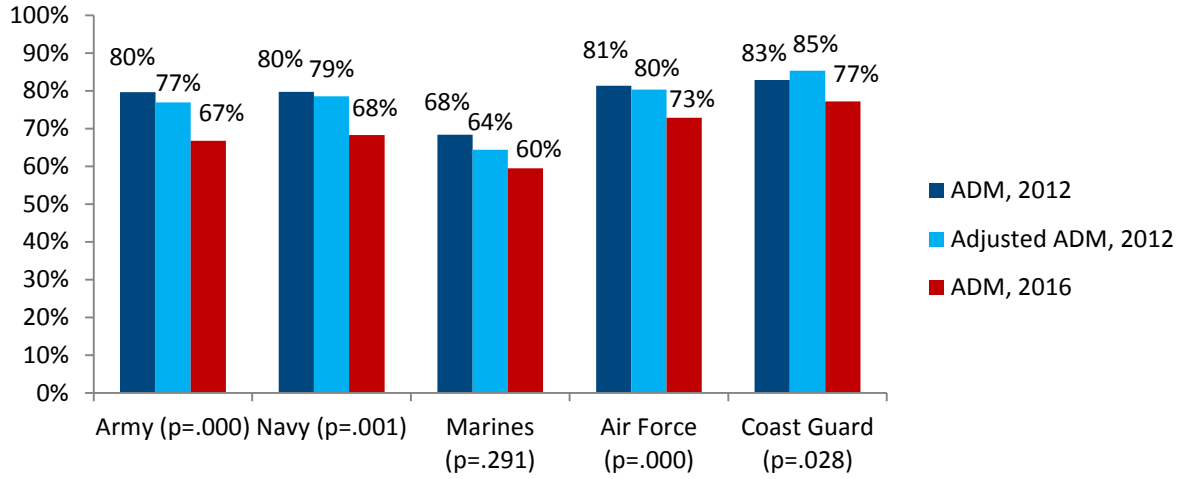


However, the parts of the drops in registration and participation rates that can be explained by the observed demographic and geographic characteristics of the ADM population are limited. Specifically, only approximately 3 percentage points of the total 13-percentage-point registration decline in ADM registration rates is explained by changes in these demographic and geographic characteristics. And only approximately 4 percentage points out of the 13-percentage-point drop in the participation rate can be explained by observed characteristics. This suggests other factors beyond demographic and geographic ADM changes were associated with the drop in registration and participation rates between elections.

To examine if these observed drops in registration and participation are driven by only a subset of the Services, the analysis sample is split by Service and estimates of the 2012 (adjusted and unadjusted) and 2016 reigstration and participation rates generated for each Service. The sample size for the individual Services are smaller, and thus the estimated rates potentially are noisier due to greater sampling variability. Comparisons in the drop in registration and participation rates should therefore be made with caution. However, the results are consistent with a drop in registration and participation for each Service, even after adjusting the 2012 subsample to match the 2016 sample with respect to demographic and geographic charachteristics. The difference between the adjusted 2012 and 2016 rates are statistically significant with the exception of the

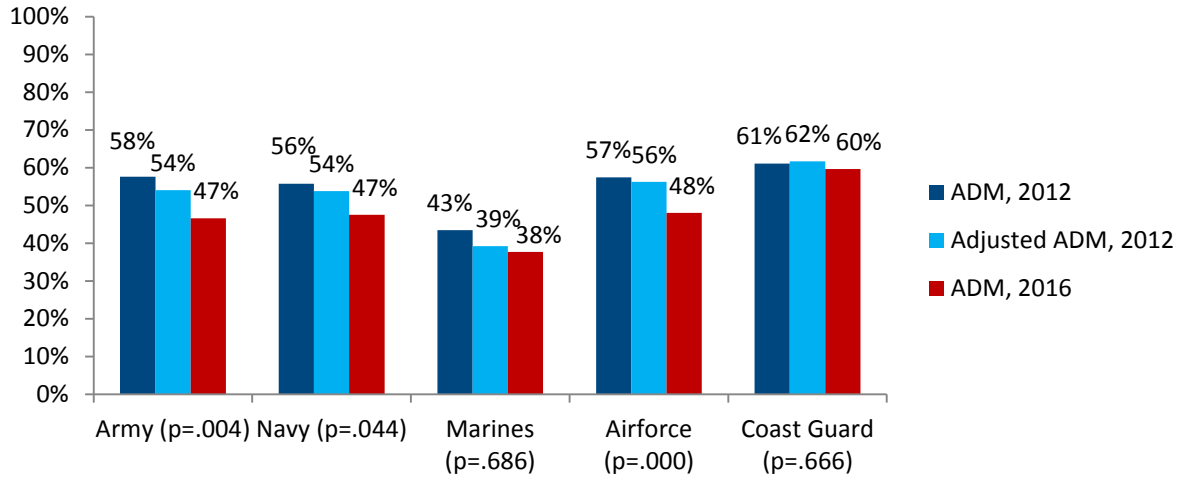
Marine Corps and Coast Guard, whose rates are particularly unreliable due to small sample size. This disaggregated analysis is consistent with the drop in registration and participation rates between 2012 and 2016 being an ADM-wide phenomena, and not the results of dynamics particular to particular Services.

Figure 4.2: 2012 and 2016 ADM Registration Rates by Service, Adjusted and Unadjusted Comparisons



Notes: Adjusted and unadjusted comparisons of registration rates by Service. *P*-values for the comparison between the 2016 registration rate and the adjusted 2012 registration rate are presented in parentheses.

Figure 4.3: 2012 and 2016 ADM Participation Rates by Service, Adjusted and Unadjusted Comparisons

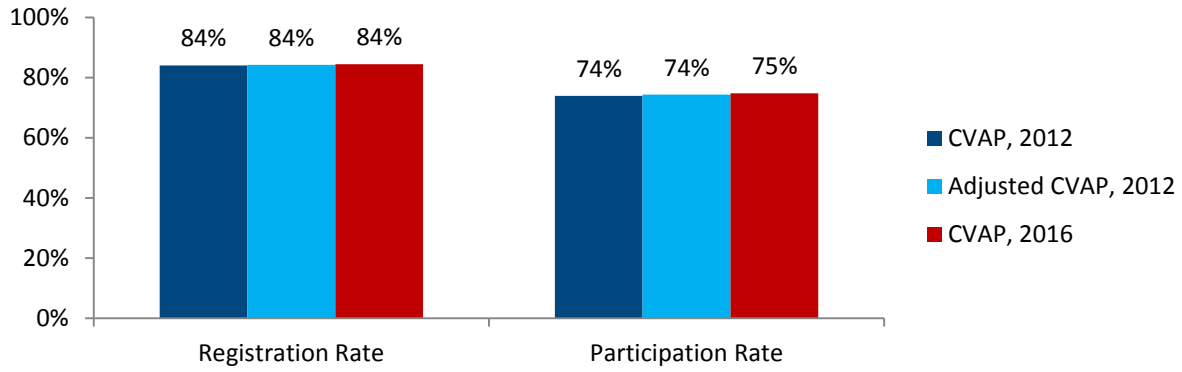


Notes: Adjusted and unadjusted comparisons of participation rates by Service. *P*-values for the comparison between the 2016 participation rate and the adjusted 2012 participation rate are presented in parentheses.

b. CVAP Trends in Registration and Participation, 2012–2016

These downward trends in registration and participation could potentially be due to broader trends in the non-ADM population. Figure 4.4 displays the results of the model comparing CVAP registration and participation rates for 2012 and 2016. In contrast with the ADM trends, there is no apparent downward trend in registration or participation for the CVAP population. Although bivariately there appears to be a small uptick in registration (p = .083) and participation (p = .000), these changes become statistically insignificant once the 2012 CPS sample is adjusted to match the demographic and geographic characteristics of the 2016 CVAP population. These results are consistent with the trends observed in registration and participation being ADM-specific.

Figure 4.4: 2012 and 2016 CVAP Registration and Voting Rates, Adjusted and Unadjusted Comparisons

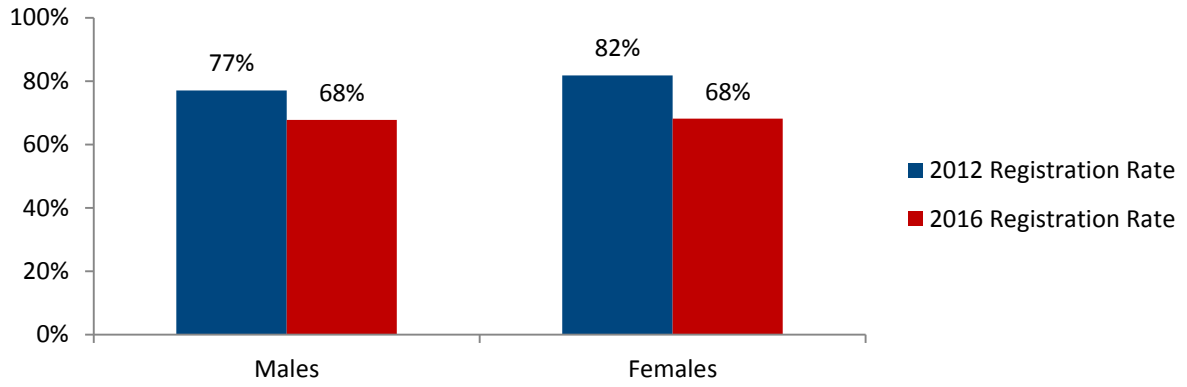


Note: Detailed decomposition results for the CVAP trend analysis are not presented in this report, but are available upon request.

c. Gender and the Effect on ADM Registration and Participation, 2012–2016

Comparing the 2012 and 2016 models of ADM registration and participation (Appendix D, Tables D3–D6) provides evidence as to which groups were especially affected by the "unexplained" drop in registration and participation. Specifically, controlling for other characteristics, female registration and participation rates seem to have declined relative to male rates. The change in registration rates for males and females between 2012 and 2016 is illustrated graphically in Figure 4.5, which presents predicted probabilities of registering in the 2012 and 2016 General Elections for each population. Although both males and females saw drops in registration between the two elections, the predicted registration rate dropped by approximately 14 percentage points from 2016 to 2012 for females versus 9 percentage points for males.

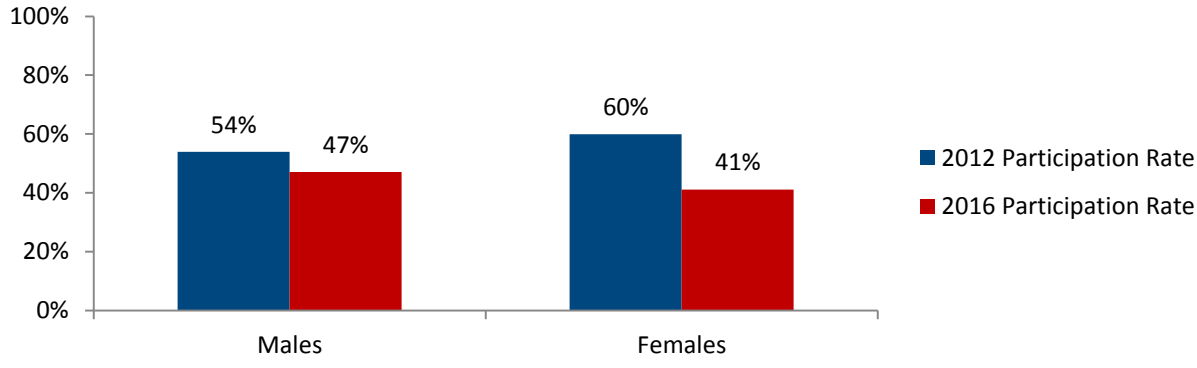
Figure 4.5: 2012 and 2016 ADM Registration Rates by Gender



Note: Figure presents predicted 2012 and 2016 registration rates for the 2016 male and female populations. Predictions were generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

This change in ADM participation rates by gender is illustrated graphically in Figure 4.6, which presents predicted probabilities of participating in the 2012 and 2016 General Elections for both the 2016 male and female ADM populations. Both males and females saw drops in participation between the two elections. The likelihood of males participating in each election declined 7 percentage points from 2016 to 2012 versus 19 percentage points for females.

Figure 4.6: 2012 and 2016 ADM Participation Rates by Gender



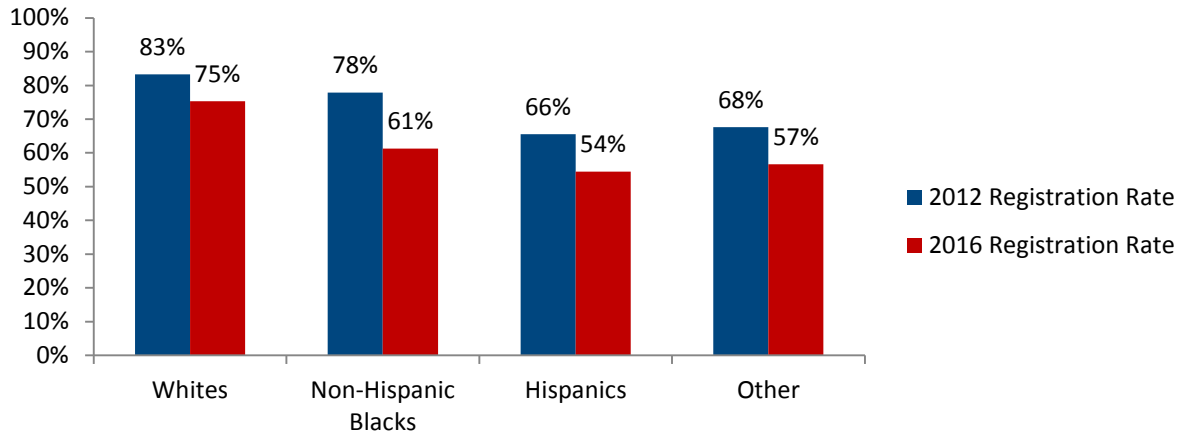
Note: Figure presents predicted 2012 and 2016 participation rates for the 2016 male and female populations. Predictions were generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

d. Race and Ethnicity and the Effect on ADM Registration and Participation, 2012–2016

The 2016 change in ADM registration and participation also appears to have varied across racial/ethnic subpopulations. Specifically, the drop in registration and participation rates by non-Hispanic Whites appears to have been smaller than for other groups. As displayed in Figure 4.7, non-Hispanic White registration rates

declined 8 percentage points in 2016. In contrast, the predicted dropoff in registration seems to have been especially large for non-Hispanic Blacks, whose registration rates declined approximately 18 percentage points.

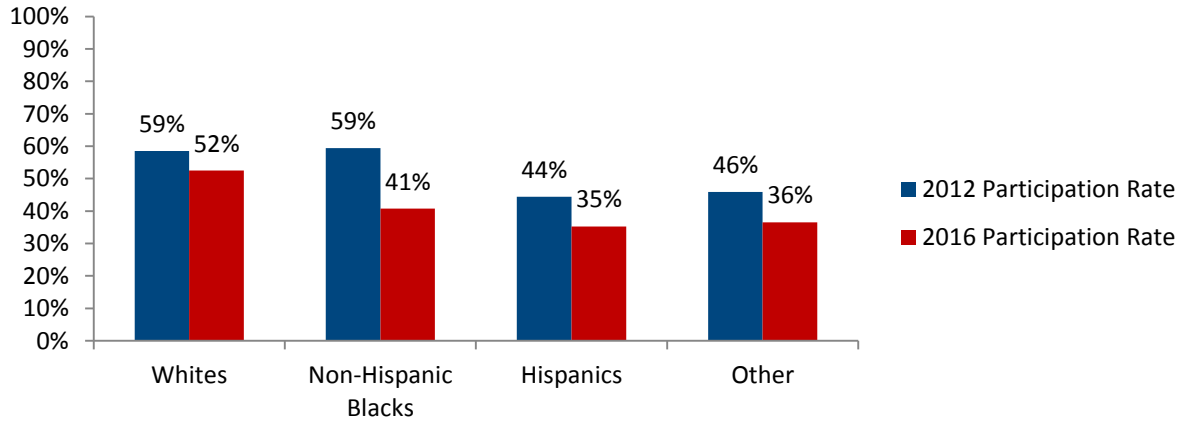
Figure 4.7: 2012 and 2016 ADM Registration Rates by Race/Ethnicity



Note: Figure presents predicted 2012 and 2016 registration rates for the different 2016 racial/ethnic subpopulations. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

The likelihood of participation in 2012 and 2016 for each racial group is presented in Figure 4.8. Across all racial groups, the participation rate declined across elections and display similar trends to the registration rates. The predicted dropoff in participation declined approximately 18 percentage points for non-Hispanic Blacks and 9 percentage points for Hispanics.

Figure 4.8: 2012 and 2016 ADM Participation Rates by Rates/Ethnicity



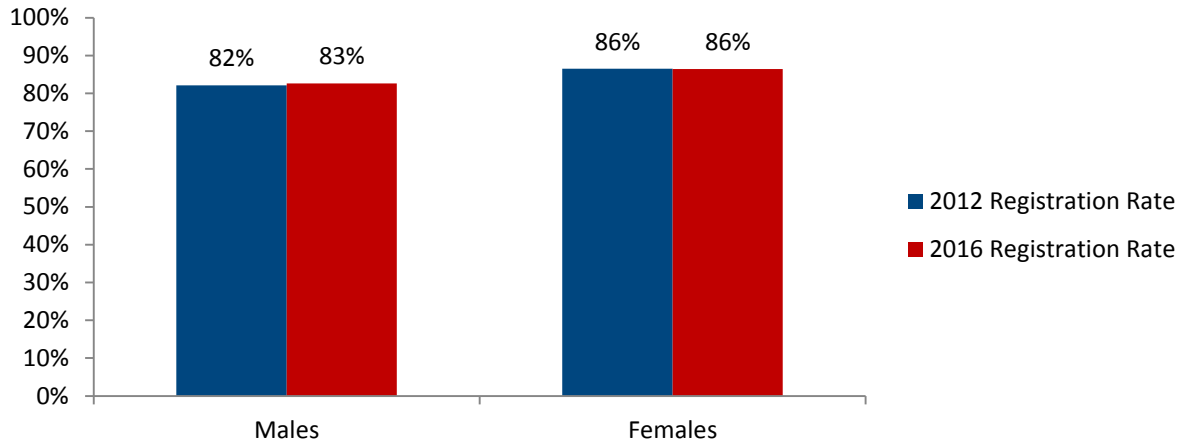
Note: Figure presents predicted 2012 and 2016 participation rates for the different 2016 racial/ethnic subpopulations. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

e. CVAP Gender and Race and Ethnicity Trends on Registration and Participation, 2012–2016

It is important to evaluate whether the changes in subpopulation registration and participation rates from 2012 to 2016 are unique to the ADM population or common to the general civilian population. The figures below show that unlike the ADM subpopulations, CVAP registration and participation rates did not vary as much by gender or racial group.

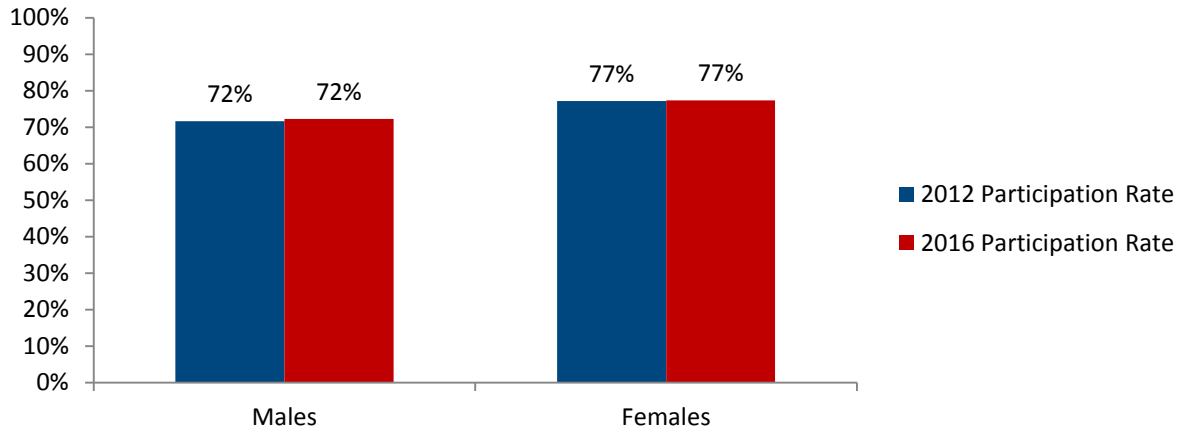
Figures 4.9 and 4.10 display the likelihood of CVAP registering and participating in 2012 and 2016 for both males and females. From 2012 to 2016, the likelihood of registering for males increased 1 percentage point, whereas it stayed the same at 86 percent for females. In terms of participation, from 2012 to 2016, the likelihood of participating was exactly the same for males and females, at 72 percent and 77 percent, respectively.

Figure 4.9: 2012 and 2016 CVAP Registration Rates by Gender



Note: Figure presents predicted 2012 and 2016 registration rates for the 2016 male and female populations. Detailed decomposition results for the CVAP trend analysis are not presented in this report, but are available upon request.

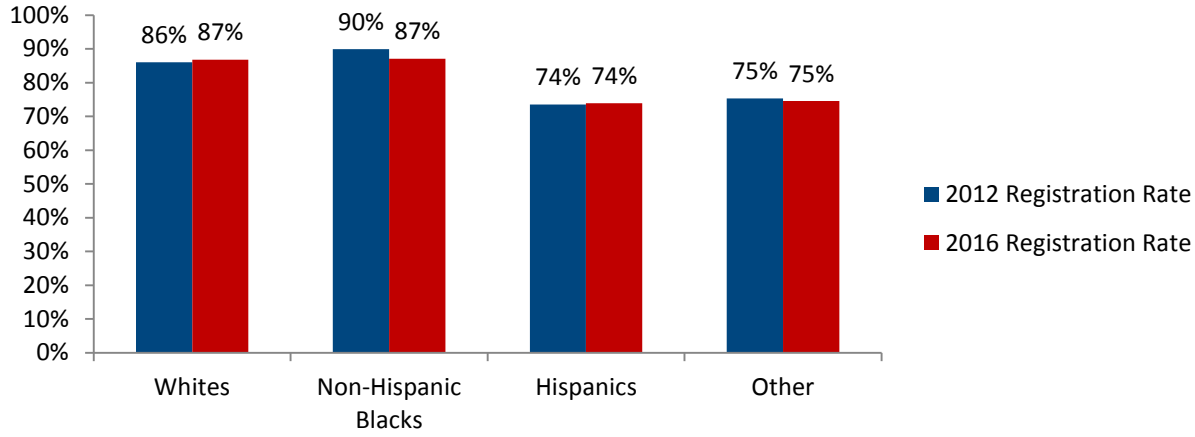
Figure 4.10: 2012 and 2016 CVAP Participation Rates by Gender



Note: Figure presents predicted 2012 and 2016 participation rates for the 2016 male and female populations. Detailed decomposition results for the CVAP trend analysis are not presented in this report, but are available upon request.

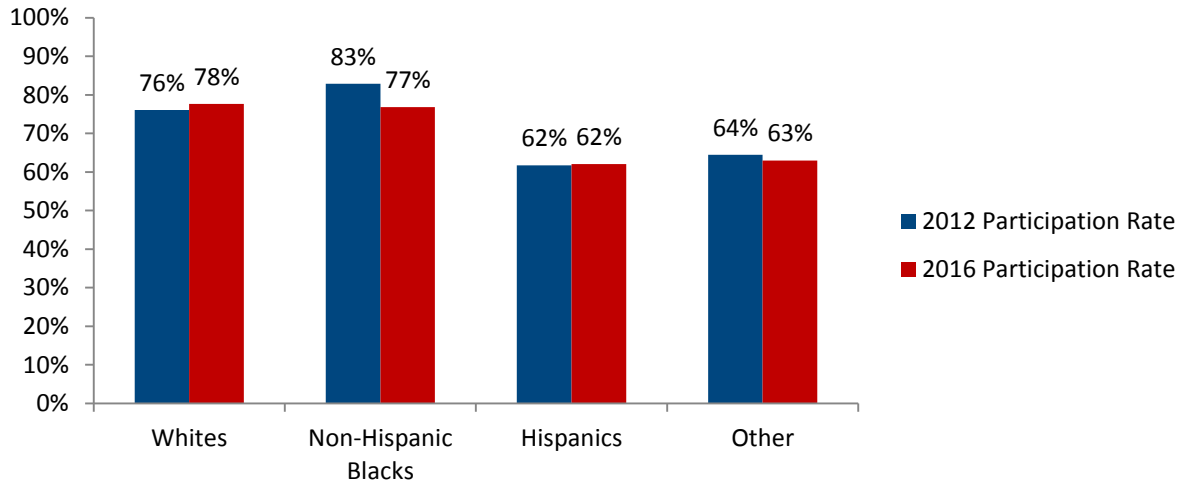
Figures 4.11 and 4.12 display the likelihood of CVAP registering and participating in 2012 and 2016 for Whites, non-Hispanic Blacks, Hispanics and other race/ethnicity. Whites, Hispanics and other race/ethnicity had essentially the same likelihood of registering in 2012 and 2016, with a 3-percentage-point decrese for CVAP who were non-Hispanic Black. For participation, the same trend held true, with non-Hispanic Blacks having a 6-percentage-point lower likelihood of voting in 2016 than in 2012, but other groups staying about equally likely to participate. These data suggest that beyond the shifts in demographic composition between ADM and CVAP, the subgroups within each population differed in 2016 in their likelihood of registering and participating.

Figure 4.11: 2012 and 2016 CVAP Registration Rates by Race/Ethnicity



Note: Table presents predicted 2012 and 2016 registration rates for the different 2016 racial/ethnic subpopulations. Detailed decomposition results for the CVAP trend analysis are not presented in this report, but are available upon request.

Figure 4.12: 2012 and 2016 CVAP Participation Rates by Rates/Ethnicity



Note: Table presents predicted 2012 and 2016 participation rates for the different 2016 racial/ethnic subpopulations. Detailed decomposition results for the CVAP trend analysis are not presented in this report, but are available upon request.

f. Other Factors Influencing ADM Registration and Participation, 2012–2016

These results suggest that explanations for the "unexplained" drop in ADM participation must go beyond the current demographic and geographic covariates. To explain all of the "unexplained" drop in registration and participation in the ADM population, one would have to show that another measure disproportionately affected females and minorities, even after controlling for mobility, geography, age, education and family status.[20]

4.5 | Discussion and Conclusion

This section compares ADM voting behavior in the 2012 and 2016 General Elections and attempts to examine the degree to which any change in behavior of the ADM population could be explained by changes in the demographic and geographic composition of the ADM population versus other differences between the two populations. The findings indicate that:

1) There was a statistically significant drop in registration and participation by the ADM population between 2012 and 2016.

2) These declines in registration and participation were observed across all Services.

[20] Specifically, both OLS and logit regressions interacting election year with demographic and geographic variables indicate statistically significant differences in changes in participation by gender and race/ethnicity even after controlling for changes in other characteristics.

3) These drops in the registration and participation rates are largely unexplained by changes in demographics and geography.

4) These drops in registration and participation rates were especially large among women and minorities.

5) The decline in registration and participation by gender and race/ethnicity appears to be ADM-specific, showing only some similar trends for non-Hispanic Black voting measures.

There are multiple potential explanations for this large unexplained drop in participation between the two elections and why it was stronger among some groups than others. Changes in motivation and obstacles to voting are not measured here, but could both impact ADM and specific subpopulations. For example, for motivation, one obvious difference between the two elections was differences in candidates. The candidate choices and election issues available to ADM in 2016 may have led to lower turnout relative to 2012, particularly among female and minority ADM. Although the aggregate decline in participation was not reflected in the CVAP population, candidate choice could have affected ADM differently than civilians due to differences in their preferences. Another possibility, as mentioned in the previous section, is that the estimated decline in participation is due to survey measurement error or survey administration changes.

Future FVAP research should seek to explain the decline in the estimated ADM registration and participation rates by exploring factors beyond the observed demographic and geographic variables tested here. Future research could explore the more pronounced declines in the subgroups studied here to see if motivation or obstacles to voting uniquely impacted these demographics.

ADM Social Networks in the 2016 General Election

5.1 | Introduction

As part of its mission to provide absentee voting assistance to ADM, FVAP attempts not only to make voting assistance resources available to ADM, but also to help ensure ADM are aware of these resources and know how to use them. Providing this procedural information to ADM through marketing campaigns may be more effective if the information is targeted toward a subset of socially connected ADM or ADM spouses. Consistent with FVAP's 2016 marketing campaign that targeted influential individuals, targeting highly connected social networks may aid in spreading information concerning how to vote. This analysis uses data from the 2016 General Election to examine the degree to which social networks can be an important source of procedural information for ADM. Specifically, the analysis examines the degree to which the existence of one strong social tie—that of the spouse—is associated with the transfer or procedural information as well as voting-related behavior. This analysis also examines to what extent the transfer of procedural information is associated with voting-related outcomes.

This section begins by discussing the role of social networks in distributing voting-related information and how this may apply to ADM. Next, it discusses the 2016 PEVS-ADM data used in this analysis, how social networks are proxied by marital status and the hypothesis tested in this section. The results of this analysis indicate that ADM with spouses are more likely to have had conversations about election procedures, a proxy for the transfer of procedural information, as well as to have registered to vote, requested an absentee ballot, returned an absentee ballot and voted. These relationships hold when controlling for demographic correlates of voting behavior. In addition, the results of this analysis indicate that the discussion of procedural information is strongly associated with voting across and within demographic groups. Although this evidence does not establish that information transfer causes ADM to vote, it is consistent with ADM social networks being a potentially important source of procedural information that can be taken advantage of by FVAP in its future marketing efforts.

5.2 | Research Questions

This section analyzes a number of research questions related to ADM social connectivity:

- How socially connected were ADM in 2016?
- Are ADM who are socially connected more likely to report sharing absentee voting procedural information?

- Are ADM who report sharing absentee voting procedural information more likely to complete the absentee voting process?

5.3 | The Role of Social Networks in Voting

Prior research has found that one's social connections and the characteristics of those connections are strongly related to voting propensity.[21] The mechanisms through which social connections may influence voting include: increasing the salience of elections to the individual, stigmatizing the decision to not vote and the transfer of information concerning how to vote.

Social connectivity may increase the motivation to vote by increasing one's investment in the outcome of an election.[22] Highly connected individuals may be more likely to obtain information about candidates, increasing the strength of their preferences about those candidates.[23] Aside from increasing candidate preference, social connections may raise the utility one gains from the act of voting.[24] Having social connections who vote may lead an individual to conclude that voting is a civic norm.[25] The failure to perform this duty may lead to social stigma, increasing one's incentive to vote.[26] Finally, social connections may transfer knowledge concerning how to vote.[27] Procedurally informed social connections may transfer their knowledge to individuals, which increases their incentive to vote as well as their success in actually having their ballot counted.[28]

ADM social connections may facilitate voting through similar mechanisms. For example, research on the influence of ADM spouses found that having a spouse mitigates the obstacles to voting that results from being stationed outside of the United States. But research examining the overseas civilian population has indicated that many overseas social networks, to the extent they exist, typically do not provide the procedural information necessary to successfully submit an absentee ballot. Specifically, fewer than half of overseas absentee ballot

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21 McClurg, S. D. (2003). Social networks and political participation: The role of social interaction in explaining political participation. *Political Research Quarterly, 56*(4), 448–65.

22 Putnam, R. D. (2000) *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. New York, New York: Simon & Schuster.

23 Leighley, J. (1996). Group membership and the mobilization of political participation. *The Journal of Politics, 58*(02), 447–463.; Huckfeldt, R. (2001). The social communication of political expertise. *American Journal of Political Science*, 425–438.

24 Fowler, J. H. (2005). Turnout in a small world. In A. Zuckerman, *Social logic of politics* (pp. 269-287). Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press.

25 Stoker, L., & Jennings, M. K. (1995). Life-cycle transitions and political participation: The case of marriage. *American Political Science Review, 89*(02), 421-433.; McClurg (2003).

26 Gerber, A. S., Green, D. P., & Larimer, C. W. (2008). Social pressure and voter turnout: Evidence from a large-scale field experiment. *American Political Science Review, 102*(01), 33-48.

27 McClurg (2003).

28 Verba, S., Schlozman, K. L., & Brady, H. E. (1995). *Voice and equality: Civic voluntarism in American politics* (Vol. 4). Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

requesters who returned an absentee ballot actually have votes recorded in their State's voter file.[29] In addition, the number of the absentee ballot requester's self-reported social connections in the country who were U.S. citizens has been found not to be positively associated with the probability of successful voting.[30] However, when the motivated connections of overseas civilians were decomposed into procedurally informed and uninformed by their likelihood of successful voting, procedurally informed connections were found to increase the probability of successful voting, while procedurally uninformed connections did not. Consequently, although the existence of social networks does not necessarily increase the probability that a member of the *UOCAVA* population will vote, a sufficiently informed network can. Just like overseas citizens, ADM living outside their voting jurisdiction require procedural information about the absentee voting process and are also part of a population with relatively low participation rates. Consequently, ADM social networks may be procedurally uninformed. This suggests that there is scope to facilitate ADM voting by providing information to ADM social connections.

5.4 | Methodology

a. Data

To assess the role of ADM social connections in the absentee voting process, this analysis draws on the 2016 PEVS-ADM. The survey includes questions concerning whether or not ADM registered to vote or participated in that year's general election, allowing for comparisons of voting behavior. The PEVS-ADM also includes information on whether an ADM member was married. ADM are defined as socially connected in this analysis if they reported that they were married. Although other FVAP analyses have defined social connectivity based on the size of overseas civilians' networks, it is less feasible to calculate the total size of an ADM member's social network that may include military and personal contacts both domestic and abroad. The survey also asked whether respondents had discussed voting procedures with family or non-family connections. Those who responded that they had discussed voting procedures with any family or non-family individuals are defined in this analysis as transferring voting procedural information. Finally, administrative and survey data concerning respondent demographics and geography are available for most respondents, which allows for a comparison of connected and disconnected ADM with similar characteristics. See Appendix A for a full list of demographic and geographic characteristics used in this analysis. Data are limited in this analysis to ADM *UOCAVA*, described henceforth as only ADM, defined as those who reported living 50 miles or more outside of their voting jurisdiction.

b. Methodology

The hypotheses of this report are that (1) an ADM's social connections can facilitate the transfer of procedural information, and that (2) this information can in turn facilitate successful absentee voting.

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29 Federal Voting Assistance Program. (2016). *Overseas citizen population analysis.* Available at FVAP.gov.

30 Federal Voting Assistance Program. (2014). Overseas Social Connectivity and Voting in the 2014 General Election.

The methodology used to test the first of these hypotheses involves comparing respondents in the PEVS-ADM who were and were not socially connected with respect to the probability that the respondent either received information from or transferred information to a social connection.

To test this first hypothesis, logit models of information transfer and ADM voting metrics are estimated. One issue with simply comparing rates of information transfer across married and unmarried ADM is that married and unmarried individuals may differ systematically with respect to their motivation or ability to obtain procedural information from sources other than their social network, such as from news sources, political campaigns or directly from FVAP.gov. ADM with this independently acquired knowledge may be more likely to transfer information to other connections, and thus report having had a conversation about voting procedures. An observed difference between the information transfer rate of married and single ADM may reflect differences in the motivation or ability to independently acquire information, rather than information transfer between the spouse and ADM. Logit models of information transfer are estimated in which the probability of information transfer is the result of whether the respondent is married as well as a set of socioeconomic and geographic ADM characteristics that may be correlated with the motivation or ability to vote. The model is then used to generate predictions of the absentee voting rate for the weighted ADM sample under the assumption that the entire sample is married or the entire sample is single. Because the samples for these two predictions are by construction identical in all respects other than being married, the difference in predicted information transfer rates between the "All Married" and "All Single" scenarios does not reflect differences in socioeconomic or geographic characteristics included in the model, and thus more plausibly reflects the effect of being connected to a spouse on the increased probability of information transfer.

To test the second hypothesis, respondents who did and did not report having discussed absentee voting procedures before the election were compared with respect to voting-related outcomes, including whether they registered to vote, voted, requested an absentee ballot and returned an absentee ballot. If the group that did discuss absentee voting had higher registration, voting, absentee request and absentee return rates, the evidence is found to be consistent with procedural information transfer through social networks facilitating absentee voting under at least some circumstances. As discussed above, individuals who did and did not discuss absentee ballot procedures may differ with respect to the motivation or ability to independently obtain information. Predicted voting-related rates, controlling for demographic factors, are calculated and compared under scenarios in which either the entire ADM population are assumed to have discussed absentee ballot procedures with a connection and no ADM discussed absentee ballot procedures with a connection. Self-reports of discussing absentee voting procedures may be subject to measurement error due to respondent confusion about the question or poor recall, resulting in attenuated differences in voting outcomes between the two groups. Consequently, married and unmarried ADM were also compared with respect to the voting outcomes, given that marriage (1) is expected to be positively correlated with information transfer and thus may be a reliable proxy for such transfer, and (2) likely suffers less from measurement error rather than reports of specific discussions about voting procedures.

5.5 | Results

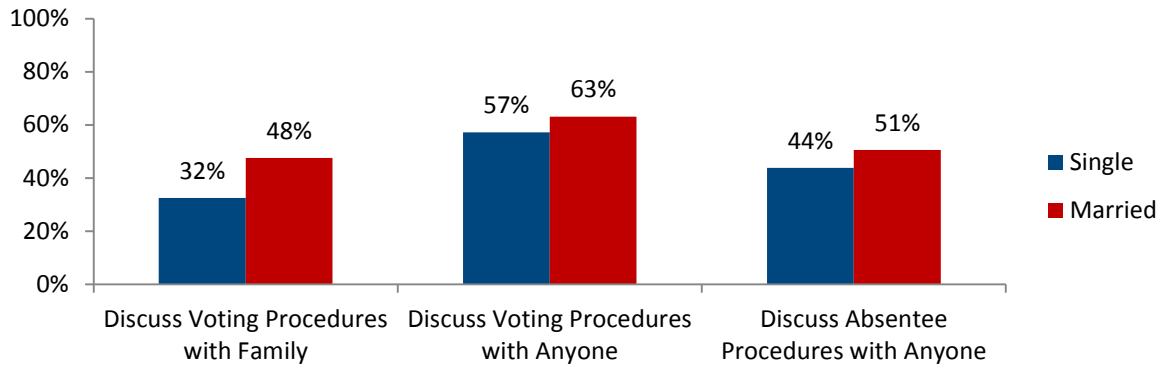
a. Descriptive Evidence of Social Networks and the Transfer of Procedural Information

Before examining the relationship between social networks and voting outcomes, it is worth examining the degree to which ADM have social connections and engage in the type of activity that could potentially influence their voting behavior. Approximately 54 percent of ADM were married. Forty-one percent of ADM discussed voting procedures with a family member, and 60 percent of ADM discussed voting procedures with any type of contact. Additionally, 47 percent discussed absentee voting procedures in particular. A large fraction of ADM appear to rely on or provide support to their social network in the form of procedural information. Therefore, there is substantial scope for social networks to influence ADM voting outcomes.

b. Social Connectivity Differences Between Married and Single ADM

Figure 5.1 displays the predicted probabilities of three types of discussions of voting procedures for both married and single ADM. After controlling for other demographic differences, married ADM are statistically significantly more likely to have reported discussing voting procedures with a family member than single ADM. This finding is consistent with having a spouse facilitating information transfer.

Figure 5.1: Discussing Voting Procedures Between Married and Single ADM



Note: Figure displays the predicted probabilities of having discussed voting procedures for the married and single populations. The "Predicted" rates represent predictions for what the rate would be if all ADM were single or all ADM were married. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

Given that a spouse represents a strong family connection, married ADM may be expected to be more likely to engage in information transfer with a family member. However, absent a spouse, ADM may be more likely to rely on non-family connections for information transfer. Consequently, the predicted probabilities of discussing voting procedures with family may not provide strong evidence that marriage actually increases the probability of any information transfer with a respondent's social network. Predicted differences in the probabilities that ADM report information being transferred between themselves and *anyone* the ADM knows are also reported in Figure 5.1. After controlling for other demographic factors, married ADM are statistically significantly more likely

to have reported discussing voting procedures with any connection than single ADM. This finding is consistent with having a spouse facilitating information transfer in general, rather than just with family members.

As a final test of the first hypothesis, married and single ADM were compared with respect to their probability of having discussed absentee voting procedures, as it is this type of procedural information that is of direct relevance to absentee voters. Predicted differences in the probabilities that ADM report absentee voting information being discussed between themselves and someone the respondent knows are also reported in Figure 5.1. After controlling for other demographics, married ADM are statistically significantly more likely than single ADM to have reported discussing voting procedures with a family member. This finding is consistent with having a spouse facilitating information transfer.

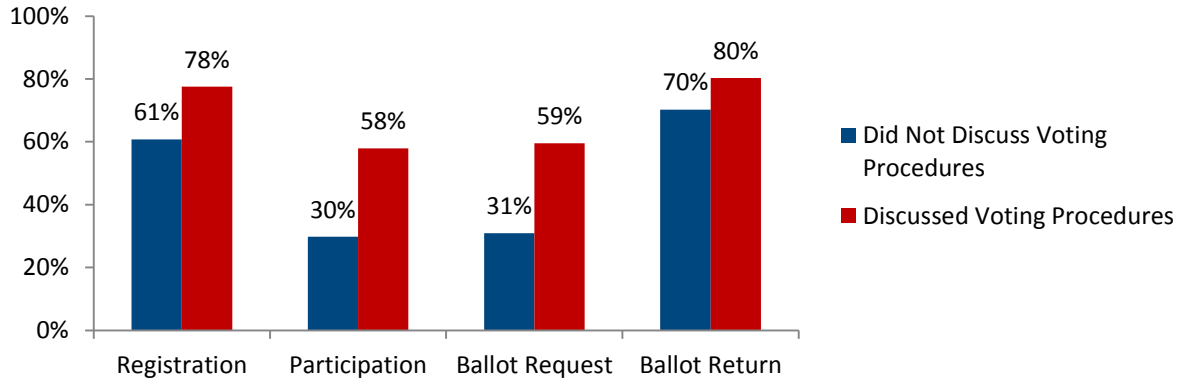
The findings of this section are consistent with the hypothesis that the existence of strong social connections, and specifically spouses, can result in the transfer of procedural information to ADM.

c. Discussing Procedural Voting Information and Absentee Voting Measures

Figure 5.2 presents the predicted registration, participation, absentee ballot request and absentee ballot return rates of ADM who did and did not discuss absentee voting procedures before Election Day. Those who discussed voting procedures had an 17-percentage-point higher likelihood of being registered, 28-percentage-point higher likelihood of participation, 29-percentage-point higher likelihood of requesting a ballot, and 10-percentage-point higher likelihood of returning a ballot. For each of these voting outcome measures, the difference between ADM who report having discussed absentee ballot procedures and those who did not discuss them is statistically significant.[31] This finding is consistent with information transfer facilitating the completion of the absentee voting process.

31 Note that the sample for ballot return rates is limited to those ADM who requested an absentee ballot. To the degree that there is less variation in the motivation to vote within the subset of ADM who requested an absentee ballot than for the general ADM population, the difference in absentee ballot return rates may provide more direct evidence of a difference in actionable procedural information than the comparisons made in Figure 5.2.

Figure 5.2: Difference Voting Outcomes Between ADM Who Did and Did Not Discuss Absentee Voting Procedures Before Election Day



Note: Figure presents predictions for what the rate would be if all ADM had or had not discussed absentee procedures. Predictions are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A.

The results of the comparisons made in Figure 5.2 support the hypothesis that the transfer of procedural information through social networks can facilitate the successful completion of the absentee voting process. These associations with absentee voting measures hold when being married is used as an alternative definition for social connectivity (Table E1 in Appendix E).

5.6 | Discussion and Conclusion

This report examines the role of ADM's social connections, and in particular their spouses, in facilitating the transfer of information concerning the absentee voting processes to ADM and the potential role this information in turn has on the probability of successfully completing the absentee voting process. The findings indicated that:

1) ADM who are married are more likely to report having discussed voting, and particularly absentee voting procedures, with someone they knew. This finding is not explained by other observable ADM socioeconomic and geographic characteristics.

2) ADM who report having discussed absentee voting procedures with someone they knew were more likely to report having registered to vote, requested an absentee ballot, returned an absentee ballot, and voted.

These findings are consistent with the role of ADM social networks, and particularly spouses, in facilitating voting through the transfer of procedure information. These results thus provide evidence that FVAP's efforts to provide information to ADM concerning voting assistance resources by marketing to ADM social connections can be effective.

It should be noted that there may be differences between married and single ADM not captured in the model, and thus the difference in information transfer rates may still reflect differences in motivation or ability between married and single ADM to independently acquire procedural information, rather than information transfer through the spouse. Similarly, there may be differences between ADM who did and did not discuss absentee voting procedures not captured by the model that explain differences in voting measures between the two groups. These limitations should be kept in mind when interpreting the results of this analysis.

There are multiple directions for future research. One is to examine the degree to which other types of observable ADM connections, such as other family members or fellow ADM stationed at the same base and/or assigned to the same unit, may act as a source of procedural voting information. These connections may provide an opportunity for FVAP to indirectly market its services to ADM who are not married. Another direction of future research is to attempt to identify which ADM connections are actually procedurally informed. Although the results of this analysis are consistent with information transfer facilitating voting in some cases, theory suggests that it should only do so when the individual transferring the information has accurate information. Obtaining some proxy for procedural information, such as a spouse's vote history or self-reports concerning the value of the information obtained, will thus provide a more compelling test of the procedural information mechanism proposed here. It is also the case that highly connected individuals who are also procedurally uninformed may be the most useful target of FVAP outreach, given that they are the most likely to have not already transferred information to the connections.

The Effect of Voting Obstacles on First-Time Voters

6.1 | Introduction

First-time absentee voters are a key voting population for FVAP because they have both a strong implicit motivation to vote and are a population highly in need of voting assistance to enable them to do so. Many FVAP actions, such as improving resources or training, stand to benefit all ADM, regardless if it is their first or 10th time voting absentee. However, first-time voters are at a unique disadvantage because if they face an obstacle to voting absentee, they are more likely to be unaware of whom to turn to for assistance. It is necessary then for FVAP to understand the unique obstacles that first-time voters encounter and how this impacts their opportunity to vote.

This section begins with a discussion of research questions about voting obstacles experienced by ADM first-time voters and how this relates to previous literature on first-time voting and experience with the absentee voting process. Next, it discusses the PEVS data used for analyses here, definitions of absentee ballot issues as a form of voting obstacles, and how this analysis defines and compares first-time voters to experienced voters. Results then show that one-quarter of first-time voters experience difficulty obtaining on-base voting assistance and one-third experience an absentee ballot issue. Awareness of FVAP as a brand and of FVAP marketing was lower for first-time voters than experienced voters, whereas FVAP resource use was about equal between the two populations. When calculating the effect of experiencing an absentee ballot issue on voting, between first-time voters and experienced voters, there is a strong negative association with voting but it was not statistically significantly larger for first-time voters. This section concludes with how FVAP can use these results to continue to refine marketing and communication efforts to first-time voters.

6.2 | Research Questions

This section analyzes a number of research questions related to first-time voters:

- How do ADM first-time voters and experienced voters differ demographically and in terms of engagement with FVAP resources?
- Do ADM first-time voters experience a disproportionate share of absentee voting issues?
- Does the effect of facing an absentee voting issue more negatively impact first-time voters than it does habitual absentee voters?

6.3 | First-Time Voters and the Absentee Voting Process

Most research discussing first-time voters analyzes the different factors that lead young individuals to turn out to vote in their first eligible election. Younger individuals are the least likely to participate in elections, whereas those in their 60s are the most likely to participate in elections. Researchers describe ages 18–29 as formative years when an inexperienced voter is developing civic identities, establishing voting habits and increasingly engaging in civic life.[32] This lifecycle hypothesis argues that as younger individuals age, they pass through key life events like marriage, having children, or buying a home that increase their civic engagement and community ties, leading to a higher likelihood of participation.[33] Others explain the declines in young first-time participation are likely due to people taking on adult roles later in life, which leads to a delay in transitioning to habitual voting habits associated with adulthood.[34]

Many researchers argue that this lifecycle hypothesis is too simplistic and does not account for factors like socioeconomic inequalities, social networks and obstacles to voting. For example, researchers show first-time voters are more likely to become habitual voters initially if their parents have a higher socioeconomic status or are more partisan.[35] Others add that first-time voters whose parent votes, especially if of the same gender, are also more likely to vote in their first election. This effect attenuates due to mobility, as first-time voters living at home tend to vote more than those who have moved out on their own.[36] It is debatable whether viewing news media increases the likelihood of participation for first-time voters, but it tends to depend on the level of individual engagement of that media, the type of news media and the media focus on turnout. Young first-time voters who are targeted with information campaigns tend to increase both their internet information searching habits and engagement in political discussion, each associated with increased turnout.[37] These studies suggest that first-time voting domestically is strongly correlated with experience, but that experience may come through both increased knowledge throughout the lifecycle or increased social and informational resources that can be leveraged to overcome voting obstacles.

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32 Esser, Frank and Claes H. de Vreese. (2007). "Comparing Young Voters' Political Engagement in the United States and Europe." American Behavioral Scientist 50(9): 1195-1213; Plutzer, Eric. (2002). "Becoming a Habitual Voter: Inertia, Resources, and Growth in Young Adulthood." *The American Political Science Review* 96(1): 41-56.

33 Highton, Benjamin and Raymond E. Wolfinger. (2001). "The First Seven Years of the Political Life Cycle." American Journal of Political Science 45(1): 202-209.

34 Smets, K. (2016). Revisiting the Political Life-cycle Model: Later Maturation and Turnout Decline among Young Adults. European Political Science Review 8(2), 225-249.

35 Plutzer, Eric. (2002).

36 Bhatti, Yosef and Kasper M. Hansen. (2012). "Leaving the Nest and the Social Act of Voting: Turnout among First-Time Voters." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 22(4): 380–406.

37 Esser and de Vreese. (2007).

First-time ADM absentee voters should be associated with many of the same findings as domestic first-time voters, but with increased emphasis on knowledge accumulation and overcoming voting obstacles. As discussed in Section 3 of the PEVS Integrated Report and in previous FVAP research notes, voting absentee for the first time requires overcoming a number of voting obstacles typical of the absentee voting process.[38] *UOCAVA* voters have to learn about their State's rules and regulations for registering to vote, requesting an absentee ballot and returning their voted ballot. If using an FPCA, they must know how to provide their classification status, driver's license, or social security number (SSN), U.S. voting residence address, and any additional information required by their State, as well as how and when to submit the completed form to their local election office. If their application is complete, *UOCAVA* voters are sent an absentee ballot and must return their voted ballot before the statutory deadline. If *UOCAVA* voters have not received their absentee ballot at least 30 days before an election, they can submit a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB), which includes the voter declaration/affirmation, as well as write-ins for election offices and ballot initiatives. First-time voters are also less likely to know what to do if they encounter absentee voting obstacles they have never faced, such as an international mail delay, absentee ballot rejection or a failure to receive their absentee ballot.

When ADM first-time voters lack this knowledge and cannot complete an absentee voting process step, they must turn to FVAP, their peers, or a network of VAOs to overcome the issue. Overcoming these problems may be uniquely difficult for ADM first-time voters compared to more experienced ADM voters. They are more likely to be recently mobile, because being a first-time voters means they either just decided to vote in this election or, more likely, have arrived at a new installation within the last two years. In-process requirements are meant to orient new ADM to their resources, but it may be difficult for new ADM to remember voting assistance information when also being introduced to other onboarding information. Being a new arrival means they have had less time being exposed to VAO resources or to connect with more experience peers. First-time voters who only recently became either ADM, *UOCAVA* or of voting age in an election year should also have been exposed to fewer FVAP marketing materials—some of which teach ADM how to overcome common absentee ballot problems. This lack of knowledge, experience, social connectivity, awareness of resources and exposure to marketing should theoretically make ADM first-time voters less likely to overcome voting obstacles.

6.4 | Methodology

This analysis uses data from the 2016 PEVS-ADM. Data are weighted with nonresponse and poststratification weights.

Testing the impact of voting obstacles on first-time voters requires both defining first-time voters and defining a justifiable comparison group. The most ideal way to define first-time voters would involve administrative vote history files that show whether an individual actually has voted or not. However, the 2016 PEVS-ADM data are

38 Federal Voting Assistance Program. (2014). FVAP Resource Use and Experience Among Overseas Citizens in the 2014 Election. Retrieved from https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Reports/ResourceUseResearchNote_20161031.pdf

limited to self-reported measures of first-time voting. These measures have limitations in that respondents are reporting their vote intentions after the election occurred, although the measures still appear to represent expected variability and are the best information available. ADM are defined as first-time voters if they reported that "yes," the November 8, 2016, election was the first time they voted or tried to vote. Experienced voters are defined as those who reported "no, this was not my first time voting or trying to vote." Respondents were censored from this analysis if they identified as non-voters. Censored respondents answered the above question with "no, I did not vote or try to vote" or they expressed on another question that they did not plan to vote in the 2016 General Election. This censoring allows for a comparison of first-time voters to an experienced voter population, without lumping habitual non-voters into one comparison category. These results are further limited to ADM *UOCAVA,* meaning those who identified as living 50 miles or more from their legal voting residence on the election, hereafter referred to as ADM.

To evaluate the impact of voting obstacles, moderated by first-time voting status, on the probability of voting, this analysis examines ADM who experienced an absentee ballot issue. Respondents were coded as experiencing an absentee ballot issue if they expected to receive an absentee ballot but did not, requested an absentee ballot but did not receive one, were notified their absentee ballot request was rejected, or were notified that their returned absentee ballot was rejected. These types of voting obstacles are hypothesized to be associated with a Service member being less likely to vote, but should be more burdensome for first-time voters because they have less experience obtaining voting assistance to solve them. This association is tested while controlling for relevant ADM demographic variables presented in Appendix A.

6.5 | Results

a. Demographic Differences Between First-Time Voters and Experienced Voters

Table 6.1 displays the demographic differences between ADM first-time voters and experienced voters. Comparing these two populations shows that first-time voters and experienced voters are substantially different across age, sex, pay grade, race, education and marital status. The median age for first-time voters was 22, compared to 30 for experienced voters. Ninety-four percent of first-time voters were enlisted, compared to 69 percent of experienced voters. A lower median age and lower officer population are both consistent with first-time voters being predominantly a young and inexperienced population. First-time voters consisted of 4 percentage points more males and 35 percentage points more of those without a college degree than ADM experienced voters. They also consisted of 12 percentage points fewer White non-Hispanic individuals and 29 percentage points fewer married individuals than ADM experienced voters. Overall, these demographics suggest that there is a clear divide between these two populations; therefore, it is useful to analyze the differences in voting and voting resources experienced by first-time voters and experienced voters.

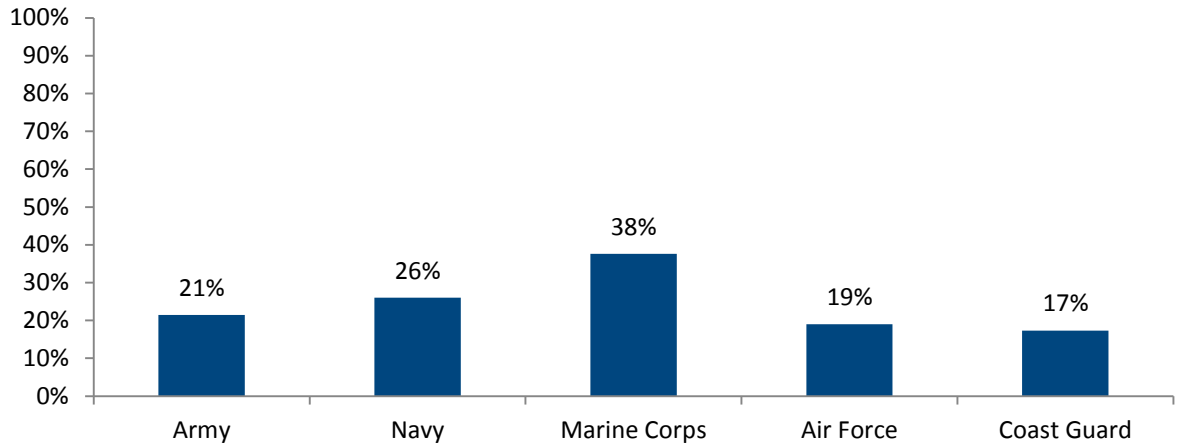
Table 6.1: Demographics of First-time Voters and Experienced Voters

	First-Time Voters	Experienced Voters
Age (median)	22	30
Male	86%	82%
Enlisted	94%	69%
White Non-Hispanic	56%	68%
No College Degree	89%	54%
Married	37%	66%

Note: Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence and censoring those who did not try to vote or plan to vote in the 2016 General Election.

Figure 6.1 displays the percentage of first-time voters within each Service. Marine Corps had the highest percentage of first-time voters in 2016 at 38 percent, followed by Navy at 26 percent, and then about the same for Army (21%), Air Force (19%), and Coast Guard (17%).

Figure 6.1: First-Time Voters by Service



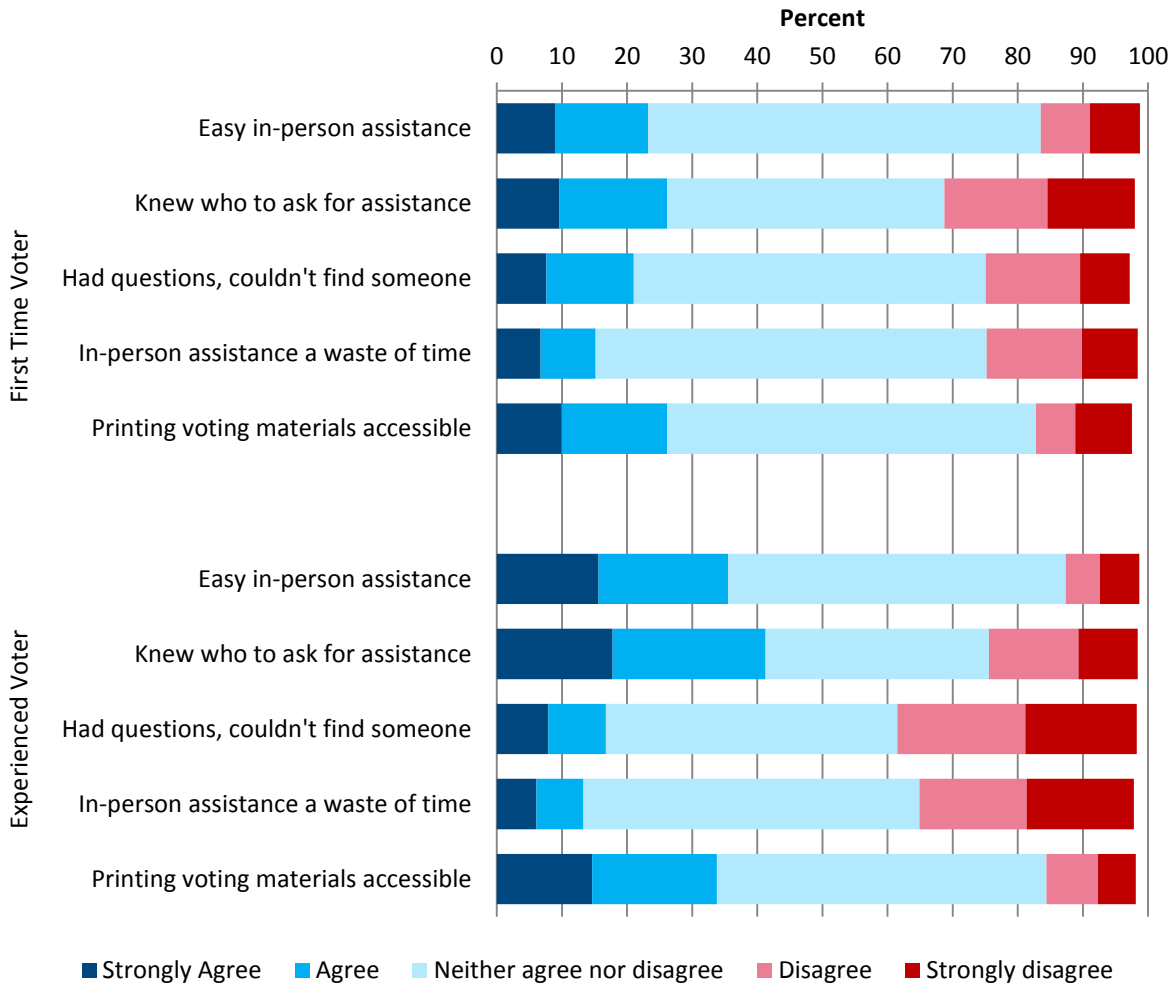
Note: Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence and censoring those who did not try to vote or plan to vote in the 2016 General Election.

b. Absentee Ballot Issues and Difficulty Obtaining Base Assistance

ADM were asked about their ease or difficulty obtaining on-base voting assistance based on five different measures. As displayed in Figure 6.2, first-time voters were more likely to say they experienced difficulty obtaining on-base voting assistance across all five measures. The most common on-base voting assistance problem for ADM first-time voters was not knowing exactly who to go to in order to obtain assistance. Thirty percent of first-time voters disagreed that they knew exactly who at their installation to ask questions to about voting materials, ballot requests or other voting-related issues, compared to 23 percent of experienced voters. Twenty-two percent of ADM first-time voters responded that they had questions about the voting process, but could not get ahold of someone to answer them, compared to only 17 percent for experienced voters. ADM first-

time voters had the fewest on-base voting assistance difficulties with ease of in-person assistance and accessibility to printing voting materials. Fifteen percent of ADM disagreed that it was easy to get in-person voting assistance at their installation, 15 percent disagreed that printed voting materials were easily accessible at their installation, and 15 percent agreed that seeking in-person assistance was a waste of time because of inaccurate or conflicting information. These were marginally lower for experienced voters at 11 percent, 14 percent, and 13 percent, respectively. These results suggest that one out of every four ADM first-time voters faces issues with obtaining on-base assistance and therefore may not get the sufficient information they need to cast their absentee ballot.

Figure 6.2: Base Assistance Issues by First-Time and Experienced Voters



Note: Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence and censoring those who did not try to vote or plan to vote in the 2016 General Election.

Table 6.2 shows how reported difficulties with base assistance varied between the five Services. In general, ADM serving in the Army were the most likely to report base assistance issues, whereas ADM in the Air Force and Coast Guard were the least likely to report base assistance issues. Knowing who to ask for voting assistance was the most common base assistance issue across all Services and finding easy in-person assistance was the least common issue for each Service. Twenty-nine percent of Army ADM said they did not know who exactly to ask voting assistance-related questions to on their installation, compared to 24 percent of Navy, 20 percent of Marine Corps, 19 percent of Air Force and 17 percent of Coast Guard ADM.

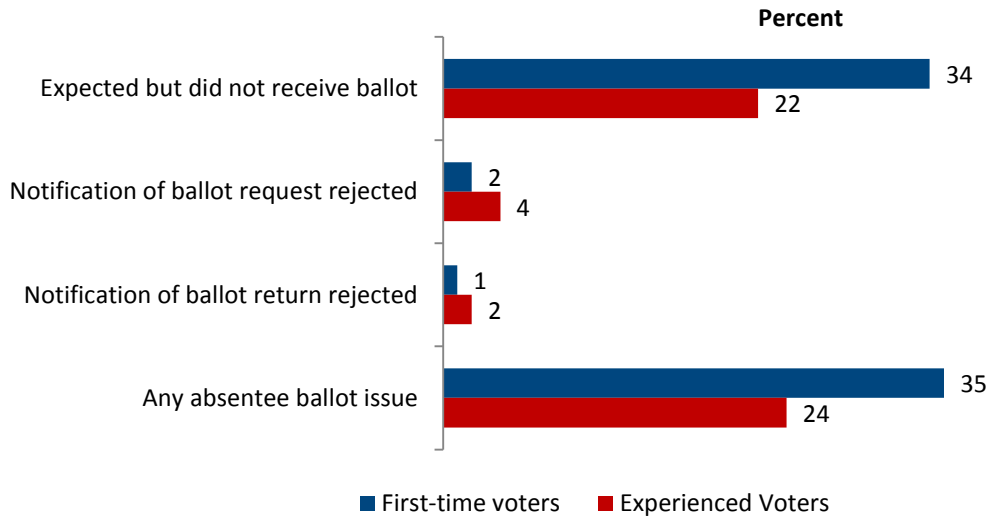
Table 6.2: Base Assistance Issues by Service

	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard
In-person assistance	14%	12%	12%	9%	9%
Knew who to ask for assistance	29%	24%	20%	19%	17%
Had questions, couldn't find someone	17%	18%	19%	18%	14%
In-person assistance a waste of time	15%	13%	12%	14%	12%
Printing voting materials inaccessible	17%	13%	10%	12%	9%

Note: In-person assistance, knew who to ask for assistance and printing voting materials display percentage of respondents answering "disagree" or "strongly disagree." Had questions, couldn't find someone and in-person assistance a waste of time display percentage of respondents answering "agree" or "strongly agree." Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence.

Figure 6.3 displays the percentage of ADM first-time and experienced voters who reported an absentee ballot issue leading up to the 2016 General Election. The most common problem was that 34 percent of first-time voters expected to receive a blank absentee ballot but did not. This was also the most common absentee ballot issue faced by experienced voters, but only by 22 percent of this population. Four percent of experienced voters and 2 percent of first-time voters were notified that their absentee ballot request had been rejected or that their voted absentee ballot had been rejected by their election official. Two percent of experienced voters and less than 1 percent of first-time voters were notified that their returned absentee ballot was rejected. Not all States notify voters of ballot rejection, so this number is likely an underestimate of the true rejection rate, but does capture the notification rate.

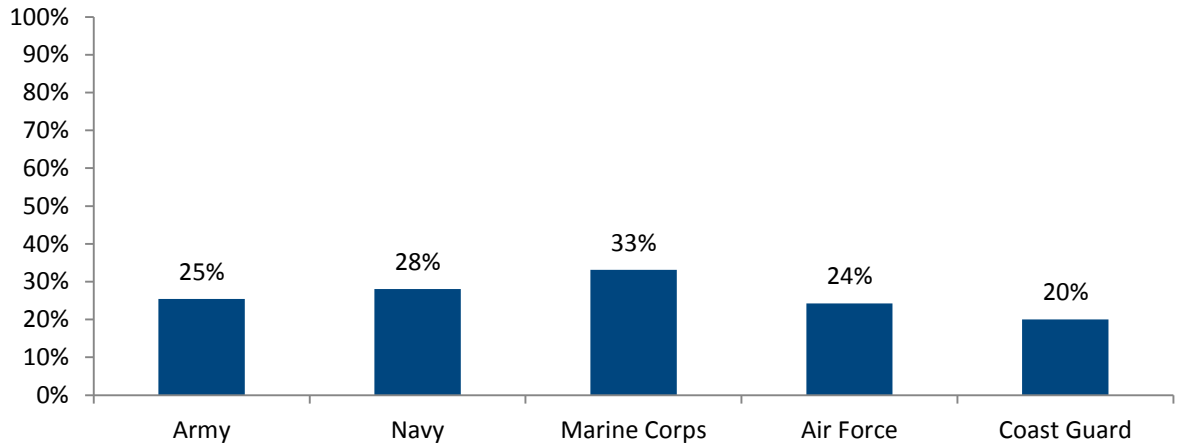
Figure 6.3: Absentee Ballot Issues by First-Time and Experienced Voters



Note: Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence and censoring those who did not try to vote or plan to vote in the 2016 General Election.

Figure 6.4 shows the percentage of ADM by each Service who reported experiencing any of these measured absentee ballot issues, including expecting or requesting an absentee ballot and not receiving one, notification that their ballot request was rejected, or notification that their ballot return was rejected. Marine Corps had the highest percentage of ADM who reported an absentee ballot issue (33%), followed by 28% of Navy, 25% of Army, 24% of Air Force and 20% of Coast Guard ADM.

Figure 6.4: Any Absentee Ballot Issue by Service

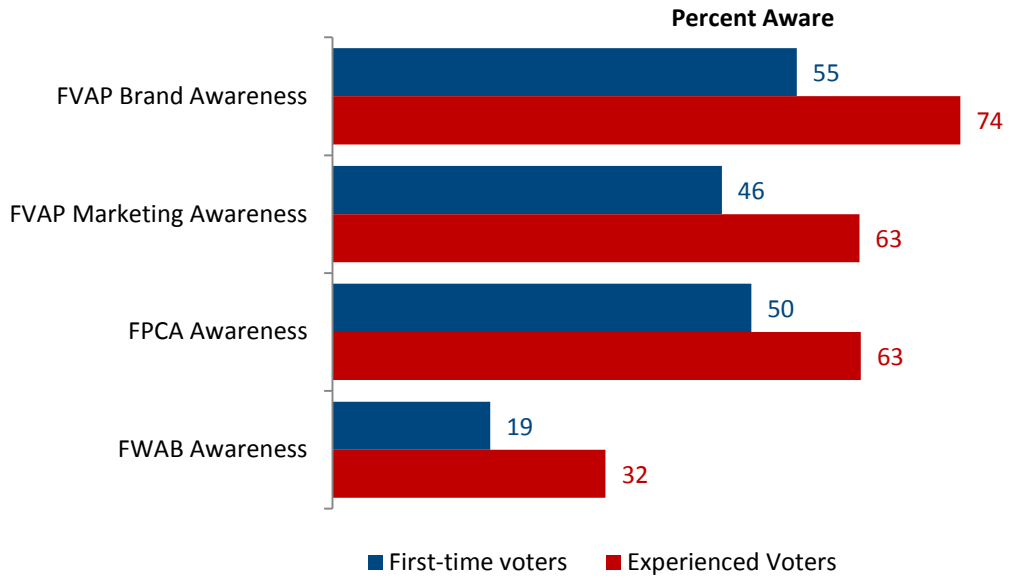


Note: Any absentee ballot issue includes those reporting they expected to receive an absentee ballot but did not, requested but did not receive blank absentee ballot, notified of rejected absentee ballot request, or notified of rejected absentee ballot return. Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence.

c. FVAP Resource and Awareness Differences Between First-Time and Experienced Voters

Figure 6.5 displays the percentage of ADM first-time and experienced voters who were aware of FVAP as a brand, FVAP marketing, the FPCA, and the FWAB. Experienced voters were 19 percentage points more likely than first-time voters to be aware of FVAP as a brand, 16 percentage points more likely to be aware of FVAP marketing, 13 percentage points more likely to be aware of the FPCA, and 14 percentage points more likely to be aware of the FWAB. This difference is expected to exist at the beginning of each election cycle considering this should be the first time most first-time voters are introduced to FVAP and FVAP resources, whereas experienced voters have more years to increase their awareness. Among first-time voters only, about half were aware of FVAP and about half saw, heard, or received FVAP marketing materials. FWAB awareness was lower than FPCA awareness, with about one out of every five first-time voters reporting that they were aware of the FWAB.

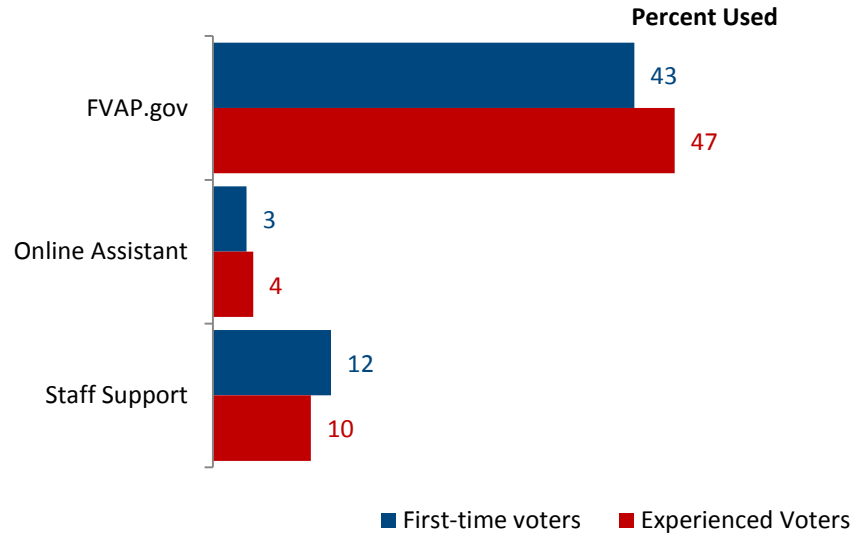
Figure 6.5: FVAP Awareness by First-Time and Experienced Voters



Note: Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence and censoring those who did not try to vote or plan to vote in the 2016 General Election.

Figure 6.6 displays the percentage of ADM first-time and experienced voters who used an FVAP resource leading up to the 2016 General Election. Despite lower levels of FVAP awareness, resource use was fairly equal between first-time and experienced voters. Forty-three percent of first-time voters reported using FVAP.gov compared to 47 percent of experienced voters. About one percentage point more experienced voters said they used the online assistant than first-time voters. In contrast, two percentage points more first-time voters than experienced voters said they used FVAP staff support for voting assistance. These results are consistent with FVAP resources equally targeting first-time and experienced ADM who desired to vote absentee. This finding suggests, however, that use of the online assistant and staff support remains low among a key target population.

Figure 6.6: FVAP Resource Use by First-Time and Experience Voters

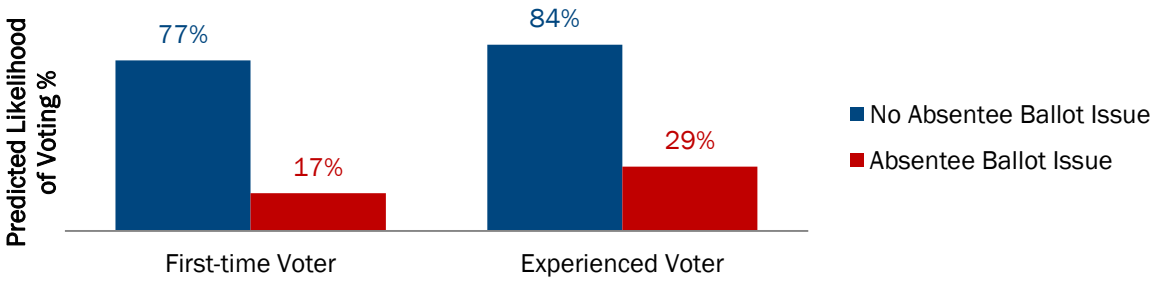


Note: Limited to ADM living 50 miles or more from their voting residence and censoring those who did not try to vote or plan to vote in the 2016 General Election.

d. Voting Likelihood for First-Time Voters Experiencing Absentee Ballot Issues

Figure 6.7 presents the results of the model in Table F1 in Appendix F, showing the effect of experiencing an absentee ballot issue on the likelihood of voting, by first-time voter status. First-time voters who did not experience an absentee ballot issue had a likelihood of voting of 77 percent compared to 84 percent for more experienced voters. For both first-time voters and experienced voters, the likelihood of voting dropped precipitously if they reported experiencing an absentee ballot issue. The negative effect of experiencing an absentee ballot issue was larger though for first-time voters, whose likelihood of voting dropped 60 percentage points compared to a 55-percentage-point drop for experienced voters. Although the effect of experiencing an absentee ballot issue among all voters was statistically significant and associated with a lower likelihood of voting, the 6-percentage-point additional drop that first-time voters experience due to absentee ballot issues was not significant at the 0.10 level.

Figure 6.7: Percentage Voting for First-Time Voters Experiencing Absentee Ballot Issues



Note: The percentages are the predicted probabilities from the model in Table F1 of the likelihood of voting, weighted, with all control variables held at their means so that the demographics of the sample more closely match those of the population.

6.6 | Discussion

This analysis evaluated the effect of experiencing an absentee ballot issue and being a first-time voter on the likelihood of voting in 2016. It shows a number of key findings:

- ADM first-time voters differ from experienced voters in their demographic composition, FVAP awareness and experience obtaining on-base assistance.
- One out of every three ADM first-time voters experienced an absentee ballot issue during their first election.
- All ADM in this analysis were significantly less likely to vote when experiencing an absentee ballot issue.
- First-time voters who experienced an absentee ballot issue had a larger drop in their likelihood of voting than experienced voters; however, this effect was not statistically significant.

These results draw attention to a number of key points for both first-time voters and the larger ADM population. For all ADM, they suggest that the barriers to voting absentee are both frequent and negatively impactful, regardless if it is an individual's first time trying to vote or if absentee voting has become habitual. When ADM first-time voters run into an absentee ballot issue, the vast majority of this fairly motivated population do not end up voting. Although most should have VAOs available to them, only about one-fourth of first-time voters felt confident they knew who to direct their questions toward. For all voters, Army and Navy ADM were the most likely to express this base difficulty about knowing who to direct voting assistance question to, whereas Air Force and Coast Guard ADM were the least likely. FWAB awareness was also low for all voters, which is key since the most common absentee ballot issue faced was expecting a ballot and not receiving one. For FVAP, this signals that first-time voters continue to lack awareness of how to react once they run into a problem that could potentially prevent them from voting.

Future research should evaluate first-time voting problems beyond the limited experiences analyzed here. It is possible that other ADM first-time voters experienced problems like signature issues, rejected ballot returns without notice, mailing problems, or difficulties registering in the correct State that were not measured in the

2016 PEVS-ADM. Nevertheless, these results are suggestive that reported absentee ballots issues are associated with a strong negative effect and that there would be benefits for first-time voters if efforts continued to focus on addressing them.

2016 PEVS-ADM Methodology

Survey Design

7.1 | Introduction

The following section explains how the 2016 PEVS-ADM was modified from previous years and how the survey was designed to meet specific goals.

7.2 | Survey Design Methodology

The main purpose of the 2016 PEVS-ADM was to collect updated measures related to absentee voting to improve the absentee voting process for all military personnel. Central to this purpose were three interrelated goals: (1) evaluating current ADM voting behavior during the 2016 election cycle; (2) ensuring FVAP's ability to gauge changes in voting measures over time; and (3) facilitating comparison to other voting surveys and populations.

To allow for trending, the research team identified key trending questions to remain constant across elections, including questions on registration rates, participation rates, absentee ballot request, ballot receipt and ballot return. To decrease burden, previous questions about age, marital status and U.S. citizenship were removed because they could be captured with administrative data merged from Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) personnel files.[39] Other questions were removed because they were resolved from previous findings, including questions about when ADM updated their registration, FVAP.gov frequency of use, attitudes toward FVAP.gov subsections and usefulness of specific outreach materials. This removal allowed space for new research questions, which included an updated focus on first-time voters, when a respondent moved overseas, barriers to absentee voting, notification of ballot return from election officials, use of key FVAP resources, FVAP brand and marketing awareness, and the social connectivity of ADM. Where applicable, attempts were made to align the survey instrument with the 2016 PEVS-VAO, 2016 PEVS-SEO, 2016 Current Population Survey (CPS) Voting Supplement, and 2016 Overseas Citizen Voting Survey (OCPS).

Overall, the survey asked ADM about key topics related to their (1) location preceding the election, (2) absentee ballot registration, requests, receipt, and return, (3) 2016 election experience, (4) FPCA and FWAB use, (5) voting

[39] DMDC maintains personnel data that are pulled from a range of databases that collect information on addresses, deployment, demographics and other factors. The most prominent is the Active Duty Master Edit File (ADMF).

assistance, (6) voting knowledge, (7) FVAP marketing and social media, and (8) social connectivity. The questionnaire contained 78 total questions and was designed so that the average respondent took 15 minutes to complete the survey.[40]

The survey went through multiple rounds of design and approval by the research team and FVAP. The research team initially met with FVAP to discuss findings and lessons learned from the 2014 PEVS-ADM and the goals for 2016 PEVS-ADM. After constructing an initial survey based on outlined goals, the research team collectively edited the survey by rewording specific questions, adding and removing response options, and rearranging the order of questions. Demographic background questions were moved to the end of the survey and voting questions to the forefront. Survey best practices emphasize that questions of interest should come early in the survey, whereas more burdensome questions that can lead to item nonresponse should come later in the survey. Additionally, the research team modified previous double-barreled questions into separate, clearer questions and opened up skip logic to ensure questions were no longer answered by a narrow subset of the total ADM population. The instrument was then reviewed by experts at DMDC, staff at FVAP, and ultimately approved by the FVAP Director. Following FVAP approval, the survey instrument was submitted for DoD Internal Information Collection approval by the Office of Information Management (OIM).[41]

[40] Due to skip logic, not every respondent was asked to complete all 78 questions. At a minimum, respondents were presented with 32 base questions containing 64 decision points.

[41] The web screens and open-ended questionnaire items were updated following approval with instructional language to warn respondents about providing personally identifiable information (PII) in adherence with the Privacy Act.

Survey Administration

8.1 | Introduction

The survey was administered from November 9, 2016, to January 20, 2017, for a total fielding period of 75 days. As described in detail in this section, before the survey's administration, researchers programmed the survey and conducted quality control checks on the materials. During the survey, researchers administered mail and email communications, answered phone and email help desks, and monitored survey response rates.

8.2 | Programming

The survey was programmed as a web-only survey hosted on a .mil domain. DMDC generated the questionnaire template and worked with the operations contractor, Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), to program the survey. Before fielding, researchers tested the web instrument with sample cases and adjusted for errors in programming, wording and incorrectly captured data. Immediately following the first week of fielding, researchers analyzed initial cases to ensure data were being correctly captured. Respondents who had navigated to the survey URL were greeted with a welcome screen and instructed to enter their personalized ticket number that they received on their survey communications. After entering their ticket number, they were instructed to create a personalized identification number to use if they wanted to modify their survey responses. Additionally, they had the option to view FAQs and security information about the survey before viewing a Privacy Advisory.

8.3 | Communications

Sample members received up to four postal communications and eight email communications inviting them to take the 2016 PEVS-ADM. Sample members were mailed the initial postal invitation on November 9, followed by three reminder letters to those who had not yet submitted a survey on November 18, November 30, and December 12.[42]

[42] DRC have multiple addresses per person that are each assigned a "priority," and there are certain events (e.g., receiving a PND) that cause them re-mail postals or change addresses on future postals. Sample members who had not yet responded and had their "current priority address" change since the last mailing would have received a re-mail. A total of 2,155 sample members received at least one remail. Experiment and

Mail specifications followed best practices for contacting ADM. The mail letterhead was printed in blue and red, and the signature, text, and recipient information of all letters was printed in black. In addition to including a name and address, each letter included a personalized salutation that addressed each sample member by his or her name. Envelopes were standard size and had 10" windows. The letters were printed with the sample members' unique MIC listed in the address field and on the lower-right corner of the letter. The letters were folded and machine-inserted into window envelopes and sent by first class, presorted mail.

The email communications included the same information as postal contacts, but sought to emphasize email specific elements that are likely to increase response rates. The email announcement was sent on November 14, followed by seven email reminders on November 22, December 5, December 9, December 19, December 28, January 5 and January 13. The subject lines of email reminders 6–8 were changed during fielding to add the prefix "Action Requested," which is theorized to add urgency to the participation request. Additionally, email reminder 7 was addressed and signed by the Director of the Defense Human Resource Activity (DHRA) to add legitimacy to the request. The emails were digitally signed using StrongMail email software. Ninety-three percent of the full sample had a valid email address, meaning 6,275 sample members did not receive any email reminders.[43]

All sample members had access to both a telephone and email survey help desk managed by DRC. Sample members were instructed to direct survey access problems to the help desk and could unsubscribe from future communication reminders. Otherwise, all sample members who had not yet completed the survey received all communications.

8.4 | Experimental and Control Communications

Although the number, method and timing of all communications were the same for all ADM, the 90,982 sample members were divided into an 85-percent control sample and a 15-percent experimental sample based on voting language. The control sample received FVAP- and voting-branded survey materials similar to the language used in past administrations of the PEVS-ADM. In each control communication, survey web screen, and on the survey itself, the survey was titled the *"2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military."* Communications and web screens described that participating in the survey would help improve the absentee voting process for military personnel, ensure ADM are aware of their right to vote and improve voting resources for ADM. Communications were signed by the Director of FVAP.

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control re-mails came on the same date. These re-mails came on seven dates: December 5, December 15, December 20, December 23, December 30, January 4, and January 9. If the PND comes in after the re-mail letters have been printed, DRC used the updated address in the next main mailing.

[43] Marines were the least likely to have a valid email address (71%), compared to 97 percent of valid emails for Army and Navy and 98 percent valid emails for Air Force and Coast Guard. Due to software constraints, the survey did not collect bounce-back notifications for bad emails.

The experimental sample received Office of People Analytics (OPA) and generic ADM-branded survey materials that did not include any references to voting or election behavior. In each experimental communication, survey web screen and on the survey itself, the survey was titled the "*2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military.*"[44] Communications and web screens described that participating in the survey would help to understand ADM needs and evaluate the quality of the services currently provided to military personnel. To further eliminate voting language, "Federal Voting Assistance Program" or "FVAP" was replaced with the "Office of People Analytics." Communications were signed by the Director of OPA.

[44] QuickCompass (QC) is a DoD personnel program sponsored by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD[P&R]). These surveys enable DoD to regularly assess the attitudes and opinions of the DoD community, including active duty and Reserve component members on the full range of personnel issues.

Sampling and Weighting

9.1 | Introduction

This section describes the sampling, weighting, variance estimation, multiple comparisons and calculation of response rates for the 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military (PEVS-ADM). Furthermore, this section elaborates on the methodology used for two treatment groups, a control and experimental sample, based on the inclusion of voting language. The sampling and weighting for the 2016 PEVS-ADM was conducted by the OPA in consultation with FMG and FVAP.

9.2 | Sample Design and Selection

a. Target Population

The 2016 PEVS-ADM was designed to represent individuals meeting the following criteria:

- Active duty member of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force or Coast Guard
- Paygrades E01 through O6
- U.S. citizen
- Age18 or older as of July 2016

b. Sampling Frame

The sampling frame for the 2016 PEVS-ADM consists of 1,315,146 active duty members. It was created from the July 2016 Active Duty Military Personnel Master File (ADMP). To be included in the frame the member must be a U.S citizen, age 18 or over and not a General or Flag Officer. In addition, the member must be serving in the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, or Coast Guard. Additional information used for weighting was obtained from the following files:

- July 2016 Active Duty Family Database
- June 2016 Contingency Tracking System (CTS)
- June 2016 Basic Allowance for Housing File (BAH)
- September 2016 Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System Point-in-time Extract (DEERS PITE)

Active duty sample members were identified as ineligible using the September 2016 Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System Point-in-time Extract (DEERS PITE). In addition, sample members were identified as ineligible by self- or proxy report due to separation or retirement by the Survey Control System during the survey fielding period.

c. Sample Design

The sample for the 2016 survey used a single-stage stratified design. Table 9.1 shows the five population variables and their levels that defined the stratification dimensions for the 2016 PEVS-ADM sample:

Table 9.1. Variables for Stratification

Variable Description	Variable Name	Variable Levels
Duty Location	CREGION5	1. U.S. and Unknown 2. All other countries and territories including Deployed members
Service	CSERVICE	1. Army 2. Navy 3. Marine Corps 4. Air Force 5. Coast Guard
Age Groups	AGE_6	1. 18–24 years old 2. 25–28 years old 3. 30–34 years old 4. 35 years old or more
Paygrade Groups	CPAYGRP7	1. E01–E05 2. E06–E09 3. W1–W5 4. O1–O3 5. O4–O6
Gender	CSEX	1. Male; 2. Female

The population frame was partitioned into 212 strata that were initially determined by a full cross-classification of the five stratification variables. Levels were collapsed (e.g., combined male and female) when there were less than 200 in the stratum; occasionally, dimensions were collapsed, in reverse order as listed (e.g., first collapse gender with Paygrade groups). With the exception of Coast Guard, duty location, age groups, and Service were preserved.

Individuals were selected with equal probability and without replacement within each stratum. However, because allocation was not proportional to the size of the strata, selection probabilities varied among strata, and individuals were not selected with equal probability overall. To achieve adequate sample sizes for all domains (reporting categories), nonproportional allocation was used.

Previous research shows that PEVS have slightly lower response rates than typical surveys of the active duty military. For instance, the 2014 Status of Forces Survey of Active Duty Members administered by DMDC had a response rate of 21 percent compared to 15 percent on the 2014 PEVS-ADM. It was hypothesized that a survey title containing the word “Voting” may do two things: (1) be of little interest to a mostly young military force, and

therefore generate low response rates, and (2) disproportionately bring in members interested in politics and voting. Leverage-salience theory states that individuals vary in what importance they assign to different aspects of a survey request, such as the topic of the survey, and this has an effect on response rates (Groves, Presser, and Dipko 2004). Those more interested in the survey topic are more likely to respond to the survey and this effect holds for web, mail, and telephone surveys as well as across various survey topics (Martin 1994; Roose et al. 2003; Groves, Presser, and Dipko 2004). People who are more interested typically are more likely to respond because they want to express their opinion on the subject of interest and they are looking for a way to show off their knowledge of the topic. If true, the voting title could cause nonresponse bias that may not be possible to account for through survey weighting.

To test these hypotheses, FVAP conducted an experiment in 2016 PEVS-ADM to determine if the title of the survey affects response rates and survey estimates. Eighty-five percent of the sample were randomly assigned to receive the title "*2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military*" in communications (hereafter called the "control sample") and the remaining 15 percent received the title "*2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military.*"[45] Both treatment groups received the same questionnaire, with the only difference between the two surveys being the title and a reduction in voting language. Within strata, members were randomly assigned into one of two treatment groups. Table 9.2 provides the experimental design titles, sample sizes, and treatment groups. Results from the voting language experiment, including how data were weighted and used, are shown after the Sample Allocation section.

Table 9.2. Experimental Design

Title	Sample Size	Treatment
2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military	77,333 (85%)	Control
2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military	13,649 (15%)	Experiment

Note. QuickCompass surveys are fast-turnaround studies targeting special topics that cannot be included on another survey due to timing, target population, and/or content.

d. Sample Allocation

The total sample size was based on precision requirements for the 26 reporting domains (Appendix H). Given estimated variable survey costs and anticipated eligibility and response rates, an optimization algorithm determined the minimum-cost allocation that simultaneously satisfied the domain precision requirements. Three prior active duty surveys—the 2012 PEVS-ADM, 2014 PEVS-ADM, and the February 2016 Status of Forces Survey of Active Duty Members—were used to estimate eligibility and response rates for 2016 PEVS-ADM.

The allocation was determined by means of the Sample Planning Tool (SPT), Version 2.1 (Dever & Mason, 2003). This application is based on the method originally developed by J. R. Chromy (1987) and described in Mason,

45 A power analysis was conducted that determined a 90/10 split would be sufficient power to detect an effect of the experiment. Due to declining response rates and an expected small effect, the 85/15 split was used.

Wheeless, George, Dever, Riemer and Elig (1995). The SPT defines domain variance equations in terms of unknown stratum sample sizes and user-specified precision constraints. A cost function is defined in terms of the unknown stratum sample sizes and the per-unit cost of data collection, editing and processing. The variance equations are solved simultaneously, subject to the constraints imposed, for the sample size that minimizes the cost function. Estimated eligibility rates are used and they modify the estimated prevalence rates used in the variance equations, thus affecting the allocation; response rates inflate the allocation, thus affecting the final sample size. Prevalence rates refer to a percentage that is used in determining the estimated variance used for the calculation of the sample size. For example, 50 percent was used since it is the most conservative and yields the largest estimated sample size.

There were 26 domains defined for the 2016 PEVS-ADM, and the initial goal was to achieve estimates with margins of error of 5 percentage points or fewer (e.g., 50% , +/- 5). The precision requirement for each domain was based on an estimated prevalence rate of 0.5 with a 95 percent confidence interval half-width no greater than 0.05. Constraints were manipulated to produce an allocation that achieved satisfactory precision for the domains of interest at the particular sample size.

The sample size for the 2016 PEVS-ADM control sample was 77,333 and the experimental sample was 13,649 members. Table 9.3 provides the sample size frequencies by stratification variable for the voting title. Table 9.4 provides the sample size frequencies by stratification variables for the non-voting langauage experiment.

Table 9.3. Sample Size by Stratification Variables for the Control Voting Langauge Treatment

Stratification Variable	Total	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard
Total	77,333	31,574	16,658	13,051	14,628	1,422
Location						
U.S.	41,792	16,887	10,333	7,171	5,984	1,417
All other countries and territories including Deployed	35,541	14,687	6,325	5,880	8,644	5
Paygrade						
E1–E5	60,219	24,755	12,774	11,287	10,514	889
E6–E9	9,304	3,502	2,257	986	2,269	290
W1–W5	636	488	36	70	-	42
O1–O3	4,804	1,917	1,093	526	1,140	128
O4–O6	2,370	912	498	182	705	73
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	42,572	17,803	8,730	9,773	5,851	415
25 to 29 Years Old	19,169	7,517	4,602	2,046	4,598	406

Stratification Variable	Total	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard
30 to 34 Years Old	8,173	3,125	1,787	680	2,294	287
35 Years Old or More	7,419	3,129	1,539	552	1,885	314
Gender						
Male	66,303	27,513	13,389	12,136	12,061	1,204
Female	11,030	4,061	3,269	915	2,567	218

Table 9.4. Sample Size by Stratification Variables for the Experimental Non-Voting Langauge Treatment

Stratification Variable	Total	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard
Total	**13,649**	**5,573**	**2,942**	**2,300**	**2,580**	**254**
Location						
U.S.	7,376	2,981	1,824	1,265	1,054	252
All other countries and territories including Deployed	6,273	2,592	1,118	1,035	1,526	2
Paygrade						
E1–E5	10,631	4,371	2,248	1,996	1,856	160
E6–E9	1,661	617	407	178	404	55
W1–W5	103	81	7	10	-	5
O1–O3	840	347	197	81	196	19
O4–O6	414	157	83	35	124	15
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	7,514	3,144	1,542	1,721	1,034	73
25 to 29 Years Old	3,384	1,325	815	356	815	73
30 to 34 Years Old	1,439	549	317	122	401	50
35 Years Old or More	1,312	555	268	101	330	58
Gender						
Male	11,698	4,853	2,358	2,142	2,133	212
Female	1,951	720	584	158	447	42

9.3 | Weighting

Analytical weights for the 2016 PEVS-ADM were created to account for unequal probabilities of selection and varying response rates among population subgroups. Sampling weights were computed as the inverse of the selection probabilities and then adjusted for nonresponse (eligibility and completion). The adjusted weights were then poststratified to match population totals and to reduce bias unaccounted for by the previous weighting steps.

a. Case Dispositions

As the first step in the weighting process, case dispositions were assigned to each sampled member based on eligibility for the survey and completion of the questionnaire. Execution of the weighting process and computation of response rates depend on this classification.

Final case dispositions for weighting were determined using information from personnel records, field operations (as recorded in the Survey Control System [SCS]) and returned questionnaires. No single source of information is both complete and correct for determining case dispositions; inconsistencies among these sources were resolved according to the order of the precedence shown in Table 9.5. The order of execution is critical to resolving case dispositions. For example, suppose an individual in the sample refused the survey, with the reason that it was too long; in the absence of any other information, the disposition would be "eligible nonrespondent." Another example would be if a proxy (e.g., spouse) reported that the sample member had been hospitalized and was unable to complete the survey; in this instance, the disposition would be "ineligible."

Case dispositions for 2016 PEVS-ADM are shown in Table 9.5 by treatment group. Table 9.6 presents the frequency of complete eligible respondents (case disposition 4) by the stratification variables and treatment.

Table 9.5. Case Dispositions for Weighting

Case Disposition	Information Source	Conditions	Eligibility Known	Cases (Control)	Cases (Experiment)
1. Record ineligible	Personnel record	The sample member was determined to have remained on active duty between July and September 2016 and was not deceased (based on personnel code).	NA	1,785 (2.3%)	315 (2.3%)
2. Ineligible by self- or proxy report	Survey Control System (SCS)	The sampled member or a proxy reported that member was ineligible due to such reasons as "Retired," "Ill," "Incarcerated," "No longer employed by DoD," or "Deceased."	Yes	16 (0.02%)	3 (0.02%)
3. Ineligible by survey self-	Survey eligibility	The sampled member was determined to be ineligible based on	Yes	20 (0.03%)	8 (0.1%)

Case Disposition	Information Source	Conditions	Eligibility Known	Cases (Control)	Cases (Experiment)
report	questions	their response to Q1 of the survey questionnaire "Were you on active duty on November 8, 2016?"			
4. Eligible, complete response	Item response rate	Respondent needed to answer at least 50% of the base questions.	Yes	6,973 (9.0%)	2,152 (15.8%)
5. Eligible, incomplete response	Item response rate	Survey is not blank but respondent answered less than 50% of the base questions.	Yes	492 (0.6%)	260 (1.9%)
8. Active refusal	SCS	Refused due to such reasons as "too long," "did not want additional communications," "too intrusive," etc.	No	911 (1.2%)	125 (0.9%)
9. Blank return	SCS	Blank questionnaire with no reason given.	No	41 (0.1%)	17 (0.1%)
10. PND	SCS	Postal non-deliverable or original address is non-locatable.	No	18,978 (24.5%)	3,254 (23.8%)
11. Non-respondent	Remainder	Remaining survey nonrespondents	No	48,117 (62.2%)	7,515 (55.1%)
		Total		77,333 (100%)	13,649 (100%)

Table 9.6. Complete Eligible Respondents by Stratification Variables

Stratification Variable	Control	Experiment
Total	**6,973**	**2,152**
	Service	
Army	2,075	635
Navy	1,195	382
Marine Corps	762	223
Air Force	2,614	827

Stratification Variable	Control	Experiment
Coast Guard	327	85
Location		
U.S.	3,402	996
All other countries and territories including Deployed	3,571	1,156
Paygrade		
E1–E5	3,330	1,149
E6–E9	1,608	522
W1–W5	143	42
O1–O3	1,046	253
O4–O6	846	186
Age		
18 to 24 Years Old	1,767	595
25 to 29 Years Old	1,868	626
30 to 34 Years Old	1,320	399
35 Years Old or More	2,018	532
Gender		
Male	5,792	1,798
Female	1,181	354

b. Nonresponse Adjustments and Final Weights

The control and experiment cases were separately weighted to the full active duty population using the same methods. After case dispositions were resolved, the sampling weights were adjusted for nonresponse. First, the sampling weights for cases of known eligibility (case disposition = 2, 3, 4 or 5) were adjusted to account for cases of unknown eligibility (8, 9, 10 or 11). Next, the eligibility adjusted weights for eligible respondents with complete questionnaires (4) were adjusted to account for eligible sample members who returned an uncompleted survey (5). All weights for the record ineligibles (1) were set to 0, and this weight was transferred to the other cases during poststratification.

The weighting adjustment factors for eligibility and completion were computed as the inverse of model-predicted probabilities. First, a logistic regression model was used to predict the probability of eligibility for the survey

(known eligibility vs. unknown eligibility). A second logistic regression model was used to predict the probability of response among eligible sample members (complete vs. incomplete response). Chi-squared Automatic Interaction Detection (CHAID), a classification tree method, was used to determine the best predictors for each logistic model. The lowest eligibility rate terminal nodes were combined into a "super cell" until the known eligibility rate exceeded 1.5 percent.

The logistic models were weighted for both eligibility and completion using the sampling weight. Table 9.7 shows the variables and their levels used in the CHAID eligibility and completion models.

Table 9.7. Variables Used for the Eligibility and Completion Adjustments

Variable	Variable Name	Categories
Military Accession Program	ACC_SRC_CD	1=Induction; 2=Voluntary enlistment in a Regular Component; 3=Vol enlist - Rsv Comp for Reg DEP - 10 USC 12103/10 USC 513; 4=Voluntary enlistment - Rsv Comp, Sec 511, ref(b). Excl DEP; A=U.S. Military Academy; B=U.S. Naval Academy; C=U.S. Air Force Academy; D=U.S. Coast Guard Academy; E=U.S. Merchant Marine Academy; F=Air National Guard Academy of Military Sciences; G=ROTC/NROTC scholarship program; H=ROTC/NROTC non-scholarship program; J=OCS, AOCS, OTS, or PLC; K=Aviation Cadet program; L=National Guard state OCS; M=Direct appointment authority, Commissioned Off, professional; N=Direct appointment authority, Commissioned Off, all other; P=Aviation training program other than OCS, AOCS, OTS, or PLC; R=Direct appointment authority, warrant officer; S=Direct appointment authority, commissioned warrant officer; T=Warrant Officer Aviation Training Program; X=Other; Z=Unknown or Not Applicable
Armed Forces Qualification test score	AFQT_SCR_QY	0-100; Enlisted only.
Member Age	AGE	18-61
Basic Allowance for Housing Indicator	BAHREC	N= Not receiving BAH; Y= Receiving BAH; Z= Unknown; .=Missing
Base Name of Member	BASENAME	Base Name was not recoded
Number of People at Base	BASESIZE2	0=Unknown, NA; 1= Less than 10 members; 2=10-49 members; 3=50-149 members; 4=150-399 members; 5=400-999 members; 6= 1,000-2,999 members; 7=3,000-5,999 members 8=6,000-9,999 members 9=10,000-19,999 members 10=20,000 members
Education	CEDUC	0=Unknown, 1=No College; 2=Some College; 3=4-year Degree; 4=Grad/Prof Degree
Member of DoD	CDoD	1=Not DoD; 2=DoD
Child Count	CHILDCNT	0-10
Marital Status	CMARITAL	0=Unknown; 1=Not Married; 2=Married
Conus	CCONUS	0=Unknown; 1=Conus; 2=OConus

Variable	Variable Name	Categories
Combat Occupation	COMBAT_C	1=Combat occupation; 2=Non-combat occupation, unknown
Race Grouping	CRACE4	1=Non-Hispanic White, Non-Hispanic Asian; 2= All others
Duty Location in the World Regions	CREGION5	1=US & Unknown; 2=All other countries and those currently deployed
Service	CSERVICE	1=Army; 2= Navy; 3= Marine Corps; 4= Air Force; 5= Coast Guard;
Gender of Member	CSEX	1=Male; 2= Female
Currently Deployed	CUR_DEPLOY	0=Not currently deployed (including never deployed); 1=Currently deployed
Deployment flag in the last 24 months	DEPLOY24	1=Yes; 0= No
E-mail Address Flag	EMAIL_FLD	Y=Have an e-mail ; N= no email
Family Status	FAMSTAT	1= Single with child(ren), 2= Single without child(ren), 3= Married with child(ren), 4=Married without child(ren)
Duty UIC Address Flag	FLG_DU	N=No Duty UIC Address; Y=Duty UIC Address
Home Address Flag	FLG_H	N=No home address; Y=Home address
Assigned UIC Address Flag	FLG_U	N=No Assigned UIC address; Y= Assigned UIC address
Number of Deployments	NDEPLOY	0-26
Occupation Group	OCCGRP2	1=Bad Responder; 2= Average Responder; 3=Good Responder[46]
On/Off Base	OFFBASE2	1=On Base; 2=Off Base/unknown
Postal Non-deliverable	POSTAL_ND	Y=Yes; N= No
Paygrade (20 level)	PAYGRADE	E01–E09; W01–W05; O01–O06
Active Federal Military Service	TAFMS_DT4	TAFMS_DT4 was recoded: Took the year only (1975-2016)

46 Occupation Group is formed based on historical response rates by occupation. For example, poor responder occupation codes include infantry, combat engineering and motor transportation; average responder occupation codes include law enforcement, construction and food service; good responder occupation codes include chaplains, educators and doctors.

Variable	Variable Name	Categories
Base Calendar Date		
All email and mailing attempts returned undelivered	UNDELIVERED	Y=Yes; N= No; NA=Not applicable
U.S. Citizenship Status Code	US_CITZ_STAT_CD	A=US national, C=US citizen, Z=Unknown

Finally, the weights were poststratified to match population totals and to reduce bias unaccounted for by the previous weighting adjustments. Poststratification cells were defined by the cross-classification of Service, paygrade, age, location and gender. This involved collapsing cases into small poststratification cells containing approximately fewer than 25 complete eligible responses. Within each poststratification cell, the nonresponse-adjusted weights for eligible respondents and self-reported ineligibles (2, 3, 4) were adjusted to match population counts. Table 9.8 shows the five variables used for poststratification.

Table 9.8. Variables Used for Poststratification

Variable	Variable Name	Categories
Service	CSERVICE	Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard
Paygrade	CPAYGRP7	E1–E5, E6–E9, W1–W5, O1–O3, O4–O6
Age	AGE_6	18 to 24 Years Old, 25 to 29 Years Old, 30 to 34 Years Old, 35 Years Old or More
Location	CREGION5	U.S., All other countries and territories including Deployed
Gender	CSEX	Male, Female

c. Title Experiment

After separately weighting the control and experimental cases, the estimates were compared from the two treatment groups to determine whether they could be combined into one set of production estimates. It was first observed that the experimental treatment produced response rates more than 50 percent higher than the control treatment. Table 9.9 shows 16 percent complete eligible respondents for the experimental treatment compared with 9 percent complete eligible for the control treatment. As stated earlier, it was hypothesized that the voting language may be less attractive to the military members, but the magnitude of this difference was larger than expected. The next question is did the non-voting language just bring in many more survey respondents, or did the difference in voting language influence a different set of active duty members to participate in the survey (e.g., younger members, or more women)? If the additional members brought into the response pool only differed on observable characteristics (e.g., Service, paygrade, gender), then these factors could be controlled for in weighting. This is the ideal situation, and if this had occurred, the weighted estimates from both the control and experimental samples would be similar. However, this did not occur. It appears that

the experimental sample brought in a group less likely to vote than the historical control sample, and weighting could not account for the differences in estimates from the two groups. To illustrate, Table 9.9 shows the separately weighted estimated registration rates and Table 9.10 shows the participation (voting) rates for the two treatment groups by stratification variables.

Table 9.9. Estimated Registration Rates by Treatment Group and Stratification Variables (Final Weights)

Stratification Variable	Control (Final Weights)		Experiment (Final Weights)	
	Estimates	ME	Estimates	ME
Total	**66**	**±2**	**59**	**±4**
Service				
Army	65	±4	56	±7
Navy	68	±5	56	±10
Marine Corps	58	±7	57	±12
Air Force	71	±3	64	±5
Coast Guard	75	±6	72	±11
Location				
U.S.	67	±3	59	±5
All other countries and territories including Deployed	62	±3	54	±4
Paygrade				
E1–E5	57	±3	50	±6
E6–E9	72	±4	63	±7
O1–O3	90	±3	81	±7
O4–O6	91	±3	83	±9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	54	±4	46	±8
25 to 29 Years Old	68	±4	67	±6
30 to 34 Years Old	75	±4	66	±7
35 Years Old or More	79	±4	66	±7
Gender				
Male	66	±3	59	±4
Female	66	±5	56	±11

Table 9.10. Participation (Voting) Rates by Treatment Group and Stratification Variables (Final Weights)

Stratification Variable	Control (Final Weights)		Experiment (Final Weights)	
	Estimates	ME	Estimates	ME
Total	**43**	**±2**	**34**	**±4**
Service				
Army	43	±4	33	±7
Navy	44	±5	33	±9
Marine Corps	36	±6	27	±11
Air Force	46	±3	37	±5
Coast Guard	58	±6	48	±12
Location				
U.S.	44	±3	34	±4
All other countries and territories including Deployed	37	±2	29	±4
Paygrade				
E1–E5	31	±3	23	±5
E6–E9	53	±4	42	±7
O1–O3	70	±4	54	±8
O4–O6	79	±4	66	±10
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	29	±4	23	±7
25 to 29 Years Old	40	±4	30	±6
30 to 34 Years Old	54	±5	43	±7
35 Years Old or More	65	±4	49	±7
Gender				
Male	44	±3	35	±4
Female	39	±5	29	±10

As Table 9.9 and Table 9.110 show, the weighted registration and voting rates are much higher for the voting language control group. The registration rates are about 7 percentage points higher whereas the voting rates are about 9 points higher. For both groups, the differences are consistent across the stratification variables. Similar to the response rate effect, it was expected that the voting language might have influenced members more interested in politics to respond, but the magnitude of difference was larger than expected. This is consistent with estimates from the voting language control sample slightly overestimating the rates of military registration and participation.

Although the original plan was to combine the two treatment groups into the production estimates, it was determined that the estimates were too different, and blending them served little purpose. Instead, the voting language control group is used as the production estimates, even while acknowledging that rates are likely upward biased. The control group was chosen because it is important for FVAP to measure historical trending, and the much larger sample size produces more stable estimates. The non-voting language experimental sample will be used for future research purposes and will be considered for future PEVS-ADM administrations. Therefore, the 2,152 experimental treatment respondents are excluded from final weights and estimates in the remainder of this report.

Table 9.11 provides summaries of the distributions of the sampling, eligibility, completion, and final weights, and the corresponding adjustment factors for complete eligible respondents from only the control cases.

Table 9.12 shows the final weight ranges from 13.1 to 2,557.6. The nonresponse adjustment for eligibility status makes the biggest single adjustment to the weights in terms of increasing the mean of the weights (goes from 24.9 to 167.4). The two remaining adjustments for nonresponse among the eligible respondents have a modest effect on increasing the mean weight. The corresponding factors shown in the last three columns of the table have small C.V.'s; in other words, the factors in each column differ from each other by relatively small amounts.

Table 9.11. Distribution of Weights and Adjustment Factors (Control Treatment)

Eligibility Status	Statistic	Sampling Weight	Eligibility Status Adjusted Weight	Complete Eligible Response Adjusted Weight	Final Weight with Nonresponse and Poststratification Factors	Eligibility Status Factor	Complete Eligible Response Factor	Poststratification Factor
Eligible Respondents	N	6,973	6,973	6,973	6,973	6,973	6,973	6,973
	MIN	2.9	12.0	12.3	13.1	1.4	1.0	0.5
	MAX	137.5	2,381.2	2,639.3	2,557.6	64.7	1.5	1.6
	MEAN	24.9	167.4	181.6	187.3	9.8	1.1	1.0
	STD	27.1	214.9	240.0	253.3	13.9	0.1	0.2
	CV	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.2

Table 9.12 shows the sum of the weights at different stages of weighting. The weights adjusted for known eligibility status distribute the sampling weights for nonrespondents with unknown eligibility status among the remaining dispositions. The eligible response adjusted weights then compensate for eligible respondents providing incomplete surveys. By design, the final poststratification adjustments redistribute record ineligibles and other dispositions excluded from the final weights to match total number in the original frame.

Table 9.12. Sum of Weights by Eligibility Status

Eligibility Category	Sum of Sampling Weights	Sum of Eligibility Status Adjusted Weights	Sum of Complete Eligible Response Adjusted Weights	Sum of Final Weights with Nonresponse and Poststratification Adjustments
1. Eligible weighted	173,803	1,167,594	1,266,256	1,306,301
2. Ineligible weighted	1,077	8,253	8,253	8,845
3. Nonresponse unweighted	1,104,141	103,175	0	0
4. Record ineligible unweighted	36,125	36,125	36,125	0
Total	**1,315,146**	**1,315,147**	**1,310,634**	**1,315,146**

d. Variance Estimation

Analysis of the 2016 PEVS-ADM data required a variance estimation procedure that accounted for the weighting procedures. The final step of the weighting process was to define strata for variance estimation by Taylor series linearization. The 2016 PEVS-ADM variance estimation strata corresponded closely to the design strata; however, small (goal was 100 per variance strata) strata containing complete eligible responses (there were three that were just over 80) were collapsed. Thirty-nine variance strata were defined for the 2016 PEVS-ADM.

9.4 | Multiple Comparison

When statistically comparing groups (e.g., Army vs. Navy estimates of voter registration), a statistical hypothesis of whether there are no differences (null hypothesis) versus there are differences (alternative hypothesis) is tested. Many researchers use two-independent samples *t*-tests for their statistical tests. The conclusions are usually based on the *p*-value associated with the test-statistic. If the *p*-value is less than the critical value, then the null hypothesis is rejected. Any time a null hypothesis is rejected (conclude that estimates are significantly different), it is possible this conclusion is incorrect. In reality, the null hypothesis may have been true, and the significant result may have been due to chance. A *p*-value of 0.05 means there is a 5 percent chance of finding a difference as large as the observed result if the null hypothesis were true.

In survey research, there is often interest in conducting multiple comparisons. For example, (1) testing whether satisfaction with the military way of life percentage among Army is the same as the satisfaction percentage across all other Services, and (2) testing that the satisfaction percentage for Navy is the same as the percentage with all other Services and so on. When performing multiple independent comparisons on the same data, the

question becomes, "Does the interpretation of the *p*-value for a single statistical test hold for multiple comparisons?" If 200 independent statistical (significance) tests were conducted at the 0.05 significance level, and the null hypothesis is supported for all, 10 of the tests would be expected to be significant at the *p*-value < 0.05 level simply due to chance. These 10 tests would have incorrectly been concluded as statistically significant—known as false positives or false discoveries. When a single significance test is conducted, the error rate—the probability of false discoveries—is the *p*-value itself. When more than one significance test is conducted, the probability of false discoveries increases (i.e., the more tests that are conducted, the greater the number of false discoveries).

This problem is known in the statistical literature as the "multiple comparisons problem." Therefore, it is important to control the false discoveries when performing multiple independent tests to reach more accurate conclusions. Numerous techniques have been developed to control the false positive error rate associated with conducting multiple statistical testing (multiple comparisons). It should be noted that there is no universally accepted approach for dealing with the problem of multiple comparisons.

The recommended method used to control for false discoveries is known as False Discovery Rate (FDR) correction developed by Benjamini and Hochberg (1995). FDR is defined as the expected percentage of erroneous rejections among all rejections. The idea is to control the false discovery rate, which is the proportion of "discoveries" (significant results) that are actually false positives. The approach can be summarized as follows:

- Determine the number of comparisons (tests) of interest; call it *m*
- Determine the tolerable FDR rate; call it α
- Calculate the *p*-value for each statistical test
- Sort the individual *p*-values from smallest to largest and rank them; call the rank *k*

For each ranked *p*-value, calculate the FDR-adjusted *alpha* (threshold), which is defined as $\frac{k * \propto}{m}$

Determine the cutoff delineating statistically significant results from non-significant results in the sorted file as follows: Look for the maximum rank (*k*) such that the ordered *p*-value is less than the FDR-adjusted *alpha* (i.e., look for the maximum *k* after which the *p*-value becomes greater than the threshold), call this maximum *k* the cutoff. Any comparison (*p*-value) with rank less than the cutoff is considered statistically significant.

The FDR method had not been implemented by the time this report was written, but it should be considered when making comparisons with the 2016 PEVS-ADM.

9.5 | Contact, Cooperation and Response Rates

Contact, cooperation and response rates were calculated in accordance with the recommendations of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR, 2016 Standard Definitions), which estimates the proportion of eligible respondents among cases of unknown eligibility (SAMP_DC = 10 and 11).

The *contact rate* uses the concepts of AAPOR standard formula CON2 and is defined as:

$$CON2 = \frac{(I+P)+R+O-e(O)}{(I+P)+R+O+NC-e(NC+O)} = \frac{\text{adjusted contacted sample}}{\text{adjusted eligible sample}} = \frac{N_L}{N_E}.$$

The *cooperation rate* uses the concepts of AAPOR standard formula COOP2 and is defined as:

$$COOP2 = \frac{(I+P)}{(I+P)+R+O-e(O)} = \frac{\text{complete eligibles}}{\text{adjusted contacted sample}} = \frac{N_R}{N_L}.$$

The *response rate* (RR) uses AAPOR standard formula RR4 and is defined as:

$$RR4 = \frac{(I+P)}{(I+P)+R+O+NC-e(NC+O)} = \frac{\text{complete eligibles}}{\text{adjusted eligible sample}} = \frac{N_R}{N_E}.$$

Where:

I = Fully complete responses according to RR4 are greater than 80 percent complete (SAMP_DC=4)

P = Partially complete responses according to RR4 are between 50 and 80 percent complete (SAMP_DC=4)

R = Refusal and break-off according to RR4 are less than 50 percent complete (SAMP_DC=5, 8, and 9)[47]

NC = Non-contact (SAMP_DC =10)

O = Other (SAMP_DC = 11)[48]

e(O) = Estimated ineligible nonrespondents

e(NC) = Estimated ineligible PND

N_L = Adjusted contacted sample

N_E = Adjusted eligible sample

N_R = Complete eligibles[49]

Table 9.13 shows the corresponding sample disposition codes associated with the response categories.

[47] OPA considers these all cases of known eligibility.

[48] These are all nonrespondents that OPA considers cases of unknown eligibility.

[49] Complete eligibles is an OPA term that applies to self-administered surveys in comparison to the terms complete and partial interviews used by AAPOR.

Table 9.13. Disposition Codes for Response Rates

Response Category	Disposition (SAMP_DC) Values
Eligible Sample	4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11
Contacted Sample	4, 5, 8, 9, 11
Complete Eligibles	4
Not Returned	11
Eligibility Determined Cases	2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9
Self Report Ineligible Cases	2, 3

a. Ineligibility Rate

The ineligibility rate (IR) is defined as the following and needs to be calculated for both weighted and unweighted to be applied to Table 9.13.

IR = Self Report Ineligible/Eligibility Determined

b. Estimated Ineligible Postal Non-Deliverable/Not Contacted Rate

The estimated ineligible postal non-deliverable or not contacted (IPNDR) is defined as:

IPNDR = (Eligible Sample - Contacted Sample) * IR.

c. Estimated Ineligible Nonresponse

The estimated ineligible nonresponse (EINR) is defined as:

EINR = (Not Returned) * IR.

d. Adjusted Contact Rate

The adjusted contact rate (ACR) is defined as:

ACR = (Contacted Sample - EINR)/(Eligible Sample - IPNDR - EINR).

e. Adjusted Cooperation Rate

The adjusted cooperation rate (ACOR) is defined as:

ACOR = (Eligible Response)/(Contacted Sample - EINR).

f. Adjusted Response Rate

The adjusted response rate (ARR) is defined as:

ARR = (Eligible Response)/(Eligible Sample - IPNDR - EINR).

The final response rate is the product of the contact rate and the cooperation rate. Table 9.14 shows both weighted and unweighted contact, cooperation and response rates for the 2016 PEVS-ADM.

Table 9.14. Contact, Cooperation and Response Rates

Type of Rate	Computation	Unweighted	Weighted
Contact	Adjusted contacted sample/Adjusted eligible sample	75%	80%
Cooperation	Usable responses/Adjusted contacted sample	12%	17%
Response	Usable responses/Adjusted eligible sample	9%	14%

Note: Weighted response rates are the official reported rates. Unweighted response rates can be influenced by the sample design.

Finally, Table 9.15 shows weighted contact, cooperation and response rates for the full sample by the stratification variables. The final weighted response rate for the survey was 14 percent.

Table 9.15. Rates for Full Sample and Stratification Level

Variable	Domain	Contact %	Cooperation %	Response %
Sample	**Sample**	**80**	**17**	**14**
Location	U.S.	80	17	14
	All other countries and territories including Deployed	81	17	14
Service	Army	78	15	11
	Navy	78	14	11
	Marine Corps	74	12	9
	Air Force	89	24	21
	Coast Guard	92	29	27
Paygrade	E1–E5	71	10	7
	E6–E9	93	21	19
	W1–W5	96	24	23
	O1–O3	92	26	24
	O4–O6	97	39	38
Age	18 to 24 Years Old	65	8	5
	25 to 29 Years Old	83	13	11
	30 to 34 Years Old	91	19	17
	35 Years Old and More	95	29	28

Variable	Domain	Contact %	Cooperation %	Response %
Gender	Males, Unknown	80	17	13
	Female	82	18	15

Note: Reported rates are weighted. Unweighted rates can be influenced by the sample design.

Conclusion

FVAP is responsible for administering the federal responsibilities of *UOCAVA* as amended by the *MOVE Act*. FVAP works to ensure Service members are aware of their right to vote and have the tools and resources to successfully do so—from anywhere in the world. In support of its goals and mission, and to meet legislative responsibilities, FVAP—working together with FMG and DMDC RSSC—collected post-election voting survey data on active duty military members in the 2016 PEVS-ADM. This ADM Technical Report focused on two key goals related to the ADM population: (1) answering within-population absentee voting research questions, and (2) describing the full survey methodology of the 2016 PEVS-ADM data collection.

This first half of this report presented five analysis sections that included an overview of ADM voting measures, a comparison of ADM to CVAP voting measures, a comparison of 2012 ADM to 2016 ADM voting measures, an analysis of ADM social connectivity and an analysis of first-time voters encountering absentee voting obstacles. The key results of these analyses are summarized below. The second half of this report described the full methodology of the 2016 PEVS-ADM, including discussions of the survey design, survey administration, and sampling and weighting decisions made on this survey.

10.1 | Summary of Results

a. Registration and Participation

ADM registration, ballot request, and participation rates declined from 2012 to 2016, whereas ADM ballot receipt rates increased from 2012 to 2016. The proportional decline in registration was relatively equal by Service and the decline in participation was highest for Army and Air Force, controlling for all other variables. Consistent with the design of FVAP marketing materials encouraging ADM who want to vote to complete absentee ballot steps earlier, ADM requested and received their absentee ballots earlier in 2016 than in 2012. Likely due to election effects, ADM returned their ballots later in 2016. Demographic differences and receiving FVAP marketing explained only a small amount of which respondents requested or returned an absentee ballot early. Overseas, older and White ADM were significantly more likely to request and return a ballot early.

b. Comparison of ADM and CVAP Voting Behavior

ADM had lower registration and participation rates than CVAP. About half of this difference can be explained by differences in the demographic and geographic characteristics of the two populations. Specifically, ADM tend to be younger, male, less educated, and experienced higher rates of pre-election mobility, all characteristics associated with lower participation in the CVAP population. Groups that are less mobile and more educated were especially likely to see a large CVAP–ADM participation gap. This finding could reflect the fact that these populations have particularly high motivation to vote, and thus these groups would have voted absent the obstacles to participation that result from being ADM. Alternatively, the results may reflect the fact that marketing of ADM voting assistance resources are targeted more toward less educated ADM who are absentee voters, and thus mitigates the effect of obstacles that result from being ADM more among these groups than among more educated, less mobile ADM.

c. Comparison of ADM Registration and Participation Rates in the 2012 and 2016 General Elections

Results show that ADM participation dropped between 2012 and 2016. Although some of this drop may be explained by the ADM population being younger and more Hispanic in 2016, most of the change is unexplained by changes in observed demographic and geographic characteristics of the population. The drop was particularly large among women and minorities. Potential explanations for the unexplained decline in participation include, but are not limited to, unmeasured changes in motivation and obstacles to voting, differences in survey methodology between the two elections and/or differences in candidates. A similar analysis of the trends in registration and participation rates in the CVAP population may allow for a test of the election mechanisms for these subpopulations.

d. Social Networks

Among ADM residing outside their voting jurisdiction on or before the election, those who are married, and defined as thus relatively connected, are more likely to have discussed voting procedures than those who were not married. ADM who discussed absentee ballot procedures are more likely to vote absentee than those who are not, consistent with the role of the transfer of procedural connections facilitating participation by ADM.

e. First-Time Voters and Obstacles to Voting

The analyses showed that ADM first-time voters differ from more experienced voters in their demographic composition, FVAP awareness and experience obtaining on-base assistance. First-time voters were expectedly less likely to be aware of the FVAP brand, less likely to report receiving FVAP marketing materials and less likely to have used FVAP.gov or the online assistant. About one-third of ADM first-time voters reported experiencing an absentee ballot issue during the first election in which they intended to vote absentee. Experiencing an absentee ballot issue for any ADM was associated with a large significant decline in the likelihood of voting; however, this decline was not significantly greater for first-time voters compared to experienced ADM.

10.2 | Recommendations Based on Results

Many of the results in this analysis highlight the importance for ADM of how accumulating procedural information about the absentee voting process helps increase the likelihood of successful voting. A potential policy implication is that FVAP should continue to target marketing campaigns to ADM who are inexperienced, identified through age, as well as explore better ways to identify inexperienced ADM voters. FVAP could also explore ways to target socially connected ADM, so that once these individuals are provided with the absentee voting information, they could spread it through their network. FVAP has directed other populations, such as VAOs or SEOs, to share voting assistance resources through their networks. Future experiments could test the viability of asking the voter directly to tell their social network about the absentee voting knowledge they have gained.

10.3 | Methodological Limitations

The PEVS-ADM data that were the basis for this analysis have several limitations. One is that the sample may be imperfectly representative of the population, despite the use of nonresponse/poststratification weights, due to difference in survey interest (discussed further in Appendix G).

Another limitation is that self-reported survey data on specific steps of the absentee voting process may have issues with recall or interpretation. Respondents may misinterpret questions related to voting (e.g., confusing the attempt to vote with having a vote counted, registering versus requesting a ballot) or may not be able to recall specifics about past voting behavior.

Additionally, there may be potential measurement issues with the way variables in this report were operationalized, such as with voter experience and social connectivity. For example, without administrative history on past voting experience, it is up to the respondent to determine whether they made a previous effort to vote absentee in the past. In the case of social connectivity, whether or not an ADM member is married may be a poor proxy for the total size of the member's social network. These measurement issues could bias inferences about the role of experience and social connectivity in the voting process.

10.4 | Future Research and Goals

Future FVAP research should aim to advance the findings reported in the ADM Technical Report, as well as mitigate some of the limitations of this study. Research should explore, with more sophisticated and time-consuming methodologies, the "unexplained" portion of the decline in ADM participation rates and how they compare to CVAP participation rates. Future qualitative research could help to explain how ADM react to marketing materials encouraging completing absentee ballot steps early to understand whether contact, comprehension, or motivation determines early ballot request and return.

Methodologically, it is important to stress that there will always be room for improvement when it comes to the design and implementation of the PEVS-ADM. This must be balanced with the ability to analyze trends. Future

administrations of the PEVS-ADM could explore using the experimental invitation letters as the default, which may result in larger sample sizes and less bias in estimated ADM voting outcomes. Social network questions could be improved to better estimate the size of ADM social networks, for example, through asking about base or unit demographics or the individuals that ADM most interact with. Self-reported first-time voter questions could be improved by asking more specifically about voting actions taken in previous elections, rather than intentions to vote. The survey also could use a stronger emphasis on absentee voting problems faced, regardless of voting status, to facilitate stronger analyses about the impact of facing voting obstacles.

Increasingly linking administrative data, although at the same time protecting the current standard of privacy and anonymity, could prove extremely useful to more precisely answer FVAP research questions. Obtaining data on ADM vote history from State voter files may simultaneously allow for a validating of the self-reported voting behavior in either this or past elections and improve the nonresponse models, mitigating nonresponse bias. Administrative-based proxies for the size (e.g., base or unit size) and procedural information about the ADM's social network (e.g., fraction of base or unit that has a record of having a vote counted) might improve inferences about the role of social networks in determining successful absentee voting as well as for the targeting of FVAP marketing.

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Appendix A: Variable Definitions

Table A1: ADM Variable Definitions

Variable	Description
Voted	1 for reported definitely voting in person or by mail, e-mail, online website, or fax on November 8, 2016; 0 for not
UOCAVA	1 for living 50+ miles outside location where registered to vote, 0 for living less than 50 miles from location where registered to vote
Overseas	1 for located overseas or on board a ship; 0 for located in the United States/territories on November 8, 2016
Age	Continuous age of respondent
Age Square	Square of Continuous age of respondent on 2012/2016 Election
Sex	1 for male; 0 for female
Race/Ethnicity	1 for White non-Hispanic [0], 2 for Black non-Hispanic, 3 for Hispanic, 4 for other non-Hispanic
Education	1 for no college degree [0], 2 for some college, 3 for 4 year college degree, 4 graduate or professional degree
Marital Status	1 for married, 0 for not married
Children	1 if has children, 0 if not
Family Status	1 if single with children, 2 if single without children, 3 if married with children, 4 if married without children
Service	1 for Army, 2 for Navy, 3 for Marine Corps, 4 for Air Force[0], 5 for Coast Guard
Officer	1 for Officer 001-006, 0 for Enlisted E01-E09 or Warrant Officer W0-W05
State Region	1 for New England, 2 for Middle Atlantic, 3 for East North Central, 4 for West North Central, 5 for South Atlantic, 6 for East South Central, 7 for West South Central, 8 for Mountain, 9 for Pacific, 10 for Territory
Early Ballot Request	1 for reported first requesting a ballot in August or earlier, 0 for reported first requesting a ballot in September, October, or November
Early Ballot Return	1 for reported returning a ballot in October or earlier, 0 for reported returning a ballot in November

Table A1: ADM Variable Definitions (continued)

Registered	1 if voted in 2012/16 or didn't vote but stated registration, 0 if not registered
Mobility	1 if changed residential address in past year, 0 if in residential address 1 year or longer
Requested an Absentee Ballot	1 if requsted an absentee ballot, 0 if not
Returned an Absentee Ballot	1 if requested and returned an absentee ballot, 0 if requested but did not return an absentee ballot.
Discussed with Family	1 if reported having discussed voting procedures with a family member prior to the election, 0 if not
Discussed with Anyone	1 if reported having discussed voting procedures with anyone the ADM knows prior to the election, 0 if not
First-time/Experienced Voter	1 for first time voters if they responded "yes", the November 8, 2016, election was the first time they voted or tried to vote, 0 for experienced voters for respondents saying "no, this was not my first time voting or trying to vote".
Absentee Ballot Issue	1 for expected to receive absentee ballot but did not, requested but did not receive blank absentee ballot, notified of rejected absentee ballot request, or notified of rejected absentee ballot return, 0 for none of these issues
Base Difficulty	1 strongly disagree or disagree: that it was easy to get in-person voting assistance at installation, knew exactly who at installation to ask about voting related issues, had voting questions but could not get a hold of someone to answer them, printed voting materials were easily accessible at installation, or strongly agree or agree seeking in-person assistance was a waste of time because of inaccurate information; 0 for none of these base difficulties

Note: [0] Omitted category.

Appendix B: Overview of ADM Voting Measures

Table B1: ADM Ballot Request and Return Month

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6
FVAP Marketing (FM)		.292	-.122		-.0169	-.858
		(.197)	(.752)		(.264)	(.91)
Overseas	.283**	.263**	-.228	.443***	.442**	-.15
	(.117)	(.117)	(.317)	(.17)	(.183)	(.39)
Age	.0281**	.0269**	.0553**	.0232**	.0224**	.0676***
	(.0135)	(.013)	(.0233)	(.0102)	(.0103)	(.0253)
Male	-.0142	-.00178	-.193	.498***	.51***	.17
	(.158)	(.166)	(.29)	(.172)	(.17)	(.493)
Black	-.519**	-.495**	-.913	-.663***	-.656***	-1.01
	(.255)	(.249)	(.567)	(.256)	(.249)	(.657)
Hispanic	.401	.42*	.0612	.0512	.0499	-.0769
	(.27)	(.252)	(.312)	(.383)	(.383)	(.517)
Other	-.0135	.026	.249	-.187	-.19	-.562
	(.231)	(.234)	(.476)	(.308)	(.313)	(.618)
Some College	.39	.378	.236	-.754**	-.781**	-1.51**
	(.301)	(.297)	(.497)	(.361)	(.365)	(.634)
College Degree	.495*	.483*	.103	-.882**	-.907**	-2.22**
	(.263)	(.263)	(.565)	(.418)	(.423)	(.925)
Graduate Degree	.707**	.684**	.313	-.455	-.454	-1.83*
	(.314)	(.318)	(.74)	(.507)	(.508)	(1.06)
Married	.149	.147	-.0881	-.0082	-.00848	-.752*
	(.156)	(.155)	(.415)	(.187)	(.191)	(.414)
Army	.153	.175	-.4	-.0135	-.00077	.335
	(.179)	(.179)	(.296)	(.205)	(.207)	(.333)
Navy	.248	.277	-.402	.0654	.0753	-.397
	(.169)	(.168)	(.35)	(.23)	(.225)	(.399)
Marine Corps	.253	.278	-.106	-.158	-.119	-.924**
	(.186)	(.19)	(.436)	(.288)	(.288)	(.41)
Coast Guard	.465**	.505***	.0806	.263	.278	-.14
	(.181)	(.19)	(.341)	(.258)	(.264)	(.466)

Table B1: ADM Ballot Request and Return Month (continued)

Officer	-.267	-.295	-.375	-.0636	-.0571	.394
	(.264)	(.257)	(.474)	(.27)	(.29)	(.455)
FM X Overseas			.67*			.837*
			(.389)			(.438)
FM X Age			-.0384			-.0601*
			(.0269)			(.0348)
FM X Male			.331			.468
			(.323)			(.632)
FM X Black			.643			.365
			(.615)			(.844)
FM X Hispanic			.489			.273
			(.524)			(.513)
FM X Other			-.386			.632
			(.574)			(.783)
FM X Some College			.245			1.06
			(.599)			(.754)
FM X College Degree			.593			1.99*
			(.821)			(1.12)
FM X Graduate Degree			.548			2.04*
			(.996)			(1.19)
FM X Married			.324			1.01**
			(.519)			(.443)
FM X Army			.751**			-.453
			(.341)			(.443)
FM X Navy			.963**			.709
			(.447)			(.507)
FM X Marine Corps			.499			1.14**
			(.542)			(.532)
FM X Coast Guard			.517			.659
			(.475)			(.524)
FM X Officer			.0909			-.661
			(.566)			(.468)
Observations	1,993	1,983	1,983	1,859	1,850	1,850
R^2	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.07

Note: The dependent variable in Models 1–3 is a dichotomous indicator for whether a respondent requested his or her ballot in August or earlier. The dependent variable in Models 4–6 is a dichotomous indicator for whether a respondent returned his or her ballot in October or earlier. The model is limited to ADM who lived 50 miles or more outside their voting jurisdiction. The model was estimated using logit regression. Regional effects were controlled for but not displayed. Observations are weighted to reflect the study design and mitigate the risk of various sources of survey error. Standard errors (in parentheses) are clustered by State.

Appendix C: ADM to CVAP Comparisons

Table C1: Differences in Demographics for the 2016 CVAP and 2016 ADM Populations

Variable	CVAP, 2016	ADM, 2016	Difference in Means (p-value)
Mobility	0.14	0.59	0.000
Male	0.52	0.85	0.000
Single With Children	0.07	0.04	0.000
Single Without Children	0.37	0.42	
Married With Children	0.26	0.36	
Married Without Children	0.30	0.18	
High School	0.30	0.23	0.000
Some College or Associate Degree	0.31	0.49	
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.25	0.18	
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.14	0.11	
Age	43	29	0.000
Non-Hispanic White	0.70	0.58	0.000
Non-Hispanic Black	0.11	0.14	
Hispanic	0.12	0.17	
Other	0.07	0.11	
New England	0.05	0.02	0.000
Middle Atlantic	0.13	0.07	
East North Central	0.16	0.09	
West North Central	0.08	0.04	
South Atlantic	0.19	0.26	
East South Central	0.06	0.05	
West South Central	0.12	0.15	
Mountain	0.08	0.09	
Pacific	0.15	0.21	

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01 Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. P-values for the differences in means are derived from t-tests or Pearson chi-square tests for dichotomous and categorical characteristics, respectively.

Table C2: Decomposition of Difference Between CVAP and ADM Registration Rates

Variable	Frequency/Difference (Percent Scale)	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Total Difference (CVAP, 2012 – ADM, 2016)				
CVAP, 2016	84.47***	0.19	84.10	84.85
ADM, 2016	67.79***	1.15	65.53	70.05
Difference	16.68***	1.17	14.39	18.97
Explained Difference (CVAP, 2012 - Modeled CVAP, 2012)				
Mobility	2.69***	0.29	2.12	3.26
Male	0.93***	0.12	0.69	1.17
Family	0.08	0.07	-0.07	0.22
Education	-0.30	0.20	-0.70	0.10
Age	4.25***	0.27	3.73	4.77
Race	0.77***	0.13	0.51	1.03
Region	0.13*	0.08	-0.02	0.29
Total Explained	8.55***	0.48	7.61	9.48
Unexplained Difference (Modeled CVAP, 2012 - ADM, 2016)				
Total Unexplained	8.14***	1.19	5.80	10.47

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01 Associated ordinary least squares (OLS) regression results are presented in Tables 3 and 4.

Table C3: Decomposition of Difference Between CVAP and ADM Participation Rates

Variable	Frequency/Difference (Percent Scale)	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Total Difference (CVAP, 2012 – ADM, 2016)				
CVAP, 2016	74.73***	0.23	74.28	75.18
ADM, 2016	46.20***	1.16	43.93	48.46
Difference	28.54***	1.18	26.22	30.85
Explained Difference (CVAP, 2012 - Modeled CVAP, 2012)				
Mobility	4.36***	0.34	3.69	5.02
Male	1.34***	0.15	1.06	1.63
Family	-0.03	0.09	-0.21	0.16
Education	0.02	0.25	-0.47	0.50
Age	6.40***	0.31	5.80	7.01
Race	0.88***	0.16	0.58	1.19
Region	0.12	0.11	-0.09	0.33
Total Explained	13.10***	0.57	11.97	14.22
Unexplained Difference (Modeled CVAP, 2012 - ADM, 2016)				
Total Unexplained	15.44***	1.20	13.09	17.79

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01 Associated ordinary least squares (OLS) regression results are presented in Tables 5 and 6.

Table C4: Registration Regression, 2016 CVAP

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	-0.06***	0.01	-0.07	-0.05
Male	-0.03***	0.00	-0.04	-0.02
Single Without Children	0.03***	0.01	0.01	0.05
Married With Children	0.05***	0.01	0.03	0.07
Married Without Children	0.06***	0.01	0.05	0.08
Some College or Associate Degree	0.14***	0.01	0.13	0.15
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.20***	0.01	0.19	0.21
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.22***	0.01	0.21	0.23
Age	0.01***	0.00	0.00	0.01
Age Squared	-0.00***	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	0.04***	0.01	0.03	0.06
Hispanic	-0.07***	0.01	-0.08	-0.06
Other	-0.12***	0.01	-0.14	-0.10
Middle Atlantic	-0.03***	0.01	-0.04	-0.01
East North Central	-0.01	0.01	-0.02	0.01
West North Central	-0.02*	0.01	-0.03	0.00
South Atlantic	0.00	0.01	-0.02	0.01
East South Central	-0.02**	0.01	-0.04	-0.01
West South Central	-0.04***	0.01	-0.06	-0.03
Mountain	-0.04***	0.01	-0.06	-0.02
Pacific	-0.02***	0.01	-0.04	-0.01
Constant	0.55***	0.02	0.51	0.60

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 47,813

Table C5: Registration Regression, 2016 ADM

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	0.03	0.02	-0.02	0.07
Male	-0.01	0.03	-0.06	0.05
Single Without Children	0.03	0.06	-0.09	0.15
Married With Children	0.08	0.06	-0.04	0.19
Married Without Children	0.09	0.06	-0.03	0.21
Some College or Associate Degree	0.10***	0.04	0.03	0.17
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.24***	0.04	0.16	0.31
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.26***	0.04	0.18	0.34
Age	0.02**	0.01	0.00	0.05
Age Squared	-0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	-0.12***	0.03	-0.18	-0.05
Hispanic	-0.17***	0.03	-0.24	-0.10
Other	-0.15***	0.04	-0.23	-0.08
Middle Atlantic	0.01	0.08	-0.14	0.17
East North Central	0.02	0.08	-0.13	0.17
West North Central	-0.02	0.08	-0.18	0.14
South Atlantic	0.08	0.07	-0.06	0.22
East South Central	-0.06	0.09	-0.22	0.11
West South Central	0.00	0.08	-0.15	0.15
Mountain	0.08	0.08	-0.07	0.23
Pacific	0.03	0.07	-0.11	0.18
Constant	0.10	0.21	-0.31	0.51

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 5,081

Table C6: Participation Regression, 2016 CVAP

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	-0.10***	0.01	-0.11	-0.08
Male	-0.04***	0.00	-0.05	-0.03
Single Without Children	0.06***	0.01	0.04	0.08
Married With Children	0.09***	0.01	0.07	0.11
Married Without Children	0.10***	0.01	0.08	0.12
Some College or Associate Degree	0.15***	0.01	0.14	0.17
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.25***	0.01	0.24	0.26
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.28***	0.01	0.27	0.30
Age	0.01***	0.00	0.01	0.01
Age Squared	-0.00***	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	0.05***	0.01	0.04	0.07
Hispanic	-0.08***	0.01	-0.09	-0.06
Other	-0.14***	0.01	-0.16	-0.12
Middle Atlantic	-0.05***	0.01	-0.07	-0.03
East North Central	-0.02**	0.01	-0.04	-0.01
West North Central	-0.03***	0.01	-0.05	-0.01
South Atlantic	-0.02*	0.01	-0.03	0.00
East South Central	-0.06***	0.01	-0.09	-0.04
West South Central	-0.09***	0.01	-0.11	-0.07
Mountain	-0.04***	0.01	-0.06	-0.02
Pacific	-0.03***	0.01	-0.04	-0.01
Constant	0.36***	0.03	0.31	0.41

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 47,813

Table C7: Participation Regression, 2016 ADM

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	-0.02	0.02	-0.06	0.03
Male	0.06**	0.03	0.01	0.11
Single Without Children	0.01	0.06	-0.10	0.12
Married With Children	0.06	0.05	-0.05	0.17
Married Without Children	0.09	0.06	-0.03	0.20
Some College or Associate Degree	0.10***	0.03	0.03	0.17
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.26***	0.04	0.19	0.34
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.32***	0.04	0.23	0.40
Age	0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.04
Age Squared	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	-0.07**	0.03	-0.14	0.00
Hispanic	-0.12***	0.03	-0.19	-0.06
Other	-0.12***	0.03	-0.18	-0.05
Middle Atlantic	-0.01	0.07	-0.15	0.12
East North Central	-0.01	0.07	-0.14	0.12
West North Central	-0.06	0.07	-0.20	0.08
South Atlantic	0.04	0.06	-0.08	0.16
East South Central	-0.07	0.07	-0.21	0.07
West South Central	-0.07	0.07	-0.20	0.06
Mountain	0.11	0.07	-0.04	0.25
Pacific	0.03	0.06	-0.10	0.16
Constant	-0.08	0.19	-0.45	0.30

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. *N* = 5,081

Table C8: Marginal Effect of Demographics on Registration for the 2016 ADM Population and 2016 CVAP.

Variable	CVAP, 2016		ADM, 2016		Difference in Marginal Effects (p-value)
	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	
Mobility	-0.07***	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.00
Male	-0.03***	0.00	-0.01	0.03	0.30
Single Without Children	0.02**	0.01	0.03	0.06	0.84
Married With Children	0.06***	0.01	0.08	0.06	0.65
Married Without Children	0.07***	0.01	0.09	0.06	0.83
Some College or Associate Degree	0.18***	0.01	0.09**	0.04	0.01
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.28***	0.01	0.24***	0.04	0.36
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.32***	0.01	0.28***	0.04	0.30
Age	0.00*	0.00	0.02*	0.01	0.01
Age Squared	0.00	0.00	-0.00*	0.00	0.07
Non-Hispanic Black	0.05***	0.01	-0.12***	0.03	0.00
Hispanic	-0.08***	0.01	-0.17***	0.03	0.01
Other	-0.16***	0.01	-0.15***	0.04	0.78
Middle Atlantic	-0.04***	0.01	0.02	0.08	0.43
East North Central	-0.01	0.01	0.02	0.08	0.67
West North Central	-0.02**	0.01	-0.02	0.08	0.10
South Atlantic	-0.01	0.01	0.09	0.07	0.16
East South Central	-0.04***	0.01	-0.06	0.08	0.81
West South Central	-0.06***	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.41
Mountain	-0.05***	0.01	0.08	0.08	0.09
Pacific	-0.03***	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.34

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The marginal effects were derived from a logit model. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Marginal effects calculated for a population that is demographic similar to ADM. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. The last column presents tests of the differences between the marginal effect of the variable for CVAP versus ADM. N = 52,894

Table C9: Marginal Effects of Demographics on Participation for the 2016 ADM Population and 2016 CVAP

Variable	CVAP, 2016		ADM, 2016		Difference in Marginal Effects (p-value)
	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	
Mobility	-0.11***	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.00
Male	-0.05***	0.01	0.06**	0.03	0.00
Single Without Children	0.05***	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.43
Married With Children	0.10***	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.44
Married Without Children	0.11***	0.01	0.08	0.05	0.63
Some College or Associate Degree	0.18***	0.01	0.11***	0.04	0.05
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.31***	0.01	0.27***	0.04	0.25
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.38***	0.01	0.33***	0.05	0.31
Age	0.00**	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.40
Age Squared	0.00	0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.61
Non-Hispanic Black	0.06***	0.01	-0.07**	0.03	0.00
Hispanic	-0.08***	0.01	-0.12***	0.03	0.23
Other	-0.18***	0.01	-0.12***	0.03	0.11
Middle Atlantic	-0.07***	0.01	-0.02	0.07	0.44
East North Central	-0.03***	0.01	-0.01	0.07	0.70
West North Central	-0.04***	0.01	-0.06	0.07	0.76
South Atlantic	-0.03**	0.01	0.04	0.06	0.31
East South Central	-0.08***	0.01	-0.07	0.07	0.78
West South Central	-0.12***	0.01	-0.07	0.06	0.50
Mountain	-0.06***	0.01	0.10	0.07	0.03
Pacific	-0.04***	0.01	0.03	0.06	0.32

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The marginal effects were derived from a logit model. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Marginal effects calculated for a population that is demographic similar to ADM. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. The last column presents tests of the differences between the marginal effect of the variable for CVAP versus ADM. N = 52,894

Appendix D: ADM Comparisons, 2012 to 2016

Table D1: Decomposition of Difference Between 2012 and 2016 Registration Rates

Variable	Frequency/Difference (Percent Scale)	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Total Difference (ADM, 2012 – ADM, 2016)				
ADM, 2012	80.69***	0.68	79.35	82.02
ADM, 2016	67.79***	1.15	65.53	70.05
Difference	12.90***	1.34	10.27	15.52
Explained Difference (ADM, 2012 - Modeled ADM, 2012)				
Mobility	0.04	0.21	-0.36	0.45
Male	0.02	0.03	-0.04	0.09
Family	-0.06	0.13	-0.32	0.19
Education	0.65**	0.25	0.16	1.15
Age	1.03***	0.27	0.50	1.56
Race	0.77***	0.20	0.39	1.16
Region	0.11	0.13	-0.13	0.36
Total Explained	2.57***	0.53	1.53	3.62
Unexplained Difference (Modeled ADM, 2012 - ADM, 2016)				
Total Unexplained	10.32***	1.38	7.63	13.02

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01 Associated ordinary least squares (OLS) regression results are presented in Tables D3 and D4.

Table D2: Decomposition of Difference Between 2012 and 2016 Participation Rates

Variable	Frequency/Difference (Percent Scale)	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Total Difference (ADM, 2012 – ADM, 2016)				
ADM, 2012	58.78***	0.77	57.27	60.28
ADM, 2016	46.20***	1.16	43.93	48.46
Difference	12.58***	1.39	9.86	15.30
Explained Difference (ADM, 2012 - Modeled ADM, 2012)				
Mobility	0.40*	0.23	-0.04	0.85
Male	0.03	0.04	-0.06	0.11
Family	0.05	0.15	-0.25	0.34
Education	0.84***	0.32	0.21	1.47
Age	1.90***	0.36	1.20	2.60
Race	0.59***	0.17	0.27	0.92
Region	0.15	0.14	-0.12	0.41
Total Explained	3.96***	0.67	2.66	5.27
Unexplained Difference (Modeled ADM, 2012 - ADM, 2016)				
Total Unexplained	8.62***	1.37	5.94	11.30

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. Associated ordinary least squares (OLS) regression results are presented in Tables 5 and 6.

Table D3: Registration Regression, 2012 ADM

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	-0.00	0.01	-0.03	0.02
Male	-0.03**	0.02	-0.07	-0.00
Single Without Children	0.02	0.03	-0.04	0.07
Married With Children	0.01	0.02	-0.03	0.05
Married Without Children	0.04	0.03	-0.02	0.09
Some College or Associate Degree	0.14***	0.02	0.09	0.19
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.22***	0.02	0.17	0.27
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.23***	0.02	0.18	0.28
Age	0.03***	0.01	0.01	0.04
Age Squared	-0.00***	0.00	-0.00	-0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	-0.04**	0.02	-0.08	-0.01
Hispanic	-0.13***	0.02	-0.18	-0.09
Other	-0.11***	0.02	-0.16	-0.06
Middle Atlantic	-0.00	0.04	-0.09	0.08
East North Central	0.00	0.04	-0.07	0.08
West North Central	0.01	0.05	-0.08	0.10
South Atlantic	0.06	0.04	-0.01	0.13
East South Central	0.00	0.05	-0.09	0.10
West South Central	-0.01	0.04	-0.08	0.07
Mountain	0.04	0.04	-0.04	0.12
Pacific	-0.01	0.04	-0.09	0.07
Constant	0.23	0.13	-0.02	0.48

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 9,635

Table D4: Registration Regression, 2016 ADM

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	0.03	0.02	-0.02	0.07
Male	-0.01	0.03	-0.06	0.05
Single Without Children	0.03	0.06	-0.09	0.15
Married With Children	0.08	0.06	-0.04	0.19
Married Without Children	0.09	0.06	-0.03	0.21
Some College or Associate Degree	0.10***	0.04	0.03	0.17
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.24***	0.04	0.16	0.31
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.26***	0.04	0.18	0.34
Age	0.02**	0.01	0.00	0.05
Age Squared	-0.00**	0.00	-0.00	-0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	-0.12***	0.03	-0.18	-0.05
Hispanic	-0.17***	0.03	-0.24	-0.10
Other	-0.15***	0.04	-0.23	-0.08
Middle Atlantic	0.01	0.08	-0.14	0.17
East North Central	0.02	0.08	-0.13	0.17
West North Central	-0.02	0.08	-0.18	0.14
South Atlantic	0.08	0.07	-0.06	0.22
East South Central	-0.06	0.09	-0.22	0.11
West South Central	0.00	0.08	-0.15	0.15
Mountain	0.08	0.08	-0.07	0.23
Pacific	0.03	0.07	-0.11	0.18
Constant	0.10	0.21	-0.31	0.51

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 5,081

Table D5: Participation Regression, 2012 ADM

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	-0.03*	0.01	-0.05	0.00
Male	-0.04**	0.02	-0.08	-0.01
Single Without Children	0.02	0.03	-0.04	0.08
Married With Children	0.04	0.03	-0.02	0.09
Married Without Children	0.08***	0.03	0.02	0.14
Some College or Associate Degree	0.16***	0.02	0.12	0.21
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.29***	0.03	0.24	0.34
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.33***	0.03	0.28	0.38
Age	0.03***	0.01	0.02	0.04
Age Squared	-0.00***	0.00	-0.00	-0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	0.04*	0.02	-0.00	0.07
Hispanic	-0.08***	0.02	-0.13	-0.04
Other	-0.07***	0.03	-0.12	-0.02
Middle Atlantic	-0.07	0.05	-0.16	0.02
East North Central	-0.01	0.04	-0.10	0.07
West North Central	0.03	0.05	-0.07	0.13
South Atlantic	0.03	0.04	-0.05	0.11
East South Central	-0.02	0.05	-0.12	0.07
West South Central	-0.05	0.04	-0.13	0.03
Mountain	-0.01	0.04	-0.10	0.08
Pacific	-0.02	0.04	-0.10	0.06
Constant**	-0.18	0.13	-0.43	0.07

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 9,635

Table D6: Participation Regression, 2016 ADM

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	95% CI Lower Bound	95% CI Upper Bound
Mobility	-0.02	0.02	-0.06	0.03
Male	0.06**	0.03	0.01	0.11
Single Without Children	0.01	0.06	-0.10	0.12
Married With Children	0.06	0.05	-0.05	0.17
Married Without Children	0.09	0.06	-0.03	0.20
Some College or Associate Degree	0.10***	0.03	0.03	0.17
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.26***	0.04	0.19	0.34
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.32***	0.04	0.23	0.40
Age	0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.04
Age Squared	-0.00	0.00	-0.00	0.00
Non-Hispanic Black	-0.07**	0.03	-0.14	-0.00
Hispanic	-0.12***	0.03	-0.19	-0.06
Other	-0.12***	0.03	-0.18	-0.05
Middle Atlantic	-0.01	0.07	-0.15	0.12
East North Central	-0.01	0.07	-0.14	0.12
West North Central	-0.06	0.07	-0.20	0.08
South Atlantic	0.04	0.06	-0.08	0.16
East South Central	-0.07	0.07	-0.21	0.07
West South Central	-0.07	0.07	-0.20	0.06
Mountain	0.11	0.07	-0.04	0.25
Pacific	0.03	0.06	-0.10	0.16
Constant	-0.08	0.19	-0.45	0.30

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The model was estimated using OLS. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 5,081

Table D7: Marginal Effects of Demographics on Registration for the ADM Population, 2012 and 2016

Variable	ADM, 2012		ADM, 2016		Difference in Marginal Effects (p-value)
	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	
Mobility	-0.00	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.2260
Male	-0.04**	0.02	-0.01	0.03	0.3499
Single Without Children	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.8164
Married With Children	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.06	0.2777
Married Without Children	0.04	0.03	0.09	0.06	0.4695
Some College or Associate Degree	0.13***	0.02	0.09**	0.04	0.3745
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.22***	0.02	0.24***	0.04	0.7035
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.26***	0.02	0.28***	0.04	0.7087
Age	0.02***	0.01	0.02*	0.01	0.9655
Age Squared	-0.00**	0.00	-0.00*	0.00	0.9015
Non-Hispanic Black	-0.05**	0.02	-0.12***	0.03	0.0760
Hispanic	-0.13***	0.02	-0.17***	0.03	0.3636
Other	-0.12***	0.03	-0.15***	0.04	0.4955
Middle Atlantic	-0.00	0.05	0.02	0.08	0.8288
East North Central	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.08	0.8556
West North Central	0.02	0.05	-0.02	0.08	0.6467
South Atlantic	0.07*	0.04	0.09	0.07	0.8315
East South Central	0.01	0.05	-0.06	0.08	0.4933
West South Central	-0.00	0.04	0.00	0.07	0.9614
Mountain	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.08	0.6805
Pacific	-0.01	0.04	0.03	0.07	0.6214

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The marginal effects were derived from a logit model. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 14,716

Table D8: Marginal Effects of Demographics on Participation for the ADM Population, 2012 and 2016

Variable	ADM, 2012		ADM, 2016		Difference in Marginal Effects (p-value)
	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	Marginal Effect	Standard Error	
Mobility	-0.03*	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.66
Male	-0.04**	0.02	0.06**	0.03	0.00
Single Without Children	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.86
Married With Children	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.05	0.74
Married Without Children	0.08***	0.03	0.08	0.05	0.96
Some College or Associate Degree	0.16***	0.02	0.11***	0.04	0.21
Bachelor's Degree in College	0.29***	0.03	0.27***	0.04	0.63
MA/PhD/Professional Degree	0.36***	0.03	0.33***	0.05	0.61
Age	0.02***	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.48
Age Squared	-0.00*	0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.57
Non-Hispanic Black	0.04*	0.02	-0.07**	0.03	0.01
Hispanic	-0.08***	0.02	-0.12***	0.03	0.30
Other	-0.07***	0.03	-0.12***	0.03	0.29
Middle Atlantic	-0.07	0.05	-0.02	0.07	0.53
East North Central	-0.01	0.04	-0.01	0.07	0.95
West North Central	0.03	0.05	-0.06	0.07	0.28
South Atlantic	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.93
East South Central	-0.02	0.05	-0.07	0.07	0.59
West South Central	-0.05	0.04	-0.07	0.06	0.77
Mountain	-0.01	0.04	0.10	0.07	0.18
Pacific	-0.01	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.57

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01. The marginal effects were derived from a logit model. Observations are weighted using nonresponse/poststratification weights. Standard errors are robust to heteroscedasticity. N = 14,716

Appendix E: Social Connectivity

Table E1: Social Connnectivity and Voting Metrics

	Registration	Participation	Absentee Ballot Request	Absentee Ballot Return
Marriage	0.026	0.062	0.064	0.015
	(0.020)	(0.022)***	(0.022)***	(0.028)
Controls	YES	YES	YES	YES

Note: Table presents marginal effects of being married for registration, participation, absentee ballot request and absentee ballot return rates. Marginal effects are generated using a logistic model incorporating the same demographic and geographic variables as presented in Appendix A. *p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01.

Appendix F: First-Time and Experienced Voters

Table F1: ADM—First-Time Voters and Absentee Ballot Issues Model

	Model 1
First-Time Voter (FTV)	-.414
	(.272)
Absentee Ballot Issue	-2.53***
	(.141)
FTV x Absentee Ballot Issue	-.271
	(.349)
Overseas	-.459***
	(.131)
Age	.0166
	(.0143)
Male	.579***
	(.184)
Black	-.153
	(.209)
Hispanic	-.157
	(.209)
Other	-.224
	(.228)
Some College	.453**
	(.228)
College Degree	.496*
	(.277)
Graduate Degree	1.06***
	(.347)
Married	-.0312
	(.165)

Table F1: ADM—First-Time Voters and Absentee Ballot Issues Model (Continued)

Army	.251
	(.17)
Navy	.181
	(.2)
Marine Corps	.225
	(.289)
Coast Guard	.887***
	(.236)
Officer	.568**
	(.253)
Observations	3064
Psuedo R^2	.285

Note: The dependent variable is a dichotomous indicator for whether a respondent voted in the 2016 General Election. The model is limited to ADM who lived 50 miles or more outside their voting jurisdiction, those who planned at some point to vote in 2016, and those who did not say they did not vote or try to vote in 2016. The model was estimated using logit regression. Regional effects were controlled for but not displayed. Observations are weighted to reflect the study design and mitigate the risk of various sources of survey error. Standard errors (in parenthesis) are clustered by State.

*p <.10, **p <.05, ***p < .01

Appendix G: Control vs. Experimental Sample Comparison

a. Background

The academic literature on survey-based estimates of election participation identifies two mechanisms that explain differences in estimates across surveys and differences in survey estimates and administrative voting data[50]. The first is differences across surveys in the relative propensity of respondents and nonrespondents to vote. Generally, respondents are more likely to respond to surveys on topics of interest to them, and specifically those who have a high propensity to vote are more likely to respond to voting surveys. The second mechanism linking survey administration to estimates of population average outcomes are differences in the accuracy of responses given by those individuals who actually respond. Specifically, there might be a social desirability bias whereby the wording of the survey invitations results in the respondents feeling pressure to report having voted.

Although there is literature suggesting vote propensity is positively related to survey response propensity, the mechanism underlying this relationship is unclear and can vary by survey and by population. The unintentional framing of a survey as being for voters may be one mechanism, but other mechanisms may include: (1) Shared geographic constraints on voting and survey response, such that respondents in locations that are remote or have poor infrastructure are difficult to contact and less likely to respond. Thus, this subpopulation also has difficulty registering or voting, an issue especially true for absentee ballot requester in the ADM population. (2) Individuals may perceive varied utility in voluntary participation, whether through surveys or through voting. Because the relevance of survey framing is ambiguous, rather than revising all survey invitations, an experiment was undertaken to estimate the effect of survey invitation specifically while avoiding unintended consequences that might result from changes of survey administration that impact the entire sample.

To test issues of nonresponse and item response bias, the 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military (PEVS-ADM) was partitioned into "control" and "experimental" samples. The control sample included 85 percent of the total sample. These respondents received communications branded normally as the 2016 PEVS-ADM, which used the same language in previous administrations, highlighting how the survey will ask voting-related questions. The experimental treatment was administered to a random subset of 15 percent of

50 For reviews and meta-analysis of biases in survey-based estimates of election turnout, see Selb P. and Munzert S. (2013). "Voter overrepresentation, vote misreporting, and turnout bias in postelection surveys." Electoral Studies 32(1): 186-196; and Sciarini, P., & Goldberg, A. C. (2016). "Turnout Bias in Postelection Surveys: Political Involvement, Survey Participation, and Vote Overreporting." Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology 4(1): 110-137.

sampled individuals. They were sent invitation and reminder letters that characterized the survey as a "QuickCompass" survey about general active duty experiences, rather than a post-election voting survey. This treatment tests if de-emphasizing voting in the survey invitation can both increase response rates and decrease response bias, presumably by attracting non-voters who may not perceive themselves to be part of the population of interest under the old survey and thus were less likely to respond[51].

b. Results

Table G1 presents comparisons of respondents to the 2016 PEVS-ADM who received the control treatment to those respondents who received the experimental treatment with respect to key self-reported voting questions. The comparison is made both to the unweighted sample as well as to a weighted sample, in which both treatment groups are weighted to be representative of the general ADM population with respect to observable demographic and geographic characteristics. The unweighted comparison gives insight into differences in individuals who are responding to the survey, whereas the weighted comparison gives insight into the degree that respondents who are observationally similar differ with respect to unobservable characteristics that are relevant to voting. *T*-tests are performed to establish the statistical significance of the differences between the treatment and control samples, with *p*-values presented under the relevant comparison. Differences with a *p*-value less than .05 are labeled as statistically significant.

Generally, these comparisons indicate the following:

1. Overall Response Rate Differences: Individuals who are more likely to vote are more likely to respond when presented with the control treatment than the experimental treatment, as indicated by the greater prevalence of voting-related behaviors (registration, voting, absentee request, etc.) in the unweighted sample.

2. Voting Behavior Partially Attenuated by Demographic Differences: Some of these differences in who responds can be attributed to observable characteristics, as indicated by the smaller gap in voting outcomes between the treatment and control groups after weighting.

3. Representativeness: Generally, the control group outcomes change more after weighting, consistent with the control group being less representative with respect to observed voting-relevant characteristics than the treatment group. Combined with the higher response rates in the treatment group, this may indicate that using the experimental treatment in future surveys may result in less variance in key estimates.

4. Unobservable Differences: There are voting-relevant differences between the experimental and control group that are not accounted for by those variables used for nonresponse adjustment and poststratification, as indicated by the difference in voting behavior in the weighted sample.

51 For a discussion of the role of survey topic on nonresponse, see Groves, R. M., Presser, S., & Dipko, S. (2004). The role of topic interest in survey participation decisions. Public Opinion Quarterly, 68(1), 2–31.

5. Motivation over Procedural Obstacles: These unobserved differences may relate to motivation, rather than procedural obstacles. Respondents in the control treatment were significantly more likely to report beginning the absentee voting process (registration and absentee ballot request), but there were insignificant differences for the procedural outcomes (ballot receipt and return rates) for those motivated to request materials. This is consistent with the role of topic interest in explaining differences in response rates and responses between the treatment and control groups.

Table G1: Voting Measure Comparisons of Control and Experimental Samples

	Unweighted Comparison			Weighted Comparison		
	Control	Experiment	*P*-Value	Control	Experiment	*P*-Value
Registration	71%	61%	.000	66%	59%	.000
Participation	51%	39%	.000	46%	37%	.000
Absentee Ballot Request	41%	34%	.000	33%	28%	.013
FPCA Use	25%	18%	.000	18%	16%	.292
Absentee Ballot Receipt	42%	33%	.000	36%	28%	.000
Absentee Ballot Receipt for Ballot Requesters	85%	83%	.135	84%	81%	.287
Absentee Ballot Return	35%	25%	.000	28%	22%	.000
Absentee Ballot Return for Absentee Ballot Recipients	82%	78%	.009	79%	78%	.653
FWAB Use	4%	3%	.002	3%	2%	.042
Somewhat/Very Interested	71%	67%	.000	69%	66%	.174
Needed Voting Assistance	26%	22%	.000	26%	21%	.011
Sought Voting Assistance from FVAP	28%	22%	.000	22%	16%	.000

Appendix H: Sampling and Weighting

Domains	Domain Label	Sample Size	Percent Sampled	Population Size
1	All Domains	89,419	6.92	1,315,146
2	Army	36,396	8.07	460,513
3	Navy	19,322	6.1	322,281
4	Marine Corps	15,028	8.4	182,181
5	Air Force	16,962	5.5	310,937
6	Coast Guard	1,658	4.3	39,234
7	Enlisted	80,328	7.6	1,077,909
8	E1–E5	69,481	9.0	784,009
9	E6–E9	10,803	3.7	293,900
10	Officer	9,051	3.9	237,237
11	O1–O3	5,596	4.2	133,158
12	O4–O6	2,738	3.3	83,807
13	18 to 24 Years Old	49,228	10.1	496,324
14	25 to 29 Years Old	22,155	7.3	307,924
15	30 to 34 Years Old	9,499	4.4	218,016
16	35 years old or more	8,549	3.0	292,882
17	Male	76,671	7.0	1,107,759
18	Female	12,750	6.3	207,387
19	U.S. & Unknown	48,245	4.4	1,121,675
20	U.S. & Unknown*18 to 24 Years Old	28,332	6.8	426,433
21	U.S. & Unknown*25 to 29 Years Old	12,173	4.7	261,474
22	U.S. & Unknown*30 to 34 Years Old	4,574	2.5	185,324
23	U.S. & Unknown*35 years old or more	3,178	1.3	248,444
24	Overseas	41,469	21.6	193,471
25	Overseas*18 to 29 years old	31,106	27.0	116,341
26	Overseas*30 years old or more	10,368	13.6	77,130

Appendix I: 2016 PEVS-ADM Instrument

YOUR LOCATION

The following questions will help us learn about your location leading up to the November 8, 2016, election.

SRELIG

1. Were you on active duty on November 8, 2016?

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No, I was separated or retired

STATION

2. Where were you located on November 8, 2016?

1 ☒ United States/territories

2 ☒ Overseas

3 ☒ On board a ship

STATIONSP

3. [Ask if Q2 = "Overseas" OR Q2 = "On board a ship"] Please select the overseas country in which you were located. If located on board a ship, please select the home port country.

[▼]

HOWLONGMTH HOWLONGYR

4. [Ask if Q2 = "Overseas"] In which month and year did you last move to this country? *Please estimate if you are unsure of the exact month and year.*

Month:

[▼]

. Please select
1 January
2 February
3 March
4 April
5 May
6 June
7 July
8 August
9 September
10 October
11 November
12 December

Year:

[▼]

. Please select

MOBILITYYNA MOBILITYYNB MOBILITYYNC

5. In the past 24 months, have you experienced any of the following? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

	Yes	No
a. Permanent Change of Station (PCS)	☒	☒
b. Deployment longer than 30 consecutive days	☒	☒
c. Deployment to a combat zone or an area where you drew imminent danger pay or hostile fire pay	☒	☒

MOBILITYA MOBILITYB MOBILITYC

6. [Ask if Q5 a = "Yes"] **How many months ago did you experience the following?**

Permanent Change of Station (PCS)

. Please select
0 This month
1 1
2 2
3 3
4 4
5 5
6 6
7 7
8 8
9 9
10 10
11 11
12 12
13 13
14 14
15 15
16 16
17 17
18 18

Deployment longer than 30 consecutive days

. Please select
0 Currently
1 1
2 2
3 3
4 4
5 5
6 6
7 7
8 8
9 9
10 10
11 11
12 12
13 13
14 14
15 15
16 16
17 17
18 18

Deployment to a combat zone or an area where you drew imminent danger pay or hostile fire pay

. Please select
0 Currently
1 1
2 2
3 3
4 4
5 5
6 6
7 7
8 8
9 9
10 10
11 11
12 12
13 13
14 14
15 15
16 16
17 17
18 18

2016 VOTER REGISTRATION

The following questions will help us to better understand your experiences with the **voter registration** process for the November 8, 2016, election.

REGVOTER

7. **Were you registered to vote in the United States for the November 8, 2016, election?**

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No

Your legal voting residence is the state or territory where you last resided prior to entering military service OR that you have since claimed as your legal residence. The right to vote extends to you even though you may no longer own property or have other ties there.

LEGALRES

8. [Ask if Q7 = "Yes"] Where were you registered to vote (i.e., the location of your designated polling place)? *Please select the U.S. State, D.C., Puerto Rico, or a U.S. territory or possession where you were registered to vote for the November 8, 2016, election.*

. Please selectYour legal voting residence is the state or territory where you last resided prior to entering military service OR that you have since claimed as your legal residence. The right to vote extends to you even though you may no longer own property or have other ties there.

LEGALRES2

9. [Ask if Q7 = "No"] Where would you have registered to vote if you had chosen to do so (i.e., where your designated polling place would be located)? *Please select the U.S. State, D.C., Puerto Rico, or a U.S. territory or possession where you would have registered for the November 8, 2016, election.*

VOTINGRESN

10. [Ask if Q7 = "Yes"] Approximately how far did you live from where you were registered to vote?

1 ☒ Less than 50 miles
2 ☒ 50 miles to less than 75 miles
3 ☒ 75 miles to less than 100 miles
4 ☒ 100 miles or more

VOTINGRESN2

11. [Ask if Q7 = "No"] Approximately how far did you live from your legal voting residence?

1 ☒ Less than 50 miles
2 ☒ 50 miles to less than 75 miles
3 ☒ 75 miles to less than 100 miles
4 ☒ 100 miles or more

2016 ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS

The following questions will help us to better understand your experiences with the absentee **ballot request** process for the *November 8, 2016, election*.

REQABSBAL

12. Did you request an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

1 ☒ Yes
2 ☒ No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official.
3 ☒ No, I never received an absentee ballot, but I expected to receive one.
4 ☒ No, I did not need an absentee ballot.

REQABSMO

13. [Ask if Q12 = "Yes"] In what month did you first request your absentee ballot?

1 ☒ July 2016 or earlier
2 ☒ August 2016
3 ☒ September 2016
4 ☒ October 2016
5 ☒ November 2016
60 ☒ Do not recall

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.

FPCAAWARE

14. Were you aware that you could use the FPCA to register to vote and request an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No

REQFPCA

15. [Ask if Q12 = "Yes"] Did you use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to request your absentee ballot or did you use another method for the November 8, 2016, election?

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.

REQFPCASP

[Ask if Q15 = "No, I used another method."] Please specify the other method you used to request an absentee ballot. *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).*

WHEREFPCA

16. [Ask if Q15 = "Yes, I used an FPCA to request an absentee ballot."] How did you <u>obtain</u> your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for the November 8, 2016, election?

1 ☒ Printable FPCA downloaded from FVAP.gov

2 ☒ Online assistant tool at FVAP.gov that guides voters in completing an FPCA

3 ☒ From some other contact with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)

4 ☒ Through military channels/Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs)

5 ☒ From a U.S. embassy or consulate

6 ☒ From a State or local election official

7 ☒ From a non-FVAP website

8 ☒ From a military post office

9 ☒ Some other source

WHEREFPCASP

[Ask if Q16 = "Some other source"] Please specify the other source from which you obtained your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).*

RETFPCA

17. [Ask if Q15 = "Yes, I used an FPCA to request an absentee ballot"] **How did you <u>return</u> your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ Regular mail
2 ☒ USPS Express/Certified mail
3 ☒ FedEx, UPS, DHL, or other commercial delivery carrier
4 ☒ FVAP Electronic Transmission System (ETS)
5 ☒ Fax, but not using FVAP ETS
6 ☒ E-mail (e.g., as an attachment), but not using FVAP ETS)
7 ☒ Online (e.g., through a secure website)
8 ☒ Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Office
9 ☒ Other

CONFPCAA CONFPCAB CONFPCAC

18. [Ask if Q12 = "Yes"] **Did you receive notification from an election official that your registration and/or request for an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election had been...** ***Mark one answer for each item*.**

	Yes	No	Do not recall
a. Received?	☒	☒	☒
b. Rejected?	☒	☒	☒
c. Accepted?	☒	☒	☒

2016 ABSENTEE BALLOT RECEIPT

The following questions will help us to better understand your experiences with the absentee **ballot receipt** process for the November 8, 2016, election.

RECABS

19. [Ask if Q12 = "Yes"] **Did you receive an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?**

2 ☒ Yes
1 ☒ No

ABOBTAIN

20. [Ask if Q19 = "Yes"] **How did you obtain your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ Regular mail
2 ☒ Fax
3 ☒ E-mail (e.g., as an attachment)
4 ☒ In person
5 ☒ Downloaded ballot from State link on FVAP.gov
6 ☒ Downloaded ballot from State voting website
7 ☒ Downloaded ballot from State link at another website
8 ☒ Other

ABOBTAINSP

[Ask if Q20 = "Other"] **Please specify the other means used to obtain your absentee ballot.** ***Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

RECABSWHEN

21. [Ask if Q12 = "No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official." OR Q19 = "Yes"] **When did you receive your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ September 2016 or earlier

2 ☒ October 2016

3 ☒ November 2016

60 ☒ Do not recall

2016 ABSENTEE BALLOT RETURN

The following questions will help us to better understand your experiences with the absentee **ballot return** process for the November 8, 2016, election.

RETABS

22. [Ask if Q12 = "No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official." OR Q19 = "Yes"] **Did you return your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?**

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No

CMPLTBAL

23. [Ask if Q22 = "Yes"] **How did you return your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ Regular mail

2 ☒ USPS Express/Certified mail

3 ☒ FedEx, UPS, DHL, or other commercial delivery carrier

4 ☒ FVAP Electronic Transmission System (ETS) including ETS by fax and e-mail

5 ☒ Fax, excluding Electronic Transmission System (ETS)

6 ☒ E-mail (e.g., as an attachment)

7 ☒ Online (e.g., through a secure website)

8 ☒ Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Office

9 ☒ Other

CMPLTBALSP

[Ask if Q23 = "Other"] **Please specify the other means used to return your absentee ballot.** ***Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

Express Mail Label 11-DoD provides active duty military members with free express mail service for absentee ballots. You can request to have a Prepaid Mail Label 11-DoD applied to your absentee ballot at Military Postal Office locations (APO/FPO) and track your absentee ballot through the U.S. postal service.

LABEL11USE

24. [Ask if Q23 = "Regular mail" OR Q23 = "USPS Express/Certified mail"] **Did you use the Express Mail Label 11-DoD to track your absentee ballot?**

1 ☒ Yes

2 ☒ No

3 ☒ Don't know

RETABSWHEN

25. [Ask if Q22 = "Yes"] When did you return your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

1 ☒ September 2016 or earlier

2 ☒ October 2016

3 ☒ November 2016

60 ☒ Do not recall

ABSTATUSCONF

26. [Ask if Q22 = "Yes"] Did your State have a system in place that allowed you to confirm the status of your submitted absentee ballot?

1 ☒ Yes

2 ☒ No

3 ☒ Don't know

ABNOTA ABNOTB ABNOTC

27. [Ask if Q22 = "Yes"] Did you receive notification from an election official that your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election had been... *Mark one answer for each item*.

	Yes	No	Do not recall
a. Received?	☒	☒	☒
b. Rejected?	☒	☒	☒
c. Accepted	☒	☒	☒

SATVOTEALL

28. [Ask if Q12 = "Yes" OR Q12 = "No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from an election official." OR Q12 = "No, I never received an absentee ballot, but I expected to receive one."] Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process?

5 ☒ Very satisfied

4 ☒ Satisfied

3 ☒ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied

2 ☒ Dissatisfied

1 ☒ Very dissatisfied

YOUR 2016 ELECTION EXPERIENCE

A lot of 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 this year that prevented them from voting THIS time. So please think carefully for a minute about the election held on *November 8, 2016*, and past elections in which you may have voted, and answer the following questions.

VOTEPASTA VOTEPASTB

29. During the past 6 years, did you usually vote in... *Mark one answer for each item*.

	Usually voted	Usually did not vote
a. Political party primary elections?	☒	☒
b. Federal elections?	☒	☒

INTEREST

30. How interested or uninterested were you in the U.S. elections held on November 8, 2016?

5 ☒ Very interested

4 ☒ Somewhat interested

3 ☒ Neither interested nor uninterested

2 ☒ Somewhat uninterested

1 ☒ Very uninterested

VOTEPLAN

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

1 ☒ Did plan to vote

2 ☒ Did not plan to vote

VOTED

32. In the election held on November 8, 2016, did you definitely vote in person on election day; definitely complete an absentee ballot by mail, e-mail, fax, or online on or before November 8, 2016; definitely not vote; or are you not completely sure whether you voted in that election?

1 ☒ Definitely voted in person

2 ☒ Definitely voted by mail

3 ☒ Definitely voted by e-mail

4 ☒ Definitely voted at an online website

5 ☒ Definitely voted by fax

6 ☒ Definitely did not vote

7 ☒ Not sure

NOVOTE

33. [Ask if Q32 = "Definitely did not vote"] What was the MAIN REASON you did not vote in the November 8, 2016, election?

1 ☒ I tried/wanted to vote but did not or could not complete the process.

2 ☒ I did not want to vote.

NOVOTEWHY

34. [Ask if Q33 = "I tried/wanted to vote but did not or could not complete the process."] Which of the following best describes why you did not vote in the November 8, 2016, election?

1 ☒ I was not registered to vote.

2 ☒ I did not know how to get an absentee ballot.

3 ☒ My absentee ballot arrived too late.

4 ☒ My absentee ballot did not arrive at all.

5 ☒ The absentee voting process was too complicated.

6 ☒ My commander did not allow me to take time during duty hours to vote.

7 ☒ Some other reason

NOVOTEWHYSP

[Ask if Q34 = "Some other reason"] Please specify why you did not vote in the election. Do not provide any *Personally Identifiable Information (PII)*.

FIRSTTV

35. Was the November 8, 2016, election your first time voting or trying to vote?

1 ☒ Yes

2 ☒ No, this was not my first time voting or trying to vote

3 ☒ No, I did not vote or try to vote

FIRSTTVABS

36. [Ask if Q35 = "Yes"] **Was the November 8, 2016, election your first time trying to vote *absentee* in an election?**

1 ☒ Yes

2 ☒ No, this was not my first time voting or trying to vote *absentee*

3 ☒ No, I did not vote or try to vote *absentee*

VOTECOUNTCON

37. [Ask if Q32 = "Definitely voted in person" OR Q32 = "Definitely voted by mail" OR Q32 = "Definitely voted by e-mail" OR Q32 = "Definitely voted at an online website" OR Q32 = "Definitely voted by fax"
] **How confident are you that your vote in the November 8, 2016, election was counted as you intended?**

4 ☒ Very confident

3 ☒ Confident

2 ☒ Somewhat confident

1 ☒ Not confident

VOTECOUNTCONSP

38. [Ask if Q37 = "Somewhat confident" or Q37 = "Not confident"] **Why did you not feel confident that your vote was counted as you intended? *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT (FWAB)

The *Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)* is a backup way to vote in case your requested absentee ballot does not arrive in time 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 8, 2016, election.

FWABAWARE

39. **Were you aware that you could use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup way to vote in case your requested absentee ballot does not arrive in time to vote?**

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No

FWABUSE

40. **Did you use the *Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)* for the November 8, 2016, election?**

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No

WHEREFWAB

41. [Ask if Q40 = "Yes"] **How did you obtain your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ Printable FWAB downloaded from FVAP.gov

2 ☒ Online assistant tool at FVAP.gov that guides voters in completing a FWAB

3 ☒ From some other contact with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)

4 ☒ Through military channels/Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs)

5 ☒ From a U.S. embassy or consulate

6 ☒ From a State or local election official

7 ☒ From a non-FVAP website

8 ☒ From a military post office

9 ☒ Some other source

WHEREFWABSP

[Ask if Q41 = "Some other source"] **Please specify the other source from which you obtained your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

FWABWHEN

42. [Ask if Q40 = "Yes"] **When did you return your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ September 2016 or earlier

2 ☒ October 2016

3 ☒ November 2016

60 ☒ Do not recall

Express Mail Label 11-DoD provides active duty military members with free express mail service for absentee ballots. You can request to have a Prepaid Mail Label 11-DoD applied to your absentee ballot at Military Postal Office locations (APO/FPO) and track your absentee ballot through the U.S. postal service.

LABEL11FWAB

43. [Ask if Q40 = "Yes"] **Did you use the Express Mail Label 11-DoD to track your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)?**

1 ☒ Yes

2 ☒ No

3 ☒ Not sure

FWABWHY

44. [Ask if Q40 = "Yes"] **What was the MAIN REASON you used the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ My absentee ballot did not arrive.

2 ☒ My absentee ballot arrived too late.

3 ☒ I was concerned my absentee ballot would not be returned by the deadline/would not be counted.

4 ☒ I forgot to request an absentee ballot.

5 ☒ Some other reason

FWABWHYSP

[Ask if Q44 = "Some other reason"] **Please specify the MAIN REASON you used the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

NOFWABR

45. [Ask if (Q39 = "Yes" or Q39 = .) and Q40 = "No"] **What is the MAIN REASON you did not use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ I did not know how to get one.

2 ☒ I could not get one.

3 ☒ I had difficulty filling it out.

4 ☒ I did not need one; I had already returned an absentee ballot.

5 ☒ Some other reason

NOFWABRSP

[Ask if Q45 = "Some other reason"] **Please specify the MAIN REASON you did not use the Federal Write-In Absentee (FWAB) ballot. *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

2014 ELECTION

Elections for the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives were held in 2014. A lot of citizens did not get to vote because they weren't registered, they were sick, or they didn't have time.

VOTE2014

46. How about you—did you vote in the November 4, 2014, election?

1 ☒ Definitely voted in person
2 ☒ Definitely voted by mail
3 ☒ Definitely voted by e-mail
4 ☒ Definitely voted at an online website
5 ☒ Definitely voted by fax
6 ☒ Definitely did not vote
7 ☒ Not sure

VOTING ASSISTANCE

ASSIST

47. In preparation for the November 8, 2016, election, did you need any information or assistance (e.g., information on deadlines, how to request an absentee ballot)?

2 ☒ Yes
1 ☒ No

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) and the Services support absent Uniformed Service members by providing a broad range of non-partisan information and assistance to facilitate the participation in the democratic process. *FVAP*—FVAP offers many different forms of assistance for absent Uniformed Service members including their website, FVAP.gov, an online assistant tool for completing voting forms, staff support, and the Voting Assistance Guide.*Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs)*—Designated individuals who provide accurate, non-partisan voting information and assistance to members of military units who wish to vote.*Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices*—Dedicated voting assistance offices, located on military installations, to provide accurate, non-partisan voting information and assistance to members of military units who wish to vote.Please answer with the most appropriate response regarding the November 8, 2016, election.

ASSISTAWAREA ASSISTAWAREB ASSISTAWAREC ASSISTAWARED

48. Were you aware of the following voting assistance resources? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

	Yes	No
a. FVAP	☒	☒
b. Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs)	☒	☒
c. Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices	☒	☒
d. State and local election websites	☒	☒

ASSITSEEKA ASSITSEEKB ASSITSEEKC ASSITSEEKD

49. [Ask if Q48 a = "Yes"] Did you seek voting information or assistance from any of the following? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

	Yes	No
a. FVAP	☒	☒
b. Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs)	☒	☒
c. Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices	☒	☒
d. State and local election websites	☒	☒

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) offers the following products and services to support absent Uniformed Service members.

FVAP.gov—The FVAP website provides voting-related information and resources for absent Uniformed Service members, their eligible family members, and those who support them. The website provides state-specific election information that voters can rely on when voting absentee.

FVAP staff support—FVAP provides e-mail support through vote@fvap.gov and a toll-free telephone service that allows military members and their eligible family members to ask FVAP staff for voting information or assistance.

FVAP online assistant tool—FVAP offers an easy-to-use online assistant at FVAP.gov to guide voters in completing Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) and Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWABs). The online assistant simplifies the completion of FPCAs and FWABs by providing state-specific information and instructions on how to download, print, and mail forms to local election officials.

Please answer with the most appropriate response regarding the November 8, 2016, election.

WHICHFVAA WHICHFVAB WHICHFVAC WHICHFVAD WHICHFVAE

50. Please indicate which FVAP products or services you used for voting assistance for the November 8, 2016, election. *Mark all that apply*.

- ☒ FVAP.gov
- ☒ FVAP staff support
- ☒ FVAP online assistant
- ☒ Other
- ☒ None, I did not use any of the products or services listed.

WHICHFVASP

51. [Ask if Q50 d = "Marked"] Please specify the other FVAP resource you used for voting information or assistance. *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII)*.

WHOASSTA1 WHOASSTA2 WHOASSTA3 WHOASSTA4 WHOASSTB1 WHOASSTB2 WHOASSTB3 WHOASSTB4 WHOASSTC1 WHOASSTC2 WHOASSTC3 WHOASSTC4 WHOASSTD1 WHOASSTD2 WHOASSTD3 WHOASSTD4 WHOASSTE1 WHOASSTE2 WHOASSTE3 WHOASSTE4 WHOASSTF1 WHOASSTF2 WHOASSTF3 WHOASSTF4 WHOASSTG1 WHOASSTG2 WHOASSTG3 WHOASSTG4 WHOASSTH1 WHOASSTH2 WHOASSTH3 WHOASSTH4

52. [Ask if Q49 a = "Yes"] For each item, please indicate which resource you used to try to find the specified information or assistance. *For each row, mark all that apply. If you did not need the specified information or assistance, mark "Does not apply" for that row.*

	FVAP	UVAOs	IVA Offices	Does not apply
a. Determining my eligibility to vote	☒	☒	☒	☒
b. Understanding the absentee voting process	☒	☒	☒	☒
c. Assistance with the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FPCA)	☒	☒	☒	☒
d. Assistance with the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FWAB)	☒	☒	☒	☒
e. Finding information on deadlines	☒	☒	☒	☒
f. Electronic transmission of election materials (e.g., faxing, e-mailing)	☒	☒	☒	☒
g. Assistance with websites (e.g., federal, state, local)	☒	☒	☒	☒
h. Some other voting information or assistance	☒	☒	☒	☒

ASSTEVALA ASSTEVALB ASSTEVALC ASSTEVALD

53. [Ask if Q49 a = "Yes"] **Were you successful in obtaining the voting information or assistance you needed from each of the following?** ***Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.***

	Yes	No
a. Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)	☒	☒
b. Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs)	☒	☒
c. Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices	☒	☒
d. State and local election websites	☒	☒

NOSEEKOTHER

54. [Ask if Q53 a = "No" OR Q53 b = "No"OR Q53 c = "No" OR Q53 d = "No"] **You indicated you did not obtain the voting assistance you needed. Did you seek assistance elsewhere?**

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No

NOSEEKOTHERSP

[Ask if Q54 = "Yes"] **Please describe where else you sought voting information or assistance.** ***Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

SATFVAPWEB

55. [Ask if Q50 a = "Marked"] **Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the FVAP.gov website when you visited it in 2016?**

5 ☒ Very satisfied

4 ☒ Satisfied

3 ☒ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied

2 ☒ Dissatisfied

1 ☒ Very dissatisfied

SATFVAPWEBSP

56. [Ask if Q55 = "Dissatisfied" or Q55 = "Very dissatisfied"] **Please describe why you were dissatisfied with the FVAP.gov website.** ***Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII).***

WHYNOTASST

57. [Ask if Q47 = "Yes" AND (Q49 a = "No" OR Q49 a = .) AND (Q49 b = "No" OR Q49 b = .) AND (Q49 c = "No" OR Q49 c = .) AND (Q49 d = "No" OR Q49 d = .)] **What was the MAIN REASON you did not seek voting information or assistance for the November 8, 2016, election?**

1 ☒ Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAO) were too busy.

2 ☒ Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Office was too far away.

3 ☒ I did not know where to go or who to call.

4 ☒ I did not have time.

5 ☒ I could get the same information online.

6 ☒ I did not have confidence that Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs) could answer my question(s).

7 ☒ I did not have any questions or issues that required assistance.

8 ☒ I sought assistance, but could not get it.

9 ☒ Other

INSTASSTA INSTASSTB INSTASSTC INSTASSTD INSTASSTE

58. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your installation? *Mark one answer for each item*.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. It was easy to get in-person voting assistance at my installation	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
b. I knew exactly who at my installation to ask questions about voting materials, ballot requests, or other voting-related issues	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
c. I had questions related to the voting process but could not get a hold of someone who could answer them	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
d. Seeking in-person assistance at my installation was a waste of time because I received conflicting or inaccurate information	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
e. Printed voting materials were easily accessible at my installation when I needed them	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒

VOTING KNOWLEDGE

KNOWLA KNOWLB KNOWLC KNOWLD KNOWLG KNOWLH

59. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. *Mark one answer for each item*.

	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
a. Registering to vote	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
b. Requesting an absentee ballot	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
c. Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
d. Returning an absentee ballot	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
e. Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
f. Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FVAP) OUTREACH

FVAPMESSAGE

60. Did you hear, see, or receive any messages from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in the past year about the November 8, 2016, election, such as advertising, social media posts, or reminders through the mail?

2 ☒ Yes

1 ☒ No

FVAPCOMM

61. Would you prefer more or less communication from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) to better understand the absentee voting process?

5 ☒ Much more communication

4 ☒ More communication

3 ☒ No change in communication; the level of current communication is just right

2 ☒ Less communication

1 ☒ Much less communication

SOCIAL MEDIA USE

SOCIALMEDA SOCIALMEDB SOCIALMEDC SOCIALMEDD SOCIALMEDE SOCIALMEDF

62. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following?

	Yes	No
a. Post links to political stories or articles for others to read	☒	☒
b. Post your own thoughts or comments on political or social issues	☒	☒
c. Encourage other people to take action on a political or social issue that is important to you	☒	☒
d. Encourage other people to vote	☒	☒
e. Repost content related to political or social issues that was originally posted	☒	☒
f. "Like" or promote material related to political or social issues that others have posted	☒	☒

YOUR OPINIONS ON VOTING

OPINIONA OPINIONB OPINIONC OPINIOND OPINIONE

63. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? *Mark one answer for each item*.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. Voting is an effective way to express my opinion on *the issues* in the election	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
b. Voting is an effective way to express my opinion on *which candidates should win* the election	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
c. If other military members found out I did not vote in this election, I would feel ashamed	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
d. It is not appropriate for members of the military to vote	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
e. I was confident that my ballot would be counted	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒

Different people feel differently about voting. For some, voting is a *civic duty*. They feel that they should vote in every election however they feel about the candidates and parties.

For others, voting is a *choice*. They feel free to vote or not to vote in an election depending on how they feel about the candidates and parties.

CIVIC1

64. For you personally, voting is *first and foremost*…

1 ☒ A *civic duty*

2 ☒ A *choice*

3 ☒ Not sure

CIVIC2

65. [Ask if Q64 = "A civic duty"] **How strongly do you feel personally that voting is a *civic duty*?**

- 4 ☒ Very strongly
- 3 ☒ Strongly
- 2 ☒ Somewhat strongly
- 1 ☒ Not very strongly

YOUR SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

The following questions will help us to better understand how you communicate with your friends, family, and colleagues about voting-related information.

SRMARST

66. What was your marital status?

- 1 ☒ Married
- 2 ☒ Separated
- 3 ☒ Divorced
- 4 ☒ Widowed
- 5 ☒ Never married

DSCSSHOW

67. Before the November 8, 2016, election, how many U.S. citizens aged 18+ did you discuss how to vote with?

ABSOTHRNUM

68. [Ask if Q67 > 0] **How many of these U.S. citizens would you estimate requested an absentee ballot or had an absentee ballot sent to them in the election held on November 8, 2016?**

DSCSSRELTN

69. [Ask if Q67 > 0] **Of the adults with whom you discussed the voting process, how many of them were a partner/spouse or immediate family (e.g., parents, grandparents, siblings)?**

DSCSSSPOUSE

70. [Ask if Q66 = "Married" AND Q69 > 0] **How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse before the election on November 8, 2016?**

- 1 ☒ Nearly every day
- 2 ☒ A few times a week
- 3 ☒ A few times a month
- 4 ☒ Less than a few times a month

DSCSSFAM

71. [Ask if Q69 > 0] **Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings) before the election on November 8, 2016?**

- 1 ☒ Nearly every day
- 2 ☒ A few times a week
- 3 ☒ A few times a month
- 4 ☒ Less than a few times a month

DSCSSMIL

72. [Ask if Q67 > 0] **Of the people with whom you discussed the voting process, how many of them were active duty military members? *Please exclude partners/spouses and immediate family members from this count*.**

DSCSSMILUNIT

73. [Ask if Q72 > 0] How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit before the election on November 8, 2016?

1 ☒ Nearly every day
2 ☒ A few times a week
3 ☒ A few times a month
4 ☒ Less than a few times a month

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following questions will help us learn a little bit more about you; as you answer, please reference the time period leading up to the November 8, 2016, election.

SRED1

74. What is the highest degree or level of school that you have completed? *Mark the <u>one</u> answer that describes the highest grade or degree that you have completed.*

1 ☒ 12 years or less of school (no diploma)
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 ☒ 1 or more years of college, no degree
6 ☒ Associate's 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, MS, MEd, MEng, MBA, MSW, PhD, MD, JD, DVM, EdD)

SRGRADE

75. What was your paygrade on November 8, 2016?

1 ☒ E-1
2 ☒ E-2
3 ☒ E-3
4 ☒ E-4
5 ☒ E-5
6 ☒ E-6
7 ☒ E-7
8 ☒ E-8
9 ☒ E-9
11 ☒ W-1
12 ☒ W-2
13 ☒ W-3
14 ☒ W-4
15 ☒ W-5
21 ☒ O-1/O-1E
22 ☒ O-2/O-2E
23 ☒ O-3/O-3E
24 ☒ O-4
25 ☒ O-5
26 ☒ O-6 or above

DUALCTZN

76. As of November 8, 2016, did you hold citizenship in any country in addition to the United States?

2 ☒ Yes
1 ☒ No

SRHISPA

77. Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?

1 ☒ No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino
2 ☒ Yes, Mexican, Mexican-American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish/ Hispanic/Latino

SRRACEA SRRACEB SRRACEC SRRACED SRRACEE

78. What is your race? *Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be*.

☒ White
☒ Black or African American
☒ American Indian or Alaska Native
☒ Asian (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese)
☒ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (e.g., Samoan, Guamanian, or Chamorro)

TAKING THE SURVEY

COMMENT

79. 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. *Do not provide any Personally Identifiable Information (PII)*.

COMMINELIG

80. [Ask if Q1 = "No, I was separated or retired"] You have indicated that you are not eligible for the survey. To be eligible to take the survey, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age, and on active duty on election day. If you met these criteria on November 8, 2016, then please do the following three steps:

- **Click the *Back* button,**
- **Adjust your answer, and**
- **Complete the survey.**

If you are not eligible based on these criteria, then click *Submit Survey* to submit the survey. For further help, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or e-mail ADM-Survey@mail.mil

Appendix J: 2016 PEVS-ADM Communications

2016 PEVS-ADM Letters – Control Treatment

a. Invitation Letter – Control Treatment

[DATE]

Dear [Sample Member]:

The 2016 Federal Election has just passed. With that in mind, as the director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), I invite you to participate in a brief DoD survey (approximately 15 minutes) that will help us improve the absentee voting process for all military personnel and their families. FVAP 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 and resources to successfully do so—from anywhere in the world. Please note that the *2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military* does not collect any information regarding your political party affiliation or other personal, political choices. Your participation is vital, and we appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey.

FVAP has partnered with another DoD organization, the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), on this effort. DoD randomly selected you to participate in this important survey. **We need to hear from everyone selected for this very important project—voters and nonvoters alike.**

The survey is currently available at this DMDC website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey**, and to access the survey, you will need to enter your personal **Ticket Number: XXXXXX**

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

This site can be accessed from any computer with Internet access. These surveys are *Official Business* and members of the Military or federal government employees can complete them at their duty station, using government equipment. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD-secure website.

If you have any problems accessing the survey, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. Include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you in advance for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)

b. Letter Two – Control Treatment

[DATE]

Dear [Sample Member]:

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) recently requested your participation in its *2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military*. This survey is conducted after every regularly scheduled Federal Election to ensure that all military members, like you, have the opportunity to cast their vote no matter where they are located around the world. Although the survey is voluntary, **FVAP needs to hear from everyone selected for this very important project—voters and nonvoters alike**. The information and opinions you provide are essential to help improve the absentee voting process for all military personnel and to help us evaluate our own Voting Assistance Program.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.
To complete the survey online, please go to the following website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey** and enter your unique **Ticket Number: XXXX**

These surveys are *Official Business* and can be completed using your government computer. If you have questions about completing this survey or need assistance, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. If you do not wish to participate or to receive reminders about this survey, you may remove yourself from the mailing list by contacting the Survey Processing Center. Please include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you in advance for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)

c. Letter Three –Control Treatment

[DATE]

Dear [Sample Member]:

About a month ago, the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in cooperation with the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) requested your participation in a DoD survey, the *2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military*. If you have already completed the survey, we appreciate your prompt participation, and please disregard this notice. If you have not completed the survey, we encourage you to do so today. Although the survey is voluntary, the information and opinions you provide are critical to improving the absentee voting process for all military personnel and to identifying and addressing any problems military members might

encounter when voting. **We need to hear from everyone selected for this very important project—voters and nonvoters alike.** The survey will only take about 15 minutes to complete.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

To complete the survey online, please go to the following website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey** and enter your personal **Ticket Number: XXXX**

If you have questions about completing this survey or need help troubleshooting issues, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. If you do not wish to participate in or receive reminders about this survey, you may remove yourself from the mailing list by contacting the Survey Processing Center. Include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)

d. Letter Four – Control Treatment

[DATE]

Dear [Sample Member]:

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) recently requested your participation in its *2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military*. Our deadline is fast approaching! **We need to hear from <u>everyone</u> selected for this very important project—voters and nonvoters alike.** The information and opinions you provide are **critical** to improving the absentee voting process for all military personnel and identifying and addressing problems military members might encounter when voting. As of the date on this letter, your survey has not been submitted to the Survey Processing Center. Your views and opinions are important, and although the survey is voluntary, I urge you to take this <u>final</u> opportunity to complete the survey. The survey will only take about 15 minutes to complete.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

To complete the survey, please go to the following website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey** and enter your personal **Ticket Number: XXXXXX**

If you have partially completed the survey but have not clicked the "Submit" button, log on to the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you have questions about completing this survey or need help troubleshooting issues, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. If you do not wish to participate in or receive reminders about this survey, you may remove yourself from the mailing list by contacting the Survey Processing Center. Include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)

2016 PEVS-ADM Emails – Control Treatment

a. Invitation Email – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Recently, I mailed you a letter regarding the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military. Now that the 2016 General Election has taken place, the survey is available at: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey This 2016 survey is one of the only tools we have to assess the reliability and effectiveness of the absentee voting process. Your information and your opinions are crucial to improving the program and the absentee voting process for our Services members.

In coordination with the Department of Defense's Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), you were randomly selected to participate in this very important survey. The survey asks you about your voting experiences, not your personal political choices. We need to hear from everyone selected for this very important project—voters and nonvoters alike.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

In compliance with DoD regulations and to authenticate its source, this e-mail has been digitally signed. In addition, the survey is Official Business, so you can complete the survey at your work station using government equipment, at home or elsewhere. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD-secure website. In accordance with DoD Instruction

8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you have questions regarding how to complete this survey or need assistance, please contact the Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an email to ADM-Survey@mail.mil If you do not wish to participate or to receive additional reminders about this survey, please reply to this message with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

On behalf of FVAP, thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, FVAP

b. Email Two – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) recently contacted you in regards to the 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military. If you have already completed the survey, we thank you; if you have not had a chance to do so, please take the time today. The information and the opinions you provide are very important to the success of our research effort, and the survey should only take about 15 minutes to complete.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

This survey is Official Business, so you can complete it at your work station using government equipment, at home, or elsewhere. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD-secure website.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

On behalf of FVAP, thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, FVAP

c. Email Three – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) recently contacted you in regards to the 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military. If you have already completed the survey, thank you; if you have not had a chance to do so, please take the time today. Your input is greatly appreciated and we look forward to learning about your voting experiences; we need to hear from everyone selected for this very important project—voters and nonvoters alike.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

This survey is Official Business, so you can complete it at your work station using government equipment, at home, or elsewhere. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD-secure website.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

On behalf of FVAP, thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, FVAP

d. Email Four – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have already completed your 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), we thank you. If you have not had a chance to do so, please take the time today.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser.

Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

On behalf of FVAP, thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, FVAP

e. Email Five – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) has received many responses to the 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military, and we want to thank those of you who have already taken the time to answer the survey. Your input is greatly appreciated.

If you have not had a chance to participate or to complete the survey, and you would like to inform FVAP of your opinions on the absentee voting process, please take the time to complete the survey today. While your participation is desired, it is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' response and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

On behalf of FVAP, thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, FVAP

f. Email Six – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

For those who have completed the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military, we thank you very much. If you have not had the time to do so, there are only a few days remaining before we close the website. Please take the time to complete the survey so that we may collect information regarding your experience with the absentee voting process. While your participation is desired, it is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

On behalf of FVAP, thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, FVAP

g. Email Seven – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Over the past several weeks, we have been in contact about DoD's 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military Survey. As the Director of the Defense Human Resources Activity, I rely on surveys like this to help provide the best possible support for you and all of our active duty members. The website for the survey closes on January 18, 2017, so if you have not had a chance to complete it, please do so before the survey expires. Your opinions are very important, and while your participation is desired, it is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

Thank you so much for completing this survey.

Sincerely,

William H. Booth
Director, Defense Human Resources Activity

h. Email Eight – Control Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have completed the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military, we thank you. If you have not had a chance to complete the survey, please do so before the website closes on January 18, 2017. The information and opinions you provide are critical for improving the absentee voting process for all military personnel and for identifying and addressing problems encountered when voting. Your opinion is very important, and while your participation is desired, it is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Click on the link above to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste it into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have partially completed the survey but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can send us an e-mail with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number as shown above. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

On behalf of FVAP, thank you so much for completing this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, FVAP

2016 PEVS-ADM Letters – Experimental Treatment

a. Invitation Letter – Experimental Treatment

[DATE]

Dear [Sample Member]:

To help you and other military personnel obtain better customer service both at home and abroad, I personally invite you to complete the *2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military*, a DoD survey. This short survey is being conducted by the DoD's Office of People Analytics (OPA) and should take approximately 15 minutes. Your participation will allow OPA to understand your needs and evaluate the quality of the services it currently provides to military personnel like you. Your participation is vital, and we would appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey.

OPA has partnered with another DoD organization, the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), on this effort. DMDC randomly selected you to participate in this important survey.

The survey is available at this DMDC website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey**, and to access the survey, you will need to enter your personal **Ticket Number: XXXXXX**

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

This site can be accessed from any computer with Internet access. These surveys are *Official Business*, and members of the Military or federal government employees can complete them at their duty station, using government equipment. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD-secure website.

If you have any problems accessing the survey, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. Include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you in advance for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

b. Letter Two – Experimental Treatment

[DATE]

Dear [Sample Member]:

I recently requested your participation in the *2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military*, a DoD survey. By participating in this short survey (approximately 15 minutes), you will allow Office of People Analytics (OPA) to understand your needs and evaluate the quality of the services it currently provides to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

To complete the survey online, please go to the following website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey** and enter your personal **Ticket Number: XXXX**

This survey is *Official Business* and can be completed using your government computer. If you have questions about completing this survey or need assistance, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. If you do not wish to participate or to receive reminders about this survey, you may remove yourself from the mailing list by contacting the Survey Processing Center. Please include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you in advance for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

c. Letter Three – Experimental Treatment

Dear [Sample Member]:

About a month ago, I requested your participation in a DoD survey, the *2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military*, a DoD survey. If you have already completed the survey, we appreciate your prompt participation, and please disregard this notice. If you have not completed the survey, we encourage you to do so today. Although the survey is voluntary, the information and opinions you provide are critical to improving the quality of the services we provide to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad. The survey will only take about 15 minutes to complete.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

To complete the survey online, please go to the following website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey** and enter your personal **Ticket Number: XXXX**

If you have questions about completing this survey or need help troubleshooting issues, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. If you do not wish to participate in or receive reminders about this survey, you may remove yourself from the mailing list by contacting the Survey Processing Center. Include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

d. Letter Four – Experimental Treatment

[DATE]

Dear [Sample Member]:

I recently requested your participation in the *2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military*, a DoD survey. Our deadline is fast approaching! **We need to hear from <u>everyone</u> selected for this very important project.** The information and opinions you provide are **critical** to improving the quality of the services we provide to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad. As of the date on this letter, your survey has not been submitted to the Survey Processing Center. Your views and opinions are important, and although the survey is voluntary, I urge you to take this <u>final</u> opportunity to complete the survey. The survey will only take about 15 minutes to complete.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

To complete the survey, please go to the following website: **https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey** and enter your personal **Ticket Number: XXXXXX**

If you have partially completed the survey but have not clicked the "Submit" button, log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you have questions about completing this survey or need help troubleshooting issues, please call our Survey Processing Center at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to **ADM-Survey@mail.mil**. If you do not wish to participate in or receive reminders about this survey, you may remove yourself from the mailing list by contacting the Survey Processing Center. Include your Ticket Number in your communications.

Thank you for your service, and thank you for your participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer

Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

2016 PEVS-ADM Emails – Experimental Treatment

a. Invitation Email – Experimental Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Recently, I mailed you a letter regarding the 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military that is being conducted by the Department of Defense. The 2016 survey is one of the only tools we have to understand your

needs and to evaluate the quality of the services we provide to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad. Your participation is vital, and we would appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey once you receive it.

In coordination with the Department of Defense's Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), you were randomly selected to participate in this very important survey.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

In compliance with DoD regulations and to authenticate its source, this e-mail has been digitally signed. In addition, these surveys are Official Business, so you can complete the survey at your work station using government equipment, at home, or elsewhere. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD-secure website. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you have questions regarding how to complete this survey or need assistance, please contact the Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an email to ADM-Survey@mail.mil If you do not wish to participate or to receive additional reminders about this survey, please reply to this message with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

b. Email Two – Experimental Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

I recently requested your participation in the 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military, a DoD Survey. By participating in this short survey (approximately 15 minutes), you are providing input that will be used to directly improve the quality of the services we provide to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad.

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

These surveys are Official Business, so you can complete it at your work station using government equipment, at home, or elsewhere. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD secure website. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

c. Email Three – Experimental Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

I recently requested your participation in the 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military, a DoD survey. If you have already completed the survey, thank you; if you have not had a chance to do so, please take the time today. Your input is greatly appreciated and will be used to directly improve the quality of the services we provide to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

This survey is Official Business, so you can complete it at your work station using government equipment, at home, or elsewhere. If you log on from a non-DoD computer, your browser may provide a security alert. If so, follow the instructions and proceed to the DoD-secure website.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

d. Email Four – Experimental Treatment

Dear [Sample Member]:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

I recently requested your participation in the 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military, a DoD survey. If you have already completed the survey, thank you; if you have not had a chance to do so, please take the time today.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

e. Email Five – Experimental Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

We've received many responses to the DoD's 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military, and we want to thank those of you who have already taken the time to answer the survey. Your input is greatly appreciated.

If you have not had a chance to participate or to complete your survey, please take the time today. Your input will be used to directly improve the quality of the services we provide to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Your privacy is incredibly important to us, and it will be safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). Specifically, your responses will be combined with other Service members' responses, and individual data will not be reported. The survey is entirely voluntary. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number.

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

f. Email Six – Experimental Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

For those who have completed the DoD's 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military, we thank you very much. If you have not had the time to do so, there are only a few days remaining before we close the website. Please take the time to complete the survey so we are able to improve our customer service to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad. While your participation is desired, it is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please go back, log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

g. Email Seven – Experimental Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

Over the past several weeks, we have been in contact about the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) 2016 Post-Election Voting Survey of the Active Duty Military. As the Director of the Defense Human Resources Activity, I rely on surveys like this to help provide the best possible support for you and all of our active duty members. The website for the survey closes on January 18, 2017, so if you have not had a chance to complete it, please do so before the survey expires. Your opinions are very important, and while your participation is desired, it is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Simply click on this link to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste this link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have partially completed the survey, but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can reply to this message along with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number. In accordance with DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

On behalf of myself and FVAP, thank you so much for completing this survey.

Sincerely,

William H. Booth
Director, Defense Human Resources Activity

h. Email Eight – Experimental Treatment

Dear Captain SAMPLE:

Your Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

For those who have completed the 2016 QuickCompass of the Active Duty Military, we thank you very much. If you have not had a chance to complete the survey, please do so before the website closes on January 18, 2017. The information and opinions you provide are critical for improving the quality of the services we provide to military personnel and their families, both home and abroad. Your opinion is very important, and while your participation is desired, it is entirely voluntary.

The website for the survey is: https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dodsurvey

Click on the link above to go directly to the website, or you can copy and paste the link into the web address bar of your Internet browser. Once at the website, please enter your personal Ticket Number: XXXXXXX

If you have partially completed the survey but have not clicked the "Submit" button, please log onto the website, complete the remaining items, and submit the survey.

If you cannot access the website or experience technical issues, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307 or send an e-mail to ADM-Survey@mail.mil

We hope you will participate in this important effort, but if you choose not to, you can send us an e-mail with the words, "Please remove me from this survey's mailing list," and include your Ticket Number. In accordance with

DoD Instruction 8910.01, all data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) with an expiration date. The RCS for this survey is DD-P&R(BE)2632, expiring 11/01/2021.

Thank you so much for completing this survey.

Sincerely,

Matt Boehmer
Director, Office of People Analytics (OPA)

Appendix K: 2016 PEVS-ADM Results

1.1 | Introduction

The following appendix reports the survey frequencies for the 2016 PEVS-ADM. All reported percentages were weighted using analytical weights for eligible respondents. To compress the width of columns in each table, column headings use a number which corresponds to one of the response options. Within a set of response options, percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. All tables list the number of eligible respondents, N, that were asked to answer this question. Tables in which N is less than the total number of eligible respondents are due to skip patterns planned within the survey questionnaire.

The responses are each presented for 1) all ADM eligible respondents, 2) by age, and 3) by *UOCAVA* status. Age was calculated using a constructed administrative age variable from the Active Duty Master Edit File (ADMF). Of all ADM, 38% were 18-24 years, 24% 25-29 years, 17% 30-34 years, 18% 35-44 years, and 5% 45 year or older. This was collapsed into a dichotomous variable, where of all ADM, 38% were 18-24 years and 62% were 25 years or older. Distance from voting residence, a proxy for *UOCAVA* status, was calculated by combining Q10 and Q11 from the survey. Based on whether they were registered to vote or not, respondents were asked "Approximately how far did you live from where you were registered to vote?" and "Approximately how far did you live from your legal voting residence?" Of all ADM for these combined questions, 30% lived less than 50 miles away, 2% lived 50 to 75 miles away, 1% lived 75 to 100 miles away, and 66% lived 100 miles or more away. For distance from voting residence, these categories were collapsed into a dichotomous variable, where of all ADM, 30% lived less than 50 miles away from their voting residence and 70% lived 50 miles or more from their voting residence. Dropdown list and open-end numerical question responses were recoded into categorical answers. Open-end text responses are not reported in these responses to protect personally identifiable information. Finally, each response contains the max margin of error (ME), which is the largest margin of error by row.

1.2 | Frequencies

Q1. Were you on active duty on November 8, 2016?

(1) No, I was separated or retired (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6973)	0.0	99.9	0.1	0.0
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	0.0	99.9	0.1	0.1
25 Years Old or More	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	0.0	99.9	0.1	0.1
Greater Than 50 Miles	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q2. Where were you located on November 8, 2016?

(1) United States/territories (2) Overseas (3) On board a ship (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6973)	84.9	14.3	0.8	0.0	1.0
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	83.6	15.4	1.1	0.0	2.1
25 Years Old or More	85.7	13.7	0.6	0.1	0.9
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	86.5	12.6	0.9	0.0	1.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	84.2	15.0	0.7	0.1	1.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q3. Please select the overseas country in which you were located.

(1) Sub-Sahara Africa (2) East Asia and the Pacific (3) Europe and Eurasia (4) Near East (5) South and Central Asia
(6) Western Hemisphere (7) Other (99) Refused

	Percentages								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2660)	0.6	46.0	34.6	11.9	3.4	1.6	0.0	1.9	3.5
Age									
18 to 24 Years Old	0.6	51.3	28.8	12.1	3.6	0.9	0.0	2.7	7.1
25 Years Old or More	0.6	42.3	38.6	11.7	3.3	2.1	0.1	1.4	3.5
Distance from Voting Residence									
Within 50 Miles	0.6	44.3	33.9	13.3	4.4	1.6	0.0	2.0	6.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	0.6	46.8	34.5	11.4	3.1	1.7	0.1	1.9	4.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q2="Overseas" OR Q2="On board a ship".

Q4. In which month and year did you last move to this country?

(1) Moved within 3 months of the election (2) Moved between 3 and 6 months of the election (3) Moved between 6 and 12 months of the election (4) Moved more than one year before the election (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2615)	23.4	16.2	19.1	40.9	0.4	4.1
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	28.0	17.3	25.0	29.1	0.6	7.9
25 Years Old or More	20.2	15.5	15.2	48.8	0.4	4.0
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	24.0	16.5	21.7	37.7	0.2	7.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	22.9	16.2	18.3	42.1	0.5	4.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q2="Overseas".

Q5a. In the past 24 months, have you experienced A Permanent Change of Station (PCS)?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	45.2	51.1	3.8	2.0
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	47.3	48.9	3.8	3.8
25 Years Old or More	43.8	52.4	3.7	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	48.5	47.5	4.0	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	43.6	52.7	3.6	2.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q5b. In the past 24 months, have you experienced a deployment longer than 30 consecutive days?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	68.8	25.7	5.5	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	71.7	23.6	4.8	3.3
25 Years Old or More	67.1	27.0	5.9	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	69.9	26.1	4.1	3.2
Greater Than 50 Miles	68.3	25.6	6.1	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q5c. In the past 24 months, have you experienced a deployment to a combat zone or an area where you drew imminent danger pay or hostile fire pay?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	80.1	11.6	8.4	1.5
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	82.8	8.7	8.5	2.9
25 Years Old or More	78.4	13.3	8.3	1.7
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	81.0	12.3	6.7	2.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	79.6	11.3	9.1	1.9

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q6a. How many months ago did you experience the following? [Permanent Change of Station]

(1) 6 months or less (2) 7 months to 12 months (3) 13 months to 18 months (4) 19 months to 24 months (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=4,033)	41.6	24.7	20.3	13.2	0.2	2.6
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	49.0	29.0	12.8	9.2	0.1	5.2
25 Years Old or More	37.5	22.3	24.6	15.5	0.2	2.8
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	38.0	25.6	21.9	14.4	0.0	5.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	42.9	24.5	19.8	12.7	0.1	3.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q5a="Yes".

Q6b. How many months ago did you experience the following? [Deployment longer than 30 consecutive days]

(1) 6 months or less (2) 7 months to 12 months (3) 13 months to 18 months (4) 19 months to 24 months (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,161)	47.1	27.3	14.1	10.9	0.6	3.5
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	55.9	26.7	10.4	6.6	0.4	7.3
25 Years Old or More	42.4	27.6	16.1	13.2	0.7	3.7
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	50.2	25.8	14.6	9.2	0.2	6.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	45.7	28.0	13.8	11.7	0.8	4.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q5b="Yes".

Q6c. How many months ago did you experience the following? [Deployment to a combat zone or an area where you drew imminent danger pay or hostile fire pay]

(1) 6 months or less (2) 7 months to 12 months (3) 13 months to 18 months (4) 19 months to 24 months (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=1,097)	41.9	26.4	15.0	16.1	0.6	5.1
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	50.3	25.2	12.6	11.7	0.2	13.0
25 Years Old or More	38.5	26.8	16.0	17.9	0.8	5.2
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	47.6	22.5	14.6	14.8	0.5	9.2
Greater Than 50 Miles	39.2	28.2	15.2	16.8	0.7	6.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q5c="Yes".

Q7. Were you registered to vote in the United States for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	3	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	33.5	66.3	0.2	1.9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	45.8	53.9	0.3	3.8
25 Years Old or More	26.1	73.8	0.2	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	35.90	64.1	0.0	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	32.4	67.6	0.0	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q8. Where were you registered to vote (i.e., the location of your designated polling place)?

(1) New England (2) Middle Atlantic (3) East North Central (4) West North Central (5) South Atlantic (6) East South Central (7) West South Central (8) Mountain (9) Pacific (10) Territory (99) Refused

	Percentages											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=4,933)	2.3	7.2	8.8	3.9	29.4	5.1	14.5	8.8	19.5	0.3	0.1	2.1
Age												
18 to 24 Years Old	2.9	8.8	11.2	3.4	26.0	4.3	11.9	9.8	21.5	0.1	0.1	4.3
25 Years Old or More	2.0	6.6	7.7	4.1	30.9	5.5	15.7	8.4	18.7	0.4	0.1	2.3
Distance from Voting Residence												
Within 50 Miles	1.4	3.3	3.2	2.8	36.4	3.9	14.1	9.0	25.9	0.2	0.0	4.1
Greater Than 50 Miles	2.7	8.9	11.1	4.3	26.6	5.6	14.7	8.8	17.0	0.4	0.1	2.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q7="Yes".

Q9. Where would you have registered to vote if you had chosen to do so (i.e., where your designated polling place would be located)?

(1) New England (2) Middle Atlantic (3) East North Central (4) West North Central (5) South Atlantic (6) East South Central (7) West South Central (8) Mountain (9) Pacific (10) Territory (99) Refused

	Percentages											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,031)	2.7	7.7	8.1	3.6	22.8	5.8	16.2	7.0	21.9	2.8	1.5	3.2
Age												
18 to 24 Years Old	1.5	8.9	9.6	3.9	23.4	4.8	13.9	6.6	24.0	2.1	1.2	5.1
25 Years Old or More	4.0	6.3	6.5	3.3	22.0	6.9	18.6	7.5	19.6	3.5	1.9	4.0
Distance from Voting Residence												
Within 50 Miles	1.7	5.4	2.9	1.9	27.2	6.0	17.2	7.8	26.6	1.7	1.5	6.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	3.1	8.7	10.7	4.4	20.8	5.8	15.8	6.7	19.7	3.3	1.0	3.9

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q7="No".

Q12. Did you request an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) Yes (2) No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official (3) No, I never received an absentee ballot, but I expected to receive one (4) No, I did not need an absentee ballot (99) Refused

	Requested an Absentee Ballot for the November 8, 2016 Election					
	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	32.9	8.0	13.5	45.5	0.1	2.0
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	22.0	8.1	15.7	54.0	0.2	3.8
25 Years Old or More	39.4	8.0	12.2	40.3	0.1	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	14.7	10.0	8.8	66.4	0.1	3.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	40.9	7.2	15.5	36.3	0.1	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q13. In what month did you first request your absentee ballot?

(1) July 2016 or earlier (2) August 2016 (3) September 2016 (4) October 2016 (5) November 2016 (60) Do not recall

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	60	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,851)	23.3	13.2	20.8	22.9	2.6	17.2	2.6
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	19.4	10.6	17.0	27.4	4.2	21.5	6.7
25 Years Old or More	24.7	14.1	22.1	21.4	2.0	15.8	2.7
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	18.4	15.4	13.7	27.3	2.3	22.9	8.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	24.1	12.9	21.9	22.2	2.6	16.4	2.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="Yes".

Q14. Were you aware that you could use the FPCA to register to vote and request an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	43.4	56.3	0.3	2.0
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	53.2	46.3	0.4	3.8
25 Years Old or More	37.5	62.3	0.2	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	45.9	54.0	0.1	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	42.3	57.4	0.3	2.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q15. Did you use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to request your absentee ballot or did you use another method for the November 8, 2016, election?

(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. (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,851)	38.9	45.6	4.5	10.8	0.2	3.0
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	42.1	39.6	8.0	10.1	0.3	7.3
25 Years Old or More	37.8	47.7	3.3	11.0	0.2	3.1
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	38.5	40.4	7.1	14.0	0.0	7.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	39.0	46.5	4.1	10.3	0.2	3.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="Yes".

Q16. How did you obtain your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for the November 8, 2016 election?

(1) Printable FPCA downloaded from FVAP.gov (2) Online assistant tool at FVAP.gov that guides voters in completing an FPCA (3) From some other contact with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) (4) Through military channels/Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) (5) From a U.S. embassy or consulate (6) From a State or local election official (7) From a non-FVAP website (8) From a military post office (9) Some other source (99) Refused

	Obtained the FPCA From										
	Percentages										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=1,196)	44.5	38.5	0.9	9.4	0.0	2.3	0.2	2.9	1.2	0.1	4.7
Age											
18 to 24 Years Old	47.0	35.5	0.1	10.4	0.0	1.6	0.0	4.6	0.8	0.1	11.9
25 Years Old or More	43.5	39.7	1.2	9.0	0.1	2.5	0.2	2.3	1.4	0.1	4.6
Distance from Voting Residence											
Within 50 Miles	40.7	37.2	2.9	10.0	0.0	0.9	0.2	6.1	2.0	0.0	12.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	45.1	38.8	0.6	9.3	0.1	2.4	0.2	2.4	1.1	0.1	5.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q15="Yes, I used an FPCA to request an absentee ballot".

Q17. How did you return your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for the November 8, 2016 election?

(1) Regular mail (2) USPS Express/Certified mail (3) FedEx, UPS, DHL, or other commercial delivery carrier (4) FVAP Electronic Transmission System (ETS) (5) Fax, but not using FVAP ETS (6) Email (e.g., as an attachment), but not using FVAP ETS (7) Online (e.g., through a secure website) (8) Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Office (9) Other (99) Refused

	Returned the FPCA By										
	Percentages										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=1,196)	62.8	6.1	0.2	4.4	1.6	12.8	5.3	2.0	4.7	0.1	4.3
Age											
18 to 24 Years Old	68.4	6.6	0.0	2.3	2.2	10.8	2.8	2.4	4.6	0.0	9.7
25 Years Old or More	60.7	5.9	0.3	5.1	1.4	13.6	6.3	1.9	4.7	0.2	4.5
Distance from Voting Residence											
Within 50 Miles	52.6	15.1	0.1	7.4	0.3	7.7	3.5	2.6	10.8	0.0	12.2
Greater Than 50 Miles	64.4	4.7	0.2	3.9	1.8	13.6	5.6	1.9	3.7	0.2	4.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q15="Yes, I used an FPCA to request an absentee ballot".

Q18a. Did you receive notification from an election official that your registration and/or request for an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016 election had been received?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,851)	52.5	27.9	18.3	1.4	2.9
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	39.4	34.1	24.9	1.6	7.3
25 Years Old or More	56.9	25.8	16.1	1.3	3.1
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	45.9	26.4	24.0	3.7	8.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	53.5	28.1	17.4	1.1	3.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="Yes".

Q18b. Did you receive notification from an election official that your registration and/or request for an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016 election had been rejected?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,851)	3.4	72.0	18.0	6.6	2.8
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	3.0	68.0	24.9	4.1	7.1
25 Years Old or More	3.5	73.4	15.7	7.4	2.9
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	4.1	62.7	22.1	11.1	7.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	3.3	73.5	17.4	5.9	3.0

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="Yes".

Q18c. Did you receive notification from an election official that your registration and/or request for an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016 election had been accepted?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Notified that Registration and/or Request for Absentee Ballot Had Been Accepted				
	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,851)	41.6	31.6	23.3	3.4	2.9
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	31.7	36.9	30.7	0.8	7.4
25 Years Old or More	45.0	29.9	20.8	4.3	3.1
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	36.7	30.3	22.8	10.3	7.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	42.4	31.9	23.4	2.4	3.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="Yes".

Q19. Did you receive an absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,851)	16.0	83.9	0.2	2.3
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	19.7	80.2	0.2	5.9
25 Years Old or More	14.7	85.1	0.2	2.3
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	15.2	83.8	1.0	6.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	16.1	83.9	0.0	2.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="Yes".

Q20. How did you obtain your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) Regular mail (2) Fax (3) Email (e.g., as an attachment) (4) In person (5) Downloaded ballot from State link on FVAP.gov (6) Downloaded ballot from State voting website (7) Downloaded ballot from State link at another website (8) Other (99) Refused

	Percentages									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,432)	58.7	0.0	27.4	1.0	5.5	5.8	1.1	0.4	0.0	3.1
Age										
18 to 24 Years Old	60.1	0.0	26.3	3.3	6.0	3.2	1.1	0.0	0.0	7.6
25 Years Old or More	58.3	0.1	27.7	0.3	5.4	6.6	1.2	0.5	0.0	3.3
Distance from Voting Residence										
Within 50 Miles	65.7	0.0	24.6	1.0	5.3	3.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	8.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	57.6	0.1	27.8	1.0	5.5	6.2	1.3	0.4	0.0	3.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q19="Yes".

Q21. When did you receive your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) September 2016 or earlier (2) October 2016 (3) November 2016 (60) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	60	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,949)	28.9	45.2	7.5	18.3	0.0	2.9
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	24.0	39.9	7.4	28.7	0.0	6.7
25 Years Old or More	30.8	47.2	7.6	14.4	0.1	3.1
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	25.3	39.9	7.1	27.8	0.0	7.3
Greater Than 50 Miles	29.8	46.5	7.6	16.0	0.1	3.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official" OR Q19="Yes".

Q22. Did you return your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,949)	20.5	79.3	0.2	2.6
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	30.0	69.9	0.2	6.4
25 Years Old or More	17.0	82.8	0.2	2.6
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	39.2	60.5	0.3	7.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	16.1	83.7	0.2	2.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official" OR Q19="Yes".

Q23. How did you return your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) Regular mail (2) USPS Express/Certified mail (3) FedEx, UPS, DHL, or other commercial delivery carrier (4) FVAP Electronic Transmission System (ETS) including ERS by Fax and email (5) Fax, excluding FVAP ETS (6) Email (e.g., as an attachment) (7) Online (e.g., through a secure website) (8) Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Office (9) Other (99) Refused

	Percentages										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,413)	76.3	5.9	0.5	1.5	1.6	9.6	1.9	0.8	1.9	0.0	2.6
Age											
18 to 24 Years Old	81.1	3.4	0.2	0.7	0.6	10.9	1.7	0.4	1.0	0.0	5.6
25 Years Old or More	74.8	6.7	0.6	1.7	1.9	9.2	2.0	1.0	2.2	0.0	2.8
Distance from Voting Residence											
Within 50 Miles	65.5	5.9	0.3	4.5	0.8	9.9	0.4	3.6	9.2	0.0	7.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	78.1	5.9	0.6	0.9	1.7	9.6	2.2	0.4	0.7	0.0	2.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q22="Yes".

Q24. Did you use the Express Mail Label 11-DoD to track your absentee ballot?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Don't know (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=1,961)	12.3	65.5	22.1	0.1	3.5
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	11.5	58.6	29.9	0.0	9.4
25 Years Old or More	12.5	67.8	19.6	0.1	3.4
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	20.1	60.5	19.5	0.0	9.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	11.2	66.3	22.5	0.1	3.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q23="Regular mail" OR "USPS Express/Certified mail".

Q25. When did you return your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) September 2016 or earlier (2) October 2016 (3) November 2016 (60) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	60	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,413)	10.3	55.8	24.7	9.2	0.1	3.2
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	5.1	49.6	26.2	19.1	0.0	8.4
25 Years Old or More	11.9	57.7	24.3	6.0	0.1	3.3
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	9.0	49.0	30.6	11.5	0.0	8.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	10.5	56.9	23.8	8.8	0.1	3.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q22="Yes".

Q26. Did your State have a system in place that allowed you to confirm the status of your submitted absentee ballot?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Don't know (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,413)	35.9	8.1	56.0	0.1	3.1
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	23.9	8.7	67.4	0.0	7.5
25 Years Old or More	39.7	7.9	52.4	0.1	3.3
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	40.9	9.6	49.4	0.0	8.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	35.1	7.8	57.1	0.1	3.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q22="Yes".

Q27a. Did you receive notification from an election official that your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election had been received?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,413)	35.7	43.4	19.4	1.4	3.2
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	28.0	45.8	24.7	1.5	8.4
25 Years Old or More	38.2	42.7	17.7	1.4	3.3
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	34.2	42.1	22.3	1.5	8.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	36.0	43.7	18.9	1.4	3.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q22="Yes".

Q27b. Did you receive notification from an election official that your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election had been rejected?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,413)	1.3	74.0	19.5	5.2	2.8
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	2.8	70.1	24.0	3.2	7.6
25 Years Old or More	0.8	75.3	18.1	5.8	2.9
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	0.4	71.9	23.5	4.3	7.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	1.4	74.4	18.8	5.3	3.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q22="Yes".

Q27c. Did you receive notification from an election official that your absentee ballot for the November 8, 2016, election had been accepted?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,413)	27.9	47.1	22.4	2.6	3.2
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	21.4	50.6	26.8	1.2	8.4
25 Years Old or More	30.0	46.0	21.1	3.0	3.3
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	27.7	42.4	25.3	4.7	8.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	27.9	47.9	22.0	2.3	3.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q22="Yes".

Q28. Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process?

(1) Very dissatisfied (2) Dissatisfied (3) Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (4) Satisfied (5) Very satisfied (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=4,159)	8.2	10.1	30.5	30.9	20.1	0.2	2.4
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	9.9	9.0	43.7	25.8	11.6	0.1	5.4
25 Years Old or More	7.5	10.6	24.4	33.2	24.0	0.3	2.5
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	5.5	6.1	35.3	27.0	25.0	1.0	6.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	8.9	11.1	29.3	31.9	18.9	0.0	2.6

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q12="Yes" OR Q12="No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from an election official" OR Q12="No, I never received an absentee ballot, but I expected to receive one".

Q29a. During the past 6 years, did you usually vote in political party primary elections?

(1) Usually voted (2) Usually did not vote (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	32.2	66.4	1.4	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	21.6	76.8	1.6	3.1
25 Years Old or More	38.6	60.1	1.3	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	34.5	64.0	1.5	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	31.3	67.3	1.3	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q29b. During the past 6 years, did you usually vote in federal elections?

(1) Usually voted (2) Usually did not vote (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	46.0	53.2	0.8	1.9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	27.6	71.5	0.9	3.2
25 Years Old or More	57.1	42.1	0.7	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	44.2	55.1	0.7	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	46.9	52.3	0.8	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q30. How interested or uninterested were you in the U.S. elections held on November 8, 2016?

(1) Very uninterested (2) Somewhat uninterested (3) Neither interested nor uninterested (4) Somewhat interested (5) Very interested (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	12.4	3.7	15.0	21.0	47.9	0.0	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	13.9	4.5	20.6	25.1	35.8	0.0	3.6
25 Years Old or More	11.5	3.1	11.5	18.6	55.3	0.0	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	12.4	3.9	18.5	18.1	47.1	0.0	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	12.4	3.6	13.5	22.3	48.3	0.0	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q31. During the months leading up to the election, did you ever plan to vote in that election, or did you not plan to vote?

(1) Did plan to vote (2) Did not plan to vote (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	64.8	35.0	0.2	1.9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	53.0	47.0	0.0	3.8
25 Years Old or More	71.9	27.8	0.3	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	64.8	34.8	0.5	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	64.9	35.0	0.1	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q32. In the election held on November 8, 2016, did you definitely vote in person on election day; definitely complete an absentee ballot by mail, email, fax, or online on or before November 8, 2016; definitely not vote; or are you not completely sure whether you voted in that election?

(1) Definitely voted in person (2) Definitely voted by mail (3) Definitely voted by e-mail (4) Definitely voted at an online website (5) Definitely voted by fax (6) Definitely did not vote (7) Not sure (99) Refused

	Percentages								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	12.3	26.2	3.2	1.1	0.6	49.9	6.6	0.2	1.9
Age									
18 to 24 Years Old	7.2	17.7	2.7	0.9	0.1	61.2	10.2	0.0	3.7
25 Years Old or More	15.4	31.3	3.5	1.2	0.8	43.0	4.5	0.3	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence									
Within 50 Miles	33.6	14.6	1.5	0.7	0.1	41.7	7.5	0.4	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	3.1	31.3	3.9	1.3	0.7	53.3	6.3	0.1	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q33. What was the MAIN REASON you did not vote in the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) I tried/wanted to vote but did not or could not complete the process. (2) I did not want to vote. (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=3,267)	39.5	60.4	0.1	2.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	36.6	63.4	0.0	4.6
25 Years Old or More	42.0	57.8	0.2	3.5
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	33.1	66.8	0.2	5.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	41.6	58.3	0.1	3.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q32="Definitely did not vote".

Q34. Which of the following best describes why you did not vote in the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) I was not registered to vote. (2) I did not know how to get an absentee ballot. (3) My absentee ballot arrived too late. (4) My absentee ballot did not arrive at all. (5) The absentee voting process was too complicated. (6) My commander did not allow me to take time during duty hours to vote. (7) Some other reason

	Percentages							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Max ME
All Respondents (N=1,241)	19.3	15.0	6.6	19.5	14.9	0.9	23.8	4.0
Age								
18 to 24 Years Old	23.9	20.7	5.5	12.5	13.3	0.3	23.9	7.5
25 Years Old or More	15.9	10.7	7.5	24.8	16.1	1.3	23.8	4.6
Distance from Voting Residence								
Within 50 Miles	31.7	12.0	4.2	7.5	13.4	4.0	27.2	9.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	16.0	15.4	7.4	23.0	15.4	0.1	22.8	4.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q33="I tried/wanted to vote but did not or could not complete the process".

Q35. Was the November 8, 2016, election your first time voting or trying to vote?

(1) Yes (2) No, this was not my first time voting or trying to vote (3) No, I did not vote or try to vote (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	19.0	52.1	28.7	0.2	1.9
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	31.3	28.7	40.0	0.1	3.8
25 Years Old or More	11.7	66.2	21.9	0.3	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	20.9	50.1	28.8	0.2	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	18.3	53.0	28.5	0.2	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q36. Was the November 8, 2016, election your first time voting or trying to vote absentee?

(1) Yes (2) No, this was not my first time voting or trying to vote absentee (3) No, I did not vote or try to vote absentee (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=955)	67.0	3.1	28.5	1.4	5.1
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	68.1	1.7	29.6	0.6	6.9
25 Years Old or More	65.3	5.4	26.7	2.6	7.0
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	41.9	5.7	49.1	3.3	8.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	79.5	1.8	18.3	0.4	5.9

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q35="Yes".

Q37. How confident are you that your vote in the November 8, 2016, election was counted as you intended?

(1) Not confident (2) Somewhat confident (3) Confident (4) Very confident (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=3,331)	12.4	19.2	31.6	36.8	0.1	2.6
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	16.1	24.3	31.6	27.9	0.0	6.2
25 Years Old or More	11.2	17.5	31.5	39.8	0.1	2.8
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	6.9	14.9	30.4	47.7	0.0	4.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	15.4	21.5	32.2	30.9	0.1	3.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q32="Definitely voted in person" OR Q32="Definitely voted by mail" OR Q32="Definitely voted by email" OR Q32="Definitely voted at an online website" OR Q32="Definitely voted by fax".

Q39. Were you aware that you could use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup way to vote in case your requested absentee ballot does not arrive in time to vote?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	63.7	36.1	0.2	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	69.2	30.8	0.1	3.4
25 Years Old or More	60.4	39.3	0.3	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	61.4	38.4	0.2	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	64.7	35.1	0.2	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q40. Did you use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	96.6	3.1	0.4	0.6
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	97.4	2.4	0.2	0.9
25 Years Old or More	96.1	3.5	0.5	0.8
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	96.6	2.8	0.7	1.3
Greater Than 50 Miles	96.5	3.2	0.3	0.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q41. How did you obtain your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) Printable FWAB downloaded from FVAP.gov (2) Online assistant tool at FVAP.gov that guides voters in completing a FWAB (3) From some other contact with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) (4) Through military channels/Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) (5) From a U.S. embassy or consulate (6) From a State or local election official (7) From a non-FVAP website (8) From a military post office (9) Some other source

	Percentages									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Max ME
All Respondents (N=279)	43.7	17.2	6.7	12.8	0.1	9.9	0.9	1.5	7.1	9.3
Age										
18 to 24 Years Old	38.7	6.7	11.4	24.7	0.0	6.3	0.0	2.1	10.1	20.1
25 Years Old or More	45.9	21.7	4.7	7.7	0.1	11.5	1.3	1.2	5.9	10.9
Distance from Voting Residence										
Within 50 Miles	39.5	8.3	7.8	5.1	0.0	21.6	3.5	0.9	13.5	23.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	45.3	20.5	6.3	15.6	0.1	5.6	0.0	1.7	4.8	10.0

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q40="Yes".

Q42. When did you return your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) September 2016 or earlier (2) October 2016 (3) November 2016 (60) Do not recall (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	60	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=279)	15.4	39.5	21.2	23.7	0.2	9.8
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	12.3	40.6	17.5	29.3	0.4	20.0
25 Years Old or More	16.7	39.1	22.8	21.3	0.2	11.0
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	15.3	31.4	26.3	26.9	0.0	23.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	15.4	42.5	19.3	22.5	0.3	10.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q40="Yes".

Q43. Did you use the Express Mail Label 11-DoD to track your Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)?

(1) Yes (2) No (3) Not sure (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=279)	25.4	46.7	27.7	0.3	9.6
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	35.9	36.9	26.4	0.8	20.0
25 Years Old or More	20.9	50.8	28.2	0.1	11.0
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	20.4	44.2	35.0	0.5	22.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	27.2	47.6	25.0	0.3	10.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q40="Yes".

Q44. What was the MAIN REASON you used the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) My absentee ballot did not arrive. (2) My absentee ballot arrived too late. (3) I was concerned my absentee ballot would not be returned by the deadline/would not be counted. (4) I forgot to request an absentee ballot. (5) Some other reason (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	9	Max ME
All Respondents (N=279)	20.9	7.2	32.8	6.4	31.6	1.3	9.2
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	8.6	0.7	55.5	6.4	28.5	0.4	18.2
25 Years Old or More	26.1	9.9	23.1	6.4	32.9	1.6	10.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	9.2	20.2	29.1	7.0	34.2	0.2	23.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	25.2	2.3	34.1	6.2	30.6	1.6	10.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q40="Yes".

Q45. What is the MAIN REASON you did not use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) I did not know how to get one. (2) I could not get one. (3) I had difficulty filling it out. (4) I did not need one; I had already returned an absentee ballot. (5) Some other reason (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,676)	7.6	1.5	2.0	30.3	58.6	0.1	3.1
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	13.3	3.0	3.6	13.7	66.4	0.1	6.3
25 Years Old or More	4.9	0.8	1.3	38.2	54.9	0.0	3.5
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	8.3	1.8	3.4	25.5	61.0	0.0	5.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	7.2	1.4	1.4	32.8	57.2	0.1	3.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q39="Yes" OR Q39=Refused AND Q40="No".

Q46. How about you—did you vote in the November 4, 2014, election?

(1) Definitely voted in person (2) Definitely voted by mail (3) Definitely voted by e-mail (4) Definitely voted at an online website (5) Definitely voted by fax (6) Definitely did not vote (7) Not sure (99) Refused

	Percentages								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99	Max ME
All Participants (N=6,973)	11.2	14.8	1.1	0.4	0.2	61.9	10.3	0.2	1.8
Age									
18 to 24 Years Old	8.7	7.3	0.7	0.3	0.0	73.4	9.5	0.1	3.2
25 Years Old or More	12.7	19.3	1.2	0.5	0.3	54.9	10.7	0.3	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence									
Within 50 Miles	17.7	9.7	0.5	0.1	0.0	61.6	9.9	0.4	3.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	8.4	17.1	1.3	0.5	0.3	61.9	10.4	0.1	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q47. In preparation for the November 8, 2016, election, did you need any information or assistance (e.g., information on deadlines, how to request an absentee ballot)?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	73.8	25.8	0.3	1.7
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	71.3	28.2	0.4	3.4
25 Years Old or More	75.4	24.4	0.3	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	80.4	19.1	0.5	2.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	71.0	28.7	0.3	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q48a. Were you aware of the following voting assistance resources? [FVAP]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	37.1	62.5	0.4	2.0
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	52.6	47.1	0.3	3.8
25 Years Old or More	27.7	71.8	0.5	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	41.8	57.7	0.5	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	35.0	64.6	0.4	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q48b. Were you aware of the following voting assistance resources? [Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs)]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	48.5	50.6	0.9	1.9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	65.3	34.3	0.3	3.4
25 Years Old or More	38.3	60.5	1.2	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	51.0	47.9	1.1	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	47.3	51.9	0.8	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q48c. Were you aware of the following voting assistance resources? [Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	56.0	43.1	0.9	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	70.6	29.0	0.4	3.3
25 Years Old or More	47.2	51.7	1.1	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	55.4	43.9	0.8	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	56.3	42.8	0.9	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q48d. Were you aware of the following voting assistance resources? [State and local election websites]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	33.2	65.9	0.9	2.0
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	46.1	53.0	0.9	3.8
25 Years Old or More	25.5	73.7	0.9	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	35.3	64.0	0.8	3.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	32.2	66.9	0.9	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q49a. Did you seek voting information or assistance from any of the following? [FVAP]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=5,078)	64.3	35.1	0.6	2.2
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	66.3	32.9	0.9	4.8
25 Years Old or More	63.5	36.0	0.5	2.3
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	74.5	24.6	0.9	3.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	60.3	39.2	0.5	2.6

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q48a="Yes".

Q49b. Did you seek voting information or assistance from any of the following? [Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs)]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=4,308)	83.0	16.0	1.0	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	82.5	16.2	1.3	4.2
25 Years Old or More	83.2	15.9	0.9	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	84.1	14.4	1.5	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	82.6	16.6	0.8	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q48b="Yes".

Q49c. Did you seek voting information or assistance from any of the following? [Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=3,601)	88.1	11.0	0.9	1.7
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	87.7	11.1	1.3	3.9
25 Years Old or More	88.2	11.0	0.8	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	87.6	11.2	1.2	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	88.3	10.9	0.8	1.9

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q48c="Yes".

Q49d. Did you seek voting information or assistance from any of the following? [State and local election websites]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=5,086)	53.7	45.8	0.6	2.2
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	60.2	39.1	0.7	4.8
25 Years Old or More	50.9	48.7	0.5	2.4
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	57.1	41.9	1.0	4.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	52.2	47.4	0.4	2.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q48d="Yes".

Q50a. Please indicate which FVAP products or services you used for voting assistance for the November 8, 2016, election. [FVAP.gov]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	72.5	27.0	0.5	1.6
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	80.7	18.6	0.7	2.9
25 Years Old or More	67.5	32.1	0.5	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	82.5	16.7	0.8	2.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	68.1	31.5	0.4	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q50b. Please indicate which FVAP products or services you used for voting assistance for the November 8, 2016, election. [FVAP staff support]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	96.6	2.8	0.5	0.7
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	97.5	1.9	0.7	1.2
25 Years Old or More	96.1	3.4	0.5	0.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	96.2	3.0	0.8	1.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	96.8	2.8	0.4	0.8

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q50c. Please indicate which FVAP products or services you used for voting assistance for the November 8, 2016, election. [FVAP online assistant]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	93.1	6.4	0.5	0.9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	94.6	4.8	0.7	1.7
25 Years Old or More	92.2	7.4	0.5	1.0
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	94.5	4.8	0.8	1.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	92.4	7.1	0.4	1.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q50d. Please indicate which FVAP products or services you used for voting assistance for the November 8, 2016, election. [Other]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	95.5	4.0	0.5	0.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	95.5	3.8	0.7	1.6
25 Years Old or More	95.5	4.1	0.5	0.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	96.4	2.8	0.8	1.2
Greater Than 50 Miles	95.1	4.5	0.4	1.0

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q50e. Please indicate which FVAP products or services you used for voting assistance for the November 8, 2016, election. [None, I did not use any of the products or services listed]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	31.3	68.2	0.5	1.7
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	21.6	77.7	0.7	3.1
25 Years Old or More	37.1	62.4	0.5	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	20.8	78.4	0.8	2.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	35.9	63.7	0.4	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q52a. For each item, please indicate which resource you used to try to find the specified information or assistance. [FVAP]

(1) Determining my eligibility to vote (2) Understanding the absentee voting process (3) Assistance with the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FPCA) (4) Assistance with the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FWAB) (5) Finding information on deadlines (6) Electronic transmission of election materials (e.g., faxing, emailing) (7) Assistance with websites (e.g., federal, state, local) (8) Some other voting information or assistance

	Percentages								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Max ME
All Respondents (N=1,917)	43.3	64.8	55.5	38.4	65.8	44.0	47.0	36.1	3.8
Age									
18 to 24 Years Old	49.1	68.7	59.9	43.4	68.1	48.7	48.3	40.2	9.0
25 Years Old or More	41.1	63.4	53.8	36.5	65.0	42.4	46.5	34.6	4.1
Distance from Voting Residence									
Within 50 Miles	46.5	57.9	44.6	36.4	56.9	32.2	44.3	39.0	9.2
Greater Than 50 Miles	42.3	66.4	58.2	38.9	68.1	47.0	47.7	35.5	4.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q49a="Yes".

Q52b. For each item, please indicate which resource you used to try to find the specified information or assistance. [UVAOs]

(1) Determining my eligibility to vote (2) Understanding the absentee voting process (3) Assistance with the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FPCA) (4) Assistance with the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FWAB) (5) Finding information on deadlines (6) Electronic transmission of election materials (e.g., faxing, emailing) (7) Assistance with websites (e.g., federal, state, local) (8) Some other voting information or assistance

	Percentages								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Max ME
All Respondents (N=712)	15.6	32.1	20.6	18.1	27.1	18.5	22.0	25.1	5.6
Age									
18 to 24 Years Old	18.0	38.4	19.5	20.6	29.4	23.7	25.0	35.0	13.5
25 Years Old or More	14.8	29.9	21.0	17.2	26.3	16.7	21.0	21.6	5.8
Distance from Voting Residence									
Within 50 Miles	14.9	30.3	18.8	16.8	38.3	24.8	32.6	27.9	12.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	15.6	32.6	20.9	18.2	22.9	16.0	18.1	23.8	6.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q49b="Yes".

Q52c. For each item, please indicate which resource you used to try to find the specified information or assistance. [IVA Offices]

(1) Determining my eligibility to vote (2) Understanding the absentee voting process (3) Assistance with the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FPCA) (4) Assistance with the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) (e.g., obtaining, completing, or submitting the FWAB) (5) Finding information on deadlines (6) Electronic transmission of election materials (e.g., faxing, emailing) (7) Assistance with websites (e.g., federal, state, local) (8) Some other voting information or assistance

	Percentages								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Max ME
All Respondents (N=398)	10.9	18.6	15.5	12.1	15.0	12.3	16.1	15.6	6.5
Age									
18 to 24 Years Old	14.5	23.1	21.6	16.6	19.4	17.0	16.4	18.5	15.0
25 Years Old or More	9.6	17.0	13.4	10.6	13.4	10.7	16.0	14.7	7.0
Distance from Voting Residence									
Within 50 Miles	8.3	9.5	10.3	8.9	8.3	8.4	9.8	13.2	9.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	12.1	22.9	17.8	13.7	18.2	14.2	19.2	16.9	8.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q49c="Yes".

Q53a. Were you successful in obtaining the voting information or assistance you needed from each of the following? [Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=1,917)	13.0	85.9	1.1	3.0
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	17.5	81.6	0.9	7.4
25 Years Old or More	11.4	87.5	1.2	3.0
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	14.5	84.2	1.2	6.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	12.7	86.2	1.1	3.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q49a="Yes".

Q53b. Were you successful in obtaining the voting information or assistance you needed from each of the following? [Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs)]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=712)	14.6	82.7	2.7	4.5
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	18.1	78.4	3.6	11.0
25 Years Old or More	13.4	84.2	2.4	4.7
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	8.0	90.1	1.9	6.1
Greater Than 50 Miles	16.9	80.1	3.0	5.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q49b="Yes".

Q53c. Were you successful in obtaining the voting information or assistance you needed from each of the following? [Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Offices]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=398)	13.8	81.5	4.7	5.7
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	15.4	80.4	4.2	11.9
25 Years Old or More	13.2	81.9	4.9	6.3
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	9.7	83.0	7.3	9.1
Greater Than 50 Miles	15.8	80.7	3.6	7.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q49c="Yes".

Q53d. Were you successful in obtaining the voting information or assistance you needed from each of the following? [State and local election websites]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,406)	9.4	89.4	1.1	2.2
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	13.8	85.6	0.7	6.3
25 Years Old or More	7.9	90.8	1.3	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	8.8	90.1	1.1	4.3
Greater Than 50 Miles	9.7	89.2	1.2	2.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q49d="Yes".

Q54. You indicated you did not obtain the voting assistance you needed. Did you seek assistance elsewhere?

(1) No (2) Yes

	Percentages		
	1	2	Max ME
All Respondents (N=398)	67.4	32.6	7.5
Age			
18 to 24 Years Old	70.6	29.4	14.4
25 Years Old or More	65.6	34.4	8.3
Distance from Voting Residence			
Within 50 Miles	60.5	39.5	18.2
Greater Than 50 Miles	69.3	30.7	8.0

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q53a="No" OR Q53b="No" OR Q53c="No" OR Q53d="No".

Q55. Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the FVAP.gov website when you visited it in 2016?

(1) Very dissatisfied (2) Dissatisfied (3) Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (4) Satisfied (5) Very satisfied (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,343)	2.8	4.8	18.4	40.9	32.8	0.3	3.3
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	2.5	5.8	25.5	37.4	28.0	0.8	8.1
25 Years Old or More	2.9	4.5	15.9	42.1	34.5	0.2	3.4
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	2.6	2.5	16.6	36.8	41.5	0.0	6.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	2.9	5.4	18.9	41.9	30.6	0.4	3.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who marked Q50a.

Q57. What was the MAIN REASON you did not seek voting information or assistance for the November 8, 2016, election?

(1) Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAO) were too busy. (2) Installation Voter Assistance (IVA) Office was too far away. (3) I did not know where to go or who to call. (4) I did not have time. (5) I could get the same information online. (6) I did not have the confidence that Unit Voting Assistance Officers (UVAOs) could answer my question(s). (7) I did not have any questions or issues that required assistance. (8) I sought assistance, but could not get it. (9) Other

	Percentages									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Max ME
All Respondents (N=61)	0.0	1.2	4.1	22.5	8.9	5.5	31.6	0.0	26.1	16.7
Age										
18 to 24 Years Old	0.0	0.0	20.7	0.0	4.4	0.0	28.2	0.0	46.8	37.5
25 Years Old or More	0.0	1.4	1.4	26.2	9.6	6.5	32.2	0.0	22.7	18.7
Distance from Voting Residence										
Within 50 Miles	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.0	23.0	0.0	47.1	0.0	5.9	34.8
Greater Than 50 Miles	0.0	1.6	5.4	21.5	4.6	7.3	27.1	0.0	32.6	19.8

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q47="Yes" AND (Q49a="No" OR Q49a=Refused) AND (Q49b="No" OR Q49b=Refused) AND (Q49c="No" OR Q49c=Refused) AND (Q49d="No" OR Q49d=Refused)

Q58a. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your installation? [It was easy to get in-person voting assistance at my installation]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	5.1	4.0	57.3	16.2	16.2	1.2	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	6.9	4.5	62.3	14.0	11.5	0.9	3.6
25 Years Old or More	4.0	3.8	54.3	17.5	19.0	1.4	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	3.4	2.5	54.4	16.2	22.4	1.3	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	5.8	4.7	58.5	16.3	13.5	1.2	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q58b. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your installation? [I knew exactly who at my installation to ask questions about voting materials, ballot requests, or other voting-related issues]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	8.1	9.9	45.4	18.7	16.7	1.4	2.0
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	10.5	11.5	50.8	15.8	10.6	0.9	3.8
25 Years Old or More	6.6	8.9	42.1	20.4	20.3	1.7	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	5.4	7.5	47.6	17.7	20.3	1.5	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	9.2	10.9	44.3	19.2	15.1	1.4	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q58c. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your installation? [I had questions related to the voting process but could not get a hold of someone who could answer them]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	15.9	14.5	54.3	7.5	6.4	1.4	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	12.3	12.2	60.3	8.9	5.1	1.3	3.7
25 Years Old or More	18.1	15.8	50.6	6.7	7.2	1.5	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	17.9	13.2	54.1	6.7	6.9	1.2	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	15.1	15.1	54.2	7.9	6.2	1.5	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q58d. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your installation? [Seeking in-person assistance at my installation was a waste of time because I received conflicting or inaccurate information]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	15.1	13.6	58.3	5.9	5.7	1.4	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	12.4	13.9	62.3	6.4	4.1	0.9	3.6
25 Years Old or More	16.7	13.4	55.9	5.7	6.7	1.6	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	16.9	13.0	57.0	5.6	6.5	1.1	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	14.2	13.9	58.9	6.2	5.4	1.5	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q58e. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your installation? [Printed voting materials were easily accessible at my installation when I needed them]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	5.6	5.6	57.9	15.8	13.6	1.6	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	7.0	4.9	62.4	13.4	10.8	1.5	3.6
25 Years Old or More	4.7	6.0	55.2	17.2	15.3	1.6	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	4.5	4.8	57.3	16.0	16.1	1.2	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	6.0	5.9	58.1	15.7	12.5	1.7	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q59a. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. [Registering to vote]

(1) Poor (2) Fair (3) Average (4) Good (5) Excellent (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	7.5	4.7	28.3	27.5	30.0	2.1	1.8
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	11.5	5.5	37.5	22.5	21.4	1.7	3.8
25 Years Old or More	5.1	4.2	22.7	30.6	35.2	2.3	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	6.9	4.2	27.0	26.0	33.8	2.1	3.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	7.7	5.0	28.8	28.2	28.4	2.0	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q59b. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. [Requesting an absentee ballot]

(1) Poor (2) Fair (3) Average (4) Good (5) Excellent (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	14.0	8.5	29.8	23.6	21.2	3.0	1.8
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	21.0	11.3	36.0	17.0	11.5	3.3	3.7
25 Years Old or More	9.7	6.9	26.1	27.6	27.0	2.8	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	13.4	8.1	30.8	22.7	21.1	3.9	3.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	14.2	8.7	29.3	24.0	21.3	2.5	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q59c. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. [Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot]

(1) Poor (2) Fair (3) Average (4) Good (5) Excellent (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	22.1	10.2	32.2	17.6	15.2	2.7	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	28.8	10.2	37.2	12.5	9.3	2.0	3.7
25 Years Old or More	18.1	10.1	29.2	20.7	18.8	3.1	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	20.4	9.2	33.1	18.0	15.9	3.4	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	22.9	10.6	31.8	17.5	15.0	2.4	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q59d. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. [Returning an absentee ballot]

(1) Poor (2) Fair (3) Average (4) Good (5) Excellent (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	17.1	8.6	29.7	21.3	20.3	3.0	1.8
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	25.1	10.5	35.5	15.0	11.4	2.4	3.7
25 Years Old or More	12.2	7.5	26.2	25.1	25.7	3.3	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	17.6	7.5	31.9	20.6	19.5	2.9	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	16.8	9.1	28.7	21.6	20.8	3.0	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q59e. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. [Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)]

(1) Poor (2) Fair (3) Average (4) Good (5) Excellent (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	27.7	11.0	31.5	13.9	12.7	3.3	1.8
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	31.9	12.0	34.1	10.0	8.9	3.2	3.6
25 Years Old or More	25.2	10.3	29.9	16.2	15.0	3.4	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	24.6	9.7	32.7	15.0	14.3	3.8	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	29.0	11.6	30.9	13.4	12.0	3.1	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q59f. Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. [Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines]

(1) Poor (2) Fair (3) Average (4) Good (5) Excellent (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	19.8	10.2	32.4	18.6	16.5	2.5	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	24.4	10.6	38.5	14.6	10.2	1.8	3.7
25 Years Old or More	17.0	10.0	28.8	21.0	20.4	2.9	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	20.0	9.7	32.7	18.9	15.8	3.0	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	19.7	10.5	32.3	18.5	16.9	2.2	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q60. Did you hear, see, or receive any messages from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in the past year about the November 8, 2016, election, such as advertising, social media posts, or reminders through the mail?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	41.8	57.1	1.1	2.0
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	53.4	45.5	1.1	3.8
25 Years Old or More	34.8	64.2	1.1	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	40.2	58.5	1.3	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	42.4	56.7	1.0	2.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q61. Would you prefer more or less communication from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) to better understand the absentee voting process?

(1) Much less communication (2) Less communication (3) No change in communication; the level of current communication is just right (4) More communication (5) Much more communication (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	99.0	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	12.6	9.9	49.2	17.5	9.6	1.3	2.0
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	14.4	8.1	47.1	19.4	9.7	1.3	3.8
25 Years Old or More	11.5	10.9	50.4	16.4	9.5	1.3	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	15.3	10.0	48.2	15.2	9.4	1.9	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	11.4	9.8	49.7	18.4	9.7	1.1	2.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q62a. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? [Post links to political stories or articles for others to read]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
Total (N=6,973)	73.6	23.7	2.7	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	71.0	26.1	2.9	3.5
25 Years Old or More	75.1	22.3	2.6	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	70.5	27.0	2.6	3.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	74.9	22.4	2.8	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q62b. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? [Post your own thoughts or comments on political or social issues]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	76.4	20.7	2.9	1.7
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	73.6	23.2	3.2	3.4
25 Years Old or More	78.1	19.2	2.7	1.8
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	74.3	22.8	2.9	3.2
Greater Than 50 Miles	77.3	19.8	2.9	2.0

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q62c. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? [Encourage other people to take action on a political or social issue that is important to you]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	80.3	16.8	2.9	1.6
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	78.5	18.2	3.3	3.1
25 Years Old or More	81.3	16.0	2.7	1.7
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	78.7	18.5	2.8	3.0
Greater Than 50 Miles	80.9	16.1	2.9	1.9

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q62d. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? [Encourage other people to vote]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	71.1	26.0	3.0	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	71.1	25.2	3.6	3.4
25 Years Old or More	71.1	26.4	2.5	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	69.0	27.8	3.2	3.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	72.0	25.2	2.8	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

62e. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? [Repost content related to political or social issues that was originally posted]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	73.0	23.8	3.2	1.8
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	69.5	26.8	3.7	3.5
25 Years Old or More	75.1	22.0	2.9	1.9
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	70.1	26.4	3.5	3.4
Greater Than 50 Miles	74.3	22.7	3.1	2.1

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q62f. Do you ever use social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to do any of the following? ["Like" or promote material related to political or social issues that others have posted]

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	64.7	32.4	2.9	1.9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	60.8	35.9	3.3	3.7
25 Years Old or More	67.1	30.2	2.7	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	62.8	34.3	2.9	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	65.5	31.6	3.0	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q63a. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? [Voting is an effective way to express my opinion on the issues in the election]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	5.5	5.8	30.0	25.5	29.7	3.6	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	6.9	6.3	37.5	24.2	21.3	3.8	3.8
25 Years Old or More	4.6	5.5	25.5	26.3	34.7	3.4	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	3.8	5.1	30.0	24.7	33.4	3.1	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	6.2	6.0	30.1	25.8	28.2	3.8	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q63b. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? [Voting is an effective way to express my opinion on which candidates should win the election]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	5.1	4.4	29.8	26.9	29.8	4.0	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	6.5	4.7	36.9	26.9	20.4	4.5	3.7
25 Years Old or More	4.3	4.3	25.4	27.0	35.4	3.7	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	4.2	4.1	31.2	24.8	32.2	3.5	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	5.5	4.6	29.2	27.7	28.8	4.2	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q63c. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? [If other military members found out I did not vote in this election, I would feel ashamed]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	24.1	14.3	38.2	10.6	8.9	3.9	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	28.1	13.7	40.4	9.2	4.9	3.7	3.8
25 Years Old or More	21.6	14.7	36.9	11.4	11.3	4.1	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	20.7	13.8	40.9	10.9	10.2	3.5	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	25.5	14.6	37.2	10.3	8.4	4.1	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q63d. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? [It is not appropriate for members of the military to vote]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	52.0	9.3	27.2	3.6	4.0	4.0	2.0
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	43.4	9.9	35.0	4.2	3.2	4.3	3.7
25 Years Old or More	57.2	8.9	22.5	3.1	4.4	3.8	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	50.5	9.0	28.6	3.5	5.0	3.4	3.7
Greater Than 50 Miles	52.8	9.3	26.5	3.5	3.6	4.3	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q63e. Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? [I was confident that my ballot would be counted]

(1) Strongly disagree (2) Disagree (3) Neither agree nor disagree (4) Agree (5) Strongly agree (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	8.0	6.7	41.7	20.8	18.7	4.1	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	9.5	8.3	50.3	15.4	12.1	4.4	3.8
25 Years Old or More	7.1	5.8	36.5	24.1	22.8	3.9	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	4.8	4.0	41.6	22.3	23.7	3.6	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	9.3	7.9	41.7	20.1	16.7	4.3	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q64. For you personally, voting is first and foremost...

(1) A civic duty (2) A choice (3) Not sure (99) Refused

	Percentages				
	1	2	3	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	40.4	48.2	9.0	2.4	2.0
Age					
18 to 24 Years Old	30.8	52.9	13.5	2.8	3.8
25 Years Old or More	46.2	45.4	6.3	2.2	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence					
Within 50 Miles	42.4	44.1	11.8	1.7	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	39.7	49.8	7.8	2.7	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q65. How strongly do you feel personally that voting is a civic duty?

(1) Not very strongly (2) Somewhat strongly (3) Strongly (4) Very strongly (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=3,053)	1.1	6.6	27.5	64.4	0.4	2.8
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	3.3	9.5	30.8	55.7	0.7	6.6
25 Years Old or More	0.2	5.4	26.2	67.9	0.3	2.9
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	0.1	5.8	28.9	65.3	0.0	5.1
Greater Than 50 Miles	1.6	6.9	27.0	64.0	0.6	3.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q64="A civic duty".

Q66. What was your marital status?

(1) Married (2) Separated (3) Divorced (4) Widowed (5) Never married (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	54.7	1.9	5.1	0.1	35.5	2.7	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	28.8	0.8	2.1	0.2	64.7	3.4	3.5
25 Years Old or More	70.4	2.5	6.9	0.0	17.9	2.3	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	60.3	2.7	5.6	0.0	29.2	2.2	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	52.4	1.5	4.8	0.1	38.2	3.0	2.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q67. Before the November 8, 2016, election, how many U.S. citizens aged 18+ did you discuss how to vote with?

(1) None (2) One or more (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	34.8	59.0	6.2	1.9
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	38.9	54.8	6.4	3.8
25 Years Old or More	32.3	61.6	6.1	2.1
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	35.9	58.4	5.7	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	34.3	59.3	6.4	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q68. How many of these U.S. citizens would you estimate requested an absentee ballot or had an absentee ballot sent to them in the election held on November 8, 2016?

(1) None (2) One or more (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=4,152)	28.1	68.1	3.8	2.4
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	31.8	64.6	3.6	5.0
25 Years Old or More	26.2	69.9	3.9	2.5
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	39.2	57.2	3.6	4.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	23.4	72.7	3.9	2.8

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q67 with a number greater than 0.

Q69. Of the adults with whom you discussed the voting process, how many of them were a partner/spouse or immediate family (e.g., parents, grandparents, siblings)?

(1) None (2) One or more (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=4,152)	26.6	71.1	2.3	2.4
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	32.4	64.8	2.8	4.9
25 Years Old or More	23.6	74.4	2.0	2.5
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	23.9	73.3	2.8	4.1
Greater Than 50 Miles	27.7	70.2	2.1	2.9

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q67 with a number greater than 0.

Q70. How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse before the election on November 8, 2016?

(1) Nearly every day (2) A few times a week (3) A few times a month (4) Less than a few times a month (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,195)	17.7	37.9	22.3	21.8	0.4	3.2
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	12.8	42.9	26.8	17.0	0.5	10.2
25 Years Old or More	18.7	36.8	21.3	22.8	0.4	3.3
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	18.0	39.7	22.5	19.2	0.6	5.9
Greater Than 50 Miles	17.5	37.1	22.2	22.9	0.3	3.9

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q66="Married" AND Q69 with a number greater than 0.

Q71. Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g., parents, grandparents, siblings) before the election on November 8, 2016?

(1) Nearly every day (2) A few times a week (3) A few times a month (4) Less than a few times a month (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=3,019)	6.6	19.3	29.4	43.7	1.0	2.9
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	8.1	19.3	32.7	39.5	0.5	6.2
25 Years Old or More	5.8	19.4	27.9	45.6	1.3	3.2
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	7.7	21.9	28.2	41.5	0.7	5.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	5.9	18.2	30.1	44.6	1.2	3.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q69 with a number greater than 0.

Q72. Of the people with whom you discussed the voting process, how many of them were active duty military members?

(1) None (2) One or more (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=4,152)	26.6	70.1	3.4	2.3
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	25.1	71.2	3.8	4.8
25 Years Old or More	27.4	69.5	3.1	2.5
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	25.3	71.1	3.6	4.3
Greater Than 50 Miles	27.2	69.5	3.3	2.8

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q67 with a number greater than 0.

Q73. How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit before the election on November 8, 2016?

(1) Nearly every day (2) A few times a week (3) A few times a month (4) Less than a few times a month (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=2,939)	11.4	25.3	25.7	37.2	0.5	2.9
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	14.5	26.3	21.3	37.0	0.9	5.8
25 Years Old or More	9.6	24.7	28.1	37.4	0.2	3.3
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	12.1	27.3	25.6	35.0	0.0	5.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	11.0	24.6	25.8	38.0	0.6	3.5

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents who answered Q72 with a number > 0.

Q74. What is the highest degree or level of school that you have completed?

(1) No college (2) Some college (3) 4-year degree (4) Graduate/professional degree (99) Refused

	Percentages					
	1	2	3	4	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	21.7	47.6	16.4	10.5	3.8	1.9
Age						
18 to 24 Years Old	44.4	44.7	6.2	0.2	4.4	3.8
25 Years Old or More	8.0	49.3	22.5	16.7	3.4	2.0
Distance from Voting Residence						
Within 50 Miles	23.2	48.4	15.9	9.4	3.1	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	21.1	47.1	16.7	11.0	4.1	2.3

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q75. What was your paygrade on November 8, 2016?

(1) E1-E5 (2) E6-E9 (3) W1-W5 (4) O1-O3 (5) O4-O6 (99) Refused

	Percentages						
	1	2	3	4	5	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	56.1	22.5	1.6	9.8	6.5	3.5	1.9
Age							
18 to 24 Years Old	90.9	0.4	0.1	4.4	0.0	4.2	1.7
25 Years Old or More	35.1	35.9	2.5	13.0	10.4	3.1	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence							
Within 50 Miles	56.4	26.7	1.4	7.6	5.1	2.8	3.5
Greater Than 50 Miles	55.9	20.7	1.6	10.7	7.2	3.8	2.2

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q76. As of November 8, 2016, did you hold citizenship in any country in addition to the United States?

(1) No (2) Yes (99) Refused

	Percentages			
	1	2	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	84.2	12.3	3.5	1.4
Age				
18 to 24 Years Old	84.4	11.1	4.5	2.6
25 Years Old or More	84.1	13.0	2.9	1.6
Distance from Voting Residence				
Within 50 Miles	83.1	14.1	2.8	2.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	84.6	11.5	3.9	1.7

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

Q77 & Q78. What is your race?

(1) White (2) Black or African American (3) Spanish/Hispanic/Latino (4) American Indian or Alaska Native (5) Asian (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, or Vietnamese) (6) Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (e.g., Samoan, Guamanian, or Chamorro) (7) More than one race (99) Refused

	Percentages								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99	Max ME
All Respondents (N=6,973)	52.1	11.8	13.5	0.5	4.3	0.8	6.0	10.9	2.0
Age									
18 to 24 Years Old	46.5	12.7	15.9	0.2	4.5	1.2	7.3	11.8	3.8
25 Years Old or More	55.5	11.3	12.0	0.7	4.3	0.6	5.2	10.4	2.2
Distance from Voting Residence									
Within 50 Miles	45.3	17.5	15.8	0.9	6.1	1.0	4.6	8.8	3.6
Greater Than 50 Miles	55.1	9.4	12.3	0.4	3.6	0.7	6.6	11.9	2.4

Percent responding is all ADM eligible respondents.

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