

# Federal Voting Assistance Program

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**FVAP.gov**  
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## *What I'll Cover...*

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01

**Recap the Election**



02

**Share National &  
California Data**



03

**Discuss Ongoing  
Research**



04

**We're Here For you!**



## UOCAVA

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**The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986, or UOCAVA, allows certain U.S. citizens to apply to register and vote absentee in elections for Federal office.**



Uniformed Service members and their eligible family members residing in their voting jurisdictions are not covered under UOCAVA.

# UOCAVA Amendments

## Help America Vote Act (HAVA), 2002

- Required states to notify voters the reasons for rejecting a registration application or absentee ballot request

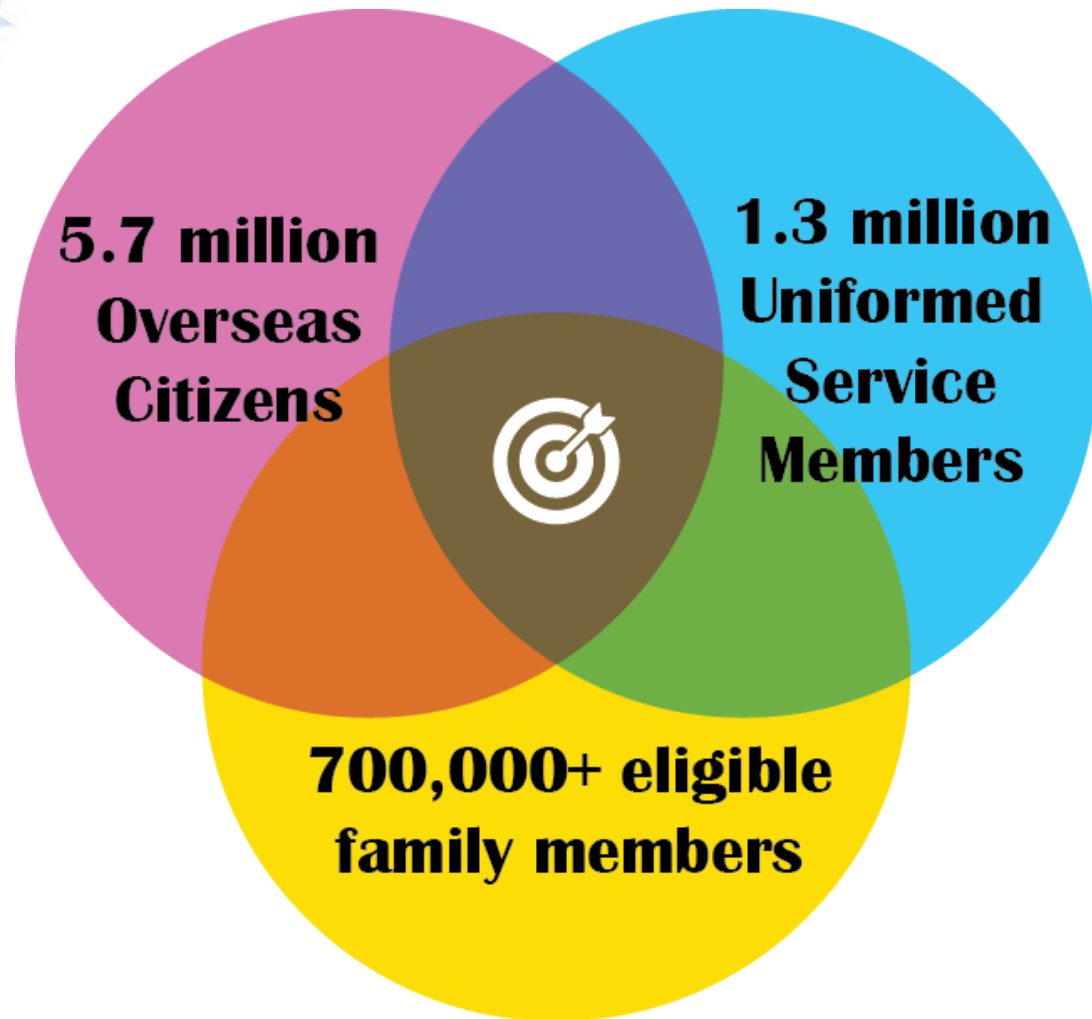


## Military and Overseas Empowerment (MOVE) Act, 2009

- Requires states to make voter registration and absentee ballot applications available electronically
- Requires ballots to be sent 45 days prior to an election
- Ballot applications good for one calendar year



## Who Are Our Voters?





# UOCAVA Voting Process

## Application

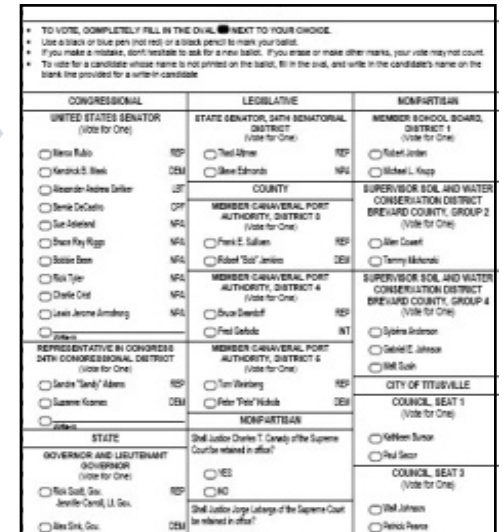


The image shows a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) form, which is used for voter registration and absentee ballot requests. The form includes sections for personal information, contact details, and a declaration of eligibility. It is titled "Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request".

## Local Election Office



## State Ballot



The image shows a State Ballot form, which is used for voting in state elections. The form includes sections for various offices, including the United States Senator, State Senator, County Board, and various local boards and commissions. It is titled "TO VOTE, COMPLETELY FILL IN THE CIRCLE NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE."

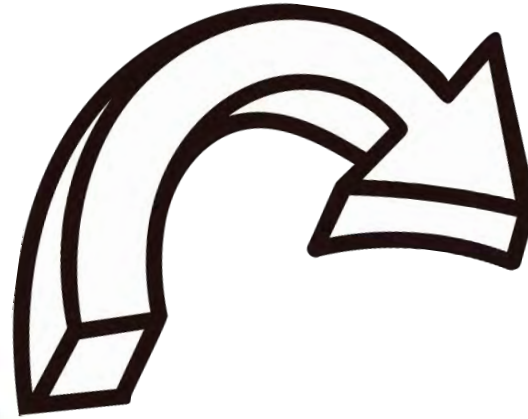
## Back Up Ballot



The image shows an Official Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot form. It includes sections for the voter's name, address, and a list of candidates for various offices. The form is titled "Official Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot".

# FVAP Responsibilities

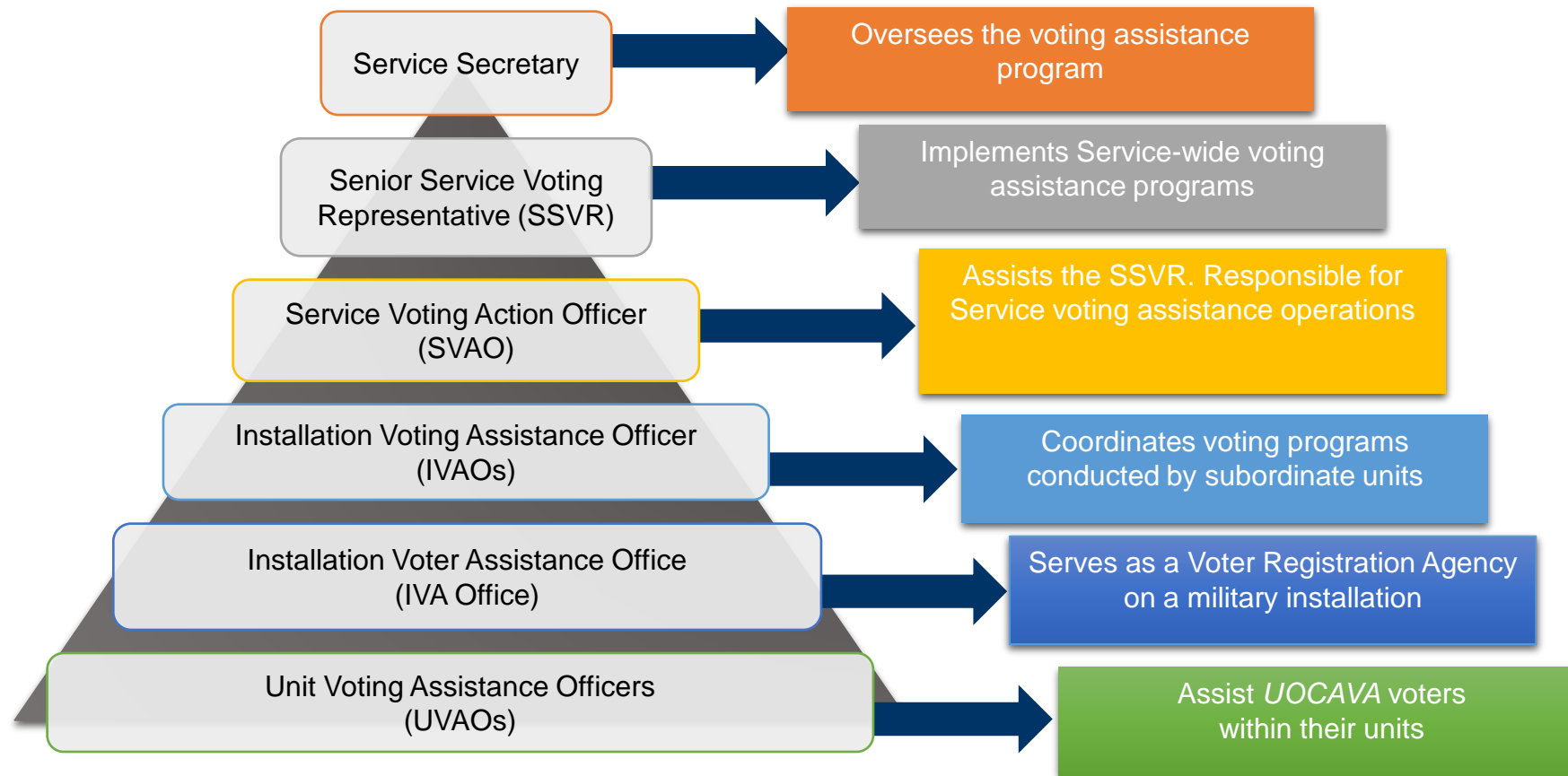
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## ***Federal Voting Assistance Program***

- **Provides Training**
  - **Installation Voter Assistance Offices**
  - **Voting Assistance Officers**
  - **Embassies and Consulates worldwide**
- **Maintains Voter Resources**
  - **The Guide**
  - **FVAP.gov**
  - **Online Assistants**
- **Report to Congress**
- **DoD Instruction**
- **Data Collection**
- **Waiver Requests**

# Network of Assistance





# 2016 Election

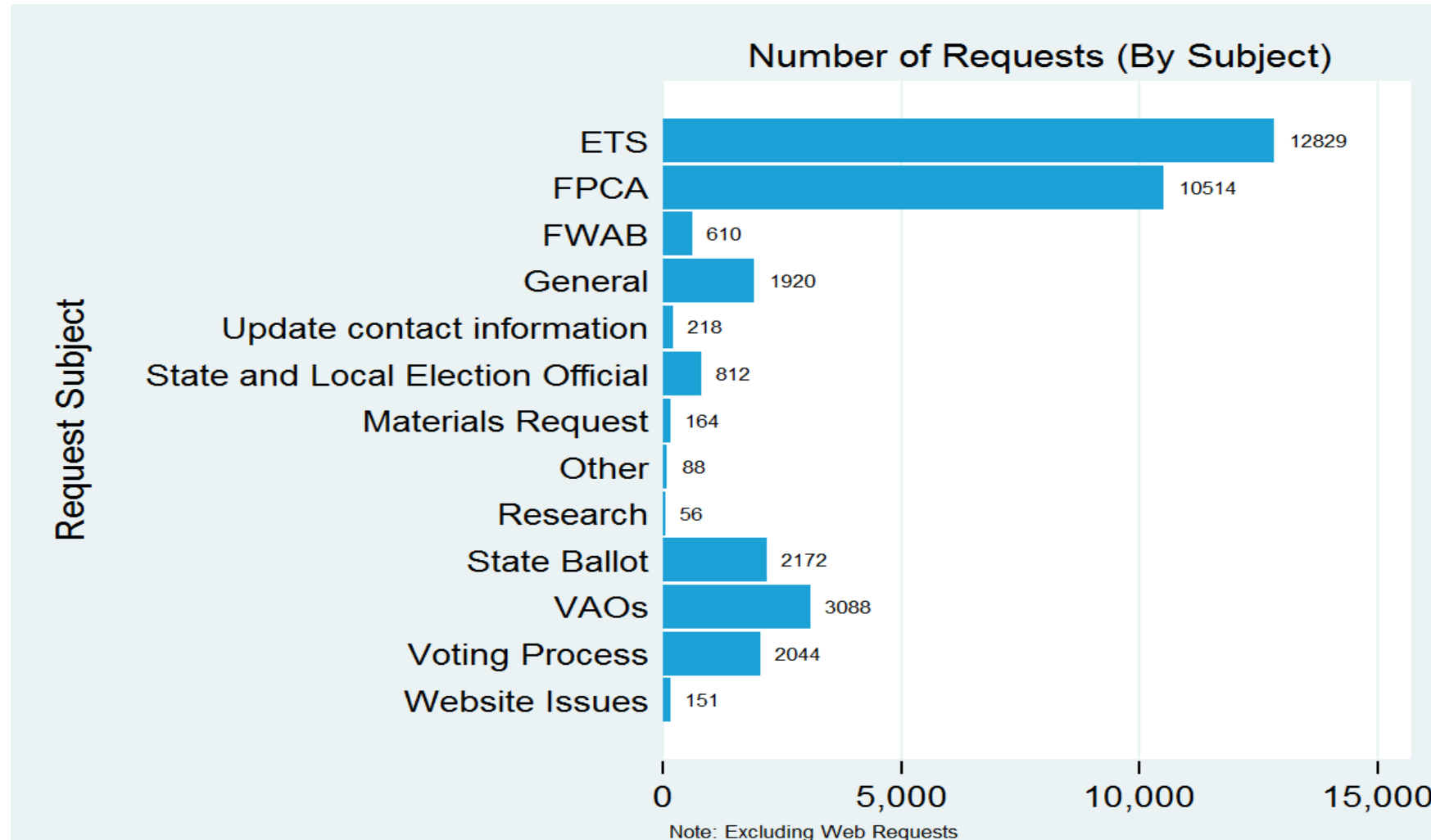


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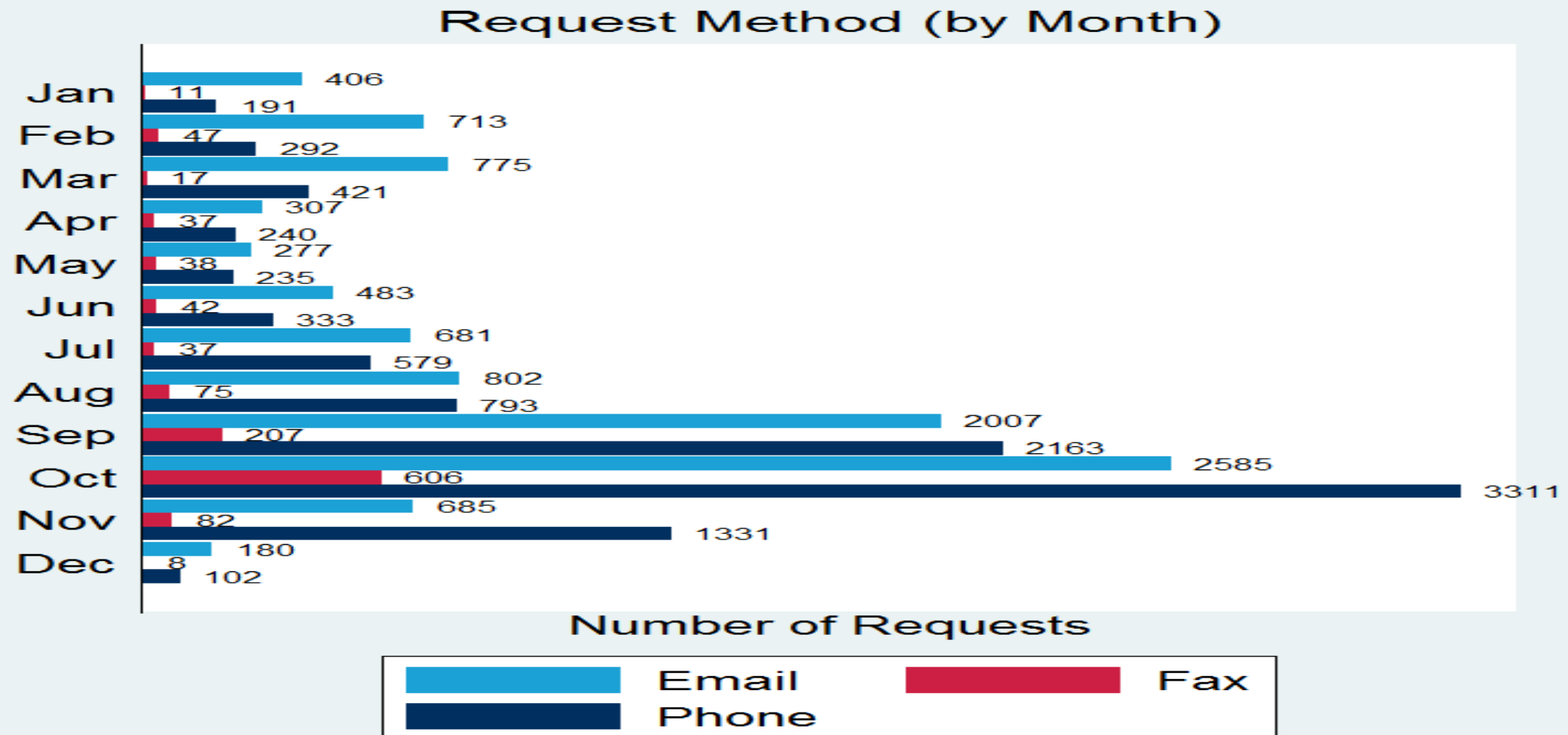
## FVAP Voting Assistance Center



# What Were Customers' Concerns?

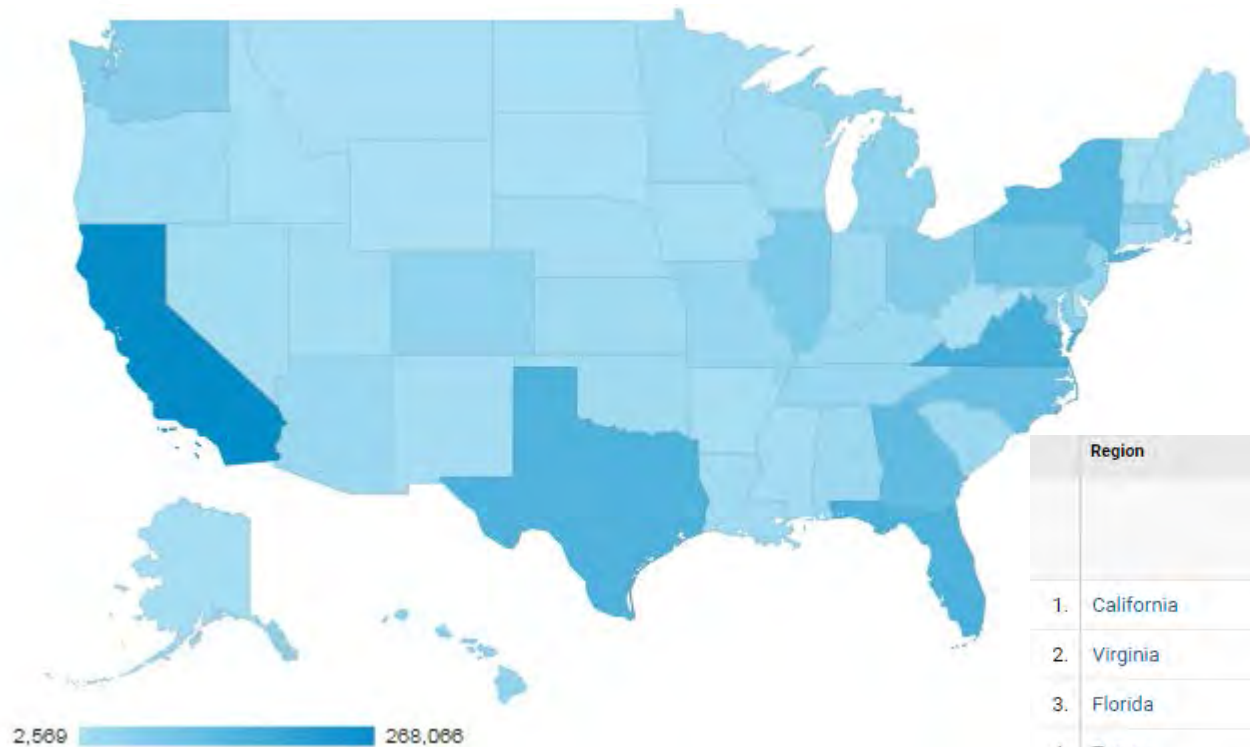


# FVAP Voting Assistance Center – Our Busiest Time



Note: Excluding Web Requests; Includes only requests between 8 am and 6 pm, M-F.

# Audience Geography – Top Ten States



Region		Sessions	
		2,214,915 % of Total: 56.27% (3,935,955)	2,214,915 % of Total: 56.27% (3,935,955)
1.	California	268,066	12.10%
2.	Virginia	157,254	7.10%
3.	Florida	149,602	6.75%
4.	Texas	146,810	6.63%
5.	New York	129,755	5.86%
6.	Georgia	117,650	5.31%
7.	North Carolina	105,956	4.78%
8.	Pennsylvania	90,651	4.09%
9.	District of Columbia	87,749	3.96%
10.	Illinois	74,176	3.35%



## Behavior – Top External Referrals







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## 2016 Post-Election Quantitative Surveys

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- **Post-election surveys:**
  - ✓ **Active Duty Military**
  - ✓ **Unit Voting Assistance Officers**
  - ✓ **Department of State Voting Assistance Officers**
- **Joint survey effort with Election Assistance Commission**

## The Golden State

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- 143,034 UOCAVA voters in 2016
- 23% were Military UOCAVA voters
- California is the largest State in terms of UOCAVA ballots transmitted!



## National Level Analysis



	2016 National UOCAVA Rates	2016 California Rates	2012 National UOCAVA Rates	2012 California Rates
Return Rate	65.6%	59.9%	69.2%	56.2%
Rejection Rate	2.5%	4.7%	5.6%	8.5%
Military Rej. Rate	2.4%	5.0%	4.3%	6.7%
Overseas Civ. Rej. Rate	2.5%	4.8%	5.7%	7.8%
FPCA Rejection Rate	3.9%	10.3%	-	-
FWAB Rejection Rate	17.3%	14.5%	23.1%	45.2%
Undeliverable Rate	1.1%	2.3%	1.4%	2.5%

## California & the Federal Post Card Application

- California reported receiving 70,457 FPCAs
  - ✓ 11,432 from Military
  - ✓ 41,578 from Overseas citizens
- California's FPCA rejection rate: 10.26%
  - ✓ National rejection rate: 3.9%



# California & the Federal Post Card Application

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## *FPCA Submission*

- If registering: must mail or fax
- If requesting ballot: email, mail or fax

## *US Citizens Who Have Never Resided*

- Yes

## *From the FVAP Call Center*

- Residential addresses of overseas citizens





# California & the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

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- California reported receiving 3,631 FWABs
  - ✓ 17% were from Military
- California's FWAB rejection rate: 14.51%
  - ✓ National rejection rate: 17.3%
  - ✓ 18% rejected, received after deadline
  - ✓ 20% rejected, State ballot was received



# California & the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

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## ***FWAB Submission***

- **Mail or Fax**
  - **Fax only if overseas or activated 6 days of the election**

## ***From the FVAP Call Center***

- **“How do I tell who the FWAB is from?” – Local election official**



# Ongoing Research & Projects



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# FPCA & FWAB Form Updates

- Updating the FPCA & FWAB
- Received tons of comments!
- CA Comments:
  - Current residence on center fold line
  - “Return is uncertain” language unclear

## Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)

States and territories accept this form to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and update contact information.

See your State instructions at [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov).

### 1. Who are you?

- ☐ I am on active duty in the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine - OR - ☐ I am an eligible spouse or dependent.  
☐ I am an activated National Guard member on State orders.  
☐ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I intend to return.  
☐ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and my return is uncertain.  
☐ I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I have never lived in the U.S.

First name	Suffix (Sr., Jr., II)
Middle name	Previous names (if needed)
Last name	Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY) / /
Social Security Number	- OR - Driver's license or State ID

Only the last 4 digits are needed, except for Hawaii, New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

### 2. What is your address in the State or territory where you are registering to vote or requesting a ballot?

Your voting materials will not be sent to this address.

Street (Not P.O. box)	Apt. Number
City, town, village	County
State	ZIP

### 3. Where are you now? You must give your CURRENT contact information to receive your voting materials.

Your current address. If your mailing address is different, fill it in here.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: So election officials can reach you if there is a problem with your request.	Email Alternate email Phone: Include country and area codes. Not DSN. Fax: Include country and area codes. Not DSN.
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### 4. What is your voting preference?

How do you want to receive your ballot from your election office?	<input type="checkbox"/> Email or online <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Fax	Your political party for primary elections.
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### 5. What additional information or State requirements must you provide?

These following need more information: Alaska, Arizona, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Vermont, and Virginia. See the [Voting Assistance Guide](http://www.fvap.gov/vao/vag) online at [www.fvap.gov/vao/vag](http://www.fvap.gov/vao/vag).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 6. You must read and sign this statement.

- I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that
- The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.
  - I am a U.S. citizen, am at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
  - I am not disqualified to vote due to having been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense, nor have I been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated; and
  - I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the United States, except the jurisdiction cited in this voting form.

Sign here **X**

Today's date / /

This information is for official use only. Any unauthorized release may be punishable by law.

Previous editions are obsolete.

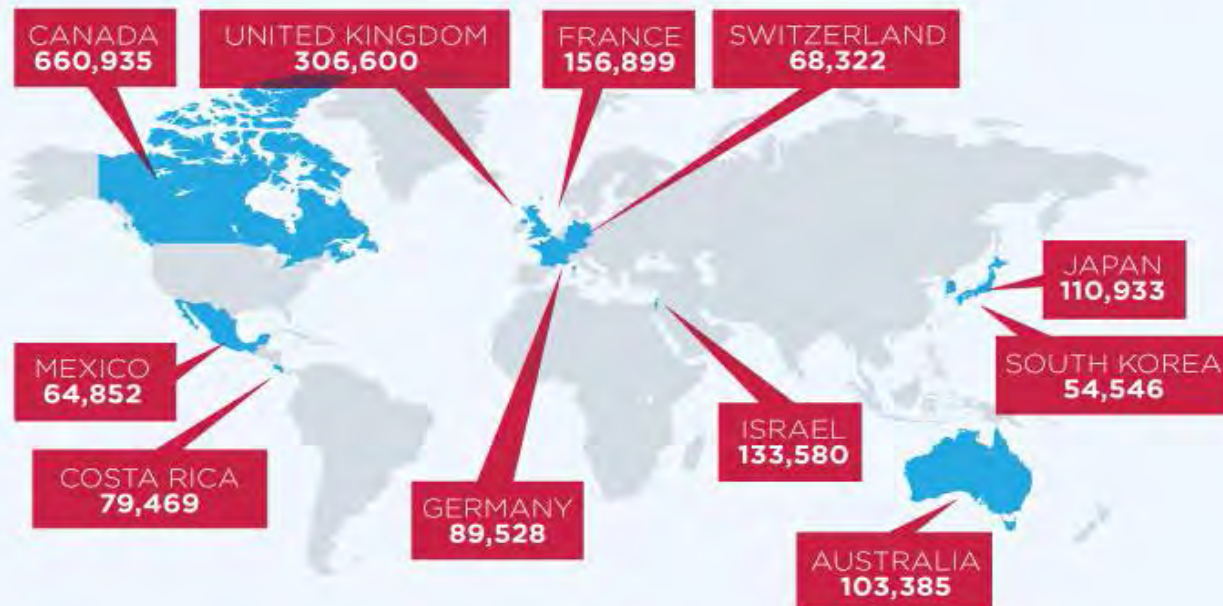
Standard Form 76 (Rev. 09-2016), OMB No. 0704-0503



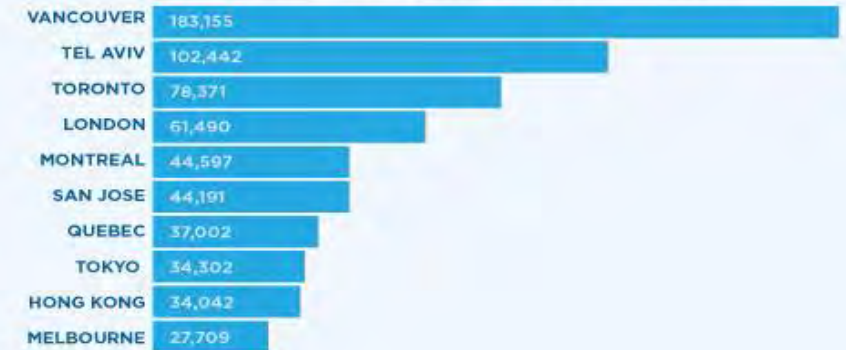
# Overseas Citizens Research

## WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE VOTING-AGE AMERICANS?

**EVERYWHERE.** CANADA HAS THE MOST.

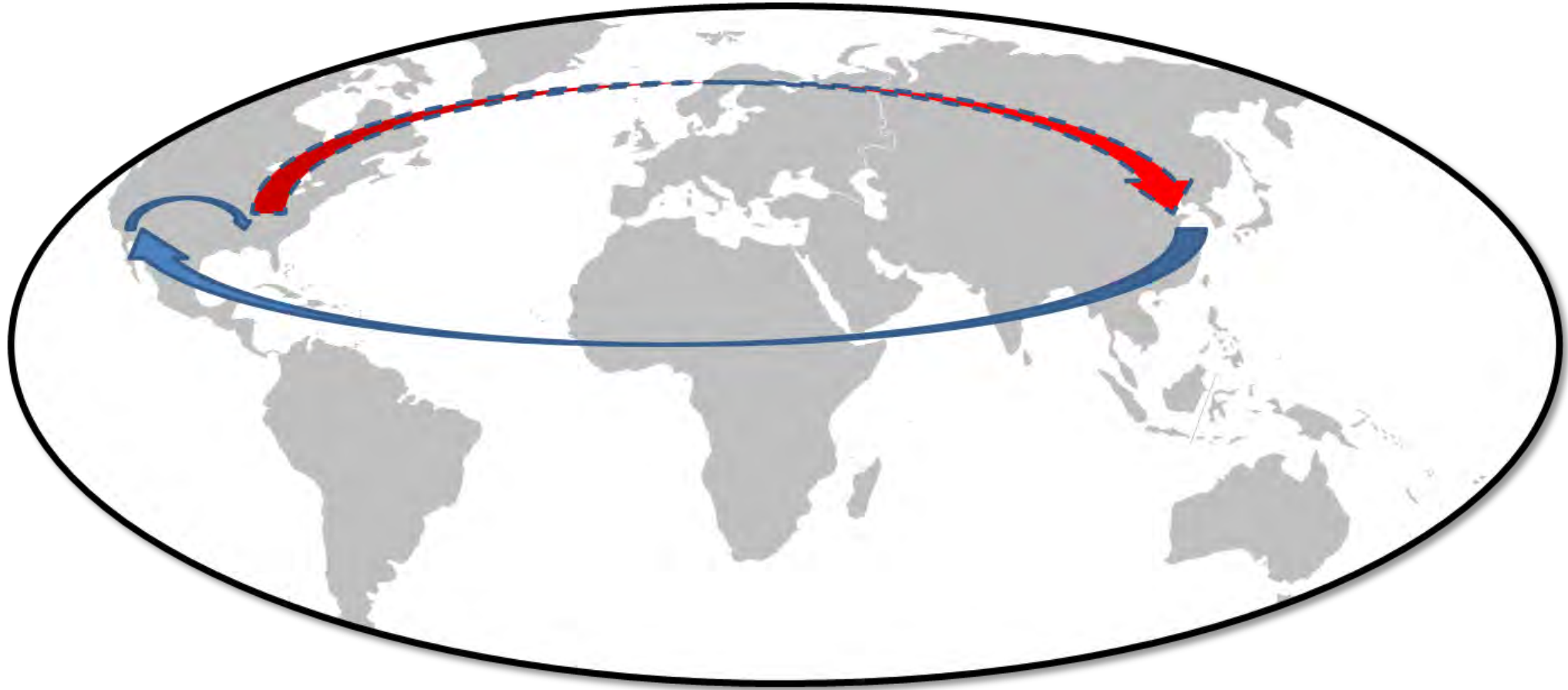


### TOP 10 INTERNATIONAL CITIES WITH VOTING-AGE AMERICANS



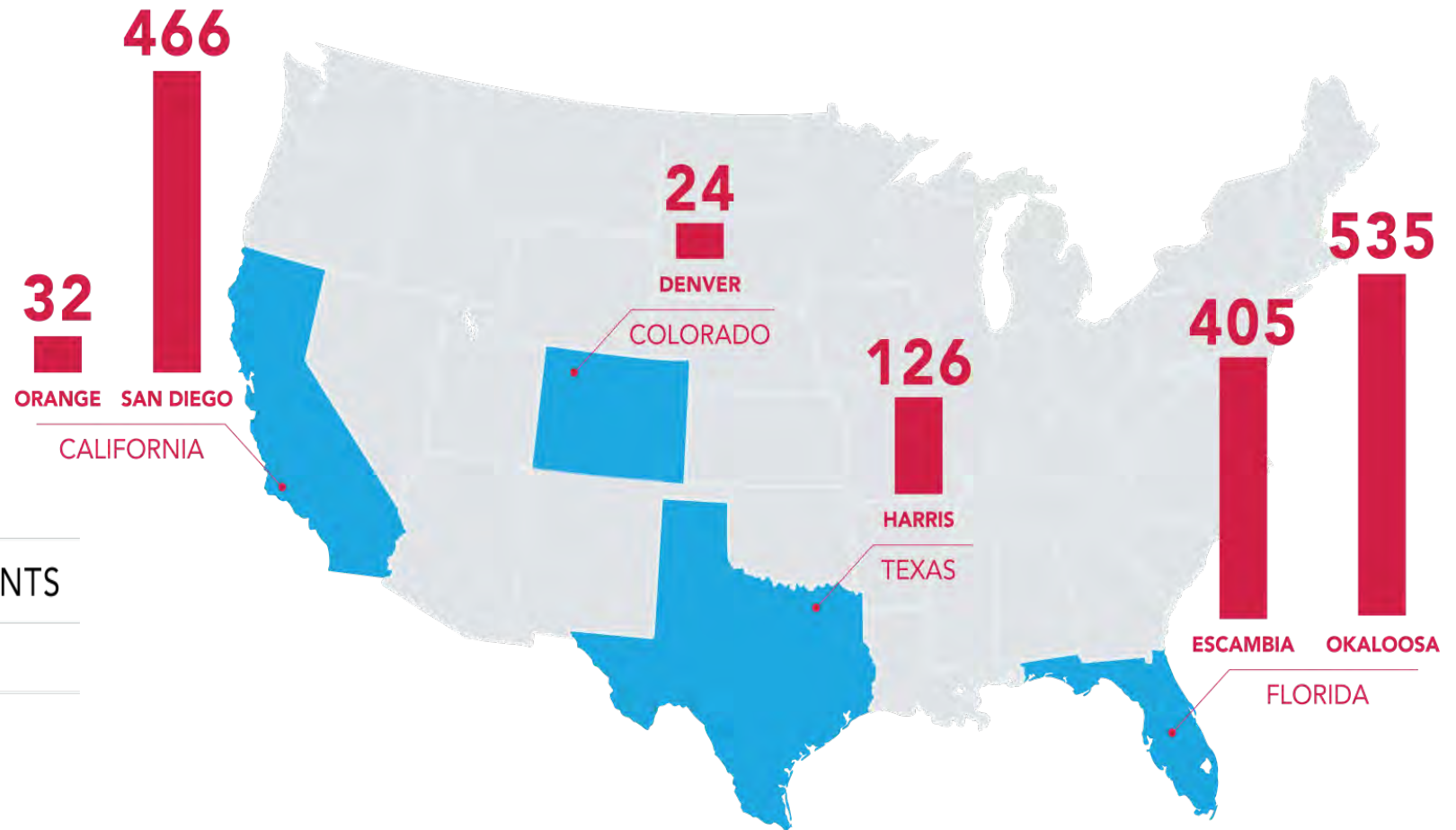
# The Challenge

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# Military Ballot Tracking Project



6 JURISDICTIONS

1,588 MILITARY UOCAVA PARTICIPANTS

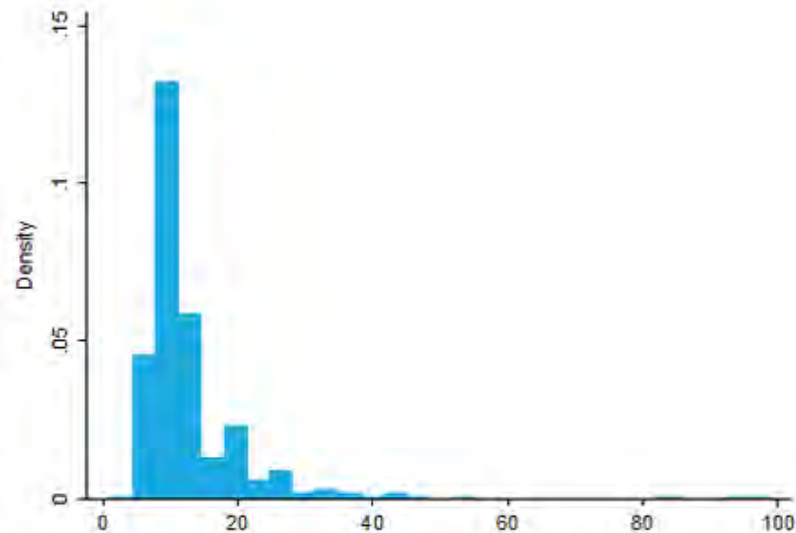
3 LARGE, 3 SMALL

4 STATES

# Tracking Data: Ballot Time (By Segment)

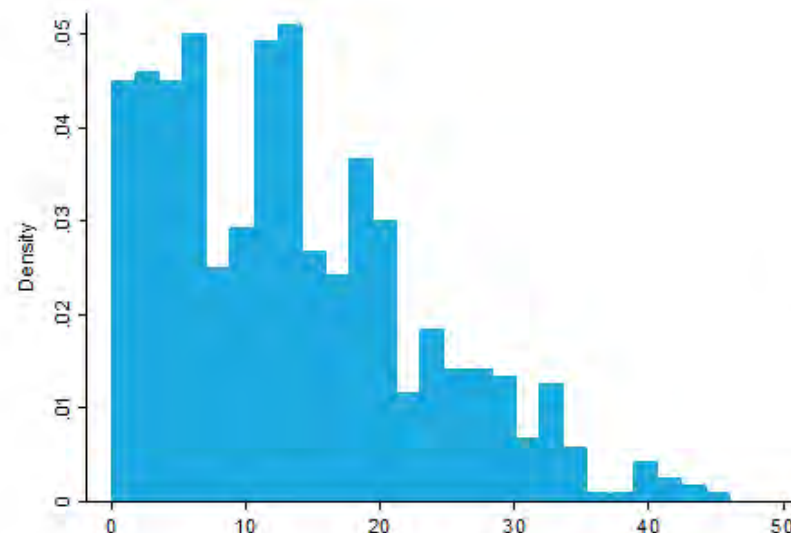
## Outbound # Days

Median: 10



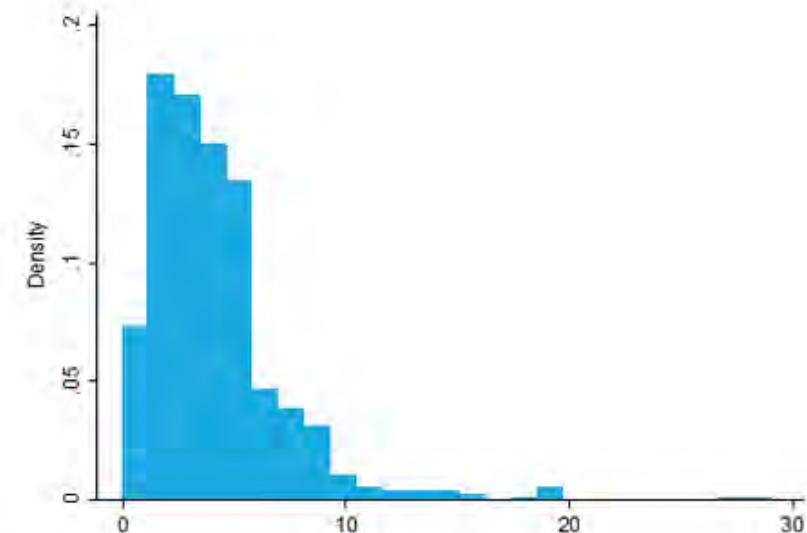
## Voting # Days

Median: 12

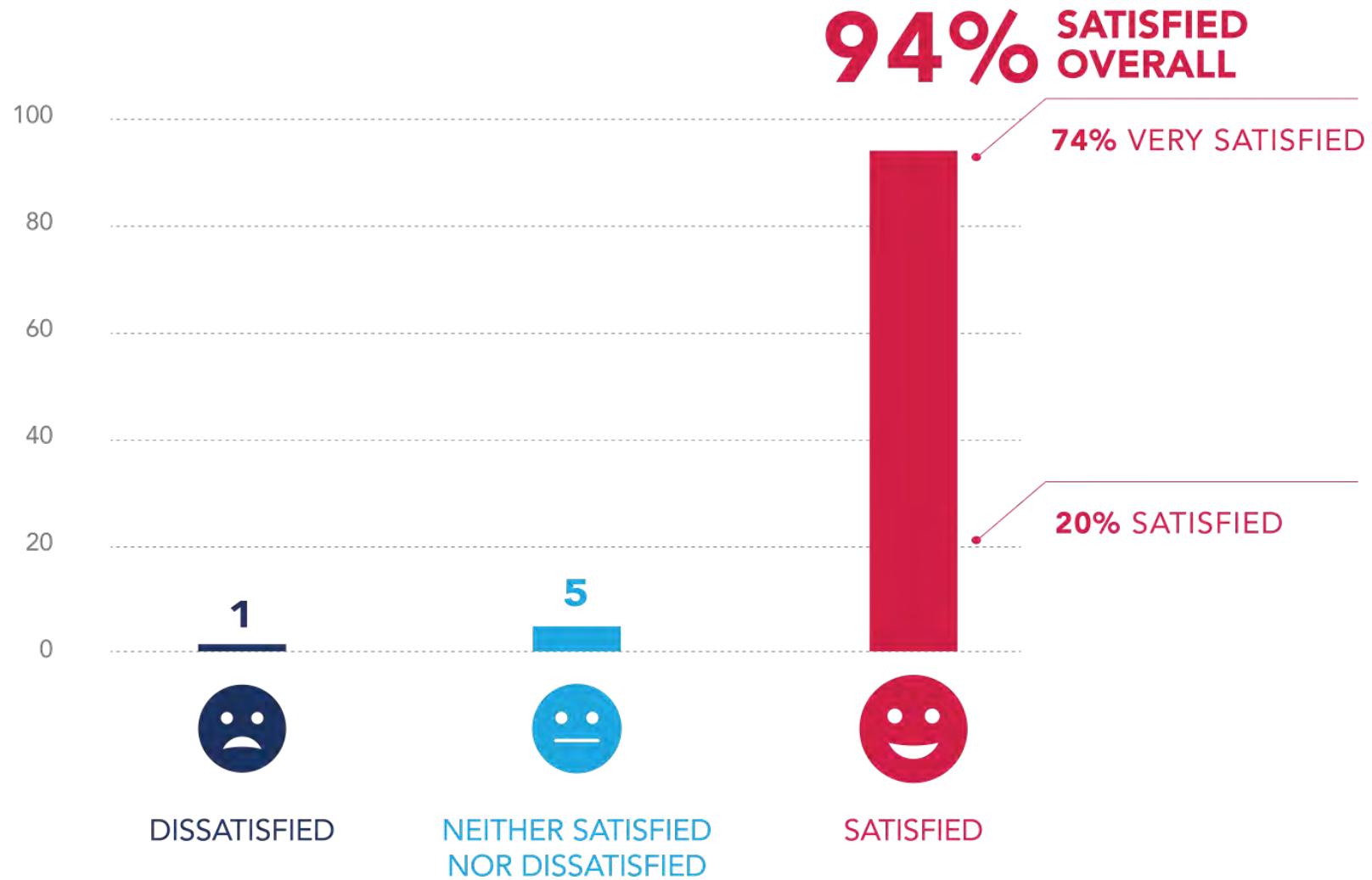


## Inbound # Days

Median: 4



# Overall Satisfaction With MBTP



# Analysis: Correlations of Satisfaction Levels

Overall satisfaction most related to:



Satisfaction  
with instructions  
in the initial email  
(0.70)



Receiving email  
confirmation of  
ballot receipt  
(0.52)

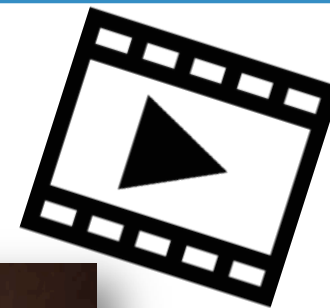


Using either  
form of vote  
tracking  
(0.23)



“Very easy”  
tracking of  
both ballots  
(0.16)

# New Video Coming Soon



# We're Here For You

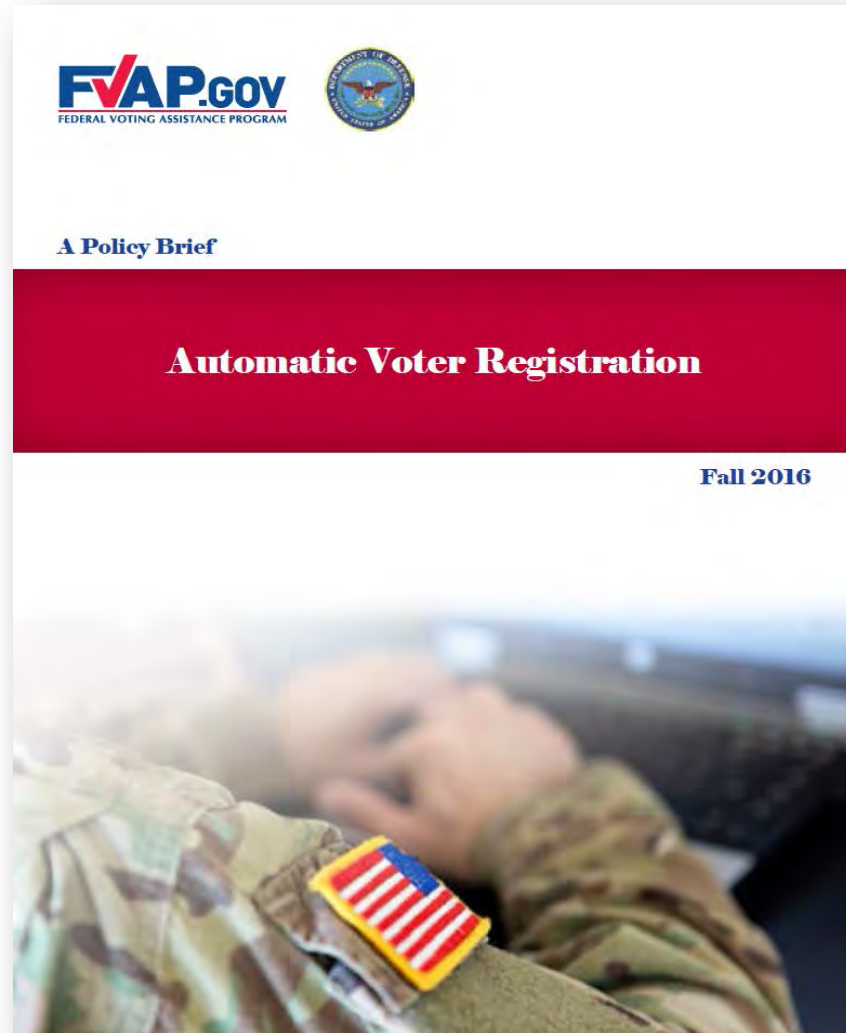


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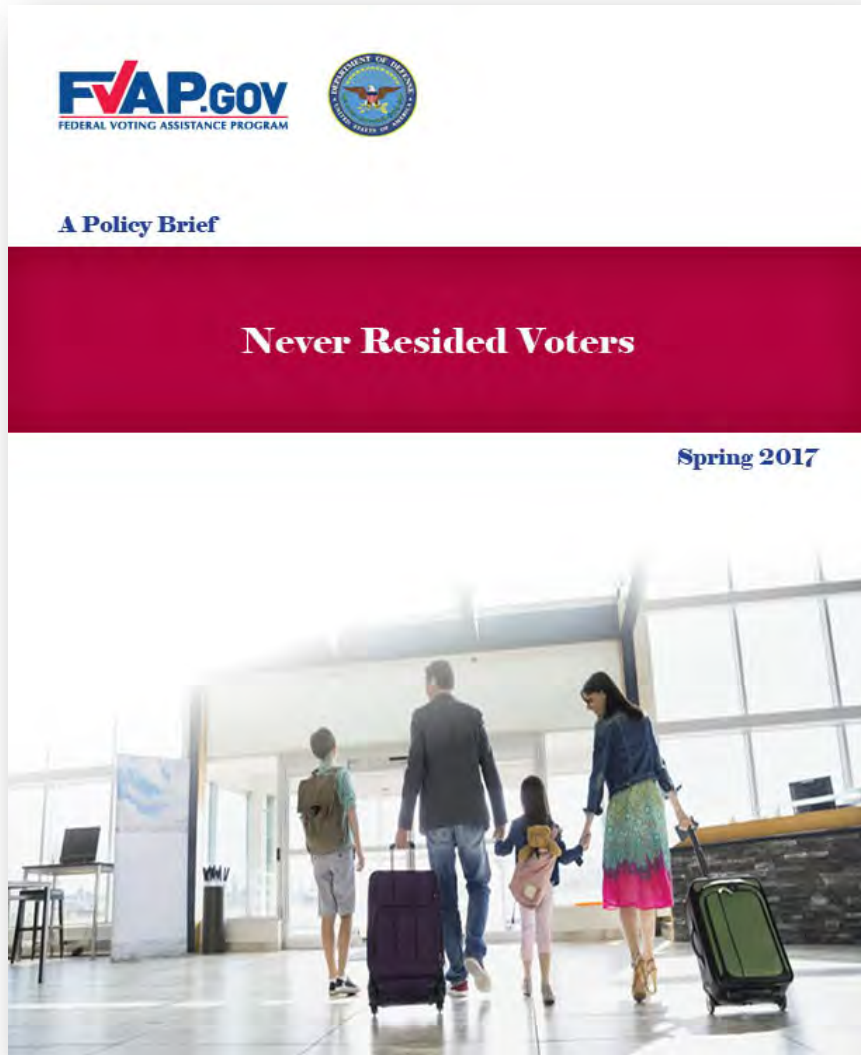
# Policy Brief #1 – Automatic Voter Registration

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- A hot topic in many States
- Highlights the benefits and considerations
- Starts the conversation
- Sent out December 2016

## Policy Brief # 2– Never Resided Voters



- Many Never Resided voters contacted us for help in 2016
- Highlights the benefits and considerations
- Starts the conversation

## Electronic Transmission Service (ETS)

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- **ETS remains a difficult service to maintain**
- **FVAP looking to narrow scope in 2018**
- **Will seek input from election officials through the Council of State Governments (CSG)**

# Heading into 2018 Election Cycle

July 2017: Report to Congress due

October 2017: Final 2018-2019 Voting Assistance Guide goes to print

January 2018: Voting Assistance Officer Workshops begin!





# Questions?

[nate.a.bacchus@fvap.gov](mailto:nate.a.bacchus@fvap.gov)

**(571) 372-0739**

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**1800-438-VOTE (8683)**

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