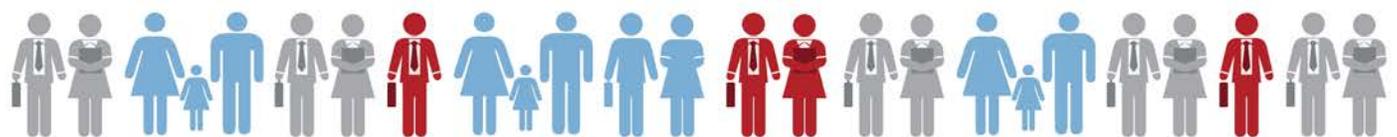


MILITARY FAMILIES:

# Perceptions, Challenges, and Barriers to Voting Participation and Absentee Voting





# Military Families: Perceptions, Challenges, and Barriers to Voting Participation and Absentee Voting

## Table of Contents

Authors.....	3
Abbreviation .....	4
Overview of the Research Effort and Findings.....	5
Literature Review .....	10
Introduction .....	10
Motivations to Vote - Service Members .....	11
Methods of Voting .....	11
U.S. Federal Legislation .....	13
U.S. Supreme Court Cases.....	14
FVAP Literature: Implementation and Analysis .....	14
Discussion.....	15
Methodology.....	17
Sample: Demographics .....	17
Sample: Service Member Characteristics .....	19
Results: Voting Motivations, Perceptions, and Influences .....	21
Motivations and Perceptions.....	21
Military Influences .....	44
Voter Registration Drive .....	54
Foreign Interference .....	64
Results: Party Affiliation and Important Issues.....	71
Party Affiliation .....	71
Important Issues .....	75
Sources of Information .....	77
Results: Voting, Registration, and Process.....	79
Voter Registration.....	79
Voting During Election .....	82
Problems While Voting .....	95
Absentee Ballot.....	98
Knowledge.....	98
Absentee Voting During Election .....	106
Valuable Sources of Information .....	119
Absentee Voting Preferences .....	121
Information about Voting .....	129
Results: Media.....	142
Results: Multivariate Analysis.....	144
Active Duty Service Members.....	144
Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence .....	144
Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty .....	146
Presidential Election Voting and Voting Makes a Difference .....	148
Presidential Election Voting and Motivation .....	150
Presidential Election Voting and Materials Received During PCS.....	152
Presidential Election Voting and Political Party.....	154



Presidential Election Voting and Informed about Political Matters .....	156
Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote .....	158
Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting.....	160
Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge .....	162
Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot .....	167
Active Duty Spouses.....	170
Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence .....	170
Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty .....	172
Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty .....	174
Presidential Election Voting and Motivation .....	176
Presidential Election Voting and Materials Received During PCS.....	178
Presidential Election Voting and Political Party.....	180
Presidential Election Voting and Informed about Political Matters .....	182
Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote .....	184
Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting.....	186
Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge .....	188
Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot .....	194
Conclusion and Recommendations .....	197
Conclusion.....	197
Recommendations .....	201
Education and Awareness:.....	201
Procedures: .....	201
Policy:.....	202
References .....	203



## Authors

This report is published by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families, under contract with Military Officers Association of America (<http://www.moaa.org/>). Principal authors of this report are Rosalinda V. Maury, M.S., Brice Stone, Ph.D., Nathaniel George Birnbaum, B.A., Deborah Bradbard, Ph.D., Ryan David Van Slyke, B.A., and Nicholas Armstrong, Ph.D. Any views expressed in this paper are of the authors only.



## Abbreviation

Abbreviation	Full Name
DoD	Department of Defense
FVAP	U.S. Federal Voting Assistance Program
HAVA	Help Americans Vote Act of 2001
MPSA	Military Postal Service Agency
USPS	U.S. Postal Service
EAVS	Election Administration and Voting Survey



## Overview of the Research Effort and Findings

Active duty service members, along with their family members, rely on absentee voting to cast their vote for elections at all levels of government while overseas, deployed, or while stationed in states other than where they are registered. While there is some research surrounding the logistics of absentee voting, not enough is known about the experiences of active duty military and their families with absentee voting.

Through a grant from the Democracy Fund, the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) partnered to gather information from military family members about their perceptions, challenges and barriers associated with voting and absentee voting as active duty military members. The objective of this research effort was to gather more information on the motivations, challenges, and perceptions surrounding absentee voting among active duty military and spouses. Literature surrounding this topic gives important insights that drive policy and future research. Existing research shows that members of the military and their families often encounter barriers such as frequent moves, duty stations in remote locations, and general inconvenience that makes it especially difficult to vote. However, more research is needed specifically around active duty spouse and family absentee voting.

Based on the literature review and analysis of existing data, the research team designed a survey instrument aimed at better understanding absentee voting for those in the military, past and present. The survey was disseminated from March 20, 2018 through July 31, 2018 using Qualtrics, marketed on several social media platforms, and circulated via email to listserves of active duty military and veterans. Close to 2,900 responded to the *Military Families Voting Survey* (40% from veterans, 30% from spouses of active duty service members, and 16% from active duty service members).

### Key Highlights for *Military Families Voting Survey: Perceptions, Challenges, and Barriers to Voting Participation and Absentee Voting*

- Close to 2,900 responses from service members, veterans, and their families (40% from veterans, 30% from spouses of active duty service members, and 16% from active duty service members)

#### *Voting, Motivation, and Process*

- Approximately 71% of active duty and 69% of active duty spouse respondents believe voting is a civic duty. Approximately 89% of veteran and 80% of veteran spouse respondents believe voting is a civic duty.
- About 57% of active duty respondents vote in every election (federal, state and local), but only 36% of active duty spouse respondents vote in every election (most spouses vote in presidential elections, but not necessarily in state or local elections). About 85% of veteran respondents vote in every election (federal, state and local), and 71% of veteran spouse respondents vote in every election in every election.



- Among all respondents, voting likelihood declines predictably based on the level of the election:

<b>Active Duty Service Member Respondents</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse Respondents</b>
• Presidential: 95%	• Presidential: 89%
• Congressional: 87%	• Congressional: 72%
• State: 78%	• State: 62%
• Local: 71%	• Local: 52%
• Primaries and Caucuses: 50%	• Primaries and Caucuses: 49%

<b>Veteran Respondents</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse Respondents</b>
• Presidential: 98%	• Presidential: 100%
• Congressional: 97%	• Congressional: 91%
• State: 94%	• State: 90%
• Local: 90%	• Local: 85%
• Primaries and Caucuses: 82%	• Primaries and Caucuses: 82%

- The top three reasons why active duty respondents did not vote in the presidential election were: (1) they did not want to vote, (2) they had no candidate preference, or (3) they were not interested in voting.
- The top three reasons why active duty spouse respondents did not vote in the presidential election were: (1) they did not want to vote, (2) they did not think their vote mattered, and (3) they did not know how to get an absentee ballot.
- About 67% of active duty respondents were confident their ballot was counted and 60% indicated it was easy to get voting assistance on or near their installation. A similar percentage of active duty spouse respondents (64%) were confident their ballot was counted, but only 40% felt it was easy to obtain voting information.
- About 86% of veteran and 70% of veteran spouse respondents were confident their ballot was counted.
- Nearly 85% of all military family respondents did not use voter registration drives to obtain voting information.

*Military Influences*

- Of those who participated in the survey, 70% of active duty members felt they were encouraged to vote, while only 27% of their spouses felt encouraged to vote, and 54% of spouses felt they were neither encouraged nor discouraged.



- Of those who participated in the survey, 65% of veterans felt they were encouraged to vote, while only 32% of their spouses felt encouraged to vote, and 46% of veteran spouses felt they were neither encouraged nor discouraged.
- A large majority of all respondents (active duty, veteran, and their spouses) felt military leaders neither influenced their likelihood of voting nor who to vote for.

### *Foreign Interference*

- Views are mixed on the likelihood of foreign intervention in the 2016 U.S. Presidential election.
  - Just over 48% of active duty and 42% of active duty spouse respondents expressed belief that there was foreign intervention, compared to approximately 21% of active duty and 24% of active duty spouse respondents who did not believe there was intervention. Just over 24% of active duty and 27% of active duty spouse respondents neither agree nor disagree there was foreign intervention in the 2016 presidential election.
  - Just over 50% of veteran and 40% of veteran spouse respondents expressed belief that there was foreign intervention, compared to approximately 23% of veteran and 30% of veteran spouse respondents who did not believe there was intervention. Just over 25% of veteran and 23 % of veteran spouse respondents neither agree nor disagree there was foreign intervention in the 2016 presidential election.
- A majority indicated foreign interference would not affect their likelihood of voting.
  - Of those who felt there was interference, 58% of active duty respondents said it did not change their confidence in the voting system. However, 63% of active duty spouse respondents had less confidence in the voting process as a result of the intervention. About 91% of active duty and 81% of active duty spouse respondents indicated that the change in confidence would not change the likelihood of voting.
  - Of those who felt there was interference, 59% of veteran respondents said it did not change their confidence in the voting system. However, 70% of veteran spouse respondents had less confidence in the voting process as a result of the intervention. About 95% of veteran and 80% of veteran spouse respondents indicated that the change in confidence would not change the likelihood of voting.

### *Absentee Ballot*

- A majority of military families expressed satisfaction with the overall absentee ballot process (74% of active duty and 66% of active duty spouse respondents).
- Over 83% of active duty and 73% of active duty spouse respondents stated they would need an absentee ballot “almost every time” or “every time” to vote in every election (federal, state, local) during their time in the military.
- Over 72% of active duty and spouse respondents required an absentee ballot because they were not registered to vote in the same place they resided.
- Over 92% of active duty service member respondents felt they received their absentee ballot with enough time to return it before the election. However,



- 70% did not receive notification their vote was counted,
  - 71% did not check the status of their ballot, and
  - 65% were unaware they could check the status of their ballot.
- Over 87% of active duty spouse respondents felt they received their absentee ballot in enough time to return it before the election. However,
    - 71% did not receive notification their vote was counted,
    - 68% did not check the status of their ballot, and
    - 69% did not know they could check the status of their ballot.
  - Most military family voters who participated in the survey report they are knowledgeable about registering to vote, requesting an absentee ballot, receiving an absentee ballot, completing an absentee ballot, and returning an absentee ballot.
    - Only 56% of active duty and 39% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves knowledgeable about how to use a Federal Post Card Application to register and request an absentee ballot (i.e., rate their knowledge as “good” or “excellent”).
    - Only 43% of active duty and 27% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves knowledgeable about how to use a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot FWAB (i.e., rate their knowledge as “good” or “excellent”). About 40% of active duty and 44% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves not knowledgeable about how to use the FWAB (i.e., rate their knowledge as “fair” or “poor”).
    - Only 52% of active duty and 41% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves knowledgeable about knowing key absentee ballot deadlines (i.e., rate their knowledge as “good” or “excellent”). About 27% of active duty and 37% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves not knowledgeable about knowing key absentee ballot deadlines (i.e., rate their knowledge as “fair” or “poor”).
  - Among the responses, awareness and understanding of the absentee voting process is associated with the likelihood of voting. This lends support to the need for active duty military family registration and voting outreach programs.
  - The majority of active duty members and their spouses who participated in the survey did not encounter problems with the absentee voting process while overseas, while deployed, or during a move.
  - A majority of active duty members (86%) and their spouses (90%) who participated in the survey use the U.S. mail to submit their absentee ballots.
  - When asked about most important aspects when using absentee ballot in future elections, 76% of active duty and 76% of active duty spouse respondents indicated that a method that is most convenient is the most important aspect. This is followed by 51% of active duty and 49% of active duty spouse respondents who indicated that method that cannot be changed/tampered with/removed is most important.



- When asked about the preference in submitting absentee or remote ballot, 57% of active duty and 56% of active duty spouse respondents indicated a preference to return electronically online (e.g., via email or via website) followed by 39% of active duty and 36% of active duty spouse respondents who indicated a preference to return by mail.

The findings of this report can be used to inform efforts at all levels of government involved with improving military absentee voting. Additionally, it will inform the public about the experiences, motivations and perceptions of active duty military and their families and will shape policy and practice around the issues.



## Literature Review

### Introduction

All citizens have some vested interest in who represents them in the government, but this is salient for members of the military and their families because often decisions made by elected officials affect them in unique and direct ways. With 6 million eligible voters overseas, military voters can have a significant impact on election results. This became evident during the 2000 U.S. Presidential Election between George W. Bush and Al Gore. The infamously close Florida election (which ultimately led to a recount where the final vote was decided in the U.S. Supreme Court), revealed inconsistencies in election procedures. Like many close elections, part of the overall recount effort focused on ensuring all eligible military absentee votes were counted. But these problems are not new. Similar problems date back to World War II when 137,686 applications for federal “war ballots” were received, but only 28,051 were counted (Alvarez, Hall, Roberts, 2015).

Because service members and military families relocate frequently, often live overseas, or vote in locations separate from where they reside, the process of voting, their perceptions about the voting process, and their desire or ability to vote may differ from other voters. These unique circumstances may also lead military-connected voters to have different perceptions of the security and value of their individual vote. Academic research on the action of voting and general voting behavior has examined why some citizens vote while others do not. Several factors influence a person’s likelihood of voting including the ability to vote, motivation to vote, and the difficulty of obtaining necessary information that would enable a person to vote.

While voting behavior is well documented among civilian voters, not enough is known about the factors and motivations which influence military voting, while there have been positive trends in recent history, there is some evidence that military voters tend to vote less frequently than their civilian counterparts. A study after the 2016 election showed that military members and their families may also feel disenfranchised from the voting process either because they believe their vote doesn’t count (Vogel-Fox and Olinger, 2016), it is not convenient or safe for them to vote consistently (Samuelsohn, 2016), or because they do not believe they “should” participate in the voting process (Cavanaugh, 2016). This is especially true in state and local elections, where military voters may feel somewhat disconnected from their local elections as a result of frequent relocations. In addition, the requirement related to registering to vote, requesting an absentee ballot, or learning about candidates may feel cumbersome to military voters if they are unfamiliar with the process, they are new to a particular location, or if they cannot easily access information about the voting process.

There have been notable efforts to improve the absentee voting process for overseas military, civilian personnel, and their families. While there has been some academic interest in this segment of the U.S. population, most of the existing analysis has been conducted by federal agencies like the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). Because of the limited number of efforts in this area, this current research sought to identify and understand some of the issues surrounding voting with regard to knowledge, motivation, perceptions as well as procedures that encourage or discourage voting among service members and their families. In this section, we provide an overview of current U.S. Federal legislation, reports on and from FVAP, and academic literature related to voting behavior and psychology, military voting motivations and processes, and the evolution of state and federal absentee voting programs.



## Motivations to Vote - Service Members

The act of voting is one of the most significant events in the life of a democracy; it is the crucial moment when citizens demonstrate their preferences at the ballot box. Legitimate election outcomes are predicated on a process that is free and fair for all qualified citizens. The opportunity to vote, the confidence that one's vote is counted, and the ability to choose one's representatives in local, state, and federal government are essential components of a functioning democracy; fundamentally, elections reflect citizens expressing their views by participating in their government (Pew Research Center, 2017). While some voters are motivated by this sense of civic duty (Blais, 2000), others are motivated by four key types of factors: institutional, socioeconomic, personality, and media consumption.

It should come as no surprise that military service members and their families are unique individuals in the study of electoral politics. Due to their self-selection into the military and the socialization of citizenship and duty during their time in the military, Teigen (2006) argues that they have a higher propensity to vote than non-military citizens. This mindset is critical to consider because it is ultimately connected with a desire among service members to participate in elections. Cain, MacDonald, and Murakami (2008) note that this relationship extends to overseas military service members, who are more likely to submit absentee ballots and participate in federal elections than U.S. citizens living abroad due to differences in motivation and increased obstacles to voting for overseas citizens. They found that information and communication from command leadership, Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs), and FVAP itself were important determinants to one's likelihood to vote absentee. **In addition to all these specific situations, members of the military are also affected by situations that affect all other voters. They still consume media, have socioeconomic backgrounds that can affect their voting, and experience situations that affect their efficacy.**

## Methods of Voting

This reliance on information, however, causes many problems when the process for voting absentee is neither streamlined or consistent among states. The current system of mailing ballots has been used out of necessity, since there are currently no safer, secure, or more efficient ways to distribute information, ballots, and receive completed ballots electronically. Some scholars affirm that mail-in voting improves voter turnout; Karp and Banducci (2000) and Gronke and Miller (2012) found that Oregon's vote-by-mail program had a positive effect on participation for those most likely to vote. However, both FVAP, the GAO, and scholars like Hall (2008) and Inbody (2015) discuss the logistical problems with voting by mail. Other electoral politics scholars note that the emergence of online e-voting may be a critical way to increase electoral participation and turnout among absentee and The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) voters<sup>1</sup> (Alvarez, Beckett, and Stewart 2011; Tolbert and McNeal, 2003; Prevost and Schafner, 2008).

There is some precedent for the use of online submission of ballots (Alvarez, Hall, and Roberts 2007) with FVAP's Voting over the Internet (VOI) program in 4 states during the 2000 Presidential Election. West Virginia also implemented an online ballot delivery pilot program for the 2010 primary and general elections; together with a multifaceted public awareness campaign, West Virginia's efforts led to a "significant increase" in UOCAVA voter successful vote attempts (Tennant, 2011). While these trials used small samples, and were concentrated in specific geographic areas, Alvarez, Hall, and Roberts (2007)

---

<sup>1</sup> The FVAP website defines UOCAVA as "UOCAVA citizens are U.S. citizens who are active members of the Uniformed Services, the Merchant Marine, and the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, their eligible family members and U.S. citizens residing outside the United States."



note that if further developed, internet voting systems, like those used in West Virginia counties for May 2018 primaries (Dahlia, 2018), could be used more frequently and in greater capacities in the future. Various types of online voting have been used with UOCAVA voters in conflict zones, where the convenience and ease of additional methods for submitting their ballots beyond mail, gave military members another avenue to cast their ballot.

However, security of online ballots and the threat of interception and alteration have consistently been one of the most significant concerns for UOCAVA voters. As Gerber et al (2013) found, the security of one's vote was a critical factor in the probability that a UOCAVA-eligible voter will vote for the first time. While overseas military personnel view receiving and sending votes electronically favorably (Cain et al, 2008), they are still fundamentally concerned with the integrity and secrecy of the voting process. In 2010, a team from the University of Michigan hacked the District of Columbia's pilot online voting system in 2010, exposing the ease by which hackers could infiltrate and disrupt online voting systems at the time (Wheaton, 2010). This experiment, alongside growing fears of citizens and news organizations, reinforced the uncertainties of online voting for both voters and election officials in the 2016 election. Although Stanford cyberpolicy Professor Herbert Lin noted in a 2016 interview that it would be incredibly challenging for a cyberattack to change the outcome of an election, the legitimacy of an election may be disputed on cybersecurity grounds after the election (Parker, 2016). It is also important to note that the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) reiterated in a 2017 memo that 2016 election outcomes were not compromised by hackers. Still many state election commissioners and secretaries of states noted the significant risks and uncertainties with voting online (National Conference of State Legislatures, 2013; Samuelsohn, 2016; Vogel-Fox and Olinger, 2016).

The other critical obstacle to efficient absentee voting is the high variance in state regulations and processes. State election offices typically are not the entity receiving and counting of absentee ballots—those duties are typically delegated to county offices. And while states may have standard or uniform requirements, implementation and interpretation can vary. This is often due to a significant amount of discretion at the local level as noted by Alvarez, Hall, and Sinclair (2008) from their analysis of absentee voting in Los Angeles County in California during the 2002 general election. In some scenarios—where the validity of one's vote is determined by the discretion of county boards of elections—Alvarez and Hall (2008) suggest that states use Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) across all counties to eliminate the appearance any fraud or inconsistencies with submitting and counting absentee votes. This could help voters feel more confident about their individual ballots being received and counted.



## U.S. Federal Legislation

Overseas military personnel and U.S. citizens living abroad face unique challenges in fulfilling their civic duty of casting ballots in elections. Like absentee voters who live within the United States, these citizens must register and request absentee ballots with their local board of elections. However, these overseas citizens face greater obstacles to participating in elections, from inconsistent absentee voting

regulations by states, to longer transit times through the Military Postal Service Agency (MPSA) and the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) than domestic voters, although this has improved in recent years (Huh et al, 2009). To ensure greater military electoral participation, the U.S. Congress passed the already mentioned Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) in 1986. By requiring U.S. States and Territories to allow military and overseas citizens to register and vote absentee in elections for Federal

office, Congress ensured that these citizens would still be able to participate in elections from abroad. The UOCAVA effectively created two new types of ballots for these groups: the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), which could be used for both registration and requesting an absentee ballot, and the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot, which could be used as a “back-up” ballot in the case of voting system failures. UOCAVA also led to the creation of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) within the Department of Defense (DoD) to implement the new voting procedures for military and overseas voters.

While UOCAVA did lead to some improvements in military absentee voting, some systemic problems persisted with conflicting and inconsistent state requirements for registering, requesting absentee ballots, and the deadlines to submit these ballots. The Help American Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) aimed to improve the data collected with regard to UOCAVA ballots each election cycle by requiring states to tally the military and overseas ballots accepted and rejected and send that information to the newly-created federal Election Assistance Commission (EAC). But even with more insight into the numbers, issues of communication and submission continued to pose problems for UOCAVA voters. In 2009, a report released by the Pew Center for States (Huh et al, 2009) reported that 25 states needed to improve their voting processes to allow for more time and more efficient communication with FVAP and UOCAVA voters. Sixteen of those states were simply not providing absentee voters with what Pew and others had identified as enough time (45 days) to cast their vote after receiving the ballot (Huh et al, 2009).

## UOCAVA Voting Process

*Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* citizens are U.S. citizens who are Service members, their eligible family members or overseas citizens.

We support UOCAVA citizens and election officials by providing necessary absentee voting forms, materials, training and guidance.

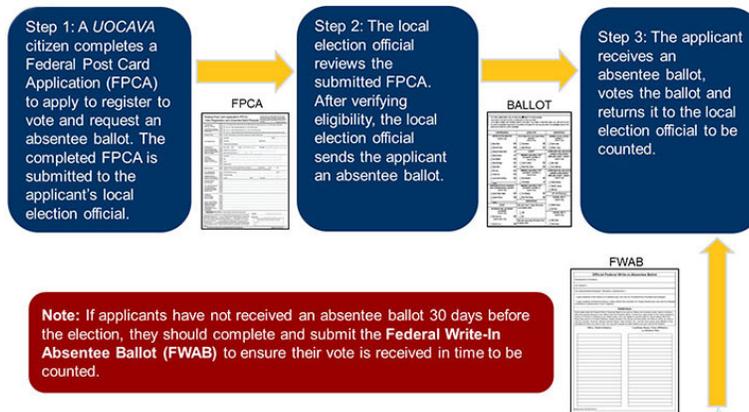


Figure 1: UOCAVA Voting Process

Source: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2018



In response to the 2009 Pew Center report and related public discussion surrounding military absentee voting, Congress passed the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE) in to address this ballot transit problem. MOVE made the process of completing ballot request paperwork easier by (1) allowing UOCAVA voters the option to request and receive voter registration, (2) make requests for absentee ballots, and blank absentee ballots electronically, (3) eliminated the requirement for notarization on ballots, and (4) created a uniform requirement that states transmit absentee ballots to UOCAVA voters no later than forty-five days before a federal election.

Over the last decade, election offices have proven they are able to meet this deadline. One occasion, counties will struggle to meet UOCAVA timeframe for various reasons (e.g. litigation, ballot errors, candidate deaths or removal). Missing this key deadline presents significant challenges for UOCAVA voters, because as Bradley King, the Co-Director for Indiana's Election Division, noted in a 2011 Congressional testimony, counties that may fail to comply with sending absentee ballots 45 days before the election, potentially disenfranchise their constituents of the right to vote (King, 2011). Both MOVE and UOCAVA have been overseen through the Department of Justice and the already mentioned, Department of Defense's FVAP, which works to make it easier for UOCAVA voters to participate in federal elections through coordinating action between state governments, DoD, and UOCAVA-protected voters overseas. Figure 1 displays the current UOCAVA voting process.

As recent as the 2010 general elections, the U.S. Department of Justice found six states in violation of UOCAVA requirements for allowing enough time for ballots to be sent, completed, and returned by UOCAVA voters overseas (Perez, 2010). Scholars note that while these Federal acts have been helpful in extending privileges for absentee voting to overseas military personnel and U.S. citizens, it is still up to state and county governments to interpret and implement the law.

### **U.S. Supreme Court Cases**

Other federal decisions can uniquely impact absentee voting populations. As an example, in June 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Husted vs. A Philip Randolph Institute* that Ohio's voter list maintenance process of notifying inactive voters (those who have not voted in four years *and* have not returned a voter registration card mailed to them after two years of not voting) and then removing them after a period of inaction, under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, was permissible (*Husted vs. Randolph*, 2018). While voters will receive notice of this process, UOCAVA voters may be at greater risk of not receiving the notifications. Jurisdictions undertaking this type of list maintenance may want to pay close attention to their UOCAVA population numbers over time. Additionally, with active duty military members already facing serious challenges to voting while on deployment or otherwise, they are at greater risk of being removed from registration rolls for infrequent voting, due to deployments (VoteVets Action Fund, 2018).

### **FVAP Literature: Implementation and Analysis**

As one of the administering agencies for UOCAVA and MOVE, FVAP is the recipient of great analysis and critique from federal and state governments and nonprofit organizations. For its own part, FVAP's Election Reports are findings from their post-election surveys administered to UOCAVA-eligible voters. In their 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2016 reports, FVAP acknowledged the need to develop strategies and methods to increase voter participation and awareness among UOCAVA-eligible voters. They found that, like most electoral research suggests, midterm elections see lower UOCAVA voter participation rates than elections in presidential years. However, they also note that the accommodations and policies of



the MOVE Act have encouraged higher levels of electoral participation among UOCAVA voters since its passage in 2010.

While the FVAP Election Reports have been focused on the successful implementation of MOVE policies by FVAP, the GAO's five reports to Congress on military absentee voting from 2001, 2006, 2007, 2010, and 2016 note that, UOCAVA voters still face low awareness of resources available for voting assistance, systemic issues with MPSA and USPS, and inconsistent state requirements and deadlines (Walker, 2001; Stewart, 2006, 2007; Edwards, 2010; Farrell, 2016). The 2006 and 2010 reports noted that the Voting Assistance Officer program—the most direct way for FVAP to spread awareness of voting requirements and available resources—varied to such a degree that while some units received enough information to navigate the absentee voting process successfully, others had extremely low participation rates due to poor information dissemination. The most recent 2016 GAO report noted FVAP's considerable progress since 2001 in working to improve the coordination between entities which work with UOCAVA voting and information dissemination; it suggested that strategic planning and performance measurement could be critical ways for the agency to continue to improve its services and coordination activities.

Like the GAO reports, the Council of State Government (CSG)'s four reports from 2015 and 2016 note continued progress from FVAP and DoD towards explaining and communicating an accessible absentee voting process for UOCAVA-eligible voters. While they provide many recommendations for improvement, their two main areas of focus are clearer and more streamlined communication between state elections offices, FVAP, DoD, and UOCAVA voters and the use of technology to aid various processes. For new technology, CSG also recommended that state or local jurisdictions develop a ballot duplication protocol for damaged ballots, accept Common Access Card electronic signatures for completed election related activities, and that the EAC and FVAP adopt standard and shared data collection methods through merging the FVAP Post-election survey with the EAC's Election Administration and Voting Survey EAVS Section B survey.

The issue of military absentee voting has also attracted the attention and study of philanthropic organizations and independent consultancies, primarily the Pew Center on the States (Pew), RAND Corporation, and Lake Research Partners (studies commissioned by FVAP and DoD). Pew conducted two studies before and after the passage of the MOVE Act. The first report, released in 2009, and the latter released in 2012 evaluated the implementation of MOVE. The 2012 report (Becker, 2012) notes considerable progress on the part of states in making their UOCAVA absentee voting processes more transparent, but observes that there are still inconsistencies between states, making any coordination or understanding of differing requirements more challenging than necessary for voters. RAND's comprehensive 2015 report (Greenfield et al, 2015), one of two studies to be commissioned by FVAP itself, found that while FVAP had improved its program and information delivery per GAO reports since 2001, they had not engaged in strategic planning up to the date of publication. While the Lake Research Partners (Mermin, Stalsburg, and Newton, 2014) report did not address the strategic planning features of FVAP, the authors did suggest that FVAP create more frequent "trigger" events for military voting to incentivize and mobilize electoral participation among UOCAVA voters. They found that FVAP should continue to seek new opportunities and mediums through which to engage with overseas military personnel citizens on absentee voting in federal elections.

## Discussion

Despite UOCAVA military service members positioned as electorally- interested citizens, challenges and obstacles prevent some from exercising their fundamental right.



In general, research and policy analysis has been a driving force behind lawmakers effectively addressing issues for UOCAVA voters in registering to vote, casting their ballot and getting their vote counted. Delivery times for all states are down and data collected by FVAP on voter participation is continuously presented to congress to ensure quality and constant attention. While there is still intergovernmental work to be done between states, counties and the federal government, OUCAVA and MOVE have been extremely beneficial in helping service members and their families cast their ballot.

Absentee voting processes for UOCAVA voters still have many inefficiencies, including gaps in voter awareness programs, lag-time for transporting ballots through military and civilian postal systems (although improving (cite), and varied state regulations and deadlines which are in turn variably implemented at the counties and local level.

Solutions to overcome these inefficiencies should involve a broad array of government actors, federal, state and local, who play a role in administering the overseas vote. The best way to gain actionable insights into the absentee voting process is to ask UOCAVA-eligible service members themselves.



## Methodology

The research conducted during this study consisted of a literature review, analysis of existing survey data and an original survey that was sent in phases to various samples of interest. The literature was extracted from general searches from Google Scholar and Proquest using terms associated with military absentee voting, absentee voting process, absentee voting security and factors affecting the decision to vote. Public Data sources such as the FVAP Post-Election Survey and the Census's Current Population survey were analyzed to yield further insight and understand what past items were collected in surveys so as not to duplicate efforts.

Based on the literature review and analysis of existing data, the research team designed the *Military Families Voting Survey* instrument aimed at better understanding absentee voting for those in the military past and present. This instrument was broken into several sections that include:

- Military Status
- Demographics
- Service Member Characteristics
- Voting Motivations, Perceptions and Influences
- Party Affiliation and Key Issues
- Voting, Registration, and Process
- Media

The *Military Families Voting Survey* was administered online March 20, 2018 to July 31, 2018 using Qualtrics software. Although this study relies on a convenience sample, researchers took lengthy measures to mitigate sampling bias. Specifically, survey recruitment outreach was broad and was circulated via email to listserves of active duty military and veterans and leveraged through social media and distribution via supportive service organizations and professional organizations. Additionally, the team used the incentive of the chance to win one of 500 \$5 Starbucks gift cards by participating in the survey in an effort to encourage participation for parts of the data collection efforts (July 5<sup>th</sup>-July 31<sup>st</sup>).

The *Military Families Voting Survey* was approved by the Syracuse University Institutional Review Board for research involving human subjects and consisted of 141 questions that elicited participants' voting experiences and perception. Respondents were able to skip questions that were not relevant to them. The survey was taken by 2,939 respondents. Of the qualified participants, 2,679 sufficiently completed the questionnaire. The average time to complete the survey was 84 minutes.

### Sample: Demographics

The table presents the distribution of respondents based on their military status. The largest percentage of respondents are veterans (with no reserve service obligation remaining and/or Individual Ready Reserve), 39.83 percent of the total sample. The second largest group is spouses of active duty service members (29.97 percent) followed by active duty service members (15.71 percent). Analyses that follow will also consider the spouses of veterans (3.69 percent). All four groups will form the basis for many of the cross tabulation analyses performed on many of the questions. An active duty service member weighted variable was created and calculated based on the actual numbers reported based on branch, gender, and rank.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (2017). 2016 Demographic Profile of the Military Community. Washington, D.C. Accessed 01 July 2018 at <http://download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Reports/2016-Demographics-Report.pdf>

**Table 1. Current Military Status Response**

Current Military Status Response	Frequency	Percent
Active Duty	451	15.71
Reserves	54	1.88
National Guard	47	1.64
Veteran (No reserve service obligation remaining and/or Individual Ready Reserve)	1,143	39.83
Spouse of an active duty service member	860	29.97
Spouse of a service member in the reserves	28	0.98
Spouse of a service member in the national guard	32	1.11
Spouse of a veteran	106	3.69
Other family member or dependent of a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or Veteran not listed above	13	0.45
None of the above	122	4.25
Prefer not to answer	14	0.49
Total	2,870	100.00

The average age for the sample is 44.58 years of age and the median age is 40 years of age. The average age for active duty service members is 35.79 years of age; the average age for veterans is 58.28 years of age; the average age for spouse of active duty service member is 33.00 years of age; the average age for spouse of veteran is 46.87 years of age. Not surprising, the veteran and spouse of veteran respondents exhibit the highest average ages, 58.28 and 46.87 years of age, respectively.

Approximately 52.49 percent of all respondents are male and 46.98 percent of all respondents are female. The distribution is different across the various major respondent groups. For active duty service members: 75.40 percent are male and 23.69 percent are female. For veterans: 88.34 percent are male and 11.21 percent are female. For active duty spouses: 98.24 percent are female and 1.41 percent are male. For veteran spouses: 97.03 percent are female and 2.97 percent are male. Over 82 percent of all respondents are White, Anglo, or Caucasian and over 18 percent are minorities. Below is the distribution of race/ethnicity by respondent group.

**Table 2. Percentage of Race/Ethnicity By Response Group**

Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	Spouse of Veteran
White, Anglo, or Caucasian	76.36	86.32	78.61	84.00
Black or African American	7.27	4.98	3.29	4.00
Hispanic or Latino	7.50	3.35	12.57	8.00
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.68	0.54	0.94	2.00
Asian	3.64	1.18	2.35	1.00
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.68	0.54	0.47	
Other	3.86	3.08	1.76	1.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Over 87 percent of all respondents are married. Approximately 18.76 percent have been married while on active duty for less than two years, 35.34 percent have been married while on active duty for three to ten years, and 45.90 percent have been married while on active duty for more than 10 years. Over 80 percent of all respondents have children. Over 25 percent of the respondents indicated that their spouses served or had served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. The percentage is higher for active duty respondents, over 35 percent, and lower for veteran respondents, over 21 percent.

Around 75 percent of all respondents have a bachelor's degree or higher, over 21 percent have some college or associate degree, and over 3 percent have a high school degree or GED. Of the veterans and military families who responded to the survey, over 40 percent are currently working and 46 percent are not currently working or are retired.

The majority of the sample (92.27%) was born in the United States. Approximately 97.07 percent of all respondents currently reside in the United States or territories while over just under 3 percent are overseas. The majority of respondents currently reside in California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington (Virginia, California, and Texas had the largest percentages). Approximately 47.46 percent have lived in their resident for two years or less, 29.67 percent have lived in their resident for three to ten years, and 22.85 percent have lived in their resident for more than ten years. Over 37 percent of all respondents have chosen to geo-bach (live apart from family voluntarily due to military orders).

### Sample: Service Member Characteristics

Over 41 percent of the respondents indicated that they are or were affiliated with the Army, 24 percent with the Navy, 23 percent with the Air Force, 8 percent with the Marine Corps, and 4 percent with the Coast Guard. The table below provides the distribution of rank (enlisted, officer, and warrant officer) by response group status (active duty, veteran, active duty spouse, and veteran spouse). The largest percentage for each military status is exhibited by active duty and veterans for officers (57.25 percent and 76.48 percent, respectively) and active duty spouses and veteran spouses for enlisted (56.38 percent and 54.17 percent), respectively. Warrant officer comprises the smallest percentages, which is to be expected.

**Table 3. Percentage of Rank By Response Group**

Military Status	Enlisted	Officer	Warrant Officer	Total
Active Duty	38.57	57.25	4.18	100.00
Veteran	17.59	76.48	5.93	100.00
Active Duty Spouse	56.38	39.16	4.46	100.00
Veteran Spouse	54.17	42.71	3.13	100.00
Total	35.66	59.32	5.02	100.00

The majority of respondents (73 %) have been in the military for more than 10 years. Of the active duty respondents: 41.22 percent have been in the military less than 10 years and 58.79 percent have been in the military more than 10 years. Of the veteran respondents: 10.88 percent have been in the military less than 10 years and 88.93 percent have been in the military more than 10 years. Of the active duty spouse respondents: 40.49 percent have been in the military less than 10 years and 59.5 percent have been in the military more than 10 years. Of the veteran spouse respondents: 23.46 percent have been in



the military less than 10 years and 76.51 percent have been in the military more than 10 years. Approximately 17.68 percent of veteran respondents separated from the military three years or less, 16.73 percent separated 4-10 years ago, and 65.09 percent separated more than 10 years ago.

The table below presents the percentages of respondents that have experienced particular instances in the past four years. The distribution of occurrences varies by respondent group.

**Table 4. Percentage of Experiences in the Past Four Years By Response Group**

Response	Percent of Number of Response Group Responders to the Question			
	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Permanent Change of Station (PCS) CONUS	77.57	11.11	74.07	23.47
Permanent Change of Station (PCS) OCONUS	27.45	5.37	19.75	7.14
Deployment longer than 30 consecutive days	38.66	7.82	47.04	15.31
Deployment to a combat zone or an area where you drew imminent danger pay or hostile fire pay	26.49	5.27	26.67	8.16
Away from residences for longer than 30 consecutive days not due to deployment (e.g., temporary duty, training exercise, etc.)	45.58	8.38	46.91	20.41
Voted during a PCS	17.90	4.90	25.31	11.22
Voted while overseas	23.39	7.16	10.12	7.14
Voted during a deployment	16.47	4.90	13.09	8.16
None of the above	5.73	81.26	6.91	60.20



## Results: Voting Motivations, Perceptions, and Influences

### Motivations and Perceptions



**Question:** For you personally, voting is first and foremost...

- A civic duty
- A choice
- Not appropriate for members of the military
- Not sure
- Prefer not to answer

The table below provides the response distribution to the question of how the respondent views voting in elections. The predominant response is “voting is a civic duty” at 78.68 percent, followed by “voting is a choice” at 18.23 percent.

**Table 5. Voting First and Foremost**

For you personally, voting is first and foremost...			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Prefer not to answer	34	1.36	
A civic duty	1,960	78.68	79.77
A choice	454	18.23	18.48
Not appropriate for members of the military	16	0.64	0.65
Not sure	27	1.08	1.10
Total	2,491	100.00	100.00

The table below presents the response distribution to the question of how the respondent views voting in elections by response group. The predominant response across all groups is “voting is a civic duty” with all groups exhibiting over 68 percent. Veterans exhibit the highest percentage for “voting is a civic duty” at 89.39 percent. Once again, this is followed by “voting is a choice” for all groups. Spouses of active duty service members exhibit the highest response for “voting is a choice” at 26.64 percent, followed by active duty service members at 24.88 percent.



Table 6. Percentage of Voting First and Foremost By Response Group

For you personally, voting is first and foremost...					
Response	Active Duty Service Member	Active Duty Service Member Weighted	Veteran	Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	Spouse of Veteran
Prefer not to answer	1.46	2.12	0.47	2.32	3.06
A civic duty	70.98	64.70	89.39	68.85	79.59
A choice	24.88	30.14	9.20	26.64	17.35
Not appropriate for members of the military	1.46	0.33	0.85	0.13	.
Not sure	1.22	2.71	0.09	2.06	.
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

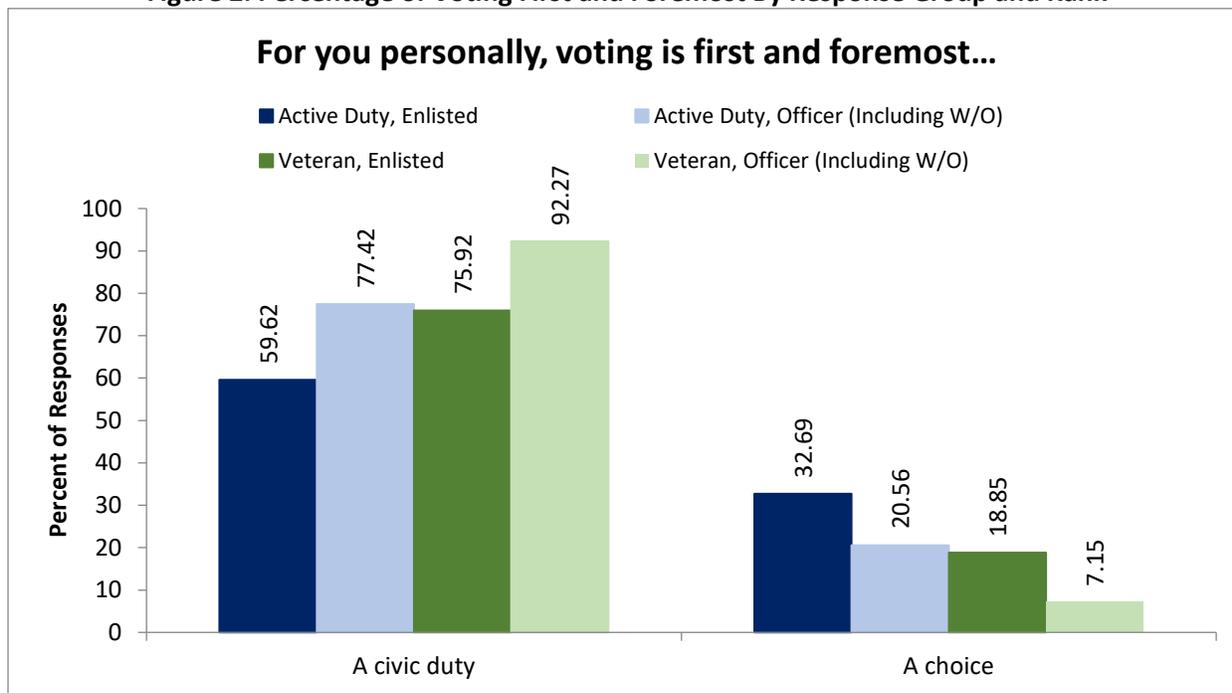
The table below presents the response distribution to the question as to how the respondent views voting in elections by officer/enlisted and active duty/veteran status. The predominant response across all groups is “voting is a civic duty” with the highest percentage for this response exhibited by veteran, officers at 92.27 percent. Enlisted respondents, active duty and veteran, exhibit the lowest response percentages for “voting is a civic duty,” 59.62 percent and 75.92 percent, respectively. The highest response percentage for “voting is a choice” is exhibited by enlisted, active duty respondents at 32.47 percent, followed by officer, active duty respondents at 20.56 percent.

Table 7. Percentage of Voting First and Foremost By Response Group and Rank

For you personally, voting is first and foremost...						
Response	Active Duty		Active Duty Weighted		Veteran	
	Enlisted	Officer (Including W/O)	Enlisted	Officer (Including W/O)	Enlisted	Officer (Including W/O)
Prefer not to answer	3.90	.	2.47	.	2.62	.
A civic duty	59.74	77.42	6.21	80.12	75.92	92.27
A choice	32.47	20.56	31.98	19.18	18.85	7.15
Not appropriate for members of the military	1.30	1.61	0.31	0.48	2.09	0.58
Not sure	2.60	0.40	3.13	0.22	0.52	.
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00		100.00	100.00



Figure 2. Percentage of Voting First and Foremost By Response Group and Rank



The table below present the response distribution to the question as to how the respondent views voting in elections by enlisted levels of seniority (3 levels) for active duty/veteran respondents. The predominant response across all groups is “voting is a civic duty” with the highest percentage for this response exhibited by veteran, senior enlisted at 82.72 percent. The lowest percentage response for “voting is a civic duty” is exhibited by mid-level enlisted (E5 and E6), active duty respondents at 50.79 percent; this same group exhibits the highest percentage for “voting is a choice” at 42.86 percent.

Table 8. Percentage of Voting First and Foremost By Response Group and Detailed Rank

For you personally, voting is first and foremost...						
Response	Active Duty - Enlisted Levels			Veteran - Enlisted Levels		
	Junior Enlisted (E1-E4)	Mid-Level Enlisted (E5 and E6)	Senior Enlisted (E7-E9)	Junior Enlisted (E1-E4)	Mid-Level Enlisted (E5 and E6)	Senior Enlisted (E7-E9)
A civic duty	73.33	50.79	69.09	67.86	75.34	82.72
A choice	26.67	42.86	27.27	32.14	21.92	13.58
Not appropriate for members of the military	.	1.59	1.82	.	1.37	3.7
Not sure	.	4.76	1.82	.	1.37	.
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**Question: Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?**

- I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)
- I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections
- I vote when it's convenient, but it's not a high priority
- I never vote, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

The table provides the response distribution for the question “Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?”: (1) I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local); (2) I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections; (3) I vote when it's convenient, but it's not a high priority; and (4) I never vote. The majority of the respondents (63.2 percent) indicate they I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local), while 24.18 percent of the respondents always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections. Over 12 percent of the respondents vote when it's convenient, but it's not a high priority or never vote. This response distribution changes significantly for this question when looking at subgroups of the respondents (see tables and figures below).

**Table 9. Voting Frequency**

Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?		
Response	Frequency	Percent
I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)	1,568	63.20
I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections	600	24.18
I vote when it's convenient, but it's not a high priority	210	8.46
I never vote	103	4.15
Total	2,481	100.00

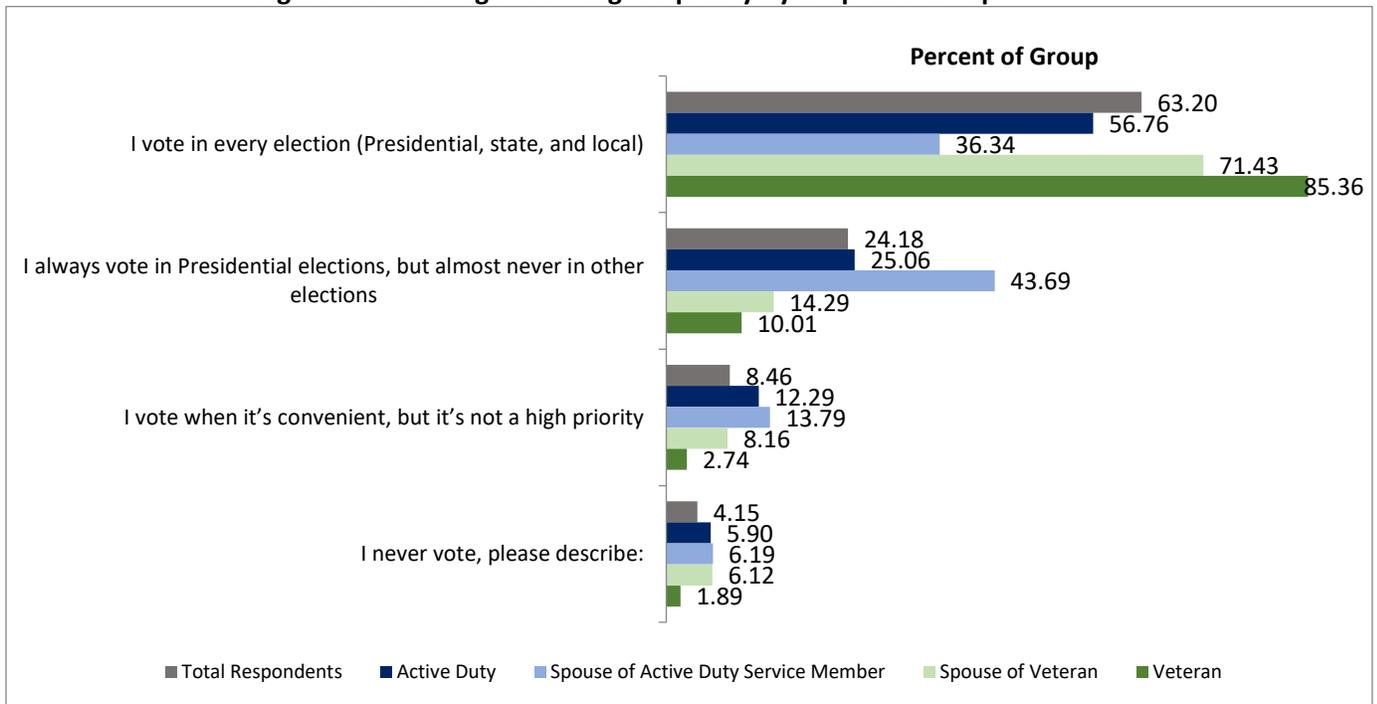
The table and figure below provides the distribution of responses for the question, “Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?” by active duty, veteran, spouse of active duty service member, and spouse of veteran. The highest response percentages for the statement “I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)” occurs for veterans (85.36 percent). The second highest response percentage also occurs for spouse of veteran (71.43 percent). Spouses of active duty service member and spouse of veteran respondents exhibit the highest percentages for the statement “I never vote, please describe,” 6.19 percent and 6.12 percent, respectively. Spouses of active duty service members exhibit the lowest percentage of responses for the statement “I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)” at 36.34 percent, and the only percentage for the statement which is less than the majority of the respondents. Spouses of active duty service members also exhibit the highest percentage for the statement “I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections,” 43.69 percent. The percentages for active duty service members and spouses of active duty service members may be influenced by the frequency of PCS moves for active duty members and their families. The circumstances effecting active duty service members and spouses of active duty service members obviously do not exist or do not have the same effect on veterans and veteran spouses as their significantly higher percentages for “I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)” reflect.



Table 10. Percentage of Voting Frequency By Response Group

Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?					
Response	Active Duty Service Member	Active Duty Service Member	Veteran	Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	Spouse of Veteran
I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)	56.76	56.52	85.36	36.34	71.43
I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections	25.06	24.43	10.01	43.69	14.29
I vote when it's convenient, but it's not a high priority	12.29	10.84	2.74	13.79	8.16
I never vote	5.90	8.21	1.89	6.19	6.12
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Figure 3. Percentage of Voting Frequency By Response Group



The table and figure below provides the distribution of responses for the question, “Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?” by active duty/veteran and enlisted/officer (including Warrant Officers). The highest response percentages for the statement “I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)” occurs for veteran officers (90.37 percent). The second highest response percentage also occurs for active duty, officers (64.23 percent), though enlisted veteran are very close (63.16 percent). Enlisted, active duty and veteran, respondents exhibit the highest percentages for the statement “I never vote, please describe,” 12.26 percent and 8.95 percent,

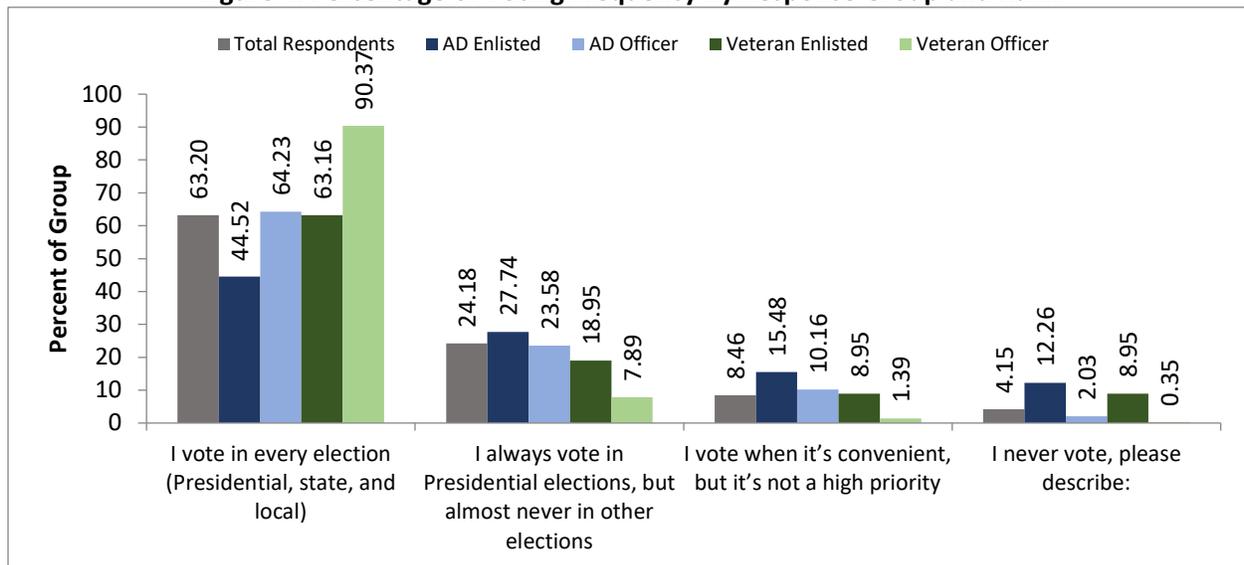


respectively. Enlisted active duty respondents exhibit the lowest percentage of responses for the statement “I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)” at 44.52 percent. In addition, active duty respondents, regardless of enlisted/officer status, exhibit the highest percentages for the statement “I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections,” 27.74 percent and 23.58 percent, respectively. These percentages may be influenced by the frequency of PCS moves for active duty members, making local politics less important.

**Table 11. Percentage of Voting Frequency By Response Group and Rank**

Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?						
Response	Active Duty		Active Duty Weighted		Veteran	
	Enlisted	Officer (Including W/O)	Enlisted	Officer (Including W/O)	Enlisted	Officer (Including W/O)
I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)	45.10	64.23	56.28	57.93	63.16	90.37
I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections	27.45	23.58	23.81	28.10	18.95	7.89
I vote when it's convenient, but it's not a high priority	15.69	10.16	10.83	10.94	8.95	1.39
I never vote, please describe:	11.76	2.03	9.08	3.03	8.95	0.35
Total	100.00	100.00			100.00	100.00

**Figure 4. Percentage of Voting Frequency By Response Group and Rank**



The table and figure below provides the distribution of responses for the question, “Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?” by active duty/veteran and female/male. The highest response percentages for the statement “I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)”

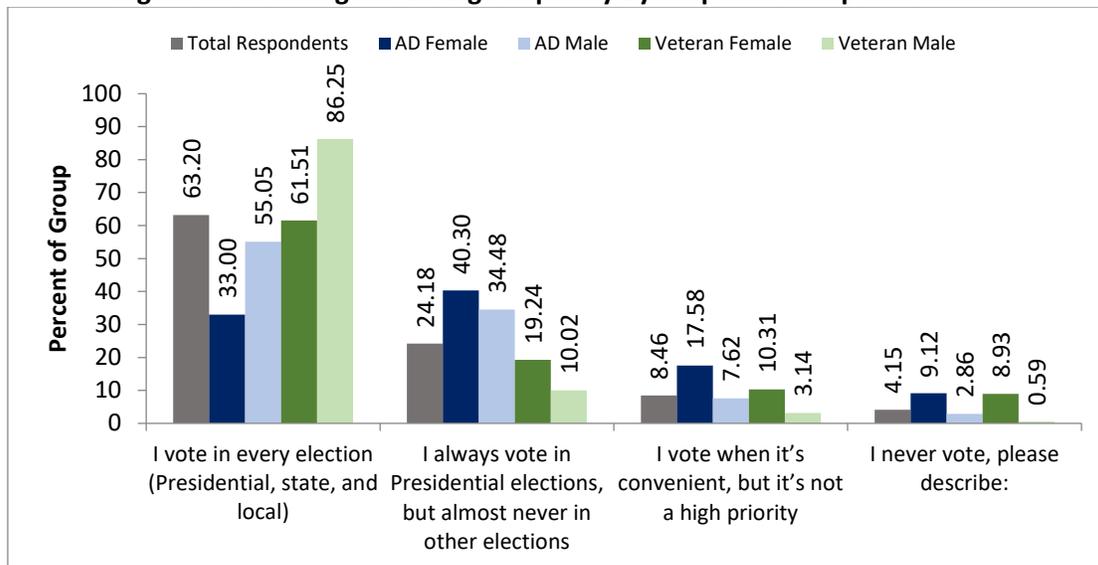


occurs for veteran males (86.25 percent), followed by veteran females (61.51 percent). The highest response percentages for the statement “I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections” occurs for active duty, females and males (40.3 percent and 34.48 percent, respectively). In fact, the 40.3 percent exhibited by active duty females is the highest percentage for the active duty female response distribution across the four groups. Active duty females also exhibit the highest percentage for the statement “I vote when it’s convenient, but it’s not a high priority” at 17.58 percent, followed by veteran females at 10.31 percent. The percentages for the statement “I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections” tend to suggest active duty service members may be disinterested in state and local politics, possibly engendered by the frequency of PCS moves.

**Table 12. Percentage of Voting Frequency By Response Group and Gender**

Which statement below most closely describes your feelings about voting?						
Response	Active Duty		Active Duty Weighted		Veteran	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
I vote in every election (Presidential, state, and local)	43.48	61.22	33.59	57.48	61.51	86.25
I always vote in Presidential elections, but almost never in other elections	33.70	22.12	33.42	24.06	19.24	10.02
I vote when it’s convenient, but it’s not a high priority	17.39	10.58	28.50	10.11	10.31	3.14
I never vote, please describe:	5.43	6.09	4.49	8.36	8.93	0.59
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Figure 5. Percentage of Voting Frequency By Response Group and Gender**





**Question: How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Prefer not to answer

The table below presents the distribution of responses to the question “How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?” and the average rating for the responses based on the values assigned to each response: Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5). Thus, the average rating for the responses to the question is 4.5979, which is between agree and strongly agree for the respondent group as a whole. In fact, over 70 percent of the respondents selected strongly agree as their response. Only 1.53 percent of the respondents selected “strongly disagree” or “disagree” as to how strongly they felt that voting is a civic duty.

**Table 13. Voting Agreement with Civic Duty**

How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Prefer not to answer	39	1.57	
Strongly disagree (1)	14	0.56	0.57
Disagree (2)	24	0.97	0.98
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	192	7.72	7.85
Agree (4)	472	18.99	19.29
Strongly agree (5)	1,745	70.19	71.31
Total	2,486	100.00	100.00
Average		4.5979	

**Table 14. Percentage of Voting Agreement with Civic Duty By Response Group**

How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	0.74	0.56	2.58	6.12
Strongly disagree	0.74	0.47	0.52	2.04
Disagree	1.23	0.28	1.93	1.02
Neither agree nor disagree	10.59	3.10	12.24	6.12
Agree	28.33	9.01	27.32	10.20
Strongly agree	58.37	86.59	55.41	74.49



Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
-------	--------	--------	--------	--------

The table below presents the average rating for the responses by response group based on the values assigned to each response. Regardless of group, the average ratings are all above a value of four (4), indicating that all respondents, regardless of grouping, agree that voting is a civic duty. The lowest average rating occurs for active duty enlisted mid-level (E5 and E6) service members, 4.0769. The closest average rating to the active duty enlisted mid-level service members is by active duty enlisted service members at 4.1800. The highest average rating occurs for veteran officers at 4.8776 indicating a significant tendency to strongly agree that voting is a civic duty.

**Table 15. Average Rating of Voting Agreement with Civic Duty By Response Group**

<b>How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty? Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5)</b>	
<b>Group</b>	<b>Average</b>
Active Duty Service Member	4.4342
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.2762
Veteran	4.8198
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.3876
Spouse of Veteran	4.6413
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.1800
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.3448
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.0769
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.2143
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.6082
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.5354
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.6589
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.6471
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.2230
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.5885
Veteran - Enlisted	4.5508
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.8776
Female	4.4306
Male	4.7384
Active Duty - Female	4.3667
Active Duty - Male	4.4563
Veteran - Female	4.6239
Veteran - Male	4.8444

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question:** Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Prefer not to answer
1. I cared about the issues in the election.	<input type="radio"/>					
2. I cared about which candidates would win the election.	<input type="radio"/>					
3. I would feel embarrassed if others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) found out I did not vote in the election.	<input type="radio"/>					
4. Others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) are likely to know whether or not I voted in the election.	<input type="radio"/>					
5. It is appropriate for members of the military to vote.	<input type="radio"/>					

The table below presents the distribution of the responses and the average ratings to the five statements: (1) I cared about the issues in the election, (2) I cared about which candidates would win the election, (3) I would feel embarrassed if others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) found out I did not vote in the election, (4) Others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) are likely to know whether or not I voted in the election, and (5) It is appropriate for members of the military to vote. The response options for the average ratings are: Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5). The five average ratings range from 3.4545 for “Others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) are likely to know whether or not I voted in the election” to 4.7096 for “It is appropriate for members of the military to vote.” Regardless, respondents generally “agree” or “neither agree or disagree” concerning the five statements about the most recent election.



Table 16. Agreement with Statements on the Election

Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree with the following statements? Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5)					
Response	I cared about the issues in the election	I cared about which candidates would win the election	I would feel embarrassed if others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) found out I did not vote in the election	Others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) are likely to know whether or not I voted in the election.	It is appropriate for members of the military to vote
Prefer not to answer	1.47	1.51	1.88	1.68	1.35
Strongly disagree (1)	0.33	0.74	9.41	9.24	0.78
Disagree (2)	1.02	0.65	12.07	14.96	0.74
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	4.16	4.99	22.86	22.57	4.58
Agree (4)	25.61	22.59	23.35	24.98	14.18
Strongly agree (5)	67.41	69.52	30.43	26.57	78.38
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average	4.6113	4.6194	3.5436	3.4545	4.7096

Table 17. Percentage of Agreement with Election – Item 1 - By Response Group

I cared about the issues in the election				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	1.00	0.19	2.49	6.25
Strongly disagree (1)	0.75	0.48	.	.
Disagree (2)	1.00	0.48	1.83	1.04
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	5.99	1.62	6.42	2.08
Agree (4)	35.41	17.13	31.85	21.88
Strongly agree (5)	55.86	80.11	57.40	68.75
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 18. Percentage of Agreement with Election – Item 2 - By Response Group

I cared about which candidates would win the election				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	0.75	0.29	2.50	5.26
Strongly disagree (1)	1.00	0.86	0.39	1.05
Disagree (2)	1.75	0.19	0.92	.
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	9.25	2.96	5.53	3.16
Agree (4)	28.25	15.84	28.16	22.11
Strongly agree (5)	59.00	79.87	62.50	68.42
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 19. Percentage of Agreement with Election – Item 3 - By Response Group**

<b>I would feel embarrassed if others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) found out I did not vote in the election</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	1.01	1.24	1.96	4.17
Strongly disagree (1)	12.37	7.92	10.60	8.33
Disagree (2)	16.16	7.44	16.10	9.38
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	24.49	21.47	23.30	28.13
Agree (4)	25.76	24.14	23.17	13.54
Strongly agree (5)	20.20	37.79	24.87	36.46
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 20. Percentage of Agreement with Election – Item 4 - By Response Group**

<b>Others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) are likely to know whether or not I voted in the election</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	0.75	1.15	1.97	4.21
Strongly disagree (1)	13.22	8.22	8.65	14.74
Disagree (2)	20.45	10.42	19.13	9.47
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	23.19	19.69	26.47	22.11
Agree (4)	26.43	25.24	23.72	17.89
Strongly agree (5)	15.96	35.28	20.05	31.58
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 21. Percentage of Agreement with Election – Item 5 - By Response Group**

<b>It is appropriate for members of the military to vote</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	1.00	0.48	1.84	5.26
Strongly disagree (1)	0.50	1.05	0.26	1.05
Disagree (2)	1.25	0.76	0.39	1.05
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	6.98	1.62	7.09	6.32
Agree (4)	18.45	6.97	22.44	8.42
Strongly agree (5)	71.82	89.12	67.98	77.89
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The table provides the average ratings for each statement by response group. Statements one, two, and five all exhibit average ratings across all groups above four, which means all groups of respondents



generally either agree or strongly agree with the statement. Statements three and four exhibit average ratings between three and four across all respondent groups.

**Table 22. Average Rating of Agreement By Response Group**

Thinking about the most recent election, to what extent do you agree with the following statements? Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5)					
Average					
Group	I cared about the issues in the election	I cared about which candidates would win the election	I would feel embarrassed if others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) found out I did not vote in the election	Others (e.g., military members/spouses, family, or friends) are likely to know whether or not I voted in the election.	It is appropriate for members of the military to vote
Active Duty Service Member	4.4610	4.4358	3.2551	3.1156	4.6146
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.4088	4.3329	3.0632	3.2560	4.6612
Veteran	4.7626	4.7416	3.7739	3.9673	4.8322
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.4852	4.5533	3.3632	3.2794	4.6043
Spouse of Veteran	4.6889	4.6556	3.6304	3.4396	4.7000
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.3356	4.3333	3.0000	3.3605	4.5205
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.1786	4.1429	2.5926	3.0714	4.5357
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.2656	4.2154	3.0469	3.2769	4.4219
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.5000	4.5741	3.1509	3.6111	4.6296
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.5309	4.4876	3.4083	2.9794	4.6667
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.4184	4.3776	3.3776	2.7959	4.7041
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.6016	4.5906	3.3760	3.1016	4.6328
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.6471	4.3529	3.8235	3.1176	4.7059
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.3909	4.3132	3.0197	3.3175	4.6525
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.5110	4.4464	3.3133	2.9026	4.7102
Veteran - Enlisted	4.4866	4.5000	3.1848	3.5326	4.6344
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.8228	4.7942	3.9020	3.7293	4.8757
Female	4.5018	4.5462	3.3956	3.2739	4.6176
Male	4.7048	4.6826	3.6732	3.6087	4.7890
Active Duty - Female	4.3667	4.3000	3.1839	2.7333	4.5667



Active Duty - Male	4.4984	4.4818	3.2815	3.2336	4.6403
Active Duty – Female Weighted	4.2114	4.1693	2.5530	2.7439	4.4561
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.4173	4.3399	3.0829	3.2780	4.6700
Veteran - Female	4.6068	4.6496	3.5000	3.3652	4.7203
Veteran - Male	4.7820	4.7549	3.8075	3.7371	4.8459

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question:** Thinking about the most recent election in which you voted, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	NA/ Does not apply	Prefer not to answer
1. I was confident that my ballot would be counted.	<input type="radio"/>						
2. It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby.	<input type="radio"/>						

The table below presents the distribution of the responses and the average ratings to the two statements: (1) I was confident that my ballot would be counted and (2) It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby. The two average ratings indicate a high level of agreement with the two statements, 4.1222 and 3.9257, respectively (last two columns, last row). In fact, nearly a majority of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement “I was confident that my ballot would be counted,” 48.72 percent. With respect to the statement “It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby,” over 18 percent of the respondents neither agree nor disagree with the statement.

**Table 23. Percentage of Agreement About Confidence and Ease**

Thinking about the most recent election in which you voted, to what extent do you agree with the following statements? Average (Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5))				
Response	Includes “Prefer not to Answer” and “NA/Does not apply” Responses		Excludes “Prefer not to Answer” and “NA/Does not apply” Responses	
	I was confident that my ballot would be counted	It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby	I was confident that my ballot would be counted	It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby
Prefer not to answer	1.43	1.84		
NA/Does not apply	3.14	27.07		
Strongly disagree (1)	3.14	3.07	3.29	4.32
Disagree (2)	7.46	5.57	7.82	7.83



Neither agree nor disagree (3)	10.48	13.06	10.98	18.38
Agree (4)	27.85	21.25	29.19	29.90
Strongly agree (5)	46.49	28.13	48.72	39.57
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average			4.1222	3.9257

**Table 24. Percentage of Agreement About Confidence and Ease – Item 1 - By Response Group**

I was confident that my ballot would be counted				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	1.25	0.29	2.75	3.13
NA/Does not apply	2.74	1.71	5.37	2.08
Strongly disagree (1)	4.99	2.09	3.54	4.17
Disagree (2)	9.48	4.47	10.48	11.46
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	14.46	5.90	13.89	9.38
Agree (4)	30.92	21.31	34.47	22.92
Strongly agree (5)	36.16	64.22	29.49	46.88
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 25. Percentage of Agreement About Confidence and Ease – Item 2 - By Response Group**

It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	1.75	0.86	2.50	5.21
NA/Does not apply	11.72	37.22	22.21	23.96
Strongly disagree (1)	4.24	0.96	5.78	2.08
Disagree (2)	5.99	1.72	11.43	4.17
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	15.96	8.52	18.40	10.42
Agree (4)	27.93	17.70	22.34	15.63
Strongly agree (5)	32.42	33.01	17.35	38.54
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The table below presents the average rating for the responses based on the values assigned to each response (see top heading) by response group. The highest average rating for the statement “I was confident that my ballot would be counted” is exhibited by veteran officers at 4.5553. The lowest average rating for the statement “I was confident that my ballot would be counted” is exhibited by active duty enlisted mid-level (E5 and E6) service members at 3.6674. Both of these average ratings suggest a tendency to agree with the statement, regardless of group.

In comparison, the highest average rating for the statement “It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby” is, once again, exhibited by veteran officers at 4.3817. The lowest average



rating for the statement “It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby” is exhibited by active duty enlisted mid-level (E5 and E6) service members at 3.4035.

**Table 26. Average Rating of Agreement About Confidence and Ease By Response Group**

Thinking about the most recent election in which you voted, to what extent do you agree with the following statements? Average (Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5))		
Group	I was confident that my ballot would be counted	It was easy to get voting assistance at my installation or one nearby
Active Duty Service Member	3.8727	3.9049
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	3.8192	3.7592
Veteran	4.4398	4.2937
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	3.8260	3.4520
Spouse of Veteran	4.0220	4.1912
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.7668	3.8000
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	3.9200	3.8000
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	3.6774	3.4035
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	3.8571	4.2708
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	3.9171	3.9810
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	3.8763	3.8333
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	3.9688	4.0708
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	3.7500	4.1429
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	3.8045	3.7291
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	3.8981	3.9407
Veteran - Enlisted	3.8920	3.9786
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.5553	4.3817
Female	3.8540	3.6480
Male	4.3427	4.1869
Active Duty - Female	3.7738	3.7403
Active Duty - Male	3.9091	3.9586
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.8764	3.7838
Active Duty – Male Weighted	3.8171	3.7583
Veteran - Female	3.9375	4.1728
Veteran - Male	4.4995	4.3071

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question:** Please select the most appropriate response for the following statements

	More likely to vote	Equally likely to vote	Less likely to vote	Do not know	Prefer not to answer
1. Compared to others associated with the military, I am:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. My preference for one candidate over another makes me:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. I believe the people in my neighborhood or community are:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. When I believe an election outcome is likely to be "close" I am:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Personal outreach about whether I have made a plan to vote makes me:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The table provides the response distribution and the average rating to the five statements. The question exhibiting the highest selection of the response "less likely to vote" is "I believe the people in my neighborhood or community are" with 21.19 percent of the respondents selecting the "less likely to vote" option. This is reinforced by the lowest average rating across the five statements of 1.9433. The statement exhibiting the highest average rating is "My preference for one candidate over another makes me" at 2.6039, followed closely by "When I believe an election outcome is likely to be "close" I am" at 2.5831. These average ratings above a value of two indicate the respondents tend to be between the "Equally likely to vote" response and "More likely to vote" response.

**Table 27. Likelihood to Vote Compared to Various Aspects**

Please select the most appropriate response for the following statements: Less likely to vote (1), Equally likely to vote (2), and More likely to vote (3)					
Response	Compared to others associated with the military, I am	My preference for one candidate over another makes me	I believe the people in my neighborhood or community are	When I believe an election outcome is likely to be "close" I am	Personal outreach about whether I have made a plan to vote makes me
Prefer not to answer	1.73	1.90	1.65	2.03	2.66
Do not know	8.67	3.12	11.99	2.83	13.28
Less likely to vote (1)	3.58	1.94	21.19	1.81	7.78
Equally likely to vote (2)	42.68	33.74	48.88	36.03	50.42
More likely to vote (3)	43.35	59.30	16.29	57.30	25.85
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average	2.4439	2.6039	1.9433	2.5831	2.2149

**Table 28. Percentage of Likelihood To Vote– Item 1 - By Response Group**

<b>Compared to others associated with the military, I am</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	1.81	1.07	2.19	4.44
Do not know	4.65	10.08	9.29	6.67
Less likely to vote (1)	5.43	1.36	5.46	5.56
Equally likely to vote (2)	40.05	37.60	49.45	46.67
More likely to vote (3)	48.06	49.90	33.61	36.67
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 29. Percentage of Likelihood To Vote – Item 2 - By Response Group**

<b>My preference for one candidate over another makes me</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.07	0.97	2.46	4.40
Do not know	4.15	2.04	4.23	4.40
Less likely to vote (1)	2.33	0.88	3.00	4.40
Equally likely to vote (2)	41.97	29.41	35.47	31.87
More likely to vote (3)	49.48	66.70	54.84	54.95
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 30. Percentage of Likelihood To Vote – Item 3 - By Response Group**

<b>I believe the people in my neighborhood or community are</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	1.81	0.98	2.05	3.30
Do not know	11.37	10.73	14.62	12.09
Less likely to vote (1)	26.36	20.39	19.54	16.48
Equally likely to vote (2)	47.03	49.46	50.41	50.55
More likely to vote (3)	13.44	18.44	13.39	17.58
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 31. Percentage of Likelihood To Vote – Item 4 - By Response Group**

<b>When I believe an election outcome is likely to be “close” I am</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.07	1.17	2.73	4.40
Do not know	3.36	1.17	4.50	3.30
Less likely to vote (1)	2.58	0.59	2.86	2.20
Equally likely to vote (2)	42.38	35.06	33.97	35.16
More likely to vote (3)	49.61	62.01	55.93	54.95
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Table 32. Percentage of Likelihood To Vote – Item 5 - By Response Group

Personal outreach about whether I have made a plan to vote makes me				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	1.81	2.45	3.14	4.49
Do not know	12.14	11.46	16.39	10.11
Less likely to vote (1)	11.89	4.11	10.38	12.36
Equally likely to vote (2)	54.52	51.42	48.91	41.57
More likely to vote (3)	19.64	30.56	21.17	31.46
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The table presents the average rating for each of the five statements by response group. The only statement to receive average ratings consistently below a value of two is “I believe the people in my neighborhood or community are,” which indicates a response between “Less likely to vote” and “Equally likely to vote.” The only exception to a less than two average rating for this question is exhibited by spouses of veterans, with an average rating of 2.0130. All of the other four statements exhibit average ratings above a value of two, regardless of respondent group. This average rating implies that these statements are generally associated with the responses “Equally likely to vote” and “More likely to vote.”

Table 33. Average Rating of Likelihood To Vote By Response Group

Please select the most appropriate response for the following statements: Less likely to vote (1), Equally likely to vote (2), and More likely to vote (3)					
Average					
Group	Compared to others associated with the military, I am	My preference for one candidate over another makes me	I believe the people in my neighborhood or community are	When I believe an election outcome is likely to be “close” I am	Personal outreach about whether I have made a plan to vote makes me
Active Duty Service Member	2.4558	2.5028	1.8512	2.4973	2.0901
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	2.4981	2.5324	1.8528	2.5954	2.1061
Veteran	2.5463	2.6787	1.9779	2.6290	2.3072
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	2.3179	2.5556	1.9262	2.5721	2.1341
Spouse of Veteran	2.3500	2.5542	2.0130	2.5714	2.2237
Active Duty - Enlisted	2.3664	2.4444	1.8991	2.4453	2.0083
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	2.3478	2.3500	1.9524	2.5652	2.0000
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	2.3448	2.4464	1.8800	2.4643	2.0755
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	2.4000	2.4800	1.8958	2.3673	1.9348



Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	2.5067	2.5307	1.8325	2.5217	2.1366
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	2.5455	2.5263	1.8506	2.5699	2.2048
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	2.5042	2.5210	1.7944	2.4959	2.0818
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.				
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	2.3125	2.6429	2.0000	2.4375	2.1667
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	2.4926	2.5289	1.8639	2.6086	2.0961
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	2.5279	2.5492	1.7957	2.5259	2.1595
Veteran – Enlisted	2.4740	2.5482	1.9211	2.5723	2.1517
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	2.5618	2.7050	1.9880	2.6402	2.3393
Female	2.3239	2.5360	1.9429	2.5564	2.1271
Male	2.5426	2.6599	1.9412	2.6063	2.2849
Active Duty - Female	2.3418	2.3718	1.8947	2.4691	2.0769
Active Duty - Male	2.4929	2.5409	1.8366	2.5142	2.0992
Active Duty – Female Weighted	2.2528	2.1753	1.9763	2.4220	1.8522
Active Duty – Male Weighted	2.5069	2.5459	1.8481	2.6016	2.1172
Veteran - Female	2.4105	2.5193	1.9286	2.5888	2.0638
Veteran - Male	2.5614	2.6973	1.9812	2.6331	2.3355

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question:** This question asks for your opinion on the military’s role in civilian society. Please indicate the level of agreement with the following statements.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Prefer not to answer
1. Members of the military should not publicly criticize senior members of government	<input type="radio"/>					
2. Members of the military should not publicly criticize American society	<input type="radio"/>					
3. Members of the military should be allowed to publicly express their political views just like any other citizen	<input type="radio"/>					
4. Military members can publicly advocate for policies they believe are in the best interests of the United States	<input type="radio"/>					



The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and the average ratings for all respondents and response groups to the question “This question asks for your opinion on the military’s role in civilian society. Please indicate the level of agreement with the following statements. The rating values for the statements are: “strongly disagree” (1), “disagree” (2), “neither agree nor disagree” (3), “agree” (4), and “strongly agree” (5). The average rating for each of the four statements for all respondents ranges from a high of 3.6527 for “Members of the military should not publicly criticize senior members of government to a low of 3.2990 for “Members of the military should not publicly criticize American society.” These average ratings indicate that respondents are between “agree” and “neither agree nor disagree” in their assessment of the statements.

**Table 34. Agreement with Military’s Role In Civilian Society**

<b>This question asks for your opinion on the military’s role in civilian society. Please indicate the level of agreement with the following statements.</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Members of the military should not publicly criticize senior members of government</b>	<b>Members of the military should not publicly criticize American society</b>	<b>Members of the military should be allowed to publicly express their political views just like any other citizen</b>	<b>Military members can publicly advocate for policies they believe are in the best interests of the United States</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.36	1.94	2.15	2.37
Strongly disagree (1)	8.31	9.98	11.74	8.03
Disagree (2)	12.70	21.06	19.59	11.28
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	16.49	20.22	16.01	19.23
Agree (4)	27.25	23.25	27.24	32.80
Strongly agree (5)	32.90	23.55	23.27	26.29
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average	3.6527	3.2990	3.3138	3.5944

**Table 35. Percentage with Military’s Role – Item 1 - By Response Group**

<b>Members of the military should not publicly criticize senior members of government</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.58	1.17	3.28	3.30
Strongly disagree (1)	7.24	7.79	10.52	8.79
Disagree (2)	8.79	10.91	16.39	17.58
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	12.14	13.53	21.99	21.98
Agree (4)	25.58	30.38	24.18	26.37
Strongly agree (5)	43.67	36.22	23.63	21.98
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Table 36. Percentage with Military's Role – Item 2 - By Response Group

<b>Members of the military should not publicly criticize American society</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	1.80	1.07	2.60	3.30
Strongly disagree (1)	10.80	9.92	10.67	9.89
Disagree (2)	20.31	20.04	23.12	19.78
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	17.48	18.48	23.39	20.88
Agree (4)	23.65	24.03	21.07	29.67
Strongly agree (5)	25.96	26.46	19.15	16.48
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 37. Percentage with Military's Role – Item 3 - By Response Group

<b>Members of the military should be allowed to publicly express their political views just like any other citizen</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.32	1.37	2.33	5.62
Strongly disagree (1)	17.53	13.95	6.84	7.87
Disagree (2)	23.20	20.39	16.83	17.98
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	14.95	15.22	17.51	17.98
Agree (4)	26.03	25.76	30.10	28.09
Strongly agree (5)	15.98	23.32	26.40	22.47
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 38. Percentage with Military's Role – Item 4 - By Response Group

<b>Military members can publicly advocate for policies they believe are in the best interests of the United States</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.33	1.46	2.88	4.40
Strongly disagree (1)	13.95	9.46	3.97	2.20
Disagree (2)	15.50	13.27	7.53	7.69
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	20.93	17.37	21.64	15.38
Agree (4)	27.91	32.00	36.03	35.16
Strongly agree (5)	19.38	26.44	27.95	35.16
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Table 39. Average Rating with Military's Role In Civilian Society By Response Group

This question asks for your opinion on the military's role in civilian society. Please indicate the level of agreement with the following statements				
Average				
Group – Mean Values	Members of the military should not publicly criticize senior members of government	Members of the military should not publicly criticize American society	Members of the military should be allowed to publicly express their political views just like any other citizen	Military members can publicly advocate for policies they believe are in the best interests of the United States
Active Duty Service Member	3.9204	3.3429	2.9974	3.2381
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	3.5202	3.0219	3.3186	3.4144
Veteran	3.7724	3.3746	3.2443	3.5347
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	3.3517	3.1531	3.5364	3.7870
Spouse of Veteran	3.3636	3.2386	3.4167	3.9770
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.7770	3.3429	3.0441	3.2701
Active Duty – Enlisted _Junior (E1-E4)	3.5417	3.2500	3.2727	3.3182
Active Duty – Enlisted –Mid-Level (E5 and E6)	3.6129	3.0806	3.2459	3.4677
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.0755	3.6852	3.7170	3.0189
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.0261	3.3547	2.9660	3.2189
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) (O1 – O3)	3.7158	3.1649	3.2165	3.4583
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) (O4 – O6)	4.3167	3.5164	2.7642	3.0246
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) (O7-O10)	No Observations	No Observations	No Observations	No Observations
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	3.4509	2.9966	3.3598	3.4234
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	3.8968	3.1574	3.1158	3.3687
Veteran - Enlisted	3.5739	3.4318	3.2685	3.4914
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	3.8098	3.3580	3.2389	3.5427
Female	3.4775	3.2471	3.4303	3.7519
Male	3.8040	3.3407	3.2165	3.4628
Active Duty - Female	3.8605	3.4253	3.0581	3.4483
Active Duty - Male	3.9549	3.3253	2.9759	3.1806
Active Duty – Female Weighted	4.1840	3.6464	2.7120	3.3811



Active Duty – Male Weighted	3.4929	2.9960	3.3455	3.4159
Veteran - Female	3.8468	3.6036	2.9732	3.5045
Veteran - Male	3.7651	3.3471	3.2778	3.5354

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more

## Military Influences



**Question: Which choice best describes how your military peers influence your vote?**

- Extremely influential
- Very influential
- Somewhat influential
- Slightly influential
- Not at all influential
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and the average ratings for all respondents and response groups to the question “Which choice best describes how your military peers influence your vote?” The rating values for the statements are: “not at all influential” (1), “slightly influential” (2), “somewhat influential” (3), “very influential” (4), and “extremely influential” (5). The average rating for all respondents is 1.6508 which is between “slightly influential” and “not at all influential.” The average ratings for the response groups range from a high of 1.7562 for minorities to a low of 1.3019 for active duty enlisted senior-level (E7 – E9) respondents.

**Table 40. Military Peer Influence**

<b>Which choice best describes how your military peers influence your vote? Not At All Influential (1), Slightly Influential (2), Somewhat Influential (3), Very Influential (4), and Extremely Influential (5)</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)</b>
Prefer not to answer	39	1.68	
Not at all influential (1)	1,454	62.48	63.55
Slightly influential (2)	330	14.18	14.42
Somewhat influential (3)	391	16.80	17.09
Very influential (4)	75	3.22	3.28
Extremely influential (5)	38	1.63	1.66
Total	2,327	100.00	100.00
Average		1.6508	

**Table 41. Percentage of Military Peer Influence By Response Group**

<b>Which choice best describes how your military peers influence your vote? Not At All Influential (1), Slightly Influential (2), Somewhat Influential (3), Very Influential (4), and Extremely Influential (5)</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	1.04	1.09	1.97	6.90
Not at all influential (1)	66.15	65.15	59.77	57.47
Slightly influential (2)	15.89	13.52	14.06	14.94
Somewhat influential (3)	12.76	17.08	18.28	12.64
Very influential (4)	2.86	2.17	4.36	3.45
Extremely influential (5)	1.30	0.99	1.55	4.60
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 42. Average Rating of Military Peer Influence By Response Group**

<b>Which choice best describes how your military peers influence your vote? Not At All Influential (1), Slightly Influential (2), Somewhat Influential (3), Very Influential (4), and Extremely Influential (5)</b>	
<b>Group – Mean Values</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
Active Duty Service Member	1.5579
Active Duty Service Member weighted	1.6177
Veteran	1.5878
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	1.7131
Spouse of Veteran	1.7407
Active Duty - Enlisted	1.5117
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1-E4)	1.7500
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 and E6)	1.6230
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	1.3019
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	1.5872
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	1.7010
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	1.5203
Active Duty – Officer (07-O10)	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	1.4000
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	1.6054
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	1.6825
Veteran - Enlisted	1.5882
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	1.5814
Female	1.7180



Male	1.5966
Active Duty - Female	1.6977
Active Duty - Male	1.5068
Active Duty – Female Weighted	1.7209
Active Duty – Male Weighted	1.6135
Veteran - Female	1.5648
Veteran - Male	1.5921

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting?**

- Extremely influential
- Very influential
- Somewhat influential
- Slightly influential
- Not at all influential
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses and average ratings for all respondents and response groups for the question “Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting?” The response options are: not at influential (1), slightly influential (2), somewhat influential (3), very influential (4), and “extremely influential (5). The response exhibiting the highest percentage for all respondents is “Not at all influential” at 71.56 percent, significantly more than the majority. The average rating for all responses is 1.5135, which is halfway between “not at all influential” and “slightly influential.” The average ratings among the response groups are similar to the average rating for all respondents.

**Table 43. Military Leadership Influence**

<b>Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting? Not At All Influential (1), Slightly Influential (2), Somewhat Influential (3), Very Influential (4), and Extremely Influential (5)</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to Answer”)</b>
Prefer not to answer	95	4.09	
Not at all influential (1)	1,661	71.56	74.62
Slightly influential (2)	192	8.27	8.63
Somewhat influential (3)	221	9.52	9.93
Very influential (4)	99	4.27	4.45
Extremely influential (5)	53	2.28	2.38
Total	2,321	100.00	100.00
Average		1.5135	

**Table 44. Percentage of Military Leadership Influence By Response Group**

<b>Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting?</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.08	4.27	3.52	9.30
Not at all influential (1)	75.32	70.01	73.56	70.93
Slightly influential (2)	9.09	9.43	6.47	5.81
Somewhat influential (3)	8.83	9.93	9.56	8.14
Very influential (4)	3.12	4.77	4.64	1.16
Extremely influential (5)	1.56	1.59	2.25	4.65
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 45. Average Rating of Military Leadership Influence By Response Group**

<b>Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting? Not at all influential (1), Slightly influential (2), Somewhat influential (3), Very influential (4), and Extremely influential (5)</b>	
<b>Group</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
Active Duty Service Member	1.4324
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	1.5015
Veteran	1.5218
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	1.5029
Spouse of Veteran	1.4872
Active Duty - Enlisted	1.4453
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1-E4)	1.6522
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	1.5410
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	1.2453
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	1.4378
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	1.4362
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	1.4194
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	1.6000
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	1.5186
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	1.4082
Veteran - Enlisted	1.5774
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	1.5057
Female	1.5160
Male	1.5112
Active Duty - Female	1.5862
Active Duty - Male	1.3772



Active Duty – Female Weighted	1.3714
Active Duty – Male Weighted	1.5069
Veteran - Female	1.4563
Veteran - Male	1.5299
Veteran Non-Minority	1.5161
Veteran Minority	1.5054

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: Which choice best describes the amount of influence the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command or unit has on the candidate you vote for?**

- Extremely influential
- Very influential
- Somewhat influential
- Slightly influential
- Not at all influential
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses and average ratings for all respondents and response groups for the question “Which choice best described the amount of influence the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command or unit has on the candidate you vote for?” The response options are: not at influential (1), slightly influential (2), somewhat influential (3), very influential (4), and “extremely influential (5). The response exhibiting the highest percentage for all respondents is “Not at all influential” at 81.86 percent, significantly more than just a simple majority. The average rating for all responses is 1.2806, which is between “not at all influential” and “slightly influential,” though closer to “Not at all influential.” The average ratings among the response groups are similar to the average rating for all respondents.

**Table 46. Military Leadership Influence On Who to Vote**

<b>Which choice best describes the amount of influence the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command or unit has on the candidate you vote for? Not At All Influential (1), Slightly Influential (2), Somewhat Influential (3), Very Influential (4), and Extremely Influential (5)</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent Excluding “Prefer not to answer”</b>
Prefer not to answer	91	3.93	
Not at all influential (1)	1,895	81.86	85.21
Slightly influential (2)	132	5.70	5.94
Somewhat influential (3)	124	5.36	5.58
Very influential (4)	48	2.07	2.16
Extremely influential (5)	25	1.08	1.12
Total	2,315	100.00	100.00
Average		1.2806	

**Table 47. Percentage of Military Leadership Influence On Who to Vote By Response Group**

Which choice best describes the amount of influence the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command or unit has on the candidate you vote for?				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	2.09	4.08	3.80	5.81
Not at all influential (1)	88.25	83.07	79.15	79.07
Slightly influential (2)	3.13	6.57	5.49	6.98
Somewhat influential (3)	3.39	4.18	7.75	5.81
Very influential (4)	1.83	1.39	2.82	1.16
Extremely influential (5)	1.31	0.70	0.99	1.16
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 48. Average Rating of Military Leadership Influence On Who to Vote By Response Group**

Which choice best describes the amount of influence the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command or unit has on the candidate you vote for? Not at all influential (1), Slightly influential (2), Somewhat influential (3), Very influential (4), and Extremely influential (5)	
Group	Average Rating
Active Duty Service Member	1.2107
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	1.2245
Veteran	1.2285
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	1.3470
Spouse of Veteran	1.2840
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	1.2296
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	1.3043
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	1.2787
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	1.1373
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	1.1974
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	1.2316
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	1.1626
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	1.2667
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	1.2357
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	1.1648
Veteran - Enlisted	1.3905
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	1.1909
Female	1.3427



Male	1.2318
Active Duty - Female	1.4186
Active Duty - Male	1.1463
Active Duty – Female Weighted	1.3035
Active Duty – Male Weighted	1.2215
Veteran - Female	1.1748
Veteran - Male	1.2371

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more

11a. Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_



**Question: During my time associated with the military I have been:**

- Encouraged to vote
- Neither encouraged or discouraged
- Discouraged from voting
- None of the above
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses and average ratings for all respondents and response groups for the question “During my time associated with the military I have been:” The response options for the average rating are: Discouraged from voting (1), Neither encouraged or discouraged (2), and Encouraged to vote (3). The response exhibiting the highest percentage for all respondents is “Encouraged to vote” at 52.02 percent, slightly more than a simple majority. The average rating for all responses is 2.5629, which is between “Neither encouraged nor discouraged” and “Encouraged to vote.” The average ratings among the response groups are similar to the average rating for all respondents, ranging from a high of 2.8679 for active duty enlisted senior level (E7- E9) to a low of 2.3002 for active duty spouses.

**Table 49. Military Encouragement To Vote**

<b>During my time associated with the military I have been: Discouraged from voting (1), Neither encouraged or discouraged (2), and Encouraged to vote (3)</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer” and “None of the above”)</b>
Prefer not to answer	40	1.72	
None of the above	183	7.86	
Discouraged from voting (1)	26	1.12	1.24
Neither encouraged or discouraged (2)	868	37.29	41.24
Encouraged to vote (3)	1,211	52.02	57.53
Total	2,328	100.00	100.00
Average		2.5629	



Table 50. Percentage of Military Encouragement To Vote By Response Group

During my time associated with the military I have been: Discouraged from voting (1), Neither encouraged or discouraged (2), and Encouraged to vote (3)				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	1.82	0.59	2.25	5.75
None of the above	2.60	3.84	15.63	13.79
Discouraged from voting (1)	0.52	0.69	1.97	2.30
Neither encouraged or discouraged (2)	24.68	30.15	53.52	45.98
Encouraged to vote (3)	70.39	64.73	26.62	32.18
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 51. Average Rating of Military Encouragement To Vote By Response Group

During my time associated with the military I have been: Discouraged from voting (1), Neither encouraged or discouraged (2), and Encouraged to vote (3)	
Group*	During my time associated with the military I have been:
Active Duty Service Member	2.7310
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	2.3174
Veteran	2.6701
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	2.3002
Spouse of Veteran	2.3714
Active Duty - Enlisted	2.6493
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	2.4783
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	2.5172
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	2.8679
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	2.7753
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	2.7065
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	2.8347
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	2.7143
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	2.5838
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	2.7938



Veteran - Enlisted	2.6000
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	2.6841
Female	2.3898
Male	2.6901
Active Duty - Female	2.6071
Active Duty - Male	2.7731
Active Duty – Female Weighted	2.4313
Active Duty – Male Weighted	2.6255
Veteran - Female	2.6535
Veteran - Male	2.6725

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions**

	Yes	No	Unsure	NA	Prefer not to answer
1. Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?	<input type="radio"/>				
2. <b>(Branch: If married)</b> Is there anything that has prevented your spouse/partner from voting in a federal election?	<input type="radio"/>				
3. Has your military affiliation impacted your willingness to vote?	<input type="radio"/>				

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and response groups for the following questions (1) “Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?” (2) “Is there anything that has prevented your spouse/partner from voting in a federal election?” and (3) “Has your military affiliation impacted your willingness to vote?” For the question “Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?” the “Yes” response exhibits the highest percentage of respondents, 75.91 percent, a strong majority. For the question “Is there anything that has prevented your spouse/partner from voting in a federal election?” the “No” response exhibits the highest percentage of responses, 68.68 percent, though the “Yes” response did receive 23.53 percent of the responses. The responses to the question “Has your military affiliation impacted your willingness to vote?” exhibit a distribution similar to the previous question, with 70.21 percent “No” responses and 25.12 percent “Yes” responses.

When considering responses of response groups, only the percentage of “Yes” responses are provided. The percent of “Yes” responses for the question “Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?” ranged from a high of 93.55 percent for active duty senior level (O7 – O10) officers to a low of 61.19 percent for active duty enlisted. The percent of “Yes” responses for the question “Is there anything that has prevented your spouse/partner from voting in a federal election?” ranged from a high of 36.21 percent for active duty females to a low of 10.62 percent for veteran respondents without military family history. The percent of “Yes” responses for the question “Has your military affiliation impacted your willingness to vote?” ranged from a high of 35.24 percent for female veterans to a low of 17.60 percent for active duty officers.



Table 52. Perceptions of Voting

Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions			
Response	Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?	Is there anything that has prevented your spouse/partner from voting in a federal election?	Has your military affiliation impacted your willingness to vote?
Prefer not to answer	1.18	1.56	1.20
Yes	75.91	23.53	25.12
No	9.67	68.68	70.21
Unsure	13.24	6.23	3.47
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00
Percent (Excluding "Prefer not to answer")			
Yes	76.82	23.90	25.43
No	9.78	69.77	71.06
Unsure	13.40	6.33	6.51
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 53. Percentage of Perceptions of Voting By Response Group

Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Percentage Responding "Yes" (Excluding "Prefer not to answer")			
Group	Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?	Is there anything that has prevented your spouse/partner from voting in a federal election?	Has your military affiliation impacted your willingness to vote?
Active Duty Service Member	67.90	22.33	20.11
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	69.30	19.00	21.15
Veteran	85.77	14.41	27.87
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	69.01	36.11	23.55
Spouse of Veteran	75.90	23.44	23.75
Active Duty - Enlisted	61.19	21.00	23.26
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	69.70	33.33	26.98
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	63.73	33.64	26.92
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	70.45	23.95	24.81
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	71.61	23.08	17.60
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	75.83	25.96	23.15
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	84.68	18.27	24.69



Active Duty – Officer (07-010)	93.55	14.29	29.03
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	74.34	28.13	28.57
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	69.54	18.30	21.79
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	68.08	21.57	18.04
Veteran - Enlisted	68.26	23.81	27.54
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	89.36	12.59	27.71
Female	70.45	33.63	26.11
Male	82.18	15.41	24.90
Active Duty - Female	66.67	36.21	25.30
Active Duty - Male	68.75	18.75	18.37
Active Duty – Female Weighted	64.20	34.57	24.67
Active Duty – Male Weighted	69.52	18.31	21.02
Veteran - Female	77.14	27.14	35.24
Veteran - Male	86.75	13.24	26.96

### Voter Registration Drive



**Question:** Have you ever supported or volunteered in a voter registration drive on a military installation?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

The tables present the distribution of all respondents and the “Yes” percentages for response groups for the question “Have you ever supported or volunteered in a voter registration drive on a military installation?” The “No” response percentage exhibits the highest percentage for all respondents of 89.83 percent. The “Yes” response percentage for the response groups ranges from a high of 11.45 percent for active duty enlisted and a low of 1.90 for active duty spouses (excludes “Prefer not to answer” responses).

**Table 54. Voter Registration Drive**

Have you ever supported or volunteered in a voter registration drive on a military installation?			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Prefer not to answer	26	1.13	
Yes	207	9.03	9.14
No	2,059	89.83	90.86
Total	2,292	100.00	100.00



Table 55. Percentage of Voter Registration Drive By Response Group

Have you ever supported or volunteered in a voter registration drive on a military installation? Percentage Responding “Yes” (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)	
Group	Have you ever supported or volunteered in a voter registration drive on a military installation?
Active Duty Service Member	11.05
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	13.19
Veteran	13.63
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	1.90
Spouse of Veteran	8.33
Active Duty - Enlisted	11.45
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	7.46
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.57
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	12.41
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	10.73
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	5.18
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	11.71
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	3.13
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	8.93
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	14.50
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	6.70
Veteran - Enlisted	16.67
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	12.94
Female	4.44
Male	13.00
Active Duty - Female	11.63
Active Duty - Male	10.92
Active Duty – Female Weighted	8.36
Active Duty – Male Weighted	13.38
Veteran - Female	8.57
Veteran - Male	14.25



**Question: Did you register to vote at a voter registration drive?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

The table provides the distribution of responses for the question “Did you register to vote at a voter registration drive?” As the distribution clearly indicates, a significant the majority of the respondents (88.77 percent) did not register to vote at a voter registration drive (excludes “Prefer not to answer” responses). The “Yes” response percentage for the response groups ranges from a high of 16.28 percent for active duty female and a low of 4.10 for active duty officers mid-level (O4-O6) (excludes “Prefer not to answer” responses). This is a rather wide range of values, though all values for “Yes” responses are below 27 percent (excludes “Prefer not to answer” responses).

**Table 56. Registration at Voter Registration Drive**

<b>Did you register to vote at a voter registration drive?</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”</b>
Prefer not to answer	31	1.35	
Yes	254	11.08	11.23
No	2,008	87.57	88.77
Total	2,293	100.00	100.00

**Table 57. Percentage of Registration at Voter Registration Drive By Response Group**

<b>Did you register to vote at a voter registration drive? Percentage Responding “Yes” (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)</b>	
<b>Response Group</b>	<b>Did you register to vote at a voter registration drive?</b>
Active Duty Service Member	8.06
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	6.25
Veteran	13.31
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	7.92
Spouse of Veteran	15.66
Active Duty - Enlisted	9.85
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	13.64
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	10.17
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	7.84
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	6.44
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	10.42



Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.10
Active Duty – Officer (07-010)	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	6.19
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	5.67
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	9.16
Veteran - Enlisted	17.58
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	12.33
Female	10.92
Male	11.38
Active Duty - Female	16.28
Active Duty - Male	5.26
Active Duty – Female Weighted	22.08
Active Duty – Male Weighted	5.63
Veteran - Female	16.19
Veteran - Male	13.01



**Question: Did you use the voter registration drive to get information?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

The table provides the distribution of responses for the question “Did you use the voter registration drive to get information?” As the distribution clearly indicates, a significant majority of the respondents (84.92 percent) did not use the voter registration drive to get information.

**Table 58. Information at Voter Registration Drive**

<b>Did you use the voter registration drive to get information?</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)</b>
Prefer not to answer	37	1.61	
Yes	309	13.46	13.68
No	1,949	84.92	86.32
Total	2,295	100.00	100.00

As the table clearly indicates, a significant majority of all the group respondents did not use the voter registration drive to get information. The highest percentage for “Yes” responses is exhibited by active duty junior enlisted (23.81 percent).



Table 59. Percentage of Information at Voter Registration Drive By Response Group

Did you use the voter registration drive to get information? Percentage Responding “Yes” (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)	
Response Group	Did you register to vote at a voter registration drive?
Active Duty Service Member	12.10
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	9.36
Veteran	17.85
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	8.48
Spouse of Veteran	13.75
Active Duty - Enlisted	11.45
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	23.81
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	3.39
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	15.69
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	11.97
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	14.43
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	10.57
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	7.14
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	9.15
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	10.35
Veteran - Enlisted	17.47
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	17.82
Female	10.75
Male	16.01
Active Duty - Female	18.60
Active Duty - Male	9.82
Active Duty – Female Weighted	26.00
Active Duty – Male Weighted	8.68
Veteran - Female	13.33
Veteran - Male	18.37



**Question: Who ensures that everything is in order for voting and/or registering to vote?**

- I do
- My spouse does
- My parents or other extended family
- A friend
- None of the above



- Other \_\_\_\_\_

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and response groups for the question “Who ensures that everything is in order for voting and/or registering to vote?” As the distribution clearly indicates, a significant majority of the respondents (85.4 percent) indicated that he or she, the respondent, ensured everything was in order for voting and/or registering to vote. The response percentages are provided for the “I do” and “My spouse does” response options by response group. The “I do” response option ranges from a low of 74.45 percent for active duty enlisted to a high of 92.55 percent for veteran officers, all of which are a strong majority. The “My spouse does” response option ranges from a low of 1.87 percent for veteran females to a high of 10.47 percent for veteran spouses.

**Table 60. Responsibility**

<b>Who ensures that everything is in order for voting and/or registering to vote?</b>		
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
I do	1,960	85.40
My spouse does	119	5.19
My parents or other extended family	7	0.31
A friend	2	0.09
None of the above	170	7.41
Other	37	1.61
Total	2,295	100.00

**Table 61. Percentage of Responsibility By Response Group**

<b>Percentage Responses</b>	<b>Who ensures that everything is in order for voting and/or registering to vote?</b>	
	<b>“I do”</b>	<b>“My spouse does”</b>
<b>Response Group</b>		
Active Duty Service Member	84.13	4.23
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	83.15	4.93
Veteran	91.06	2.09
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	79.11	8.93
Spouse of Veteran	81.40	10.47
Active Duty - Enlisted	74.07	2.96
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	78.26	8.70
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	70.00	1.67
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	76.92	1.92
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	89.41	5.08
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	82.20	4.73
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	87.89	5.91
Veteran - Enlisted	83.63	2.92



Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	92.55	1.92
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	87.76	6.12
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	91.06	4.07
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	86.67	6.67
Female	80.02	7.86
Male	89.90	2.97
Active Duty - Female	82.02	2.25
Active Duty - Male	85.37	4.88
Active Duty – Female Weighted	76.28	0.88
Active Duty – Male Weighted	83.46	5.11
Veteran - Female	86.92	1.87
Veteran - Male	91.46	2.13



**Question:** Leading up to an election, please select the most appropriate response for the following questions.

	Nearly every day	A few times a week	A few times a month	Less than a few times a month	Never	Prefer not to answer
1. (Branch: If married) How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. (Branch: If married) Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. (Branch: for service members only) How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and the average response ratings for all respondents and response groups for the following questions (1) “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?” (2) “Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?” and (3) “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?” For the question “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?” the “Less than a few times a month” response exhibits the highest percentage of respondents, 31.16 percent with an average rating of 2.8924. For the question “Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?” the “Less than a few times a



month” response exhibits the highest percentage of responses, 37.65 percent, with an average ratings of 2.1890 For the question “Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?” the “Less than a few times a month” response exhibits the highest percentage of responses, 37.65 percent, with an average ratings of 2.1890. For the question “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?” the “Never” response exhibits the highest percentage of responses, 46.51 percent, with an average ratings of 1.8356.

**Table 62. Voting Discussion**

Leading up to an election, please select the most appropriate response for the following questions.			
Response	How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?	Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?	How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?
Prefer not to answer	1.94	2.24	4.43
Never (1)	12.24	28.14	46.51
Less than a few times a month (2)	31.16	37.65	27.96
A few times a month (3)	19.91	19.62	12.87
A few times a week (4)	24.39	10.06	6.78
Nearly every day (5)	10.35	2.29	1.45
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average	2.8924	2.1890	1.8356

The tables present the distribution of responses for each of four response groups for the questions “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?” “Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?” and “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?” The percentages in the first table (“How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?”) for the “Less than a few times a month” response for three of the four response groups exhibit the highest percentage, ranging from a low of 24.64 percent for veteran spouses to a high of 36.45 percent for active duty service members; exception, veterans with a 26.33 for “Less than a few times a month” and 29.18 percent for “A few times a week.”

The percentages in the second table (“Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?”) for the “Less than a few times a month” response option for all four response groups exhibit the highest percentage, ranging from a low of 25.39 percent for veteran spouses to a high of 42.77 percent for active duty service members.

The percentages in the third table (“How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?”) only receive responses for active duty service members and veterans. The “Never “



response option for the two response groups exhibit the highest percentage, ranging from a low of 37.23 percent for active duty service members to a high of 50.25 percent for veterans.

**Table 63. Percentage of Voting Discussion – Item 1- By Response Group**

<b>Leading up to an election, please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	1.94	1.66	2.48	1.45
Never (1)	16.45	8.07	14.87	14.49
Less than a few times a month (2)	36.45	26.33	35.13	24.64
A few times a month (3)	19.35	20.28	19.83	18.84
A few times a week (4)	20.97	29.18	20.26	21.74
Nearly every day (5)	4.84	14.47	7.43	18.84
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 64. Percentage of Voting Discussion – Item 2- By Response Group**

<b>Leading up to an election, please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, siblings)?</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Prefer not to answer	2.57	1.78	2.77	2.94
Never (1)	32.15	27.35	27.51	25.00
Less than a few times a month (2)	42.77	35.55	38.43	35.29
A few times a month (3)	14.15	21.40	19.51	17.65
A few times a week (4)	6.75	11.89	9.61	11.76
Nearly every day (5)	1.61	2.02	2.18	7.35
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 65. Percentage of Voting Discussion – Item 3- By Response Group**

<b>Leading up to an election, please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?</b>		
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>
Prefer not to answer	3.19	5.06
Never (1)	37.23	50.25
Less than a few times a month (2)	36.70	24.57
A few times a month (3)	16.22	11.22



A few times a week (4)	5.32	7.68
Nearly every day (5)	1.33	1.21
Total	100.00	100.00

The average ratings for response groups exhibit a rather wide range of values. For example, for the question “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?” the average ratings range from a low of 2.2500 for active duty enlisted mid-level (E5 - E6) to a high of 3.5000 for active duty warrant officers. For the question “Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, or siblings)?” the average ratings range from a low of 1.9143 for active duty respondents without a military family history to a high of 2.6667 for active duty warrant officers. For the question “How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?” the average ratings range from a low of 1.6931 for veteran females to a high of 2.2143 for active duty warrant officers.

**Table 66. Average Rating of Voting Discussion By Response Group**

<b>Leading up to an election, please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Never (1), Less than a few times a month (2), A few times a month (3), A few times a week (4), and Nearly every day (5)</b>			
<b>Response Group</b>	<b>How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your spouse?</b>	<b>Other than with a spouse, how often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with your immediate family (e.g. parents, grandparents, or siblings)?</b>	<b>How often, if ever, did you discuss the voting process with members of your unit?</b>
Active Duty Service Member	2.6053	2.0033	1.9341
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	2.4995	1.9789	2.0042
Veteran	3.1592	2.2433	1.7891
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	2.6951	2.1826	no observations
Spouse of Veteran	3.0588	2.3939	no observations
Active Duty - Enlisted	2.5294	2.0294	2.0156
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	2.5455	2.1818	2.0500
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	2.2500	1.9091	1.9123
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	2.7872	2.1064	2.1176
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	2.6447	1.9898	1.8996
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	2.6000	1.9714	1.8495
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	2.5826	1.9298	1.9016
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations	No Observations	No Observations



Active Duty – Warrant Officer	3.5000	2.6667	2.2143
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	2.4559	1.9747	2.0171
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	2.6687	1.9954	1.9418
Veteran - Enlisted	2.8824	2.2333	1.9430
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	3.2062	2.2415	1.7545
Female	2.7069	2.1848	1.7087
Male	3.0516	2.1902	1.8585
Active Duty - Female	2.4098	2.1148	1.7500
Active Duty - Male	2.6529	1.9710	1.9857
Active Duty – Female Weighted	2.5044	2.3746	1.8998
Active Duty – Male Weighted	2.4993	1.9615	2.0084
Veteran - Female	2.8971	2.1884	1.6931
Veteran - Male	3.1819	2.2483	1.8014

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more

### Foreign Interference



**Question: To what extent do you agree with the following:**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Prefer not to answer
1. There was foreign interference in the 2016 presidential election.	<input type="radio"/>					
2. A foreign country could interfere with future elections.	<input type="radio"/>					

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and the average response ratings for all respondents and response groups for the following question “To what extent do you agree with the following:” (1) “There was foreign interference in the 2016 presidential election” and (2) “A foreign country could interfere with future elections.” The response options are: “strongly disagree” (1), “disagree” (2), “neither agree nor disagree” (3), “agree” (4), and “strongly agree” (4). For the statement “There was foreign interference in the 2016 presidential election,” the average rating is 3.3713, which is between “agree” and “neither agree nor disagree,” though closer to “neither agree nor disagree.” For the statement “A foreign country could interfere with future elections,” the average rating is 3.8207, which is also between “agree” and “neither agree nor disagree,” though closer to “agree.”

**Table 67. Foreign Interference**

To what extent do you agree with the following:		
Response	There was foreign	A foreign country could interfere



	interference in the 2016 presidential election.	with future elections.
Prefer not to answer	4.76	4.02
Strongly disagree (1)	11.64	5.65
Disagree (2)	11.90	7.20
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	25.57	17.22
Agree (4)	21.69	34.57
Strongly Agree (5)	24.43	31.35
Total	100.00	100.00
Average	3.3713	3.8207

**Table 68. Percentage of Foreign Interference – Item 1- By Response Group**

To what extent do you agree with the following: There was foreign interference in the 2016 presidential election.				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	6.90	1.90	6.59	7.23
Strongly disagree (1)	11.14	11.82	10.98	15.66
Disagree (2)	9.55	11.22	13.47	14.46
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	24.14	25.35	27.23	22.89
Agree (4)	23.08	25.45	17.13	12.05
Strongly Agree (5)	25.20	24.25	24.60	27.71
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 69. Percentage of Foreign Interference – Item 2- By Response Group**

To what extent do you agree with the following: A foreign country could interfere with future elections.				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	5.57	1.80	5.46	9.52
Strongly disagree (1)	6.63	5.01	5.60	8.33
Disagree (2)	3.45	7.11	9.00	7.14
Neither agree nor disagree (3)	16.71	15.22	20.94	15.48
Agree (4)	35.28	37.54	30.68	27.38
Strongly Agree (5)	32.36	33.33	28.32	32.14
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The average ratings for response groups for the statement “There was foreign interference in the 2016 presidential election” ranges from a high of 3.8469 for veteran females to a low of 2.7333 for active duty



warrant officers. The average ratings for response groups for the statement “A foreign country could interfere with future elections” ranges from a high of 4.1277 for active duty O-1 to O-3 officers to a low of 3.4000 for active duty warrant officers.

**Table 70. Average Rating of Foreign Interference By Response Group**

<b>To what extent do you agree with the following: Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5)</b>		
<b>Response Group</b>	<b>There was foreign interference in the 2016 presidential election.</b>	<b>A foreign country could interfere with future elections.</b>
Active Duty Service Member	3.4473	3.8820
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	3.5189	3.9319
Veteran	3.3984	3.8869
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	3.3307	3.7098
Spouse of Veteran	3.2338	3.7500
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.1639	3.6557
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	3.2500	3.6842
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	3.2778	3.6415
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	3.0000	3.6600
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	3.5919	4.0088
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	3.8043	4.1277
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	3.5345	3.9915
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	2.7333	3.4000
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	3.4796	3.8929
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	3.7008	4.1036
Veteran - Enlisted	3.2515	3.6605
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	3.4219	3.9277
Female	3.3545	3.7333
Male	3.3830	3.8875
Active Duty - Female	3.3867	3.7179
Active Duty - Male	3.4672	3.9348
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.0849	3.4417
Active Duty – Male Weighted	3.5353	3.9510
Veteran - Female	3.8469	4.0808
Veteran - Male	3.3517	3.8661



\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: Did the interference change your confidence in the voting process?**

- Yes, less confidence in the voting process
- Yes, more confidence in the voting process
- No, confidence stayed the same
- Do not know
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and response groups for the following question “Did the interference change your confidence in the voting process?” (This was only shown to those who agree or strongly agree to a foreign interference). The distribution for all respondents has two response options which exhibit percentages of over 44 percent: “Yes, less confidence in the voting process” at 44.56 percent and “No, confidence stayed the same” at 48.51 percent. The distributions for the response groups exhibit similar bi-modal distribution with “Yes, less confidence in the voting process” and “No, confidence stayed the same” dominate in all response group distributions. There are 9 response groups that exhibit a percentage for the response option “Did the interference change your confidence in the voting process?” of over 50 percent, while there are 16 response groups that exhibit a percentage for the response option “No, confidence stayed the same” of over 50 percent.

**Table 71. Confidence Change**

<b>Did the interference change your confidence in the voting process?</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)</b>
Prefer not to answer	6	0.58	
Yes, less confidence in the voting process	463	44.56	44.82
Yes, more confidence in the voting process	17	1.64	1.65
No, confidence stayed the same	504	48.51	48.79
Do not know	49	4.72	4.74
Total	1,039	100.00	100.00



Table 72. Percentage of Confidence Change By Response Group

Did the interference change your confidence in the voting process? Percentages (Excluding Prefer not to answer)			
Response Group	Yes, less confidence in the voting process	Yes, more confidence in the voting process	No, confidence stayed the same
Active Duty Service Member	36.46	1.66	58.01
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	38.41	1.82	57.71
Veteran	34.96	2.24	58.74
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	63.25	0.35	28.27
Spouse of Veteran	69.70	.	21.21
Active Duty - Enlisted	37.50	2.08	56.25
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	39.54	1.67	57.67
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	57.14	.	42.86
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	44.00	4.00	52.00
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	18.75	.	68.75
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	36.43	1.55	58.14
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	33.85	2.43	57.89
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	39.66	3.45	51.72
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	31.82	.	65.15
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations	No Observations	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	60.00	.	40.00
Veteran - Enlisted	52.11	2.82	36.62
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	31.82	2.15	62.68
Female	64.42	0.48	28.37
Male	31.28	2.27	62.07
Active Duty - Female	67.74	3.23	29.03
Active Duty - Male	30.00	1.33	64.00
Active Duty – Female Weighted	79.12	3.23	29.03
Active Duty – Male Weighted	37.56	1.78	58.55
Veteran - Female	62.71	.	35.59
Veteran – Male	31.32	2.32	61.95



**Question:** If yes to the previous question, will this change the likelihood that you will vote?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and response groups for the following question “If yes to the previous question, will this change the likelihood that you will vote?” This was only shown to those who agree or strongly agree to a foreign interference). The distribution for all respondents clearly indicates that respondents do not believe the likelihood they will vote will change, 89.35 percent. The distributions for the response groups exhibit similar distributions with the “No” response dominating all the distributions; from a low of 80.99 percent for spouse of an active duty service member to a high of 97.10 percent for active duty officers junior level (O1-O3).

**Table 73. Foreign Interference Change the Likelihood To Vote**

<b>If yes to the previous question, will this change the likelihood that you will vote?</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)</b>
Prefer not to answer	7	0.51	
Yes	52	3.79	3.81
No	1,225	89.35	89.81
Do not know	87	6.35	6.38
Total	1,371	100.00	100.00

**Table 74. Foreign Interference Change the Likelihood To Vote By Response Group**

<b>If yes to the previous question, will this change the likelihood that you will vote? Percentages (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)</b>			
<b>Response Group</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Do Not Know</b>
Active Duty Service Member	3.52	92.07	4.41
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	0.15	89.76	8.74
Veteran	2.34	95.63	2.03
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	5.73	80.99	13.28
Spouse of Veteran	4.76	83.33	11.90
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.08	84.62	12.31
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	1.62	87.52	10.86
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	.	88.89	11.11
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	5.88	85.29	8.82
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	.	81.82	18.18
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	3.77	94.97	1.26



Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	1.05	98.63	0.32
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	1.45	97.10	1.45
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	6.02	93.98	.
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	.	85.71	14.29
Veteran - Enlisted	8.22	84.93	6.85
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	1.41	97.17	1.41
Female	4.93	83.03	12.04
Male	2.97	94.43	2.60
Active Duty - Female	.	91.49	8.51
Active Duty - Male	4.44	92.22	3.33
Active Duty – Female Weighted	.	92.25	7.75
Active Duty – Male Weighted	1.55	89.69	8.77
Veteran - Female	4.00	90.00	6.00
Veteran - Male	2.22	96.08	1.71



## Results: Party Affiliation and Important Issues

### Party Affiliation



**Question:** Generally speaking, which political party, if any, do you primarily identify with?

- Republican
- Democratic
- Libertarian
- Green Party
- Independent
- I am not affiliated with any party
- Other

The tables provide the distributions of responses for total respondents and response groups for the question “Generally speaking, which political party, if any, do you primarily identify with?” The five political parties are Republican, Democratic, Libertarian, Green Party, and Independent. The other two option responses are “I am not affiliated with any party” and “Other” For all respondents, Republican exhibits a 42.11 percent, followed by “I am not affiliated with any party” at 17.67 percent, Democratic at 15.87 percent, and Independent at 15.56 percent. This distribution varies widely when considering response groups. For example, the Republican response exhibits a high of 53.29 percent for veteran non-minorities and a low of 20 percent for veteran minorities. In comparison, the Democratic response ranges from a high of 29.9 percent for minorities and a low of 3.13 percent for active duty officers senior level (O7-O10). The Independent response also exhibits some high percentages, ranging from a high of 21.88 percent for active duty officers senior level (O7-O10) to a low of 11.26 percent for active duty spouses. No doubt a good representation across parties exists across all response groups in and out of active duty service.

**Table 75. Political Party Affiliation**

Generally speaking, which political party, if any, do you primarily identify with?		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Republican	939	42.11
Democratic	354	15.87
Libertarian	117	5.25
Green Party	8	0.36
Independent	347	15.56
I am not affiliated with any party	394	17.67
Other	71	3.18
Total	2,230	100.00



Table 76. Percentage of Political Party Affiliation By Response Group

Generally speaking, which political party, if any, do you primarily identify with?							
Group	Republican	Democratic	Libertarian	Green Party	Independent	I am not affiliated with any party	Other
Active Duty Service Member	32.16	18.11	9.19	0.81	16.22	19.73	3.78
Active Duty Service Member - Weighted	26.09	24.19	11.57	0.83	12.44	19.55	5.64
Veteran	49.38	11.19	3.39	0.21	18.69	13.45	3.70
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	36.74	21.63	5.63	0.44	11.26	21.48	2.81
Spouse of Veteran	44.05	16.67	1.19	.	15.48	21.43	1.19
Active Duty - Enlisted	30.30	17.42	11.36	1.52	13.64	21.21	4.55
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	30.43	23.91	5.80	.	11.59	26.09	2.17
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	30.83	17.96	7.24	1.34	12.87	25.47	4.29
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	41.63	14.01	6.23	0.39	11.67	23.74	2.33
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	33.77	18.61	8.23	0.43	16.88	18.61	3.46
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	40.50	18.69	6.54	.	16.51	15.58	2.18
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	47.23	14.99	3.80	0.10	17.15	13.35	3.39
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	56.25	3.13	.	3.13	21.88	9.38	6.25
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	49.56	7.08	6.19	.	20.35	13.27	3.54
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	24.48	26.24	11.88	0.96	11.45	19.11	5.88
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	33.98	14.11	10.06	0.16	17.34	21.69	2.66
Veteran - Enlisted	34.76	14.02	7.32	0.61	12.20	27.44	3.66
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	52.35	10.64	2.60	0.12	20.05	10.52	3.71
Female	35.46	21.48	4.90	0.40	13.39	21.68	2.70
Male	47.57	11.38	5.52	0.33	17.39	14.34	3.46
Active Duty - Female	22.73	28.41	2.27	1.14	20.45	21.59	3.41
Active Duty - Male	35.00	15.00	11.07	0.71	15.00	19.29	3.93
Active Duty – Female Weighted	33.36	22.05	1.27	0.65	9.44	30.80	2.42
Active Duty – Male Weighted	25.76	24.28	12.04	0.83	12.58	19.04	5.47
Veteran - Female	25.00	23.00	6.00	.	21.00	21.00	4.00
Veteran – Male	52.02	9.94	3.12	0.23	18.50	12.60	3.58



Generally speaking, which political party, if any, do you primarily identify with?							
Group	Republican	Democratic	Libertarian	Green Party	Independent	I am not affiliated with any party	Other
Non-Minority	46.00	13.61	5.62	0.32	15.60	15.82	3.02
Minority	24.12	29.90	2.57	0.64	11.90	28.94	1.93
Active Duty Non-Minority	35.74	16.15	10.65	0.69	14.78	18.90	3.09
Active Duty Minority	23.08	27.69	3.08	1.54	15.38	26.15	3.08
Veteran Non-Minority	53.29	9.76	3.41	0.24	18.71	11.29	3.29
Veteran Minority	20.00	28.89	1.11	.	16.67	30.00	3.33



**Question:** During my time associated with the military, I believe my political views are

- Similar to others in the military
- Different from others in the military
- Not sure
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses by total respondents and response groups to the questions “During my time associated with the military, I believe my political views are:” with the responses options as: “Prefer not to answer,” “Similar to others in the military,” “Different from others in the military,” and “Not sure.” The response “Similar to others in the military” exhibits the highest response percentage for all respondents at 46.67 percent. A comparable percentage of respondents select either “Different from others in the military” or “Not sure,” the sum the two percentages result in 49.26 percent. The 32 response groups exhibit a similar distribution of responses, though some notable differences do exist. Active duty officers senior level (O7-O10) exhibit the highest percentage for “Similar to others in the military” at 59.38 percent, while active duty females exhibit the highest percentage for “Not Sure” at 43.18 percent. The highest percentage for “Different from other in the military” is exhibited by active duty minorities at 36.36 percent.

**Table 77. Political Views**

During my time associated with the military, I believe my political views are			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Prefer not to answer	91	4.07	
Similar to others in the military	1,044	46.67	48.65
Different from others in the military	468	20.92	21.81
Not sure	634	28.34	29.54
Total	2,237	100.00	100.00



Table 78. Percentage of Political Views By Response Group

During my time associated with the military, I believe my political views are				
Response Group	Prefer not to answer	Similar to others in the military	Different from others in the military	Not sure
Active Duty Service Member	4.31	39.35	28.84	27.49
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	5.51	39.78	34.17	20.54
Veteran	2.86	56.53	12.55	28.06
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.00	37.04	29.33	29.63
Spouse of Veteran	12.05	37.35	19.28	31.33
Active Duty - Enlisted	7.58	37.88	28.79	25.76
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	8.70	30.43	28.99	31.88
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	6.43	38.34	24.66	30.56
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.28	46.30	21.40	28.02
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	2.59	40.09	29.31	28.02
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	2.17	41.18	27.86	28.79
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	2.76	53.42	16.85	26.97
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	6.25	59.38	12.50	21.88
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	6.14	49.12	15.79	28.95
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	6.13	39.52	35.78	18.56
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	2.42	41.06	26.25	30.27
Veteran - Enlisted	3.66	44.51	20.12	31.71
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	2.70	58.90	11.04	27.36
Female	5.69	35.73	26.55	32.04
Male	2.62	55.66	16.48	25.25
Active Duty - Female	7.95	19.32	29.55	43.18
Active Duty - Male	2.85	45.91	28.47	22.78
Active Duty – Female Weighted	15.34	27.97	23.65	33.05
Active Duty – Male Weighted	5.06	40.32	34.65	19.97
Veteran - Female	5.88	32.35	20.59	41.18
Veteran - Male	2.41	59.20	11.72	26.67
Non-Minority	3.39	50.16	19.34	27.10
Minority	8.60	27.39	30.57	33.44
Active Duty Non-Minority	3.44	42.61	27.49	26.46
Active Duty Minority	9.09	25.76	36.36	28.79
Veteran Non-Minority	2.45	59.11	11.10	27.34
Veteran Minority	6.67	35.56	27.78	30.00



## Important Issues



**Question:** If the election was held tomorrow, select the topics that are most important to you when considering a presidential candidate (select a max of 5).

- Abortion
- Civil rights
- Crime and violence
- Criminal Justice
- Drug use
- Economy
- Education
- Environment
- Federal deficits and taxation
- Foreign policy
- Gun control
- Health care
- Immigration
- International trade policy
- Military
- National security/ terrorism
- Religion
- Size and scope of the federal government
- Social Issues
- Social security
- Veterans

The table below provide the distribution of responses to the question “If the election was held tomorrow, select the topics that are most important to you when considering a presidential candidate (select a max of 5).” For example, 3.92 percent of the respondents selected “Abortion” as one of their five most important topics when considering a presidential candidate. The topic receiving the highest percentage of selections is the “Military,” (11.69 percent) followed by the “Economy” (9.38 percent) and the “National security/terrorism” (7.59 percent). The “Military” and “National security/terrorism” topics are not surprising as important topics for the respondents given the direct or indirect association of the respondents with the military. The same could be said for “Federal deficits and taxation” (ranked 8), “Foreign policy” (ranked 9), and “Veterans” (ranked 5). The “Economy” is also not surprising given the significant recession the economy has been recovering from since 2012. “Education” ranked as 4<sup>th</sup> is a little more questionable, though it is driven by active duty spouses responses (see next table).

**Table 79. Important Issues**

If the election was held tomorrow, select the topics that are most important to you when considering a presidential candidate (select a max of 5).			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Ranking of Topics (Top 15)
Military	1,260	11.69	1
Economy	1,011	9.38	2



National security/terrorism	818	7.59	3
Education	778	7.22	4
Veterans	750	6.96	5
Immigration	740	6.87	6
Health care	656	6.09	7
Federal deficits and taxation	655	6.08	8
Foreign policy	583	5.41	9
Gun control	527	4.89	10
Civil rights	464	4.31	11
Abortion	422	3.92	12
Environment	383	3.55	13
Size and scope of the federal government	348	3.23	14
Crime and violence	328	3.04	15
Criminal Justice	164	1.52	
Drug use	129	1.2	
International trade policy	83	0.77	
Religion	106	0.98	
Social Issues	183	1.7	
Social security	238	2.21	
Other, please specify	94	0.87	
Other, please specify	26	0.24	
Other, please specify	14	0.13	
Other, please specify	8	0.07	
Other, please specify	7	0.06	
Total	10,775	100.00	

The tables below provide the distribution of responses by response group to the question “If the election was held tomorrow, select the topics that are most important to you when considering a presidential candidate (select a max of 5).” The percentages in the table represent the percent of the number of responders for each response group to the question. For example, 17.26 percent of the active duty responders to the question “If the election was held tomorrow, select the topics that are most important to you when considering a presidential candidate” selected “Abortion” as one of the topics they considered to be important when considering a presidential candidate.

**Table 80. Percentage of Important Issues By Response Group**

<b>If the election was held tomorrow, select the topics that are most important to you when considering a presidential candidate (select a max of 5).</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouses</b>	<b>Veteran Spouses</b>
Abortion	17.26	15.08	26.01	14.46
Civil rights	24.93	14.46	27.50	16.87



If the election was held tomorrow, select the topics that are most important to you when considering a presidential candidate (select a max of 5).				
Crime and violence	13.15	18.70	10.46	13.25
Criminal Justice	7.67	8.06	5.53	10.84
Drug use	5.48	5.68	5.23	7.23
Economy	50.14	52.58	36.62	39.76
Education	33.97	19.01	59.64	39.76
Environment	20.00	14.15	21.38	14.46
Federal deficits and taxation	27.67	41.01	15.70	25.30
Foreign policy	33.70	29.13	18.68	19.28
Gun control	19.45	21.90	27.35	32.53
Health care	29.59	23.14	36.92	42.17
Immigration	24.38	42.67	26.46	28.92
International trade policy	6.30	4.24	2.39	0.00
Military	53.15	50.31	69.66	51.81
National security/terrorism	36.16	47.62	23.32	34.94
Religion	3.84	3.41	7.03	4.82
Size and scope of the federal government	20.82	20.45	7.17	12.05
Social Issues	10.14	4.55	13.45	3.61
Social security	6.85	14.36	7.92	13.25
Veterans	28.22	35.54	30.34	56.63

## Sources of Information



**Question:** How do you obtain information about the candidates? Please select all that apply.

- National news outlets
- Talk show (Today, Good Morning America, Daily Show, Face The Nation)
- Local news outlets
- Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)
- Family, friends and acquaintances
- Social media, such as Facebook and Twitter
- Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)
- Advertisement in media
- Other

The table below provide the distribution of selected responses for all respondents and four groups of respondents (active duty, veterans, active duty spouses, and veteran spouse). The “National news outlets” response receives the highest percentage of responses from all respondents, as well as across the four groups. “Family, friends and acquaintances” and “Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)” contend for the second highest percentage, with “Family,



friends and acquaintances” ranking second for all respondents but competing with “Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)” across groups.

**Table 81. Obtain Information about Candidate**

<b>How do you obtain information about the candidates? Please select all that apply.</b>						
<b>Response</b>	<b>Total Sample</b>		<b>Response Groups</b>			
	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Active Duty Military</b>	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>Active Duty Military Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
National news outlets	1,822	23.31	84.07	85.33	79.07	78.57
Talk show (Today, Good Morning America, Daily Show, Face The Nation)	687	8.79	28.30	36.62	24.07	34.52
Local news outlets	1,207	15.44	50.55	63.49	44.99	58.33
Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)	775	9.91	36.26	31.38	39.61	32.14
Family, friends and acquaintances	954	12.20	46.43	40.92	44.99	40.48
Social media, such as Facebook and Twitter	692	8.85	41.21	16.41	46.04	28.57
Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)	925	11.83	31.59	60.10	22.72	40.48
Advertisement in media	327	4.18	14.01	16.62	13.30	13.10
Other	429	5.49	18.96	22.05	15.55	21.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,485</b>	<b>100.00</b>				



## Results: Voting, Registration, and Process

### Voter Registration



**Question: Are you currently registered to vote in the United States?**

- Yes
- No
- Not eligible
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution for all respondents and response groups for the question “Are you currently registered to vote in the United States?” The distribution clearly indicates for all respondents that respondents exhibit a very high percentage of currently registered voters, 94.83 percent (96.33 percent of respondents who were willing to answer the question).

**Table 82. Register to Vote**

Are you currently registered to vote in the United States?			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Prefer not to answer	35	1.56	
Yes	2,127	94.83	96.33
No	78	3.48	3.53
Not eligible	3	0.13	0.14
Total	2,243	100.00	100.00

**Table 83. Percentage of Register to Vote by Response Group**

Are you currently registered to vote in the United States?				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouses	Veteran Spouses
Yes	93.94	98.67	93.83	95.06
No	6.06	1.33	5.72	4.94
Not eligible	.	.	0.45	.
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**Question: During your time associated with the military how many times have you registered to vote?**

- None
- 1 time
- 2 times
- 3 times
- 4 times
- 5 times
- More than 5 times
- Do not know
- Prefer not to answer

The table provides the distribution of responses for total respondents and response groups to the question “During your time associated with the military how many times have you registered to vote?” For total respondents, “More than 5 times” exhibits the highest percentage of responses, 25.82 percent. When the distribution is considered by response group, significant differences appear; in most cases, not unexpected. For example, the highest percentages for “More than 5 times” among response groups, veterans and veteran spouses exhibit the highest percentages, 41.94 percent and 22.08 percent, respectively. This may be a reflection of the length of tenure for the veterans’ active duty service and their spouses, thus, allowing more opportunities to PCS, and, thus, more opportunities to register to vote.

**Table 84. Number of Times Register to Vote**

During your time associated with the military how many times have you registered to vote?						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	24	1.13	1.76	0.94	0.97	2.60
Do not know	290	13.67	11.14	16.34	11.47	12.99
None	129	6.08	8.21	3.85	9.05	6.49
1 time	445	20.97	24.63	12.80	29.89	15.58
2 times	306	14.42	17.01	8.95	21.00	15.58
3 times	219	10.32	12.32	7.18	13.25	11.69
4 times	102	4.81	4.99	5.10	3.88	9.09
5 times	59	2.78	1.76	2.91	3.23	3.90
More than 5 times	548	25.82	18.18	41.94	7.27	22.08
Total	2,122	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00





**Question: You indicated you were registered to vote in ..., is this your...**

- Home of record prior to entering the military?
- Previous assigned duty location?
- Current assigned duty location?
- Other
- Does not apply

The table presents the distribution of responses for the total respondents and response groups for the question “You indicated you were registered to vote in ..., is this your...” The highest percentage response is exhibited by “Home of record prior to entering the military?” at 58.92 percent for total respondents. This response also receives the highest percentage response for all response groups, ranging from a high of 64.2 percent for active duty service members to a low of 56.93 percent for active duty spouses. The distribution of responses among the response groups all exhibit simple correlations of over 0.98.

**Table 85. Registration Location**

You indicated you were registered to vote in .., is this your...						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty*	Active Duty Spouses	Female	Male
Does not apply	20	1.87	0.30	1.63	2.02	1.54
Home of record prior to entering the military?	631	58.92	64.20	56.93	58.89	59.08
Previous assigned duty location?	162	15.13	17.46	15.66	14.56	16.31
Current assigned duty location?	201	18.77	13.91	20.39	19.14	17.85
Other	57	5.32	4.14	5.38	5.39	5.23
Total	1,071	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

\* No observations for veterans



**Question: Is your spouse also registered to vote in ...?**

- Yes
- No
- Do not know
- NA

The table provides the distribution of responses for total respondents and response groups for the question “Is your spouse also registered to vote in state?” The response option receiving the highest percentage across total respondents and response groups is “Yes” ranging from a high of 93.43 percent for veterans to a low of 59.93 percent for active duty service members, the majority for all response groups. Thus, the distributions of responses are notably different between active duty/active duty spouse and veteran/veteran spouse. The same can be said of males compared to females.

**Table 86. Spouse Registration Location**

Is your spouse also registered to vote in ...?
--



Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse	Female	Male
N/A	18	0.97	1.08	0.87	0.81	3.23	0.95	1.00
Yes	1,461	78.76	59.93	93.43	65.20	90.32	68.38	87.36
No	326	17.57	37.55	4.83	28.62	4.84	26.25	10.35
Do not know	50	2.70	1.44	0.87	5.37	1.61	4.42	1.29
Total	1,855	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

### Voting During Election



**Question:** Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

The table presents the distribution of responses for the question “Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?: I did not want to vote; I thought about voting this time – but didn't; I usually vote, but didn't this time; I attempted to vote but did not or could not; and I definitely voted.” The vast majority of the respondents definitely voted, 88.3 percent. The lowest percentage among the 16 response groups who indicated they definitely votes was exhibited by active duty minorities, but was still 75.93 percent.

**Table 87. 2016 Presidential Election**

Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty Service Member	Veteran	Female	Male
I did not want to vote	82	3.92	5.62	2.00	6.04	2.31
I thought about voting this time – but didn't	61	2.91	3.55	1.05	5.27	1.11
I usually vote, but didn't this time	51	2.44	2.37	1.26	3.74	1.37
I attempted to vote but did not or could not	51	2.44	4.14	0.53	3.63	1.37
I definitely voted	1,849	88.30	84.32	95.17	81.32	93.85
Total	2,094	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**Question:** In general, did you cast a vote during any of the following elections?



	Yes	No	Do not recall	Not eligible	Prefer not to answer
1. Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	<input type="radio"/>				
2. Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	<input type="radio"/>				
3. State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	<input type="radio"/>				
4. Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	<input type="radio"/>				
5. Primaries and caucuses	<input type="radio"/>				

The table presents the distribution of responses for the question “In general, did you cast a vote during any of the following elections? (1) Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president); (2) Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative); (3) State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor); (4) Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government); and (5) Primaries and caucuses.” The percentage of “Yes” responses for these questions declines the more localized/political party affiliated the election becomes, starting with 93.12 percent for the “Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)” and declining to 62.57 percent for the “Primaries and caucuses.”

**Table 88. Vote in Following Elections**

In general, did you cast a vote during any of the following elections?					
Response	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
Prefer not to answer	1.05	1.24	1.25	1.44	1.60
Not eligible	0.48	0.48	0.62	0.86	4.13
Yes	93.12	85.89	80.12	73.17	62.57
No	4.06	8.66	12.93	18.21	23.48
Do not recall	1.29	3.73	5.08	6.32	8.22
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The table present the distribution of responses for the question “In general, did you cast a vote during any of the following elections? (1) Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president); (2) Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative); (3) State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor); (4) Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government); and (5) Primaries and caucuses.” These percentages are provided for eight response groups. The percentage of “Yes” responses across response groups declines the more localized/political party affiliated the election becomes. For example, active duty service members exhibit a 94.88 percent “Yes” response percentage for “Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)” and declines to a 50 percent “Yes” response percentage for “Primaries and caucuses.” Similar



percentage declines are exhibited by all of the response groups with females and enlisted respondents also exhibiting “Yes” percentages in the 50 range for “Yes” responses. Veteran respondents exhibit the highest “Yes” percentage for “Primaries and caucuses” at 82.47 percent. The lowest percentage for “Yes” responses for “Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)” is exhibited by enlisted respondents at 88.34 percent.

**Table 89. Percentage of Vote in Following Elections By Response Group**

In general, did you cast a vote during any of the following elections? (Excluding “Prefer not to answer” and “Not eligible”)					
Response Groups	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
<b>Active Duty Service Member</b>					
Yes	94.88	87.27	78.25	70.82	50.00
No	3.31	7.88	14.20	20.67	39.61
Do not recall	1.81	4.85	7.55	8.51	10.39
<b>Veteran</b>					
Yes	97.89	97.15	94.29	90.46	82.47
No	1.79	2.43	4.87	7.74	13.60
Do not recall	0.32	0.42	0.85	1.80	3.93
<b>Active Duty Spouses</b>					
Yes	88.53	72.23	62.29	51.46	48.85
No	8.94	19.76	26.96	35.46	84.25
Do not recall	2.53	8.01	10.75	13.08	15.75
<b>Veteran Spouses</b>					
Yes	100.00	90.54	90.41	84.51	82.35
No		6.76	6.85	12.68	11.76
Do not recall		2.70	2.74	2.82	5.88
<b>Male</b>					
Yes	97.76	96.47	92.57	87.71	76.70
No	1.46	2.41	5.27	9.26	18.53
Do not recall	0.77	1.12	2.16	3.03	4.77
<b>Female</b>					
Yes	90.51	75.37	67.08	57.75	52.93
No	7.57	17.37	23.8	31.23	33.33
Do not recall	1.92	7.26	9.11	11.02	13.74
<b>Enlisted</b>					
Yes	88.34	74.69	68.27	60.71	50.32
No	8.59	17.28	22.60	28.57	35.10
Do not recall	3.07	8.02	9.13	10.71	14.58
<b>Officer (Including W/O)</b>					
Yes	97.40	93.20	88.26	81.72	74.32
No	2.09	4.92	8.77	14.13	19.88



Do not recall	0.50	1.88	2.97	4.15	5.80
---------------	------	------	------	------	------



*Branch: for those who did not vote in presidential*

**Question: What was the main reason you did not vote in presidential election? Please select all that apply.**

- I did not want to vote
- I forgot/too busy to vote
- I was not interested in voting
- I had no candidate preference
- I did not think my vote would matter
- I felt out of touch with the issues in the election
- I do not think it is appropriate for me to vote
- I was not registered to vote.
- I did not know how to get an absentee ballot
- My absentee ballot arrived too late
- My absentee ballot arrived did not arrive
- The absentee ballot process is too complicated
- My commander did not allow me to take time during duty hours to vote
- I did not know where to vote
- I did not have the correct form of identification
- The line at the polls was too long
- I was not allowed to vote at the polls, even though I tried
- I requested but did not receive an absentee ballot
- Out of town
- Sick or disabled
- Transportation
- Bad weather
- Some other reason, please specify:  
\_\_\_\_\_

The table below present the distribution of responses for the question “What was the main reason you did not vote in presidential election? Please select all that apply.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. The reason, for not voting in the presidential election, receiving the highest percentage of responses is “I did not want to vote” at 16.11 percent, followed by “I did not think my vote would matter” at 11.61 percent. It should be noted that the response “Some other reason, please specify:” did receive 9.03 percent of the responses (14 specified responses are provided in the table below).

**Table 90. Reasons For Not Voting in Presidential Election**

<b>What was the main reason you did not vote in <u>presidential</u> election? Please select all that apply.</b>		
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
I did not want to vote	25	16.13
I forgot/too busy to vote	10	6.45
I was not interested in voting	12	7.74
I had no candidate preference	15	9.68
I did not think my vote would matter	18	11.61
I felt out of touch with the issues in the election	5	3.23
I do not think it is appropriate for me to vote	2	1.29
I was not registered to vote.	7	4.52
I did not know how to get an absentee ballot	12	7.74
My absentee ballot arrived too late	4	2.58
My absentee ballot arrived did not arrive	3	1.94



The absentee ballot process is too complicated	10	6.45
My commander did not allow me to take time during duty hours to vote	1	0.65
I did not know where to vote	9	5.81
I did not have the correct form of identification	1	0.65
The line at the polls was too long	.	.
I was not allowed to vote at the polls, even though I tried	1	0.65
I requested but did not receive an absentee ballot	2	1.29
Out of town	2	1.29
Sick or disabled	1	0.65
Transportation	1	0.65
Bad weather	.	.
Some other reason, please specify:	14	9.03
Total	155	100.00

The table below presents the distribution of responses for the question “What was the main reason you did not vote in presidential election? Please select all that apply” by three response groups; veteran spouses are not included because they all indicated that they voted in the presidential election (see previous question). The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. The reason, for not voting in the presidential election, receiving the highest percentage of responses for active duty respondents is a two-way tie between “I did not want to vote” and “I had no candidate preference,” both at 36.36 percent, followed by “I was not interested in voting” at 27.27 percent. The reason, for not voting in the presidential election, receiving the highest percentage of responses for veteran respondents is totally different from active duty respondents; “I forgot/too busy to vote” at 47.06 percent. Active duty spouses are more similar to active duty respondents with “I did not want to vote” exhibiting the highest percentage at 26.92 percent. Active duty spouses did indicate “I did not think my vote would matter” at 25 percent, the highest percentage among the three response groups. Over 35 percent of the veteran respondents indicated “Some other reason,” which is the largest percentage among the three response groups.

**Table 91. Percentage of Reasons for Not Voting in Presidential Election By Response Group**

<b>What was the main reason you did not vote in <u>presidential</u> election? Please select all that apply.</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>
I did not want to vote	36.36	23.53	26.92
I forgot/too busy to vote	9.09	47.06	0.00
I was not interested in voting	27.27	5.88	13.46
I had no candidate preference	36.36	11.76	15.38
I did not think my vote would matter		17.65	25.00
I felt out of touch with the issues in the election	9.09	5.88	5.77
I do not think it is appropriate for me to vote	9.09	5.88	
I was not registered to vote.		17.65	5.77
I did not know how to get an absentee ballot		11.76	19.23



My absentee ballot arrived too late			7.69
My absentee ballot arrived did not arrive			5.77
The absentee ballot process is too complicated	9.09	5.88	15.38
My commander did not allow me to take time during duty hours to vote			1.92
I did not know where to vote		5.88	15.38
I did not have the correct form of identification			1.92
The line at the polls was too long			
I was not allowed to vote at the polls, even though I tried		5.88	
I requested but did not receive an absentee ballot			3.85
Out of town		5.88	1.92
Sick or disabled		5.88	
Transportation			1.92
Bad weather			
Some other reason, please specify:	18.18	35.29	9.62



*Branch: for those who did not vote in any election*

**Question: What was the main reason you did not vote? Please select all that apply.**

- I did not want to vote
- I forgot/too busy to vote
- I was not interested in voting
- I had no candidate preference
- I did not think my vote would matter
- I felt out of touch with the issues in the election
- I do not think it is appropriate for me to vote
- I was not registered to vote.
- I did not know how to get an absentee ballot
- My absentee ballot arrived too late
- My absentee ballot arrived did not arrive
- The absentee ballot process is too complicated
- My commander did not allow me to take time during duty hours to vote
- I did not know where to vote
- I did not have the correct form of identification
- The line at the polls was too long
- I was not allowed to vote at the polls, even though I tried
- I requested but did not receive an absentee ballot
- Out of town
- Sick or disabled
- Transportation
- Bad weather
- Some other reason, please specify:  
\_\_\_\_\_

The table below present the distribution of responses for the question “What was the main reason you did not vote? Please select all that apply.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. For example, 10.77 percent of all the respondents to the question (548 respondents responded to this question) selected “I did not want to vote” as one of their main reasons for not voting. The reason for not voting that received the highest percentage of responses among the response groups is “I had no candidate preference” at 26.77 percent for active duty respondents, 30.4 percent for veterans, and 26.48 percent for active duty spouses. Veteran spouses exhibited the highest percentage for “I forgot/too busy to vote” at 33.33 percent. Only nine (9) veteran spouses responded to this question.



Table 92. Reasons for Not Generally Voting

What was the main reason you did not vote? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Frequency	Percent for All Respondents	Active Duty	Veterans	Active Duty Spouses	Veteran Spouses
I did not want to vote	59	10.77	11.02	10.40	10.67	22.22
I forgot/too busy to vote	103	18.80	18.90	11.20	20.16	33.33
I was not interested in voting	56	10.22	11.81	9.60	8.70	22.22
I had no candidate preference	147	26.82	26.77	30.40	26.48	11.11
I did not think my vote would matter	60	10.95	8.66	15.20	10.67	
I felt out of touch with the issues in the election	96	17.52	15.75	10.40	20.95	22.22
I do not think it is appropriate for me to vote	20	3.65	3.15	1.60	4.74	
I was not registered to vote.	21	3.83	6.30	2.40	3.95	
I did not know how to get an absentee ballot	40	7.30	3.94	2.40	11.07	22.22
My absentee ballot arrived too late	26	4.74	4.72	2.40	5.53	11.11
My absentee ballot arrived did not arrive	23	4.20	4.72	2.40	5.14	
The absentee ballot process is too complicated	43	7.85	10.24	3.20	10.28	
My commander did not allow me to take time during duty hours to vote	1	0.18	0.79			
I did not know where to vote	28	5.11	3.94	0.80	7.51	11.11
I did not have the correct form of identification	1	0.18			0.40	
The line at the polls was too long	3	0.55	0.79		0.40	11.11
I was not allowed to vote at the polls, even though I tried	2	0.36		0.80	0.40	
I requested but did not receive an absentee ballot	14	2.55	1.57	0.80	3.95	
Out of town	34	6.20	7.09	7.20	4.74	
Sick or disabled	6	1.09		3.20	0.40	11.11
Transportation	0	0.00				
Bad weather	2	0.36	0.79			0.00
Some other reason, please specify:	98	17.88	19.69	31.20	10.28	11.11
Total respondents to the question	548		127	125	253	9



**Question: Are you planning to vote during any of the following elections?**

	Yes	No	Do not know	Not eligible	Prefer not to answer
1. Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	<input type="radio"/>				
2. Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	<input type="radio"/>				
3. State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	<input type="radio"/>				
4. Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	<input type="radio"/>				
5. Primaries and caucuses	<input type="radio"/>				

The table below present the distribution of responses for the question “Are you planning to vote during any of the following elections?” for each of the five types of elections provided as responses. The percentage of “Yes” responses falls as the type of election becomes more localized or associated with political parties, though the lowest “Yes” percentage is still 76.76 percent of the response sample for “Primaries and caucuses” (see figure below).

**Table 93. Planning to Vote**

Are you planning to vote during any of the following elections?					
Response	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
Prefer not to answer	0.96	1.06	1.21	1.55	2.50
Not eligible	0.14	0.19	0.48	0.73	3.48
Yes	97.59	93.25	89.66	84.37	76.76
No	0.77	4.00	6.81	10.79	14.07
Do not recall	0.53	1.50	1.84	2.57	3.19
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The table below provide the percent of responses to “Yes,” “No,” and “Do not Recall” by response group. As the “Yes” percentages clearly indicate, the more localized or party associated the election, the lower the participation percentage in the election, though the lowest “Yes” percentages are still above 70 percent for active duty spouses for “Primaries and caucuses.”



Table 94. Percentage of Planning to Vote By Response Group

Are you planning to vote during any of the following elections? (Excludes "Prefer not to answer" and "Not Eligible")					
Response	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
<b>Active Duty Service Member</b>					
Yes	98.17	95.09	91.08	84.57	75.83
No	1.53	3.68	7.69	13.27	20.20
Do not recall	0.31	1.23	1.23	2.16	3.97
<b>Veteran</b>					
Yes	99.68	98.73	98.20	95.82	90.49
No	0.32	1.27	1.70	3.97	8.93
Do not recall			0.11	0.21	0.57
<b>Active Duty Spouses</b>					
Yes	97.81	88.07	80.24	71.68	70.87
No	1.01	8.35	15.25	22.03	21.67
Do not recall	1.18	3.58	4.51	6.29	7.46
<b>Veteran Spouses</b>					
Yes	100.00	96.00	95.95	93.33	91.67
No		4.00	4.05	5.33	6.94
Do not recall				1.33	1.33
<b>Male</b>					
Yes	99.57	99.05	97.83	94.67	88.49
No	0.26	0.78	1.74	4.55	10.38
Do not recall	0.17	0.17	0.43	0.79	1.12
<b>Female</b>					
Yes	97.53	88.32	82.32	75.12	72.82
No	1.46	8.39	13.89	19.79	20.86
Do not recall	1.01	3.29	3.79	5.09	6.32
<b>Enlisted</b>					
Yes	97.24	88.72	84.38	79.46	74.60
No	1.69	8.19	11.72	15.17	19.90
Do not recall	1.07	3.09	3.91	5.37	5.50
<b>Officer (Including W/O)</b>					
Yes	99.35	97.09	94.39	89.60	85.13
No	0.36	2.11	4.66	9.01	12.44
Do not recall	0.29	0.80	0.95	1.39	2.43
<b>Non-Minority</b>					
Yes	98.90	94.74	91.41	86.34	81.82
No	0.64	3.87	6.79	11.09	14.91



Are you planning to vote during any of the following elections? (Excludes “Prefer not to answer” and “Not Eligible”)					
Response	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
Do not recall	0.46	1.39	1.80	2.57	3.27
<b>Minority</b>					
Yes	96.88	91.27	87.85	83.82	78.90
No	1.95	5.95	9.31	12.45	16.03
Do not recall	1.17	2.78	2.83	3.73	5.06
<b>Respondents w/o Military Family History</b>					
Yes	99.47	96.86	94.74	94.71	87.78
No	.	2.62	4.74	4.23	10.56
Do not recall	0.53	0.52	0.53	1.06	1.67
<b>Respondents w/ Military Family History</b>					
Yes	98.61	94.18	90.84	85.46	81.01
No	0.86	4.20	7.16	11.75	15.42
Do not recall	0.54	1.62	2.01	2.79	3.57



**Question:** In general, please indicate your interest with the following elections?

	Extremely interested	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Slightly interested	Not at all interested	Prefer not to answer
1. Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	<input type="radio"/>					
2. Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	<input type="radio"/>					
3. State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	<input type="radio"/>					
4. Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	<input type="radio"/>					
5. Primaries and caucuses	<input type="radio"/>					

The table below presents the distribution of responses for the five types of elections and the average rating for the five point rating: not at all interested (1), slightly interested (2), somewhat interested (3), very interested (4), and extremely interested (5). As the responses to the previous question indicated, as the type of election becomes more localized or associated with political parties, the less interest is exhibited by the respondents. Presidential elections exhibit an average rating of 4.7477 compared to primaries and caucuses at 3.7538, a 20.93 percent decline in interest. This decline in average rating is reinforced by the decline in the percent of the respondents indicating “extremely interested” (a 5 rating value) from 83.3 percent for presidential elections to 41.66 percent for primaries and caucuses.



Table 95. Interest In Following Elections

In general, please indicate your interest with the following elections? Not at all interested (1), Slightly interested (2), Somewhat interested (3), Very interested (4), and Extremely interested (5)					
Response	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
Prefer not to answer	0.43	0.58	0.63	0.82	1.47
Not at all interested	0.87	2.17	3.09	5.80	9.73
Slightly interested	1.11	2.61	4.15	8.51	9.83
Somewhat interested	4.04	8.41	12.87	18.67	17.07
Very interested	10.25	15.60	20.93	21.62	20.24
Extremely interested	83.30	70.63	58.34	44.58	41.66
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average Rating	4.7477	4.5078	4.2809	3.9142	3.7538

Table 96. Percentage of Interest In Following Elections By Response Group

In general, please indicate your interest with the following elections? Not at all interested (1), Slightly interested (2), Somewhat interested (3), Very interested (4), and Extremely interested (5)					
Response	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
<b>Active Duty</b>					
Prefer not to answer	0.30	0.30	0.91	1.21	2.13
Not at all interested		0.90	2.42	6.67	15.81
Slightly interested	1.50	3.00	6.34	13.03	12.46
Somewhat interested	6.91	12.61	15.41	21.21	21.28
Very interested	13.81	18.62	23.81	20.00	13.98
Extremely interested	77.48	64.56	51.06	37.88	34.35
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Veterans</b>					
Prefer not to answer	0.32	0.21	0.21	0.32	0.86
Not at all interested	0.53	0.42	0.74	1.49	5.18
Slightly interested	0.42	1.06	0.95	3.29	5.61



In general, please indicate your interest with the following elections? Not at all interested (1), Slightly interested (2), Somewhat interested (3), Very interested (4), and Extremely interested (5)					
Response	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
Somewhat interested	1.06	1.91	4.44	12.00	11.87
Very interested	6.88	10.07	18.31	23.67	22.98
Extremely interested	90.79	86.32	75.34	59.24	53.51
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Active Duty Spouses</b>					
Prefer not to answer	0.66	1.00	1.00	1.16	1.51
Not at all interested	1.49	5.18	6.81	11.81	14.09
Slightly interested	1.66	5.18	8.31	15.14	14.09
Somewhat interested	6.46	14.36	23.75	28.29	22.99
Very interested	12.42	21.70	23.92	17.97	19.63
Extremely interested	77.32	52.59	36.21	25.62	27.68
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Veteran Spouses</b>					
Prefer not to answer	1.30	1.32	1.30	2.60	2.67
Not at all interested	1.30	2.63	1.30	2.60	4.00
Slightly interested	1.30		1.30	1.30	6.67
Somewhat interested	1.30	10.53	11.69	9.09	10.67
Very interested	9.09	13.16	16.88	27.27	18.67
Extremely interested	85.71	72.37	67.53	57.14	57.33
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The table presents the average ratings for response groups for the question “In general, please indicate your interest with the following elections?” Each group exhibits the same decline in average rating as the total sample, beginning with the highest rating for presidential elections and declining to the lowest rating for primaries and caucuses. The group exhibiting the lowest average rating for presidential elections is active duty enlisted junior level (E1-E4), 4.4071. This average rating for active duty enlisted junior level (E1-E4) declines to 3.2455 for primaries and caucuses, which is one of the lowest ratings across groups for primaries and caucuses; active duty females exhibit the lowest rating at 3.1467.



Table 97. Average Rating Interest In Following Elections By Response Group

In general, please indicate your interest with the following elections? Not at all interested (1), Slightly interested (2), Somewhat interested (3), Very interested (4), and Extremely interested (5)					
Response Group – Average Ratings	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
Active Duty Service Member	4.6778	4.4337	4.1585	3.7025	3.3944
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.8089	4.5526	4.2805	3.7381	3.4923
Veteran	4.8758	4.8119	4.6691	4.3632	4.1502
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.6350	4.1248	4.7517	3.3081	3.3322
Spouse of Veteran	4.7895	4.5467	4.5000	4.3867	4.2192
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.6055	4.2636	3.9908	3.5648	3.2571
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.4071	3.9912	3.8142	3.5268	3.2455
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.4799	4.0251	3.7781	3.5047	3.3023
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.8018	4.4493	4.1053	3.8062	3.6622
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.7176	4.5209	4.2547	4.7867	3.4667
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.7525	4.3993	4.1284	3.6284	3.4623
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.8502	4.7519	4.5761	4.1803	4.0423
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	4.9063	4.7813	4.5625	4.1875	4.3333
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.8302	4.7143	4.4000	4.1942	3.9712
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.8127	4.5467	4.2822	3.7429	3.5191
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.7908	4.5817	4.2722	3.7143	3.3621
Veteran - Enlisted	4.7292	4.6069	4.4414	4.2621	3.8028
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.9029	4.8508	4.7137	4.3822	4.2202
Female	4.6196	4.1634	3.8589	3.4764	3.4190
Male	4.8487	4.7708	4.6061	4.2522	4.0115
Active Duty - Female	4.4675	3.9610	3.6974	3.3289	3.1467
Active Duty - Male	4.7520	4.5866	4.3068	3.8234	3.4756
Active Duty – Female Weighted	4.4068	3.6539	3.3426	2.9431	2.6025
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.8247	4.5878	4.3170	3.7693	3.5276
Veteran - Female	4.7449	4.5000	4.2959	3.9794	3.7500
Veteran – Male	4.8913	4.8481	4.7112	4.4084	4.1949

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



## Problems While Voting



**Question:** Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:

	Yes	No	Does not apply	Prefer not to answer
1. Voting at your polling station?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Voting absentee while overseas?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Voting absentee while deployed?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Voting during a PCS?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

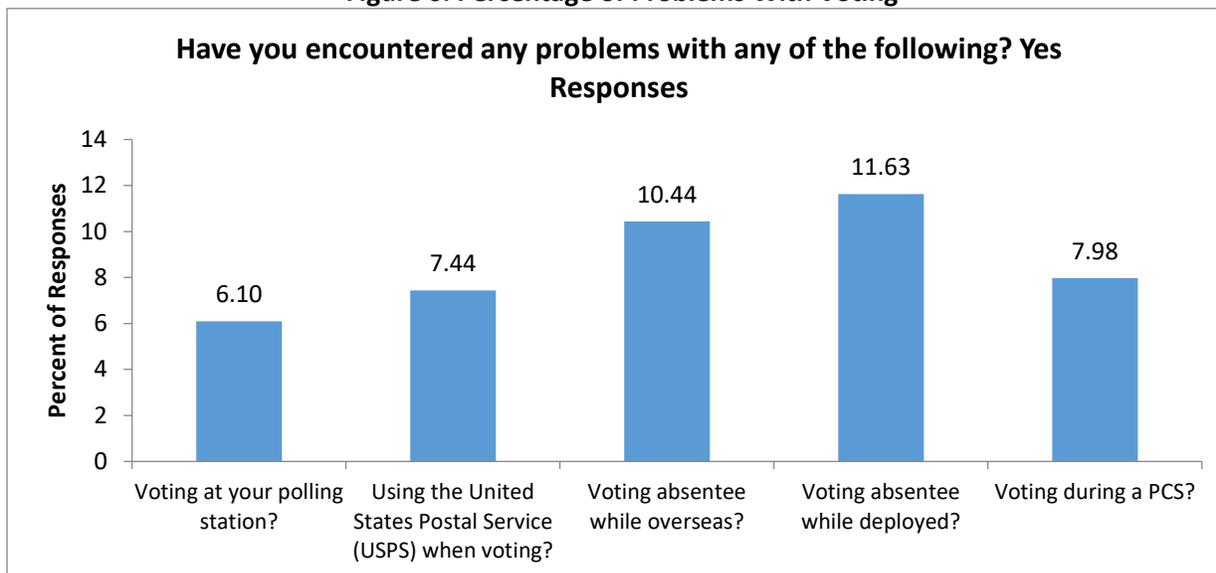
The table and figure below provide the distributions for the responses to the question “Have you encountered any problems with any of the following?” The sub-questions are “Voting at your polling station?,” “Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?,” “Voting absentee while overseas?,” “Voting absentee while deployed?,” and “Voting during a PCS?.” The “No” responses dominate the responses for all sub-questions, maintaining a more than 50 percent of the responses for each sub-question. The highest “No” response option is for “Voting at your polling station” at 78.59 percent, i.e., 78.59 percent of the respondents had no problems voting at their polling station. The lowest “No” response option is for “Voting during a PCS” at 25.17 percent, i.e., 52.17 percent of the respondents had no problems voting during a PCS.

**Table 98. Problems With Voting**

Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:					
Response	Voting at your polling station?	Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?	Voting absentee while overseas?	Voting absentee while deployed?	Voting during a PCS?
Prefer not to answer	0.25	0.36	0.41	0.46	0.31
Yes	6.10	7.44	10.44	11.63	7.98
No	78.59	75.39	57.59	55.55	52.17
Does not apply	15.06	16.81	31.57	32.37	39.54
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Figure 6. Percentage of Problems With Voting



The table below provides the distributions for the responses by response group to the question “Have you encountered any problems with any of the following?” The sub-questions are “Voting at your polling station?;” “Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?;” “Voting absentee while overseas?;” “Voting absentee while deployed?;” and “Voting during a PCS?.” The “No” responses dominate the responses for all sub-factors, maintaining a more than 50 percent of the responses for each sub-factor. The only sub-group to exhibit a “No” percentage less for any of the sub-factors of less than 50 percent is females. Females exhibit below 50 percent for two sub-factors: “Voting absentee while overseas?” at 48.64 percent “No” and “Voting absentee while deployed?” at 48.89 percent “No”. If “Does not apply” were to be eliminated from the percentage calculations, the “No” would all be close to or above 80 percent.

Table 99. Percentage of Problems With Voting By Response Group

Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:					
Response Group (Excluding Prefer not to answer)	Voting at your polling station?	Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?	Voting absentee while overseas?	Voting absentee while deployed?	Voting during a PCS?
<b>Active Duty Service Member</b>					
Yes	5.02	6.92	11.64	13.21	8.49
No	62.70	83.96	65.09	57.55	55.66
Does not apply	32.29	9.12	23.27	29.25	35.85
<b>Active Duty Service Member Weighted</b>					
Yes	8.16	8.64	9.75	13.02	8.78
No	78.19	73.14	57.66	51.75	50.55
Does not apply	13.66	18.22	32.59	35.23	40.67
<b>Veteran</b>					



Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:					
Response Group (Excluding Prefer not to answer)	Voting at your polling station?	Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?	Voting absentee while overseas?	Voting absentee while deployed?	Voting during a PCS?
Yes	4.53	4.55	11.24	11.24	5.13
No	88.35	75.87	63.24	55.03	51.58
Does not apply	7.12	19.59	25.51	33.73	43.29
<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>					
Yes	8.43	11.84	8.66	No Observations	12.57
No	69.29	72.37	46.33	No Observations	51.59
Does not apply	22.28	15.79	45.1	No Observations	35.83
<b>Veteran Spouse</b>					
Yes	10.81	9.33	9.33	No Observations	10.67
No	81.08	69.33	48.00	No Observations	49.33
Does not apply	8.11	21.33	42.67	No Observations	40.00
<b>Male</b>					
Yes	4.39	5.02	10.85	12.03	5.51
No	83.39	78.06	64.55	57.04	53.11
Does not apply	12.21	16.92	24.60	30.93	41.39
<b>Female</b>					
Yes	8.62	10.75	9.75	10.00	11.33
No	72.29	72.44	48.64	48.89	51.60
Does not apply	19.09	16.81	41.60	41.11	37.07
<b>Enlisted</b>					
Yes	10.05	10.90	10.60	13.79	11.79
No	75.81	71.04	52.65	54.41	51.11
Does not apply	14.14	18.06	36.75	31.80	37.09
<b>Officer (Including w/o)</b>					
Yes	4.14	5.72	10.24	10.91	6.18
No	80.47	78.01	60.01	56.18	53.13
Does not apply	15.38	16.27	29.75	32.92	40.69



## Absentee Ballot

### Knowledge



**Question:** Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor	Prefer not to answer
1. Registering to vote	<input type="radio"/>					
2. Requesting an absentee ballot	<input type="radio"/>					
3. Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	<input type="radio"/>					
4. Receiving/getting an absentee ballot	<input type="radio"/>					
5. Completing an absentee ballot	<input type="radio"/>					
6. Returning an absentee ballot	<input type="radio"/>					
7. Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot	<input type="radio"/>					
8. Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines	<input type="radio"/>					

The table and figure below provides the distributional and average rating of the question “Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting:” Poor (1), Fair (2), Average (3), Good (4), and Excellent (5). As the table and figures indicate, “Registering to vote” exhibits the highest average rating, 4.4105 (which is between Good and Excellent), while “Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot” exhibits the lowest average rating, 2.8137 (which is just below average). The other two low rated aspects of voting are “Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot” at 3.3920 and “Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines” at 3.3813. All other aspects of voting are rated near or above 4, knowledge level of good or better.

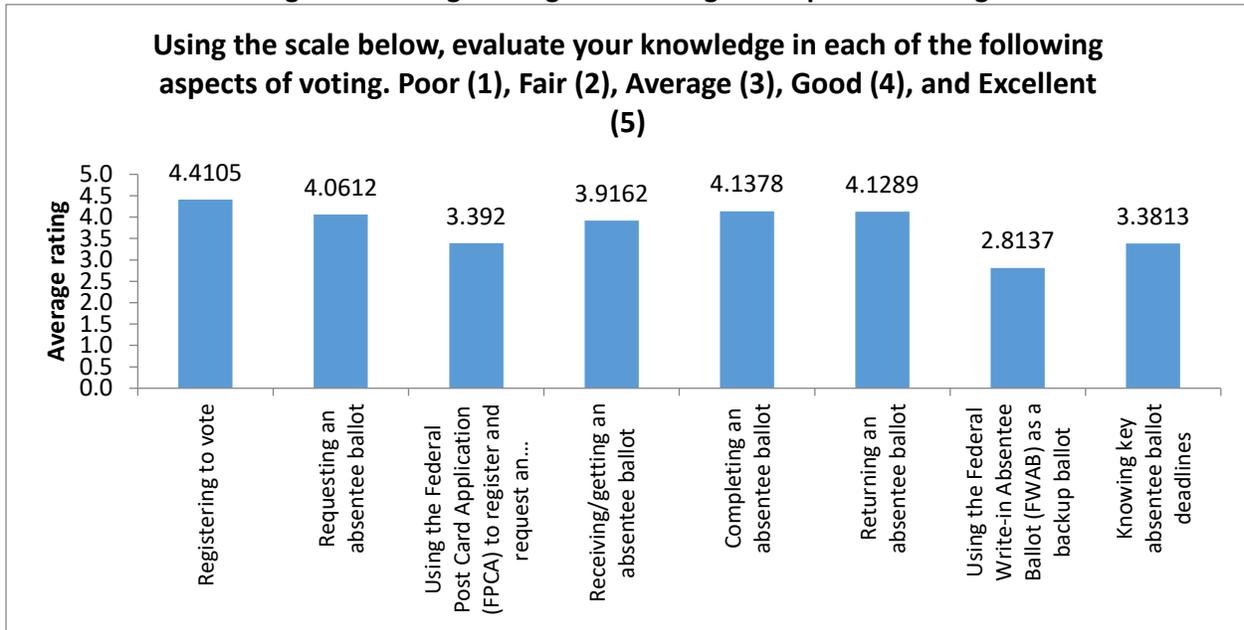


Table 100. Knowledge on Aspects of Voting

Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.				
Response	Registering to vote	Requesting an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	Receiving/getting an absentee ballot
Prefer not to answer	0.78	2.68	5.42	2.87
Poor (1)	0.78	5.37	18.22	7.01
Fair (2)	1.75	3.90	6.84	6.04
Average (3)	11.07	14.10	17.88	15.34
Good (4)	28.01	30.00	22.91	28.40
Excellent (5)	57.62	43.95	28.72	40.33
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average Rating	4.4105	4.0612	3.3920	3.9162
Response	Completing an absentee ballot	Returning an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot	Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines
Prefer not to answer	2.83	2.89	8.43	3.43
Poor (1)	5.43	5.57	30.18	17.48
Fair (2)	3.81	4.40	9.07	9.30
Average (3)	11.53	10.66	18.29	17.92
Good (4)	27.57	27.78	15.68	22.62
Excellent (5)	48.83	48.70	18.34	29.24
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average Rating	4.1378	4.1289	2.8137	3.3813



Figure 7. Average Rating of Knowledge on Aspects of Voting



The following tables provide the response distributions by response group to the request “Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.” The aspect of voting which exhibits the lowest level of knowledge, regardless of response group, is “Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot,” which exhibits over 32 percent for “Poor” and “Fair” ratings across response groups. Another aspect of voting which exhibits double digit percentages each of the four response groups for “Poor” is “Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot.” Both of these aspects of voting elicit low ratings of knowledge compared to the other six aspects of voting across the four response groups. “Registering to vote” exhibits the highest double digit percentages for “Excellent” and “Good” across the four response groups.

Table 101. Percentage of Knowledge on Aspects of Voting By Response Group

Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.				
Response	Registering to vote	Requesting an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	Receiving/getting an absentee ballot
<b>Active Duty</b>				
Prefer not to answer	0.30	0.30	1.51	0.60
Poor (1)	1.21	2.73	14.16	2.71
Fair (2)	1.81	3.94	8.13	8.73
Average (3)	16.92	19.09	19.88	16.57
Good (4)	37.76	35.45	29.52	35.24
Excellent (5)	41.99	38.48	26.81	36.14
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.				
Response	Registering to vote	Requesting an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	Receiving/getting an absentee ballot
<b>Veterans</b>				
Prefer not to answer	0.64	2.14	5.07	2.03
Poor (1)	0.32	2.89	13.81	4.82
Fair (2)	0.21	1.93	4.42	3.10
Average (3)	4.80	8.57	16.61	10.92
Good (4)	21.54	27.41	23.62	27.19
Excellent (5)	72.49	57.07	36.46	51.93
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Active Duty Spouses</b>				
Prefer not to answer	1.01	3.70	6.54	4.03
Poor (1)	1.17	10.61	27.18	12.44
Fair (2)	4.36	6.90	9.73	9.41
Average (3)	17.59	19.53	17.62	20.34
Good (4)	31.49	29.29	19.30	26.22
Excellent (5)	44.39	29.97	19.63	27.56
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Veteran Spouses</b>				
Prefer not to answer	2.60	7.79	14.47	10.53
Poor (1)	1.30	6.49	18.42	6.58
Fair (2)	1.30	1.30	5.26	5.26
Average (3)	6.49	11.69	18.42	14.47
Good (4)	23.38	29.87	11.84	18.42
Excellent (5)	64.94	42.86	31.58	44.74
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Table 101. Percentage of Knowledge on Aspects of Voting By Response Group (Cont.)

Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.				
Response	Completing an absentee ballot	Returning an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot	Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines
<b>Active Duty</b>				
Prefer not to answer	0.30	0.30	2.11	0.30
Poor (1)	2.11	2.11	27.79	15.06
Fair (2)	4.53	6.02	11.78	11.75
Average (3)	12.08	10.84	15.71	21.08
Good (4)	36.56	36.75	22.66	28.31
Excellent (5)	44.41	43.98	19.94	23.49
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Veterans</b>				
Prefer not to answer	2.15	2.37	9.10	3.14
Poor (1)	3.12	3.23	28.73	13.41
Fair (2)	2.26	2.37	8.77	7.35
Average (3)	8.17	8.08	19.20	15.35
Good (4)	22.80	22.74	14.69	23.03
Excellent (5)	61.51	61.21	20.50	37.73
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Active Duty Spouses</b>				
Prefer not to answer	4.21	3.71	9.60	4.05
Poor (1)	10.44	10.46	34.85	25.63
Fair (2)	5.56	6.75	8.92	11.30
Average (3)	16.33	14.84	19.53	18.04
Good (4)	29.29	29.34	12.59	19.73
Excellent (5)	34.18	34.91	14.81	21.25
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Veteran Spouses</b>				
Prefer not to answer	8.00	10.53	14.67	11.84
Poor (1)	5.33	5.26	26.67	13.16
Fair (2)	5.33	5.26	5.33	5.26
Average (3)	8.00	6.58	16.00	19.74
Good (4)	20.00	19.74	16.00	17.11
Excellent (5)	53.33	52.63	21.33	32.89
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The tables below provides the average rating for response groups of the question “Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting:” Poor (1), Fair (2), Average (3), Good (4), and Excellent (5). As with the total respondents’ average ratings provided above, “Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot” exhibits the lowest average ratings



across response groups; the lowest average rating is 2.4286 for active duty enlisted junior level (E1 - E4) respondents, while the highest rating is 3.3857 for veteran minorities. Four of the aspects of voting exhibit average ratings across response groups that tend to be 4+, more than good (4). "Registering to vote" exhibits 37 of the 39 average ratings (one response group, active duty officer senior level has no ratings) at 4+. "Requesting an absentee ballot" also exhibits a high number of 4+ ratings; 24 of the 39 response groups. For "Completing an absentee ballot" and "Returning an absentee ballot," 25 of the 39 response groups exhibit a 4+ average rating. The remaining aspects of voting receive lower ratings of the level of knowledge assessment as the four aforementioned aspects of voting (refer to table above for average ratings for all respondents).

**Table 102. Average Rating of Knowledge on Aspects of Voting By Response Group**

<b>Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. Poor (1), Fair (2), Average (3), Good (4), and Excellent (5)</b>				
<b>Response Group – Average Ratings</b>	<b>Registering to vote</b>	<b>Requesting an absentee ballot</b>	<b>Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot</b>	<b>Receiving/getting an absentee ballot</b>
Active Duty Service Member	4.1788	4.0334	3.4740	3.9394
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.1827	3.9353	3.2303	3.6471
Veteran	4.6674	4.3676	3.6795	4.2077
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.1472	3.6346	2.9408	3.4904
Spouse of Veteran	4.5333	4.0986	3.3846	4.0000
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.1376	3.9074	3.4630	3.7890
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	3.7727	3.5455	2.8571	3.1364
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.1957	3.7826	3.1957	3.6957
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.2683	4.2500	4.0732	4.2439
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.2009	4.0888	3.4764	4.0093
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.0465	3.8621	3.2442	3.7126
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.2870	4.2281	3.6549	4.2018
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.4615	4.3846	3.4615	4.3077
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.1947	3.9297	3.2068	3.5956
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.1251	3.9623	3.3423	3.8947
Veteran - Enlisted	4.4755	4.0284	3.6241	3.9437
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.7028	4.4297	3.6921	4.2552
Female	4.2047	3.7266	3.0732	3.5815



Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. Poor (1), Fair (2), Average (3), Good (4), and Excellent (5)				
Response Group – Average Ratings	Registering to vote	Requesting an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	Receiving/getting an absentee ballot
Male	4.5704	4.3168	3.6410	4.1708
Active Duty - Female	4.0519	3.7922	3.3636	3.5974
Active Duty - Male	4.2222	4.1116	3.5100	4.0476
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.7735	3.4151	3.0878	3.2006
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.1989	3.9561	3.2361	3.6648
Veteran - Female	4.4490	4.0000	3.3913	3.8495
Veteran - Male	4.6941	4.4103	3.7209	4.2503
Non-Minority	4.4332	4.1021	3.3892	3.9525
Minority	4.2510	3.7751	3.3846	3.6414
Active Duty Non-Minority	4.1530	4.0301	3.4621	3.9403
Active Duty Minority	4.2000	3.9216	3.3333	3.7843
Veteran Non-Minority	4.6926	4.3960	3.6778	4.2274
Veteran Minority	4.5395	4.1918	3.8194	4.0811

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more

**Table 102. Average Rating of Knowledge on Aspects of Voting By Response Group (Cont.)**

Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. Poor (1), Fair (2), Average (3), Good (4), and Excellent (5)				
Response Group – Average Ratings	Completing an absentee ballot	Returning an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot	Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines
Active Duty Service Member	4.1697	4.1480	2.9506	3.3353
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	3.9510	3.9893	2.7793	3.0218
Veteran	4.4033	4.3962	2.8842	3.6641
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	3.7434	3.7426	2.5940	2.9965
Spouse of Veteran	4.2029	4.2206	3.0000	3.5821
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.9725	3.9725	3.0377	3.2477
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	3.3636	3.3636	2.4286	2.7273
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	3.9782	3.9348	2.7333	3.0435
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.2927	4.3415	3.7000	3.7561



Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. Poor (1), Fair (2), Average (3), Good (4), and Excellent (5)				
Response Group – Average Ratings	Completing an absentee ballot	Returning an absentee ballot	Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot	Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.2523	4.2233	2.9052	3.3860
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	3.9091	3.9599	2.7780	2.9731
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.1545	4.1304	2.7854	3.2558
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.0000	3.9655	2.7765	3.1264
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.4000	4.3739	2.9912	3.5304
Active Duty – Officer (07-O10)	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.6154	4.6154	3.0000	3.8462
Veteran - Enlisted	4.0775	4.0493	3.1606	3.4296
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.4640	4.4625	2.8326	3.7143
Female	3.8101	3.7927	2.7070	3.0929
Male	4.3888	4.3872	2.9035	3.6056
Active Duty - Female	3.8718	3.7821	2.9467	3.1154
Active Duty - Male	4.2669	4.2659	2.9516	3.4048
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.3424	3.1529	2.6324	2.9129
Active Duty – Male Weighted	3.9753	4.0227	2.7851	3.0262
Veteran - Female	3.9892	3.9247	2.8636	3.3548
Veteran - Male	4.4531	4.4529	2.8942	3.7018
Non-Minority	4.1870	4.1773	2.7878	3.4034
Minority	3.7871	3.7888	3.0082	3.2311
Active Duty Non-Minority	4.1835	4.1567	2.9695	3.3284
Active Duty Minority	3.9804	3.9804	2.8235	3.2157
Veteran Non-Minority	4.4342	4.4257	2.8470	3.6907
Veteran Minority	4.1507	4.1757	3.3857	3.5479

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



## Absentee Voting During Election



**Question:** Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

The tables below provide the response distributions or “Yes” response percentages for the question “Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?” Well over the majority (79.12 percent) of all respondents indicate that they have requested or received an absentee ballot. All of the response groups exhibit similar, more than the majority “Yes” percentages, indicating they have requested or received an absentee ballot. The highest “Yes” percentage response for a response group is 92.68 percent for active duty enlisted senior level (E7 - E9) respondents, and the lowest “Yes” percentage response for a response group is 66.67 percent for active duty enlisted junior level (E1 - E4) respondents.

**Table 103. Request Absentee Ballot**

Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Prefer not to answer	0.58	0.58	
Yes	1,637	79.12	79.58
No	420	20.30	20.42
Total	2,069	100.00	100.00

**Table 104. Percentage of Request Absentee Ballot By Response Group**

Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?	
Response Group - Averages	“Yes” Response Percentages (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Active Duty Service Member	84.73
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	75.04
Veteran	88.39
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	67.90
Spouse of Veteran	71.62
Active Duty - Enlisted	77.98
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	66.67
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	70.21
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	92.68
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	87.61
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	80.90



Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?	
Response Group - Averages	"Yes" Response Percentages (Excluding "Prefer not to answer")
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	91.38
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	100.00
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	73.34
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	83.00
Veteran - Enlisted	78.62
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	90.11
Female	68.31
Male	88.37
Active Duty - Female	78.48
Active Duty - Male	86.61
Active Duty – Female Weighted	65.33
Active Duty – Male Weighted	75.43
Veteran - Female	74.75
Veteran - Male	90.04



**Question:** Did you vote using an absentee ballot during any of the following elections? Please select all that apply.

- Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)
- Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)
- State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)
- Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)
- Primaries and caucuses
- Other

The table provides the distribution of responses to the question “Did you vote using an absentee ballot during any of the following elections? Please select all that apply.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses (4,937). Not surprising given previous responses to questions addressing the types of elections, the highest percentage is exhibited by “Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)” at 29.88 percent, followed closely by “Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)” at 23.74 percent.



Table 105. Absentee Ballot By Election

Did you vote using an absentee ballot during any of the following elections? Please select all that apply.			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent Excluding "Other"
Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	1,475	29.88	30.10
Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	1,172	23.74	23.91
State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	986	19.97	20.12
Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	768	15.56	15.67
Primaries and caucuses	500	10.13	10.20
Other	36	0.73	
Total	4,937	100.00	100.00

The table below provides the distribution of responses to the question “Did you vote using an absentee ballot during any of the following elections? Please select all that apply” by response groups. The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. Not surprising given previous responses to questions addressing the types of elections, the highest percentage is exhibited by “Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)” across all response groups. The percentages decline for all response groups as the elections become more localized or political party oriented. The highest percentage exhibited across response groups for Presidential elections is 95.32 for active duty spouse, followed by active duty service member at 94.14 percent.

Table 106. Percentage of Absentee Ballot By Election By Response Group

Did you vote using an absentee ballot during any of the following elections? Please select all that apply.					
Response Group	Presidential elections (such as the president and the vice president)	Congressional elections (such as the senate and house of representative)	State/territorial elections (such as governors and lieutenant governor)	Local elections (such as mayor, county and city government)	Primaries and caucuses
Active Duty	94.14	76.56	67.40	57.51	34.43
Veteran	94.12	79.72	64.83	47.43	31.54
Active Duty Spouse	95.32	63.38	55.32	45.71	30.39
Veteran Spouse	84.31	74.51	64.71	43.14	41.18



**Question:** In general, what method did you use to submit your absentee ballot? Please select all that apply.

- In person
- Mail
- Email
- Online
- Fax
- Other method
- Do not recall

The table provides the distribution of responses for all respondents and four response groups to the question “In general, what method did you use to submit your absentee ballot?” (only shown to those that have used absentee ballot). The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. The response option receiving the highest percentage of responses is “Mail” at 89.98 percent for all respondents, and exhibits the highest percentage across the four response groups. The next highest percentage for all respondents is for “In person” at 9.78 percent. The order of the percentage responses varies by response group with “In person” being the second highest percentage for veterans and veteran spouses. “Email” is the second highest percentage for active duty members and active duty spouses. Thus, active duty and active duty spouses opt to use “Email” and “Online” more than veterans and veteran spouses to submit their absentee ballots.

**Table 107. Method of Submitting of Absentee Ballot**

In general, what method did you use to submit your absentee ballot? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Total Respondents		Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
	Frequency	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
In person	157	9.78	3.62	13.59	4.05	15.38
Mail	1,445	89.98	85.87	91.43	90.38	84.62
Email	114	7.10	19.57	2.45	8.61	1.92
Online	103	6.41	14.86	3.67	7.85	
Fax	20	1.25	2.54	1.10	1.01	
Other method, please specify:	11	0.68		0.98	0.51	1.92
Do not recall	13	0.81		0.37	2.03	3.85
Total Number of Respondents	1,606		276	817	395	52



**Question:** Throughout your time in the military, how often would you have needed to use an absentee ballot to vote if you wanted to vote in every election (federal, state and local)?

- Every time
- Almost every time
- Occasionally/Sometimes
- Almost never
- Never
- Does not apply
- Prefer not to answer

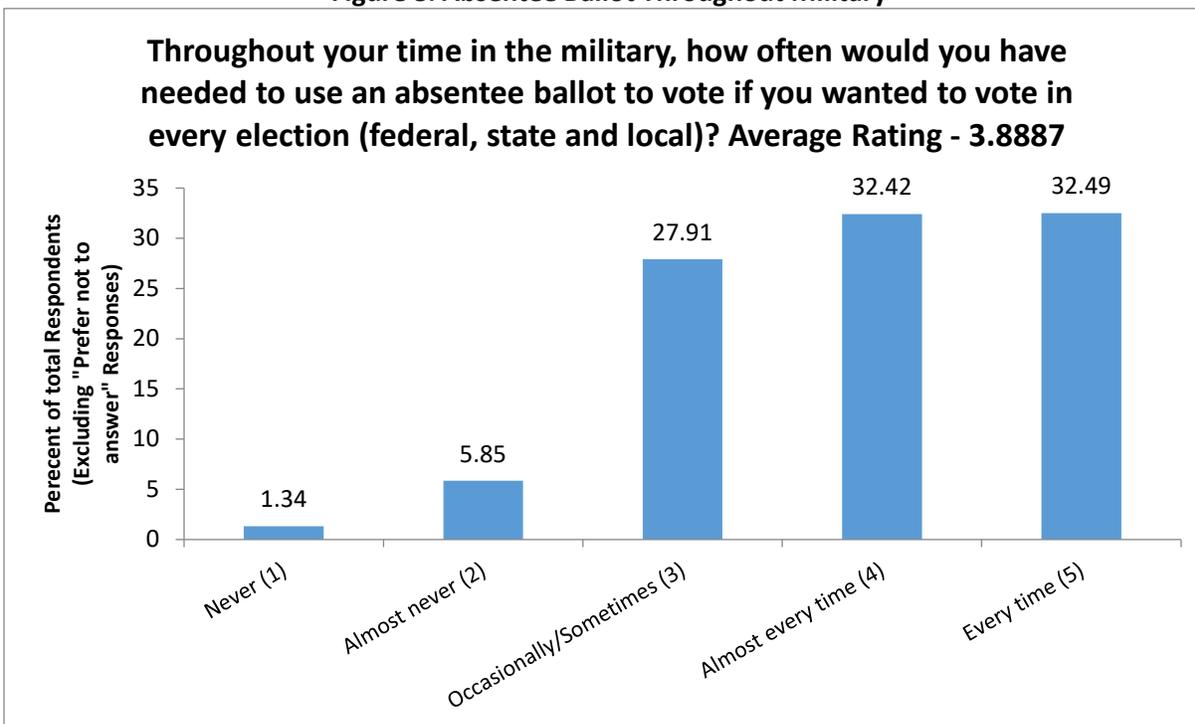
The tables below provide the distribution and average ratings for the question “Throughout your time in the military, how often would you have needed to use an absentee ballot to vote if you wanted to vote in every election (federal, state and local)?” The average rating across all respondents is 3.8887, which is between “Occasionally/Sometimes” and “Almost every time.” This average rating is driven by the high percentage of respondents that responded “Almost every time” (31.56 percent) and “Every time” (31.62 percent), which constitutes over 83 percent of the respondents. The lowest rating across the respondents groups is 3.7080 by the enlisted veterans and male veterans. It is not surprising that 22 of the 39 response groups exhibited an average rating of over four which is between “almost every time” (3) and “every time” (4).

**Table 108. Absentee Ballot Throughout Military**

Throughout your time in the military, how often would you have needed to use an absentee ballot to vote if you wanted to vote in every election (federal, state and local)? (Never (1), Almost Never (2), Occasionally/Sometimes (3), Almost every time (4), and Every time (5))			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer” and “Does not apply”)
Prefer not to answer	14	0.87	
Does not apply	29	1.79	
Never (1)	21	1.30	1.34
Almost never (2)	92	5.69	5.85
Occasionally/Sometimes (3)	439	27.17	27.91
Almost every time (4)	510	31.56	32.42
Every time (5)	511	31.62	32.49
Total	1,616	100.00	100.00
Average Rating		3.8887	



Figure 8. Absentee Ballot Throughout Military



The following table provides the response distributions by response group to the question “Throughout your time in the military, how often would you have needed to use an absentee ballot to vote if you wanted to vote in every election (federal, state and local)?” Over 50 percent of all four response groups responded “Almost every time” or “Every time.” In addition, over 47 percent of all four response groups responded “Occasionally/Sometimes” and “Almost every time.” Thus, use of an absentee ballot throughout their time in the military, regardless of response group, was not an uncommon event.

Table 109. Percentage of Absentee Ballot Throughout Military By Response Group

**Throughout your time in the military, how often would you have needed to use an absentee ballot to vote if you wanted to vote in every election (federal, state and local)? (Never (1), Almost Never (2), Occasionally/Sometimes (3), Almost every time (4), and Every time (5))**

Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	.	0.49	1.25	5.45
Does not apply	0.37	1.47	1.75	9.09
Never (1)	.	1.83	1.00	1.82
Almost never (2)	3.30	5.98	4.74	7.27
Occasionally/Sometimes (3)	13.55	35.04	18.45	25.45
Almost every time (4)	36.26	30.04	35.41	23.64
Every time (5)	46.52	25.15	37.41	27.27
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Table 110. Average Rating of Absentee Ballot Throughout Military By Response Group

Throughout your time in the military, how often would you have needed to use an absentee ballot to vote if you wanted to vote in every election (federal, state and local)? (Never (1), Almost Never (2), Occasionally/Sometimes (3), Almost every time (4), and Every time (5))	
Response Group – Average Ratings	Average Rating (Excluding “Prefer not to answer” and “Does not apply”)
Active Duty Service Member	4.2647
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.3636
Veteran	3.7211
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.0668
Spouse of Veteran	3.7872
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.1625
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.4286
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.1379
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.0811
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.3065
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.3714
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.2718
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Observations
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.2308
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.3859
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.2729
Veteran - Enlisted	3.7080
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	3.7197
Female	4.0155
Male	3.8171
Active Duty - Female	4.3898
Active Duty - Male	4.2406
Active Duty – Female Weighted	4.4429
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.3607
Veteran - Female	3.8750
Veteran - Male	3.7080

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question:** Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Thinking of the last time you submitted an absentee ballot,

	Yes	No	Does not apply	Prefer not to answer
1. Did you receive it in enough time for you to return it before the deadline?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Did you receive notification that your vote was counted?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Did you check the status of your ballot?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Did you know you could check the status of your ballot?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The table presents the distribution of the responses to the four questions: Did you receive it in enough time for you to return it before the deadline?; Did you receive notification that your vote was counted?; Did you check the status of your ballot?; and Did you know you could check the status of your ballot? Over 89 percent of the respondents responded “Yes” that they had received their absentee ballot in enough time to return it before the deadline. Concerning the last three questions, a significant majority of the respondents in each case responded “No” to the questions (over 72 percent for each of the three questions). Thus, once having submitted their ballot, little or no attention was rendered concerning the absentee ballot beyond the submission point.

**Table 111. Key Aspects of Absentee Ballot**

Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Thinking of the last time you submitted an absentee ballot,				
Response	Did you receive it in enough time for you to return it before the deadline?	Did you receive notification that your vote was counted?	Did you check the status of your ballot?	Did you know you could check the status of your ballot?
Prefer not to answer	0.87	1.25	1.07	1.00
Yes	89.53	21.24	20.82	24.14
No	7.61	72.56	72.60	72.36
Does not apply	2.00	4.95	5.52	2.50
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The table presents the distribution of the responses by response group to the four questions: Did you receive it in enough time for you to return it before the deadline?; Did you receive notification that your vote was counted?; Did you check the status of your ballot?; and Did you know you could check the status of your ballot? The lowest “Yes” percentage exhibited across the response groups for the question “Did you receive it in enough time for you to return it before the deadline?” was 84.91 percent by veteran spouses. Four of the eight response groups exhibited a “Yes” percentage of over 91 percent for the question “Did you receive it in enough time for you to return it before the deadline?” The three other questions presented in the table all exhibit the majority of the response group responses for the “No” response, with a low 62.75 percent (“No” response) for veteran spouses for the question “Did you receive notification that your vote was counted?” All other questions/response groups exhibited “No” higher than 64 percent.



Table 112. Percentage of Key Aspects of Absentee Ballot By Response Group

Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Thinking of the last time you submitted an absentee ballot: (Excludes "Prefer not to answer")				
Response Group	Did you receive it in enough time for you to return it before the deadline?	Did you receive notification that your vote was counted?	Did you check the status of your ballot?	Did you know you could check the status of your ballot?
<b>Active Duty</b>				
Yes	92.31	27.68	27.11	33.46
No	7.33	69.74	70.70	65.07
Does not apply	0.37	2.58	2.20	1.47
<b>Veteran</b>				
Yes	91.93	17.54	16.33	20.00
No	6.21	76.94	77.39	77.88
Does not apply	1.86	5.51	6.28	2.13
<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>				
Yes	87.02	23.79	26.02	28.06
No	10.43	71.36	67.60	68.62
Does not apply	2.54	4.86	6.38	3.32
<b>Veteran Spouse</b>				
Yes	84.91	27.45	23.08	22.64
No	9.43	62.75	67.31	69.81
Does not apply	5.66	9.80	9.62	7.55
<b>Enlisted</b>				
Yes	85.54	28.22	29.44	32.13
No	12.05	65.94	65.45	64.49
Does not apply	2.41	5.84	5.11	3.38
<b>Officer</b>				
Yes	91.88	18.99	18.00	21.55
No	6.22	76.22	76.26	76.28
Does not apply	1.90	4.79	5.74	2.17



**Question:** Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Prefer not to answer

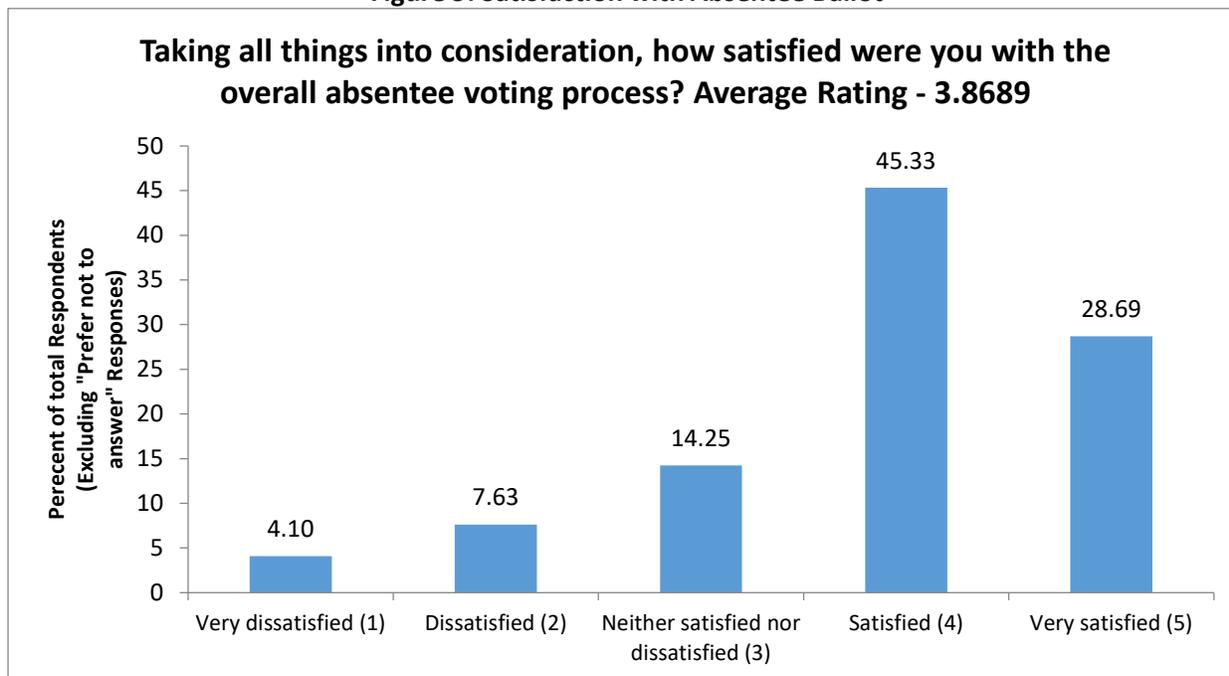
The tables provide the distribution and average ratings to the question “Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process?” with the response option of Very dissatisfied (1), Dissatisfied (2), Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3), Satisfied (4), and Very satisfied (5). The overall average rating is 3.8689 for all respondents, which is between neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and satisfied, though much closer numerically to satisfied. There were only two respondent groups which exhibited an average rating of four: veteran officers (4.0000) and veteran females (4.0000). All other group ratings were below four with a high of 3.9808 for veteran spouses and a low of 3.5690 for active duty females. Respondents were generally satisfied with the overall absentee voting process (accounting for over 73 percent of the responses by all respondents).

**Table 113. Satisfaction with Absentee Ballot**

Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process? Very dissatisfied (1), Dissatisfied (2), Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3), Satisfied (4), and Very satisfied (5)			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Prefer not to answer	18	1.12	
Very dissatisfied (1)	65	4.05	4.10
Dissatisfied (2)	121	7.54	7.63
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)	226	14.09	14.25
Satisfied (4)	719	44.83	45.33
Very satisfied (5)	455	28.37	28.69
Total	1,604	100.00	100.00
Average Rating		3.8689	



Figure 9. Satisfaction with Absentee Ballot



The following table provides the response distributions by response group to the question “Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process?” Over 65 percent of all four response groups responded “Satisfied” or “Very satisfied.” “Very dissatisfied” and “Dissatisfied” exhibited no double digit percentages across all four response groups. Thus, respondents, regardless of response group, were generally satisfied with the overall absentee voting process.

Table 114. Percentage of Satisfaction with Absentee Ballot By Response Group

Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process? Very dissatisfied (1), Dissatisfied (2), Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3), Satisfied (4), and Very satisfied (5)				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Prefer not to answer	0.73	0.74	1.52	5.45
Very dissatisfied (1)	4.36	2.59	6.82	3.64
Dissatisfied (2)	6.18	7.15	9.09	7.27
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)	14.55	11.96	16.92	12.73
Satisfied (4)	47.64	46.49	42.17	34.55
Very satisfied (5)	26.55	31.07	23.48	36.36
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Table 115. Average Rating of Satisfaction with Absentee Ballot By Response Group

Taking all things into consideration, how satisfied were you with the overall absentee voting process? Very dissatisfied (1), Dissatisfied (2), Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3), Satisfied (4), and Very satisfied (5)	
Response Group – Average Ratings	Average Rating (Excluding “Prefer not to answer”)
Active Duty Service Member	3.8645
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	3.9684
Veteran	3.9702
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	3.6744
Spouse of Veteran	3.9808
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.9286
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	3.8571
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.0313
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	3.8684
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	3.8470
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	3.8485
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	3.8462
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	3.8462
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	3.9851
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	3.8946
Veteran - Enlisted	3.7857
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.0000
Female	3.7216
Male	3.9615
Active Duty - Female	3.5690
Active Duty - Male	3.9533
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.5752
Active Duty – Male Weighted	3.9814
Veteran - Female	4.0000
Veteran - Male	3.9670

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: Why did you vote using absentee ballot? Please select all that apply.**

- Deployed/Overseas
- I'm not registered to vote in the same place where I reside
- Ease/Convenience
- Hard to get around/Handicap
- Too busy
- Traveling
- Precinct not convenient
- I always vote absentee
- To get it over with
- Received ballot in mail
- Other

The table provides the distribution of responses to the reasons why the respondents voted using absentee voting by all respondents and response groups. The "Please select all that apply" causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. For all respondents, four response options exhibited double-digit percentages: "Deployed/Overseas," "I'm not registered to vote in the same place where I reside," "Ease/Convenience," and "Traveling." The first two of these three response options ("Deployed/Overseas," "I'm not registered to vote in the same place where I reside") exhibited over 52 percent of the respondents, while "Ease/Convenience" exhibited 20.51 percent and "Traveling" exhibited 14.97 percent.

When considering response groups, variations across the response distributions do occur. For example, active duty spouses exhibit 72.91 percent for "I'm not registered to vote in the same place where I reside," which is the highest percentage for this response option among the four response groups. Active duty service members are the closest response group to active duty spouses with 72.46 percent not registered to vote in the same place where they reside. Veterans and veteran spouses exhibit much lower percentages for the "I'm not registered to vote in the same place where I reside" statement, 35.88 percent and 42.59 percent, respectively. The simple correlation between the active duty members' distribution and active duty spouses' distribution is 0.9312, while the simple correlation between the active duty spouses' distribution and the veteran spouses' distribution is 0.8179, not very low but notable differences do exist. The differences between the active duty members' distribution and the veterans' distribution are emphasized by the percentage differences for the not registered to vote in the same place where they reside reason, 71.46 percent compared to 35.88 percent, respectively, resulting in a correlation of 0.7922.



Table 116. Reasons for Using Absentee Ballot

Why did you vote using absentee ballot? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Deployed/Overseas	800	52.08	46.74	66.71	19.75	35.19
I'm not registered to vote in the same place where I reside	819	53.32	72.46	35.88	72.91	42.59
Ease/Convenience	315	20.51	19.93	22.56	12.41	20.37
Hard to get around/Handicap	22	1.43	0.36	2.22	0.25	3.70
Too busy	40	2.60	5.07	1.48	1.52	5.56
Traveling	230	14.97	6.16	21.33	4.05	20.37
Precinct not convenient	26	1.69	0.72	1.48	1.77	3.70
I always vote absentee	118	7.68	13.04	6.91	4.30	7.41
To get it over with	18	1.17	0.72	0.74	2.03	0.00
Received ballot in mail	132	8.59	7.97	8.75	8.35	3.70
Other	56	3.65	0.72	4.56	3.29	1.85
Total Number of Respondents	1,536		276	811	395	54

### Valuable Sources of Information

**Question: What sources of information about absentee voting were most valuable? Please select all that apply.**

- Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) phone/chat
- Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Website
- FVAP Voting Assistance Guide
- Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)
- Federal Post Card Application
- Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)
- Installation Voter Assistance Office (IVAO)
- Personal contact with individuals from VAO
- Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)
- Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)
- Family members such as spouse
- Friends
- Advertisement in media
- Education liaisons on bases
- I did not find any resources valuable
- Other
- Does not apply

The table provides the distribution of responses to the question “What sources of information about absentee voting were most valuable? Please select all that apply.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. The response option exhibiting the highest percentage of the total respondents is “Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Website” at 25.97 percent. Four other response options exhibit a double-digit percentage of over 11 percent for total respondents: (1) FVAP Voting Assistance Guide (15.83 percent), (2) Federal Post Card Application (15.52 percent), (3) Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO) (16.97 percent), and (4) Family members such as spouse (16.28 percent).



The distributions of the four response groups exhibit significant differences, as reflected by simple correlations among the distributions that all exhibit numbers below 0.4800 and as low as 0.1330 (active duty compared to veteran spouses). For example, 45.79 percent of active duty members indicate that the “Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Website” was a source of information about absentee voting that was considered most valuable compared to 19.73 percent for veterans, 28.46 percent for active duty spouses, and 11.76 percent for veteran spouses. In comparison, 26.14 percent of veterans indicate that the “Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)” was a source of information about absentee voting that was considered most valuable compared to 12.09 percent of active duty members.

**Table 117. Sources of Information About Absentee Ballot**

What sources of information about absentee voting were most valuable? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Total Respondents		Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouses	Veteran Spouses
	Frequency	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) phone/chat	132	8.36	9.52	8.63	6.12	5.88
Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Website	410	25.97	45.79	19.73	28.46	11.76
FVAP Voting Assistance Guide	250	15.83	16.48	20.35	8.24	3.92
Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)	141	8.93	9.16	11.10	4.79	5.88
Federal Post Card Application	245	15.52	8.06	22.07	8.51	7.84
Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)	268	16.97	12.09	26.14	2.13	13.73
Installation Voter Assistance Office (IVAO)	114	7.22	4.76	11.34	1.06	5.88
Personal contact with individuals from VAO	58	3.67	1.47	5.06	2.66	5.88
Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)	173	10.96	5.86	15.29	5.85	7.84
Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)	139	8.80	5.49	11.22	5.85	11.76
Family members such as spouse	257	16.28	10.99	14.06	23.67	19.61
Friends	142	8.99	5.49	10.36	8.51	7.84
Advertisement in media	68	4.31	1.47	6.41	2.13	1.96
Education liaisons on bases	34	2.15	2.20	2.34	1.33	3.92
I did not find any resources valuable	161	10.20	7.69	8.51	15.43	9.80
Other	190	12.03	20.51	9.37	12.77	13.73
Does not apply	158	10.01	3.66	10.36	11.17	29.41
Total Number of Respondents	1,579		273	811	376	51



## Absentee Voting Preferences



**Question:** If you were to vote using an absentee ballot in a future election, which of the following aspects is most important for you when you vote? Please select all that apply.

- A method that is most convenient
- A method that cannot be changed /tampered with/removed
- A method that assures confidentiality
- None of the above
- Other

The table provides the distribution of responses to the reasons why the respondents voted using absentee voting by total respondents and response groups. The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. For all respondents, three response options exhibited double-digit percentages: “A method that is most convenient;” “A method that cannot be changed, tampered with, or removed;” and “A method that assures confidentiality.” The first two of these three response options was selected by over 61 percent of the total respondents, while the last response option exhibited 37.42 percent.

As previous analyses have demonstrated, there is a general tendency for difference to exist between active duty members and active duty spouses compared to veteran and veteran spouses. For example, convenience is a big factor for active duty members and active duty spouses but not as much for veteran and veteran spouses. In comparison, a method that cannot be changed, tampered with, or removed is more important to veteran and veteran spouses than to active duty members and active duty spouses. Confidentiality is the least important of the three options across all response groups, though more important to veterans and veteran spouses than active duty members and active duty spouses.

**Table 118. Aspects Most Important About Absentee Ballot**

If you were to vote using an absentee ballot in a future election, which of the following aspects is most important for you when you vote? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
A method that is most convenient	1,369	72.36	76.40	60.90	76.46	60.00
A method that cannot be changed/tampered with/removed	1,168	61.73	50.62	67.91	49.31	57.33
A method that assures confidentiality	708	37.42	30.43	42.28	27.84	33.33
None of the above	105	5.55	3.73	5.48	4.98	10.67
Other	52	2.75	5.28	2.63	1.37	1.33
Total Number of Respondents	1,892		322	913	582	75



**Question: How would you prefer to submit the absentee or remote ballot? Mark one.**

- Return by mail
- Return electronically online (e.g., via email or via website)
- Return in person
- Return via fax
- Other

The table presents the distribution of responses for all respondents and by four response groups (active duty, veteran, active duty spouse, and veteran spouse). The highest percentage responses and only double-digit responses are exhibited by “Return by mail” and “Return electronically online (e.g., via email or via website).” Active duty and active duty spouses select “Return electronically online” most often, while veteran and veteran spouses select “Return by mail” most often. These two selection options, “Return electronically online” and “Return by mail,” receive more than 50 percent of the responses, regardless of response group.

**Table 119. Preference Submitting Absentee Ballot**

How would you prefer to submit the absentee or remote ballot? Mark one.						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Return by mail	918	45.54	38.89	54.47	36.24	50.00
Return electronically online (e.g., via email or via website)	927	45.98	57.41	35.51	56.24	36.49
Return in person	150	7.44	3.40	8.61	7.01	10.81
Return via fax	10	0.50	.	0.65	0.34	.
Other	11	0.55	0.31	0.76	0.17	2.70
Total	2,016	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**Question: Why would you prefer this method? Please select all that apply.**

- Convenient
- Cannot be changed /tampered with/removed
- Confidential
- It’s what I know
- Other

The table provides the distribution of responses by total respondents and four response groups to the question “Why would you prefer this method? Please select all that apply.” The question is in reference to the preceding question “How would you prefer to submit the absentee or remote ballot? Mark one.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. All four initial response options received double digit response percentages: “Convenient” at 79.69 percent; “Cannot be changed/tampered with/removed” at 39.96 percent; “27.27” at 16.9 percent; and “It’s what I know” at 14.01 percent. The response groups all exhibit similar distributions to the response options. All simple correlations between the response groups exhibit a simple correlation of 0.96 or more, further supporting the similarity of the response distributions across response groups.

**Table 120. Reasons for Preference Submitting Absentee Ballot**

Why would you prefer this method? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Convenient	1,451	76.69	74.77	67.14	79.38	70.67
Cannot be changed/ tampered with/removed	756	39.96	34.77	43.34	31.27	32.00
Confidential	516	27.27	23.69	27.73	21.48	33.33
It's what I know	265	14.01	15.69	12.45	12.71	10.67
Other	66	3.49	4.62	4.04	1.20	6.67
Total	1,892	100.00	325	916	582	75



**Question:** Assuming your ballot cannot be changed/tampered with/removed, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?

- Extremely comfortable
- Very comfortable
- Somewhat comfortable
- Slightly comfortable
- Not at all comfortable

The tables provide the distribution and average ratings to the question “Assuming your ballot cannot be changed/tampered with/removed, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?” with the response options of Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5). The overall average rating is 3.9826 for all respondents, which is between somewhat comfortable and very comfortable, though significantly closer numerically to very comfortable; over 49 percent of the respondents selected extremely comfortable. Twenty (20) of the 26 respondents groups exhibited an average rating of over four (4).

**Table 121. Comfort Voting Electronically Assuming Cannot be Changed/Tampered With/Removed**

Assuming your ballot cannot be changed /tampered with/removed, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Not at all comfortable (1)	197	9.79
Slightly comfortable (2)	83	4.13
Somewhat comfortable (3)	276	13.72
Very comfortable (4)	458	22.76
Extremely comfortable (5)	998	49.60
Total	2,012	100.00
Average Rating		3.9826



The following table provides the response distributions by response group to the question “Assuming your ballot cannot be changed /tampered with/removed, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?” Over 60 percent of all four response groups responded “Very comfortable” or “extremely comfortable.” “Not at all comfortable” and “slightly comfortable” exhibited no double digit percentages across all four response groups. Thus, respondents, regardless of response group, were generally comfortable with voting electronically.

**Table 122. Percentage of Comfort Voting Electronically By Response Group**

<b>Assuming your ballot cannot be changed /tampered with/removed, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Not at all comfortable (1)	8.64	13.21	4.63	16.00
Slightly comfortable (2)	3.09	5.02	3.26	6.67
Somewhat comfortable (3)	10.49	14.63	12.52	17.33
Very comfortable (4)	19.75	26.53	20.93	12.00
Extremely comfortable (5)	58.02	40.61	58.66	48.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 123. Average Rating of Comfort Voting Electronically By Response Group**

<b>Assuming your ballot cannot be changed /tampered with/removed, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)</b>	
<b>Response Group – Average Ratings</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
Active Duty Service Member	4.1543
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.3598
Veteran	3.7631
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.2573
Spouse of Veteran	3.6933
Active Duty – Enlisted	4.2150
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.3810
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.0889
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.2683
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.1374
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.2857
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.0175
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.2308



Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.3760
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.2815
Veteran – Enlisted	4.0141
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	3.7217
Female	4.1980
Male	3.8225
Active Duty – Female	4.1733
Active Duty – Male	4.1492
Active Duty – Female Weighted	4.2309
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.3649
Veteran – Female	4.1414
Veteran – Male	3.7222

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: Assuming your ballot was confidential, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?**

- Extremely comfortable
- Very comfortable
- Somewhat comfortable
- Slightly comfortable
- Not at all comfortable

The tables provide the distribution and average ratings to the question “Assuming your ballot was confidential, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?” with the response options of Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5). The overall average rating is 3.9766 for all respondents, which is between somewhat comfortable and very comfortable, though significantly closer numerically to very comfortable; over 49 percent of the respondents selected extremely comfortable. Twenty (20) of the 26 respondents groups exhibited an average rating of over four (4).

**Table 124. Comfort Voting Electronically Assuming Confidential**

Assuming you ballot was confidential, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Not at all comfortable (1)	190	9.46
Slightly comfortable (2)	94	4.68
Somewhat comfortable (3)	284	14.14
Very comfortable (4)	446	22.20
Extremely comfortable (5)	995	49.53
Total	2,009	100.00



Average Rating		3.9766
----------------	--	--------

The following table provides the response distributions by response group to the question “Assuming you ballot was confidential, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?” Over 58 percent of all four response groups responded “Very comfortable” or “extremely comfortable.” “Not at all comfortable” and “slightly comfortable” exhibited no double digit percentages across all four response groups. Thus, respondents, regardless of response group, were generally comfortable with voting electronically, assuming their ballot was confidential.

**Table 125. Percentage of Comfort Voting Electronically Assuming Confidential By Response Group**

<b>Assuming you ballot was confidential, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)</b>				
<b>Response</b>	<b>Active Duty</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Active Duty Spouse</b>	<b>Veteran Spouse</b>
Not at all comfortable (1)	8.07	12.66	4.47	18.67
Slightly comfortable (2)	3.42	5.90	3.78	6.67
Somewhat comfortable (3)	11.18	15.61	12.71	16.00
Very comfortable (4)	18.94	25.22	20.79	13.33
Extremely comfortable (5)	58.39	40.61	58.25	45.33
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 126. Average Rating of Comfort Voting Electronically Assuming Confidential By Response Group**

<b>Assuming you ballot was confidential, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)</b>	
<b>Response Group – Average Ratings</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
Active Duty Service Member	4.1615
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.3274
Veteran	3.7522
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.2457
Spouse of Veteran	3.6000
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.1698
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.2857
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.0667
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.2250
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.1714



Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.3095
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.0708
Active Duty – Officer (07-O10)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.1538
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.3270
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.3292
Veteran - Enlisted	4.0070
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	3.7117
Female	4.1856
Male	3.8222
Active Duty - Female	4.1867
Active Duty - Male	4.1585
Active Duty – Female Weighted	4.2442
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.3306
Veteran - Female	4.1212
Veteran - Male	3.7099

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: If your name and email was attached to your ballot and could be seen by an election official, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?**

- Extremely comfortable
- Very comfortable
- Somewhat comfortable
- Slightly comfortable
- Not at all comfortable

The tables provide the distribution and average ratings to the question “If your name and email was attached to your ballot and could be seen by an election official, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?” with the response options of Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5). The overall average rating is 3.1522 for all respondents, which is between somewhat comfortable and very comfortable, though significantly closer numerically to somewhat comfortable; over 46 percent of the respondents selected very comfortable or extremely comfortable. Four (4) of the 26 respondents groups exhibited an average rating of less than three (3).

**Table 127. Comfort With Name and Email Attached**

<b>If your name and email was attached to your ballot and could be seen by an election official, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)</b>			
<b>Response</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	
Not at all comfortable (1)	510	25.29	



Slightly comfortable (2)	200	9.92	
Somewhat comfortable (3)	365	18.10	
Very comfortable (4)	357	17.70	
Extremely comfortable (5)	585	29.00	
Total	2,017	100.00	
Average Rating		3.1522	

The following table provides the response distributions by response group to the question “If your name and email was attached to your ballot and could be seen by an election official, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)?” Over 36 percent of all four response groups responded “Very comfortable” or “extremely comfortable.” In contrast, over 19 percent of respondents, regardless of response group, were “Not at all comfortable” with voting electronically if their name and email were attached to their ballot and could be seen by an election official. Thus, respondents, regardless of response group, had a tendency to be uncomfortable with voting electronically; assuming their name and email was attached to your ballot and could be seen by an election official.

**Table 128. Percentage of Comfort With Name and Email Attached By Response Group**

If your name and email was attached to your ballot and could be seen by an election official, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Not at all comfortable (1)	20.00	30.28	19.32	41.33
Slightly comfortable (2)	8.62	9.37	11.97	8.00
Somewhat comfortable (3)	18.77	16.23	20.34	14.67
Very comfortable (4)	16.31	21.46	14.19	6.67
Extremely comfortable (5)	36.31	22.66	34.19	29.33
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 129. Average Rating of Comfort With Name and Email Attached By Response Group**

If your name and email was attached to your ballot and could be seen by an election official, how comfortable would you be with voting electronically (e.g., online, via email or website)? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly comfortable (2), Somewhat comfortable (3), Very comfortable (4), and Extremely comfortable (5)	
Response Group – Average Ratings	Average Rating
Active Duty Service Member	3.4031
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	3.7125
Veteran	2.9684



Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	3.3197
Spouse of Veteran	2.7467
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.5421
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	3.7619
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	3.4444
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	3.5366
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	3.3726
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	3.6786
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	3.1043
Active Duty – Officer (07-010)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	3.7692
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	3.7462
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	3.5495
Veteran - Enlisted	3.3007
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	2.9130
Female	3.2670
Male	3.0764
Active Duty - Female	3.2800
Active Duty – Male	3.4418
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.3890
Active Duty – Male Weighted	3.7252
Veteran - Female	3.2245
Veteran - Male	2.9446

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more

## Information about Voting



**Question:** When moving as a result of PCS orders, have you typically received information about voting/registering to vote?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses to the question “When moving as a result of PCS orders, have you typically received information about voting/registering to vote?” As the last column in the first table clearly indicates respondents are split almost evenly between “Yes” (49.51 percent) and “No” (50.49 percent) responses. The six response groups in the second table provides interesting differences. Active duty members and active duty spouses exhibit nearly opposite percentage differences; 61.36 percent and 35.13 percent, respectively, for “Yes” responses compared to 38.64 percent and 64.87 percent, respectively, for “No” responses. Veterans and veteran spouses exhibit very similar percentages; 54.15 percent and 52.38 percent, respectively, for “Yes” responses compared to 45.85 percent and 47.62 percent, respectively, for “No” responses.



Table 130. Information Received When PCS

When moving as a result of PCS orders, have you typically received information about voting/registering to vote?			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percentages Excluding "Prefer not to answer"
Prefer not to answer	159	7.99	.
Yes	907	45.55	49.51
No	925	46.46	50.49
Total	1,991	100.00	100.00

Table 131. Percentage of Information Received When PCS By Response Group

When moving as a result of PCS orders, have you typically received information about voting/registering to vote?					
Response	Active Duty	Active Duty Weighted	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Yes	61.36	66.32	54.15	35.13	52.38
No	38.64	33.68	45.85	64.87	47.62
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**Question: When moving to a new geographic location who has provided information about voting/registering to vote? Please select all that apply.**

- Federal Voting Assistance Program website
- Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)
- Installation Voter Assistance Office (IVAO)
- State official/state election website
- Local election official/local election website
- Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)
- Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)
- Family members such as spouse
- Friends
- Advertisement in media
- Education liaisons on bases
- Official DoD or military materials, websites, or sources
- From my spouses 's command
- Through non DoD material, websites, or sources
- Other
- I did not receive any information
- Does not apply



The table presents the distribution of responses across the response options for the questions “When moving to a new geographic location, who has provided information about voting/registering to vote? Please select all that apply.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. Eight (8) of the response options exhibit double digit responses with “Federal Voting Assistance Program website” exhibiting the highest percentage (21.76 percent), followed closely by “Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)” (21.38 percent) and “I did not receive any information” (21.11 percent). The response groups exhibit a range of distributions with simple correlations among the groups ranging from high of 0.7113 (between active duty spouses and veteran spouses) and a low of 0.0906 (between veterans and active duty spouses). Active duty members and veterans exhibit a simple correlation of 0.6553.

**Table 132. Who Provided Information About Voting/Registering To Vote At New Location**

When moving to a new geographic location who has provided information about voting/registering to vote? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Total Respondents		Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouses	Veteran Spouse
	Frequency	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Federal Voting Assistance Program website	404	21.76	45.74	17.52	12.92	13.70
Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)	397	21.38	29.02	29.60	2.12	6.85
Installation Voter Assistance Office (IVAO)	229	12.33	12.93	17.52	2.83	9.59
State official/state election website	334	17.99	15.77	20.51	10.44	16.44
Local election official/local election website	270	14.54	8.83	20.40	7.08	6.85
Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)	181	9.75	6.31	13.97	3.72	9.59
Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)	132	7.11	5.05	8.98	4.07	8.22
Family members such as spouse	224	12.06	8.52	11.31	12.74	20.55
Friends	183	9.85	4.42	12.08	8.14	6.85
Advertisement in media	94	5.06	2.84	6.87	3.36	2.74
Education liaisons on bases	40	2.15	2.52	2.33	1.06	2.74
Official DoD or military materials, websites, or sources	182	9.80	14.83	11.09	4.78	2.74
From my spouse's command	29	1.56	0.95	0.33	2.83	6.85
Through non DoD material, websites, or sources	123	6.62	6.94	6.43	5.13	8.22
Other	109	5.87	4.42	4.43	7.96	8.22
I did not receive any information	392	21.11	10.73	12.53	38.05	20.55
Does not apply	212	11.42	5.36	10.64	10.09	19.18
Total	1,857		317	902	565	73



**Question: If you had questions about voting, where would you go to find more information? Please select all that apply.**

- Federal Voting Assistance Program website
- Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)
- Installation Voter Assistance Office (IVAO)
- State official/state election website
- Local election official/local election website
- Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)
- Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)
- Family members such as spouse
- Friends
- Advertisement in media
- Education liaisons on bases
- Official DoD or military materials, websites, or sources
- From my spouses 's command
- Through non DoD material, websites, or sources
- Other
- I did not go and find information
- Does not apply

The table provides the distribution of responses to the question “If you had questions about voting, where would you go to find more information? Please select all that apply.” The highest percentage exhibited for total respondents is “Federal Voting Assistance Program website” (38.79 percent), followed by State official/state election website (36.12 percent), Local election official/local election website (28.41 percent), and Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO) (18.35 percent). The response groups exhibit similar distributions with simple correlations among the response groups ranging from a low of 0.6831 between veterans and active duty spouses to a high of 0.8817 between active duty spouses and veteran spouses.



Table 133. Where Seek Information to Find about Voting

If you had questions about voting, where would you go to find more information? Please select all that apply.						
Response Options	Total Respondents		Active Duty	Veterans	Active Duty Spouses	Veteran Spouses
	Frequency	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Federal Voting Assistance Program website	725	38.79	58.62	31.08	33.45	29.33
Voting Assistance Officer/Unit Voting Assistance Officer (UVAO)	343	18.35	21.00	25.33	3.85	9.33
Installation Voter Assistance Office (IVAIO)	254	13.59	12.85	19.03	4.38	12.00
State official/state election website	675	36.12	32.29	40.27	26.09	28.00
Local election official/local election website	531	28.41	17.24	37.50	16.64	20.00
Military/Veterans network and service organizations (MOAA, BSF, VFW, IAVA, etc.)	227	12.15	6.27	17.59	5.43	6.67
Military media sources and information/advertisements targeted to military personnel (Military Times)	115	6.15	3.45	6.53	5.25	8.00
Family members such as spouse	283	15.14	9.72	11.95	19.96	16.00
Friends	214	11.45	6.90	12.50	9.63	8.00
Advertisement in media	57	3.05	1.25	4.09	1.93	2.67
Education liaisons on bases	39	2.09	2.19	1.99	1.75	1.33
Official DoD or military materials, websites, or sources	142	7.60	7.52	7.85	6.83	2.67
From my spouses 's command	15	0.80	0.63	0.44	1.05	1.33
Through non DoD material, websites, or sources	150	8.03	9.40	6.08	9.28	4.00
Other	88	4.71	3.45	3.98	6.30	4.00
I did not receive any information	129	6.90	2.19	4.31	12.08	9.33
Does not apply	132	7.06	2.19	7.85	5.95	16.00
Total Number of Respondents	4,119	100.00	319	904	571	75



**Question:** During your last PCS or deployment, did you receive any materials (online or written) that helped educate you about the voting process?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

The tables provide the distribution of responses for all respondents and respondents by group for the question “During your last PCS or deployment, did you receive any materials (online or written) that helped educate you about the voting process?” Overall, 72.02 percent of respondents indicated that they did not receive any materials (online or written) that helped educate you about the voting process. When considering these responses by response group, the percentages notable variations. For example, 58.5 percent of active duty respondents indicated that they did not receive any materials (online or written) that helped educate you about the voting process. In comparison, 84.43 percent of active spouse respondents indicated that they did not receive any materials (online or written) that helped educate you about the voting process. Conversely, the percentages for veterans and veteran spouses exhibited much closer percentages, 69.6 percent and 75.86 percent, respectively.

**Table 134. Received Material About Voting During PCS/Deployment**

During your last PCS or deployment, did you receive any materials (online or written) that helped educate you about the voting process?			
Response	Frequency	Percent	Percent Excluding “Prefer not to answer”
Prefer not to answer	161	8.10	
Yes	511	25.72	27.98
No	1,315	66.18	72.02
Total	1,987	100.00	100.00

**Table 135. Percentage of Received Material About Voting During PCS/Deployment By Response Group**

During your last PCS or deployment, did you receive any materials (online or written) that helped educate you about the voting process?				
Response Excluding “Prefer not to answer”	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Yes	41.50	30.40	15.57	24.14
No	58.50	69.60	84.43	75.86
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**Question:** What voting-related subjects did these materials focus on? Please select all that apply.

- Generally encourage/remind you to vote
- Information on procedures related to casting your absentee vote
- Information on the security of your vote
- Information related to the process about registering to vote
- Don't recall
- Other

The table provides the distribution of responses to the question “What voting-related subjects did these materials focus on? Please select all that apply” by total respondents and response groups (this question is only shown to those that had received voting related material). The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. For all respondents, four response options exhibited double-digit percentages: “Generally encourage/remind you to vote” (78.97 percent); “Information on procedures related to casting your absentee vote” (66.09 percent); “Information on the security of your vote” (13.09 Percent); and “Information related to the process about registering to vote” (17.34 percent). The response groups exhibited similar distributions with all simple correlations between the response group distributions above 0.96.

**Table 136. Voting-Related Subject of Material Received During PCS/Deployment**

What voting-related subjects did these materials focus on? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouses	Veteran Spouses
Generally encourage/remind you to vote	368	78.97	76.19	73.36	68.67	84.62
Information on procedures related to casting your absentee vote	308	66.09	62.70	67.21	45.78	61.54
Information on the security of your vote	61	13.09	8.73	15.98	7.23	15.38
Information related to the process about registering to vote	174	37.34	33.33	37.70	26.51	38.46
Don't recall	40	8.58	3.17	11.07	8.43	
Other	6	1.29	1.59	1.64		
Total number of Respondents	957		126	244	83	13



**Question: Did you already know the information beforehand?**

- Yes
- Somewhat
- No
- Do not recall

The table provides the distribution of responses to the question “Did you already know the information beforehand?” by total respondents and response groups (this question is only shown to those that had received voting related material). For all respondents, the “Somewhat” response received the majority of the responses, 50.2 percent. The distribution of responses for total respondents (“Somewhat” receiving the majority of responses) was replicated by veterans and active duty spouses. For active duty members and veteran spouses, the “Yes” response received the highest percentage but was not the majority of the responses in either case.

**Table 137. Previous Knowledge of Material Received**

Did you already know the information beforehand?						
Response	Frequency	Percent	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouses	Veteran Spouses
Yes	213	42.26	49.61	38.11	40.48	46.15
Somewhat	253	50.20	43.31	54.92	51.19	38.46
No	23	4.56	4.72	2.87	5.95	15.38
Do not recall	15	2.98	2.36	4.10	2.38	.
Total	504	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**Question: Were the materials helpful?**

- Extremely helpful
- Moderately helpful
- Somewhat helpful
- Slightly helpful
- Not at all helpful

The tables provide the distribution of responses and average ratings for all respondents and respondents by group for the question “Were the materials helpful?” with the response options of “Not at all helpful” (1); “Slightly helpful” (2); “Somewhat helpful” (3); “Moderately helpful” (4); and “Extremely helpful” (5) (this question is only shown to those that had received voting related material). The overall average rating is 3.9078, which is between “somewhat helpful” and “moderately helpful,” though numerically closer to “moderately helpful.” Over 69 percent of the respondents responded either “moderately helpful” or “extremely helpful.” Seven (7) of the 26 response groups exhibited average ratings of over four (4), though no ratings were below 3.5 (active duty warrant officers).

**Table 138. Helpfulness of Material Received**

Were the materials helpful?		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Not at all helpful (1)	9	1.80
Slightly helpful (2)	14	2.81
Somewhat helpful (3)	130	26.05
Moderately helpful (4)	207	41.48
Extremely helpful (5)	139	27.86
Total	499	100.00
Average Rating		3.9078

**Table 139. Percentage of Helpfulness of Material Received By Response Group**

Were the materials helpful?				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Not at all helpful (1)	2.38	1.67	1.18	.
Slightly helpful (2)	4.76	2.09	2.35	.
Somewhat helpful (3)	28.57	24.69	27.06	7.69
Moderately helpful (4)	38.10	44.35	43.53	38.46
Extremely helpful (5)	26.19	27.20	25.88	53.85
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 140. Average Rating of Helpfulness of Material Received By Response Group**

Were the materials helpful? Not at all helpful (1), Slightly helpful (2), Somewhat helpful (3), Very helpful (4), and Extremely helpful (5)	
Response Group – Average Ratings	Average Rating
Active Duty Service Member	3.8095
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.1193
Veteran	3.9331
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	3.9059
Spouse of Veteran	4.4615
Active Duty - Enlisted	3.9375
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.1600
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.0455
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	3.7973
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	3.7237
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	3.8333
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	3.8772
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	3.7273
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	3.5000



Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.2162
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	3.6814
Veteran - Enlisted	3.9574
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	3.9215
Female	3.9935
Male	3.8692
Active Duty - Female	3.8000
Active Duty - Male	3.8119
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.8639
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.1298
Veteran - Female	4.2727
Veteran - Male	3.8986

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question: Was the information that you received sufficient?**

- Extremely
- Moderately
- Somewhat
- Slightly
- Not at all

The tables provide the distribution of responses and average ratings for all respondents and respondents by group for the question “Was the information that you received sufficient?” with the response options of “Not at all helpful” (1); “Slightly” (2); “Somewhat” (3); “Moderately” (4); and “Extremely” (5) (this question is only shown to those that had received voting related material). The overall average rating is 4.2012, which is between “Moderately” and “Extremely,” though close to “Moderately.” Over 84 percent of the respondents responded either “Moderately” or “Extremely.”

**Table 141. Sufficient Information of Material Received**

Was the information that you received sufficient? Not at all comfortable (1), Slightly (2), Somewhat (3), Moderately (4), and Extremely (5)		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Not at all (1)	6	1.20
Slightly (2)	11	2.19
Somewhat (3)	60	11.95
Moderately (4)	224	44.62
Extremely (5)	201	40.04
Total	502	100.00
Average Rating		4.2012



Table 142. Percentage of Sufficient Information of Material Received By Response Group

Was the information that you received sufficient? Not at all (1), Slightly (2), Somewhat (3), Moderately (4), and Extremely (5)				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Not at all (1)	.	1.65	1.18	7.69
Slightly (2)	4.76	0.83	3.53	.
Somewhat (3)	7.14	13.22	11.76	.
Moderately (4)	49.21	45.87	42.35	30.77
Extremely (5)	38.89	38.43	41.18	61.54
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 143. Average Rating of Sufficient Information of Material Received By Response Group

Was the information that you received sufficient? Not at all (1), Slightly (2), Somewhat (3), Moderately (4), and Extremely (5)	
Response Group – Average Ratings	Average Rating
Active Duty Service Member	4.2222
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.3481
Veteran	4.1860
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.1882
Spouse of Veteran	4.3846
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.2292
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.3750
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	4.1667
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.2273
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.2105
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.2727
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	4.2051
Active Duty – Officer (O7-O10)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	3.7500
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.3853
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.1801
Veteran - Enlisted	4.0652
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.2103
Female	4.2179
Male	4.1936
Active Duty - Female	4.1200
Active Duty - Male	4.2475
Active Duty – Female Weighted	4.1787



Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.3551
Veteran - Female	4.3044
Veteran - Male	4.1735

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



**Question:** These materials informed me about the voting process.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

The tables provide the distribution of responses and average ratings for all respondents and respondents by group for the statement “These materials informed me about the voting process” with the response options of “Strongly disagree” (1); “Disagree” (2); “Neither agree nor disagree” (3); “Agree” (4); and “Strongly agree” (5) (this question is only shown to those that had received voting related material). The overall average rating is 4.1829, which is between “Agree” and “Strongly agree,” though numerically closer to “Agree.” Over 87 percent of the respondents responded either “Agree” or “Strongly agree.”

**Table 144. Informed About Voting From Material Received**

These materials informed me about the voting process. Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5)		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	1	0.20
Disagree	7	1.39
Neither agree nor disagree	56	11.13
Agree	274	54.47
Strongly Agree	165	32.80
Total	503	100.00
Average Rating		4.1829

**Table 145. Percentage of Informed About Voting From Material Received By Response Group**

These materials informed me about the voting process. Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5)				
Response	Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
Strongly Disagree	0.79	.	.	.
Disagree	1.59	0.82	1.18	15.38
Neither agree nor disagree	13.49	9.05	9.41	7.69



Agree	59.52	58.85	49.41	7.69
Strongly Agree	24.60	31.28	40.00	69.23
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Table 146. Average Rating of Informed About Voting From Material Received By Response Group**

<b>These materials informed me about the voting process. Strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neither agree nor disagree (3), Agree (4), and Strongly agree (5)</b>	
<b>Response Group – Average Ratings</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
Active Duty Service Member	4.0556
Active Duty Service Member Weighted	4.2187
Veteran	4.2058
Spouse of Active Duty Service Member	4.2824
Spouse of Veteran	4.3077
Active Duty - Enlisted	4.0625
Active Duty – Enlisted - Junior (E1 - E4)	4.3750
Active Duty – Enlisted – Mid-Level (E5 - E6)	3.8889
Active Duty – Enlisted – Senior (E7 - E9)	4.0909
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O)	4.0658
Active Duty – Officer (O1 – O3)	4.1818
Active Duty – Officer (O4 – O6)	3.9744
Active Duty – Officer (07-010)	No Obs.
Active Duty – Warrant Officer	4.0000
Active Duty – Enlisted Weighted	4.2535
Active Duty – Officer (Including W/O) Weighted	4.0617
Veteran - Enlisted	4.1489
Veteran – Officer (Including W/O)	4.2205
Female	4.1795
Male	4.1844
Active Duty - Female	3.8800
Active Duty - Male	4.0990
Active Duty – Female Weighted	3.9140
Active Duty – Male Weighted	4.2312
Veteran - Female	4.1304
Veteran - Male	4.2136

\*Highlighted twosome groups are statically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence or more



## Results: Media



**Question:** Where do you currently get your news about national politics? Please select all that apply.

- Radio
- Newspaper (hard copy)
- Newspaper (online)
- Magazine (hard copy)
- Magazine (online)
- Television
- Internet blog
- Internet news site
- Social Media
- Armed Forces Network
- Other

The tables provide the distribution of responses to the question “Where do you currently get your news about national politics? Please select all that apply.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. “Television” leads the way for total respondents with 68.29 percent of the responses, followed by “Internet news site” (60.32 percent), “Radio” (46.83 percent), “Newspaper (online)” (43.82 percent), and “Social Media” (35.62 percent). Thus, there is no single dominant source of news about national politics (Television is the closest). The percentages for the four response groups reflect similar percentage distributions with no dominant source, though “Television” does exhibit the highest percentage for three of the four response groups; exception active duty spouses where “Internet news site” exhibits the highest percentage (61.4 percent) followed by “Television” (58.69 percent).

**Table 147. Sources of News About National Politics**

Where do you currently get your news about national politics? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Total Respondents		Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
	Frequency	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Radio	982	46.83	53.76	50.87	38.76	39.02
Newspaper (hard copy)	582	27.75	10.12	46.86	10.37	34.15
Newspaper (online)	919	43.82	51.45	41.67	42.42	37.80
Magazine (hard copy)	292	13.92	8.09	23.70	3.03	13.41
Magazine (online)	292	13.92	17.92	15.69	9.09	8.54
Television	1,432	68.29	56.94	79.98	58.69	76.83
Internet blog	266	12.68	14.74	11.04	13.40	10.98
Internet news site	1,265	60.32	68.21	57.79	61.40	52.44
Social Media	747	35.62	41.62	16.88	57.42	32.93
Armed Forces Network	208	9.92	10.69	7.58	11.48	15.85
Other	93	4.43	4.91	4.44	4.47	7.32
Total Number of Responses	2,097		346	924	627	82



**Question:** Do you ever get news or news headlines on any of the following social media sites? Please select all that apply.

- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Instagram
- Tumblr
- YouTube
- Reddit
- Snapchat
- Other

The table provides the distribution of responses to the question “Do you ever get news or news headlines on any of the following social media sites? Please select all that apply.” The “Please select all that apply” causes the total number of responses to be larger than the actual number of respondents, but the percentages are accurate across all responses. “Facebook” leads the way with 80.27 percent of the total responses, followed by “LinkedIn” (22.02 percent), “Twitter” (19.73 percent), and “YouTube” (12.79 percent). Similar distributions are exhibited by the four response groups, though “Twitter,” “LinkedIn,” “Instagram,” and “YouTube” sometimes change the order.

**Table 148. News from Social Media**

Do you ever get news or news headlines on any of the following social media sites? Please select all that apply.						
Response	Total Respondents		Active Duty	Veteran	Active Duty Spouse	Veteran Spouse
	Frequency	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Facebook	1,123	80.27	77.07	52.17	94.62	85.71
Twitter	276	19.73	22.56	18.08	16.51	20.63
LinkedIn	308	22.02	23.31	30.13	9.09	20.63
Instagram	149	10.65	9.77	4.52	15.21	14.29
Tumblr	16	1.14	1.88	0.94	0.56	1.59
YouTube	179	12.79	17.29	11.86	8.91	12.70
Reddit	83	5.93	12.78	3.01	4.08	4.76
Snapchat	51	3.65	6.77	1.13	4.45	1.59
Other	194	13.87	6.02	30.13	1.30	12.70
Total Number of Respondents	1,399		266	531	539	63



## Results: Multivariate Analysis

### Active Duty Service Members

#### *Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns the influence of the respondent's leadership in the respondent's likelihood of voting. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The fifth column of percentages presents the percentages associated with all respondents that did not vote for one of the four stated reasons in the previous four columns. The simple correlation between the "did not vote" column and the "definitely voted" column is 0.9997, which is extremely high, indicating few relative differences between the distributions. Both columns exhibit a strong tendency toward "Not at all influential," with "Not at all influential" representing over 70 percent of the respondents in both cases. In fact, over 90 percent of the respondents made selections between "Not at all influential," "Slightly influential," and "Somewhat influential" in both columns. Thus, the leadership in the respondent's military command had little or no influence on the respondent's likelihood of voting in the 2016 election.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable "I did not vote"*
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting?**

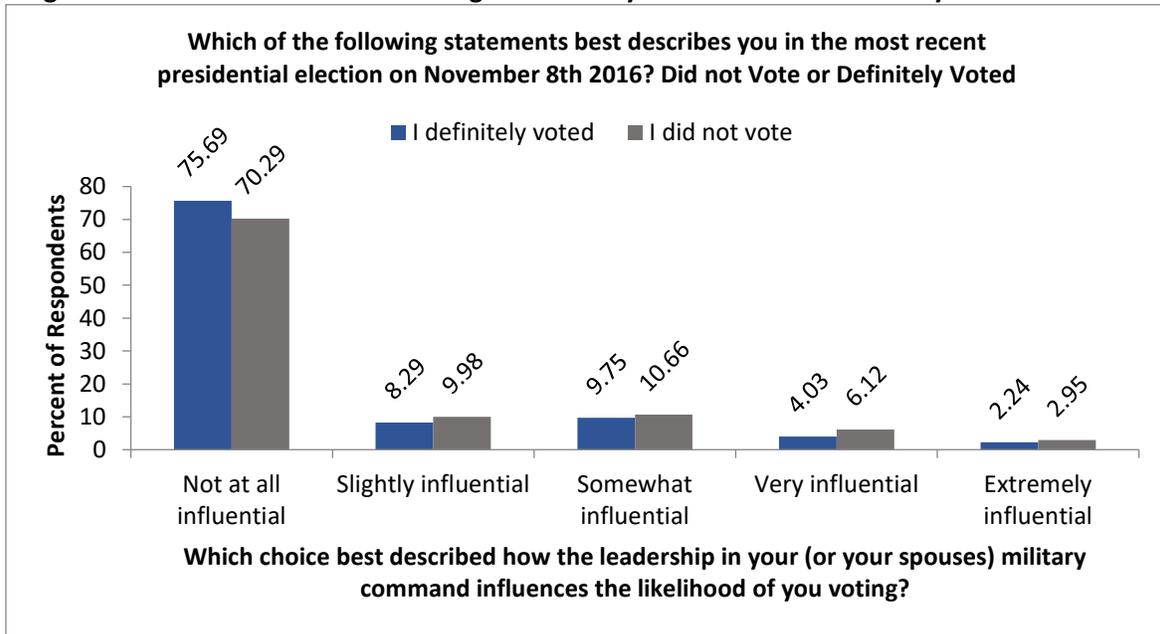
- Extremely influential
- Very influential
- Somewhat influential
- Slightly influential
- Not at all influential
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 149. Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence for Active Duty Service Member**

Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?					
	I did not want to vote	I thought about voting this time – but didn't	I usually vote, but didn't this time	I attempted to vote but did not or could not	I did not vote (Totals for four previous columns)	I definitely voted
Not at all influential	70.89	68.97	55.32	76.00	70.29	75.69
Slightly influential	7.59	10.34	17.02	6.00	9.98	8.29
Somewhat influential	10.13	10.34	17.02	6.00	10.66	9.75
Very influential	5.06	5.17	8.51	10.00	6.12	4.03
Extremely influential	6.33	5.17	2.13	2.00	2.95	2.24
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

**Figure 10. Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence for Active Duty Service Member**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns how strongly the respondent feels that voting is a civic duty. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The simple correlation between the two distributions (I did not vote compared to I definitely voted) is 0.8306, suggesting a strong similarity with some differences. The most obvious difference is percentages attached to “Neither agree nor disagree,” with non-voters exhibited 22.08 percent compared to 3.97 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected “Strongly agree” at 40.91 percent, while voters exhibit 69.23 percent for “Strongly agree.” Thus, respondents that did not vote felt that voting was less of a civic duty compared to respondents that definitely voted. This conclusion is further reinforced by the average ratings computed for the non-voters and voters, 4.1169 and 4.6179, respectively; the average ratings are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?**

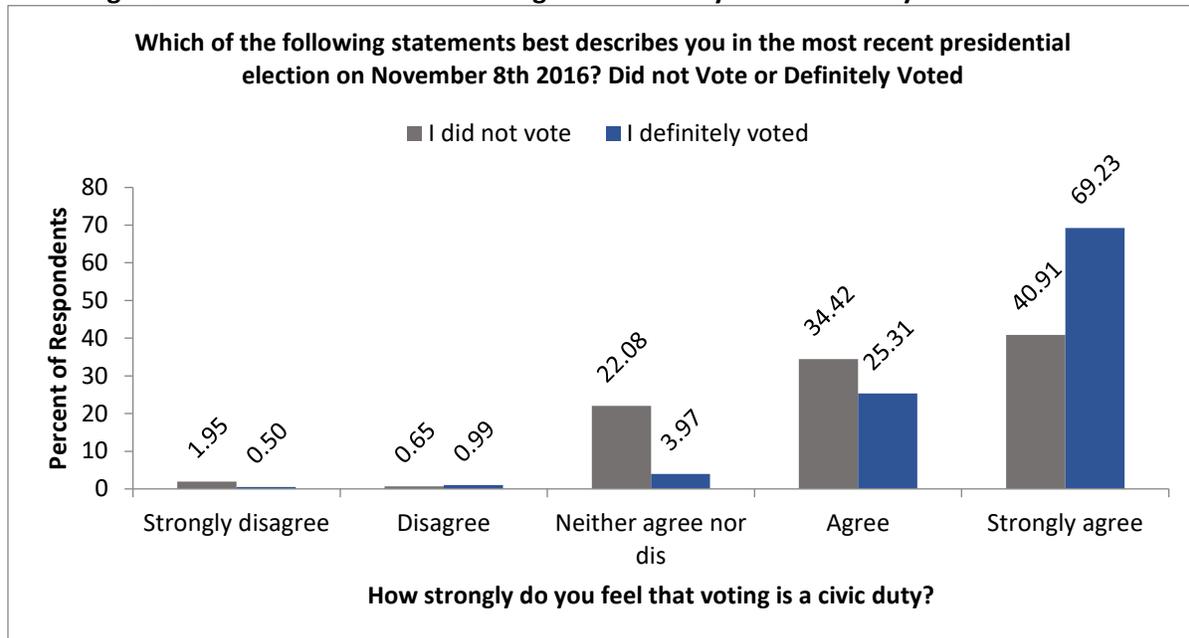
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Prefer not to answer



Table 150. Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty for Active Duty Service Member

How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Strongly disagree	1.95	0.50
Disagree	0.65	0.99
Neither agree nor disagree	22.08	3.97
Agree	34.42	25.31
Strongly agree	40.91	69.23
Simple Correlation		0.8306

Figure 11. Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty for Active Duty Service Member





### *Presidential Election Voting and Voting Makes a Difference*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns whether the respondent believes their vote makes a difference. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference is percentages attached to the “Yes” response, with non-voters exhibited 47.46 percent compared to 75.43 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected the “No” response at 32.2 percent, while voters exhibit 10.42 percent for “No” response. Thus, respondents that did not vote felt more strongly that their vote did not make a difference compared to respondents that definitely voted.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?**

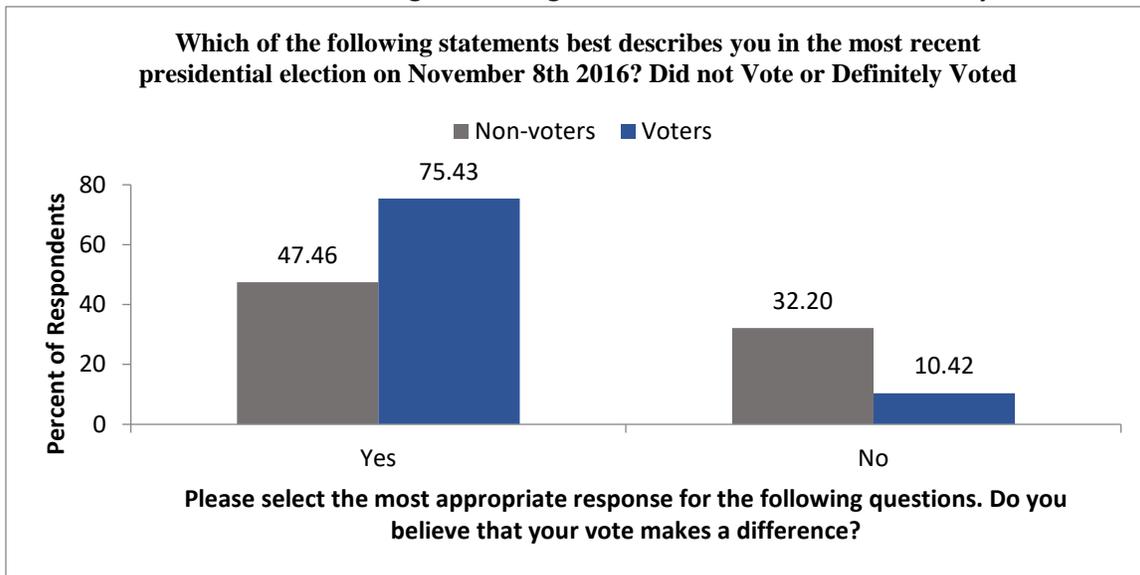
- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- NA
- Prefer not to answer



Table 151. Presidential Election Voting and Voting Makes a Difference for Active Duty Service Member

Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Yes	47.46	75.43
No	32.20	10.42
Unsure	20.34	14.14

Figure 12. Presidential Election Voting and Voting Makes a Difference for Active Duty Service Member





### *Presidential Election Voting and Motivation*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns whether the respondent believes that voting is a choice. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is the “Yes” responses, with non-voters exhibited 32.06 percent compared to 16.3 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected the “No” response at 67.94 percent, while voters exhibit 83.7 percent for the “No” response. Thus, respondents that did not vote tended to believe more that voting was a choice compared to respondents that definitely voted. This conclusion is further reinforced by the fact that the “No” responses percentages are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence between non-voter respondents and voter respondents.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: For you personally, voting is first and foremost...**

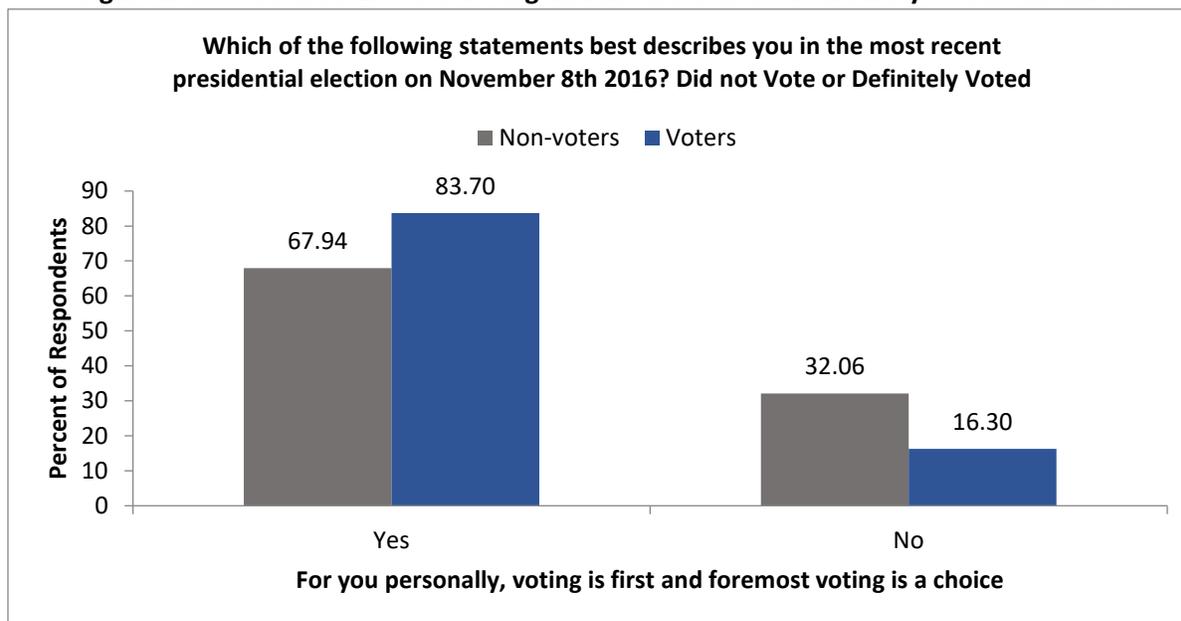
- A civic duty
- A choice**
- Not appropriate for members of the military
- Not sure
- Prefer not to answer



Table 152. Presidential Election Voting and Motivation for Active Duty Service Member

	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
For you personally, voting is first and foremost voting is a choice		
No	67.94	83.70
Yes	32.06	16.30

Figure 13. Presidential Election Voting and Motivation for Active Duty Service Member





### *Presidential Election Voting and Materials Received During PCS*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns whether the materials the respondent received during their last PCS were helpful. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the “Extremely helpful” response, with non-voters exhibited 13.04 percent compared to 27.15 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected the “Slightly helpful” response at 8.7 percent, while voters exhibit 3.97 percent for the “Slightly helpful” response. Thus, respondents that did not vote did not believe the materials they received during their last PCS were helpful compared to respondents that definitely voted.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Were the materials helpful?**

- Extremely helpful
- Moderately helpful
- Somewhat helpful
- Slightly helpful
- Not at all helpful



**Table 153. Presidential Election Voting and Materials Received During PCS for Active Duty Service Member**

	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
<b>Were the materials helpful?</b>		
Not at all helpful	4.35	2.65
Slightly helpful	8.70	3.97
Somewhat helpful	34.78	31.13
Moderately helpful	39.13	35.10
Extremely helpful	13.04	27.15



### *Presidential Election Voting and Political Party*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns how likely the respondent is to vote based solely on their political party. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the first two response options. Non-voters indicate that “political party does not impact how I vote” at 62.24 percent compared to voters at 39.75 percent. Non-voters indicate that “political party matters somewhat to how I vote” at 31.63 percent compared to voters at 52.41 percent. Thus, respondents that did not vote tend to indicate that political party does not impact how they vote compared to respondents that definitely voted who tend to indicate that political party matters somewhat to how they vote; e.g., being affiliated/associated with/involved with a political party seems to improve the likelihood that the respondent will vote. This conclusion is further reinforced by the average ratings computed for the non-voters and voters, 1.4388 and 1.6810, respectively; the average ratings are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: How likely are you to vote for a candidate based solely on their political party?**

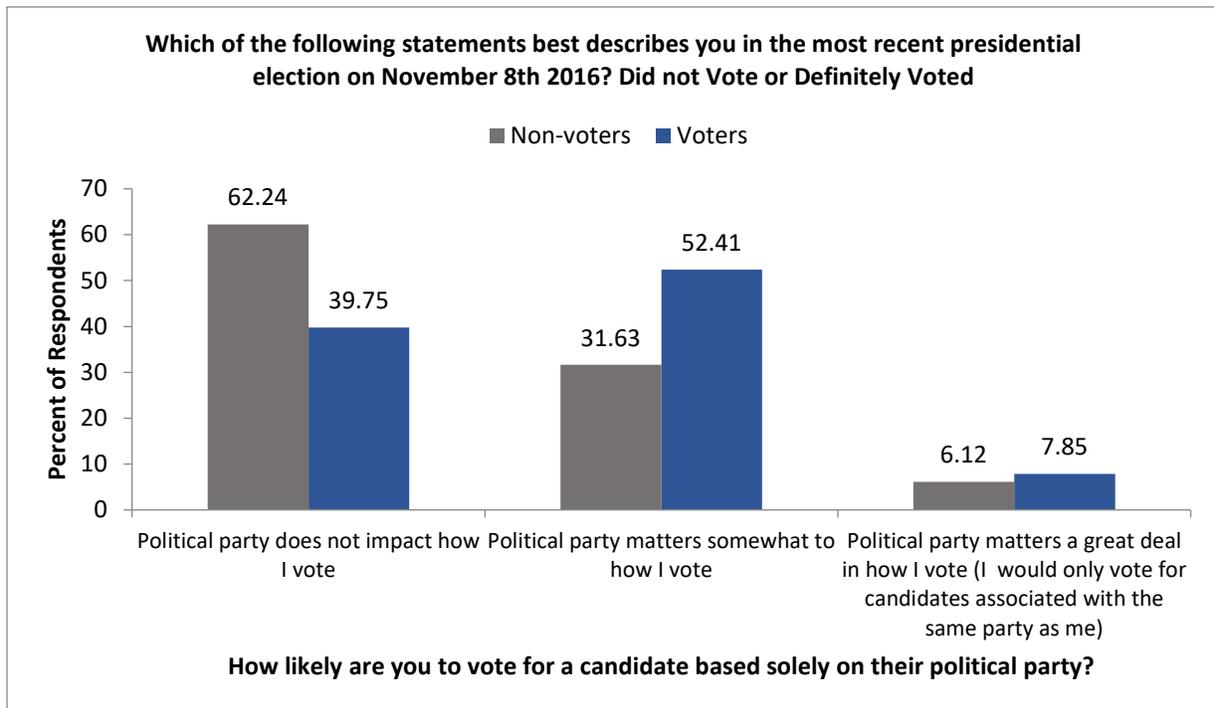
- Political party does not impact how I vote
- Political party matters somewhat to how I vote
- Party matters a great deal in how I vote (I would only vote for candidates associated with the same party as me)
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 154. Presidential Election Voting and Political Party for Active Duty Service Member**

	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
<b>How likely are you to vote for a candidate based solely on their political party?</b>		
Political party does not impact how I vote	62.24	39.75
Political party matters somewhat to how I vote	31.63	52.41
Political party matters a great deal in how I vote (I would only vote for candidates associated with the same party as me)	6.12	7.85

**Figure 14. Presidential Election Voting and Materials Received During PCS for Active Duty Service Member**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Informed about Political Matters*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns to what degree the respondent believes they are informed about political matters. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the last response option, “Extremely informed.” Non-voters indicate that “political party does not impact how I vote” at 62.24 percent compared to voters at 39.75 percent. Non-voters indicate that they are not “Extremely informed” “at 19 percent compared to voters at 35.25 percent. Voters also exhibit a higher percentage for the “Moderately informed” response with 44.25 percent compared to 35 percent for non-voters. Thus, respondents that did not vote tend to indicate that they believe they are not as well informed about political matters as compared to respondents that definitely voted. This conclusion is further reinforced by the average ratings computed for the non-voters and voters, 3.56 and 4.1, respectively; the average ratings are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: To what degree do you believe you are informed about political matters?**

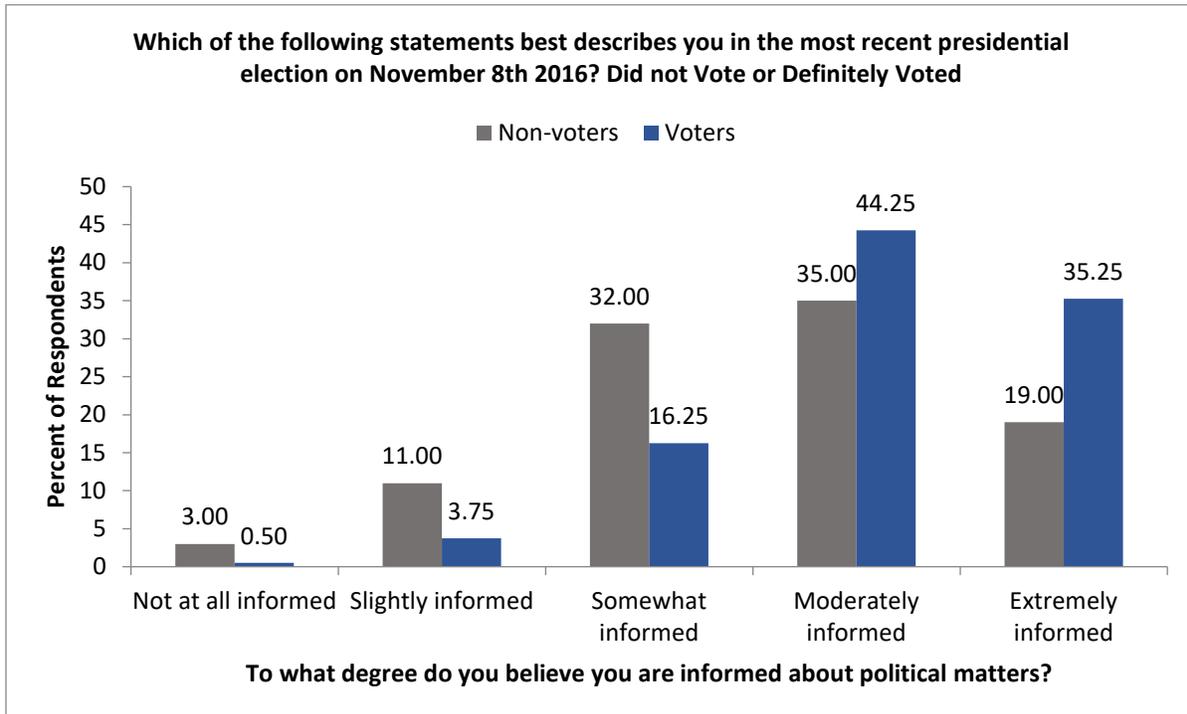
- Extremely informed
- Moderately informed
- Somewhat informed
- Slightly informed
- Not at all informed
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 155. Presidential Election Voting and Informed about Political Matters for Active Duty Service Member**

To what degree do you believe you are informed about political matters?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Not at all informed	3.00	0.50
Slightly informed	11.00	3.75
Somewhat informed	32.00	16.25
Moderately informed	35.00	44.25
Extremely informed	19.00	35.25

**Figure 15. Presidential Election Voting and Political Party for Active Duty Service Member**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks how many times have the respondent has registered to vote during their time associated with the military. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the last response option, "More than 5 times." Non-voters have registered to vote more than 5 times for 17.65 percent of the respondents, while voters have registered to vote more than 5 times for 31.61 percent of the respondents. Non-voters also exhibit higher percentages for "1 time," "2 times," and "3 times" than voters. Thus, respondents that did not vote have had less experience registering to vote during their tenure in the military than voters. This conclusion is further reinforced by the simple correlation between non-voters and voters, 0.7588; not a very low simple correlation but definitely indicative of some differences between the two distributions.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable "I did not vote"*
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: During your time associated with the military how many times have you registered to vote?**

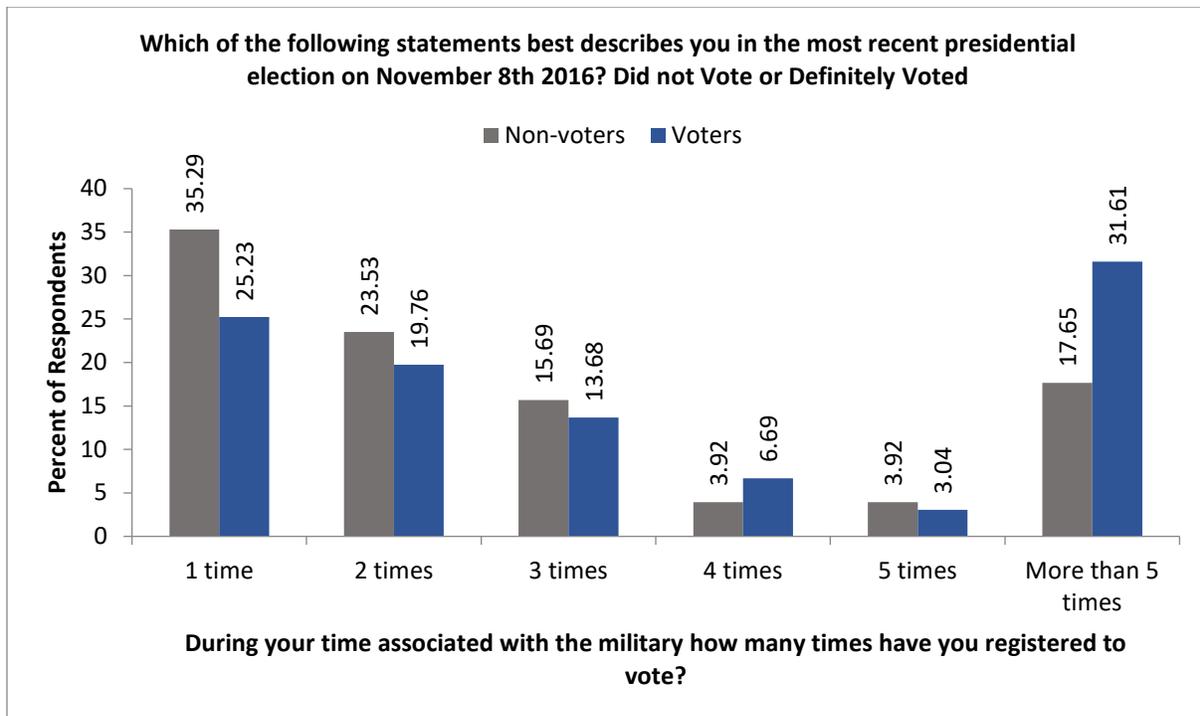
- None
- 1 time
- 2 times
- 3 times
- 4 times
- 5 times
- More than 5 times
- Do not know
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 156. Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote for Active Duty Service Member**

During your time associated with the military how many times have you registered to vote?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
1 time	35.29	25.23
2 times	23.53	19.76
3 times	15.69	13.68
4 times	3.92	6.69
5 times	3.92	3.04
More than 5 times	17.65	31.61

**Figure 16. Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote for Active Duty Service Member**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8<sup>th</sup> 2016. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. For every statement (five statements), non-voters exhibited a higher “Yes” percentage than voters, though only the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> statement percentages for non-voters versus voters were statistically significantly different. The highest “Yes” percentage for non-voters was for the statement “Voting absentee while overseas?” at 25 percent, followed by “Voting absentee while deployed?” at 20.45 percent. In addition, for every statement, voters exhibited a higher percentage for “No” responses than non-voters. Thus, though not all five statements exhibited statistically significant differences between non-voter and voters for “Yes” responses, the percentages suggest that respondents, who had issues/trouble while voting in the 2016 election, exhibited a higher tendency to not vote.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:**

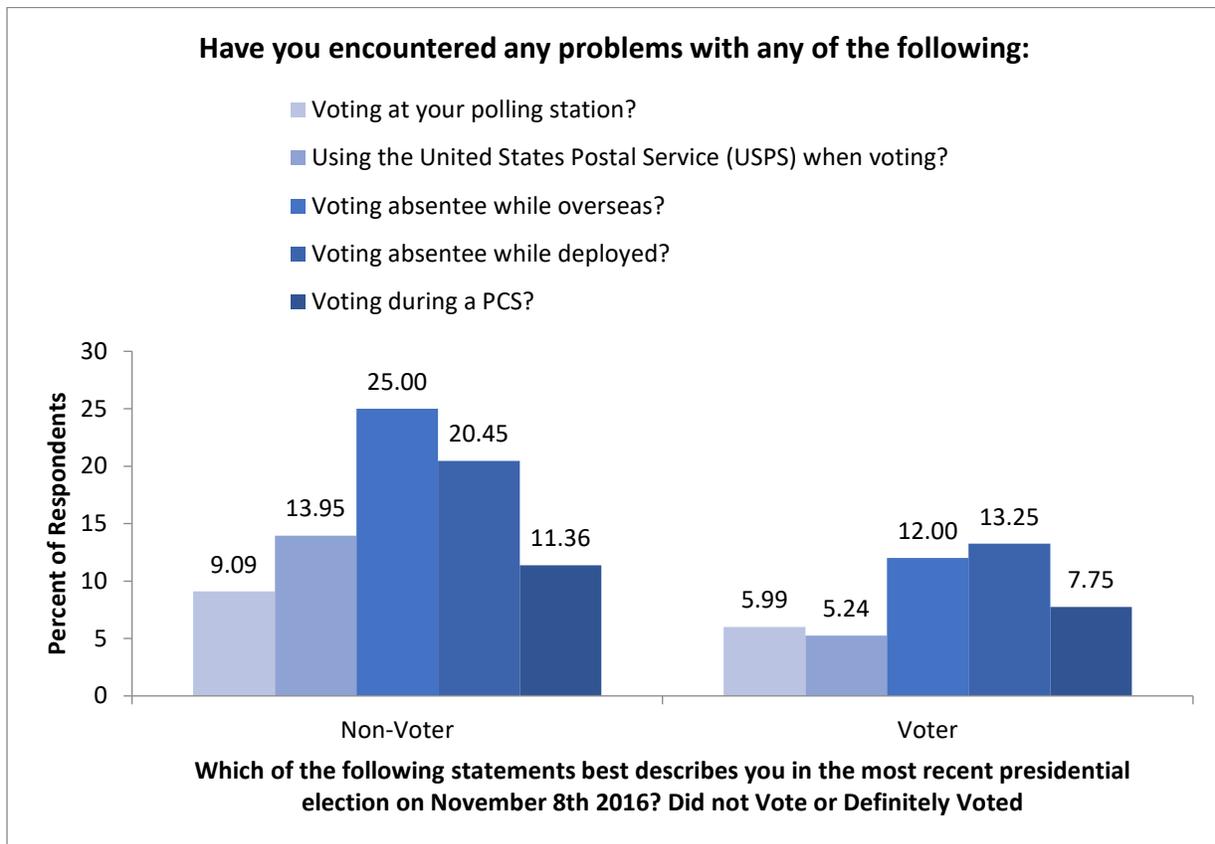
- Voting at your polling station?
- Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?
- Voting absentee while overseas?
- Voting absentee while deployed?
- Voting during a PCS?



**Table 157. Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting for Active Duty Service Member**

Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?		Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:		
Statements	Response Group	Yes	No	Does not apply
Voting at your polling station?	I did not vote	9.09	59.09	31.82
	I definitely voted	5.99	66.33	27.68
Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?	I did not vote	13.95	76.74	9.30
	I definitely voted	5.24	85.29	9.48
Voting absentee while overseas?	I did not vote	25.00	59.09	15.91
	I definitely voted	12.00	66.50	21.50
Voting absentee while deployed?	I did not vote	20.45	52.27	27.27
	I definitely voted	13.25	59.50	27.25
Voting during a PCS?	I did not vote	11.36	54.55	34.09
	I definitely voted	7.75	55.25	37.00

**Figure 17. Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting for Active Duty Service Member**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks the respondent to evaluate their knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions/statements in a cross-tabulation. For every statement (eight statements), non-voters exhibited a higher “Poor” percentage than voters. For seven of the eight statements, non-voters exhibited a higher “Fair” percentage than voters. Conversely, for every statement (eight statements), voters exhibited a higher “Excellent” percentage than non-voters. “Average” and “Good” responses were mixed with respect to the highest percentage between non-voters and voters. Thus, non-voters exhibited a tendency to have a lower evaluation of their knowledge of each aspect of voting compared to voters. This conclusion is reinforced by the fact that the average ratings between voters and non-voters were statistically significant for five of the eight voting aspects; one of the voting aspects was marginally statistically significant (Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot), and two of the voting aspects were statistically insignificant (Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot and Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines).



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.**

- Registering to vote
- Requesting an absentee ballot
- Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot
- Receiving/getting an absentee ballot
- Completing an absentee ballot
- Returning an absentee ballot
- Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot
- Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines

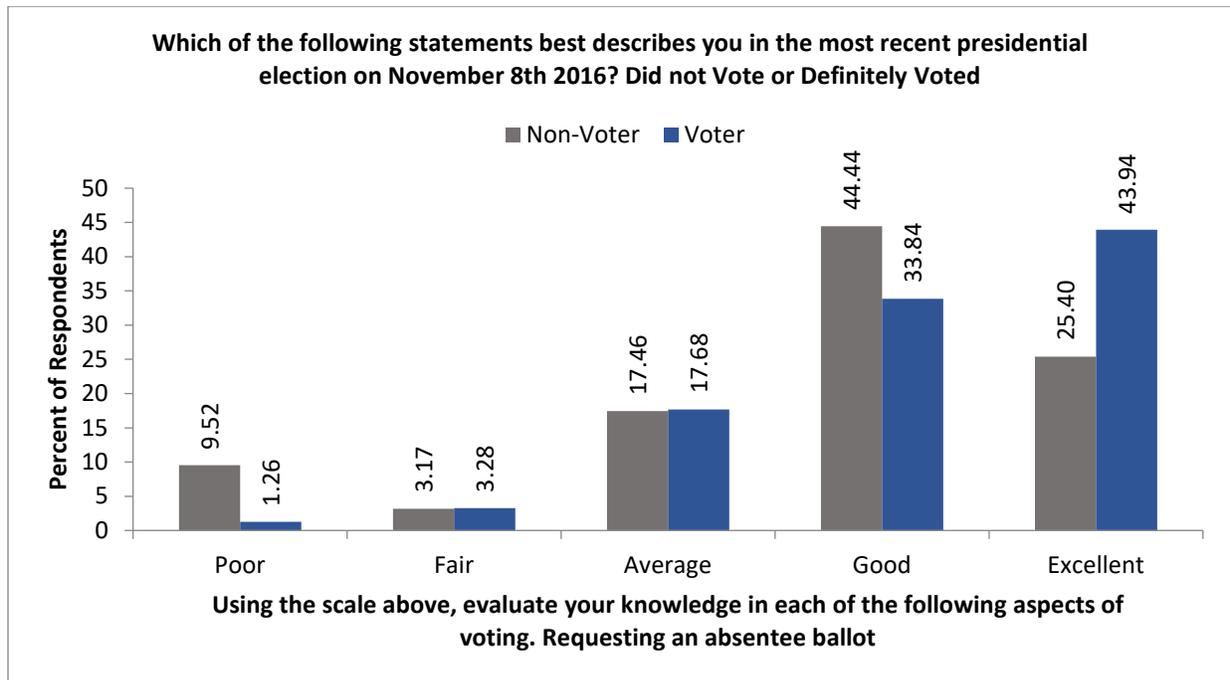
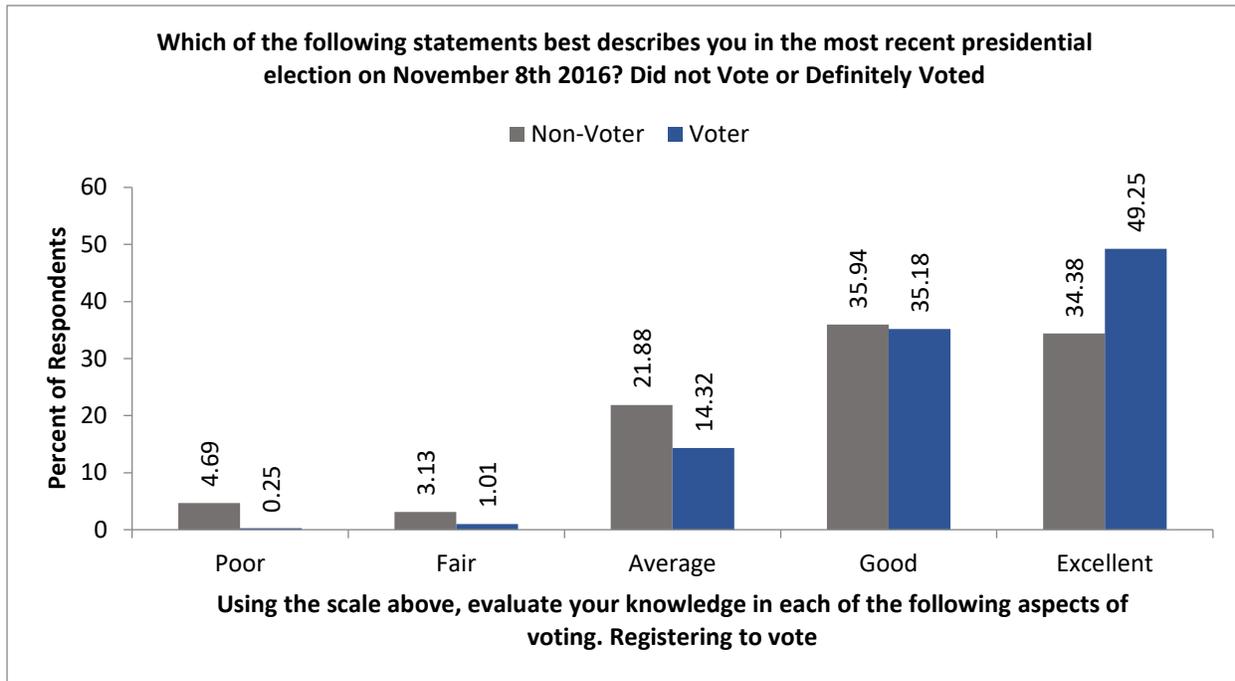


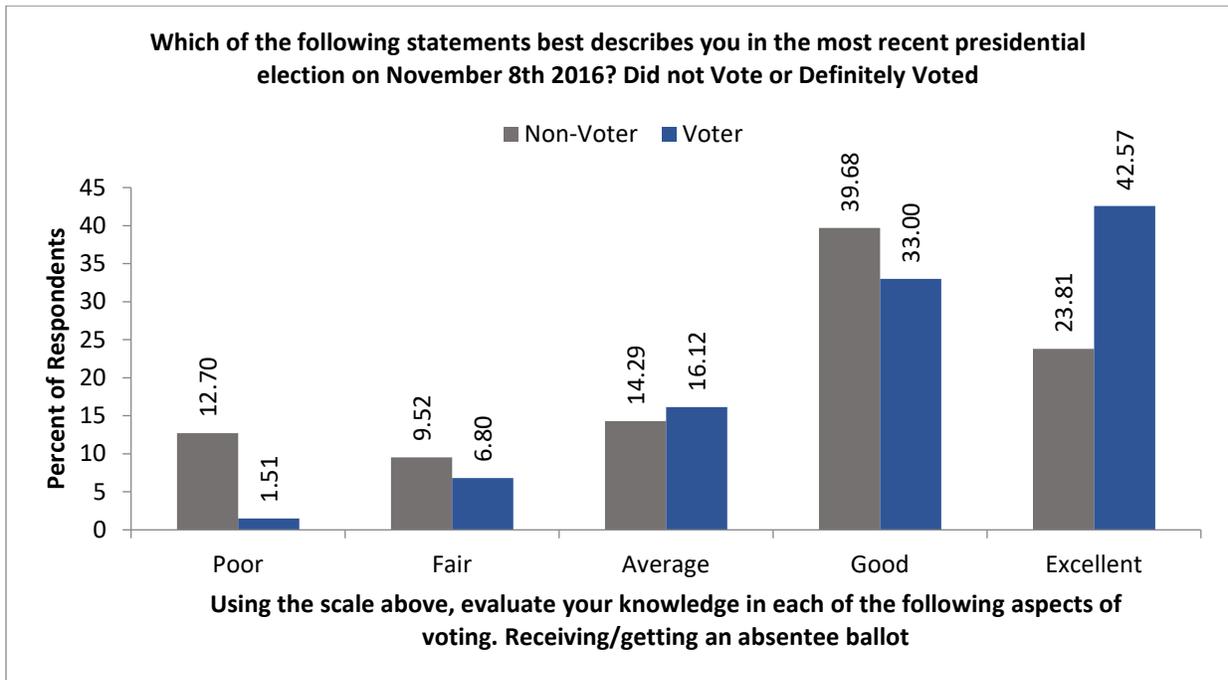
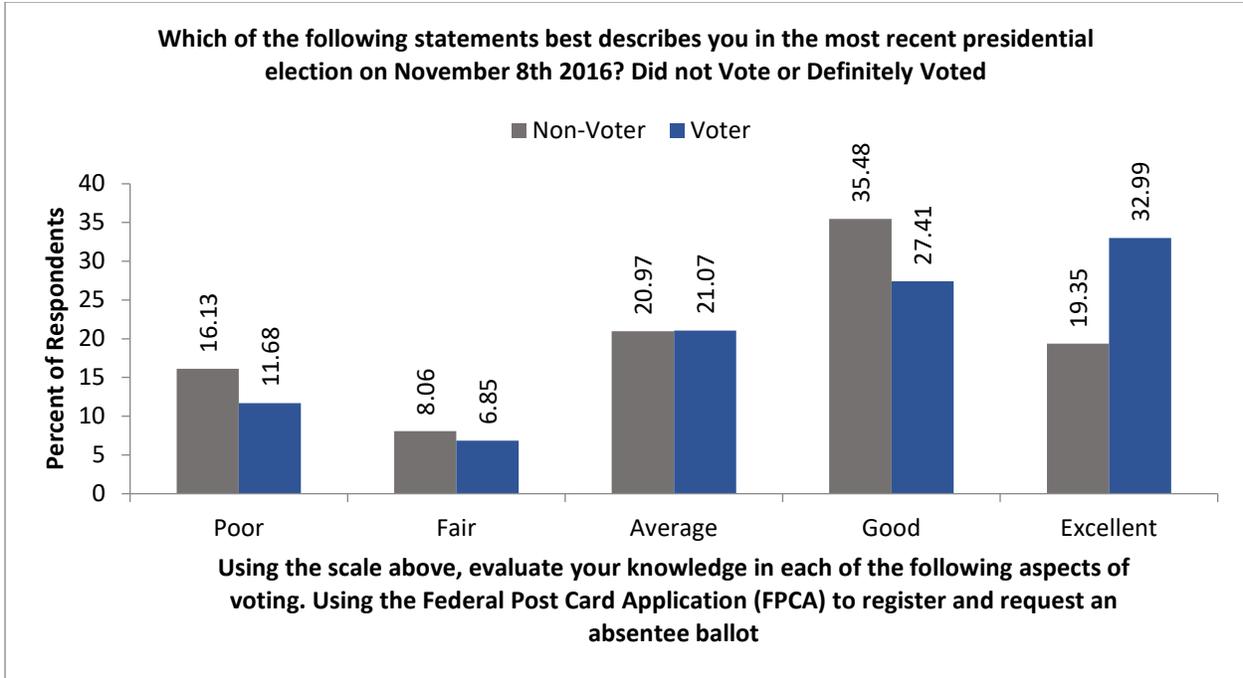
Table 158. Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge for Active Duty Service Member

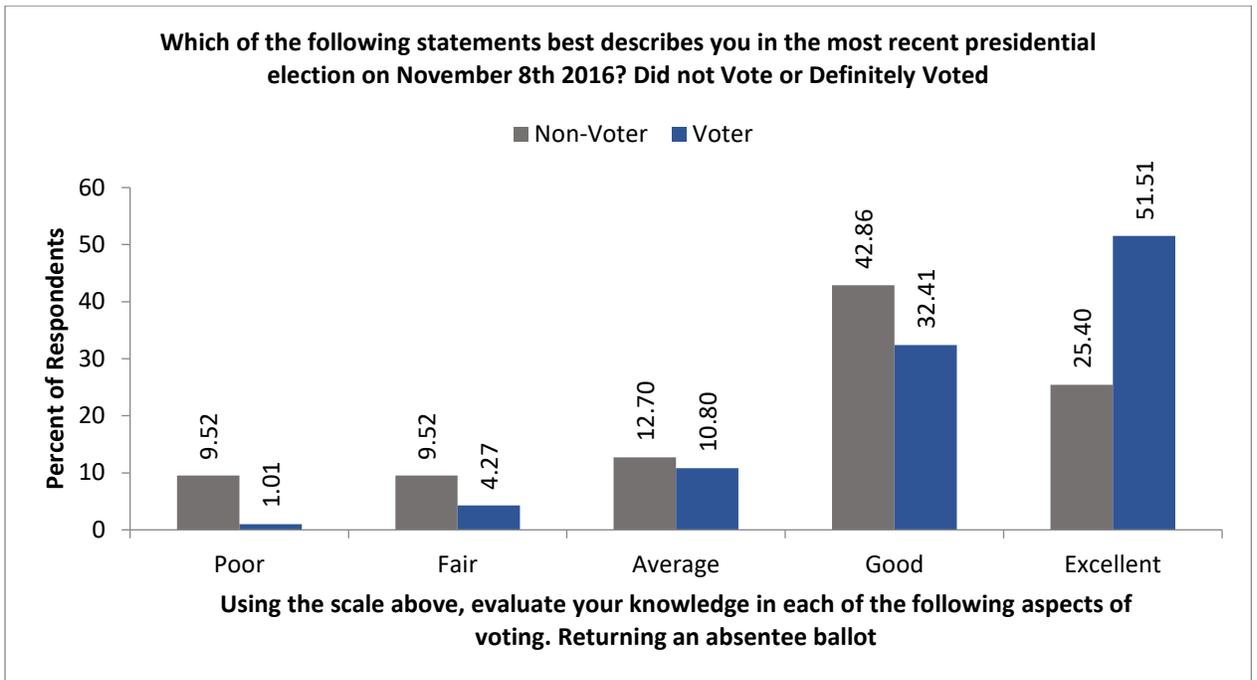
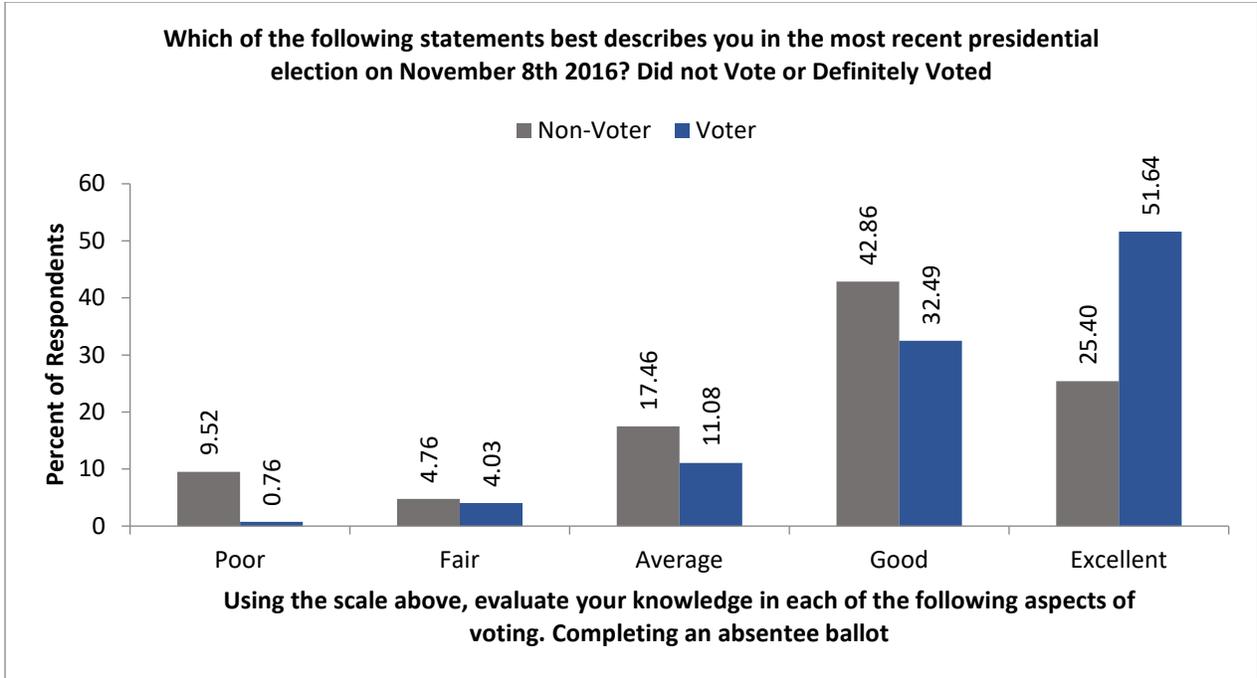
Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?		Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.				
Aspects of voting	Response Group	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
		Registering to vote	Non-Voter	4.69	3.13	21.88
	Voter	0.25	1.01	14.32	35.18	49.25
Requesting an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	9.52	3.17	17.46	44.44	25.40
	Voter	1.26	3.28	17.68	33.84	43.94
Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	16.13	8.06	20.97	35.48	19.35
	Voter	11.68	6.85	21.07	27.41	32.99
Receiving/getting an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	12.70	9.52	14.29	39.68	23.81
	Voter	1.51	6.80	16.12	33.00	42.57
Completing an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	9.52	4.76	17.46	42.86	25.40
	Voter	0.76	4.03	11.08	32.49	51.64
Returning an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	9.52	9.52	12.70	42.86	25.40
	Voter	1.01	4.27	10.80	32.41	51.51
Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot	Non-Voter	27.12	10.17	16.95	28.81	16.95
	Voter	24.68	11.57	19.28	21.34	23.14
Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines	Non-Voter	17.74	14.52	19.35	32.26	16.13
	Voter	14.11	10.08	22.92	24.18	28.72

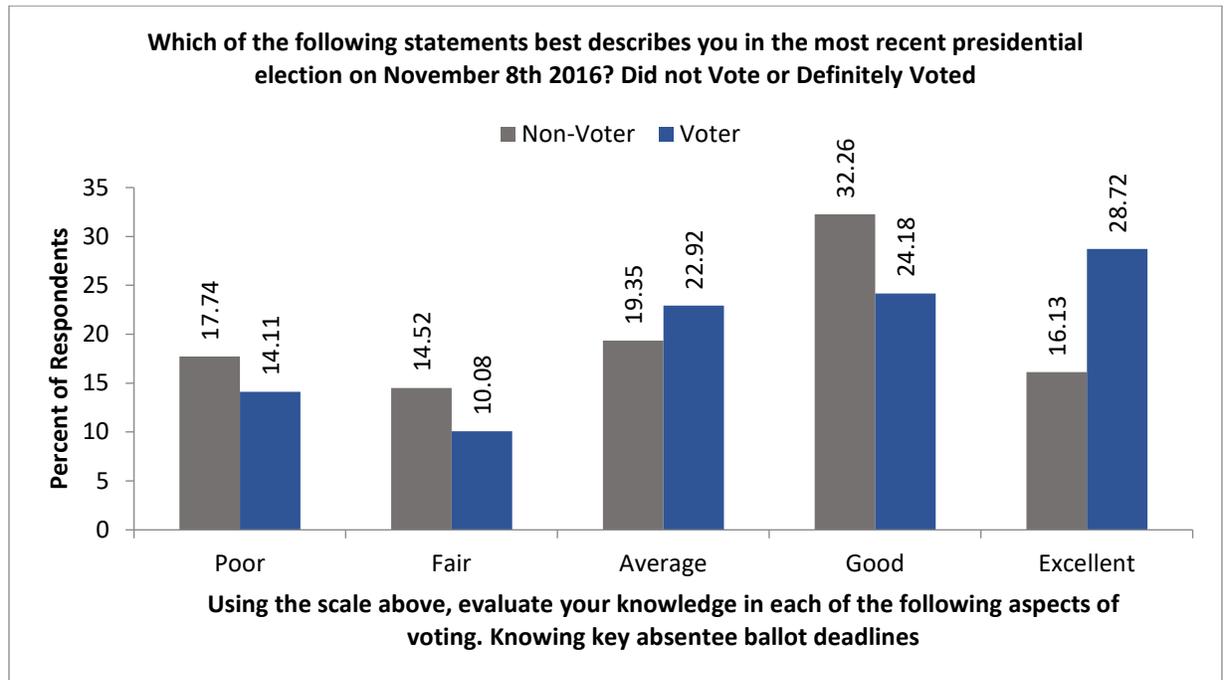
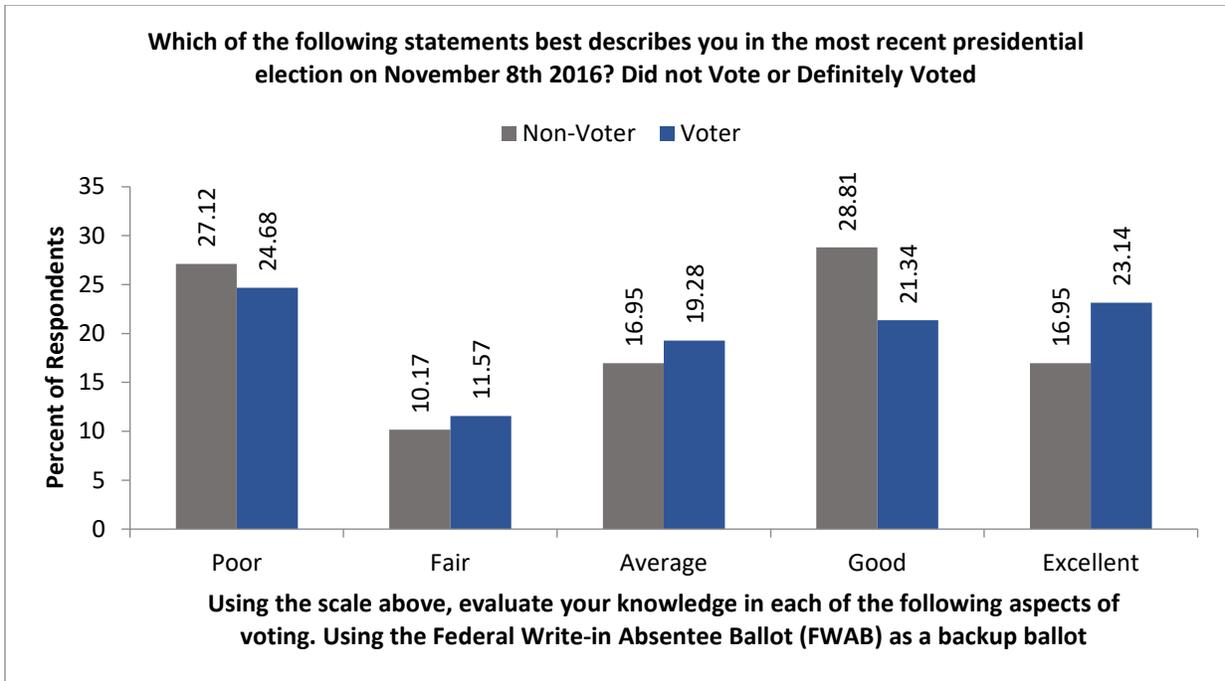


Figure 18-25. Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge for Active Duty Service Member









**Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot**

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks



the respondent whether they have ever requested or received an absentee ballot. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions/statements in a cross-tabulation. The percentage of non-voters who indicated that they had ever requested or received an absentee ballot (74.63 percent) is definitely less than the percentage of voters who indicated that they had ever requested or received an absentee ballot (88.78 percent). Thus, non-voters were less likely to have ever requested or received an absentee ballot compared to voters. This conclusion is reinforced by the fact that the “Yes/No” responses between voters and non-voters are statistically significant at the 99 percent level of confidence.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- Note: combined all of the above to a new variable “I did not vote”*
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?**

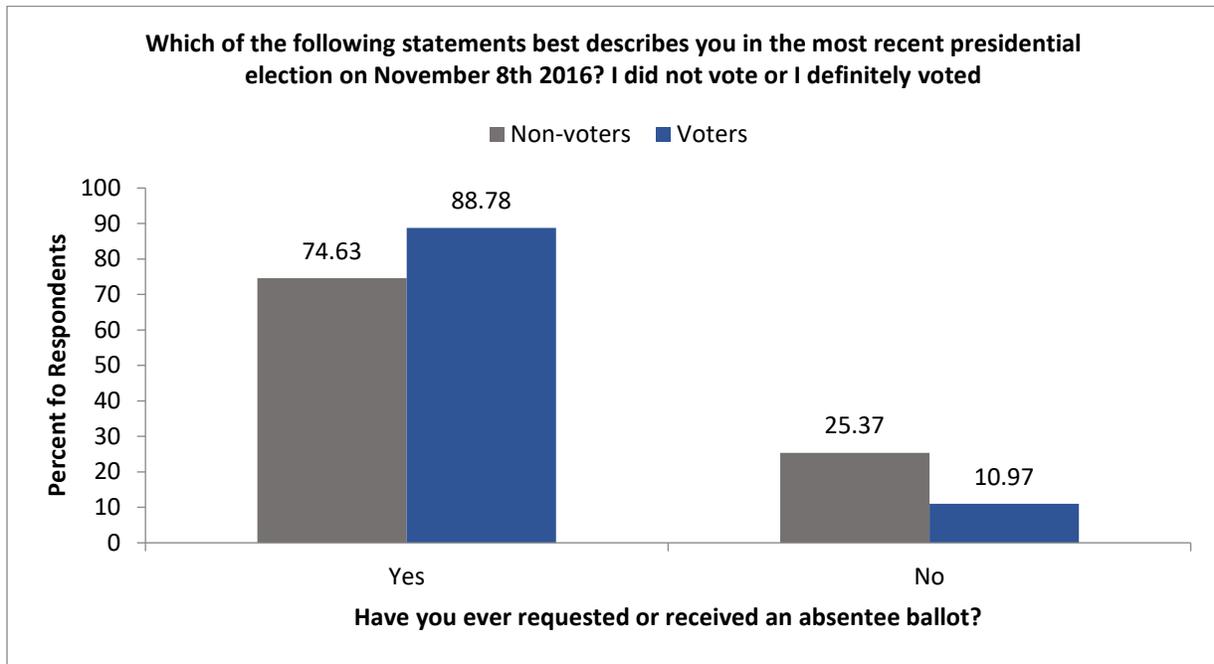
- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer



Table 159. Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot for Active Duty Spouse

Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016? I did not vote or I definitely voted	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Prefer not to answer		0.25
Yes	74.63	88.78
No	25.37	10.97

Figure 26. Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot for Active Duty Service Member





## Active Duty Spouses

### *Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns the influence of the respondent's leadership in the respondent's likelihood of voting. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The simple correlation between the "did not vote" column and the "definitely voted" column is 0.9939, which is very high indicating few relative differences between the distributions. Both columns exhibit a strong tendency toward "Not at all influential," with "Not at all influential" representing over 69 percent of the respondents in both cases. In fact, over 90 percent of the respondents made selections between "Not at all influential," "Slightly influential," and "Somewhat influential" in both columns. Thus, the leadership in the respondent's military command had little or no influence on the respondent's likelihood of voting in the 2016 election. This is reinforced by the average ratings, 1.5980 for non-voters and 1.4627 for voters, which are not statistically significantly different from each other.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting?**

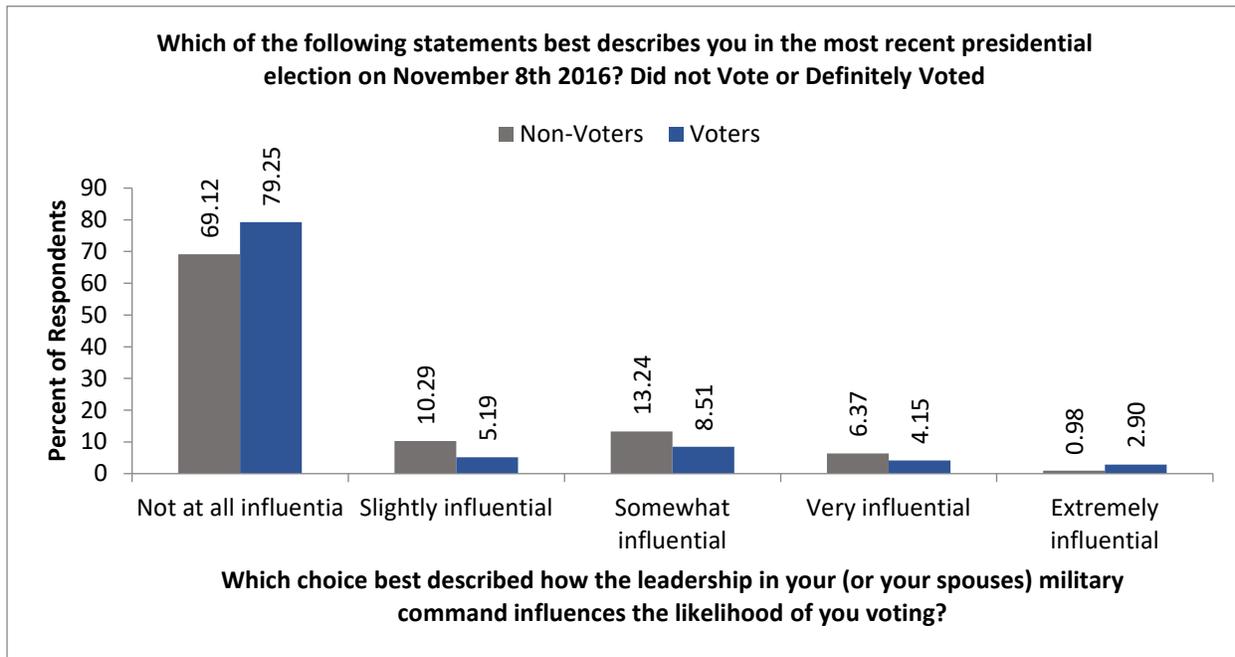
- Extremely influential
- Very influential
- Somewhat influential
- Slightly influential
- Not at all influential
- Prefer not to answer



Table 160. Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence for Active Duty Spouse

Which choice best described how the leadership in your (or your spouses) military command influences the likelihood of you voting?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Not at all influential	69.12	79.25
Slightly influential	10.29	5.19
Somewhat influential	13.24	8.51
Very influential	6.37	4.15
Extremely influential	0.98	2.90
Total	100.00	100.00

Figure 27. Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence for Active Duty Spouse





### *Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty members and veterans who have separated from active duty service in the last three years. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns how strongly the respondent feels that voting is a civic duty. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The simple correlation between the two distributions (I did not vote compared to I definitely voted) is 0.7873, suggesting a similarity with some differences. The most obvious difference is percentages attached to “Neither agree nor disagree,” with non-voters exhibited 24.26 percent compared to 5.99 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected “Strongly agree” at 37.87 percent, while voters exhibit 67.56 percent for “Strongly agree.” Thus, respondents that did not vote felt that voting was less of a civic duty compared to respondents that definitely voted. This conclusion is further reinforced by the average ratings computed for the non-voters and voters, 4.0184 and 4.5950, respectively; the average ratings are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence.

#### **Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

#### **Question: How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?**

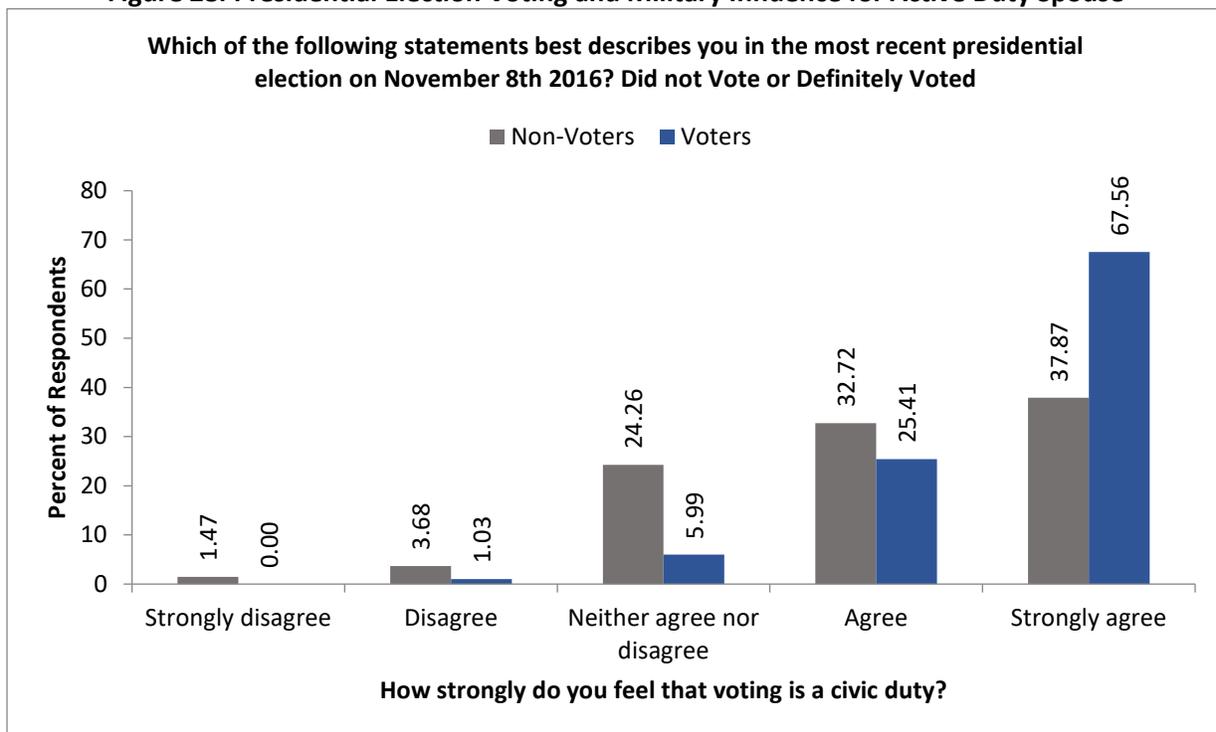
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Prefer not to answer



Table 161. Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence for Active Duty Spouse

How strongly do you feel that voting is a civic duty?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Strongly disagree	1.47	
Disagree	3.68	1.03
Neither agree nor disagree	24.26	5.99
Agree	32.72	25.41
Strongly agree	37.87	67.56
Simple Correlation		0.7873

Figure 28. Presidential Election Voting and Military Influence for Active Duty Spouse





### *Presidential Election Voting and Civic Duty*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns whether the respondent believes their vote makes a difference. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference is percentages attached to the “Yes” response, with non-voters exhibited 53.23 percent compared to 75.57 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected the “No” response at 23.38 percent, while voters exhibit 7.87 percent for “No” response. Thus, respondents that did not vote felt more strongly that their vote did not make a difference compared to respondents that definitely voted.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?**

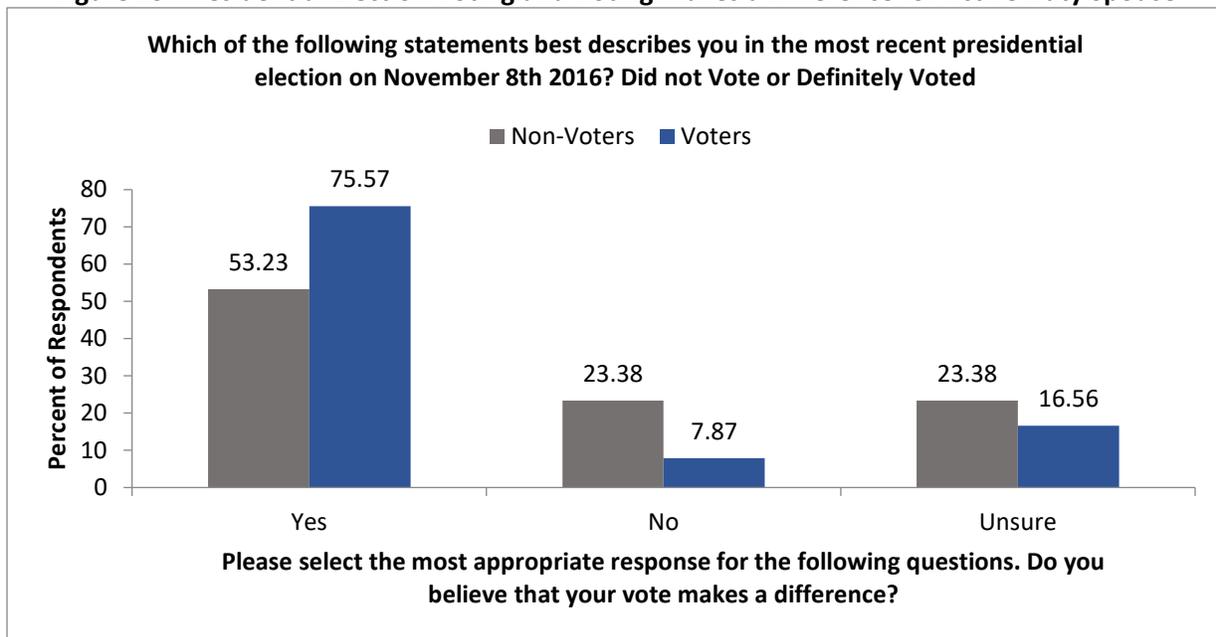
- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- NA
- Prefer not to answer



Table 162. Presidential Election Voting and Voting Makes a Difference for Active Duty Spouse

Please select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Do you believe that your vote makes a difference?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Yes	53.23	75.57
No	23.38	7.87
Unsure	23.38	16.56

Figure 29. Presidential Election Voting and Voting Makes a Difference for Active Duty Spouse





### *Presidential Election Voting and Motivation*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns whether the respondent believes that voting is a choice. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is the “Yes” responses, with non-voters exhibited 32.62 percent compared to 17.49 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected the “No” response at 67.38 percent, while voters exhibit 82.51 percent for the “No” response. Thus, respondents that did not vote tended to believe more that voting was a choice compared to respondents that definitely voted. This conclusion is further reinforced by the fact that the “No” responses percentages are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence between non-voter respondents and voter respondents.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: For you personally, voting is first and foremost...**

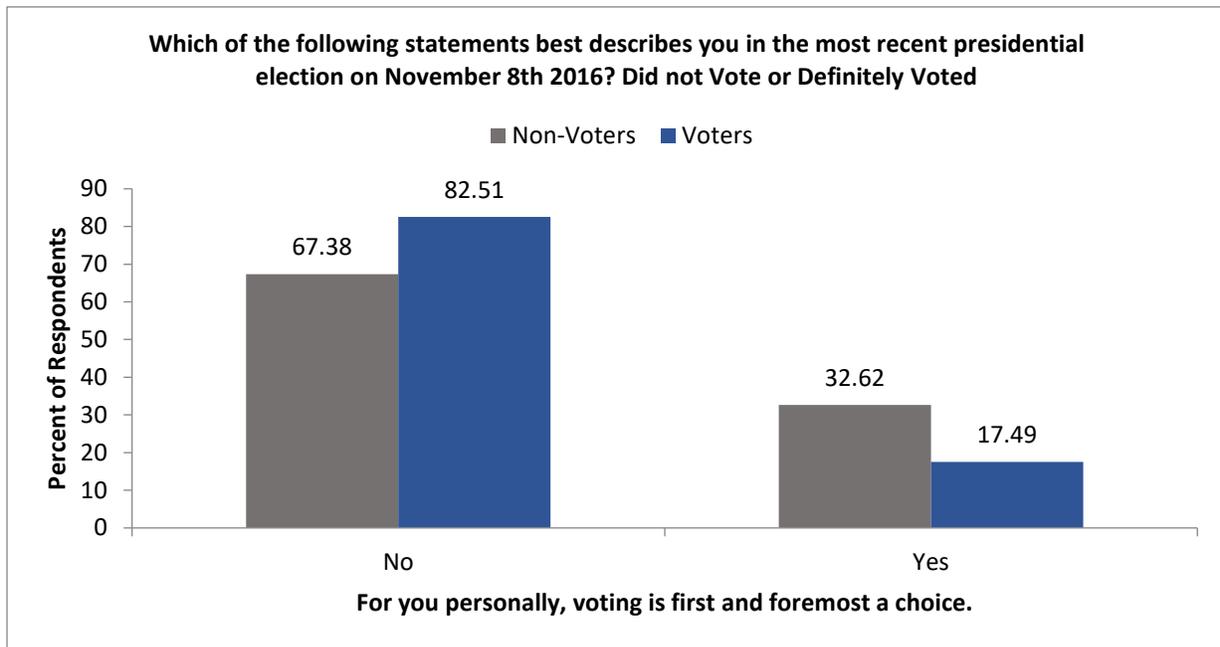
- A civic duty
- A choice
- Not appropriate for members of the military
- Not sure
- Prefer not to answer



Table 163. Presidential Election Voting and Motivation for Active Duty Spouse

	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
For you personally, voting is first and foremost a choice		
No	67.38	82.51
Yes	32.62	17.49

Figure 30. Presidential Election Voting and Motivation for Active Duty Spouse





### *Presidential Election Voting and Materials Received During PCS*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns whether the materials the respondent received during their last PCS were helpful. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the “Extremely helpful” response, with non-voters exhibiting 40 percent compared to 24 percent for voters. In addition, non-voter respondents selected the “Somewhat helpful” response at 10 percent, while voters exhibit 29.33 percent for the “Somewhat helpful” response. Thus, active duty spouse respondents that did not vote did believe the materials they received during their last PCS were helpful as did respondents that definitely voted. This conclusion is reinforced by the average ratings between the two response groups, 4 for non-voters and 3.8933 for voters, very close to the same average rating and to the “Moderately helpful” response. In addition, the two average ratings are not statistically significantly different from one another.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Were the materials helpful?**

- Extremely helpful
- Moderately helpful
- Somewhat helpful
- Slightly helpful
- Not at all helpful



Table 164. Presidential Election Voting and Materials Received During PCS for Active Duty Spouse

	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
<b>Were the materials helpful?</b>		
Not at all helpful	10.00	
Slightly helpful		2.67
Somewhat helpful	10.00	29.33
Moderately helpful	40.00	44.00
Extremely helpful	40.00	24.00



### *Presidential Election Voting and Political Party*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns how likely the respondent is to vote based solely on their political party. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the first two response options. Non-voters indicate that “political party does not impact how I vote” at 53.99 percent compared to voters at 35.63 percent. Non-voters indicate that “political party matters somewhat to how I vote” at 39.88 percent compared to voters at 54.01 percent. Thus, respondents that did not vote tend to indicate that political party has little impact how they vote compared to respondents that definitely voted who tend to indicate that political party matters somewhat to how they vote; e.g., being affiliated/associated with/involved with a political party seems to improve the likelihood that the respondent will vote. This conclusion is further reinforced by the average ratings computed for the non-voters and voters, 1.5215 and 1.7468, respectively; the average ratings are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: How likely are you to vote for a candidate based solely on their political party?**

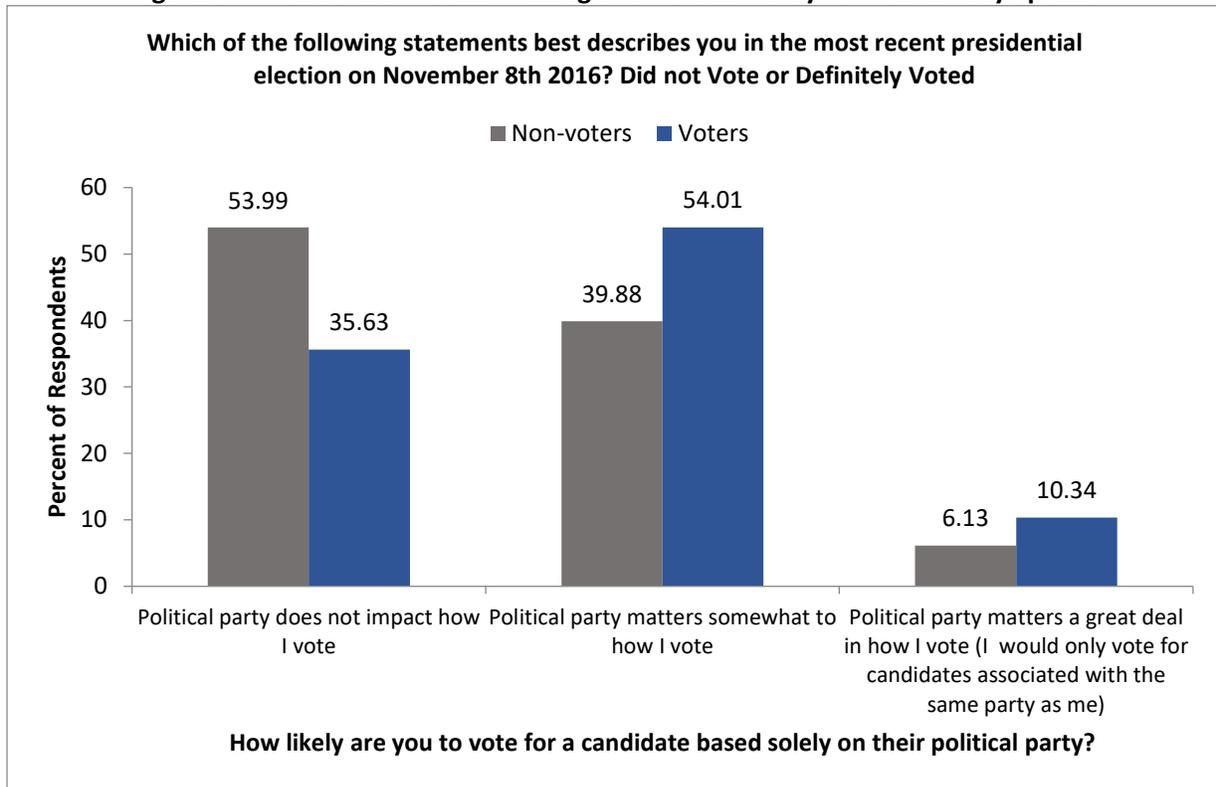
- Political party does not impact how I vote
- Political party matters somewhat to how I vote
- Party matters a great deal in how I vote (I would only vote for candidates associated with the same party as me)
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 165. Presidential Election Voting and Political Party for Active Duty Spouse**

	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
<b>How likely are you to vote for a candidate based solely on their political party?</b>		
Political party does not impact how I vote	53.99	35.63
Political party matters somewhat to how I vote	39.88	54.01
Political party matters a great deal in how I vote (I would only vote for candidates associated with the same party as me)	6.13	10.34

**Figure 31. Presidential Election Voting and Political Party for Active Duty Spouse**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Informed about Political Matters*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question concerns to what degree the respondent believes they are informed about political matters. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the last response option, “Extremely informed.” Non-voters indicate that they are not “Extremely informed” “at 6.08 percent compared to voters at 19.75 percent. Voters also exhibit a higher percentage for the “Moderately informed” response with 50.1 percent compared to 32.6 percent for non-voters. Thus, respondents that did not vote tend to indicate that they believe they are not as well informed about political matters as compared to respondents that definitely voted. This conclusion is further reinforced by the average ratings computed for the non-voters and voters, 3.1713 and 3.8461, respectively; the average ratings are statistically significantly different at the 99 percent level of confidence.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: To what degree do you believe you are informed about political matters?**

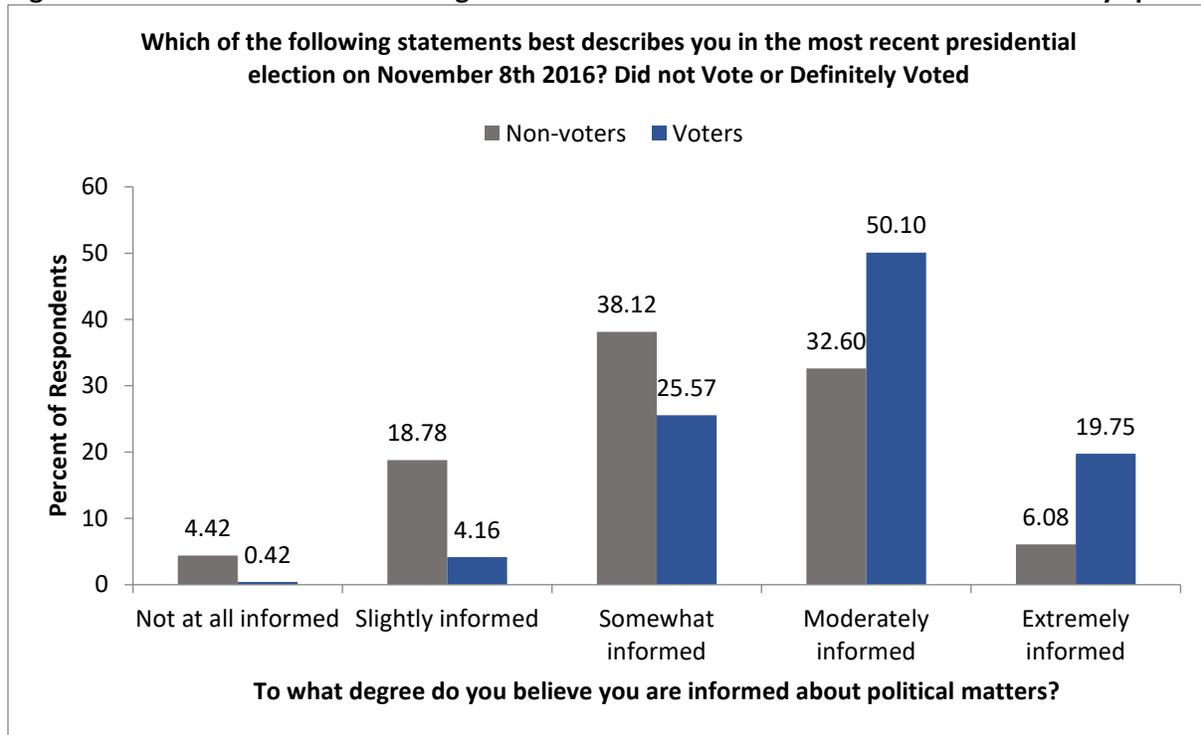
- Extremely informed
- Moderately informed
- Somewhat informed
- Slightly informed
- Not at all informed
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 166. Presidential Election Voting and Informed about Political Matters for Active Duty Spouse**

To what degree do you believe you are informed about political matters?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Not at all informed	4.42	0.42
Slightly informed	18.78	4.16
Somewhat informed	38.12	25.57
Moderately informed	32.60	50.10
Extremely informed	6.08	19.75

**Figure 32. Presidential Election Voting and Informed about Political Matters for Active Duty Spouse**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks how many times have the respondent has registered to vote during their time associated with the military. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The most obvious difference in percentages is for the last response option, "More than 5 times." Non-voters have registered to vote more than 5 times for 1.01 percent of the respondents, while voters have registered to vote more than 5 times for 11.37 percent of the respondents. Non-voters also exhibit a much higher percentages for "1 time" than voters, 48.48 percent compared to 35.4 percent. Thus, respondents that did not vote have had less experience registering to vote during their tenure in the military than voters.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: During your time associated with the military how many times have you registered to vote?**

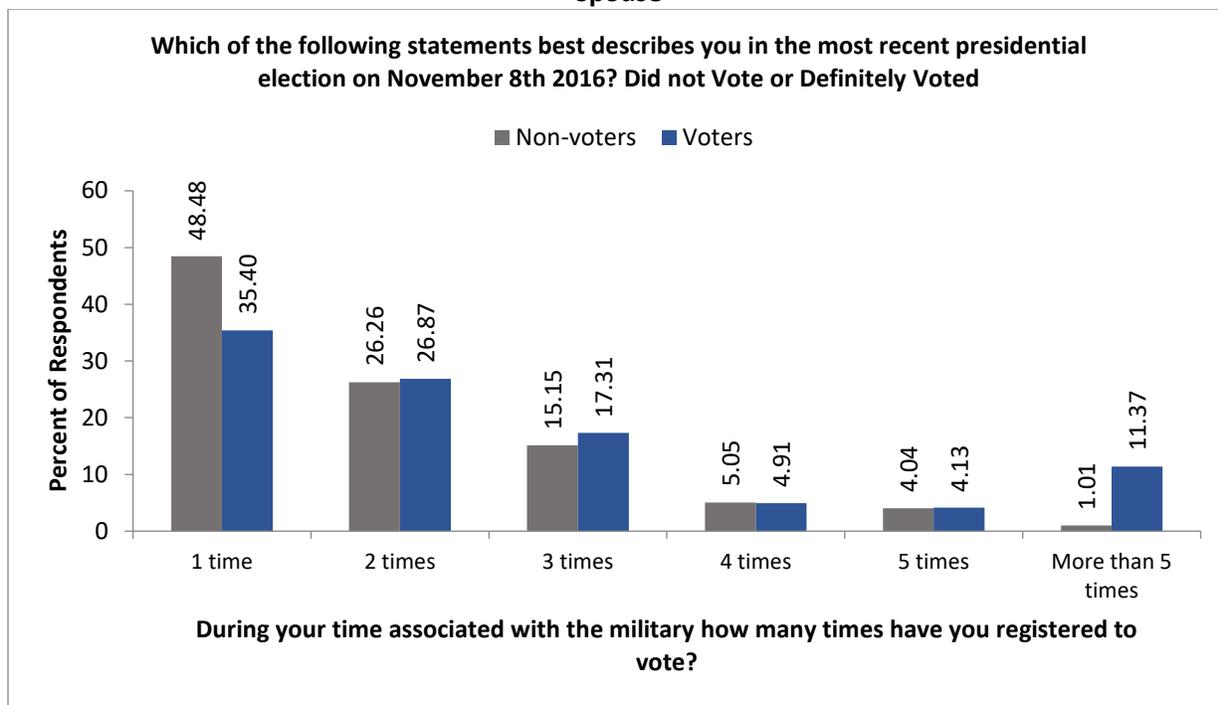
- None
- 1 time
- 2 times
- 3 times
- 4 times
- 5 times
- More than 5 times
- Do not know
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 167. Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote for Active Duty Spouse**

During your time associated with the military how many times have you registered to vote?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
1 time	48.48	35.40
2 times	26.26	26.87
3 times	15.15	17.31
4 times	5.05	4.91
5 times	4.04	4.13
More than 5 times	1.01	11.37

**Figure 33. Presidential Election Voting and Number of Times Registered to Vote for Active Duty Spouse**





### *Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8<sup>th</sup> 2016. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. For three of the four statements (statement four had no observations among active duty spouses), non-voters exhibited a higher “Yes” percentage than voters (“Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting,” “Voting absentee while overseas,” and “Voting during a PCS”). For each of these three statements, the differences exhibited for “Yes” and “No” responses were statistically significant. Statement one (Voting at your polling station) exhibited very close percentages for non-voters and voter, 8.06 percent and 8.47 percent, respectively. The highest “Yes” percentage for non-voters was for the statement “Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?” at 25.81 percent, followed by “Voting absentee while deployed?” at 21.31 percent. In addition, for three statements which exhibited statistically different “Yes” responses, voters exhibited a higher percentage for “No” responses than non-voters. Thus, though not all four statements exhibited statistically significant differences between non-voter and voters for “Yes” responses, the percentages suggest that respondents, who had issues/trouble while voting in the 2016 election, exhibited a higher tendency to not vote.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:**

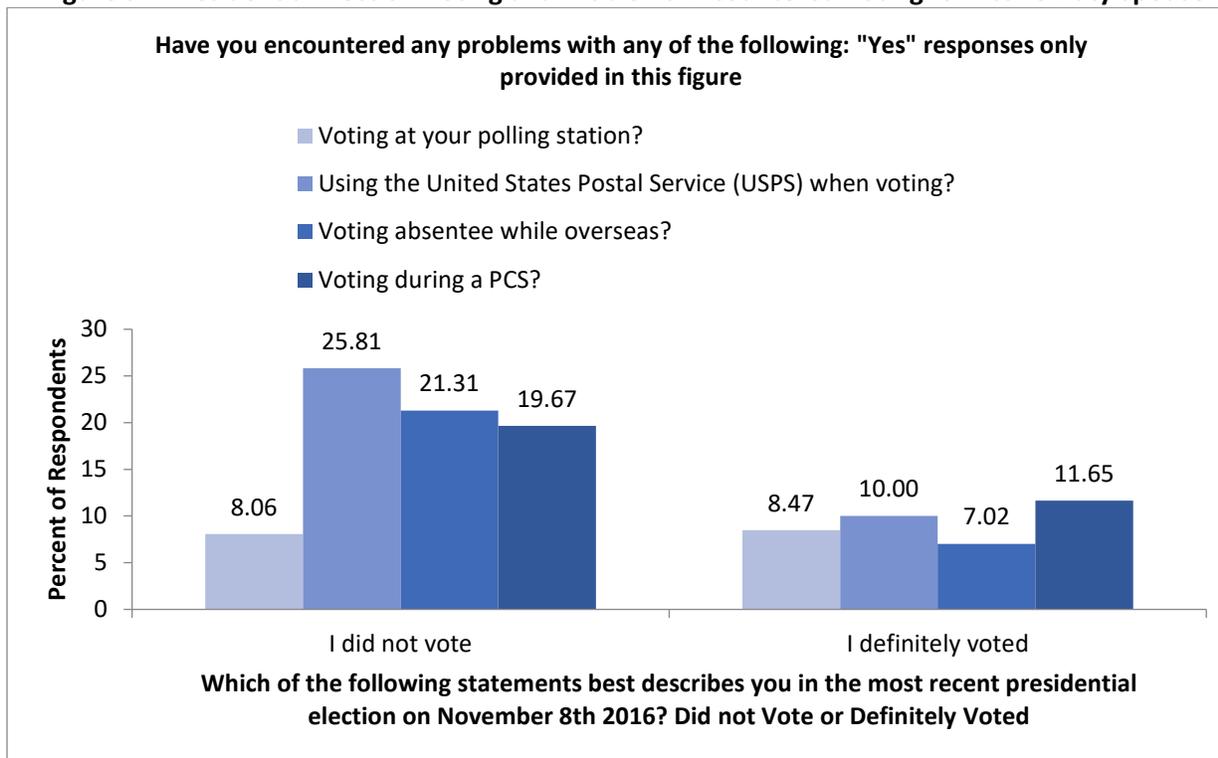
1. Voting at your polling station?
2. Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?
3. Voting absentee while overseas?
4. Voting absentee while deployed?
5. Voting during a PCS?



Table 168. Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting for Active Duty Spouse

Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?		Have you encountered any problems with any of the following:		
Statements	Response Group	Yes	No	Does not apply
Voting at your polling station?	I did not vote	8.06	74.19	17.74
	I definitely voted	8.47	68.64	22.88
Using the United States Postal Service (USPS) when voting?	I did not vote	25.81	56.45	17.74
	I definitely voted	10.00	74.47	15.53
Voting absentee while overseas?	I did not vote	21.31	40.98	37.70
	I definitely voted	7.02	47.02	45.96
Voting absentee while deployed?	I did not vote	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.
	I definitely voted	No Obs.	No Obs.	No Obs.
Voting during a PCS?	I did not vote	19.67	42.62	37.70
	I definitely voted	11.65	52.75	35.59

Figure 34. Presidential Election Voting and Problems Encountered Voting for Active Duty Spouse





### *Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks the respondent to evaluate their knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions/statements in a cross-tabulation. For every statement (eight statements), non-voters exhibited a higher “Poor” percentage than voters did and a higher “Fair” percentage than voters did. Conversely, for every statement (eight statements), voters exhibited a higher “Excellent” percentage than non-voters did. “Average” and “Good” responses were mixed with respect to the highest percentage between non-voters and voters. Thus, non-voters exhibited a tendency to have a lower evaluation of their knowledge of each aspect of voting compared to voters. This conclusion is strongly reinforced by the fact that the average ratings between voters and non-voters were statistically significant for all eight voting aspects.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.**

1. Registering to vote
2. Requesting an absentee ballot
3. Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot
4. Receiving/getting an absentee ballot
5. Completing an absentee ballot
6. Returning an absentee ballot
7. Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot
8. Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines

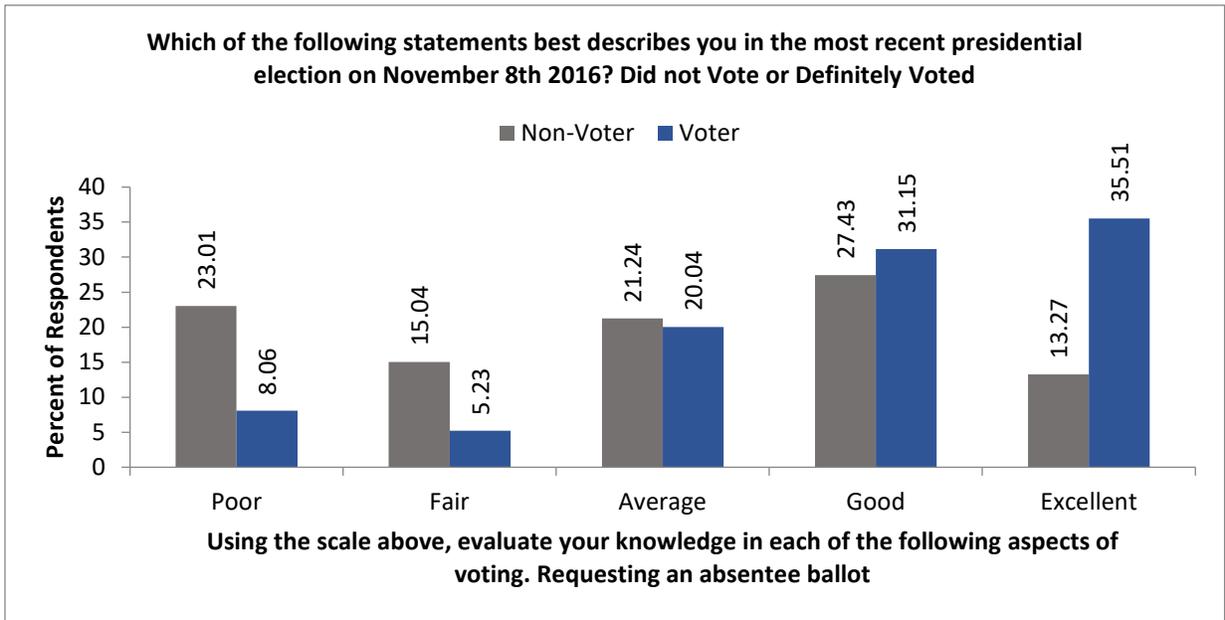
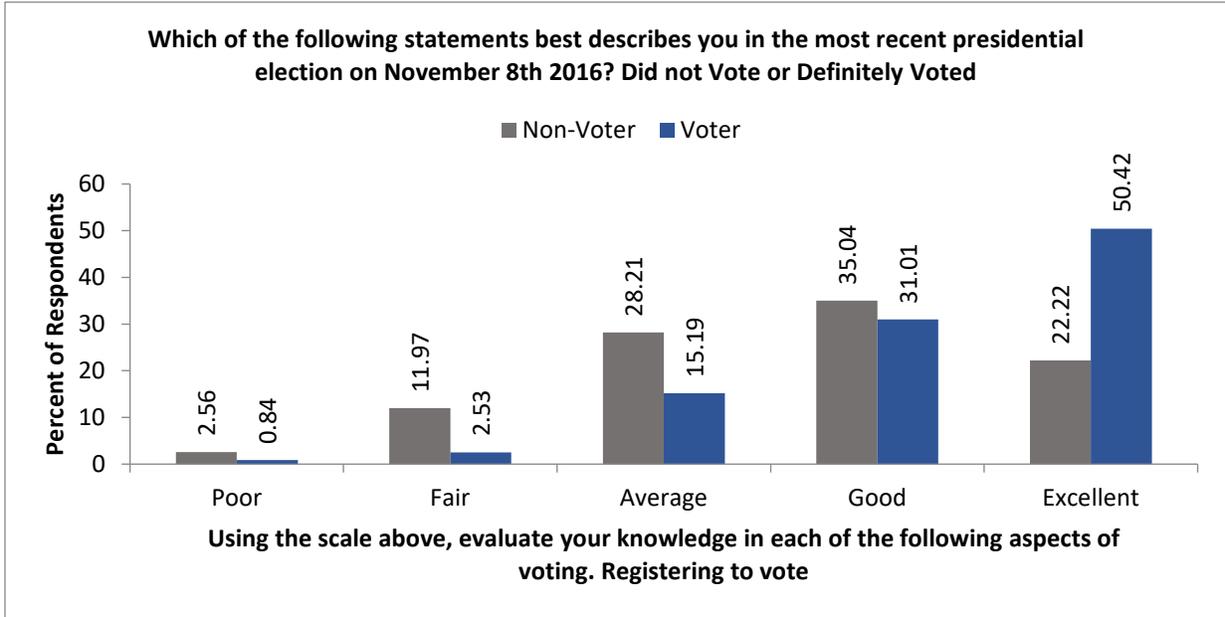


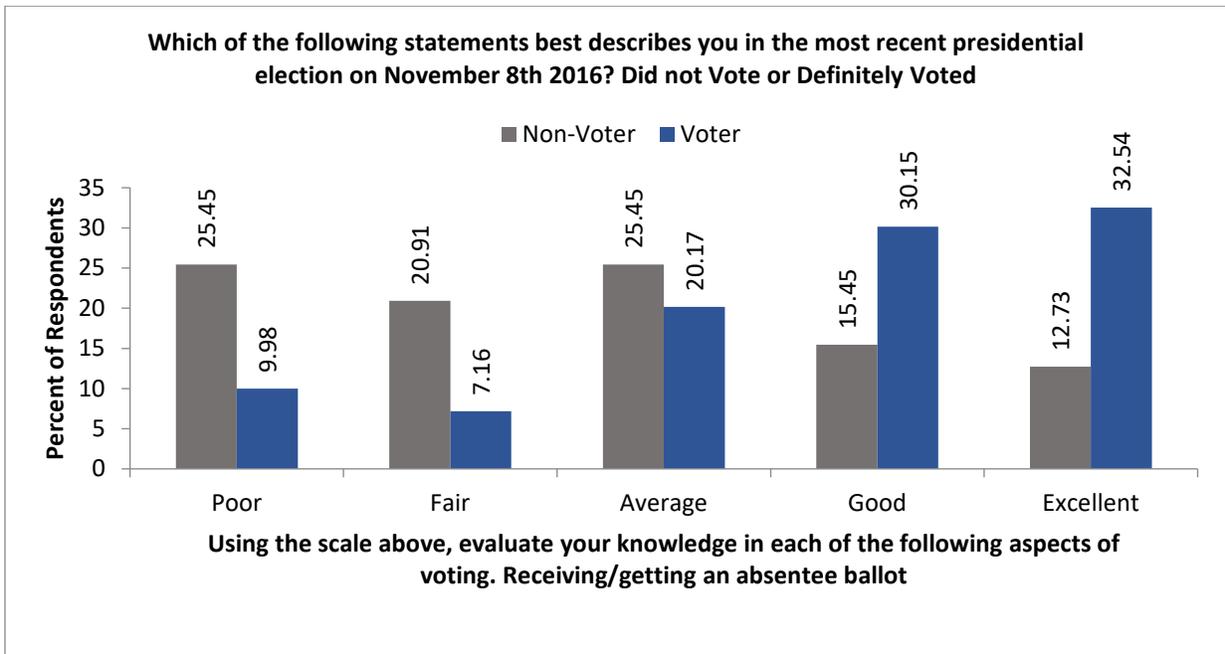
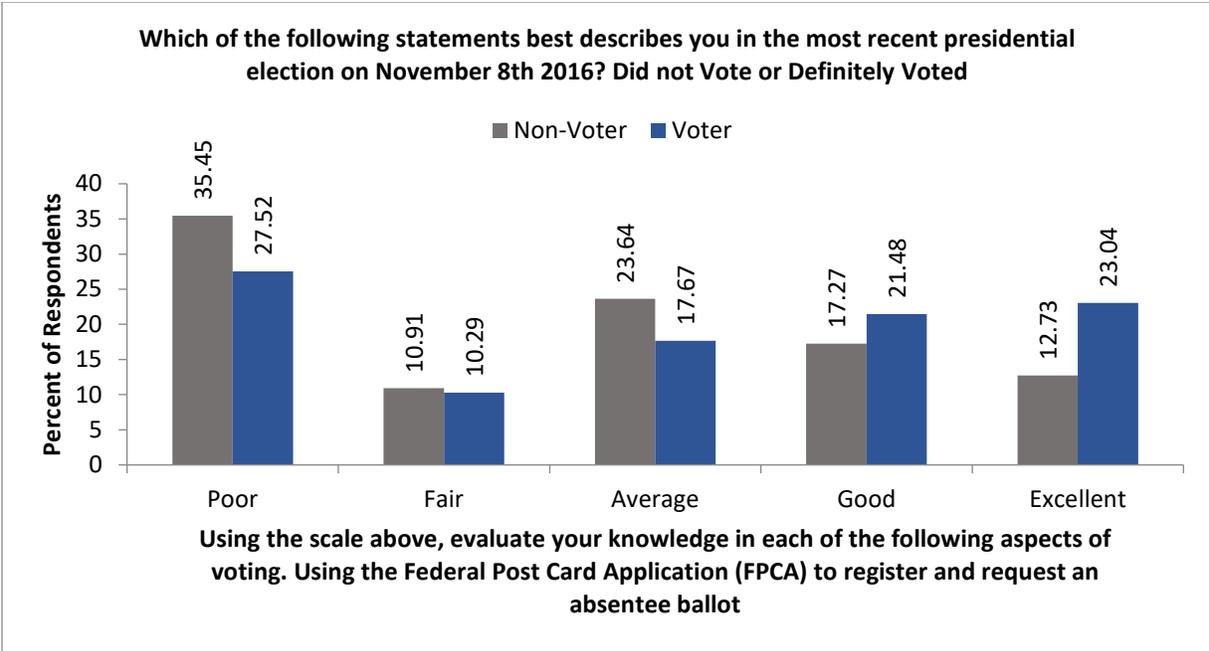
Table 169. Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge for Active Duty Spouse

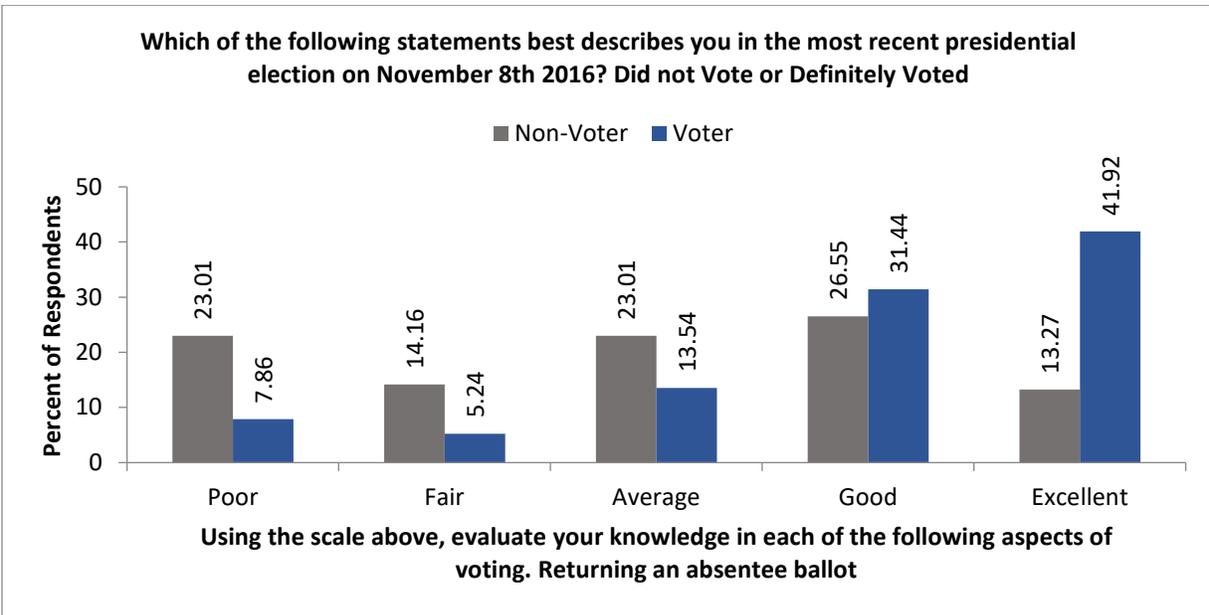
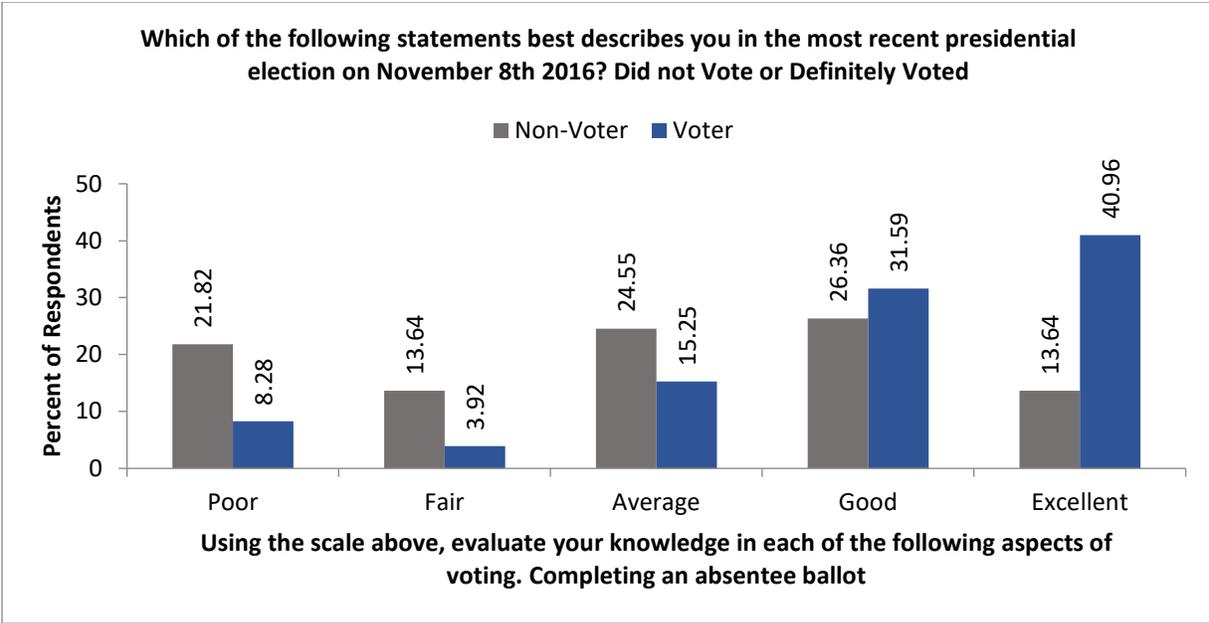
Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?		Using the scale below, evaluate your knowledge in each of the following aspects of voting.				
Aspects of voting	Response Group	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
		Registering to vote	Non-Voter	2.56	11.97	28.21
	Voter	0.84	2.53	15.19	31.01	50.42
Requesting an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	23.01	15.04	21.24	27.43	13.27
	Voter	8.06	5.23	20.04	31.15	35.51
Using the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register and request an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	35.45	10.91	23.64	17.27	12.73
	Voter	27.52	10.29	17.67	21.48	23.04
Receiving/getting an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	25.45	20.91	25.45	15.45	12.73
	Voter	9.98	7.16	20.17	30.15	32.54
Completing an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	21.82	13.64	24.55	26.36	13.64
	Voter	8.28	3.92	15.25	31.59	40.96
Returning an absentee ballot	Non-Voter	23.01	14.16	23.01	26.55	13.27
	Voter	7.86	5.24	13.54	31.44	41.92
Using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as a backup ballot	Non-Voter	42.73	17.27	17.27	11.82	10.91
	Voter	37.47	7.96	22.72	14.05	17.80
Knowing key absentee ballot deadlines	Non-Voter	40.54	16.22	18.92	15.32	9.01
	Voter	23.36	10.7	18.78	21.83	25.33

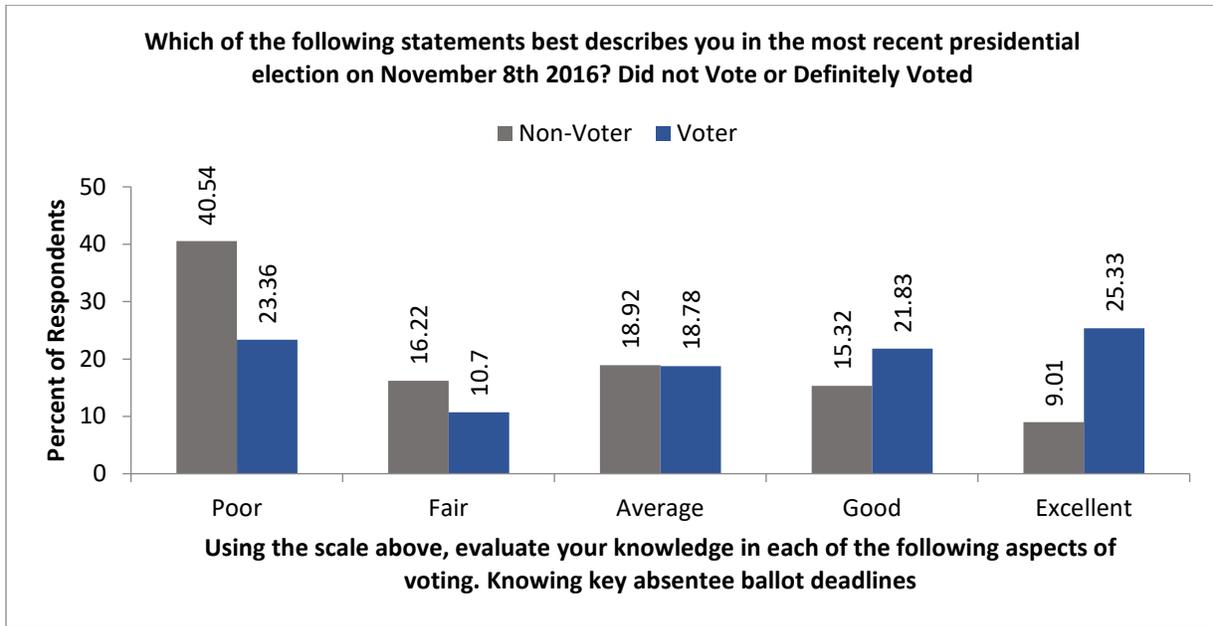
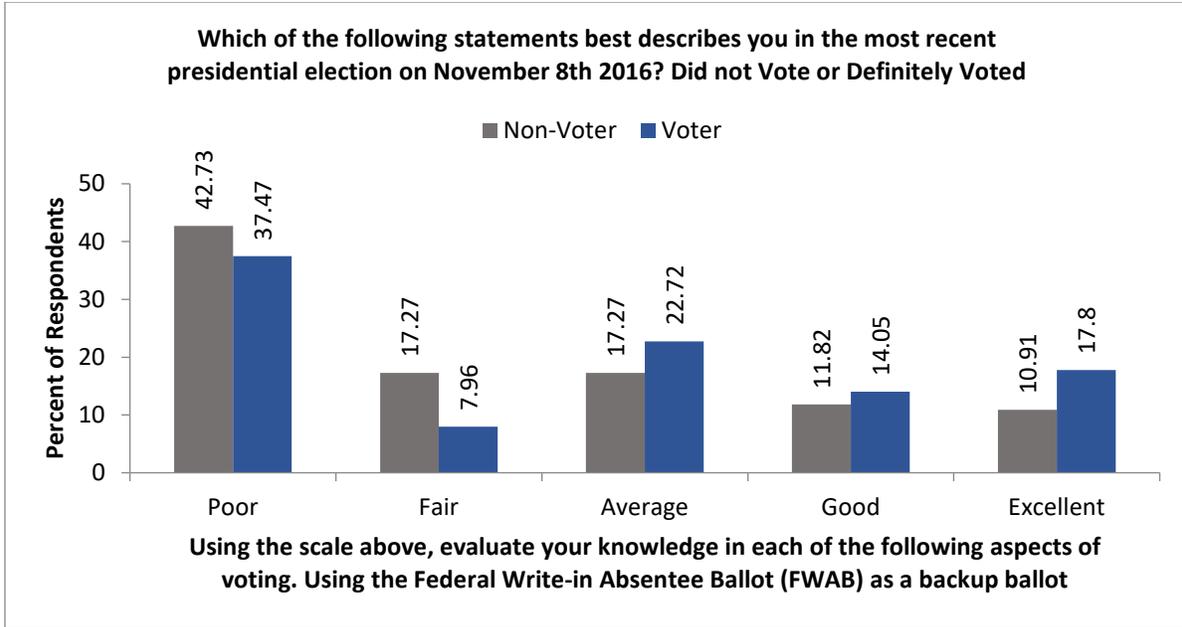


Figure 35-42. Presidential Election Voting and Knowledge for Active Duty Spouse











### *Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot*

The following analysis presents a cross tabulation between the two questions listed below for a sub-sample comprised of active duty spouses. The first question is about voting in the 2016 election and the second question asks the respondent whether they have ever requested or received an absentee ballot. The table provides the distribution of responses for both questions in a cross-tabulation. The percentage of non-voters who indicated that they had ever requested or received an absentee ballot (45 percent) is definitely less than the percentage of voters who indicated that they had ever requested or received an absentee ballot (73.07 percent). Thus, non-voters were less likely to have ever requested or received an absentee ballot compared to voters. This conclusion is reinforced by the fact that the “Yes/No” responses between voters and non-voters are statistically significant at the 99 percent level of confidence.



**Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016?**

- I did not want to vote
- I thought about voting this time – but didn't
- I usually vote, but didn't this time
- I attempted to vote but did not or could not
- I definitely voted

#### ***Cross Tabulation with***

**Question: Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?**

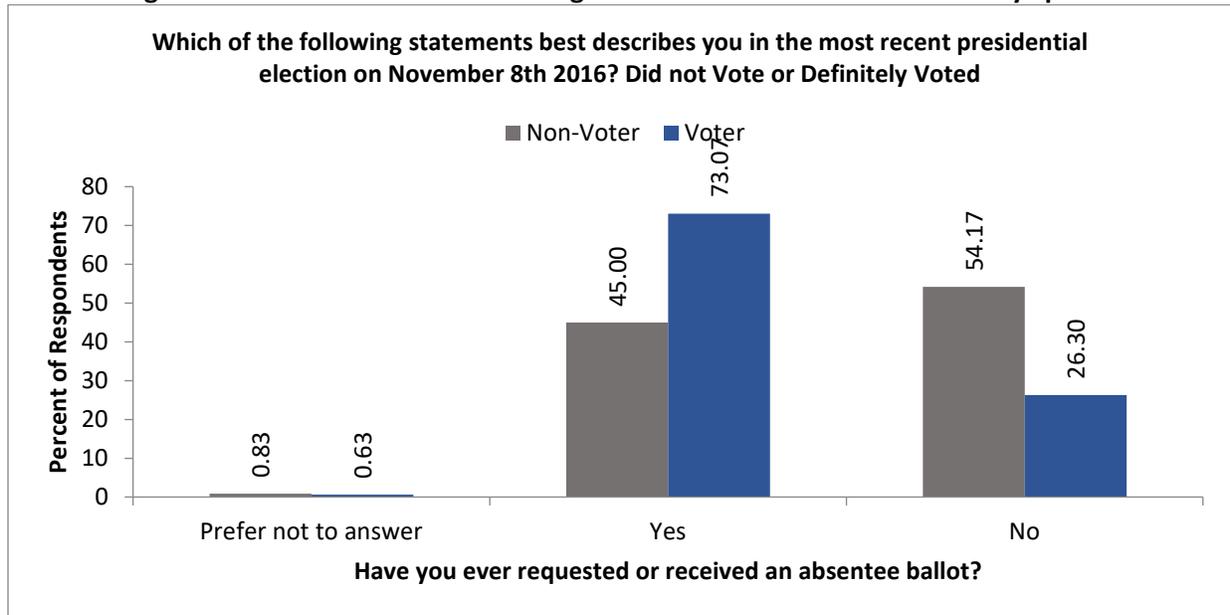
- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer



**Table 170. Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot for Active Duty Spouse**

Have you ever requested or received an absentee ballot?	Which of the following statements best describes you in the most recent presidential election on November 8th 2016? I did not vote or I definitely voted	
	I did not vote	I definitely voted
Prefer not to answer	0.83	0.63
Yes	45.00	73.07
No	54.17	26.30

**Figure 43. Presidential Election Voting and Absentee Ballot for Active Duty Spouse**







## Conclusion and Recommendations

### Conclusion

The findings of this report can be used to inform efforts at all levels of government involved with improving military absentee voting. Additionally, it will inform the public about the experiences, motivations and perceptions of Active Duty military and their families and will shape policy and practice around the issues.

Key Highlights include

- Close to 2,900 responses from service members, veterans, and their families (40% from veterans, 30% from spouses of active duty service members, and 16% from active duty service members)

*Voting, Motivation, and Process*

- Approximately 71% of active duty and 69% of active duty spouse respondents believe voting is a civic duty. Approximately 89% of veteran and 80% of veteran spouse respondents believe voting is a civic duty.
- About 57% of active duty respondents vote in every election (federal, state and local), but only 36% of active duty spouse respondents vote in every election (most spouses vote in presidential elections, but not necessarily in state or local elections). About 85% of veteran respondents vote in every election (federal, state and local), and 71% of veteran spouse respondents vote in every election in every election.
- Among all respondents, voting likelihood declines predictably based on the level of the election:

Active Duty Service Member Respondents	Active Duty Spouse Respondents
• Presidential: 95%	• Presidential: 89%
• Congressional: 87%	• Congressional: 72%
• State: 78%	• State: 62%
• Local: 71%	• Local: 52%
• Primaries and Caucuses: 50%	• Primaries and Caucuses: 49%

Veteran Respondents	Veteran Spouse Respondents
• Presidential: 98%	• Presidential: 100%
• Congressional: 97%	• Congressional: 91%
• State: 94%	• State: 90%
• Local: 90%	• Local: 85%
• Primaries and Caucuses: 82%	• Primaries and Caucuses: 82%



- The top three reasons why active duty respondents did not vote in the presidential election were: (1) they did not want to vote, (2) they had no candidate preference, or (3) they were not interested in voting.
- The top three reasons why active duty spouse respondents did not vote in the presidential election were: (1) they did not want to vote, (2) they did not think their vote mattered, and (3) they did not know how to get an absentee ballot.
- About 67% of active duty respondents were confident their ballot was counted and 60% indicated it was easy to get voting assistance on or near their installation. A similar percentage of active duty spouse respondents (64%) were confident their ballot was counted, but only 40% felt it was easy to obtain voting information.
- About 86% of veteran and 70% of veteran spouse respondents were confident their ballot was counted.
- Nearly 85% of all military family respondents did not use voter registration drives to obtain voting information.

#### *Military Influences*

- Of those who participated in the survey, 70% of active duty members felt they were encouraged to vote, while only 27% of their spouses felt encouraged to vote, and 54% of spouses felt they were neither encouraged nor discouraged.
- Of those who participated in the survey, 65% of veterans felt they were encouraged to vote, while only 32% of their spouses felt encouraged to vote, and 46% of veteran spouses felt they were neither encouraged nor discouraged.
- A large majority of all respondents (active duty, veteran, and their spouses) felt military leaders neither influenced their likelihood of voting nor who to vote for.

#### *Foreign Interference*

- Views are mixed on the likelihood of foreign intervention in the 2016 U.S. Presidential election.
  - Just over 48% of active duty and 42% of active duty spouse respondents expressed belief that there was foreign intervention, compared to approximately 21% of active duty and 24% of active duty spouse respondents who did not believe there was intervention. Just over 24% of active duty and 27% of active duty spouse respondents neither agree nor disagree there was foreign intervention in the 2016 presidential election.
  - Just over 50% of veteran and 40% of veteran spouse respondents expressed belief that there was foreign intervention, compared to approximately 23% of veteran and 30% of veteran spouse respondents who did not believe there was intervention. Just over 25% of veteran and 23% of veteran spouse respondents neither agree nor disagree there was foreign intervention in the 2016 presidential election.



- A majority indicated foreign interference would not affect their likelihood of voting.
  - Of those who felt there was interference, 58% of active duty respondents said it did not change their confidence in the voting system. However, 63% of active duty spouse respondents had less confidence in the voting process as a result of the intervention. About 91% of active duty and 81% of active duty spouse respondents indicated that the change in confidence would not change the likelihood of voting.
  - Of those who felt there was interference, 59% of veteran respondents said it did not change their confidence in the voting system. However, 70% of veteran spouse respondents had less confidence in the voting process as a result of the intervention. About 95% of veteran and 80% of veteran spouse respondents indicated that the change in confidence would not change the likelihood of voting.

### *Absentee Ballot*

- A majority of military families expressed satisfaction with the overall absentee ballot process (74% of active duty and 66% of active duty spouse respondents).
- Over 83% of active duty and 73% of active duty spouse respondents stated they would need an absentee ballot “almost every time” or “every time” to vote in every election (federal, state, local) during their time in the military.
- Over 72% of active duty and spouse respondents required an absentee ballot because they were not registered to vote in the same place they resided.
- Over 92% of active duty service member respondents felt they received their absentee ballot with enough time to return it before the election. However,
  - 70% did not receive notification their vote was counted,
  - 71% did not check the status of their ballot, and
  - 65% were unaware they could check the status of their ballot.
- Over 87% of active duty spouse respondents felt they received their absentee ballot in enough time to return it before the election. However,
  - 71% did not receive notification their vote was counted,
  - 68% did not check the status of their ballot, and
  - 69% did not know they could check the status of their ballot.
- Most military family voters who participated in the survey report they are knowledgeable about registering to vote, requesting an absentee ballot, receiving an absentee ballot, completing an absentee ballot, and returning an absentee ballot.
  - Only 56% of active duty and 39% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves knowledgeable about how to use a Federal Post Card Application to register and request an absentee ballot (i.e., rate their knowledge as “good” or “excellent”).
  - Only 43% of active duty and 27% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves knowledgeable about how to use a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot FWAB (i.e., rate their knowledge as “good” or “excellent”). About 40% of active duty and 44% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves not knowledgeable about how to use the FWAB (i.e., rate their knowledge as “fair” or “poor”).



- Only 52% of active duty and 41% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves knowledgeable about knowing key absentee ballot deadlines (i.e., rate their knowledge as “good” or “excellent”). About 27% of active duty and 37% of active duty spouse respondents consider themselves not knowledgeable about knowing key absentee ballot deadlines (i.e., rate their knowledge as “fair” or “poor”).
- Among the responses, awareness and understanding of the absentee voting process is associated with the likelihood of voting. This lends support to the need for active duty military family registration and voting outreach programs.
- The majority of active duty members and their spouses who participated in the survey did not encounter problems with the absentee voting process while overseas, while deployed, or during a move.
- A majority of active duty members (86%) and their spouses (90%) who participated in the survey use the U.S. mail to submit their absentee ballots.
- When asked about most important aspects when using absentee ballot in future elections, 76% of active duty and 76% of active duty spouse respondents indicated that a method that is most convenient is the most important aspect. This is followed by 51% of active duty and 49% of active duty spouse respondents who indicated that method that cannot be changed/tampered with/removed is most important.
- When asked about the preference in submitting absentee or remote ballot, 57% of active duty and 56% of active duty spouse respondents indicated a preference to return electronically online (e.g., via email or via website) followed by 39% of active duty and 36% of active duty spouse respondents who indicated a preference to return by mail.



## Recommendations

The recommendations below are separated into three categories: 1) educational, 2) procedural, and 3) policy. Because a myriad of organizations and agencies, each with varying missions and roles, assist or provide education to military voters in casting their ballots, the recommendations are written to translate the insights from the current research into actionable items with these varying missions in mind. These recommendations focus on actions that can be undertaken, or continued, if programmatic efforts are already underway. In general, this section presents a guiding set of actions based on findings that could improve the military voting experience.

### *Education and Awareness:*

- Focus educational messaging around:
  - The topic of “your vote counting” (e.g., encourage military voters to participate by providing explicit information about how their votes are counted).
  - Important dates or events that remind service members and their families to vote (explore the use of technology such as apps to send reminders)
  - Increased activity during midterms and presidential elections
  - How military members and their families can update their voter registration, insure that it is accurate and up-to-date.
  - How to check ballot status.
- Include and prioritize military families in all voting literature and outreach efforts with information that allows and encourages both the service member and military family member to cast votes.
- Execute a broad outreach strategy that relies on multiple channels of communication instead of military community specific outreach.
- Target groups who have traditionally been less likely to participate in elections such as younger, enlisted, and unmarried service members; in addition outreach efforts should target active duty spouses.
- Leverage existing federal datasets to locate military voters to efficiently target outreach and campaign efforts.
- Centralize voting related information using simple language and avoiding acronyms.
- Use social media platforms such as Facebook or Twitter to disseminate information about military voting in advance of elections allowing sufficient time for registration, absentee voting, etc.
- Encourage military families and active duty members to ensure their voter registration is accurate.
- Consider using apps or reminders on social media to encourage military voters to take action at key touchpoints.

### *Procedures:*

- Streamline information for registration process for voters who have relocated:
  - Every service member and spouse receiving PCS orders receives information about voting in new location.
  - Explore the feasibility of Including an option to register to vote or update voter registration when updating DEERS (or other appropriate touchpoints) after PCS move and/or when checking into a new military installation.
- Undertake minor but high impact procedural initiatives to incentivize voting:
  - Expand voter registration drives on military installations.
  - Allow for additional time off for service members and their spouses to vote.
  - Encourage voting by engaging military leadership.



- Improve ballot receipt notification.
- Create a streamlined reporting function through FVAP that allows service members to report or flag any activities or procedures that are inhibiting service members or their spouses from voting.
- Improve and expand engagement with county election authorities to educate and streamline procedures for military absentee voters.
- Undertake a systemic review of the federal ballot tracking system to audit for effectiveness and efficiency and identify recommended improvements.
- Examine the feasibility of voting online for active duty families; active duty families indicate a desire for an online voting option.

### *Policy:*

- States and local election offices should routinely monitor the effects policies have on their military voters, using data to determine if they are disproportionately affected (e.g., how do proof-of-address requirements impact military voters?).
- Explore the impact of voter registration roll maintenance on military voters. Depending on the reliability of mailings and other outreach to voters who are to be removed, the affect on absentee military voters could be great . Members of the military should also be encouraged to take a proactive role in ensuring their registrations and absentee mailing addresses are valid and up-to-date.
- Where possible, encourage and incentivize both active duty military and their spouses to vote by prioritizing convenience. Where possible state and local election offices should convene representatives from their military voting communities to consider what new policies and procedures to increase access, but provide security.
- Create a cross-governmental planning mechanism that allows federal, state and local agencies to collaborate and strategically plan to better address cross-governmental problems like:
  - Variance in Federal Post Card Application rules
  - Variance in time frames of when an absentee ballot may be counted during an election



## References

- Adams, James, and Samuel Merrill. "Voter Turnout and Candidate Strategies in American Elections." *The Journal of Politics* 65, no. 1 (February 2003): 161-89.
- Achterberg, Peter, and Dick Houtman. "Why Do So Many People Vote "Unnaturally"? A Cultural Explanation for Voting Behavior." *European Journal of Political Research* 45 (2006): 75-92.
- Alvarez, R. Michael, Thad E. Hall, and Brian F. Roberts. "Military Voting and the Law: Procedural and Technological Solutions to the Ballot Transit Problem." *Fordham Urban Law Journal* 34 (2007): 935-96.
- Alvarez, R. Michael, and Thad E. Hall. "Building Secure and Transparent Elections through Standard Operating Procedures." *Public Administration Review* 68, no. 5 (September 2008): 828-38.
- Alvarez, R. Michael, Thad E. Hall, and Betsy Sinclair. "Whose Absentee Votes are Returned and Counted: The Variety and Use of Absentee Ballots in California." *Electoral Studies* 27 (2008): 673-83.
- Alvarez, R. Michael, Dustin Beckett, and Charles Stewart. "Voting Technology, Vote-by-Mail, and Residual Votes in California, 1990-2010." *Political Research Quarterly* 66, no. 3 (2011): 658-70.
- Banducci, Susan A., and Jeffrey A. Karp. "How Elections Change the Way Citizens View the Political System: Campaigns, Media Effects and Electoral Outcomes in Comparative Perspective." *British Journal of Political Science* 33, no. 3 (July 2003): 443-67.
- Birch, Sarah. "Perceptions of Electoral Fairness and Voter Turnout." *Comparative Political Studies* 43, no. 12 (2010): 1601-22.
- Blais, Andre. "What Affects Voter Turnout?" *Annual Review of Political Science* 9 (2006): 111-25.
- Blais, Andre. *To Vote or Not to Vote: The Merits and Limits of Rational Choice Theory*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2000.
- Brader, Ted. "Striking a Responsive Chord: How Political Ads Motivate and Persuade Voters by Appealing to Emotions." *American Journal of Political Science* 49, no. 2 (April 2005): 388-405.
- Cain, Bruce E., Karin Mac Donald, and Michael H. Murakami. "Administering the Overseas Vote." *Public Administration Review* 68, no. 5 (September 2008): 802-12.
- Cavanaugh, M I. "I Fight for Your Right to Vote. But I Won't Do It Myself." *The New York Times*, October 19, 2016, sec. A, p. 23.
- Council of State Governments. "Recommendations from the CSG Overseas Voting Initiative Policy Working Group." Washington: Council of State Governments, 2015.
- Council of State Governments Overseas Voting Initiative. "Overseas Voting: Strategies for Engaging Every Voter." Washington: Council of State Governments, 2016.



- Council of State Governments Overseas Voting Initiative. "Overseas Voting: Improving Military and Overseas Election Data Collection." Washington: Council of State Governments, 2016.
- Council of State Governments Overseas Voting Initiative. "Recommendations from the CSG Overseas Voting Initiative Technology Working Group." Washington: Council of State Governments, 2015.
- Dahlia, John. "Nations First, Secure Mobile Voting Application for Overseas Military Being Tested in Harrison, Monongalia Counties." *West Virginia News*, April 8, 2018.
- Election Assistance Commission. *The Election Administration and Voting Survey: 2016 Comprehensive Report*. Washington: U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 2017.
- Federal Voting Assistance Program. *2016 Post-Election Report to Congress*. Washington: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2017.
- Federal Voting Assistance Program. *Post-Election Voting Surveys Active Duty Military: Technical Report 2016*. Washington: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2017.
- Federal Voting Assistance Program. *The Effects of Spouses on Voting in the Active Duty Military Population*. Washington: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2014.
- Federal Voting Assistance Program. *2014 Post-Election Report to Congress*. Washington: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2015.
- Federal Voting Assistance Program. *2012 Post-Election Report to Congress*. Washington: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2013.
- Federal Voting Assistance Program. *2010 Post-Election Report to Congress*. Washington: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2011.
- Federal Voting Assistance Program. *2008 Post-Election Survey Report*. Washington: Federal Voting Assistance Program, 2011.
- Gerber, Alan S., Gregory A. Huber, David Doherty, Conor M. Dowling, and Seth J. Hill. "Do Perceptions of Ballot Secrecy Influence Turnout? Results from a Field Experiment." *American Journal of Political Science* 57, no. 3 (July 2013): 537-51.
- Greenfield, Victoria A., Shoshana R. Shelton, Edward Balkovich, John S. Davis II, and David M. Adamson. *The Federal Voting Assistance Program and the Road Ahead: Achieving Institutional Change Through Analysis and Collaboration*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2015.
- Gronke, Paul, and Peter Miller. "Voting by Mail and Turnout in Oregon: Revisiting Southwell and Burchett." *American Politics Research* 40, no. 6 (2012): 976-97.
- Help Americans Vote Act of 2002, Pub.L.No. 107-252 (2002). <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-107publ252/pdf/PLAW-107publ252.pdf>.



- Heufner, Steven F. "Lessons from Improvements in Military and Overseas Voting." *University of Richmond Law Review* 47 (2013): 833-80.
- Huh, Kil, Brendan Hill, Jeannette Lam, Lori Grange, Sean Greene, Katherine Zambon, and Carolynn Race. *No Time to Vote: Challenges Facing America's Overseas Military Voters*. Washington: Pew Center on the States, January 2009.
- Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute 584 U.S. 16-980, 1-21 (2018).
- Inbody, Donald S. "Voting by Overseas Citizens and Deployed Military Personnel." *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy* 14, no. 1 (2015): 54-59.
- Karp, Jeffrey A., and Susan A. Banducci. "Political Efficacy and Participation in Twenty-Seven Democracies: How Electoral Systems Shape Political Behavior." *British Journal of Political Science* 38, no. 2 (April 2008): 311-34.
- Karp, Jeffrey A., and Susan A. Banducci. "Going Postal: How All-Mail Elections Influence Turnout." *Political Behavior* 22, no. 3 (2000): 223-39.
- Lassen, Daniel D. "The Effect of Information on Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *American Journal of Political Science* 49, no. 1 (January 2005): 103-18.
- Mermin, David., Brittany L. Stalsburg, and Liesl Newton. *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act Voting: Successes and Challenges*. Washington: Lake Research Partners, 2014.
- Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act of 2010, Pub.L.No. 111-84, 123 Stat. 2190 (2010).  
<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-111publ84/html/PLAW-111publ84.htm>.
- National Association of Secretaries of State. "Briefing: Key Facts and Findings on Cybersecurity and Foreign Targeting of the 2016 U.S. Elections." Washington: National Association of Secretaries of State, March 20, 2017.
- National Council of State Legislatures. "Internet Voting-Not Ready for Prime Time?" *The Canvass* 37 (2013): 1-3.
- Parker, Clifton B. "Cyberattack Concerns Real About U.S. Presidential Election, Stanford Scholar Says." *Stanford News*, August 11, 2016.
- Pew Research Center. "Public Supports Aim of Making It 'Easy' For All Citizens to Vote." Washington: Pew Research Center, June 28, 2017.
- Pew Center on the States. "Democracy from Afar: States Show Progress on Military and Overseas Voting." Washington: Pew Center on the States, January 2012.
- Prevost, Alicia K., and Brian F. Schaffner. "Digital Divide or Just Another Absentee Ballot? Evaluating Internet Voting in the 2004 Michigan Democratic Primary" *American Politics Research* 36, no. 4 (2008): 510-29.



- Samuelsohn, Darren. "Military, Overseas Votes Raise Risk of Hacked Election." *Politico*, November 1, 2016.
- Schoen, Harald, and Siegfried Schumann. "Personality Traits, Partisan Attitudes, and Voting Behavior: Evidence from Germany." *Political Psychology* 28, no. 4 (2007): 471-98.
- Schoen, Harald, and Siegfried Schumann. *Persönlichkeit: Eine vergessene Größe der empirischen Sozialforschung*. Weisbaden, Germany: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, 2005.
- Teigen, Jeremy M. "Enduring Effects of the Uniform: Previous Military Experience and Voting Turnout." *Political Research Quarterly* 59, no. 4 (December 2006): 601-07.
- Tolbert, Caroline J., and Ramona S. McNeal. "Unraveling the Effects of the Internet on Political Participation." *Political Research Quarterly* 56, no. 2 (June 2003): 175-85.
- Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986, Pub.L.No. 99-410 (1986).  
<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-100/pdf/STATUTE-100-Pg924.pdf>.
- U.S. Congress. House. *Military and Overseas Voting: Effectiveness of the MOVE Act in the 2010 Elections*. 112<sup>th</sup> Cong. Statement of J. Bradley King, Co-Director, Election Division, Indiana Secretary of State. February 15, 2011.
- U.S. Congress. House. *Military and Overseas Voting: Effectiveness of the MOVE Act in the 2010 Elections*. 112<sup>th</sup> Cong. Statement of Natalie E. Tennant, Secretary of State, West Virginia. February 15, 2011.
- U.S. Congress. House. *Military and Overseas Voting: Effectiveness of the MOVE Act in the 2010 Elections*. 112<sup>th</sup> Cong. Statement of Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Justice. February 15, 2011.
- U.S. General Accounting Office. *Issues Affecting Military and Overseas Absentee Voters*, by David M. Walker. GAO-01-704T. Washington, 2001.
- U.S. Government Accountability Office. *Elections: Absentee Voting Assistance to Military and Overseas Citizens Increased for the 2004 General Election, But Challenges Remain*. GAO-06-521. Washington, 2006.
- U.S. Government Accountability Office. *Elections: DOD Expands Voting Assistance to Military Absentee Voters, but Challenges Remain*, by Derek B. Stewart. GAO-06-1134T. Washington, 2006.
- U.S. Government Accountability Office. *Elections: Action Plans Needed to Fully Address Challenges in Electronic Absentee Voting Initiatives for Military and Overseas Citizens*. GAO-07-774. Washington, 2007.
- U.S. Government Accountability Office. *Elections: DOD Can Strengthen Evaluation of Its Absentee Voting Assistance Program*. GAO-10-476. Washington, 2010.



U.S. Government Accountability Office. *Elections: State Laws Addressing Voter Registration and Voting On or Before Election Day*. GAO-13-90R. Washington, 2012.

U.S. Government Accountability Office. *Elections: DOD Needs More Comprehensive Planning to Address Military and Overseas Absentee Voting Challenges*. GAO-16-378. Washington, 2016.

U.S. Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service. *The Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Voter Act: Background and Issues for the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress*, by Kevin J. Coleman. RS20764. 2002.

Vogel-Fox, Erin and Michael Olinger. "Reports to the Federal Government About Military Voting Often Are Flawed." Washington: Center for Public Integrity, August 26, 2016.

VoteVets Action Fund as Amicus Curiae in Support of Respondents, *Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute*, 584 U.S. 16-980, \*23-27 (SC filed Sept 27, 2017).

Wheaton, Sarah. "Voting Test Falls Victim to Hackers." *The New York Times*, October 8, 2010, sec. A, p. 12.