

# ABSENTEE AND EARLY VOTING

## IN AMERICA



SEND YOUR **VOTE**  
HOME

# Who can vote?

All U.S. Citizens except:

- Citizens under the age of 18
- Some prisoners and convicted felons (depending on the state of residence)
- In some states, U.S. citizens who have never resided in the U.S. are not allowed to vote



# What are the steps required to vote?

## 1. Register to vote in your home voting district

- Download FPCA application from [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov) or pick up from U.S. embassy or military station
- Submit Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to register to vote and request an absentee ballot at the same time (by mail, fax, or email depending on the state)

\*FVAP means Federal Voting Assistance Program

\*\*Voter identification and registration deadlines vary by state. Most states require the last four digits of your social security number and/or your driver's license number.



## 2. Receive ballot from home voting district via mail, fax, or email

- Or – complete Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot which can be downloaded from FVAP.gov or picked up from the U.S. Embassy or military station

OFFICIAL BALLOT		
STATE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA NOVEMBER 6, 2012		
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: <input type="radio"/>		
FEDERAL OFFICES	STATE OFFICES	COUNTY OFFICES
<b>PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT</b> VOTE FOR ONE TEAM	<b>STATE SENATOR</b> DISTRICT 54 VOTE FOR ONE	<b>COUNTY COMMISSIONER</b> DISTRICT 3 VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="radio"/> MITT ROMNEY AND PAUL RYAN <small>Republican</small>	<input type="radio"/> JANIS QUINLAN <small>Republican</small>	<input type="radio"/> GARY KRIESEL
<input type="radio"/> BARACK OBAMA AND JOE BIDEN <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>	<input type="radio"/> KATIE SIEBEN <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>	<input type="radio"/> SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 3 VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="radio"/> GARY JOHNSON AND JIM GRAY <small>Libertarian Party</small>	<input type="radio"/> STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 54B VOTE FOR ONE	<input type="radio"/> JOHN RHEINBERGER
<input type="radio"/> JAMES HARRIS AND MAURA DELUCA <small>Socialist Workers Party</small>	<input type="radio"/> DENNY MCNAMARA <small>Republican</small>	<input type="radio"/> SARAH HIETPAS
<input type="radio"/> VIRGIL GOODE AND JIM CLYMER <small>Constitution Party</small>	<input type="radio"/> JOANNA BAYERS <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>	<input type="radio"/> CITY OFFICES CITY OF AFTON
<input type="radio"/> DEAN MORSTAD AND JOSH FRANKE-HYLAND <small>Constitutional Government</small>	<b>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS</b>	<input type="radio"/> MAYOR VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="radio"/> JILL STEIN AND CHERI HONKALA <small>Green Party</small>	Failure to vote on a constitutional amendment will have the same effect as voting no on the amendment.	<input type="radio"/> PAT SNYDER
<input type="radio"/> JIM CARLSON AND GEORGE MCMAHON <small>Grassroots Party</small>	To vote for a proposed constitutional amendment, fill in the oval next to the word "YES" on that question. To vote against a proposed constitutional amendment, fill in the oval next to the word "NO" on that question.	<input type="radio"/> COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 1 VOTE FOR ONE
<input type="radio"/> PETA LINDSAY AND YARI OSORIO <small>Socialists and Libertarians</small>	<b>AMENDMENT 1</b> RECOGNITION OF MARRIAGE SOLELY BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN	<input type="radio"/> BILL PALMQUIST
<input type="radio"/> ROSS C. "ROCKY" ANDERSON AND LUIS J. RODRIGUEZ <small>Justice Party</small>	Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to provide that only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Minnesota?	<input type="radio"/> KRIS KOPITZKE
<input type="radio"/> UNITED STATES SENATOR VOTE FOR ONE	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 834 (STILLWATER)
<input type="radio"/> KURT BILLS <small>Republican</small>	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER VOTE FOR UP TO THREE
<input type="radio"/> AMY KLOBUCHAR <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>	<b>AMENDMENT 2</b> PHOTO IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR VOTING	<input type="radio"/> AMY BURBACK
<input type="radio"/> TIM DAVIS <small>Grassroots Party</small>	Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to require all voters to present valid photo identification to vote and to require the state to provide free identification to eligible voters, effective July 1, 2013?	<input type="radio"/> KATHY BUCHHOLZ
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL CAVLAN <small>Minnesota-Dem. Progressives</small>	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL B. PTACEK
<input type="radio"/> UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 4 VOTE FOR ONE	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> GEORGE F. DIERBERGER
<input type="radio"/> STEVE CARLSON <small>Independence</small>		<input type="radio"/> KATHY BUCHHOLZ
<input type="radio"/> TONY HERNANDEZ <small>Republican</small>		<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL B. PTACEK
<input type="radio"/> BETTY MCCOLLUM <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>		<input type="radio"/> GEORGE F. DIERBERGER
<input type="radio"/> STEVE CARLSON <small>Independence</small>		<input type="radio"/> KATHY BUCHHOLZ
<input type="radio"/> TONY HERNANDEZ <small>Republican</small>		<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL B. PTACEK
<input type="radio"/> BETTY MCCOLLUM <small>Democratic-Farmer-Labor</small>		<input type="radio"/> GEORGE F. DIERBERGER



### 3. Complete ballot and send to home voting district by mail, fax, or email

- Can be mailed free of postage personally or sent through Diplomatic/Military mail service by embassy or military station

\*Some states require there to be a witness when completing a ballot:

Alabama (2 witnesses), Alaska (1 witness), Virginia (1 witness), Wisconsin (1 witness), Puerto Rico (1 witness)

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

For any questions about this form, consult the Voting Assistance Guide available in hard copy or on [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov) or your Voting Assistance Officer.

For absent Uniformed Service members, their families, and citizens residing outside the U.S. Please print in black ink.

**Classification**  
 Male only 1 selection.  
 I am an activated National Guard member on State orders.  
 I am an eligible spouse or dependent.  
 On most States, you must be absent from your voting district to use this form.  
 I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States, and I intend to return.  
 I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States, and my return is not certain.  
 I am a U.S. citizen and have never resided in the United States.

**Political party** 2 Your State may require you to specify a political party to vote in primary elections: \_\_\_\_\_

**Legal name** 3 Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_  
 First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Previous name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Identification** 4 State Driver's License or ID \_\_\_\_\_  
 OR Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  M  F Race \_\_\_\_\_ See instructions

**Contact information** 5 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Includes international prefixes. No DSN numbers.  
 Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alternate Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Ballot receipt** 6 Rank from 1-3 in order of preference; be sure appropriate contact information is provided above.  
 I prefer to receive my ballot, as permitted by my State, by:  Email/Online  Mail  Fax.

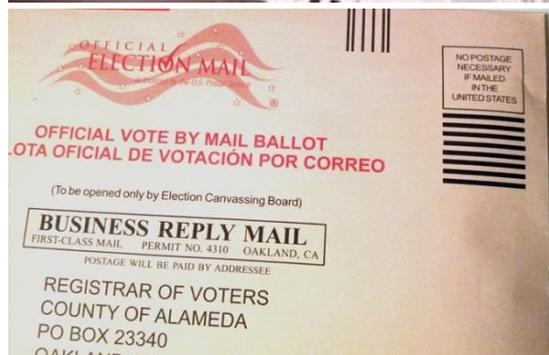
**Voting residence address** 7 Street Address (not P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Town/Village \_\_\_\_\_  
 Usually your last U.S. residence or your legal U.S. residence. See instructions.  
 County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Where to send my ballot** 8 This is your current mailing address and should be different from above. If required, place a forwarding address in Box 9.

**Additional requirements for your State** 9 Such as, mail forwarding address, additional email address, phone number, or other State required information. See Voting Assistance Guide.

**Affirmation (REQUIRED):** I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:  
 • The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.  
 I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date \_\_\_\_\_



**Voter's Declaration/Affirmation**  
**Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)**

For any questions about this form, consult the Voting Assistance Guide available in hard copy or on [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov) or your Voting Assistance Officer.

For absent Uniformed Service members, their families, and citizens residing outside the U.S. Please print in black ink.

**Qualification & Voter Registration**  
 Many States require that you be registered and request an absentee ballot before using this form.  
 1 Have you already registered and requested an absentee ballot?  Yes  No  
 If you answer No, you can do this via the Federal Post Card Application, or in a few States, by marking the box below. Check your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on FVAP.gov to see if your State allows registration via this form.  
 I also want to register to vote and/or request an absentee ballot for all elections in which I am eligible to vote.  
 I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty OR  I am an eligible spouse or dependent.  
 I am an activated National Guard member on State orders.  
 2 I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States, and I intend to return.  
 I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States, and my return is not certain.  
 I am a U.S. citizen and have never resided in the United States.

**Classification**  
 Male only 1 selection.

**Legal name** 3 Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_  
 First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Previous name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Identification** 4 State Driver's License or ID \_\_\_\_\_  
 OR Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  M  F Race \_\_\_\_\_ See instructions

**Contact information** 5 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Includes international prefixes. No DSN numbers.  
 Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alternate Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Political party** 6 Your State may require you to specify a political party to vote in primary elections: \_\_\_\_\_

**Voting residence address** 7 Street Address (not P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Town/Village \_\_\_\_\_  
 Usually your last U.S. residence or your legal U.S. residence. See instructions.  
 County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Where to send my voting materials** 8 This is your current mailing address and should be different from above. If required, place a forwarding address in Box 9.

**Additional requirements for your State** 9 Such as, future ballot receipt preferences, mail forwarding address, additional phone, or other State required information. See your State's pages in the Voting Assistance Guide on FVAP.gov.

**Affirmation (REQUIRED):** I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:  
 • The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.  
 I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and  
 I am not disqualified to vote due to having been convicted of a felony or other disqualification offense.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can I register or vote in-person at the embassy or consulate?**

There are no provisions for in-person voting or onsite registration at U.S. embassies or consulates.

- **Where is my "legal voting residence"?**

For voting purposes, "legal voting residence" can be the State or territory where you last resided prior to entering military service OR the State or territory that you have since claimed as your legal residence.

- **When is the best time to apply for an absentee ballot?**

It is recommend that you register to vote/request an absentee ballot in January of each year, or at least 90 days before Election Day

- **When should I receive my ballot?**

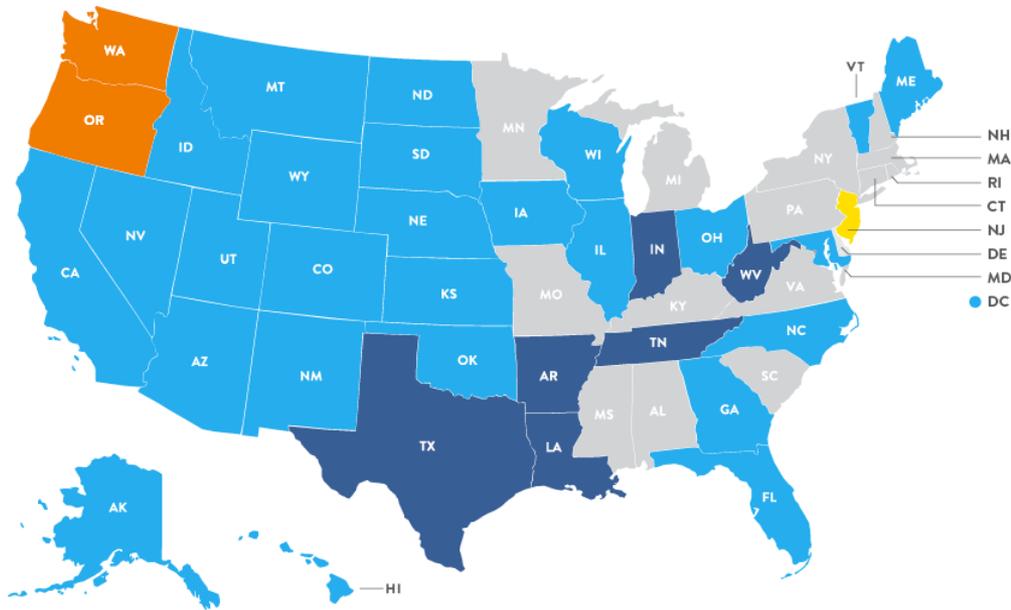
States and territories begin mailing ballots at least 45 days before an election. If you have not received your ballot 30 days before the election, contact your local election official.

If you have requested an absentee ballot from your State but have not received it, you can also vote by using the backup Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). You may submit the FWAB at any time after you submit your FPCA.

# Early Voting

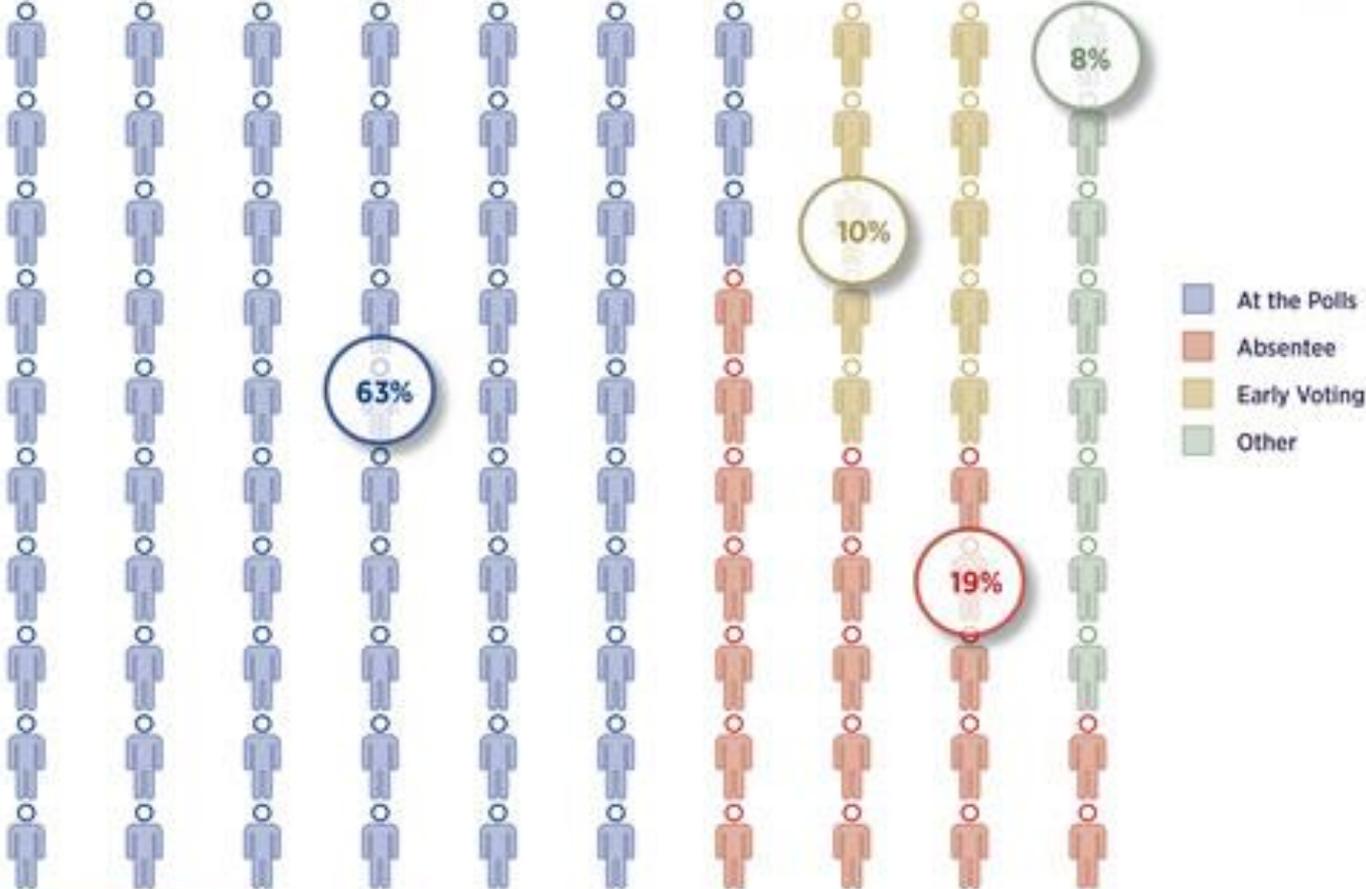
- Most states allow for early voting and “no-excuse” absentee voting Sep-Nov

## Absentee and Early Voting



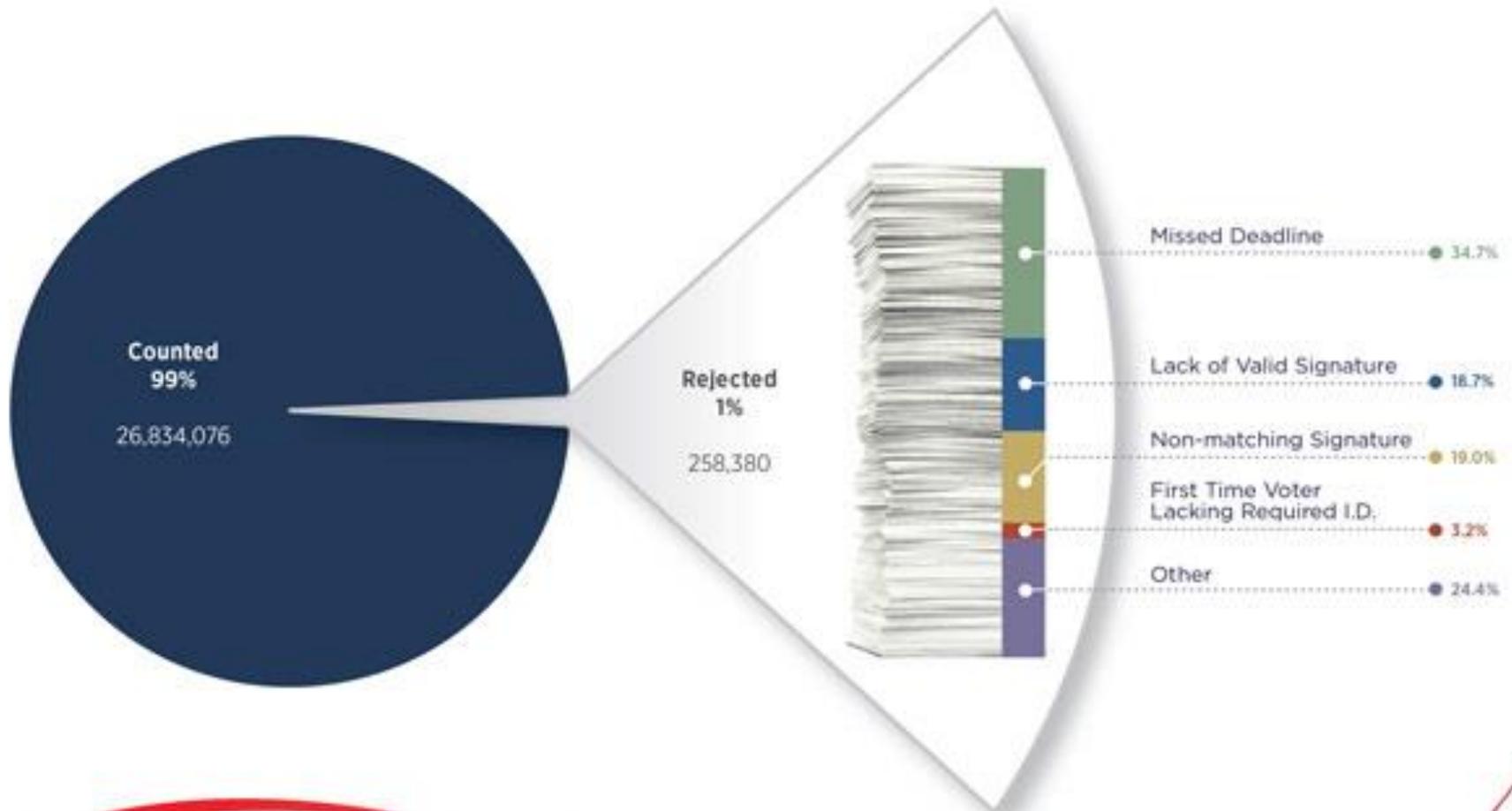
- No-Excuse Absentee Voting
- All-Mail Voting
- No Early Voting: *Excuse Required for Absentee*
- Early Voting & No-Excuse Absentee Voting
- Early Voting

# How Voters Voted in the 2012 Election



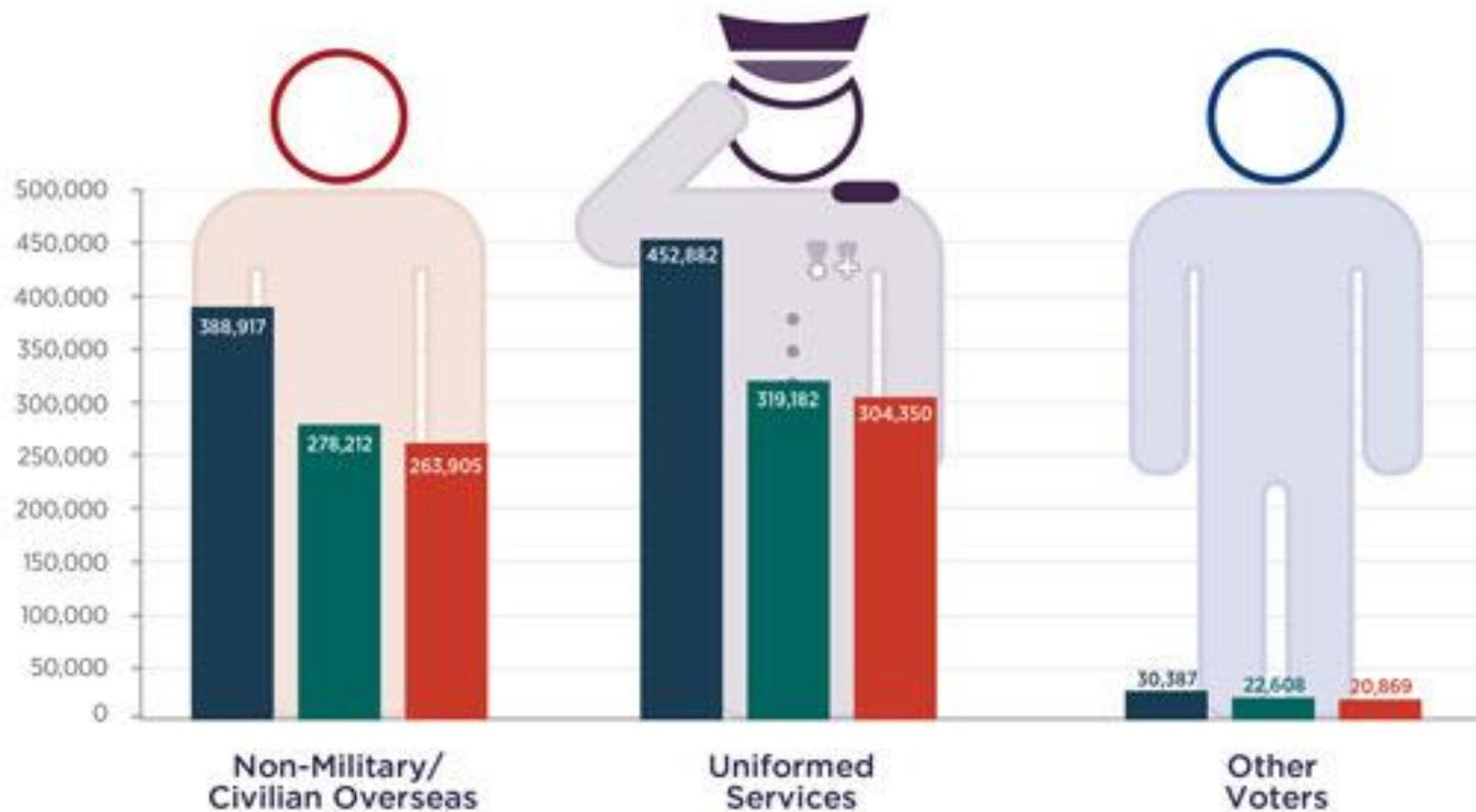
Source: U.S. Election Assistance Commission  
2012 Election Administration and Voting Surveys  
Questions F1b - F1j, [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov)

# Absentee Ballots in the 2012 Election



Source: U.S. Election Assistance Commission  
2012 Election Administration and Voting Survey  
Questions C4 and C5, [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov)

# Number of UOCAVA Ballots Transmitted, Submitted, and Counted by Type of Voter (2012)



Source: U.S. Election Assistance Commission  
2012 Election Administration and Voting Survey  
Questions B1, B4 and B8, [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov)

■ Ballots Transmitted  
■ Ballots Submitted  
■ Ballots Counted



# Voting Stations

