

# Federal Voting Assistance Program

**Putting Policy Into Action**

EAC Board of Advisors  
May 23, 2017



**FVAP.gov**  
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## ***Who Am I and Where Have I Been?***

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- ✓ **Joined FVAP in 2010**
  - ✓ **Dir. Of Voting Assistance**
  - ✓ **Deputy Dir. Of Technology Programs**
- ✓ **Local election official in Florida & Texas**
- ✓ **Exec. Director of the Election Technology Council (ETC)**

*Florida chads from 2000*



# FVAP.GOV

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

00:02

03:16



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# What Is UOCAVA



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## UOCAVA

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

Citizens covered under *UOCAVA* include:

1. Members of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent from their voting jurisdiction due to their service.
2. Dependents of members of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine who are absent from their voting jurisdiction with the member.
3. U.S. citizens residing outside the United States and its territories.

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

# UOCAVA Amendments

## Help America Vote Act (HAVA), 2002

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



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

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



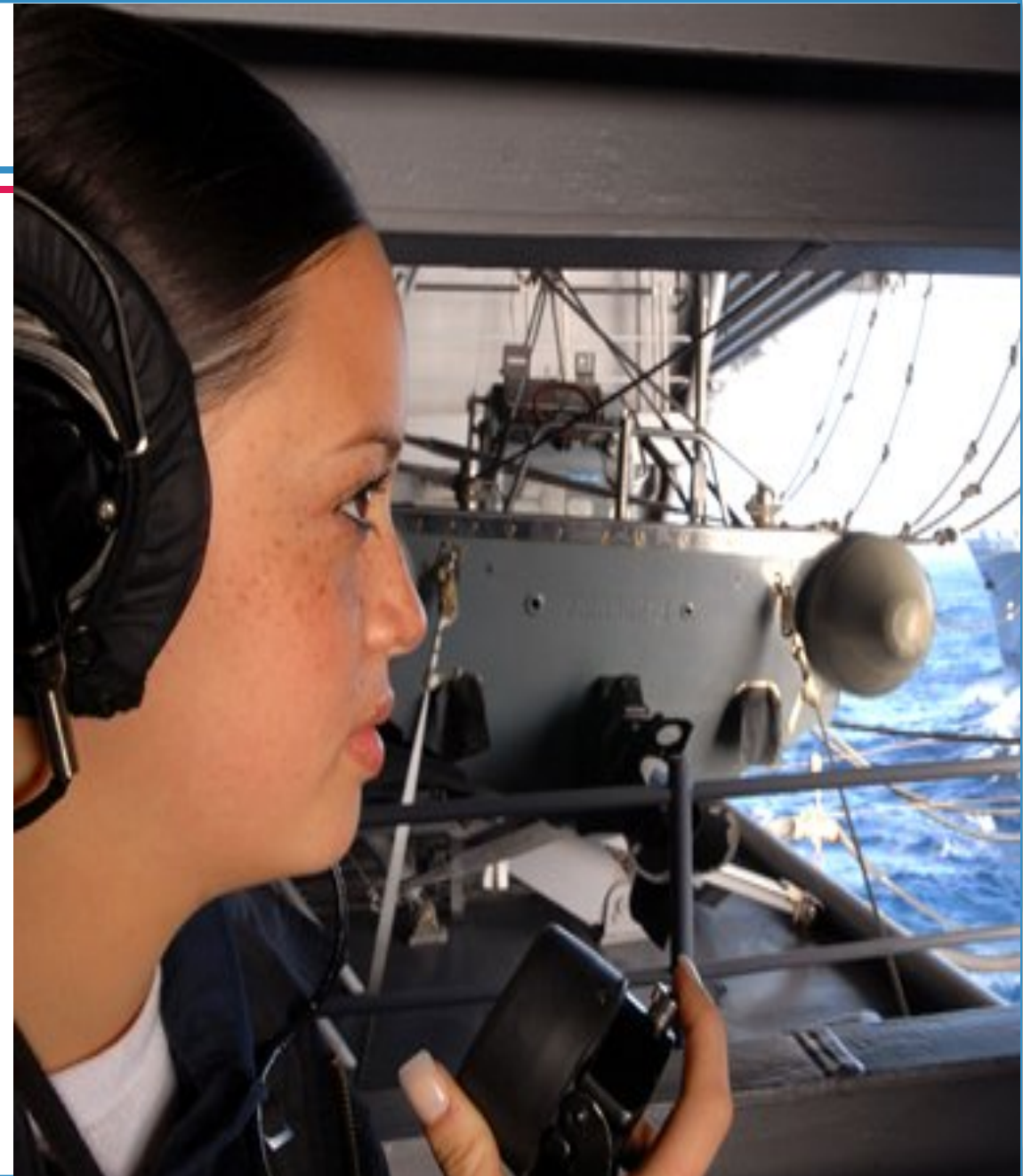
## *Who are our voters?*

More than 5.7 million U.S. citizens living, studying, and working overseas (2.6 million can vote\*)

1.3 million absent members of the Uniformed Services and Merchant Marines

700,000 plus eligible family members of the Uniformed Services and Merchant Marine

\* They are 18+ years old



# Putting Policy Into Action: Customer Support in 2016



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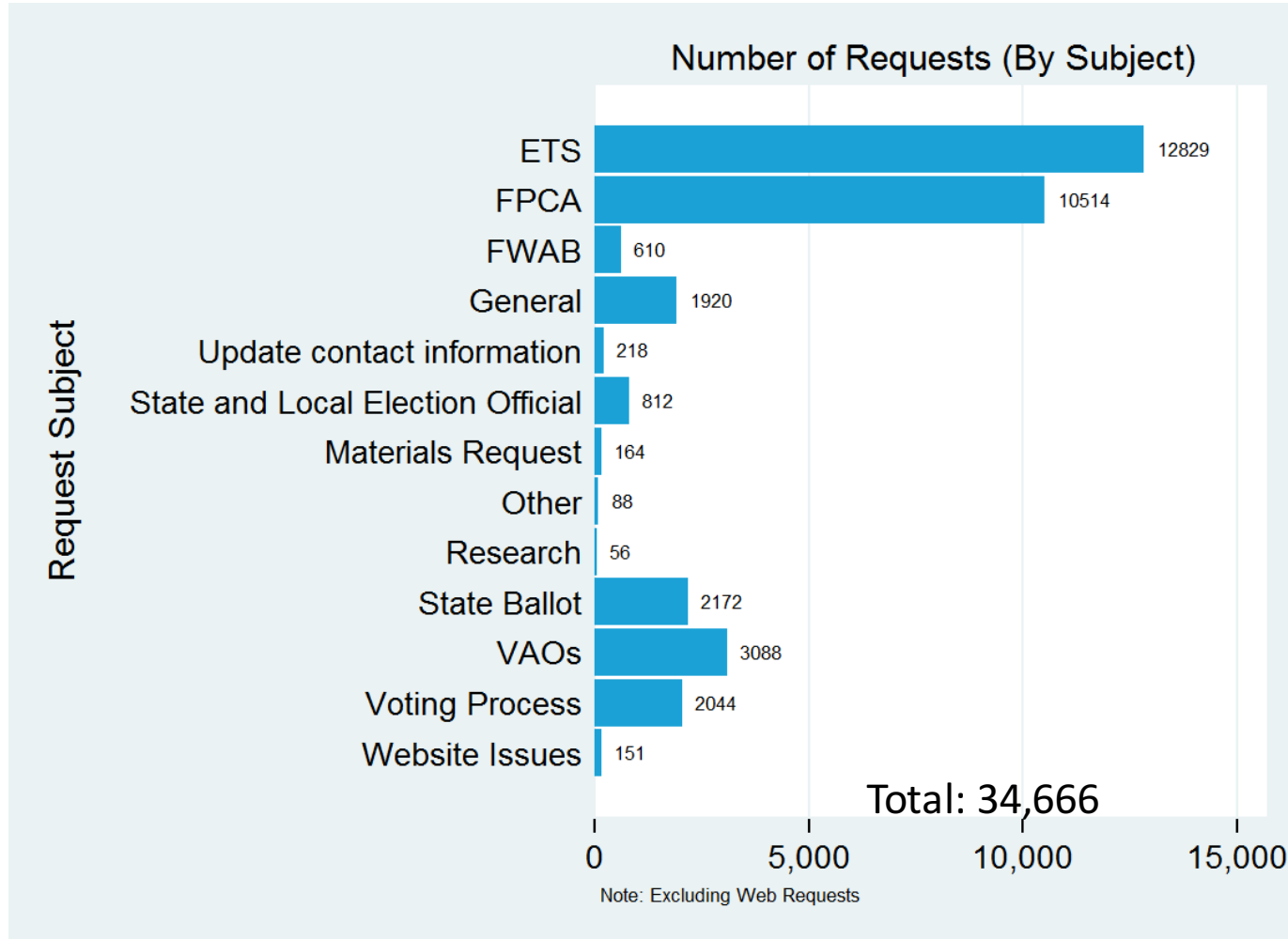
# FVAP Voting Assistance Center

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- Internally staffed by FVAP employees
- Subject matter experts for both locals & State election officials
- Nearly 40,000 inquires

# What Were Customers' Concerns?



# Audience Overview

## Audience Overview

Jan 1, 2016 - Nov 18, 2016

Email Export Add to Dashboard Shortcut

All Users  
100.00% Sessions

+ Add Segment

### Overview

Sessions vs. Select a metric

Sessions

120,000

60,000

April 2016

July 2016

October 2016

Super Tuesday  
Sessions: 27,497

Election Day  
Sessions: 105,166

Hourly Day Week Month

Sessions

3,935,955

Users

2,812,657

Pageviews

11,425,474

Pages / Session

2.90

Avg. Session Duration

00:03:56

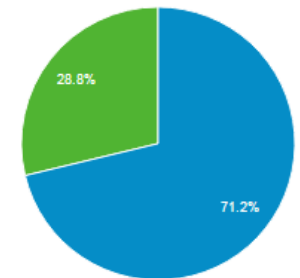
Bounce Rate

43.42%

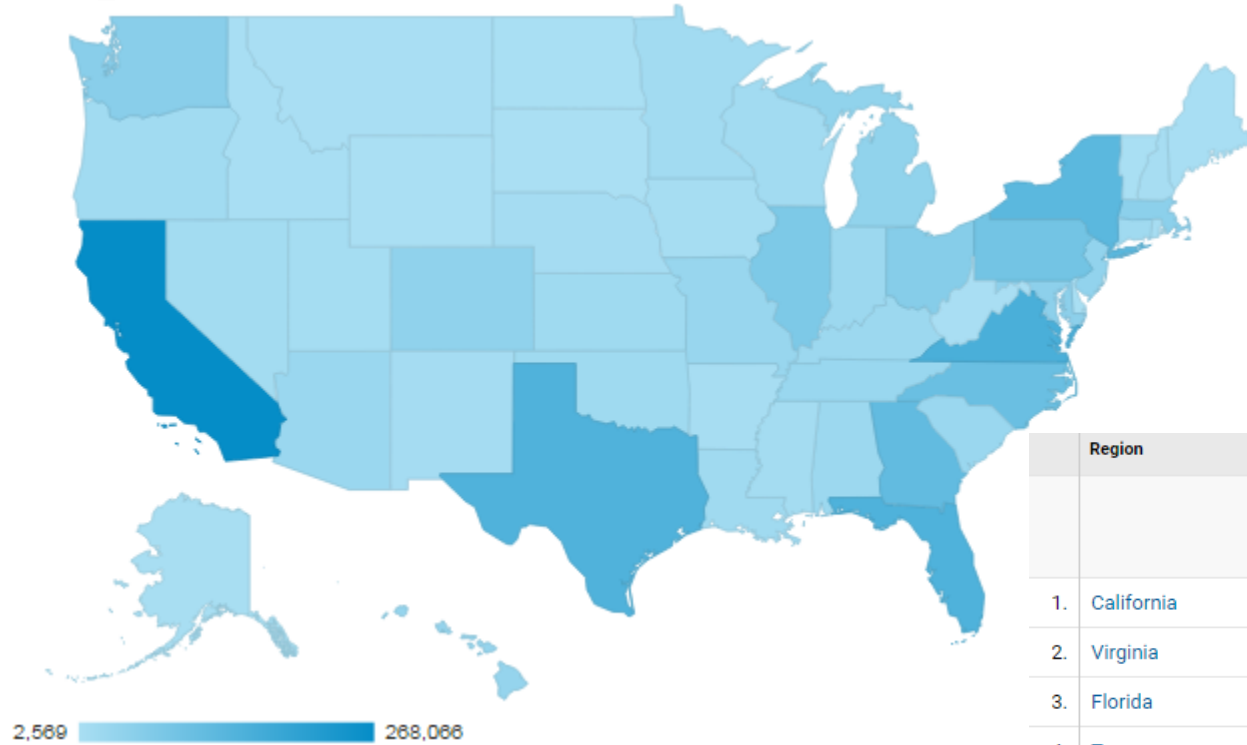
% New Sessions

71.24%

New Visitor Returning Visitor



# Audience Geography – Top Ten States



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

# Behavior – Top External Referrals



		723,858 % of Total: 49.17% (1,472,178)	723,858 % of Total: 49.17% (1,472,178)
1.	<a href="https://registertovote.ca.gov/">registertovote.ca.gov/</a>	68,296	9.44%
2.	<a href="https://ny.secureballotusa.com/ny_loginselection.action">ny.secureballotusa.com/ny_loginselection.action</a>	34,633	4.78%
3.	<a href="https://move.elections.il.gov/">move.elections.il.gov/</a>	31,553	4.36%
4.	<a href="https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/">www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/</a>	28,489	3.94%
5.	<a href="https://wei.sos.wa.gov/agency/osos/en/pages/myvote.aspx">wei.sos.wa.gov/agency/osos/en/pages/myvote.aspx</a>	26,311	3.63%
6.	<a href="https://ohio.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm">ohio.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm</a>	20,457	2.83%
7.	<a href="https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/">dos.myflorida.com/elections/</a>	19,435	2.69%
8.	<a href="https://www.votetexas.gov/">www.votetexas.gov/</a>	17,648	2.44%
9.	<a href="https://newyork.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm">newyork.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm</a>	15,572	2.15%
10.	<a href="https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/">www.sos.ca.gov/elections/</a>	15,521	2.14%

# New Marketing– The Commanders Video "Lead The Vote"

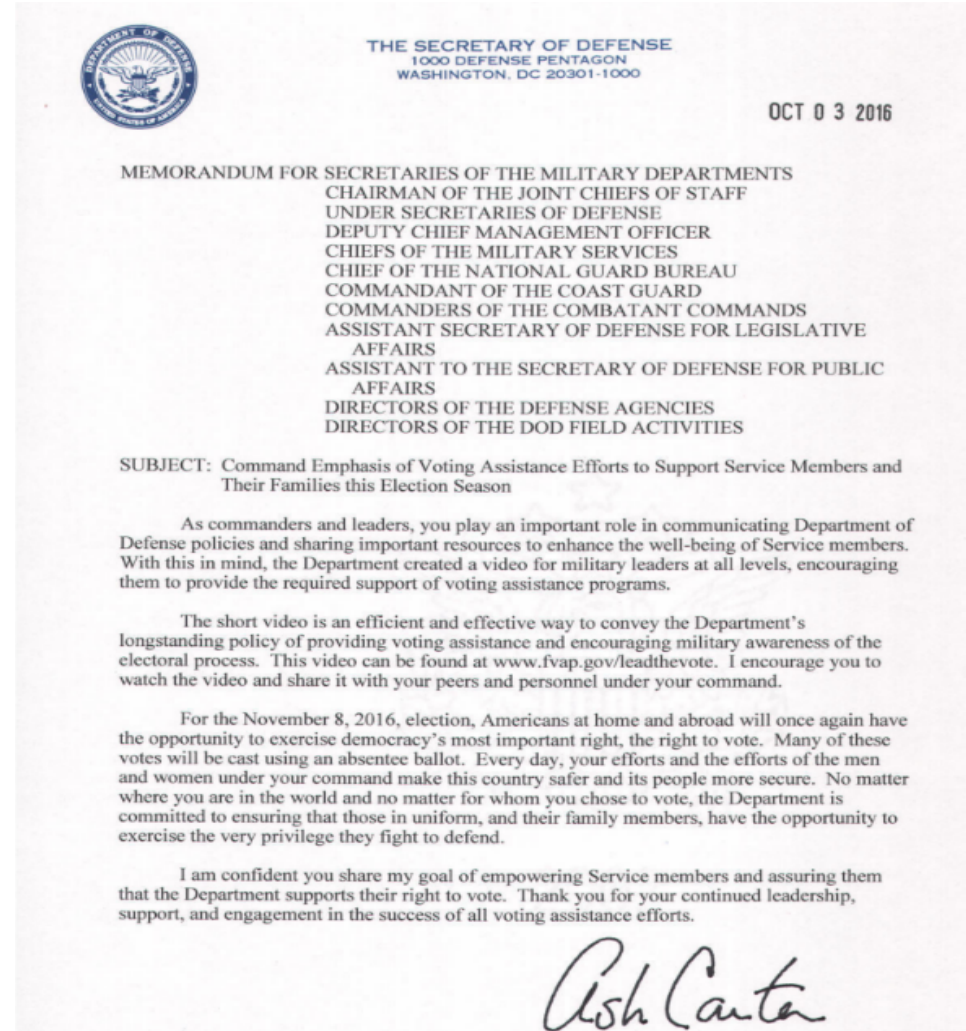


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Published by Daniela Marin [?] · October 15 ·

These military leaders are casting their ballots from ships at sea, on base, and across the globe. Our goal this election year is to ensure that Service members can vote, wherever they are.

Learn more: <https://goo.gl/UVw03K>



## Social Media Marketing

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- For every DOLLAR spent on Facebook, we reached 17 voters!
- Facebook ads reached 4.5 MILLION people!



- Connect with State & locals
- Voters loved our “I Voted from...” stickers





amb\_kennedy

Follow

5,692 views

5w

amb\_kennedy 🇺🇸 U.S. citizens can vote all over the world – I voted from Japan! Go to <http://FVAP.gov> and be heard.

#election2016 #proudoverseasvoter

ohashikazuo @amb\_kennedy Caroline's Good day! Beautiful! 💕

nwienk Awesome @amb\_kennedy 🇺🇸 will...

Log in to like or comment.



Ambassador Costos

@JamesCostos



Follow

I voted today from Madrid...if you have questions about voting in Spain, contact Madrid's Voting Assistance Officer at [voteMadrid@state.gov](mailto:voteMadrid@state.gov).





WHERE ARE YOU VOTING FROM?

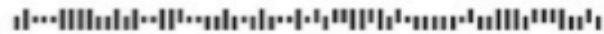
GERMANY

TEXAS

SEOUL

NORFOLK

# MILITARY SPOUSES



HERE?



HERE?

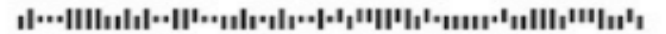


HERE?



IT'S U.S. ELECTION TIME.  
WHERE ARE YOU  
VOTING FROM?

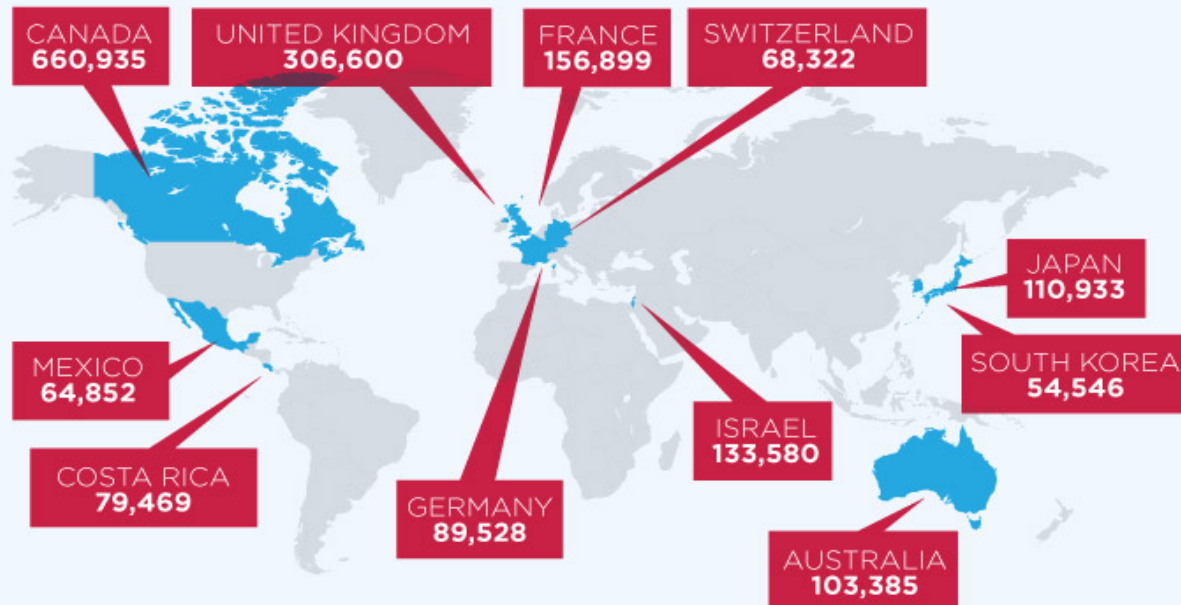
# OVERSEAS VOTERS



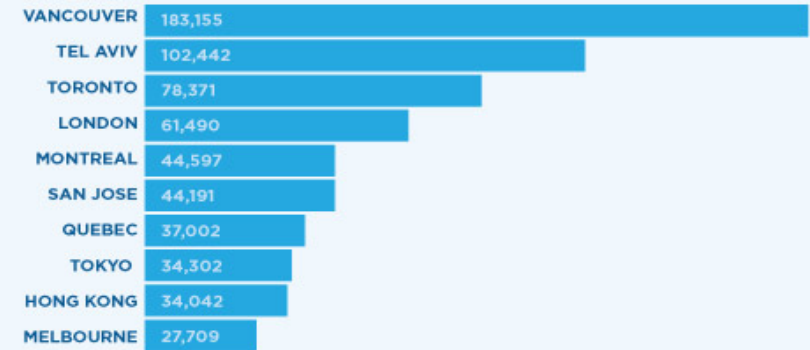
# Overseas Citizens

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

EVERYWHERE. CANADA HAS THE MOST.

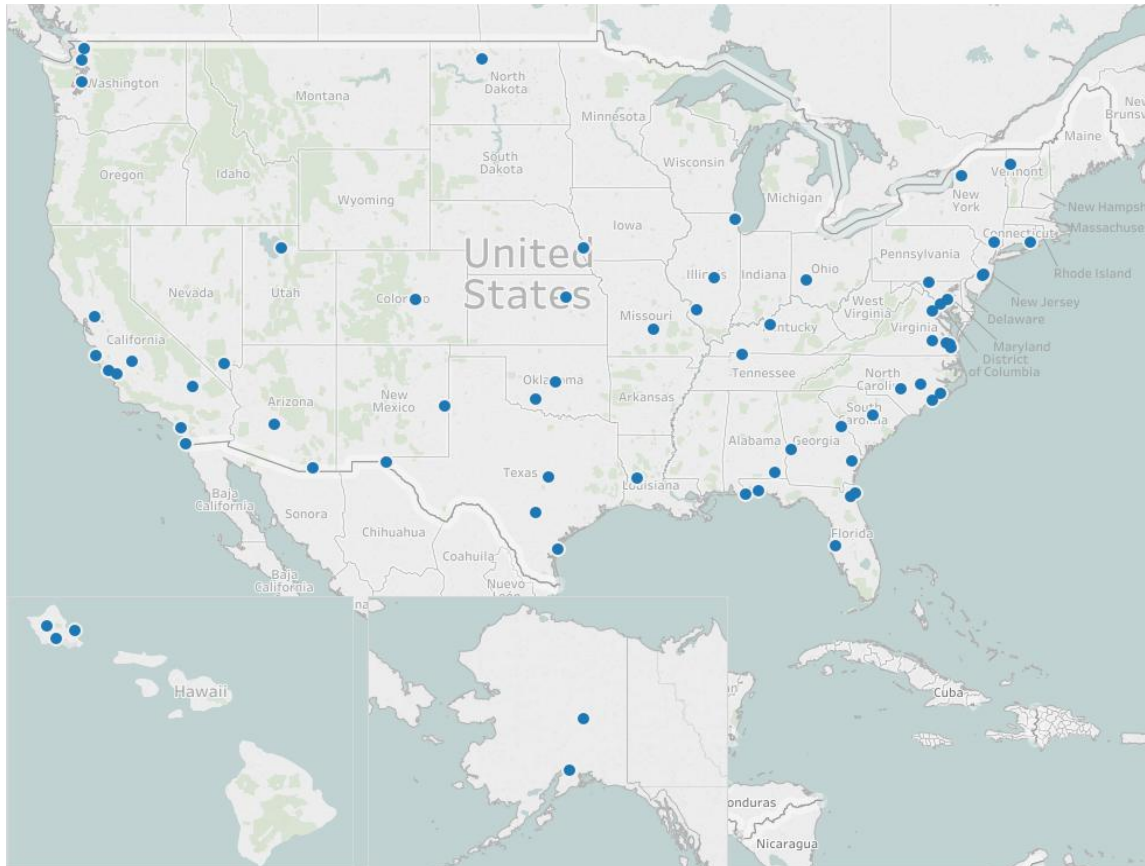


TOP 10 INTERNATIONAL CITIES WITH VOTING-AGE AMERICANS

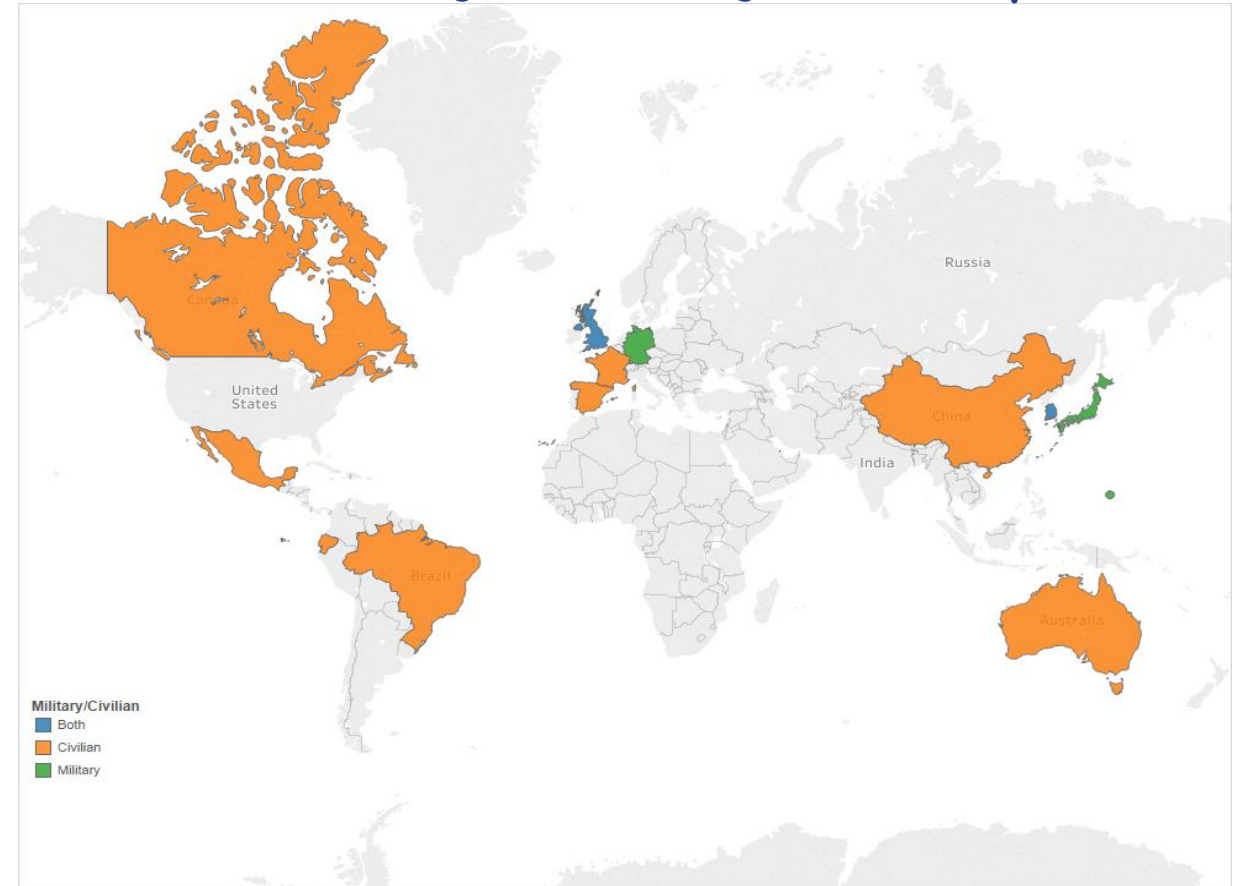


# Workshops In the Field

## US Training Workshops



## Foreign Training Workshops

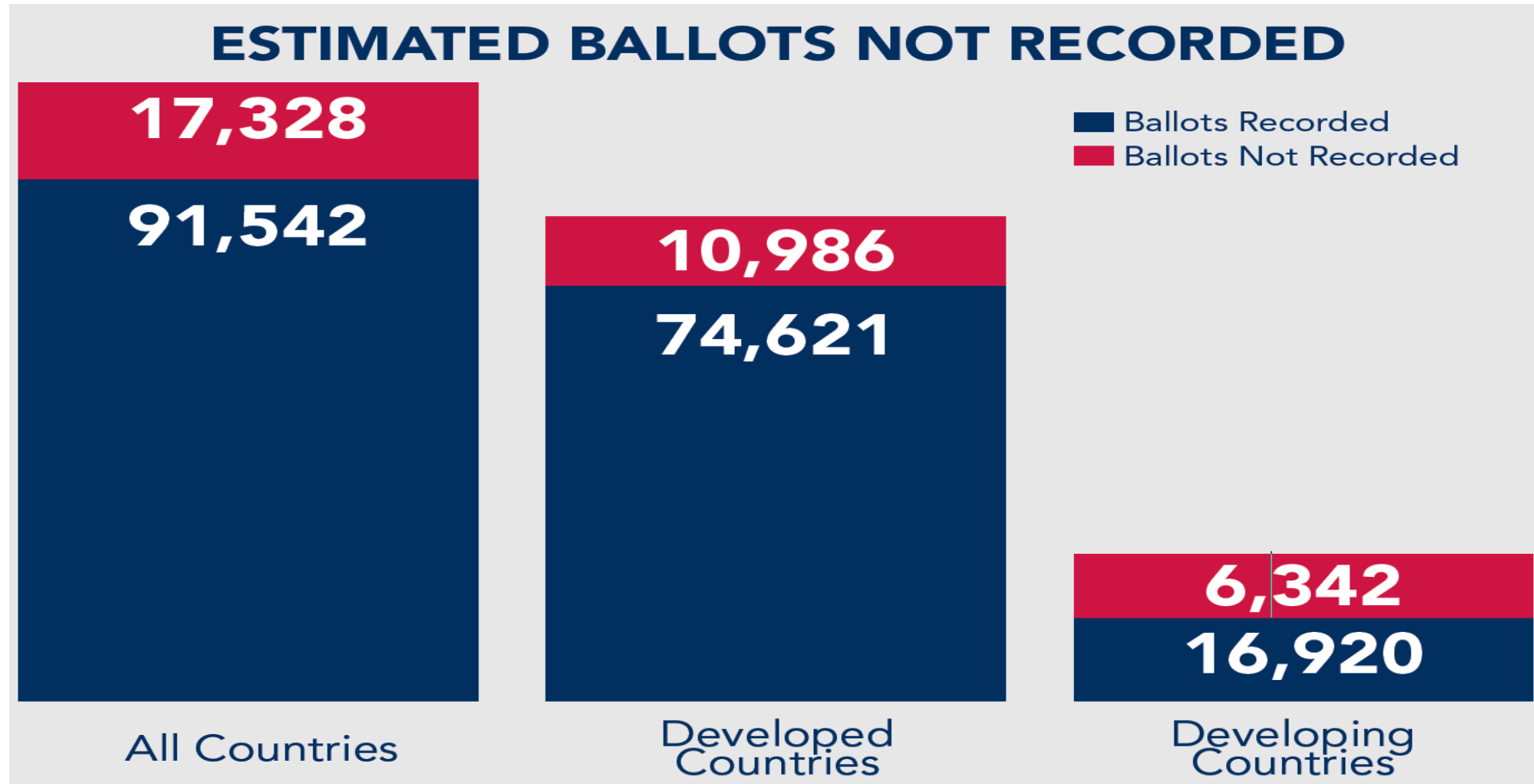


# Recent & Upcoming Research



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# Research – International Mailing Systems



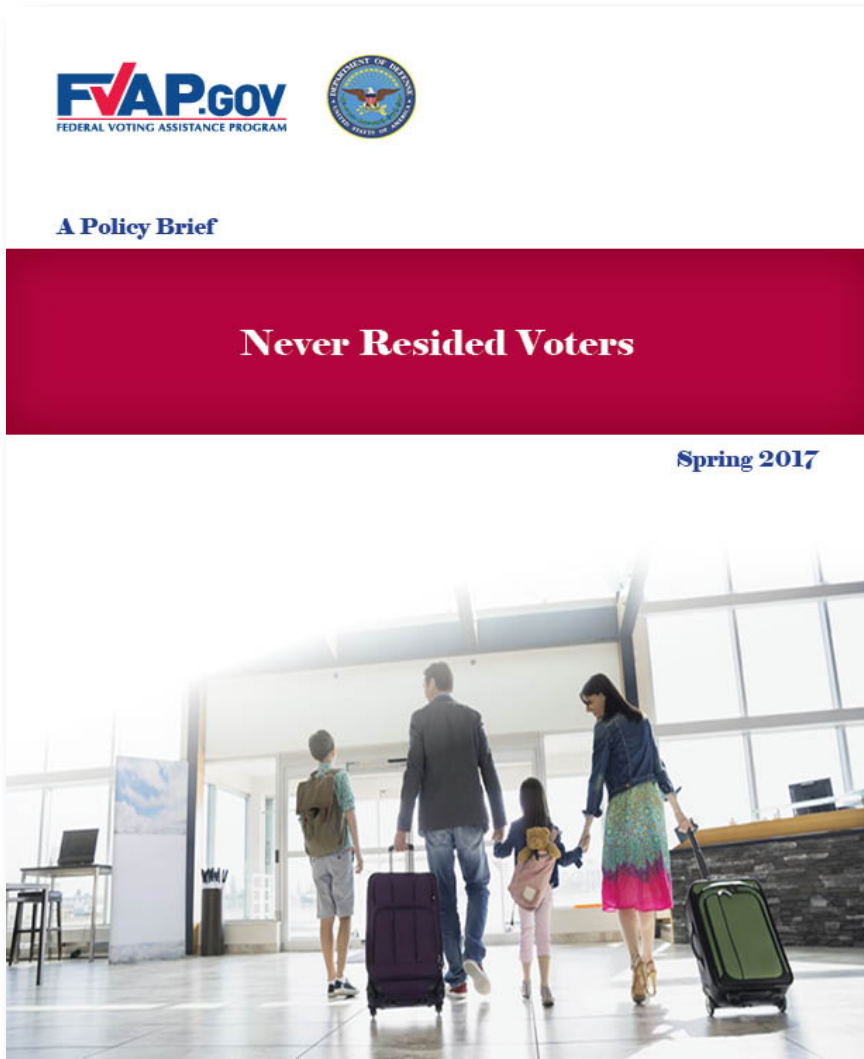
# Policy Brief #1 – Automatic Voter Registration

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

# Policy Brief # 2– Never Resided Voters



- Many Never Resided voters contacted us for help in 2016
- Highlights the benefits and considerations
- Starts the conversation
- Released Spring 2017

*We always welcome new ideas for policy research related to UOCAVA!*

# The Other Front Line: State & Local Election Officials



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# Voting Assistance Guide

- New coordination procedures
- Standardized content
- Plain language principles



## Electronic Transmission Service (ETS)

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

# Form Updates

- New FPCA & FWAB forms coming in 2018
- 105 Comments Received for FPCA changes; 71 for FWAB
- All comments reconciled prior to final Federal Register notice

## Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request

Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)

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

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

### 1. Who are you?

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

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

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

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

Your voting materials will not be sent to this address.

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

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

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

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

### 4. What is your voting preference?

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

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

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

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

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

Sign here **X**

Today's date / /



# Going Forward



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# 2017 Program Milestones

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- **July 2017: Report to Congress**
- **August 2017: Adoption of new FPCA and FWAB**
- **August 2017: Estimated Release of Military Ballot Tracking Pilot Project Report with CSG**
- **October 2017: Release of 2018-2019 Voting Assistance Guide**
- **January 2018: Kickoff of Voting Assistance Officer Workshops**



# Questions?

**FVAP.gov**

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

**@fvap.gov**



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