

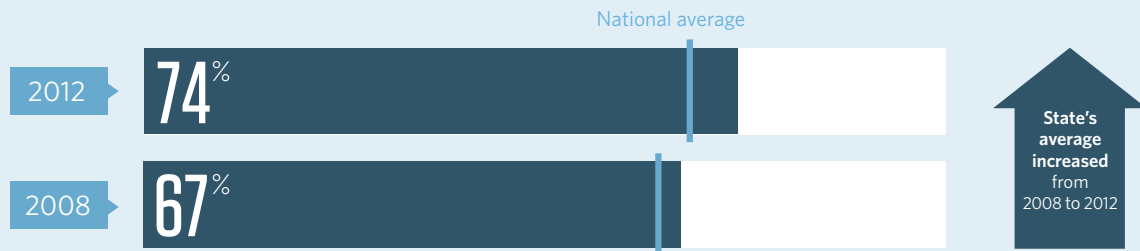


# Connecticut

## Elections Performance Index

This profile reports important trends for Connecticut that emerged from the 2012 update to The Pew Charitable Trusts' Elections Performance Index, or EPI. The EPI analyzes 17 key indicators of election administration and scores each state's performance by indicator and overall. For more information and to view the full interactive index, visit [www.pewstates.org/epi](http://www.pewstates.org/epi).

### Overall EPI Average\*



Key indicators	2008	2012
Data completeness	77.8%	77.8%
Disability- or illness-related voting problems	21.7%	18.9%
Military and overseas ballots unreturned	Incomplete data	11.5%
Provisional ballots rejected out of all ballots cast	0.03%	0.05%
Voting information lookup tools	0 of 2	3 of 5

\*The overall EPI average is a simple average of all 17 indicators.

## Beyond the numbers

Connecticut's overall EPI average placed it among the 12 highest-performing states for 2012. The state's score improved by 7 percentage points from 2008, a rate greater than the national average.

One reason for this improvement was the addition of three of five online voting information lookup tools. In 2008, the state did not offer either of the tools then measured by the index, but four years later, it provided tools for polling place location, registration status, and absentee ballot status.

Connecticut had some of the lowest rates of provisional ballots cast in both presidential years: 715 in 2008 (0.04 percent of all ballots) and 963 in 2012 (0.06 percent of all ballots). The rate of provisional ballots rejected was also among the lowest in these years.

The state provided incomplete data on unreturned military and overseas ballots in 2008, but in 2012, it had the lowest rate in the country at 11.5 percent.

## Room for improvement

Connecticut did not offer online voter registration in 2008 or 2012, a service that the [Presidential Commission on Election Administration](#) recommends as a way to improve access to the state registration system and to enhance the accuracy and integrity of the voter rolls. But legislation that allows online voter registration passed the state General Assembly in 2012, and the system went live in February 2014.

The state did not improve its completeness rate for data submitted to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (for those data points measured by this index). It had the third-lowest completeness rate in 2012 at about 78 percent. Elections are administered and data are collected at the town level in Connecticut, as they are in several other New England states. Connecticut can work with local election officials to establish or improve processes for collecting and reporting the key performance data measured in this index. The Presidential Commission on Election Administration also recommended thorough reporting of elections data.

And although the state's rate of nonvoting due to disability and illness declined, Connecticut should pay more attention to this area. It had the seventh-highest rate in 2008 and the 12th-highest in 2012. More research is needed to identify potential barriers to voting and strategies to address the problem administratively.

---

## For further information, please visit:

[pewstates.org/epi](http://pewstates.org/epi)

---

**Contact:** Stephanie Bosh, officer, communications

**Email:** [sbosh@pewtrusts.org](mailto:sbosh@pewtrusts.org)

**Project website:** [pewstates.org/elections](http://pewstates.org/elections)

---

**The Pew Charitable Trusts** is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public, and stimulate civic life.