

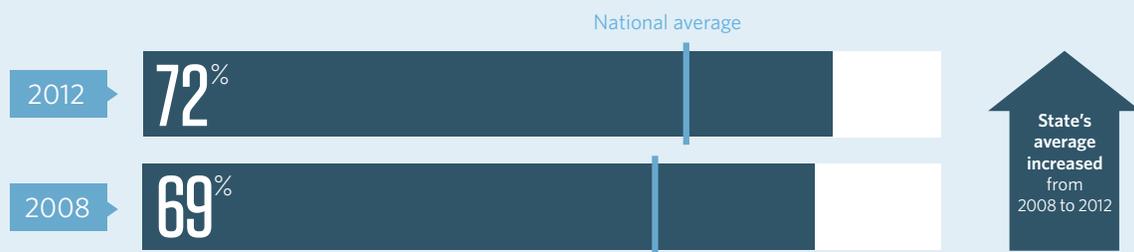


Nebraska

Elections Performance Index

This profile reports important trends for Nebraska 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.

Overall EPI Average*



| Key indicators | 2008 | 2012 |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Mail ballots rejected out of all ballots cast | 0.2% | 0.5% |
| Mail ballots unreturned | 4.0% | 10.6% |
| Military and overseas ballots rejected | 7.9% | 4.6% |
| Postelection audit required | No | Yes |
| Voting wait time | 9.3 minutes | 5.8 minutes |

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

Beyond the numbers

Nebraska's overall election performance improved in 2012, falling just short of the national increase of 4.4 percentage points.

The state had the nation's eighth-largest decrease in the rejection rate of military ballots and added a postelection audit requirement, both of which positively affected its overall score.

Nebraska also reduced its average wait time to vote by more than three minutes from 2008 to the 10th-shortest time in the country in 2012.

Room for improvement

Nebraska's rates of unreturned and rejected mail ballots both increased in 2012, and the state had the sixth-highest rate of rejected mail ballots. Although mail ballots are rejected or not returned for many reasons, higher rates in these categories suggest that further research and data collection should be done to determine the causes.

The state could also improve its overall performance by adding online voter registration. A recently passed bill allowing this practice will improve its performance not only on the online registration indicator but possibly on others as well, including the voter registration rate and nonvoting due to registration and absentee ballot problems.

The state was one of just 10 whose data completeness declined in 2012, and it was the only one to have a drop after submitting 100 percent complete data in 2008. The state should work with local election officials to prevent further backsliding in collection and reporting of key performance data.

Offering online voter registration and thorough data collection are practices recommended by the [Presidential Commission on Election Administration](#).

For further information, please visit:

pewstates.org/epi

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