

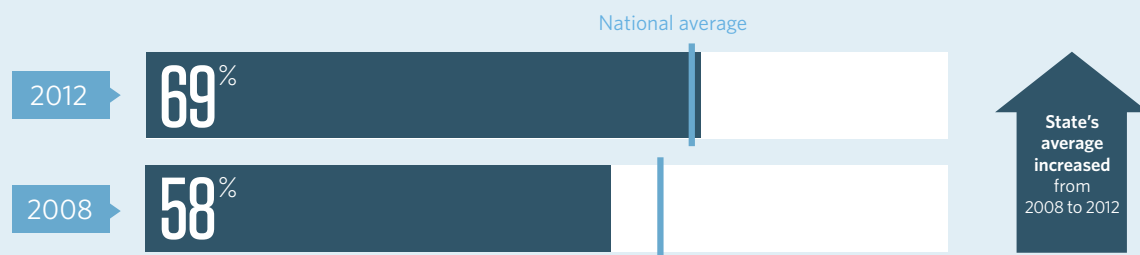


Utah

Elections Performance Index

This profile reports important trends for Utah 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
Military and overseas ballots rejected	4.2%	1.6%
Online registration available	No	Yes
Provisional ballots rejected out of all ballots cast	0.7%	1.0%
Residual vote rate	1.9%	1.1%
Voting information lookup tools	1 of 2	5 of 5

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

Beyond the numbers

Utah improved its overall EPI average by more than 11 percentage points from 2008 to 2012, the fourth-largest increase in the nation. Dramatic improvement across four indicators drove the overall performance. Between 2008 and 2012, the state:

- Added online voter registration, which not only improved its performance on the online registration indicator, but may have positively affected other indicators, including registration rate, wait time, nonvoting due to registration and absentee ballot problems, and provisional ballots cast.
- Went from offering one of two possible voting information lookup tools in 2008 to five of five in 2012.
- Dramatically reduced its residual vote rate—the discrepancy between the number of ballots cast and the

number of votes counted for an office, an effective measure of voting technology accuracy—by almost 60 percent, to 1.1 percent.

- Improved its rates of military and overseas ballots both rejected and unreturned. In early 2011, Utah became the first state to enact the Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act, which simplified the process for military and overseas voters

Room for improvement

Despite the improvement, Utah still can do better on a number of indicators. The state allows permanent mail voting, and in 2012, it had the third-highest rate of mail ballots unreturned, higher than other permanent- and full-mail-voting states, such as Arizona, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington.

In addition, Utah provided less data in 2012 than in 2008 and remains in the bottom third of states in data completeness. The state can work with local election officials to establish or improve data collection and reporting procedures as recommended by the [Presidential Commission on Election Administration](#).

For further information, please visit:

pewstates.org/epi

Contact: Stephanie Bosh, officer, communications

Email: sbosh@pewtrusts.org

Project website: 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.