

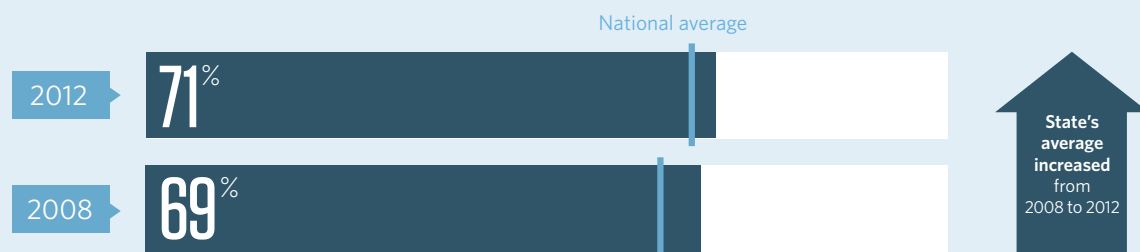


New Mexico

Elections Performance Index

This profile reports important trends for New Mexico 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
Data completeness	81.2%	96.1%
Residual vote rate	0.4%	0.4%
Turnout	61.2%	54.9%
Voter registration rate	80.8%	82.5%
Voting wait time	12.3 minutes	4.2 minutes

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

Beyond the numbers

New Mexico's EPI score increased slightly in 2012, but by less than the national average. The state was in the top third overall in 2008 and 2012.

In both years, New Mexico had one of the best residual vote rates—the discrepancy between the number of ballots cast and the number of votes counted for an office. In 2012, the state was fourth-best on this indicator, behind Nevada, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia.

One of the biggest changes for New Mexico from 2008 to 2012 was that it provided more complete data to the Election Administration and Voting Survey, raising its completeness rate by almost 15 percentage points. Improving data collection is one of the key recommendations of the [Presidential Commission on Election Administration](#).

New Mexico was also one of only seven states to decrease its average wait time to vote by more than eight minutes compared with 2008, and overall the state had the fourth-shortest average wait time, at less than five minutes.

Room for improvement

New Mexico allows registered voters to update their information online, but it does not yet permit new applications to be processed online. If the state expands its online system to support both types of transactions, it would improve its performance not only on the online registration indicator but possibly on others as well, including the voter registration rate and provisional ballots cast. The presidential commission also recommended providing online voter registration.

For further information, please visit:

pewstates.org/epi

Contact: Stephanie Bosh, officer, communications

Email: sbosh@pewtrusts.org

Project website: pewstates.org/elections

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