

California's 2018 gubernatorial election

Details on candidates, campaign spending and more

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Overview of the 2018 California gubernatorial election

Primary election:

June 5, 2018

Only the top two finishers, regardless of party, will advance to the general election

General election:

November 6, 2018

The governor and lieutenant governor do not run on the same ticket, are elected separately and can be members of different parties



Jerry Brown (D)

- Democrat
- Current California governor
- Originally elected in 1974, served two terms as governor from 1975-1983
- Re-elected in 2010, served two additional terms
- Unable to run for re-election due to term limits

The Cook Political Report:

Solid Democratic

rating for California's gubernatorial election

Sources: The Cook Political Report, 2017; California Secretary of State, 2017;

Current Lieutenant Governor Newsom has an early lead in funding and name recognition



Gavin Newsom (D)

- Currently: California's lieutenant governor under Jerry Brown
- Previously: Mayor of San Francisco from 2004-2011
- Ran for governor briefly in 2009
- Ordered San Francisco to issue same-sex marriage licenses in 2004
- Announced candidacy February 2015

Key policy issues



Newsom announced he would support a proposition to go beyond the state legislature's single-payer healthcare bill and **guarantee universal healthcare** in California as a response to the national-level AHCA legislation



As an advocate for increased gun control, Newsom was a major proponent of Proposition 63, an initiative to **increase background checks** that passed in the 2016 election



He is a supporter of the **legalization of recreational marijuana** and was one of the architects of Proposition 64, which also passed in the 2016 election and legalized marijuana in California

Sources: Phil Willon, "California's next governor: Who's running, who's on the fence?" Los Angeles Times, June 22, 2017; Angela Hart, "Newsom to pitch universal health care as California governor's race grows crowded," Sacramento Bee, March 13, 2017; Ballotpedia, 2017; Gavin Newsom for Governor, 2017.

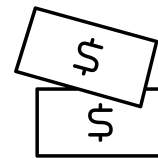
Elected in 2010 as state treasurer, Chiang is positioning himself as the natural successor to Governor Jerry Brown



John Chiang (D)

- Currently: California's state treasurer
- Previously: California's state controller from 2007-2015
- Cut state legislators' salaries in 2011 after they failed to pass a balanced budget
- Refused to furlough state employees under Governor Schwarzenegger
- Announced candidacy May 2016

Key policy issues



During his tenure as treasurer, Chiang **supported a state-run retirement program** that would automatically enroll Californians, who would contribute 3 percent of their earnings



Chiang is a strong supporter of **expanding access to both early education and higher education**. He also supports Gov. Brown's Local Control Funding Formula system of education funding



Chiang **supports issuing bonds to fund the creation of more affordable housing** and reforming the California Environmental Quality Act, which developers say hinders new construction

Sources: Phil Willon, "California's next governor: Who's running, who's on the fence?" Los Angeles Times, June 22, 2017; Ballotpedia, 2017; Beau Yarbrough, "Treasurer John Chiang promises frugality during gubernatorial campaign stop in Rancho Cucamonga," Daily Bulletin, July 13, 2017; John Chiang for Governor, 2017.

Former Los Angeles Mayor Villaraigosa is counting on the Latino vote in southern California



Antonio Villaraigosa (D)

- Previously: Speaker of the state Assembly from 1998-2000, Los Angeles mayor from 2005-2013
- Faced difficulties managing the city budget deficit due to the recession
- Led campaign for Measure R, a sales tax to pay for improvements to transportation in LA
- Announced candidacy November 2016

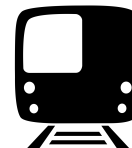
Key policy issues



Villaraigosa supports **expanding access to higher education**, particularly for low-income and minority students, and emphasizes the importance of job training in higher education



Villaraigosa has pledged to focus on helping the middle class and creating opportunities for those left behind in the “new economy,” **particularly through higher wages**



Following the success of Measure R, Villaraigosa wants to **expand on recent improvements to California’s transportation systems**, with a focus on roads and other failing infrastructure

Sources: Phil Willon, “California’s next governor: Who’s running, who’s on the fence?” Los Angeles Times, June 22, 2017; Ballotpedia, 2017; Antonio for California, 2017.

Republican and lesser-known Democratic candidates face challenges with funding and support

**Delaine Eastin (D)**

- Democrat
- Former state assemblymember and state superintendent of public instruction
- Announced candidacy November 2017

**John Cox (R)**

- Republican
- Lawyer and accountant
- Proposed creating a “neighborhood legislature”
- Announced candidacy March 2017

**Travis Allen (R)**

- Republican
- Three-term state assemblyman
- Opposes California gas taxes for road improvements
- Announced candidacy June 2017

**Rosey Grier (R)**

- Republican
- Former NFL athlete
- Announced candidacy January 2017

**David Hadley (R)**

- Republican
- Former state assemblyman
- Announced candidacy July 5 and ended candidacy July 19

Other possible contenders:

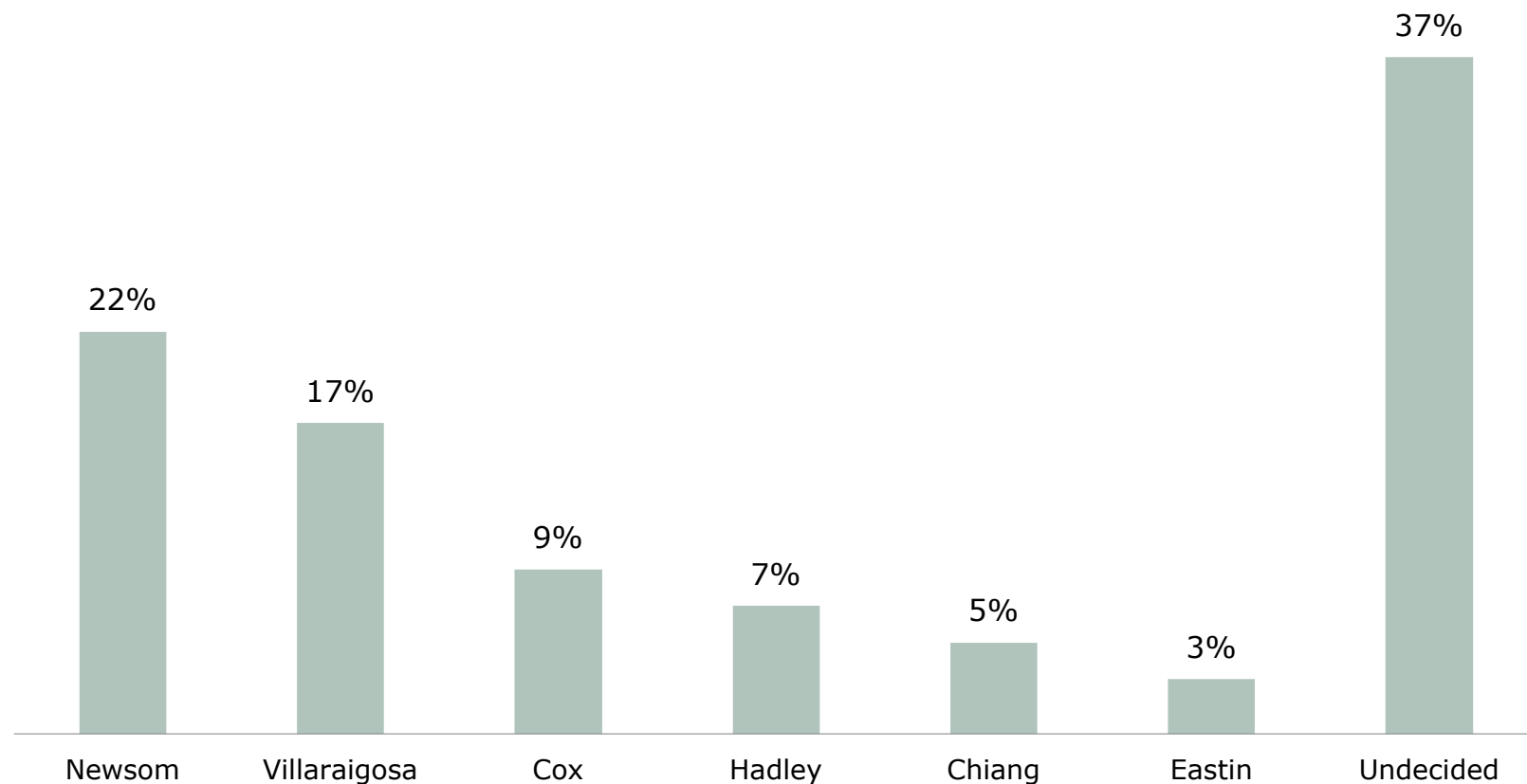
- Eric Garcetti (D), mayor of LA
- Tom Steyer (D), hedge fund manager
- Ashley Swearengin (R), former mayor of Fresno
- Steve Westly (D), venture capitalist

Sources: Phil Willon, “California’s next governor: Who’s running, who’s on the fence?”

Newsom leads in May poll, but most voters remain undecided

May 2017 poll: voter preferences for governor

Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies

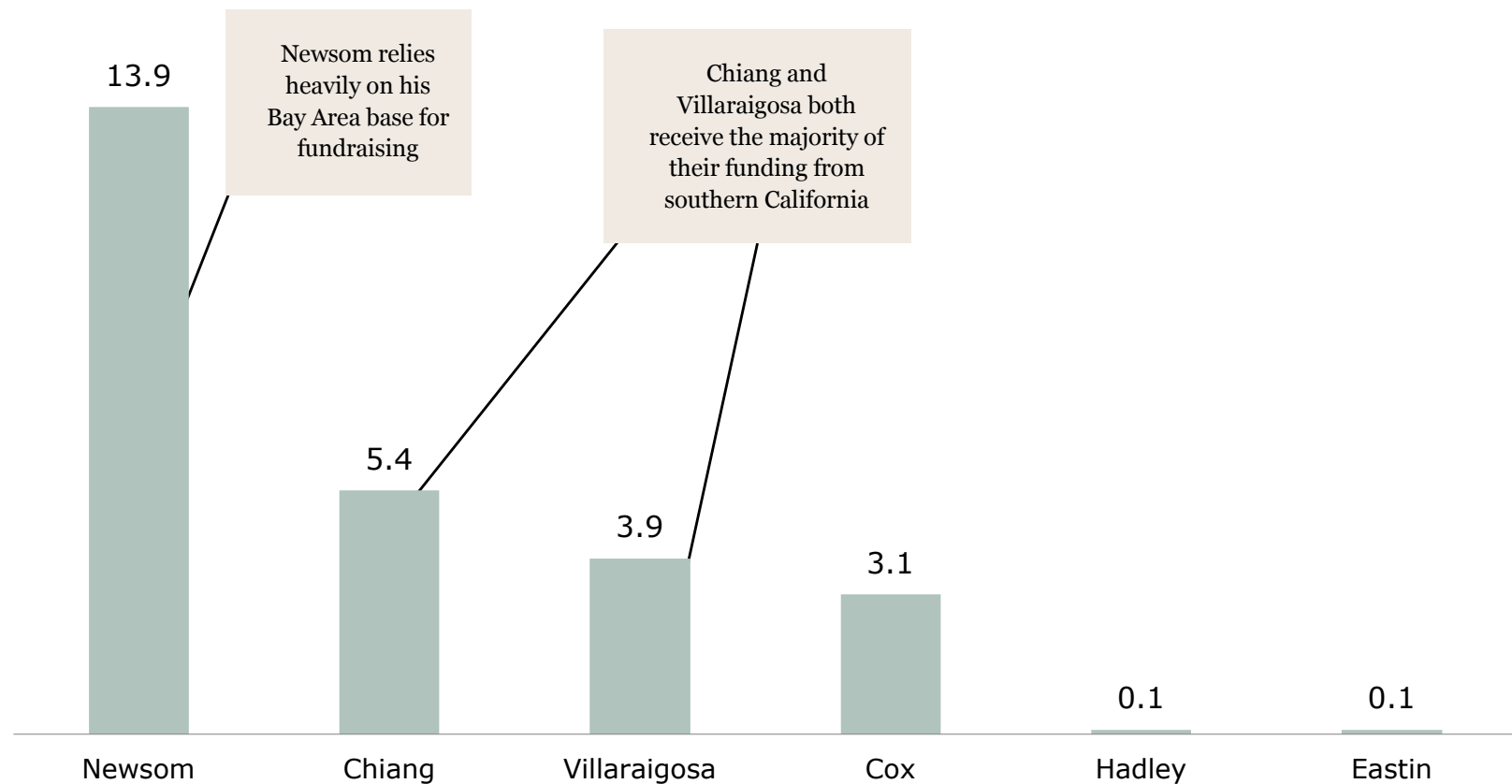


Sources: Mark DiCamillo, "While Newsom continues to lead in next year's open primary for governor, Villaraigosa is running a close second," Berkeley IGS Poll, June 8, 2018.

Newsom leads in fundraising and candidates have already raised more than \$25 million in total

Total amount raised since start of campaign

In millions of dollars



Sources: Ryan Menezes and Maloy Moore, "The race to become California's next governor is already awash in cash," Los Angeles Times, July 7, 2017.