



PRIME-ARY PERSPECTIVE: ALASKA AND WYOMING

PRIME-ARY Perspectives is a series that will give you an overview of the most noteworthy results from each state's primary election, focusing on congressional districts that are likely to be most competitive in November, as well as those that will have new representation in 2019 because of retirements.

We continue to watch the vote in Ohio's 12th District, and as soon as there is a final determination, we will send out a Perspective on it.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us with questions!

ALASKA



With only one at-large House seat and no Senate seats up for grabs this year, Alaska's most competitive race will probably be found in its gubernatorial race. However, with the results of last night's primary has already caused several of the Congressional ratings services to move the House seat into a more competitive position.

GUBERNATORIAL



Gov. Bill Walker, currently the only U.S. Governor elected as an Independent, is running for reelection in a 3-way race this November. He has served since December 2014 and is particularly unpopular - currently maintaining a 54% disapproval rating in Alaska per Mourning Consult. The Cook Political rates this race a "toss-up" for now, but that is likely to change before November if two candidates split votes, or if a candidate drops out of the race.

Mike Dunleavy (R)

Mike Dunleavy beat out six other candidates to win the Republican primary with 61.8% of the vote Tuesday night, running on platform to reduce crime in Alaska, bring jobs and investment to the state, and to reduce state spending. Dunleavy is a current state senator, and his status a solid conservative has the potential to split the center-left vote and vault him into the lead before election day.





Mark Begich (D)

There was only one candidate on the Democratic ballot, so former U.S. Sen. Mark Begich won the uncontested primary. Begich, who served one term in the U.S. Senate and two terms as the Mayor of Anchorage, is running on a platform that promises to protect the Alaska Permanent Fund, modernize Alaskan infrastructure, and to decrease Alaskan healthcare cost.

AK AT-LARGE



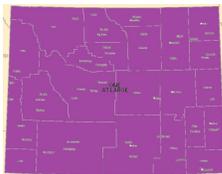
Alaska's 738,000 people have one Congressional seat that has been occupied by Rep. Don Young (R) for 23 terms. Young, age 85, is seeking to go back to Congress once again and may have his toughest race in some time. He is the longest serving member of the House - often referred to as "dean of the House" - after the retirement of Rep. John Conyers (D-MI).



Alyse Galvin (D)

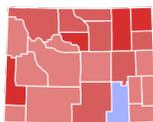
Alyse Galvin won the Democratic primary with 54% of the vote after running as an Independent and beating out three other candidates. While new to politics, she is well known for lobbying the Alaskan Legislature for increased funding for schools. Galvin is running on a platform that heavily emphasizes providing affordable healthcare and education, while simultaneously ensuring that Alaska is gaining new high paying jobs

WYOMING



Wyoming is a deeply red state, and as such what election drama there is likely plaid out in last night's Republican primaries. Rep. Liz Cheney (R), the state's only House member, is expected to cruise to victory in November. Additionally, the state's Senate and Gubernatorial races are expected to be easily won by Republicans.

GUBERNATORIAL



With incumbent Governor Matt Mead's inability to seek reelection due to term limits, yesterday's Republican gubernatorial primary was the race that offered most uncertainty, especially with polls showing a tight race between Foster Freiss and Mark Gordon. This race is rated as "Solid Republican."

Mark Gordon (R)

In a Tuesday morning tweet, President Trump announced his endorsement of GOP billionaire donor, Foster Freiss, for governor. While Trump's engagement in primaries has largely been effective thus far, Wyoming Republican voters narrowly chose Republican Mark Gordon with 32% of the vote in a field of six candidates.



Gordon was the only candidate to have served in public office, acting as the current

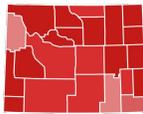
state treasurer, a role he first assumed in 2012 when appointed to fill the remainder of the late Joseph Meyer's term. In a deeply red state, Gordon will have a serious advantage in November's bid to keep the governor's mansion under Republican control.



Mary Throne (D)

Democrat Mary Throne easily won 72% of the Democratic primary vote yesterday in a field of four candidates. Throne is a former Wyoming state legislator and most recently served as minority leader in the Wyoming House of Representatives before her defeat in 2016. Despite its deep red leanings in statewide elections, three of Wyoming's last five governors have been Democrats, most recently of whom was Dave Freudenthal, who served from 2003-2011.

SENATE



Incumbent John Barrasso won 65% of the vote in yesterday's six-way Republican primary for U.S. Senate, winning all but Teton County in the northwest region of the state. In a deep red state like Wyoming, intraparty challenges are typically the most competitive races that occur. The two-term senator beat back a well-funded challenger, Dave Dodson, a businessman who started and energy firm and trucking company. Barrasso, the powerful chairman of the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee, is heavily favored to win reelection in November.

Democrat Gary Trauner ran uncontested in yesterday's Wyoming primary. Trauner is a businessman and former chairman of the Teton County School District. He isn't entirely unknown to politics in Wyoming, as he's previously run unsuccessful bids for the state's lone House seat in 2006 and 2008. In a race that's considered one of the safest seats for Senate Republicans, Trauner will face an extremely uphill battle.

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