

Alabama

Voters in Alabama will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 105 seats in the State House are up as well as all 35 seats in the State Senate. Republicans currently dominate state politics – Alabama is a deep red Republican trifecta and should remain so after November.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

[Walt Maddox](#)

Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox first got into local politics due to a sewer issue at his home. Seventeen years and two stints as Mayor later, he was chosen by Alabama Democrats to take on Governor Ivey (R). He is certainly well-liked in his City, winning his most recent election with 89% of the vote.

Maddox released a [plan](#) for the opioid crisis in April. During his primary day victory speech, he stated that “together, we are going to act with the urgency of now of addressing the opioid crisis...” Additionally, in an [interview](#) with the Alabama Policy Institute and Yellowhammer, Maddox stated, “The expansion of Medicaid is a major first step in overcoming many of Alabama’s problems, including opioid and other drug abuse. The expansion will increase the availability of and access to treatment and counseling that we so desperately need. We also need to improve prescription drug monitoring and make medical treatments more widely available, like Suboxone, which alleviates the pain of opioid withdrawal but is too expensive for most to afford without assistance. Detox units, residential and outpatient services, consultation among addiction specialists and other providers must be expanded. UAB’s Addiction Recovery Program provides an effective model that can be replicated statewide for a medically supervised approach to early sobriety including intensive therapy, 12-step fellowship, trauma and grief work, and family support. Overdose remedies like Narcan must be widely available to both emergency first responders and the general public. We must implement common sense initiatives like warm handoffs so that people who seek emergency medical treatment for drug overdoses are automatically connected to a treatment program – and, of course, that begins by make sure treatment programs are available.”

Maddox is campaigning on job creating, infrastructure, healthcare, and education. He wants to expand Medicaid and invest in rural hospitals and telemedicine. He promises to expand apprenticeship programs and craft training across the state. He pushes for a state-run lottery to fund multiple education initiatives including pre-K, scholarships, and workforce development programs. Maddox considers himself a pro-business, pro-life Democrat. His overarching theme has been about results, not party rhetoric.

Trivia: In his first run for office, former Governor Robert Bentley (R) donated to Moddcox’s campaign.