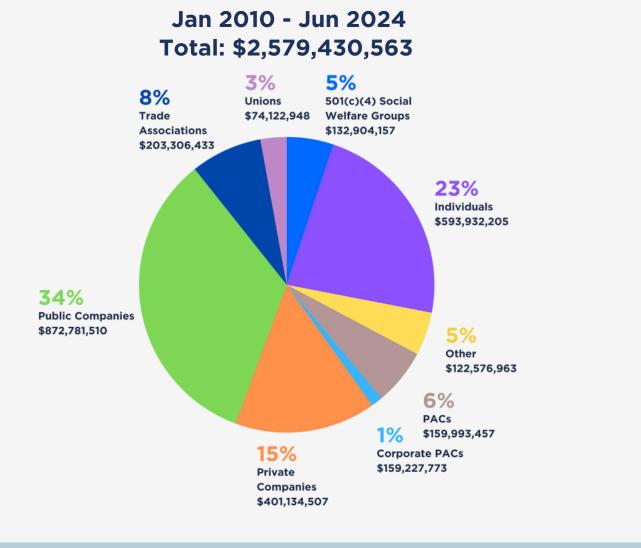
## CENTER FOR **BREAKDOWN OF** POLITICAL ACCOUNTABILITY PUBLIC COMPANY DONATIONS

To six state-focused, partisan 527 organizations that fund the elections of governors, attorneys general, and state legislators around the country

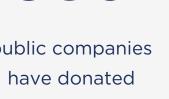
## **Contributions to six, partisan state-focused 527s committees**



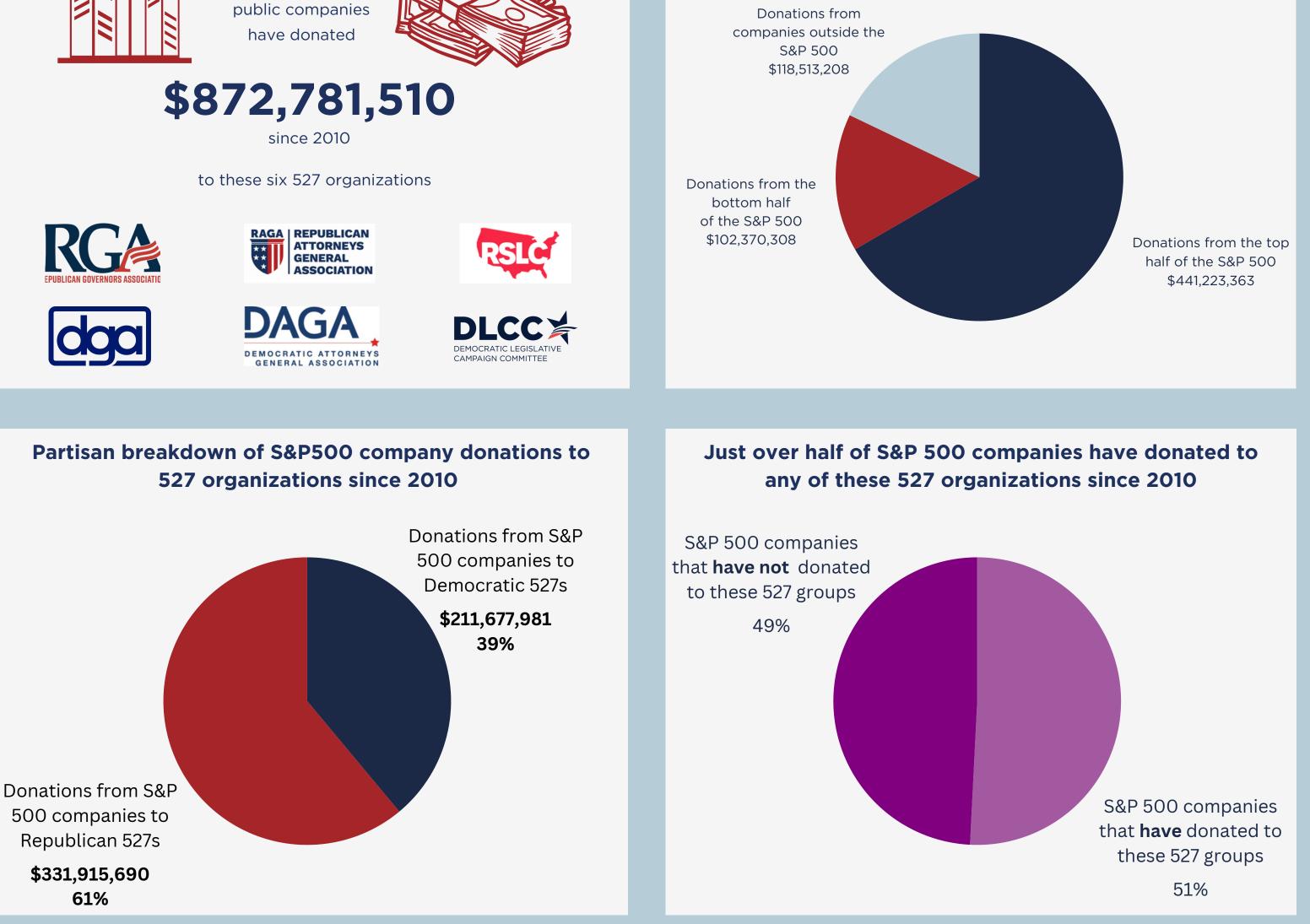
Since 2018, the Center for Political Accountability (CPA) has released several reports that examine the scope and impact of corporate election spending through influential third-party political groups. Six political groups, the partisan governors, attorneys general, and state legislative associations, have collectively received nearly \$1 billion in donations from public companies since 2010.

These groups are among the largest "527 organizations," so called because these organizations are regulated by IRS Code Section 527. Corporate donations to these groups are used to finance political campaigns in state-level executive, legislative, and judicial races across the country. These donations affiliate companies' brands and reputations with the ultimate recipients of their funds. CPA's recent reports have discussed many of these risks as well as the steps companies can take to manage and mitigate the consequences of their political spending.





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## **Corporate donations to state-focused 527 organizations** from active US companies since 2010

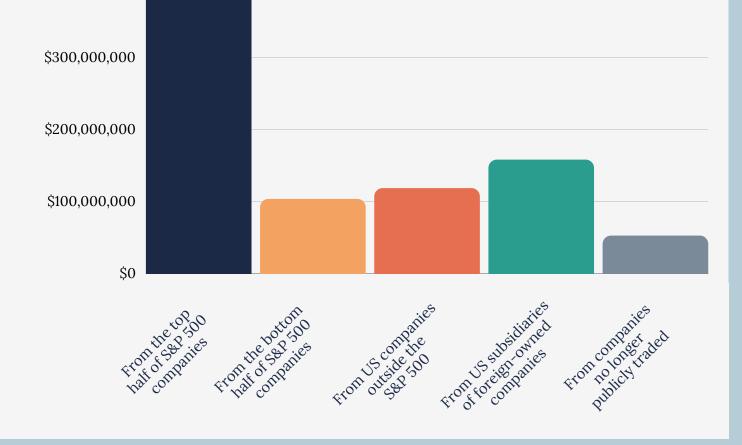
While CPA's research has long shown that public companies and their trade associations are the dominant funders of these groups, recent analysis of corporate donations to six statefocused 527 groups shed further light on important patterns in 527 donations among the companies themselves.

## All corporate donations to state-focused 527 organizations since 2010 \$500,000,000

\$400,000,000

Roughly half of S&P 500 companies have donated to at least one of these 527 groups since 2010. Among US company donors, eighty-two percent of all donations to these groups came from a donor currently ranked in the S&P 500. Twothirds (66%) of US public company donations to these 527 organizations came from companies in the top half of the S&P 500 (by market cap).

These data illustrate that while many successful US companies are not donors to these six 527 organizations, some of the country's largest companies are exposed to significant risks through their associations with these groups and the candidates they help to elect.



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