COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments
Status of Existing Funds and Future Spending Priorities
March 5, 2021

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CivicPulse is a nonprofit organization that runs a national survey platform of local government officials. Our mission is to promote information-sharing between local governments and elevate the voice of local governments in national civic discourse. To learn more about our work, please visit civicpulse.org. For additional information about this report, please contact Michael Hotard (michaelhotard@civicpulse.org).
Executive Summary

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis, the federal government provided relief funding to local governments primarily through the $150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund that was part of the CARES Act. CivicPulse surveyed 494 elected policymakers and top appointed officials from counties, cities, and townships across the United States in January 2021 to understand the current status of relief funding, how funds had been used so far, and where additional funds would be spent if new relief funding is provided to local governments. Our key takeaways are:

- 37% of local governments still plan on spending some of the 2020 relief funding in 2021.
- The most common areas where funds were spent were compliance with COVID-19 safety measures, personal protective equipment, and payroll for local government staff.
- Future spending is likely to be in many of the same areas, but more governments also predicted using funds for vaccines and additional small business support.
- Local governments were most likely to look to other local governments for guidance on how to spend funds, but also relied heavily on their respective state governments.
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COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:

Background

During the past year, local governments have been on the frontlines of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, these efforts have left many governments facing budget challenges. While revenue is projected to fall because of the economic crisis, governments have needed to increase spending in new areas, such as purchasing PPE, assisting small businesses, and setting up remote work systems.

To help state and local governments, the federal government provided relief funding, with the largest investment being the $150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) that was part of the CARES Act. The CRF was awarded directly to states, as well as counties and cities that have populations over 500,000 people. These prime recipients passed some of their allocated funds to local governments of all sizes to help them cover new pandemic-related expenses.

Although the deadline to expend the funds was extended in late December, local governments had been working on spending all of the allotted funds by the initial December 30, 2020 deadline. To do this, they had to act quickly but also follow strict regulation and reporting requirements. President Biden has proposed a $1.9 trillion relief package with $350 billion earmarked for state and local governments. As of March 3, 2021, the House of Representatives had passed a version of this relief bill and sent it to the Senate for consideration.

To understand how existing funding has been used and what the top priorities would be for any future funding, CivicPulse conducted a national survey in January-February 2021 of 305 policymakers and 189 top appointed officials from counties, cities, and townships with populations of 1,000 or more. Their answers help us better understand the current state of relief spending and what could be improved for any future rounds of relief funding.
What Sources Have Local Governments Received Funding From?

Nationally, we found that eight in ten local governments (81%) received some form of relief funding as of January 2021. Local governments serving areas with larger populations were much likelier to receive relief funding. For local governments serving areas with a population over 25,000, 92% received some funding, while only 74% of local governments serving areas with populations under 5,000 received any relief funding. (See supplemental appendix for more details on subsample analysis by population size.)

Local officials indicated that the most common source of relief funding was the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), which was part of the CARES Act package passed by Congress in March 2020. Of those that received any funding, 91% indicated that they received CRF funding (Figure 1).

**Sources of COVID-19 Relief Funding**

- **Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)**: 91%
- **Federal Emergency Mgmt. Agency (FEMA)**: 16%
- **Dept. of Housing and Urban Dev. (HUD)**: 6%
- **Other**: 5%
- **Federal Transit Admn. (FTA)**: 3%

*Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)*

**Figure 1: Sources of COVID-19 Relief Funding.** Bar segments represent the percentage of governments receiving funding from a source. Most governments received funds from the CRF, although some governments had received funds from other federal agencies as well.

Although the CRF is what many refer to when they discuss COVID-19 relief funding for states and local governments, there are other sources of federal funds that local governments can
use to cover pandemic-related costs. The second most common source of relief funding was Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), although only 16% of local governments indicated they had used any FEMA funds. Even fewer local governments received funds from the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and additional analysis showed these two funding sources were used almost exclusively by local governments serving populations over 25,000 people.

Over 70% of governments received between $10,000 and $1,000,000 (Figure 2). However, close to 20% of governments received over $1,000,000. As expected, the amount of funding received varied by population size, with the largest levels of funding going to local governments serving the largest populations.

![Amount of Relief Funding Received](image)

Figure 2: Amount of Relief Funding Received. Bar segments represent the percentage of respondents who selected receiving COVID-19 funding in a specific range.

Although the original deadline to expend CRF funds was extended from December 30, 2020 to the end of 2021, little information has been gathered nationally about how many governments plan to spend funds during the extension period. Since most local governments had been operating under the belief that they had to get money out the door...
quickly or they would lose it, most tried to spend down all of their funds before December 30, 2020.

We asked local officials if, given the extension in the timeline passed at the end of 2020, they planned to spend any existing funds in 2021. The answers were split almost evenly three ways. About a third (37%) said they would make use of this extra time. The next third said they would not spend the existing funds in the upcoming year, while the remaining third said they weren’t sure yet.

This shows that the extension was helpful for many governments that may have found it challenging to meet the initial spending timeline. The extension was especially helpful for larger areas with populations over 25,000, for which a majority of local officials said they would spend existing funds in 2021. In contrast, officials from areas with populations under 5,000 were most likely to report that they were unsure if they would spend additional funds this year.
How Are Local Governments Spending Their Funds?

We asked local governments what were the areas in which they spent relief funding so far. The three most common spending areas were complying with COVID-19 safety measures, purchasing PPE, and covering payroll (Figure 3). Over half of all governments reported spending in each of these areas.

In responding to the pandemic, local governments had to devote a larger-than-normal share of expenditures toward new compliance measures and PPE purchases, and our survey results show that relief funds helped many of them offset at least some of these costs. Federal regulations for the CRF also allowed the funds to be used to cover the payroll costs of most public health and public safety workers, as these groups are directly involved with the pandemic response. Therefore, it is not surprising that many governments used relief funds to cover these costs, possibly freeing up their budgets for other purposes.

![Existing Relief Funding: Spending Areas](chart.png)

**Figure 3: Existing Relief Funding: Spending Areas.** Bar segments represent the percentage of respondents who indicated their government had spent funds in a certain area. The median number of areas chosen was 3.
The next most common spending area was government IT infrastructure, which included technology needed to increase telework opportunities, hold virtual public meetings, or move more services online. Like most businesses and organizations around the country, the pandemic forced local governments to accelerate the movement to remote work, and relief funds helped many governments manage this transition.

We also looked at the most common spending areas based on the population size of the area served by a local government. The top three categories remained the same for low-population and high-population areas. However, local governments serving areas with higher populations were much more likely to spend funds in more areas.

They were also twice as likely to spend some funds for direct assistance, including food assistance and housing assistance. For example, only 5% of local governments serving areas with fewer than 5,000 residents reported spending funds on housing assistance, versus 13% of local governments serving areas with between 5,000 and 25,000 residents, versus 49% of local governments serving areas with more than 25,000 residents.
How Will Future Funding Be Used?

As of February 2021, the federal government is considering an additional COVID-19 relief package that may contain hundreds of billions of dollars for state and local governments. In light of the possibility of new funds, we asked local governments in which areas they would be most likely to spend the money (Figure 4). Again, complying with COVID-19 safety measures, PPE, and payroll expenses ranked highly, but fewer governments reported planning to spend in these areas.

![Future Relief Funding: Spending Areas](image)

When we looked at the new spending priorities by population size, we did discover a new pattern. Local officials from areas with higher populations were more likely to prioritize small business support and vaccine distribution over other measures. Also, local officials from the areas with the smallest populations were the most likely to indicate that they might spend additional funds on IT infrastructure (39% of local officials from areas with populations smaller than 5,000 versus 31% of local officials from areas with populations greater than 25,000). This could indicate that larger governments are more likely to have already made
the technological upgrades to provide services in a remote-pandemic world, but smaller governments still need funding to adjust.

**How Will Future Local Government Spending Priorities Change?**

Figure 5 compares the areas where existing funds were used to areas where future funding might be spent. From this comparison, it is clear that the highest-priority needs remain unchanged – COVID-19 public health compliance, PPE, and payroll.

However, there are some differences between where funding has gone and where it might go. The area with the biggest increase is vaccine distribution, with 31% of local governments indicating that they might spend in this area compared to 9% of local governments who used existing funding for this. Now that vaccines are approved, vaccine distribution has become a major focus of the pandemic response and state and local governments have found themselves playing a key role in the process.

Another change is that fewer government plan to spend funds on IT infrastructure. This may reflect the fact that governments invested heavily in new technology in 2020 and these investments may not be needed again in 2021. More governments indicated a desire to assist small businesses, which is likely an indication of the importance of the economic recovery for the local economy. Local governments know that small businesses can be the driver of the local economy and tax base, and it is important to help and sustain businesses so they can assist with the economy recovery. Finally, there is also an increase in the desire to fund additional broadband expansion, which may reflect local government’s recognition that more assistance is needed to make sure all citizens are connected in a world that has increasingly gone virtual in the past twelve months.
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:
How Will Future Local Government Spending Priorities Change?

Spending Changes for Local Governments

- Implementing health safety measures: Existing funds 61, Future funds 79
- PPE purchases: Existing funds 55, Future funds 76
- Payroll expenses: Existing funds 55, Future funds 65
- Government IT infrastructure: Existing funds 33, Future funds 50
- Small business support: Existing funds 32, Future funds 47
- Other public health expenses: Existing funds 29
- Nonprofit support: Existing funds 20, Future funds 25
- Food assistance: Existing funds 18, Future funds 27
- Housing/rental assistance: Existing funds 14, Future funds 31
- K-12 education: Existing funds 8, Future funds 10
- Vaccine distribution: Existing funds 9, Future funds 31
- Broadband expansion: Existing funds 9, Future funds 20

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)

**Figure 5: Spending Changes: Existing and Future Funds.** The points represent the percentage of local governments that indicated that they spent funds in a certain area or that they might spend funds in a certain area. Past funding is represented by orange dots and future funding is represented by blue dots.
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments: Where Do Local Governments Look for Guidance?

Where Do Local Governments Look for Guidance?

In response to the pandemic, local governments were given an influx of money with new spending guidelines and a tight turnaround for spending them. They needed guidance on how to spend the funds so that they would be used effectively and meet the federal government’s eligibility criteria. We asked local government officials which sources they looked to for guidance on how to spend coronavirus relief funds (Figure 6). The two most common sources were other local governments and the state government.

Local government officials often look for help from their peers when they need to make decisions. They collaborate and share ideas with one another, especially neighboring local governments in their region. While this fact is not new, our survey results show that relief funding is another area where this peer sharing happens.

It is also not surprising that local governments turned to their state for guidance. In most cases, the coronavirus relief funds received by local governments were originally given to the states and then passed down to local governments. Therefore, the states were the ones setting the official rules for accounting and reporting, and local governments had to rely on state guidance to make sure their spending met the funding and reporting requirements.

**Sources of Guidance For Spending Funds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percent of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local governments</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State governments</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State associations and organizations</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National associations and organizations</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another source</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)

**Figure 6: Sources of Guidance for Spending Funds.** The bars represent the percentage of respondents that indicated they looked to a certain source for guidance on how they would spend relief funds.
Implications for New Relief Funding

Many local governments are facing budget challenges, due to falling revenues from the downturn in the economy and increased expenditures required to respond to the pandemic. Governments used the existing relief funding in areas most directly affected by the pandemic – public health, PPE purchases, and payroll for staff responding to the pandemic. Many, but not a majority, used funding for IT upgrades and supporting small businesses.

It seems likely that the federal government will provide additional funding to local governments soon, and where it is spent may end up being determined by any specific regulations attached to it. When asked to consider this possibility, local governments indicated that many of them will use funds to continue responding to the public health aspects of the pandemic. More of them will also use new funds to assist with vaccination efforts, which were not an area with heavy investment in the first round of relief funds. More governments also plan to spend new funds supporting small businesses, indicating the need for focusing on the ongoing economic recovery even after the public health situation has improved.

Local governments are likely to look to one another for ideas on the best ways to spend funds, as well as guidance issued by the states. Some, but not all, local officials also seek assistance from state associations or federal associations for guidance on spending relief funds.

Acknowledgements

CivicPulse would like to thank all of the people and organizations who contributed to the creation of this report. The Bill Lane Center for the West at Stanford University provided financial support and assisted with the survey design. Members of Engaging Local Government Leaders (ELGL) provided feedback on a draft questionnaire. PowerAlmanac’s contact list of local government officials provided the basis of the sample frame for the report. Finally, we thank all of the local government officials who participated in the survey for providing information about COVID-19 relief funding and for the service they provide to their communities.
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments
Supplemental Appendix

This supplementary appendix contains information on the survey methodology, the questionnaire, as well as additional analyses for the CivicPulse report “COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments.” It includes unweighted figures for each of the main figures in the main report. It also includes subsample analyses for each question discussed in the main report with breakouts for Census region, level of government, and population size.
Methodology and Sample

CivicPulse uses Power Almanac’s continuously updated contact list of the appointed and elected officials associated with townships, municipalities, and counties in the United States with populations of 1,000 or more.

From this list, CivicPulse invited a random sample of top appointed officials and elected policymakers to complete a survey on COVID-19 relief funding. (See Table A.1). CivicPulse sent two to three email invitations to the selected sample of local officials asking them to complete the survey. This report includes data from 494 respondents who answered at least one survey question; 410 respondents completed the entire module on COVID-19 relief funding. The data was collected between January 25, 2021 and February 11, 2021.

Table A.1: Survey Respondents by Position.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top Appointed Official</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top Elected Official</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governing Board Member</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table A.2: Survey Respondents by Level of Local Government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Townships</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipalities</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counties</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Table A.3:** Survey Respondents by Census Region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>494</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table A.4:** Survey Respondents by Population Size of Area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Size</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5,000</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 to 25,000</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 25,000</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>494</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The geographic distribution of the survey respondents approximates the population distribution of the United States (Figure A.1). To characterize the representativeness of our survey sample, we match these respondents to the U.S. Census data for the areas which their local governments serve. Tables A.5 - A.6 compare the sample and population medians for four Census-area spatial characteristics: population size, urbanicity, the proportion of residents with a 4-year college education, and the proportion of residents who voted for Trump in 2016.

**Table A.5:** Sample Representativeness among Sub-County\(^1\) Officials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sample Median</th>
<th>Population Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion Urban</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>0.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion College-educated</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Size</td>
<td>5,956</td>
<td>3,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOP Vote Share(^2)</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) This group includes officials from townships and municipalities
\(^2\) Vote share estimated at the county level. Each sub-county government is matched to the relevant county in which it is contained.
Table A.6: Sample Representativeness among County Officials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sample Median</th>
<th>Population Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion Urban</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion College-educated</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>0.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Size</td>
<td>44,260</td>
<td>25,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOP Vote Share</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey weights were also tabulated based on these four county-level characteristics using a post-stratification raking procedure. The Supplementary Appendix contains unweighted versions of each of the figures presented in the report.

The de-identified survey data for this report will be posted on the CivicPulse website. For additional questions about the data, please contact Michael Hotard at michaelhotard@civicpulse.org.
Questionnaire

Has your local government received any relief funding related to the pandemic?

- Yes
- No

From what source or sources did your local government receive COVID-19 relief funding? Please select all that apply.

- Coronavirus Relief Fund
- Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA)
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Federal Transportation Authority (FTA)
- Other. Please specify:

How much coronavirus relief funding did your local government receive? If you do not know the exact number, please provide your best estimate.

- $0 – $10k
- $10k – $100k
- $100k – $1MM
- $1MM – $10 MM
- >$10MM

In December 2020, the deadline for spending some coronavirus relief funding was extended to the end of 2021. Given the extended deadline, does your local government plan to spend coronavirus relief funds in the next year?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

In which of the following areas has your local government spent coronavirus relief funds? Please check all that apply.

- Payroll expenses
- K-12 education expenses
- Small business support
- Nonprofit support
- Housing/rental assistance
- Food assistance
- Government IT infrastructure
- Broadband expansion
- Complying with COVID-19 safety measures
- Vaccine distribution
- PPE purchases
If additional federal relief funding were allocated to local governments in the coming months (with similar restrictions), in which of the following areas do you think your local government might spend the funds? Please check all that apply.

- Payroll expenses
- K-12 education expenses
- Small business support
- Nonprofit support
- Housing/rental assistance
- Food assistance
- Government IT infrastructure
- Broadband expansion
- Complying with COVID-19 safety measures
- Vaccine distribution
- PPE purchases
- Other public health expenses
- Other

Which of the following sources have you looked to for guidance on how to spend coronavirus relief funds? (Select all that apply)

- Other local governments
- The state government
- The federal government
- National professional/advocacy organizations
- State professional/advocacy organizations
- Other organizations: Please specify: __________
Unweighted Main Report Figures

Sources of Guidance For Spending Funds (Unweighted)

- Local governments: 70.6%
- State governments: 68%
- Federal government: 46.5%
- State associations and organizations: 35.3%
- National associations and organizations: 15.2%
- Another source: 4.6%

Percent of respondents

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Amount of Relief Funding Received (Unweighted)

- $0 – $10,000: 8%
- $10,000 – $100,000: 35%
- $100,000 – $1,000,000: 34%
- $1,000,000 – $10,000,000: 15%
- More than $10,000,000: 8%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Existing Relief Funding: Spending Areas (Unweighted)

- Implementing health safety measures: 79%
- PPE purchases: 77%
- Payroll expenses: 68%
- Government IT infrastructure: 47%
- Small business support: 36%
- Other public health expenses: 31%
- Nonprofit support: 25%
- Food assistance: 23%
- Housing/rental assistance: 21%
- Vaccine distribution: 12%
- K–12 education: 11%
- Broadband expansion: 8%
- Other: 5%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:
Supplemental Appendix: Unweighted Main Report Figures

Future Relief Funding: Spending Areas (Unweighted)

- Implementing health safety measures: 61%
- PPE purchases: 55%
- Payroll expenses: 55%
- Small business support: 47%
- Government IT infrastructure: 33%
- Housing/rental assistance: 31%
- Vaccine distribution: 31%
- Other public health expenses: 29%
- Food assistance: 27%
- Nonprofit support: 25%
- Broadband expansion: 20%
- K–12 education: 8%
- Other: 1%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Spending Changes for Local Governments (Unweighted)

- **Existing funds**
- **Future funds**

- Implementing health safety measures: 61% existing, 79% future
- PPE purchases: 55% existing, 76% future
- Payroll expenses: 55% existing, 65% future
- Government IT infrastructure: 33% existing, 50% future
- Small business support: 32% existing, 47% future
- Other public health expenses: 29% existing
- Nonprofit support: 20% existing, 25% future
- Food assistance: 18% existing, 27% future
- Housing/rental assistance: 14% existing, 31% future
- K–12 education: 81% existing, 10% future
- Vaccine distribution: 9% existing, 31% future
- Broadband expansion: 9% existing, 20% future

Percent using funds in an area

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:
Supplemental Appendix: Unweighted Main Report Figures

Sources of COVID-19 Relief Funding (Unweighted)

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF): 90%
- Federal Emergency Mgmt. Agency (FEMA): 19%
- Dept. of Housing and Urban Dev. (HUD): 9%
- Other: 6%
- Federal Transit Admn. (FTA): 4%

Percent of respondents

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Subsample Results by Census Region, Population Size, and Level of Government

Funding Received

Census Region

Received COVID Funding by Census Region

Has your local government received any relief funding related to the pandemic?

- **Yes**: 85% (Midwest), 73% (Northeast), 80% (South), 93% (West)
- **No**: 15% (Midwest), 27% (Northeast), 20% (South), 7% (West)

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Level of Local Government

Received COVID Funding by Level of Government

Has your local government received any relief funding related to the pandemic?

- **Yes**
- **No**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Local Government</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
**Population Size**

**Received COVID Funding by Population Size**

Has your local government received any relief funding related to the pandemic?

- **Yes**
  - Below 5,000: 74%
  - 5,000 to 25,000: 85%
  - More than 25,000: 92%

- **No**
  - Below 5,000: 26%
  - 5,000 to 25,000: 15%
  - More than 25,000: 8%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:
Supplemental Appendix: Subsample Results by Census Region, Population Size, and Level of Government

Funding Source
Census Region

Sources of COVID-19 Relief Funding by Census Region
From what source or sources did your local government receive COVID-19 relief funding?

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Level of Local Government

Sources of COVID-19 Relief Funding by Level of Government

From what source or sources did your local government receive COVID-19 relief funding?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Township</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td></td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Emergency Mgmt. Agency (FEMA)</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Housing and Urban Dev. (HUD)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Transit Admin. (FTA)</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Population Size

Sources of COVID-19 Relief Funding by Population Size

From what source or sources did your local government receive COVID-19 relief funding?

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)
  - Below 5,000: 92%
  - 5,000 to 25,000: 87%
  - More than 25,000: 93%

- Federal Emergency Mgmt. Agency (FEMA)
  - Below 5,000: 9%
  - 5,000 to 25,000: 22%
  - More than 25,000: 27%

- Dept. of Housing and Urban Dev. (HUD)
  - Below 5,000: 2%
  - 5,000 to 25,000: 3%
  - More than 25,000: 27%

- Federal Transit Admin. (FTA)
  - Below 5,000: 2%
  - 5,000 to 25,000: 2%
  - More than 25,000: 10%

- Other
  - Below 5,000: 4%
  - 5,000 to 25,000: 0%
  - More than 25,000: 7%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:
Supplemental Appendix: Subsample Results by Census Region, Population Size, and Level of Government

**Funding Amount**

**Census Region**

**Coronavirus Relief Funding Amount by Census Region**

How much coronavirus relief funding did your local government receive?

- $0 – $10,000
- $10,000 – $100,000
- $100,000 – $1,000,000
- $1,000,000 – $10,000,000
- More than $10,000,000

---

**Source:** CivicPulse (February 2021)
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:
Supplemental Appendix: Subsample Results by Census Region, Population Size, and Level of Government

Level of Local Government

Coronavirus Relief Funding Amount by Level of Government

How much coronavirus relief funding did your local government receive?

- $0 – $10,000
- $10,000 – $100,000
- $100,000 – $1,000,000
- $1,000,000 – $10,000,000
- More than $10,000,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Local Government</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>20%</th>
<th>40%</th>
<th>60%</th>
<th>80%</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
**Population Size**

**Coronavirus Relief Funding Amount by Population Size**

How much coronavirus relief funding did your local government receive?

![Population Size Distribution](image)

- **Below 5,000**
  - $0 – $10,000: 16%
  - $10,000 – $100,000: 54%
  - $100,000 – $1,000,000: 28%
- **5,000 to 25,000**
  - $0 – $10,000: 6%
  - $10,000 – $100,000: 38%
  - $100,000 – $1,000,000: 45%
  - More than $1,000,000: 9%
- **More than 25,000**
  - $0 – $10,000: 8%
  - $10,000 – $100,000: 27%
  - $100,000 – $1,000,000: 39%
  - More than $1,000,000: 24%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
**Spending in 2021**

**Census Region**

**Spend Existing Funds in 2021 by Census Region**

In December 2020, the deadline for spending some coronavirus relief funding was extended to the end of 2021. Given the extended deadline, does your local government plan to spend any existing coronavirus relief funds in the next year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Census Region</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Level of Local Government

Spend Existing Funds in 2021 by Level of Government

In December 2020, the deadline for spending some coronavirus relief funding was extended to the end of 2021. Given the extended deadline, does your local government plan to spend any existing coronavirus relief funds in the next year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Local Government</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Population Size

Spend Existing Funds in 2021 by Population Size

In December 2020, the deadline for spending some coronavirus relief funding was extended to the end of 2021. Given the extended deadline, does your local government plan to spend any existing coronavirus relief funds in the next year?

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments:
Supplemental Appendix: Subsample Results by Census Region, Population Size, and Level of Government

Spending Existing Funds
Census Region

Coronavirus Relief Funds: Areas with Spending by Census Region
In which of the following areas has your local government spent coronavirus relief funds?

- Complying with COVID-19 safety measures
- PPE purchases
- Payroll expenses
- Government IT infrastructure
- Small business support
- Other public health expenses
- Nonprofit support
- Food assistance
- Housing/rental assistance
- K-12 education
- Vaccine distribution
- Broadband expansion
- Other

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
COVID-19 Relief Funding for Local Governments: Supplemental Appendix: Subsample Results by Census Region, Population Size, and Level of Government

Level of Local Government

Coronavirus Relief Funds: Areas with Spending by Level of Government

In which of the following areas has your local government spent coronavirus relief funds?

- County
- Municipality
- Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Township</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complying with COVID-19 safety measures</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 education</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Population Size

Coronavirus Relief Funds: Areas with Spending by Population Size

In which of the following areas has your local government spent coronavirus relief funds?

- Complying with COVID-19 safety measures
- PPE purchases
- Payroll expenses
- Government IT infrastructure
- Small business support
- Other public health expenses
- Nonprofit support
- Food assistance
- Housing/rental assistance
- Vaccine distribution
- K-12 education
- Broadband expansion
- Other

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Coronavirus Relief Funds: Future Spending by Census Region

If additional federal relief funding were allocated to local governments in the coming months, in which of the following areas do you think your local government might spend the funds?

- Midwest
- Northeast
- South
- West

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Midwest</th>
<th>Northeast</th>
<th>South</th>
<th>West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complying with COVID-19 safety measures</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 education</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
## Level of Local Government

### Coronavirus Relief Funds: Future Spending by Level of Government

If additional federal relief funding were allocated to local governments in the coming months, in which of the following areas do you think your local government might spend the funds?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Township</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complying with COVID-19 safety measures</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 education</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Population Size

Coronavirus Relief Funds: Future Spending by Population Size

If additional federal relief funding were allocated to local governments in the coming months, in which of the following areas do you think your local government might spend the funds?

- Below 5,000
- 5,000 to 25,000
- More than 25,000

Complying with COVID-19 safety measures:
- Below 5,000: 60%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 63%
- More than 25,000: 67%

PPE purchases:
- Below 5,000: 49%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 60%
- More than 25,000: 60%

Payroll expenses:
- Below 5,000: 51%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 57%
- More than 25,000: 59%

Small business support:
- Below 5,000: 40%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 49%
- More than 25,000: 49%

Vaccine distribution:
- Below 5,000: 25%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 33%
- More than 25,000: 65%

Housing/rental assistance:
- Below 5,000: 25%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 33%
- More than 25,000: 66%

Other public health expenses:
- Below 5,000: 16%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 33%
- More than 25,000: 52%

Government IT infrastructure:
- Below 5,000: 20%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 23%
- More than 25,000: 21%

Food assistance:
- Below 5,000: 20%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 30%
- More than 25,000: 46%

Nonprofit support:
- Below 5,000: 17%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 21%
- More than 25,000: 48%

Broadband expansion:
- Below 5,000: 18%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 23%
- More than 25,000: 27%

K-12 education:
- Below 5,000: 5%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 9%
- More than 25,000: 15%

Other:
- Below 5,000: 1%
- 5,000 to 25,000: 1%
- More than 25,000: 1%

Percent of respondents

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Comparing Past and Future Funds

Census Region: Midwest

Spending Changes for Local Governments by Census Region

Census Region: Midwest

- Implementing health safety measures: 82% (Future) vs. 63% (Existing)
- PPE purchases: 76% (Future) vs. 53% (Existing)
- Payroll expenses: 76% (Future) vs. 56% (Existing)
- Government IT infrastructure: 54% (Future) vs. 34% (Existing)
- Small business support: 54% (Future) vs. 35% (Existing)
- Other public health expenses: 47% (Future) vs. 29% (Existing)
- Nonprofit support: 24% (Future) vs. 22% (Existing)
- Housing/rental assistance: 27% (Future) vs. 16% (Existing)
- Food assistance: 25% (Future) vs. 16% (Existing)
- Vaccine distribution: 37% (Future) vs. 13% (Existing)
- Broadband expansion: 37% (Future) vs. 10% (Existing)
- K–12 education: 22% (Future) vs. 7% (Existing)

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Census Region: Northeast

Spending Changes for Local Governments by Census Region

Census Region: Northeast

- **PPE purchases**
  - Existing funds: 65%
  - Future funds: 85%

- **Implementing health safety measures**
  - Existing funds: 69%
  - Future funds: 76%

- **Payroll expenses**
  - Existing funds: 51%
  - Future funds: 54%

- **Government IT infrastructure**
  - Existing funds: 31%
  - Future funds: 31%

- **Other public health expenses**
  - Existing funds: 25%
  - Future funds: 26%

- **K–12 education**
  - Existing funds: 13%
  - Future funds: 19%

- **Food assistance**
  - Existing funds: 16%
  - Future funds: 20%

- **Small business support**
  - Existing funds: 15%
  - Future funds: 34%

- **Nonprofit support**
  - Existing funds: 12%
  - Future funds: 23%

- **Housing/rental assistance**
  - Existing funds: 12%
  - Future funds: 23%

- **Vaccine distribution**
  - Existing funds: 7%
  - Future funds: 37%

- **Broadband expansion**
  - Existing funds: 3%
  - Future funds: 22%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
## Census Region: South

### Spending Changes for Local Governments by Census Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing funds</th>
<th>Future funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementing health safety measures</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K–12 education</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Census Region: West

Spending Changes for Local Governments by Census Region

Census Region: West

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing funds</th>
<th>Future funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementing health safety measures</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td></td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
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<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td>49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>K–12 education</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Level of Local Government: County

Spending Changes for Local Governments by Level of Government

Level of Government: County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing funds</th>
<th>Future funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td></td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing health safety measures</td>
<td></td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>64</td>
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<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
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<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
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<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
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<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>K–12 education</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
### Level of Local Government: Municipality

#### Spending Changes for Local Governments by Level of Government

**Level of Government: Municipality**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing funds</th>
<th>Future funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementing health safety measures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K–12 education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Level of Local Government: Township

Spending Changes for Local Governments by Level of Government

Level of Government: Township

- PPE purchases: Existing funds (61), Future funds (77)
- Implementing health safety measures: Existing funds (59), Future funds (77)
- Payroll expenses: Existing funds (44), Future funds (49)
- Government IT infrastructure: Existing funds (33), Future funds (37)
- Other public health expenses: Existing funds (19), Future funds (23)
- Food assistance: Existing funds (16), Future funds (20)
- K-12 education: Existing funds (10), Future funds (16)
- Small business support: Existing funds (9), Future funds (24)
- Nonprofit support: Existing funds (7), Future funds (15)
- Vaccine distribution: Existing funds (5), Future funds (32)
- Housing/rental assistance: Existing funds (5), Future funds (18)
- Broadband expansion: Existing funds (5), Future funds (27)

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
## Population Size: Below 5,000

### Spending Changes for Local Governments by Population Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing funds</th>
<th>Future funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementing health safety measures</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K–12 education</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [CivicPulse](https://www.civicpulse.com) (February 2021)
Population Size: Between 5,000 and 25,000

Spending Changes for Local Governments by Population Size

Population Size: 5,000 to 25,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing funds</th>
<th>Future funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing health safety measures</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K–12 education</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Population Size: Above 25,000

Spending Changes for Local Governments by Population Size

Population Size: More than 25,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing funds</th>
<th>Future funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementing health safety measures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE purchases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government IT infrastructure</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/rental assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public health expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine distribution</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K–12 education</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadband expansion</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Sources of Guidance

Census Region

Guidance Sources for COVID-19 Relief Funds by Census Region

Which of the following sources have you looked to for guidance on how to spend coronavirus relief funds?

- Local governments
- State governments
- Federal government
- National associations and organizations
- State associations and organizations
- Another source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Midwest</th>
<th>Northeast</th>
<th>South</th>
<th>West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local governments</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State governments</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National associations and organizations</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State associations and organizations</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another source</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Level of Local Government

Guidance Sources for COVID-19 Relief Funds by Level of Government

Which of the following sources have you looked to for guidance on how to spend coronavirus relief funds?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Township</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local governments</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State governments</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National associations and organizations</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State associations and organizations</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another source</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)
Population Size

Guidance Sources for COVID-19 Relief Funds by Population Size

Which of the following sources have you looked to for guidance on how to spend coronavirus relief funds?

- Local governments
- State governments
- Federal government
- National associations and organizations
- State associations and organizations
- Another source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Below 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 25,000</th>
<th>More than 25,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local governments</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State governments</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National associations and organizations</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State associations and organizations</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another source</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CivicPulse (February 2021)