

**NYSAC**  
— NEW YORK STATE —  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

## FEDERAL COVID RELIEF: FUNDING FOR NY COUNTIES



# Interim Summary of the American Rescue Plan

MARCH 2021



**HON. JOHN F. MARREN**  
President

**HON. MARCUS MOLINARO**  
NYSCEA President

**STEPHEN J. ACQUARIO**  
Executive Director

### Counties Working For You



515 Broadway, Suite 402  
Albany, NY 12207



[www.nysac.org](http://www.nysac.org)



518-465-1473



# Executive Summary

On March 6, 2021, nearly one year after the first confirmed case of COVID-19 was confirmed in New York State, the United States Senate passed the American Rescue Plan. This \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill makes unprecedented investments in the programs critical to ending the pandemic and aiding a nationwide recovery.

This coronavirus stimulus package includes funding for a national COVID-19 vaccination program, food assistance, emergency childcare, small businesses, unemployment benefits, rental assistance, public transit funding to help schools re-open safely.

Most notably, the American Rescue Plan provides \$65 billion in direct aid to counties out of \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local and territorial governments to support the essential local government workers who have been on the front-line of the pandemic response.

The inclusion of this critical local funding would not have happened without the sustained efforts of New York Senator – and current Senate Majority Leader – Charles Schumer.

He has been working closely with county leaders throughout this pandemic and it is doubtful that this vital lifeline to New York's local governments would

**The American Rescue Plan includes \$2.2 billion for the 57 counties of New York State.**

**This funding will help to eliminate the pandemic and get local economies moving again.**

have been included in the final legislation without his steadfast leadership.

The American Rescue Plan includes \$3.8 billion for the 57 counties (\$2.2 billion) of New York State and New York City (\$1.6 billion) based on population.

New York City will receive another \$4 billion through CDBG formula funding. This funding can be used to respond to the public health emergency caused by the coronavirus as well as address the economic devastation that came with it, including assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality.

The funding may also be used to assist governments in providing services and making investment in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure.

Throughout the pandemic, Senator Schumer has been a champion for local governments. He recognizes the unique challenges facing counties during this extraordinary time as well as appreciates the vital role that county leaders, local health officials, local social service departments and all essential county workers play in fighting the pandemic, bringing it to an end and restoring local economies.

The bill now moves back to the House for final consideration before being sent to the president for his signature.

# Key Components of the “American Rescue Plan”

The American Rescue Plan is over 600 pages long with \$1.9 trillion dollars of appropriations impacting dozens of state and federal agencies. The central focus for counties is the \$350 billion included for state and local assistance. The bill includes

- \$200 billion for states & territories – allocated based on unemployment levels
- \$130 billion for counties and all other municipalities - \$65B for counties – allocated based on population, \$65B for all other municipalities – allocated on a modified CDBG formula
- \$20 billion for Native American tribes

## Eligible Uses

- Response to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality
- Respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID 19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work.
- Provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such state/county/ locality
- Investment in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure

## Requirements to Receive Funding

- Local government (state) must certify that it needs federal assistance, and
- That the local government (state) will use the funds for the designated purposes defined under the bill.

- 50 percent of county funds would be delivered within 60 days of Treasury receipt of certification - the remainder would be delivered no earlier than 12 months after county receipt of the first tranche
- Treasury may offer further guidance at a later date.

# Additional Components of the American Rescue Plan

## Payments to Individuals

The bill includes \$790 billion in payments to individuals, including

- \$242 billion for unemployment benefits – extends multiple unemployment compensation programs through September 6, 2021 (Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), regular UI benefits, extended UI benefits, etc.) +\$300 above the state insured amount to be paid during the March 15th through September 6th period. In addition, the first \$10,200 would be exempt from federal taxation for joint filers under \$150,000.
- \$400 billion in recovery rebates – \$1,400 checks per person, plus \$1,400 per child Income completely phaseout at \$80k for an individual filer (\$160K joint filers). Also expands child tax credit from \$2,000 to \$3,000 with similar income thresholds.
- \$21 billion for an expansion of EITC – Expands the earned income tax credit eligibility in 2021 and makes other minor adjustments on a permanent basis.
- \$43 billion for health insurance subsidies – COBRA (100% federal subsidy on premiums).
- \$83 billion to support multiple employer pension plans experiencing fiscal shortfalls.





## Support for Education (\$220B)

- \$129 billion K-12 (est. of \$9.6 billion for NYS).
- \$40 billion higher education (est. \$2.8 billion for NYS).

## Public Health (\$96B)

- \$92 billion, testing and tracing, research, etc. Includes \$7.7 billion for state and local public health departments.
- \$4 billion for mental health and substance abuse.

## Medicaid (\$10B)

- \$9.3 billion – increase FMAP by 7.35% for 4 quarters for home and community-based services (Funds can be sued to supplement, but not supplant state funds).

## Housing (\$39B)

- \$19 billion for rental assistance
- \$10 billion for mortgage assistance
- \$4.5 billion for LIHEAP
- \$5 billion for homelessness services and supports

## Agriculture (\$16 billion)

- For a variety of existing agricultural programs

## FEMA, Transportation and Infrastructure (\$90 billion)

- \$50 billion for FEMA
- \$30 billion for transit aid
- \$8 billion for airports

## Small Business (\$50 billion)

- \$25 billion for restaurants
- \$15 billion for Economic Injury Disaster Loans
- \$7.25 billion – expanding PPP to certain nonprofits and digital media companies
- \$1.25 billion for live performance venue operators

## County-Level Breakdown of Funding

The 57 counties of New York State and New York City received a total of \$3.8 billion in funding from the American Rescue Plan based on population.

Albany County	\$59,714,087
Allegany County	\$9,008,929
Broome County	\$37,232,712
Cattaraugus County	\$14,877,800
Cayuga County	\$14,967,516
Chautauqua County	\$24,804,412
Chemung County	\$16,312,278
Chenango County	\$9,227,062
Clinton County	\$15,731,568
Columbia County	\$11,622,225
Cortland County	\$9,300,164
Delaware County	\$8,626,610
Dutchess County	\$57,507,739
Erie County	\$179,569,145
Essex County	\$7,209,528
Franklin County	\$9,777,281
Fulton County	\$10,434,221
Genesee County	\$11,195,927
Greene County	\$9,223,349
Hamilton County	\$863,150
Herkimer County	\$11,985,388
Jefferson County	\$21,468,112

## County-Level Breakdown of Funding, Cont.

Lewis County	\$5,139,806
Livingston County	\$12,297,147
Madison County	\$13,866,101
Monroe County	\$144,986,083
Montgomery County	\$9,620,718
Nassau County	\$277,137,822
Niagara County	\$40,905,985
Oneida County	\$44,695,947
Onondaga County	\$90,014,628
Ontario County	\$21,456,971
Orange County	\$75,240,226
Orleans County	\$7,887,187
Oswego County	\$22,893,013
Otsego County	\$11,628,479
Putnam County	\$19,217,590
Rensselaer County	\$31,022,178
Rockland County	\$63,678,594
Saratoga County	\$44,928,935
Schenectady County	\$30,354,684
Schoharie County	\$6,059,053
Schuyler County	\$3,480,549
Seneca County	\$6,648,754
St. Lawrence County	\$21,058,820
Steuben County	\$18,642,743
Suffolk County	\$288,615,872
Sullivan County	\$14,743,910
Tioga County	\$9,421,740
Tompkins County	\$19,972,064
Ulster County	\$34,708,351
Warren County	\$12,498,470
Washington County	\$11,962,911
Wayne County	\$17,575,338
Westchester County	\$189,108,356
Wyoming County	\$7,790,825
Yates County	\$4,869,486
New York City	\$5,629,511,091*

\* NYC Receives funding based on population as well as the CDBG formula funding.

## Conclusion

For more than a year, counties have been leading on the front lines of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, standing up testing, operating tracing and quarantining operations, providing PPE to first responders; working with businesses to help the economy reopen safely; and distributing vaccines to essential workers and vulnerable populations. Counties accomplished this while simultaneously facing an economic quadruple threat of:

1. Declining local revenues, especially sales tax, but also hotel occupancy taxes, mortgage recording taxes, gaming revenues, among other local fees;
2. Higher spending necessary to respond to the health emergency;
3. The loss of state reimbursement; and
4. The potential of significant losses for small businesses on our main streets that threatened jobs and the property tax base over the short to mid-term.

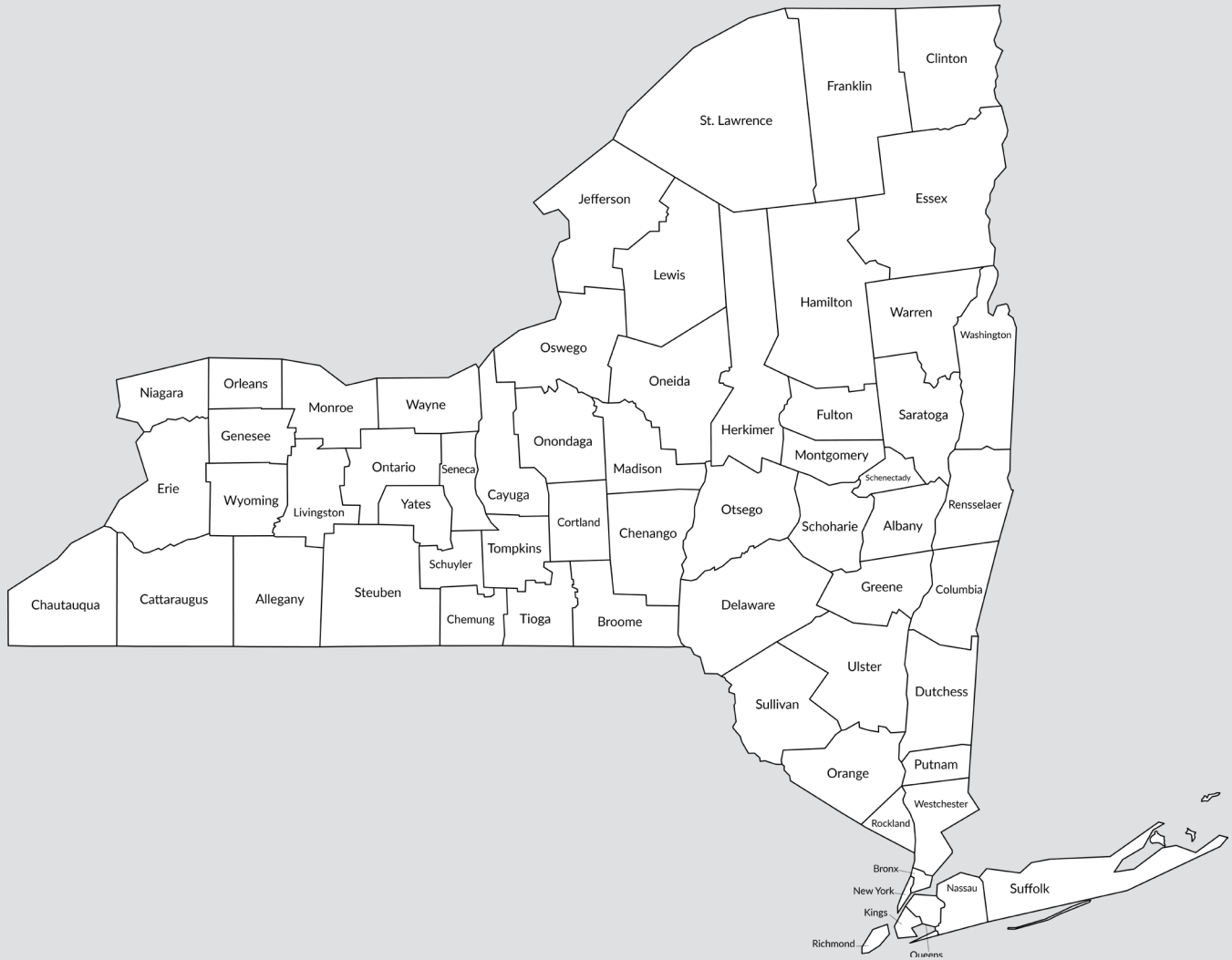
In response to this unprecedented economic threat, counties have been consistent in their call for direct federal aid. The American Rescue Plan is a massive step forward in addressing the challenges that face counties as they work to eliminate the pandemic and get their local economies moving again.

By investing \$65 billion in local governments nationwide, and over \$7.8 for the counties of New York, the American Rescue Plan invests in the local leaders, local health workers, emergency responders and local essential employees who put their lives on the line to keep our communities safe and who will lead our communities to a brighter and stronger future.



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