VISION
HEALTHY, SAFE AND VIBRANT COUNTIES ACROSS AMERICA.

MISSION
STRENGTHEN AMERICA’S COUNTIES.

ABOUT NACo
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACo) STRENGTHENS AMERICA’S COUNTIES, serving nearly 40,000 county elected officials and 3.6 million county employees.

Founded in 1935, NACo unites county officials to:

- Advocate county priorities in federal policymaking
- Promote exemplary county policies and practices
- Nurture leadership skills and expand knowledge networks
- Optimize county and taxpayer resources and cost savings, and
- Enrich the public’s understanding of county government.
BASICS OF OUR INTERGOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM

Under America’s form of Federalism, the intergovernmental system is about the balance, division and sharing of power and responsibilities between levels of government.
Putting a Face on the Importance of America’s County Governments
COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH PANDEMIC AND ECONOMIC SHOCK

Understanding the fiscal impact on county budgets and finances
COUNTIES ANTICIPATE $202 BILLION IMPACT TO BUDGETS THROUGH FY2021, WITH WIDESPREAD ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES

$202B
COUNTY BUDGET IMPACT THROUGH FY2021

$114B
LOSS IN COUNTY GENERATED REVENUE

$172B
COUNTY GOVERNMENT REVENUE LOSS

$58B
LOSS OF STATE FUNDING

$30B
IN COVID-19 RESPONSE EXPENDITURES

IMPACT TO COUNTIES THUS FAR:

- 71% of counties have cut or delayed capital investments, including infrastructure and economic development projects
- 68% of counties indicate a cut or delay to county services, including human services, public safety and community development support
- 25% of counties have cut the county workforce, including furloughs, layoffs, requests for employees to retire early or cut in hours, and 40 percent those counties with workforce cuts expect additional cuts within the next 12 months
- 66% of counties receiving CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) dollars either indicate that the funding will not cover COVID-19 budget impacts or are uncertain if budgetary impacts will be covered

Footnotes: A: These estimates were calculated from March 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, the end of the federal government fiscal year. County budgets typically follow one of three budget cycles: January to December (calendar year), July to June or October to September (fiscal year), For more details on the estimates regarding county-generated revenue or additional expenditures, see NACo’s “Analysis of the Fiscal Impact of COVID-19 on County Finances,” available at https://www.naco.org/resources/analysis-fiscal-impact-covid-19-county-finances. B: NACo estimated this state funding loss based on a study from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), which found that states would lose 10% of their total revenue in FY2020 and 25% in FY2021. Data are from 2017 Census of Governments, adjusted for inflation to 2019 dollars.
FEDERAL COVID19 AID TIMELINE

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-123)
- $8.3 billion for Health and Human Services (HHS), State Dept. and Small Business Administration
- COVID-19 medical supplies, treatments and vaccines
- Support for state and local public health agencies
- Loans for affected small businesses
- Evacuations and emergency preparedness at U.S. Embassies and other State Dept. facilities
- International humanitarian assistance and support
- Enacted: March 6, 2020

Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127)
- Approx. $150 billion for family and paid sick leave, coronavirus testing, food assistance, unemployment benefits and protections for health care workers
- Free coronavirus testing
- Extra money for USDA nutrition and food assistance
- Extra money for HHS programs for elderly assistance
- Expand unemployment benefits and UI grants to states
- Federal payments for emergency paid sick and family leave
- Temporary increase of 6.2% for Medicaid FMAP rates
- Enacted: March 18, 2020

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) (P.L. 116-136)
- $2.2 trillion for the largest economic relief package in our nation’s history
- Tax relief for businesses and individuals
- Rebates for many individual taxpayers
- Expands unemployment insurance coverage
- New loans and forgiveable loans for small businesses
- Major aid for public health, hospitals, FEMA DRF, airports, transit systems, housing, nutrition, veterans and others
- $150 billion fiscal relief for state and local governments
- Enacted: March 27, 2020
With White House and Congressional leaders at a stalemate on negotiating a compromise between the House DEM’s HEROES Act and the Senate GOP’s HEALS Act, the President announced four administrative actions on August 8, 2020:

### Executive Order on Assistance for Renters and Homeowners
- E.O. only directs federal departments to review existing authorities and resources to explore ways to assist renters and homeowners who are struggling to make rental and mortgage payments due to COVID
- Federal moratorium on evictions that was enacted in the CARES Act expired on July 24, 2020

### Memorandum on Unemployment Insurance and Disasters
- Extra federal UI benefit of $600 expired at end of July 2020
- Under Stafford Act for major disasters, President proposes to earmark $44 billion of FEMA’s Disaster Relief Funds for additional UI payments – estimated to last about 5 weeks at current pace
- New $400 UI benefit each week would include $300 in federal funds and $100 in state matching funds
- States may use Treasury CRF dollars to cover match or request federal waiver

### Memorandum on Deferring Payroll Tax Obligations
- Earlier COVID relief law allowed for the postponement of the employer share of payroll taxes for Social Security (6.2%) and Medicare (1.45%) until Dec. 2020
- Memo expands postponement allowance for the employee share for Social Security (6.2%) and Medicare (1.45%) until Dec. 2020
- White House is expected to issue additional clarification for self-employed who pay both shares

### Memorandum on Student Loan Payment Relief
- Directs U.S. Education Dept. to suspend specific federal student loan payments and interest rates due to economic hardships

[Click here for NACo summary of White House administrative actions](#)
PROVIDE DIRECT, FLEXIBLE FUNDING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS OF ALL SIZES

Urge your member of Congress to support legislation that provides direct, flexible funding to counties of all sizes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY ISSUE</th>
<th>HOUSE HEROES ACT (H.R. 6800)</th>
<th>SENATE HEALS ACT (PACKAGE OF INDIVIDUAL BILLS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct funding for</td>
<td>$500 billion to assist state governments with the fiscal impacts from the public health</td>
<td>No new funding provided for state governments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>states</td>
<td>emergency caused by the coronavirus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NACo’s focus remains on the COUNTY SHARE AND DISTRIBUTION FORMULA as part of any new federal aid plan for state, tribal, county and municipal govts.

NACo’s guiding principles include:

(1) direct, flexible aid for all counties,

(2) allowance for lost revenue due to COVID

(3) reasonable, practical safeguards to protect the public’s interest

https://www.naco.org/covid19/federal-advocacy/heroes-vs-heals
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal COVID19 Aid Pending Packages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus</strong> Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act (H.R. 6800)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passed U.S. House Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nearly $3 trillion, with $1.48 trillion for specific program funding, covering over 1,800 pages, including key provisions for county governments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• $187 billion over two fiscal years in direct, flexible funding to counties through a new Coronavirus Local Fiscal Relief Fund, plus flexibility for lost revenue for both CARES Act CRF dollars and new funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy allowing inmates to access Medicaid 30 days prior to their release</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Federal FMAP increase by 14% through June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Waives 25% local match for FEMA disaster aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Additional federal support for categorical programs such as elections, housing, homelessness, transportation and payments to hospitals serving low-income and uninsured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congressional and White House negotiators remain at a stalemate, with fundamental disagreements on key items:

- **Top line funding** level
- Additional fiscal relief and aid for state and local govts.
- Enhanced federal payments for **Unemployment Insurance**
- Liability protections for employers, healthcare providers, schools and state/local govts.
PREPARING TO REOPEN AMERICA'S COUNTIES

Help our efforts with a short survey. Share how your county is planning to reopen.

As counties develop and implement reopening plans, NACo has created this online toolkit for counties, based in part on a series of virtual town halls of county leaders, that helps to:

- explain federal guidance on reopening for county governments,
- clarify the county role under state directives,
- chart a course for safely restarting local economies, and
- support long-term equitable recovery planning.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, NACo remains committed to its mission of strengthening America’s counties and will use the organization’s platforms to help county leaders share and gain insights on how they can protect their residents while safely reopening their communities.

RESOURCES FOR COUNTIES  COUNTY EXAMPLES
COVID-19 NOW
PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATIVE COALITION

AMERICANS NEED COVID RELIEF NOW
CONGRESS, WE ALL AGREE, WHY CAN'T
#NoRecessWithoutRelief
County Average Cellular and Fixed Wireless Download Speeds vs. FCC Minimum Standard

Roughly 65 percent of counties tested fall below federal broadband standards.
THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- Community Health and Justice
- Counties Getting Started: A Prenatal-to-Three Guidebook
- Technology Xchange
- Resilient Economies and Counties
- Children, Youth and Families
- County Operations, Data Analytics and Research, and Policy and Practice Trends
THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Civic Education
Teaching millions of students and teachers about America’s counties

In partnership with iCivics, Counties Work online game has been played over 2.5 million times. New children’s activity book has more than 5,500 downloads

Online Leadership Academy

NACo High Performance Leadership Academy and the Cyber Security Leadership Academy

More than 1,700 county officials from 932 counties and state associations have participated since Sept. 2018

Achievement Awards

Celebrating 50 years of county innovations

Recognized 540 entries from counties and state associations in 30 states in 2020
COUNTIES WORK
Civic and youth education materials

COUNTY SOLUTIONS
SCHOOL CURRICULUM

COUNTIES WORK
ONLINE GAME

NACO ACTIVITY BOOK
FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIDS

ICIVICS - NACo, in partnership with ICivics, unveiled new and improved civic education resources: the County Solutions curriculum and the Counties Work online game.

SINCE THE RELAUNCH ALONE (THREE-MONTH TIMEFRAME):

More than 1.5 million social media impressions of #TeachLocal

1,100 accessed the curriculum

264,118 game plays
NACO HIGH PERFORMANCE COUNTY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
A NEW INTERACTIVE 12-WEEK ONLINE LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

“This is not your typical leadership course where the same theories and doctrines are being repeated over and over. This course bridges the gap between the public and private sector in a way that I've not seen before when it comes to molding a leader. And the networking and collaboration with fellow peers in the public sector is invaluable!” – County Emergency Manager

NEW SKILLS
Gives participants insights, wisdom and experience from fortune 1000 CEOs and executive leaders, distinguished academic faculty, coaches and county experts.

TAILORED TO BUSY PROFESSIONALS
Uses an efficient, proprietary online learning management system with content that is non-disruptive to the demanding schedules of busy professionals.

ACTION LEARNING
Develops tomorrow’s leaders through structured combination of proven theory, action learning and practical application.

WWW.NACO.ORG/SKILLS
With our state association and affiliate partners, NACo is focused on advancing new and enhanced value-added, cost-effective solutions for America’s counties and the public... by leveraging the collective purchasing power, expertise and shared values of our membership.
The NACo Virtual Policy Summit will feature informative speakers with practical advice on pressing policy issues and updates on the federal policy landscape - broadband, health care, infrastructure, COVID-19 relief, public lands, disaster assistance and more. The summit is a free opportunity to connect, learn and share actionable information and resources to help strengthen your county.

OCTOBER 21-22, 2020

go to www.NACo.org/VirtualSummit to learn more