State of Washington

Recovery Plan Performance Report

Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds: Third Annual Report



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Executive summary

Although the COVID-19 state of emergency is over, many impacts of the pandemic remain.

Research finds these impacts are more prevalent among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), immigrant, and low-income populations. This is why the state's new Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF) appropriations address COVID-19 related costs and focus on reducing vulnerabilities in our economically disadvantaged and historically marginalized people and communities.

Washington's COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency ended on Oct. 31, 2022. At that time, over 71% of residents statewide had completed the vaccination series, and 60% had received a booster.¹ To this day, cases continue declining, and more than 76% of individuals in the state are up-to-date on their COVID vaccinations (6.9% greater than the average national vaccination rate).²

Gov. Jay Inslee phased out most emergency proclamations and restrictions related to the public health crises by November 2022. However, some safety-net requirements remained in place for another six months. Those included eviction-preventing payment plans between tenants and landlords, face mask requirements at medical facilities, and worker entitlements to sick leave.

Though the state has lifted emergency requirements and restrictions, we continue to provide pandemic relief funding. Backed by data, this report demonstrates how continuing COVID-19 relief efforts will make the most significant difference to disproportionally impacted individuals, families, and communities, while creating a more robust and equitable economy.

Overview of pandemic relief funds

Throughout the pandemic, Washington State designated nearly **\$16.5 billion** in federal relief funds to fight the COVID-19 virus, sustain our economy, and improve the lives of our most vulnerable residents. The state continues to follow federal spending eligibility requirements from the following laws:

- Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

The figure below summarizes Washington State's COVID-related federal funds from the laws noted above.

¹ COVID-19 Data Dashboard | Washington State Department of Health

² State-by-state data on COVID-19 vaccinations in the United States - Our World in Data

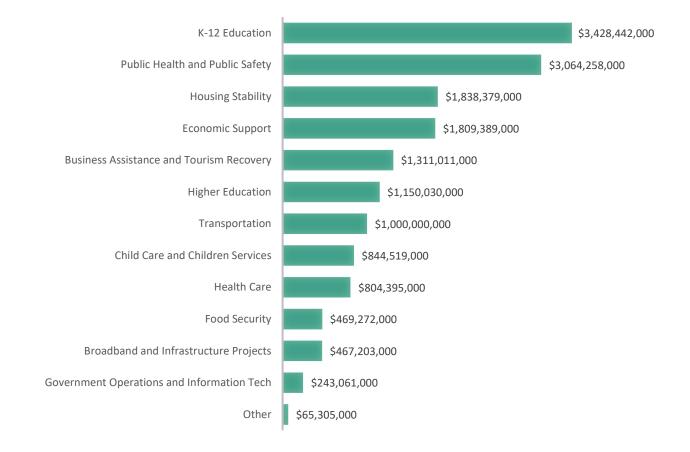


Figure 1: Where Washington focused federal COVID-19 relief funds

The amount in Figure 1 does not include federal funds provided to non-state government entities (such as cities and counties) or non-government entities (such as private schools). It does not include federal funds that we received through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, or the CHIPS and Science Act.

Our state will likely receive additional federal funds from increases in nationwide federal grants and from new competitive grant opportunities in these acts.

Of the \$16.5 billion in federal relief funds, \$4.3 billion is CSFRF authorized from ARPA. We appropriated \$3.2 billion CSFRF in the 2021 legislative session and \$1.1 billion in the 2022 legislative session. The figure below summarizes these past appropriations.

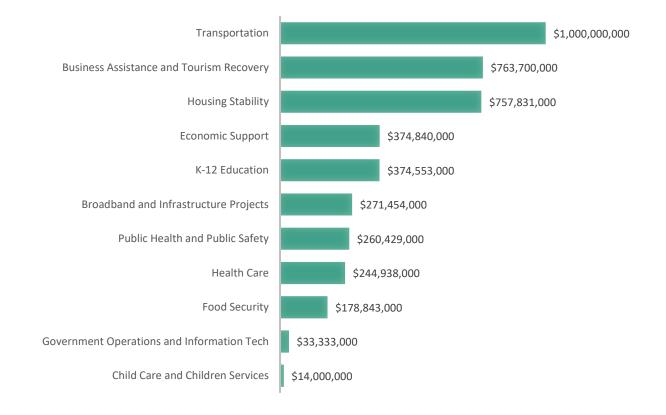


Figure 2: Prior Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund appropriations

Details of past CSFRF appropriations, project descriptions, and outcome data can be found in our <u>August</u> 2021 Recovery Plan Performance Report and July 2022 Recovery Plan Performance Report.

Our state continued the state's COVID-19 response and pandemic recovery efforts in the 2023 legislative session through the 2023 supplemental budgets and the 2023-25 biennial budgets.

What this report is about

This is the third annual CSFRF report. It provides three summaries from the state's **2023 state legislative session**:

- Shows how the state's new budgets reduced and reappropriated CSFRF.
- Describes new projects funded with CSFRF.
- Demonstrates how CSFRF investments will create a more equitable Washington.

The report also inventories Washington's **\$4.4 billion CSFRF** appropriations and expenditures through June 2023. The information is organized by state agency and by project.

Lastly, when required, this report provides performance goals and outcomes for CSFRF projects.

Updates to previous CSFRF appropriations

The state's most recent budgets reduced previous CSFRF project funding to match actual project costs from the 2021-23 biennium or to replace CSFRF with a new funding source (the project is no longer funded by CSFRF). The reductions were reinvested in existing CSFRF projects to expand them in the 2021-23 biennium or to maintain the projects through the 2024 state fiscal year (SFY). These changes helped prevent 'underspending' the CSFRF award.

Details are provided below.

Expenditure data helped estimate project costs

Before the pandemic, the state relied on revenue, caseload, and 'per capita' forecasting tools to develop cost estimates for new budgets. Used by the state for decades, these tools establish connections between past transaction patterns and past policy changes to help us estimate how much new policies will cost or save the state.

During the pandemic, the state's forecasting tools were adjusted as more public health and economic data became available over time. However, pandemic impacts were rapid, fluctuating, and inconsistent – changing quickly without much warning. These factors made it difficult for the usual tools to accurately predict costs or use pandemic relief funds in the most effective way.

As more pandemic data became available, we started to see emerging trends and could more accurately adjust our forecasting to match those trends. We adjusted even further when the state received actual spending data on each relief effort. From this, we learned which relief efforts had greater demand than originally projected and which relief efforts were met with less demand than originally projected.

With this new information, CSFRF appropriations were adjusted in the 2023 state supplemental budget so that the funding matched up-to-date expenditures trends. This action did not change eligibility rules or policies for the projects. However, this decision reduced CSFRF funding for the following projects:

- -\$6 million from \$45 million for right-of-way transitions
- -\$49.2 million from \$346,451,000 for basic education enrollment stabilization
- -\$15.6 million from \$34.8 million for the Pandemic Paid Leave Assistance program
- -\$6.2 million from \$70,636,000 for the Department of Corrections' COVID-19 response

These funds were reinvested in other CSFRF projects that have greater demand than originally projected.

Early learning facilities no longer needed CSFRF

The state originally set aside \$8.5 million CSFRF for eligible early learning capital grants. These grants were for providers making permanent facility changes based on pandemic response efforts and the cost increases serving more school-age children due to school closures and distance learning.

Other funding sources for this project became available in 2023, which means the \$8.5 million CSFRF became available for use on other projects.

Public health needed two more years of funding

Our state Department of Health (DOH) manages the state's effort to track and prevent COVID-19. This effort requires diagnostic testing, case investigation and contact tracing, care coordination, outbreak response, disease surveillance, public communications and more. Although the state receives Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement for many of these activities, FEMA does not fully fund the increased cost.

DOH received roughly \$125 million CSFRF for one year of pandemic-related costs that FEMA couldn't cover. The new budgets added **\$58.5 million CSFRF** to fund 2023 and 2024 pandemic-related costs to close the financial gap between FEMA reimbursements and increased statewide public health costs. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for public health to \$251 million.

How these funds continue to promote equity efforts

The pandemic exposed longstanding health disparities impacting populations with social and economic disadvantages in our state. Before the pandemic, only 74% of adult residents had a personal health care provider.³ BIPOC adults, adults with low incomes, homeless adults, and adults living in rural areas of the state had the lowest health care coverage rates and highest COVID-19 death rates.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), unvaccinated individuals are 11 times more likely to die from the virus than those who are fully vaccinated.⁴ DOH ramped up services to promote vaccine equity in 2021 and continues these efforts today. As of May 2023, 76% of the state population has completed the primary vaccination series.⁵ That leaves 24% of residents unvaccinated, putting them at greater risk of hospitalization and death than their vaccinated peers.

Race/ethnicity demographic information is not required to get the vaccine. However, an analysis of unvaccinated death rates by race/ethnicity helps us to identify vaccination gaps. DOH data shows that communities of color continue to have much higher death rates.⁶ The figure below illustrates this disproportionality.

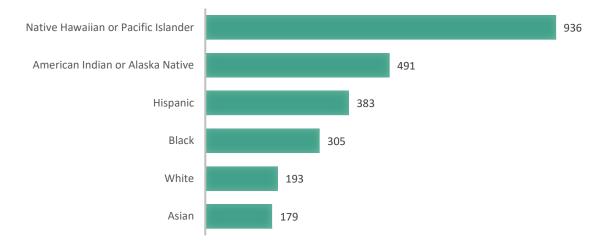
³ <u>2018WAStateHealthAssessmentFullReport.pdf (wa.gov)</u>

⁴ Monitoring Incidence of COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths, by Vaccination Status (cdc.gov)

⁵ <u>COVID-19 Data Dashboard | Washington State Department of Health</u>

⁶ COVID-19 Data Dashboard | Washington State Department of Health

Figure 3: Washington age-adjusted death rate among COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population by race/ethnicity from March 2021 through June 2023



Of the additional \$58.5 million CSFRF, we will dedicate \$38.5 million to help the most vulnerable groups overcome the social and economic barriers of getting COVID-19 tests and vaccines. The state's top three race/ethnic groups with the highest death rates in our state will get priority, with efforts that include:

- Establishing outreach plans that better accommodate the state's migrant farmworkers which are 83% Hispanic.⁷
- Organizing vaccination events with tribal governments for American Indian and Alaska Native populations living on reservations.
- Recruiting traditional healing practitioners who already work with Native Hawaiian and Pacific Island populations to participate in vaccination events.

These funds will also support campaigns to reduce vaccination hesitancy by:

- Enhancing public trust.
- Expanding mobile vaccination sites.
- Organizing vaccination events with community leaders.
- Distributing free testing supplies with vaccination pamphlets.
- Supporting local outreach coalitions.
- Dispelling misinformation, such as the false belief that someone needs proof of U.S. citizenship to get vaccinated.

⁷ Farmworkers by race, ethnicity, and nationality (2018)

Higher than expected use of the Learning Assistance Program

The Learning Assistance program (LAP) helps accelerate student growth and address the academic achievement gap. The program focuses on students who struggle to meet academic standards such as basic skills in reading, writing and math, as well as non-academic skills such as socialization. It also helps prevent disparities in school discipline, which often leads to reduced learning opportunities.

The state funds LAP in two ways. One, through the number of students enrolled in each institution, and two, a school's poverty rate (determined through data from free and reduced meal programs that serve children from low-income households).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) waived the income threshold for school food programs to provide meals for all students during the pandemic, regardless of household income. Because of this change, accurate data to determine poverty rates was not available. When coupled by significantly low public school enrollment rates, LAP consequently experienced a reduction in state funding for the 2021-22 school year.

To address this situation, previous budgets provided \$28.1 million CSFRF to LAP. The program had higher participation rates than originally anticipated. The 2023 supplemental operating budget provided an additional **\$9.2 million CSFRF** to backfill lost revenue that schools need to fully maintain LAP with no waiting list for services. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for LAP to \$37.3 million.

How these funds continue to promote equity efforts

The National Education Association defines 'achievement gap' as the disparity in educational attainment between different groups.⁸ Many factors contribute to achievement gaps. Minority students tend to score much lower on academic tests than their peers. The trend continues for children from low-income households and children who experience housing insecurity, a disability or foster care. The figures below demonstrate this achievement gap based on statewide test scores during the 2021-22 school year.⁹

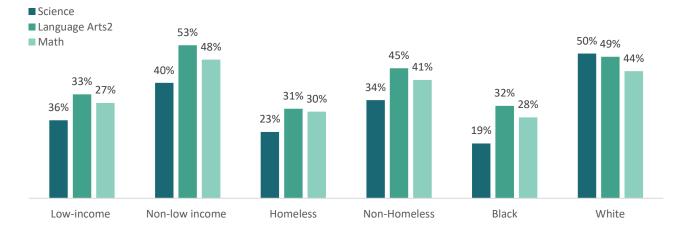


Figure 4: Average test scores by household and race characteristics for grades 3-8 and 10-11

⁸ Students Affected by Achievement Gaps | NEA

⁹ Report Card - Washington State Report Card (ospi.k12.wa.us)

See the state's 2022 public instruction report card for more household and race test score data maintained on the Office of Superintendent for Public Instruction's <u>website</u>.

LAP addresses racial inequity and achievement gaps for all vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of children. Reducing the state's contribution would disproportionally impact an already marginalized population.

Funding the University of Washington's COVID response

The University of Washington's (UW) medical centers, laboratories, research departments, and training centers helped combat the COVID-19 public health crises nationwide. Its virology lab developed a COVID-19 test that received the FDA's approval before commercial laboratories rolled out nationwide testing. Just six days after the test went live, the UW opened the first drive-through test site in the country.¹⁰

On March 9, 2020, UW was the first university to move classes to remote instruction to help slow the spread of the virus.¹¹ It developed a process to transition student residential dormitories into recovery rooms for patients. The combined effort of university statisticians, computer scientists and epidemiologists resulted in the first COVID-19 predictive model (a statistical model that forecasted future virus trends based on worldwide COVID-19 data) released on March 26, 2020.¹²

The predictive model helped hospitals anticipate surge levels of COVID-19 patients. Other medical, health policy, and science community stakeholders used it to help guide testing and vaccine distribution across the state.

As virus variants surfaced, UW microbiologists got to work creating a universal vaccine prototype. They developed a self-replicating RNA vaccine that is multivalent (one vaccine for multiple strains of a virus). It also takes less time to develop and is stable at room temperature - key components to rapid mass distribution. By July 2021, the UW published findings that showed successful testing in animals.¹³ These microbiologists continue this work to prepare for a new wide-spread virus outbreak.

These are a few highlights that show UW's contribution to COVID-19 relief efforts at a local and national level. While focusing on the pandemic, the university lost tens of millions in revenue. Revenue from patient services, student enrollment and research services plummeted. At the same time, costs for supplies and overtime went up. And new costs came about from transitioning classes to on-line learning.

The UW hospitals received provider relief funds through the CARES Act and \$35 million CSFRF through previous state budgets. But this has not been enough to make the university's seven hospitals whole for the full span of the pandemic.

The state's new budgets provided the UW with an additional **\$70 million CSFRF** to backfill lost revenue. The backfill will prevent massive layoffs, reductions to patient and student services, and will allow

¹⁰ UW Medicine pandemic | Newsroom

¹¹ A year with COVID-19 UW (washington.edu)

¹² New COVID-19 forecasts | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation

¹³ Second Gen Vaccines - UW Research (washington.edu)

specialists to continue working on improving pandemic treatment and prevention methods. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for the UW to \$105 million.

Additional funding to increase food processing capacity

Market conditions and labor challenges continues to impair the state's food supply and distribution system. The state's small and midsize food processing plants are a critical part of our food and agricultural sector because they take low-volume orders from over 35,000 producers who make less than \$250,000 in annual revenue.¹⁴ Because small and medium meat, poultry, and seafood processing plants accept low-volume orders, they are the lifeblood of our small farms, ranches, and fisheries – including tribal fisheries.

COVID-19 spread rapidly through these processing plants because people work side-by-side in factory settings. Interventions and prevention methods reduced the volume of meat, poultry and seafood that could be processed safely during the pandemic.

Small and medium size processing plants are still struggling to recover from COVID-19 related financial losses and unexpected safety upgrade costs. Many small and medium plants still cannot hire workers at pre-pandemic levels and expand their processing capacity.

Previous state budgets provided \$17 million CSFRF to help the state's food service industry change business practices, expand markets, build new infrastructure systems, and increase food production. The 2021-23 operating budget provided an additional **\$1 million CSFRF** to the state Department of Agriculture (WSDA) for grants and technical assistance to small and midsize meat, poultry, and seafood processing centers to expand capacity and increase jobs. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for the food industry to \$18 million.

How these funds continue to promote equity efforts

The figure below shows meat production worker demographics from the Center for Economic and Policy Research analyses completed in 2018.¹⁵

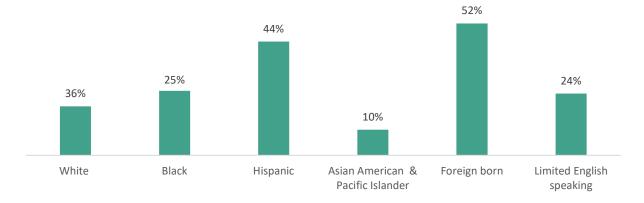


Figure 5: Characteristics of meatpacking workers from 2014-2018

¹⁴ Agriculture & Food Manufacturing in Washington State (choosewashingtonstate.com)

¹⁵ Meatpacking Workers are a Diverse Group - Center for Economic and Policy Research (cepr.net)

By maintaining and expanding meat, poultry and seafood processing plants, we keep local job opportunities for BIPOC and immigrant populations secure. This is especially important for communities in rural areas where jobs for large manufacturing or commercial businesses may be sparce.

Demands for emergency food assistance remain high

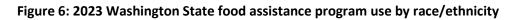
Food stability for low-income households continues to be a challenge because food prices are soaring. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for food has grown 6.7% between May 2022 and May 2023.¹⁶

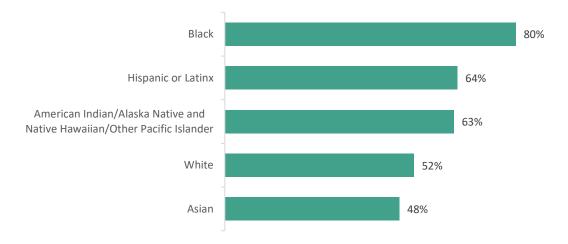
The state's emergency food assistance programs include 500 food banks, food pantries, shelters, meal delivery services and the state's Farm-to-School program. These programs continue to experience a significant increase in demand. In addition to \$48 million CSFRF from previous budgets, the state provided **\$26.5 million CSFRF** to keep up with the ongoing demand for emergency food assistance programs through the SFY 2024. The funding increase will purchase more food and help organizations maintain staff, equipment, delivery vehicles, and storage space at food banks and food pantries. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for these emergency food programs to \$76.3 million.

How these funds continue to promote equity efforts

The income eligibility cap for emergency food assistance is 185% of the federal poverty level (FPL). That is an annual gross income of \$46,000 for a household of three.

The fourth Washington State Food Security Survey (conducted by the University of Washington and Washington State University) found that food assistance program use is higher among BIPOC respondents.¹⁷ The figure below provides more detail.





¹⁶ USDA ERS – Price Food Outlook Summary Findings

¹⁷ WAFOOD #4 Food Security Survey brief (uw.edu)

Food stability improves health outcomes, child development, educational achievement and emotional well-being. Continuing emergency food programs another year promotes racial and economic equity because many low-income minority populations across our state are helped by these programs.

Immigrants received another year of expanded food benefits

Of the more than 1.1 million immigrants in Washington, approximately 63,000 receive food benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) each month. SNAP is a federal program that provides nutrition benefits to low-income individuals and families who can use them at stores to purchase food.

The state provides a similar program called the state Food Assistance Program (FAP). It currently provides food benefits to roughly 15,000 immigrants who are ineligible for SNAP due to their unauthorized citizenship status. Unauthorized citizenship status includes undocumented immigrants and sponsored immigrants with a five-year ban from federal programs.

The USDA began issuing additional monthly benefits to SNAP-eligible households at the start of the pandemic. This included \$95 more per month for households already receiving the maximum benefit amount.

To keep pace with SNAP benefit levels, the state previously provided \$10.8 million CSFRF for FAP until July 2022. The federal government then extended the monthly SNAP increase through February 2023. The 2023 supplemental operating budget provided an additional **\$10.5 million CSFRF** for FAP to maintain parity with SNAP through February 2023. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for FAP to \$21.3 million.

How these funds continue to promote equity efforts

Undocumented immigrants and immigrants barred from federal public assistance programs have a high prevalence of poverty, overcrowded housing conditions, low-wage jobs, and English language barriers. State public assistance programs are often their only available safety net.

The gross monthly income threshold for FAP is at or below 130% FPL. Continuing monthly benefit increases improves food stability and helps reduce the disproportionate economic strain the pandemic caused to low-income immigrant households that are ineligible for SNAP. Expanding FAP benefits through February 2023 maintains consistency with the federal food program that supports their peers with an authorized immigration status or U.S. citizenship.

Further supporting our state's arts and heritage industry

Washington's arts and culture sector represents 10.8% of our state's GDP, the highest share of total GDP in the nation for this industry.¹⁸ In 2020, this 'creative economy' supported 376,121 jobs in our state.¹⁹ The arts and heritage industry is a driver of economic stability in urban *and* rural areas by

¹⁸ Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, U.S. and States, 2021 | U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

¹⁹ Creative Economy - ArtsWA

drawing people to destinations, experiences, and events year-round. Local dining, hospitality, tourism, and recreational businesses benefit from the increase in visitors.

Our state's arts industry began to rebound in 2022 with the financial support of \$22 million CSFRF for grants to stabilize, recover, and preserve the state's art and cultural institutions. The 2023-25 biennial operating budget provided an additional **\$2 million CSFRF** for arts industry grants to stabilize and revitalize our artistic sectors. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for the arts to \$24 million.

How these funds continue to promote equity efforts

Arts industry grants prioritize underserved and underrepresented artists and communities. In this case, "underserved" means populations whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, historical exclusion and marginalization due to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, income, disability, or other social or institutionally imposed barriers. "Underrepresented" means any group or members of a group who are not commonly represented as audience, artist, lead role, presenter, contracted professional, or other type of participant in the funded work.

Additional grants will help businesses and non-profit art organizations expand to underserved communities. This will improve accessibility by continuing digital services, increasing community development projects and expanding public art to new locations.

Maintaining our largest automotive museum

International and domestic tourism is the fourth largest industry in Washington. Tourism generates over \$22 billion in annual revenue and employs more than 180,000 people.²⁰ These jobs support tourist attractions, conventions, museums, trade shows, tours, and a variety of business and entertainment events. Along with hospitality jobs that provide food, lodging and transportation, there are 205,000 jobs in this sector.²¹

COVID-19 brought the state tourism industry to a near shutdown. The U.S. Travel Association estimates that Washington State lost roughly 150,000 tourism-related full and part-time jobs in 2020.²² In total, previous budgets provided \$154.2 million CSFRF for economic relief to various tourism industries. Of this amount, the state's largest automotive museum received \$200,000.

The 2023-25 biennial operating budget provided another **\$200,000 CSFRF** for a second grant to the automotive museum to maintain operations and jobs for the 3.5-acre exhibition. This brings the total CSFRF appropriations for the automotive museum to \$400,000.

²⁰ Key Industries in Washington State

²¹ Stats Show Washington Tourism Remains Significantly Below Pre-Pandemic Levels (stateofwatourism.com)

²² <u>Travel_Impact_WA.pdf (ustravelassociation.org)</u>

Administrative supports are continued through 2024

Previous budgets provided \$1.6 million CSFRF for two years of CSFRF administrative support at the Office of Financial Management (OFM). The 2023-25 biennial operating budget provided **\$656,000 CSFRF** to continue these temporary staffing supports and administrative services for an additional year. These funds will help us:

- Ensure compliance with federal eligibility and use requirements
- Meet U.S. Treasury reporting requirements.
- Lead the <u>Washington Resiliency Group</u> (a group of state agencies and commissions that recommend changes to support our state's recovery from a future disaster/pandemic).
- Manage increased statewide accounting and budgeting workload.
- Obtain contracted services such as legal interpretations of CSFRF federal rules.

This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for administrative supports to over \$2.2 million.

Building more affordable housing with additional funding

Safe and stable housing is a basic human need for everyone. In December 2019, the governor announced an aggressive <u>plan to combat homelessness statewide</u> with a funding proposal to reduce homelessness by 50% in two years. The plan focused on building shelters, transitional housing, and affordable housing units to strengthen the pathway to permanent housing for low-income Washingtonians. However, within three months America entered a worldwide public health crisis unlike anything in modern history.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, and address the economic impacts of the pandemic, the focus quickly changed to helping people keep existing housing, helping the unsheltered find immediate temporary lodging, and providing utilities and sanitation systems to established homeless encampments. As the state now shifts its focus to a new and improved normal, resources are rededicated to rapidly expanding the pathway to permanent housing for our low-income residents.

Previous budgets dedicated \$96.1 million CSFRF for capital grants to acquire, rent, build, preserve or renovate drop-in overnight centers, emergency shelters, supportive housing, youth housing, transitional housing, and permanent housing. Of this amount, \$22.5 million went to rapid housing acquisition grants that quickly convert real property into housing units that benefit low-income and special needs populations.

The 2023 supplemental capital budget provided another **\$8.5 million CSFRF** to expand grants for rapid housing acquisition. Based on historical data, this investment will add an estimated 303 units or beds. This brings the total CSFRF appropriation for rapid housing acquisition grants to \$31 million - creating a total of 1,106 estimated new units or beds.

New projects funded with CSFRF

As needs were reevaluated and CSFRF project funding was reduced to match actual expenditures, the state added more CSFRF to existing projects laid out above. The state also funded new projects to further support our residents and economy. The new projects improve emergency preparedness, increase housing options for low-income households and communities of color, and provide additional economic support to our recovering tourism industry. See details below about these new programs.

New funding for emergency preparedness

The pandemic illuminated a weakness in our nation's emergency medical supply chain. Our national stockpile was traditionally designed for acute and localized medical emergencies. Since other countries manufacture and supply the U.S. with medical supplies and devices, the nation's supply chain came to a halt when factories closed and these countries restricted exports to reserve stocks for their own residents.

As a result, medical personnel reused personal protective equipment meant for one-time use. Many patients suffering respiratory effects of the virus went without ventilators to help them breathe. Care providers, public safety officers and people living in congregate care settings went without masks or face shields, which increased the rapid spread of the airborne pathogen.

While the federal government is working to build a more resilient domestic supply chain that reduces dependence on foreign production, this will not happen overnight. In the meantime, our state must remain prepared for future supply chain disruptions.

The state Department of Heath operates a massive warehouse to safely store 7.5 million articles of medical supplies and personal protective equipment. It set up the warehouse and distribution center during the pandemic. With an end to the national state of emergency, FEMA will no longer reimburse states for this public health endeavor.

The 2023-25 biennial operating budget provides DOH with **\$7 million CSFRF** to maintain the statewide Medical Supply Logistics Center. This will help prevent medical supply shortages until the national supply chain is more reliable.

How these funds promote equity efforts

The state established the Medical Supply Logistics Center during the pandemic and developed a rapid mass distribution process with equity in mind. It offered equitable statewide deployment by using satellite storage with nonprofit organizations, tribes, and local governments in rural jurisdictions. The state improved the process by using feedback from 'after action' reviews. The changes strengthened how quickly the state can help migrant workers, in-home care providers, and homeless service providers who struggled to obtain PPE and testing supplies in the first year of the pandemic.

Maintaining emergency housing capacity with CSFRF

In March 2020, Inslee issued the <u>Stay Home, Stay Healthy order</u> to slow the person-to-person spread of COVID-19. The order required Washingtonians to isolate and quarantine in place. To help unsheltered homeless people comply, the state helped provide immediate temporary dwellings.

Before the pandemic, most shelter options were overcrowded, congregate settings with limited bathroom and laundry services. The state immediately provided state and federal funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) to improve shelter conditions, expand shelter capacity, and create new emergency housing options. These new options included hotel rooms, pop-up shelters, and travel trailers. The state also used funds to provide homeless support services such as:

- Case management
- Medical access
- Employment assistance
- Life skills training
- Behavioral health care

The 2023-25 biennial operating budget provided **\$61.5 million CSFRF** to continue the following emergency housing projects (established during the pandemic using other fund sources):

- \$55.5 million to maintain new emergency housing stock, increase shelter capacity, and continue housing support services for another year.
- \$6 million to maintain operations for hotels that transitioned to homeless housing and are now at risk of closing.

Grant recipients must maintain or increase their emergency housing supply at or above the number of beds/units developed using CARES Act and state emergency housing funds. Temporary shelters are the first step from homelessness to permanent housing.

How these funds promote equity efforts

Homeless individuals and families are disproportionally impacted by the pandemic. They have higher rates of infection. They also have a high prevalence of chronic health conditions that increase the risk of long-term physical health and mental health impacts from COVID-19. The pandemic further highlighted the importance of stable housing as a social determinant of health.

In January 2022, the state had approximately 13,000 unsheltered homeless individuals and another 12,452 homeless people living in shelters.²³ The number of homeless people increased by 2,555 between 2020 and 2022.²⁴ The figure below provides demographic information for the 25,452 homeless people from the 2022 study. Please note that a single individual may meet more than one characteristic.

²³ <u>PIT Homeless Count Results 2022.pdf</u>

²⁴ Housing/Homelessness Budget and Policy Highlights (wa.gov)

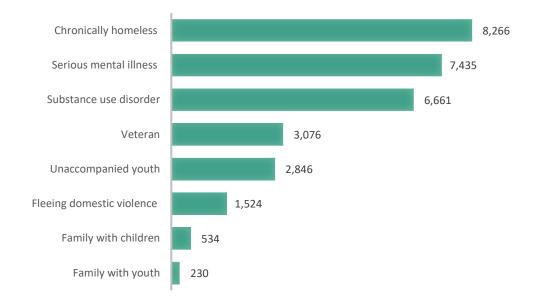


Figure 7: Washington demographic information from the 2022 homeless count

These funds help the state maintain and grow emergency shelter stock for our growing homeless populations that were disproportionally impacted by the virus.

Supporting economic growth in communities of color

The Communities of Concern Commission (COC) is a nonprofit coalition of BIPOC members who promote social welfare. It does this by helping other nonprofit organizations build and manage affordable housing complexes, civic centers, and other capital assets for communities of color located in urban and rural areas. Among others, projects include:

- Refurbishing Bremerton's Homeless Rejuvenation Day Center with showers and laundry facilities.
- Constructing the new Eagle Haven Tiny Home Village for households with less than 30% of the area median income.
- Converting an old fire station into housing and a business incubator for low-income entrepreneurs.
- Converting storage space at the Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center into a classroom.
- Adding a community center to the Ethiopian Community Affordable Housing complex for seniors.

The full list of projects can be found at the <u>COC website</u>. Post-pandemic skilled labor shortages, skyrocketing lumber prices, and weakened supply chains have slowed projects and increased their costs.

The state's 2023-25 operating budget provided the COC with **\$300,000 CSFRF** for capacity building within the organization. This support will help the COC continue providing financial grants, non-interest loans, low-interest loans, and technical assistance for capital projects in communities of color.

How these funds promote equity efforts

These funds develop affordable housing and civic centers in communities of color. Not only does this provide stability for low-income individuals and families, it benefits communities of color by:

- Reducing homelessness
- Increasing tax revenue
- Replacing blighted properties
- Improving school performance scores
- Reducing crime
- Increasing employment rates
- Boosting local economies
- Improving health outcomes

Maintaining the state's horse racing industry

The state's <u>Horse Racing Commission</u> (HRC) licenses, regulates and supervises all horse race meets held in our state. The pandemic caused a downturn in horse race attendance. Less attendance resulted in less wagering.

Every horse race wager is subject to a tax that pays operating costs for the HRC, Emerald Downs (our state thoroughbred racetrack), and the <u>Washington Thoroughbred Breeders & Owners Association</u>. This revenue loss jeopardizes the continued operations of our horse racing network. The state dedicated roughly **\$1.2 million CSFRF** to backfill the industry's pandemic-related revenue loss.

Summary of changes and projects

As we described above, the 2023 legislative session changed CSFRF appropriations. The state reduced funding for some projects and reinvested it in new and ongoing projects. The final budgets also appropriated the \$168 million CSFRF balance from the 2022 legislative session.

Our state's total CSFRF award from the U.S. Treasury is a little over \$4.4 billion. The state has now appropriated most of the award with only \$9.9 million remaining. The figure below shows this breakdown by category.

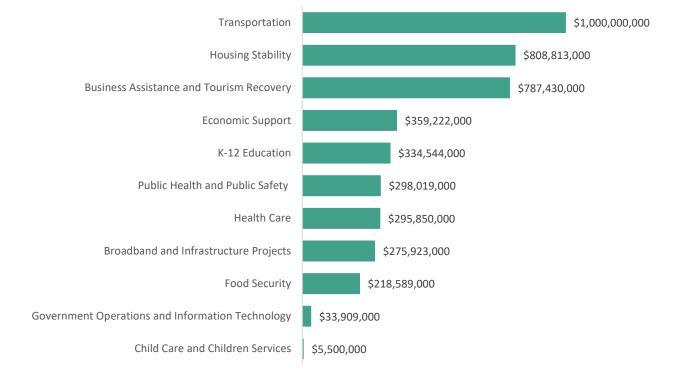


Figure 8: Current Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund appropriations

The CSFRF balance is \$9.9 million (CSFRF that has not yet been appropriated by the state). The balance can be appropriated during the 2024 state legislative session.

CSFRF inventory, spending, and results

As of June 2022, the state has spent over **\$3,256,241,000 (74% of total CSFRF appropriations).** The chart below lists each project, provides the federal expenditure category for each project, captures the amount of CSFRF dedicated to each project, and notes expenditures to date.

Projects and spending through June 2023

	Category	Project title	State Agency	Total dedicated funds	Cumulative expenditures	Amount spent since last recovery plan
Fede	eral expenditure category	Authored by state	Direct appropriation	Amount of CSFRF set aside by state	Projects with n	ne 31, 2023 o expenditures I with "N/A."
1: Pu	blic health					
1.1	COVID-19 vaccination	Continue COVID-19 vaccinations*	Department of Health	\$125,476,000	\$34,832,334	\$34,831,321
1.3	COVID-19 contact tracing	Contain the spread of COVID-19	Department of Health	\$58,320,000	\$58,187,861	N/A
1.4	Prevention in congregate settings	Corrections: COVID-19 response***	Department of Corrections	\$64,482,000	\$60,072,575	\$25,193,939
1.4	Prevention in congregate settings	Corrections: HVAC replacement	Department of Corrections	\$4,646,000	\$88,163	\$88,163
1.4	Prevention in congregate settings	Transitional Care Center HVAC	Department of Social and Health Services	\$2,335,000	\$20,038	\$20,038
1.4	Prevention in congregate settings	Specialized Nurse Prevention Coordinator	Department of Social and Health Services	\$197,000	\$197,000	N/A
1.4	Prevention in congregate settings	Psychiatric isolation and quarantine wards	Department of Social and Health Services	\$4,021,000	\$4,021,000	N/A
1.4	Prevention in congregate settings	Psychiatric hospital screening stations	Department of Social and Health Services	\$1,743,000	\$1,743,000	N/A
1.6	Medical expenses	UW Medical Center revenue replacement	University of Washington	\$105,000,000	\$85,000,000	\$50,000,000
1.6	Medical expenses	Uninsured and underinsured care	Health Care Authority	\$35,000,000	\$34,154,403	\$33,903,128
1.6	Medical expenses	Stabilizing Community Health Centers	Health Care Authority	\$24,600,000	\$24,285,249	\$24,285,249
1.7	Other COVID-19 public health expenses	Public health data	Department of Health	\$19,088,000	\$12,084,927	\$11,996,049

	Category	Project title	State Agency	Total dedicated funds	Cumulative expenditures	Amount spent since last recovery plan
Fede	ral expenditure category	Authored by state	Direct appropriation	Amount of CSFRF set aside by state	Projects with n	ne 31, 2023 o expenditures I with "N/A."
1.8	COVID-19 assistance to non-profits	Nonprofit information tech. grant	Department of Commerce	\$80,000	\$78,520	\$78,520
1.10	COVID-19 aid to impacted industries	Arts safety and testing	Department of Commerce	\$5,000,000	\$4,981,893	\$4,981,893
1.14	Other public health services	Statewide medical logistics center*	Department of Health	\$7,022,00	N/A	N/A
1.14	Other public health services	Science labs HVAC upgrade	The Evergreen State College	\$4,000,000	\$1,358,121	\$1,358,121
1.14	Other public health services	HVAC upgrades at DOH	Department of Health	\$1,894,000	\$156,856	\$156,856
1.14	Other public health services	Opioids healthcare provider curriculum	Workforce Board	\$250,000	N/A	N/A
1.14	Other public health services	Behavioral health provider relief funds	Health Care Authority	\$131,000,000	\$130,839,989	\$99,854,198
2: Neg	ative economic impacts					
2.1	Household assistance: Food programs	State Food Assistance Program**	Department of Social and Health Services	\$21,269,000	\$21,269,000	\$10,471,000
2.1	Household assistance: Food programs	Farm-to-School program	Department of Agriculture	\$8,750,000	\$1,098,348	\$1,023,500
2.1	Household assistance: Food programs	Emergency Food Assistance program**	Department of Agriculture	\$67,525,000	\$35,823,489	\$8,515,397
2.1	Household assistance: Food programs	Farmers to Families food boxes	Department of Agriculture	\$103,045,000	\$88,210,560	\$63,074,861
2.2	Household assistance: Rent, mortgage, and utility aid	Rental assistance	Department of Commerce	\$448,000,000	\$335,120,252	\$229,087,776
2.2	Household assistance: Rent, mortgage, and utility aid	Utility arrearages	Department of Commerce	\$100,000,000	\$99,213,542	\$99,213,542
2.3	Household assistance: Cash transfers	Immigrant relief funding	Department of Social and Health Services	\$340,000,000	\$334,581,272	\$334,546,476
2.5	Unemployment benefits or cash assistance to unemployed workers	Pandemic Paid Leave Assistance***	Employment Security Department	\$19,222,000	\$18,998,455	\$1,066,325

	Category	Project title	State Agency	Total dedicated funds	Cumulative expenditures	Amount spent since last recovery plan
Fede	ral expenditure category	Authored by state	Direct appropriation	Amount of CSFRF set aside by state		ne 31, 2023 o expenditures I with "N/A."
2.13	Healthy childhood environments: Other	Improving healthy childhood environments	Department of Children, Youth and Families	\$5,500,000	\$5,250,654	\$5,250,654
2.16	Long-term housing security: Services for unhoused persons	Right-of-way transitions to housing***	Department of Commerce	\$39,000,000	\$25,294,332	\$25,294,332
2.17	Housing support: Housing vouchers and relocation assistance for disproportionately impacted communities	Housing and Essential Needs program	Department of Commerce	\$2,610,000	\$2,514,596	\$15,578
2.18	Housing support: Other housing assistance	Increase supply of affordable housing (Housing Trust Fund)	Department of Commerce	\$73,606,000	\$13,174,348	\$13,174,348
2.18	Housing support: Other housing assistance	Rapid capital housing acquisition grants	Department of Commerce	\$22,532,000	\$13,174,348	\$13,174,348
2.18	Housing support: Other housing assistance	Maintain and expand emergency housing*	Department of Commerce	\$55,500,000	N/A	N/A
2.18	Housing support: Other housing assistance	FYRE's Village; housing stability for young adults (Omak)	Department of Commerce	\$3,350,000	N/A	N/A
2.18	Housing support: Other housing assistance	Ryan's House youth campus (Coupeville)	Department of Commerce	\$1,015,000	N/A	N/A
2.18	Housing support: Other housing assistance	Volunteers of America (Spokane)	Department of Commerce	\$2,200,000	N/A	N/A
2.18	Housing support: Other housing assistance	Hotel housing for the homeless*	Department of Commerce	\$6,000,000	N/A	N/A
2.28	Contributions to UI trust funds	Unemployment Insurance Relief Account	Employment Security Department	\$500,000,000	\$499,969,715	N/A
2.29	Loans or grants to mitigate financial hardship	Small business assistance	Department of Commerce	\$104,500,000	\$103,905,703	\$102,498,511
2.30	Technical assistance, counseling, or business planning	Small Business Resiliency Network and Credit Repair Pilot	Department of Commerce	\$15,000,000	\$1,101,844	\$1,101,844

	Category	Project title	State Agency	Total dedicated funds	Cumulative expenditures	Amount spent since last recovery plan
Fede	ral expenditure category	Authored by state	Direct appropriation	Amount of CSFRF set aside by state	Through Ju Projects with n will be noted	o expenditures
2.34	Assistance to impacted nonprofit organizations	Communities of Concern Commission*	Department of Commerce	\$300,000	N/A	N/A
2.35	Aid to tourism, travel, or hospitality	Clallam County Ferry project	Department of Commerce	\$5,000,000	\$4,997,536	N/A
2.35	Aid to tourism, travel, or hospitality	Statewide tourism recovery	Department of Commerce	\$112,000,000	\$96,990,330	\$92,625,330
2.36	Aid to other impacted industries	Food supply chain, and food infrastructure and market access**	Department of Agriculture	\$18,000,000	\$9,961,057	\$9,961,057
2.36	Aid to other impacted industries	Art industry grants**	Department of Commerce	\$24,000,000	\$1,630,804	\$925,480
2.36	Aid to other impacted industries	Automotive museum assistance**	Department of Commerce	\$400,000	\$194,516	\$194,516
2.36	Aid to other impacted industries	Convention center COVID support	Department of Commerce	\$20,000,000	\$19,974,599	\$19,974,599
2.36	Aid to other impacted industries	Assistance to convention center dependent businesses	Department of Commerce	\$5,000,000	\$4,693,345	\$4,693,345
3: Pub	blic Safety, Public Health, a	nd Human Services Staff				
3.1	Public sector workforce: Payroll and benefits for public health, public safety, or human services	Corrections: Community supervision staff	Department of Corrections	\$6,817,000	N/A	N/A
4: Pre	mium Pay					
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers	Homeless service provider stipends	Department of Commerce	\$54,500,000	\$45,030,277	\$45,011,836
5: Infr	astructure					
5.1	Clean water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Port Hadlock wastewater facility	Department of Commerce	\$10,088,000	N/A	N/A
5.1	Clean water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Crusher Canyon sewer line	Department of Commerce	\$1,000,000	\$970,000	\$970,000

	Category	Project title	State Agency	Total dedicated funds	Cumulative expenditures	Amount spent since last recovery plan
Fede	eral expenditure category	Authored by state	Direct appropriation	Amount of CSFRF set aside by state	Through June 31, 2023 Projects with no expenditure will be noted with "N/A."	
5.1	Clean water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Dryden wastewater improvement project	Department of Commerce	\$1,030,000	N/A	N/A
5.1	Clean water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Packwood sewer system	Department of Commerce	\$4,025,000	N/A	N/A
5.1	Clean water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Port of Mattawa wastewater infrastructure	Department of Commerce	\$618,000	N/A	N/A
5.1	Clean water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Vader wastewater treatment plant improvements	Department of Commerce	\$1,850,000	\$1,850,000	\$936,572
5.1	Clean water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Fall City waste management system	Department of Commerce	\$6,500,000	N/A	N/A
5.2	Clean water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	Leach Creek interceptor extension	Department of Commerce	\$2,100,000	N/A	N/A
5.2	Clean water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	Chelan – Anderson Road project design	Department of Commerce	\$258,000	N/A	N/A
5.2	Clean water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	Battle Ground – Pump station and force main	Department of Commerce	\$2,050,000	N/A	N/A
5.2	Clean water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	Port Hadlock wastewater facility	Department of Commerce	\$10,088,000	N/A	N/A
5.2	Clean water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	Packwood sewer system	Department of Commerce	\$4,025,000	N/A	N/A
5.3	Clean water: Other sewer infrastructure	Shelton reclaimed water project	Department of Commerce	\$2,050,000	\$50,522	\$50,522
5.6	Clean water: Stormwater	Louis Thompson Road tightline	Department of Commerce	\$3,000,000	N/A	N/A

	Category	Project title	State Agency	Total dedicated funds	Cumulative expenditures	Amount spent since last recovery plan
Fede	ral expenditure category	Authored by state	Direct appropriation	Amount of CSFRF set aside by state	Through Ju Projects with n will be noted	o expenditures
5.6	Clean water: Stormwater	Fry Creek pump station	Department of Commerce	\$8,975,000	\$2,053,906	\$2,053,906
5.8	Clean water: Water conservation	Cheney Purple Pipe project	Department of Commerce	\$11,050,000	\$743,349	\$743,349
5.8	Clean water: Water conservation	Othello water conservation system	Department of Commerce	\$515,000	N/A	N/A
5.8	Clean water: Water conservation	Boat Haven stormwater improvement	Department of Commerce	\$2,050,000	N/A	N/A
5.9	Clean water: Nonpoint source	City of Ilwaco – Drinking water source protection	Department of Commerce	\$721,000	\$699,370	\$699,370
5.9	Clean water: Nonpoint source	Lake management plan	Department of Commerce	\$155,000	\$150,350	\$150,350
5:10	Drinking Water: Treatment	Water treatment at City of Dupont	Department of Commerce	\$5,950,000	N/A	N/A
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission and distribution	City of Fircrest water meter replacement	Department of Commerce	\$171,000	\$149,283	N/A
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission and distribution	Index-phased water line replacement	Department of Commerce	\$1,351,000	N/A	N/A
5.13	Drinking water: Source	Airway Heights water resources replacement	Department of Commerce	\$14,950,000	N/A	N/A
5.13	Drinking water: Source	New well for Peshastin	Department of Commerce	\$1,100,000	N/A	N/A
5.14	Drinking Water: Storage	Shelton: Well One water main	Department of Commerce	\$2,050,000	\$183,238	\$183,238
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	Skamania County well installation	Department of Commerce	\$52,000	N/A	N/A
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	Replace culverts	Department of Transportation	\$400,000,000	\$44,988,818	\$44,988,818
5.18	Water and Sewer: Other	Grants for affordable housing development utility connections	Department of Commerce	\$27,000,000	\$1,025,382	\$1,025,382
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	Competitive broadband grants	Department of Commerce	\$150,771,000	\$1,304,683	\$1,129,438

	Category	Project title	State Agency	Total dedicated funds	Cumulative expenditures	Amount spent since last recovery plan
Fede	ral expenditure category	Authored by state	Direct appropriation	Amount of CSFRF set aside by state	Through Ju Projects with n will be noted	o expenditures
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	Point Roberts Rural Broadband project	Department of Commerce	\$225,000	N/A	N/A
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	Wanapum Indian Village Broadband project	Department of Commerce	\$155,000	N/A	N/A
6: Rev	enue replacement					
6.1	Provision of government services	Transportation revenue replacement	Department of Transportation	\$600,000,000	\$600,000,000	\$300,000,000
6.1	Provision of government services	Basic education enrollment stabilization***	Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction	\$297,242,000	\$297,242,000	N/A
6.1	Provision of government services	Homeless service provider workforce study	Department of Commerce	\$500,000	\$375,144	\$375,144
6.1	Provision of government services	Horse Racing Commission revenue replacement*	Special Appropriations to the Governor	\$1,150,000	N/A	N/A
6.1	Provision of government services	Learning Assistance Program**	Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction	\$37,302,000	\$34,794,582	\$34,794,582
7: Adr	ninistrative and other					
7.1	Administrative expenses	TVW equipment reimbursement	Office of the Secretary of State	\$405,000	\$405,000	\$405,000
7.1	Administrative expenses	Unemployment Insurance workload and security	Employment Security Department	\$31,288,000	\$30,544,944	\$19,963,014
7.1	Administrative expenses	Administrative and other**	Office of Financial Management	\$2,216,000	\$1,079,390	\$352,557

Increased funding *Decreased funding

Our total expenditures may be greater than the appropriated amount because these values do not reflect our final accounting reconciliation process. For the same reason, they do not reflect the full amount spent in SYF 2023.

Performance outcomes: Who the funding helped

Providing demographic information such as race, ethnicity, gender, and age is voluntary. The state may not request demographic information in accordance with state law (<u>RCW 49.60.400</u>), which prohibits the state from discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public contracting.

When the state and state contractors can ask for voluntary demographic information, it's not always provided by participants. We often find low reporting levels particularly on racial and gender diversity. For example, 46.5% of households that received eviction prevention services in 2022 declined to provide their race/ethnicity. And sometimes, CSFRF projects may not request individual demographics if it could create an access barrier.

Many CSFRF projects provided rapid emergency services with the help of hundreds of contractors serving millions of people. Specific federal performance requirements were not always available when these life-saving services were deployed. State agencies continue to refine contracts, develop technology, and hire data analytic experts to improve outcome reporting for all federal relief funds.

Because of challenges noted above, CSFRF projects don't always have meaningful demographic information or detailed data from all contracted service providers. However, most CSFRF programs serve disproportionally impacted populations and communities. That's because the projects have low-income eligibility thresholds, or because funding is concentrated on geographic areas with high unemployment rates or high poverty rates.

Below, you will find performance information (how CSFRF funds helped people and businesses) available to date. Due to the voluntary nature of some demographic information, many project statistics noted below may not total 100%.

Pandemic paid leave assistance

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.6: Unemployment benefits or cash to unemployed workers

Provides increased support to workers who must stop work because they have been exposed or contracted COVID-19, or they are caring for a family member with the virus.

The state approved 3,267 claims that include the following characteristics:

- 2,601 unique claimants
- 1,771 claimants with COVID-19
- 20% recipients with more than one claim
- 1,496 supporting family members with COVID-19
- Average of 8.2 weeks of benefits
- \$6,657 average per recipient
- 34% male
- 1% non-binary
- 56% white
- 41% non-white
- 37% age 30-37
- 27% age 18-29
- 15% age 40-49
- 20% age 50+

Immigrant relief funding

Category 2.3: Household assistance: Cash transfers

Provides cash grants to immigrants that are ineligible for federal pandemic cash assistance programs. Here's what we found:

- 101,677 total applicants served
- \$3,075 one-time benefit
- 116,082 applications received
- 14,405 applications were denied
- 58% denials were found ineligible
- 36% denials from failure to complete the application process
- 46 community-based organizations provided outreach and application assistance

State Food Assistance Program

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.1: Household food programs

Provides parity with federal food assistance programs for immigrants receiving monthly state-funded food benefits. The program includes the following characteristics for July 2021 – February 2023:

- 5,773 total households served in SFY 2021
- 8,131 total households served in SFY 2022
- 14,415 total households served in SFY 2023
- 4,731 average monthly households served
- 18,699 total applications processed
- 2, 014 total applications denied
- 15% denials were found ineligible (over income or no qualifying immigrant status)
- 46% denials from failure to complete the application process

Food relief programs provided by WSDA

Negative economic impacts

2.1: Household food programs

Provides support to food relief organizations for increased operational costs, increased demand, and efforts to decrease access barriers. Of the **558** beneficiaries, the following characteristics apply:

- 71% to direct food providers (food banks, shelters, and meal delivery services)
- 29% to small farms, ranches and fisheries
- 248 total emergency food organizations
- \$41,789 average grant for emergency food organizations
- 148 Farmers to Families food box organizations
- \$50,000 \$9,000,000 grant range for Farmers to Families food box organizations
- 8% new vendors recruited
- 3.7 million households served
- 35% annual increase in households served by emergency food programs (2019 compared to 2022)

Food supply chain, infrastructure, and market access

Negative economic impacts

2.36 Aid to other impacted industries (food supply industry)

Provides grants to food producers, processing plants, and distributors to expand their markets, access food relief organizations, and build a more resilient food infrastructure system. Of **139** approved grants, the following characteristics were found:

- 85% to small farms/ranches
- 54% BIPOC and women owned businesses
- 7% veteran owned businesses
- 42% with <10 years' experience prior to the pandemic

- 34 out of 39 counties served
- 14% for washing and packing
- 32% for food distribution
- 37% for food processing
- 19% for food marketing
- 58% for equipment
- 53% for cold and dry food storage

Aid to tourism and tourism-related businesses

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.35: Aid to tourism, travel, or hospitality

Category 2.36: Aid to other impacted industries (tourism dependent)

Provides grants to maintain continued operations of tourism and tourism-related businesses and nonprofits including <u>public facility districts</u>, lodging establishments, museums, and those dependent on economic activity created by conventions and trade shows.

The state continues to analyze aggregate data and will provide an update in the next report. Outcomes will include:

- Number of businesses served
- Average grant amount
- Number of private businesses served
- Number of public entities served
- Number of nonprofit organizations served
- Range of small high number of employees per grant recipients
- Number of counties (out of 39 counties) served
- Number of locations designated Difficult Development Areas or Qualified Census Tracts
- Number of businesses that remain open for 12 months
- Number of businesses that close within 12 months

Rental assistance

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.5: Household assistance: Eviction prevention

Provides rent payments to prevent eviction on behalf of low-income households at or below 30% AMI.

- 38,349 households served
- 29 average months of assistance
- \$5,027 average grant per household
- 1.1 million total monthly payments
- 39 out of 39 counties served

Arts industry grants

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.12: Aid to other impacted industries

Grants were provided to cultural organizations with 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Grant characteristics include:

- 250 organizations were awarded 100% of ask
- 138 were funded at 80% of ask
- One tribal organization served tribal governments
- 32 of 39 counties
- Maximum grant amount of \$10,000
- 98% of grantees remain open

Clallam County Ferry project

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.11: Aid to tourism, travel, or hospitality

Provides funds to maintain approximately 1,017 jobs dependent on international ferry transportation services. Job characteristics include:

- 91 full-time jobs in the water transportation industry
- 926 local tourism and hospitality jobs
- Served four zones within Clallam County with high poverty rates (federal <u>Qualified Census Tracts</u> 7, 10, 11 and 13)

Uninsured and underinsured care

Public health

Category 1.6: Medical expenses

Provides payments for COVID-19 treatment claims on behalf of uninsured/underinsured individuals. The following characteristics were found:

- 47 providers served
- \$660,000 average provider award
- 100% reimbursement for individuals at/or below 200% FPL
- No providers closed to date after receiving a grant

Behavioral health provider relief funds

Public health

Category 1.12: Other public health services

Provides grants to behavioral health providers who treat a minimum of six patients with Medicaid or state funded medical assistance. Grant characteristics include:

- 58 providers
- 23 providers serving rural areas
- 4 providers serving non-urban coastal regions
- No providers closed to date after receiving a grant

Business assistance

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.9: Small business economic assistance

Provides grants and technical assistance to small businesses for COVID-19 expenses needed to reopen or remain open.

The state continues to analyze aggregate data and will provide an update in the next report. Outcomes will include:

- Number of small businesses served
- Average grant amount
- Percent BIPOC and women-owned businesses
- Percent veteran-owned businesses
- Average number of years open prior to the pandemic
- Range of small high number of employees per grant recipients
- Number of counties (out of 39 counties) served
- Number of locations designated Difficult Development Areas or Qualified Census Tracts
- Number of businesses that remain open for 12 months
- Number of businesses that close within 12 months

Corrections: COVID-19 response

Public health

Category 1.4: Prevention in congregate settings

Maintain COVID-19 prevention and treatment methods that reduce case counts and mortality rates for incarcerated individuals and DOC staff. Case counts and death rates decreased over time as follows:

March 2020 – June 2021

Confirmed cases: 7,867 Total deaths: 19

- 13 incarcerated individuals
- 6 staff members

July 2021 - June 2022

Confirmed cases: 4,001 Total deaths: 5

- 4 incarcerated individuals
- 1 staff member

July 2022 - May 2023

Confirmed cases: 3,599 Total deaths: 1

- Ø incarcerated individuals
- 1 staff member

Utility debt payments

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.2: Household assistance: Utility aid

Payments to public and private water, sewer, garbage, electric, and natural gas utility companies on behalf of low-income customers with debts incurred between March 2020 and December 2021. Outcomes include:

- 34 utility providers served
- \$2.9 million average award
- 47,220 households served
- \$1,800 average amount per household
- 9 average months served

Improving healthy childhood environments

Services to disproportionately impacted communities

Category 3.9: Healthy childhood environments: Other

Provides low-income families in communities with historically high child welfare service involvement with economic support through concrete goods and services. The following characteristics apply:

- 7,393 families served
- Average of 3 children per family
- \$670 average amount per family
- 100% families at/below 200% FPL
- Served 39 of 39 counties
- Served 23 out of 23 locales with highest child neglect referrals

Right-of-way transitions to housing

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.16: Long-term housing security: Services for unhoused persons

Provides grants to help transition people who reside in a public right-of-way to permanent housing. The following project characteristics are known to date:

- January 2023: State-provider contracts completed
- 15 participating providers
- \$5 million average grant amount
- 60 average unhoused persons to be served per provider

Performance reporting data, due June 30, 2024, will include the following:

- Number of individuals served
- Average month of services
- Number of individuals exiting to permanent housing
- Number of individuals receiving care coordination and support services
- Number of certified peer support mentors
- Number of providers with onsite mental health services
- Number of providers with onsite substance use disorder services
- Number of meals provided
- Number of safety checks
- Number of transportation services

Building more affordable housing

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.18: Housing support: Other housing assistance

Provides capital grants to preserve affordable permanent housing units and convert real property to emergency shelters, supportive housing, transitional housing, permanent housing, youth housing, and drop-in overnight centers. The following project characteristics are known to date:

- 10 grants awarded
- 8 contracts executed
- 2 contracts pending
- \$4.5 million average grant amount

Performance reporting data, due June 30, 2024, to include the following:

- Number of maintained units
- Number of new units
- Number of units for special needs populations
- Number of units for minors
- Number of units for individuals
- Number of units for families
- Average family household size
- Number of homeless people with prior shelter
- Number of homeless people without prior shelter
- Number of temporary units
- Number of permanent units
- Average household income by unit type

Small business resiliency network and credit repair pilot

Negative economic impacts

Category 2.30: Technical assistance, counseling, or business planning

Provides small businesses with technical assistance, credit repair counseling, and connection of minority and BIPOC entrepreneurs with alternative lending programs. Of the **19 grants** awarded, the following characteristics apply:

- 18 nonprofit organizations provide technical assistance and credit repair counseling
- \$246,000 average grant award
- One debt financing and loan pool lending provider
- August 2023: Loan pool anticipated program launch date

Performance reporting data, due at the time of reimbursement, includes the following:

- Number of small businesses served
- Number of small business resiliency materials developed
- Languages of new material
- Aggregate demographics of small businesses served
- Number of applications received
- Number of referrals made
- Number of attendees at each outreach and educational event
- Number of mentor matches
- Number of loans provided
- Type of loans provided
- Average loan amount

Fair labor practices for all CSFRF projects

States must provide information about fair labor practices followed for CSFRF projects. These practices are described below.

All laborers and mechanics who are employed though state contractors and subcontractors must follow the laws that govern hourly wages, benefits, overtime, and other related labor practices for public works projects (<u>Chapter 39.12 RCW</u>). The Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) reviews contract compliance with these laws. L&I uses collective bargaining agreements or market rate wage data to ensure state contractors provide prevailing wages for their workers.

Whenever possible, the state gives priority to contractors who commit to local hires and small businesses that have been certified by the Washington State <u>Office of Minority and Women's Business</u> <u>Enterprises</u>. This increases employment opportunities for owners and workers.

Capital expenditures separate from infrastructure projects

States must provide a written justification for capital expenditures over \$1 million CSFRF that do not support an infrastructure project (expenditure code 5). We list six of these CSFRF projects below and explain how these capital expenditures support our state's pandemic relief efforts.

Preventing the spread of COVID-19 by improving air quality

COVID-19 can rapidly spread in facilities with shared heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems (HVAC). Creating proper ventilation with outside air helps reduce virus concentration levels. This includes heavy droplets of the COVID-19 virus, which can sink and settle on indoor surfaces for an average of 5.89 days.²⁵

²⁵ Estimated Surface Decay of SARS-CoV-2 | Homeland Security (dhs.gov)

Four outdated HVAC systems were identified that did not provide adequate filtration, air purification, air intake and air circulation:

- 1. HVAC upgrades for science labs at The Evergreen State College.
- 2. HVAC upgrades for public health laboratory wings at DOH.
- 3. HVAC upgrades for a 150-bed residential nursing facility in Seattle.
- 4. HVAC replacement for correctional custody units that include one sex offender assessment and treatment program.

These buildings provided COVID-19 related response services and were too valuable to close during the pandemic. Leasing new science laboratories is far more costly. Quickly relocating aged and disabled populations and incarcerated individuals to a new building is rarely feasible. That is due to the specialized care that patients need and public safety requirements that must carry over.

Safely storing and delivering food to meet unprecedented need

The COVID-19 public health emergency caused a drastic statewide increase for emergency food assistance. At the same time, many major purchasers of food provisions, such as colleges, restaurants, hotels, and stadiums closed or reduced their food orders.

Our regional and local food emergency food systems had to expand storage capacity and increase home delivery services to meet this sudden demand. Food producers had to find new markets and provide delivery services to prevent food waste and loss of revenue.

The state funded two CSFRF projects that included capital outlays. These projects are described below.

- 5. Emergency food assistance programs assisting over 500 food banks, food pantries, shelters and meal delivery services.
- 6. Food supply chain, food infrastructure and market access programs improving our statewide food processing and distribution systems.

The state used a competitive grant process that prioritized non-profit organizations willing to expand capacity, create efficiencies, and provide a variety of fresh food options. We also prioritized catchment areas that improved access to historically marginalized communities.

Awards approved capital outlays to renovate and expand food storage space, procure industrial refrigerators and freezers, and purchase more box trucks and refrigerated trucks.

Without these investments, emergency food assistance programs may have run out of food due to storage limitations. Organizations without adequate cold storage may have run out of fresh food options such as produce, milk, dairy, eggs, meat, poultry, and seafood products. Consequently, households needing emergency food assistance would receive less nutritious alternatives (non-perishables and processed foods).

Lastly, farms, ranches, fisheries, food processors and food distributers may not have expanded their business practices to accommodate direct consumer markets requiring product delivery (such as farmers markets, child care centers, schools, food banks and shelters).

Ineligible activities: Tax offset provision

States may not use CSFRF to offset a reduction directly or indirectly to gain tax revenue due to changes in state laws, regulations, or administrative interpretations that took place since March 3, 2021 (under federal rule 31 CFR Part 35). Washington did not make policy changes that reduced tax revenue more than the allowable one-percent threshold.

Calander Year	Total state revenue-reducing changes	Annual Tax Revenue Threshold (1%)	CSFRF Qualification for Revenue Replacement
2021	\$6.4 million	\$299.3 million	Qualified/below threshold
2022	\$167.7 million	\$323.2 million	Qualified/below threshold