

A map of the United States with state boundaries. The Southern region, including states from Texas to Florida and up to Virginia, is highlighted in a vibrant green. Other states are in a lighter green shade, and the rest of the country is in a very light green. The text "ARP Tools + Resources: MISSISSIPPI" is overlaid on the right side of the map.

## ARP Tools + Resources: MISSISSIPPI



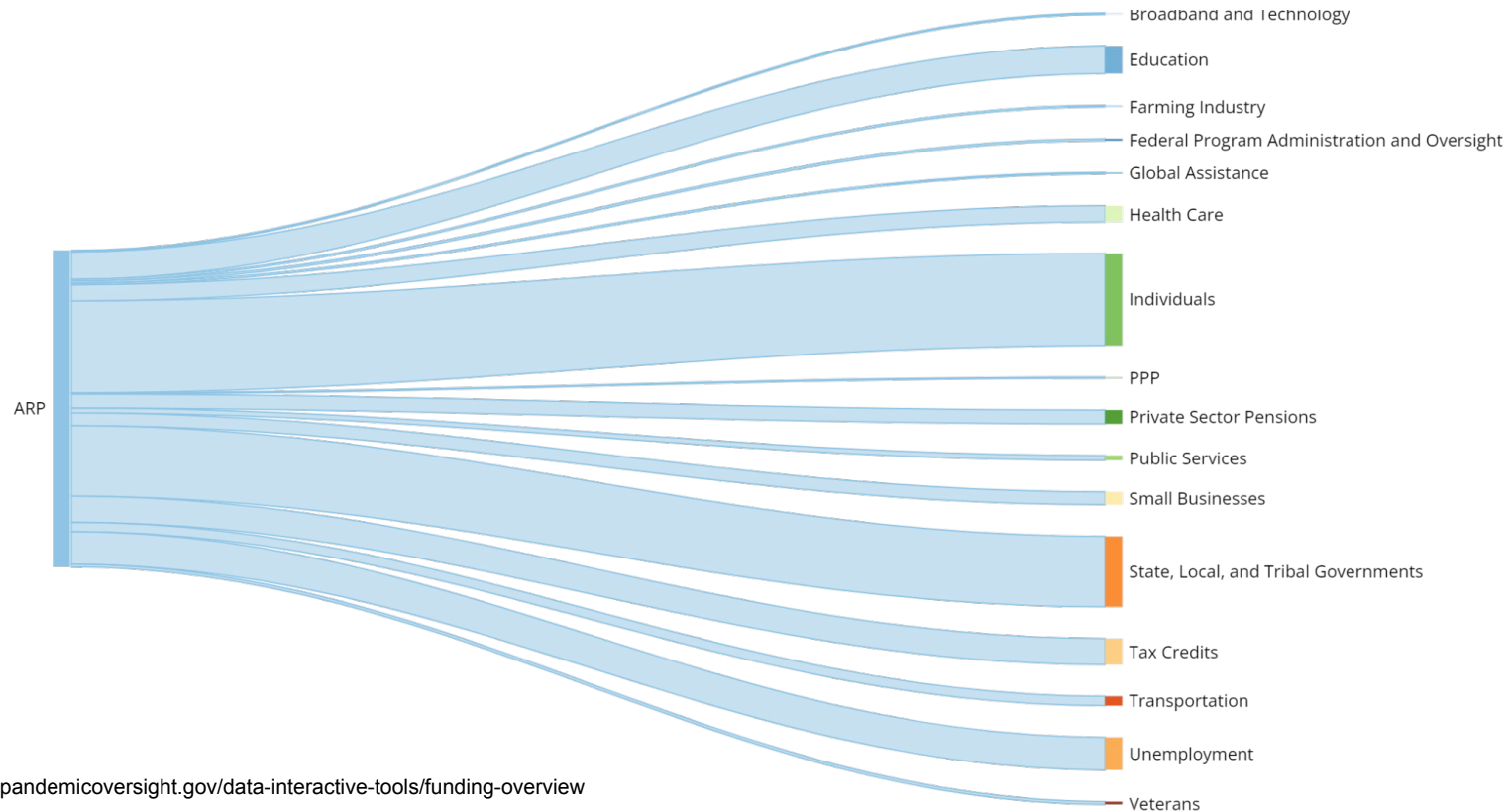
SOUTHERN  
ECONOMIC  
ADVANCEMENT  
PROJECT

## ABOUT THE SEAP

SEAP partners with policy thinkers and does to amplify their efforts and bridge gaps in policy infrastructure. We act as a connector, convener, and policy entrepreneur across issues and states, translating good ideas to the Southern context. Our goal is to advance policies that improve economic security, healthcare access, and environmental justice for all Southerners.

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

# THE OPPORTUNITY CONTINUES: ARP STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RELIEF FUNDS



# SPENDING IN THE SOUTH

As of May 31, 2022, across 4 Southern states (and WA):

- **Most spending decisions haven't happened yet**
  - More than half of all funds (58%) are not yet allocated
  - Roughly a quarter of all cities (26%) have made no spending decisions yet
  - In many communities, there is significant opportunity for community engagement to help set spending priorities, ensure strategic and equitable SLFRF investments
- **Most spending decisions so far are limited to the first tranche of funds**
  - Of 127 cities with some SLFRF decisions, 69% have plans limited to some or all of first tranche
- **Few cities have made spending decisions for most/all of their SLFRF dollars**
  - Only 40 cities of 172 total (23%)
- **Generally, larger cities are further along in their spending decisions**
  - May reflect that larger cities have more capacity/staff, more familiarity with federal funding

# MS FUNDING

- Total Funding Amount: **\$1.8 billion**
  - \$578 million for Mississippi counties
  - \$101 million for metropolitan cities and
  - \$268 million for local governments with pop < 50,000
- MAY 2021: First half of funds distributed
- MAY / JUNE 2022: Second half of funds distributed
- FLEXIBILITY in funding uses

# SPENDING STATUS

SEAP has detailed information for 12 (out of 20) MS cities with pop. > 20,000

- **Overall status**
  - \$101 million in total SLFRF allocations (both halves)
  - \$32 million with spending plans (32%) and \$69 million not yet planned (68%)
- **Narrow spending focus**
  - \$14 million in water/sewer/stormwater
  - \$17 million in Revenue Replacement/General Government
- **No clear example of community outreach**
- **Identification of Equity Strategy is not common**
  - Equity component identified in spending decisions for only 3 of 20 cities

# SPENDING STATUS: City Specifics

**SEAP has detailed information for 12 (out of 20) MS cities with pop. > 20,000**

**3 cities have plans for some or all of first half of funds**

- Columbus
- Hattiesburg
- Vicksburg

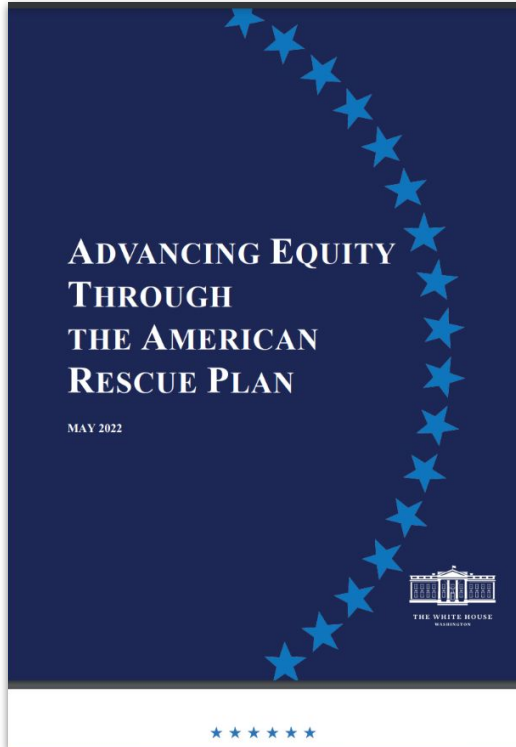
**4 cities have plans for full allocation**

- Pascagoula
- Ridgeland
- Southaven
- Starkville

**5 cities have not yet made any spending decisions**

- Biloxi
- Clinton
- Gulfport
- Madison
- Meridian

# OUTREACH + ENGAGEMENT



## Executive Order 13985

(a) The term “**equity**” means the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/ADVANCING-EQUITY-THROUGH-THE-AMERICAN-RESCUE-PLAN.pdf>



# RECOVERY SPENDING IN THE SOUTH

## Economic recovery and support for BIPOC small businesses

- **Gadsden, AL:** \$1,000,000 to Nonprofit agencies
- **Morrisville, NC:** \$200,000 Small Business Program
- **Greenville, NC:** \$1,000,000 Grants to Small Businesses and Nonprofits
- **Carrboro, NC:** \$300,000 Grants to Small Businesses
- **Hinesville, GA:** \$400,000 IN Small Business & Nonprofit Recovery Grants

# RECOVERY SPENDING IN THE SOUTH

## Funding for Affordable Housing

- **Wilson, NC:** \$2,000,000 Housing redevelopment, and \$1,825,000 Demolition of substandard structures
- **Morrisville, NC:** \$125,000 Affordable Housing Plan
- **Greenville, NC:** \$1,988,461 Affordable Housing
- **Statesboro, GA:** \$5,000,000 - Housing Rehabilitation
- **Rome, GA:** \$38,000 Housing Counseling (Housing Authority), and \$1,000,000 Housing Incentive

# RECOVERY SPENDING IN THE SOUTH

Additional examples of equitable recovery spending:

- Community Violence Interventions
- Parks / Greenspaces
- Job Training Assistance
- Youth Programs

# SEAP's ARP Resources and Tools

# Importance of ARP Decisions

SEAP developed an ARP Toolkit to help communities make smart decisions about ARP spending



We think getting ARP right means a commitment to community engagement and a focus on accountability.

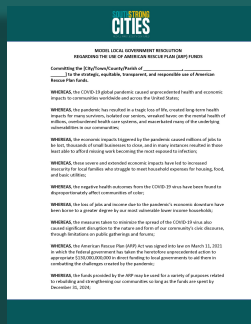


We recognize the capacity challenges facing smaller cities and counties.

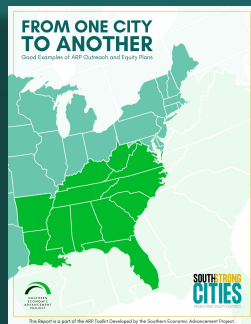


We are connecting local leaders with resources to support the places where both opportunity and need are greatest.

# THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TOOLKIT



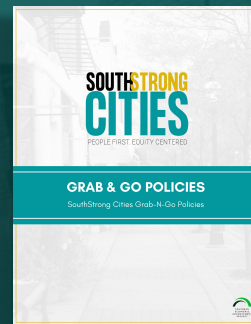
Model Resolution



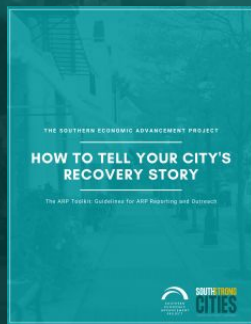
Good Examples



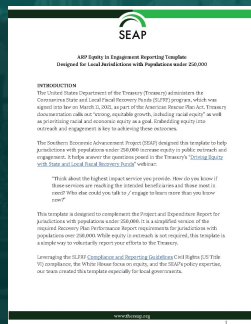
Community Engagement Guide



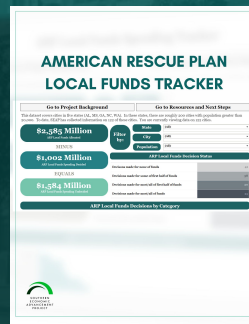
Grab 'n Go Policies



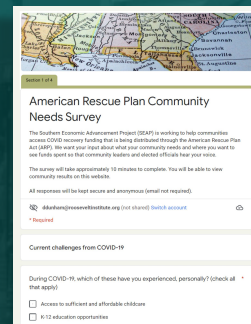
Telling Your City's Recovery Story



U.S. Treasury Reporting Template



Local Funds Tracker



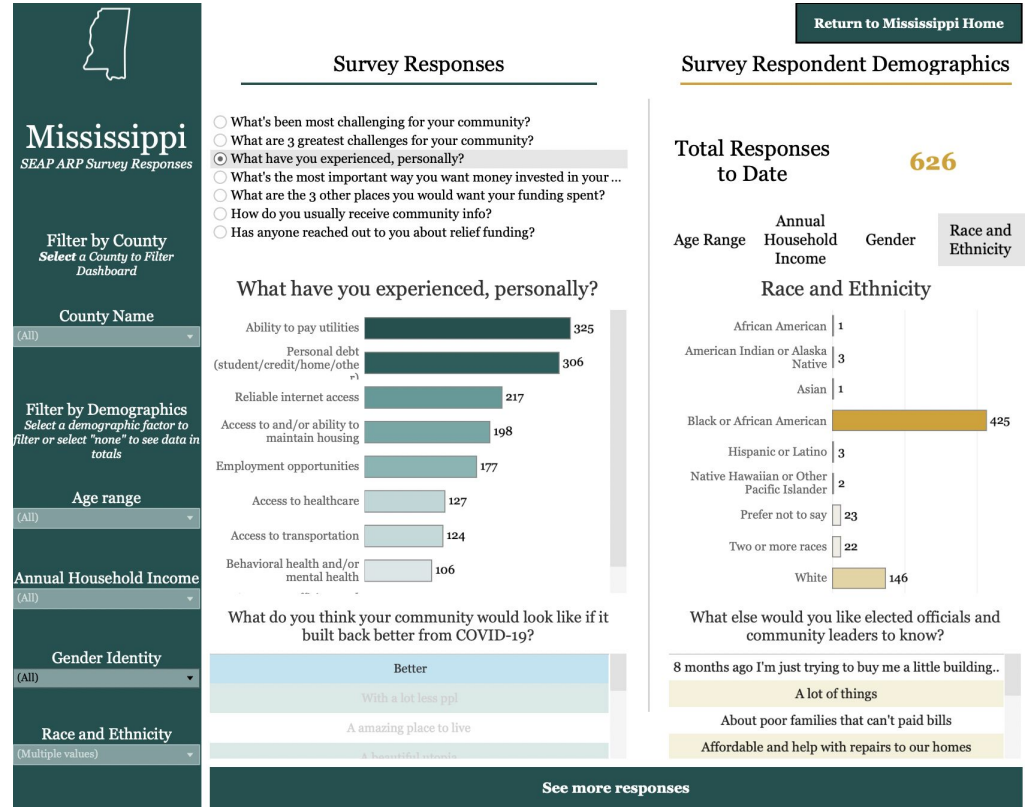
Community Needs Survey

Learn more at:  
[www.theseap.org/arp-toolkit-2/](http://www.theseap.org/arp-toolkit-2/)

# ARP Community Needs Survey

## MISSISSIPPI

- Surveyed food insecure households
- Top **personal challenge - paying utilities and personal debt**
- Where **funds should be spent - affordable housing**
- 9% heard from a community leader about ARP funding decisions
- Usually receive information via
  - social media
  - newspaper
  - neighborhood / PTA meetings





# ARP Spending Tracker



## ARP Local Funds Spending Tracker

[Go to Project Background](#)

[Go to Resources and Next Steps](#)

This dataset covers cities in five states (AL, MS, GA, NC, WA). In these states, there are roughly 200 cities with population greater than 20,000. To date, SEAP has collected information on 172 of these cities. You are currently viewing data on 12 cities.

**\$101 Million**

ARP Local Funds Allocated

MINUS

**\$32 Million**

ARP Local Funds Spending Decided

EQUALS

**\$69 Million**

ARP Local Funds Spending Undecided

Filter by:

State

MS

City

(All)

Population

(All)

### ARP Local Funds Decision Status

Decisions made for none of funds	5
Decisions made for some of first half of funds	1
Decisions made for most/all of first half of funds	2
Decisions made for most/all of funds	4

### ARP Local Funds Decisions by Category



Evidence of equity-focused investments?

Yes

No/Not Evident

Types of community outreach:

None

## MISSISSIPPI

- **Funding decision status**
  - none of funds
  - some of first half
  - most / all of first half
  - most / all of all funds
- Decisions by **category**
- **12 cities** over 20,000 in population



# SLFRF REPORTING

**Treasury released data for the December 31, 2021 reporting deadline. In MS:**

- **19 recipients** (mostly counties)
  - less than 250,000 in population
  - more than \$10 million in total reward
- **45 projects**
  - 22 Infrastructure
  - 7 Administrative and Other
  - 5 in Public Health
  - 5 Revenue Replacement
  - 5 projects still awaiting final decision
  - 3 Negative Economic Impacts
  - 3 Premium Pay

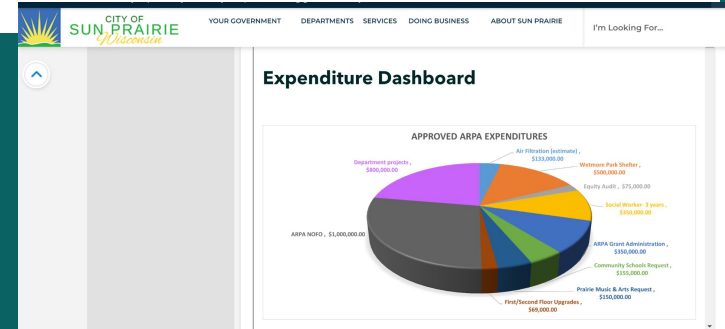
# TRANSPARENCY

- College Park, MD (pop 32,000) has simple presentation with metrics and date
- Sun Prairie, WI (pop 34,000) a simple dashboard with approved spending, associated goals, and resolutions
- Lakewood, WA (pop 60,000) has easy to follow webpage with city contacts front and center, project updates, and community input visualizations

## City of College Park-American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) as of April 26, 2022

Businesses	Local Ownership	\$250,000 to Food Assistance Programs	\$150,000 to First Responders	Non-Profit	Families/ Individuals
37 Approved	70% Minority Owned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Helpers to Good, Inc</li><li>Route One Communities Care Project</li><li>United Methodist Community Meals Program</li><li>Meals on Wheels</li><li>College Park Community Food Bank</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>College Park Volunteer Fire Department</li><li>Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department</li><li>Branchville Volunteer Fire Department</li></ul>	2 Approved	28 Approved
Awarding \$915,000 in ARPA Funding	60% Women Owned			Awarding \$37,350 in ARPA Funding	Awarding \$73,398.12 in ARPA Funding

College Park based Families, Individuals, and Businesses can apply for ARPA Assistance at [www.collegeparkmd.gov/arpa](http://www.collegeparkmd.gov/arpa)



# LOOKING AHEAD

## Use of “Standard Allowance” for up to \$10 million in Revenue Replacement

**This approach is recommended by Treasury to increase flexibility in use of funds and simplify reporting requirements**

- Local governments can report up to \$10 million in this category, with no need to compute or demonstrate actual revenue loss
- Funds under the standard allowance can be used for any general government purpose, with no deadline for expenditure
- Use of the standard allowance means that transparency and accountability are even more critical

A map of the United States with state boundaries. The Southeastern region, including states from Virginia down to Florida and west to Texas, is highlighted in a vibrant green. The rest of the country is shown in a light teal color.

# RESOURCES

**SEAP:** [theseap.org](https://theseap.org)

**MS Toolkit:**

[https://theseap.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/OneVoice\\_SEAP\\_March\\_2022.pdf](https://theseap.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/OneVoice_SEAP_March_2022.pdf)

**DASHBOARDS:**

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/southern.economic.advancement.project/seap>.

**Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC):**

<https://www.pandemicoversight.gov>

**Technical Assistance**

Contact SEAP: [seap@rooseveltinstitute.org](mailto:seap@rooseveltinstitute.org)