
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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COVID-19 UPDATES FOR OTHER STATES — SOUTH AND WEST REGIONS

Weekly Updates. On April 16, 2020, the Fiscal Services Division published a [summary](#) of reports on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on states in the South and West regions. This document updates those reports. An update of the Northeast and Midwest regions was published on April 24, 2020.

These updates will primarily address the fiscal impact of the pandemic on the states and activities of state legislatures. Current caseload statistics for each state can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html.

Federal Funding. On April 24, 2020, Federal Funds Information for the States (FFIS) published a listing of estimated COVID-19-related federal funding by state. The FFIS information is cited for each of the states included in this update.

The FFIS information included the amount allocated to each state from the \$150.000 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund created in the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, as well as other funding from the CARES Act and other federal legislation for specific purposes under the direction of federal agencies, including the following:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Justice
- Department of Labor
- Department of Transportation

FEMA Disaster Funding. All 50 states have now received Major Disaster Declarations from the federal government, qualifying the states for disaster aid through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

South Region

Alabama — According to FFIS, Alabama will receive \$1.901 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$3.322 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. At a press conference on April 23, 2020, the Speaker of the Alabama House announced that an agreement has been made for Alabama lawmakers to resume work on May 4, 2020. When the legislature reconvenes, they will only consider local bills and budget bills. The legislature must adjourn the current session by May 18, 2020.

Arkansas — According to FFIS, Arkansas will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$2.185 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 23, 2020, the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration lowered the state's [general revenue forecast](#) by \$353.1 million (6.2%) for FY 2020.

Delaware — According to FFIS, Delaware will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.628 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Florida — According to FFIS, Florida will receive \$8.328 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$15.094 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Ron DeSantis established a [Re-Open Florida Task Force](#) that includes industry working groups on agriculture, finance, government, health care, management, professional services, tourism, construction, real estate, recreation, retail, transportation, administration, education, information and technology, manufacturing, utilities, and wholesale.

Georgia — According to FFIS, Georgia will receive \$4.117 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$7.412 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 16, 2020, Georgia's Governor Brian Kemp issued an [Executive Order](#) directing that an additional \$32.0 million be transferred from the Governor's Emergency Fund to appropriation accounts to cover costs associated with COVID-19. On April 20, 2020, Governor Kemp announced that businesses throughout the state would begin to open on April 24, 2020, with additional businesses opening on April 27, 2020.

Kentucky — According to FFIS, Kentucky will receive \$1.732 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$3.089 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. After a seven-day recess, the Kentucky legislature returned April 14 and adjourned for the year on April 15. The Legislature granted Governor Andy Beshear the authority to tap into additional restricted funds to purchase personal protective equipment such as face masks, medical gowns, and gloves, which the state and hospitals have struggled to procure for front line health care workers. On April 29, Governor Beshear announced a regional cooperation with the governors of Ohio and Indiana for easing coronavirus-related restrictions and reopening portions of the economy.

Louisiana — According to FFIS, Louisiana will receive \$1.803 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$3.395 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 17, 2020, the Louisiana President of the Senate and Speaker of the House announced the creation of a private sector task force to advise the legislature on reopening. The task force, consisting of a wide range of business leaders, is expected to meet multiple times between now and July 1, 2020, to develop comprehensive policy, legislative, and regulatory recommendations to immediately restart the Louisiana economy and to invest in the long-term recovery of households, workers, and businesses from the COVID-19 crisis.

Maryland — According to FFIS, Maryland will receive \$2.344 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$4.657 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Maryland legislature will not reconvene for a special session in May as previously anticipated.

Mississippi — According to FFIS, Mississippi will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$2.319 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mississippi legislature is set to resume its 2020 session on May 18. On April 24, Governor Tate Reeves issued an updated [Executive Order 1477](#) allowing residents to leave home for essential activities, including recreation and outdoor activity, operation of a business, and performance of job duties. The order allows all businesses and nonprofits to reopen or remain open, with certain exceptions, and specifies certain requirements. Violations of the order are subject to enforcement under the state's emergency management law and punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment for up to six months or both.

North Carolina — According to FFIS, North Carolina will receive \$4.067 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$7.028 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The North Carolina legislature reconvened on April 28, 2020, to take COVID-19-related actions and intends to adjourn in July or August 2020.

Oklahoma — According to FFIS, Oklahoma will receive \$1.534 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$2.778 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

South Carolina — According to FFIS, South Carolina will receive \$1.996 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$3.475 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tennessee — According to FFIS, Tennessee will receive \$2.648 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$4.686 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Tennessee legislature is currently suspended until June 1, 2020. Legislative staffers are set to return to work on May 4.

Texas — According to FFIS, Texas will receive \$11.243 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$19.408 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Texas legislature is currently not in session as it meets in regular session during odd-numbered years. Upcoming interim meetings listed on the Texas [House](#) and [Senate](#) websites through May 5 have been postponed or canceled.

Virginia — According to FFIS, Virginia will receive \$3.310 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$5.875 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 22, 2020, the Virginia legislature reconvened to address the governor's amendments. The House met in large canopies outside on the capitol grounds and the Senate met in a large event center space several miles away. Lawmakers were seated far apart and wore masks to prevent the spread of the virus. In the House, a proposed rule change that would have allowed members to participate remotely failed.

Washington, D.C. — According to FFIS, Washington, D.C., will receive \$495.1 million from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.324 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

West Virginia — According to FFIS, West Virginia will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.879 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 27, 2020, Governor Jim Justice established [guidelines](#) and a six-week timeline for business reopenings. This timeline depends on the percentage of COVID-19 tests administered resulting positive. The process begins on April 30.

West Region

Alaska — According to FFIS, Alaska will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.725 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 6, 2020, the Alaska Department of Revenue reduced projected unrestricted general fund revenue for FY 2020 by \$527.0 million, including a \$461.0 million reduction to expected petroleum revenue and a \$67.0 million reduction to expected nonpetroleum revenue. The projection for FY 2021 was reduced by \$815.0 million, including \$693.0 million in petroleum revenue and \$121.0 million in nonpetroleum revenue.

On April 22, Governor Mike Dunleavy announced Phase I of the [Reopen Alaska Responsibly](#) plan and issued [additional guidance](#) on April 24. Stay-at-home requirements have been lifted, and restaurants and retail establishments have been allowed to open at 25.0% capacity if they meet certain other requirements. Indoor and outdoor religious, social, or other gatherings, as well as outdoor gym classes, are limited to 20 people. Child care and day camp operations are allowed to reopen subject to [detailed guidelines](#).

Arizona — According to FFIS, Arizona will receive \$2.822 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$5.052 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Arizona legislature is currently suspended with a May 1, 2020, return date.

California — According to FFIS, California will receive \$15.321 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$28.874 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The California legislature is currently suspended with a May 4, 2020, return date.

Colorado — According to FFIS, Colorado will receive \$2.233 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$3.898 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Colorado legislature is now scheduled to resume May 18, 2020. On April 26, Governor Jared Polis announced [Executive Order D 2020 044](#) modifying Safer at Home guidelines and providing a plan to reopen the state in phases. The plan allows noncritical businesses to provide delivery service, window service, or curbside service; authorizes the resumption of voluntary or elective medical, dental, and veterinary surgeries and procedures under required safety protocols; and permits offices to open with 50.0% of staff beginning May 4, at which time childcare facilities will be allowed to reopen or expand. Also on April 26, the governor announced [Executive Order B 2020 002](#) creating the New Normal Advisory Board.

Hawaii — According to FFIS, Hawaii will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.810 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 3, 2020, the Hawaii House Select Committee on COVID-19 Economic and Financial Preparedness released [documentation](#) providing guidance for Hawaii's agricultural sector, including grant and loan information from the United States Department of Agriculture.

Idaho — According to FFIS, Idaho will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.721 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Idaho legislature adjourned on March 20, 2020.

Montana — According to FFIS, Montana will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.653 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Steve Bullock announced the establishment of the [Coronavirus Relief Fund Task Force](#) to provide guidance on how best to distribute federal funds, with final recommendations to be provided to Governor Bullock by April 30, 2020. The phased reopening of Montana began on April 27, 2020. Retail businesses were allowed to open with capacity limits and physical distancing requirements. Beginning May 4, 2020, restaurants and bars will be allowed to resume in-establishment services under reduced capacity and social distancing guidelines. Schools can resume in-classroom teaching on May 7, 2020, if allowed by local school boards. Local jurisdictions are allowed to make more restrictive ordinances.

Nevada — According to FFIS, Nevada will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$2.263 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevada has joined Oregon, Washington, Colorado, and California in a Western States Pact to establish a shared vision in modifying stay-at-home orders and fighting COVID-19.

New Mexico — According to FFIS, New Mexico will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.924 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. New Mexico has also received \$1.424 billion in loans for businesses from the Small Business Administration.

Oregon — According to FFIS, Oregon will receive \$1.635 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$2.872 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 13, 2020, Washington Governor Jay Inslee, California Governor Gavin Newsom, and Oregon Governor Kate Brown announced the establishment of the Western States Pact, a working group of Western state governors with a shared vision for modifying stay-at-home orders and fighting COVID-19. As of April 27, 2020, Colorado Governor Jared Polis and Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak

joined the Pact with the goal of a shared vision for reopening their economies and controlling COVID-19 into the future. A joint statement by released by the Pact can be found [here](#).

Utah — According to FFIS, Utah will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$2.153 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Utah legislature convened in its first-ever all-virtual special session on April 16 to address the impact of COVID-19. The special session is scheduled to last up to 10 days and may be the first in a series of special sessions. This was also the first-time the Utah legislature held a special session that was not called by the governor, following the 2018 passage of a state constitutional amendment to allow it to do so.

Washington — According to FFIS, Washington will receive \$2.953 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$5.416 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Governors Association has reported that the following actions have been taken by the governor since the last update:

- Extended existing emergency proclamations through May 4, 2020.
- Joined Oregon, Colorado, Nevada, and California in a Western States Pact to establish a shared vision in modifying stay-at-home orders and fighting COVID-19.
- Allocated an estimated \$300.0 million in CARES Act funds to cities and counties that did not receive a direct distribution from the Act. Funds will be provided to cities and counties with populations under 500,000 that were ineligible to receive direct funding under the CARES Act. Each county will receive a minimum distribution of \$250,000 and each city will receive a minimum distribution of \$25,000 from the state.

Wyoming — According to FFIS, Wyoming will receive \$1.250 billion from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund and is estimated to receive a total of \$1.500 billion from federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Wyoming legislature's Management Council will have a [meeting](#) on May 1, 2020, to consider draft legislation relating to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19.

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