

---

# **THE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION LANDSCAPE**

**UPDATED MARCH 2022**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>PART ONE</b> <b>COUNTIES AND THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET</b>	3
<b>PART TWO</b> <b>THE COUNTY ROLE IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS BY AGENCY</b>	9
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE</b>	10
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>	16
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</b>	21
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING</b>	35
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS</b>	39
<b>PART THREE</b> <b>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</b>	42

---

# **PART ONE**

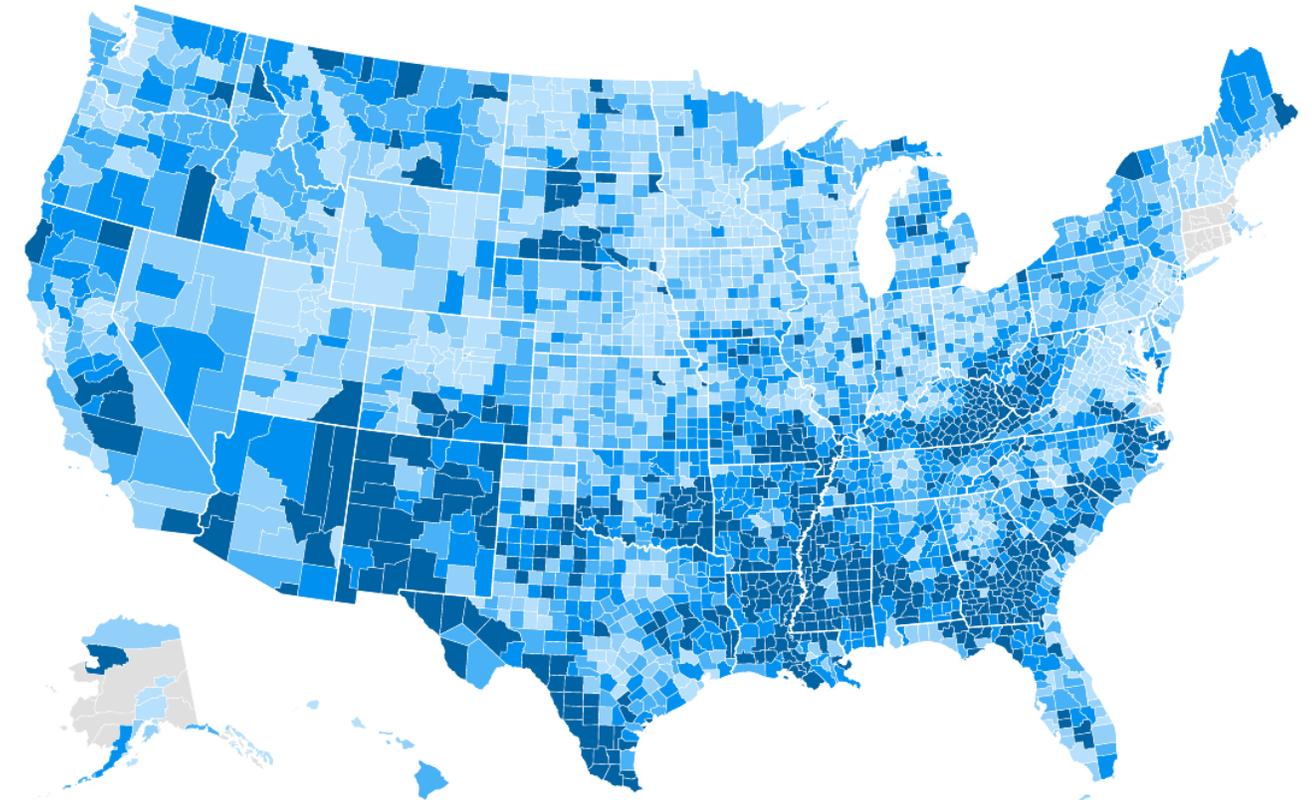
# **COUNTIES AND THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET**



# COUNTIES ARE FRONT LINE SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Counties invest heavily in residents' health and well-being, often serving as the ultimate safety net for low-income residents
- Many states mandate county delivery of human services and indigent care
- County leaders are committed to breaking cycles of poverty and helping vulnerable residents thrive

## 2019 POVERTY RATE



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES **NACo** Explorer.NACo.org **COUNTY EXPLORER**

622 616 611 612 608  
2.7% 9.7% 12.2% 14.8% 18.6% 47.7%

# COUNTIES CARE FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS:

**Combating  
homelessness**

**Preventing child  
abuse and neglect**

**Supporting early  
childhood  
development**

**Combating food  
insecurity**

**Fighting  
multigenerational  
poverty**

**Assisting elderly  
residents**

**Providing  
workforce  
development  
services**

**Investing in  
education**

# STATE VS. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OF FEDERAL SAFETY NET PROGRAMS

Many federal safety net programs are delivered through a partnership between the federal government and states.



**Certain** states **further** delegate administration of federal human services programs to **counties**



County administration differs by program and can include a range of responsibilities

# COUNTY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION CAN INCLUDE:

**Contributing  
administrative  
dollars**

**Eligibility  
determinations**

**Delivering services  
or contracting with  
providers**

**Determining how  
to spend program  
funds**

**Enrolling program  
participants**

**Setting eligibility  
requirements**

**Meeting reporting  
and paperwork  
requirements**

**Contributing to  
Maintenance of  
Effort (MOE)  
requirements**

# THE COUNTY INVESTMENT IN HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION

- The role of counties varies widely from state to state, but human services and education expenditures are among the largest parts of county budgets
- Each year, counties invest **\$62.8 billion** in federal, state and local resources to provide safety net services for millions of residents
- Counties invest **\$103 billion** in elementary, secondary and post-secondary education each year
- There are over **259,000** county human services employees across the country delivering vital services to our nation's most vulnerable populations

---

## **PART TWO**

# **THE COUNTY ROLE IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS BY AGENCY**



---

# **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

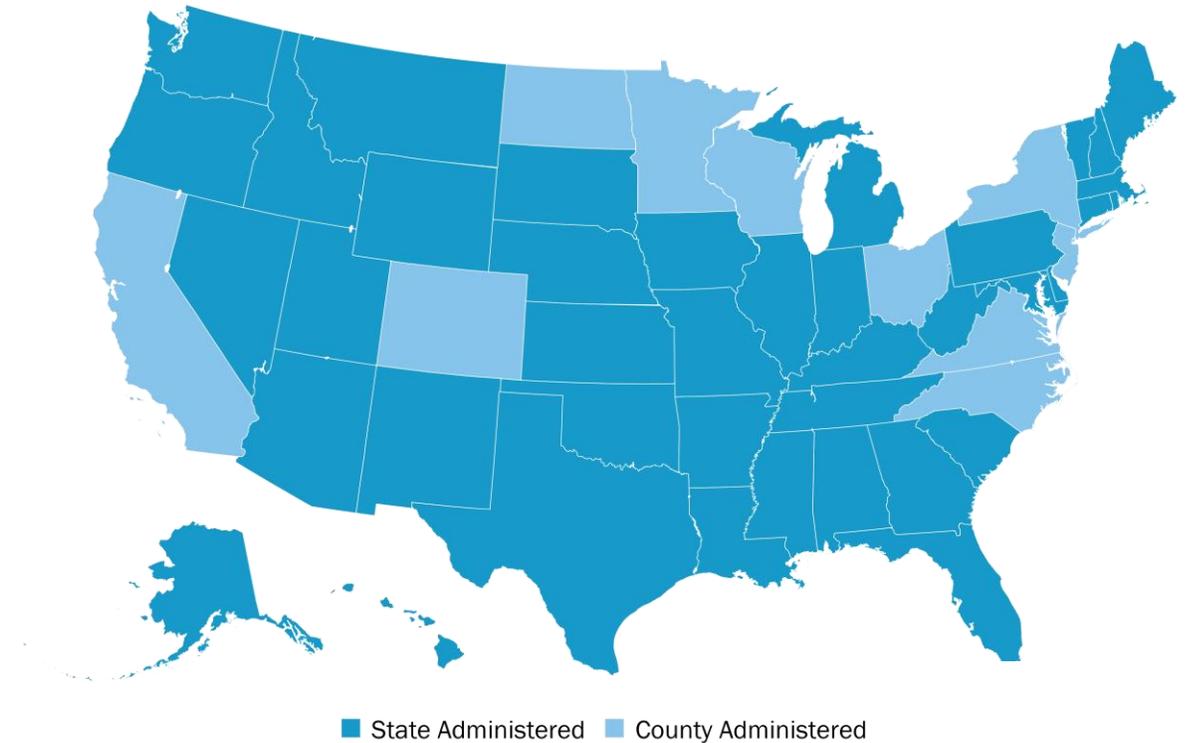
## **FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE**



# SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

## COUNTIES ADMINISTER SNAP IN 10 STATES

- California, Colorado, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Virginia, and Wisconsin
- Account for **32 percent** of total participants
- Represented **\$18.6 billion** in SNAP benefits in FY 2019



# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COUNTY ROLE IN SNAP



[Click to access resource](#)

2022 POLICY BRIEF



## SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) REAUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATIONS

### ACTION NEEDED:

Urge your members of Congress and the administration to support counties' role in the federal, state and local partnership in administering and financing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

### BACKGROUND:

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, is the largest federal nutrition program, providing 37.2 million low-income individuals with monthly grocery benefits. SNAP was reauthorized along with other food and agriculture programs in the 2018 Farm Bill, which is set to expire September 30, 2023 and will likely see legislative work begin in earnest in the 2022 calendar year. Though SNAP is an entitlement, it still receives funding annually through the congressional appropriations process, meaning benefit availability can be impacted by government shutdowns.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) administers SNAP in partnership with states, 10 of which delegate that responsibility to counties: California, Colorado, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin. These 10 county-administered states account for 31 percent of all SNAP program participants. Counties operating SNAP often contribute significant levels of local funds to meet the administrative and supplemental costs of running the program. SNAP not only helps struggling families put food on the table but effectively and efficiently stimulates the economy during times of downturn and natural disasters, as families in need can quickly access and spend benefits. In addition to providing food assistance for millions of low-income families, elderly Americans and individuals with disabilities, SNAP supports self-sufficiency through Employment and Training (E&T) programs that help participants gain skills, training or work experience and equip them for regular, sustained employment.

SNAP PROVIDES NUTRITION ASSISTANCE TO **37.2 MILLION** LOW-INCOME AMERICANS

**TEN STATES** REPRESENTING **32 PERCENT** OF PARTICIPANTS DELEGATE SNAP ADMINISTRATION AND COSTS TO COUNTIES

IN 2020, **10.5 PERCENT** OF U.S. HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCED FOOD INSECURITY

IN 2020, SNAP BENEFITS LIFTED **3.2 MILLION INDIVIDUALS** OUT OF POVERTY

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE BRIEF



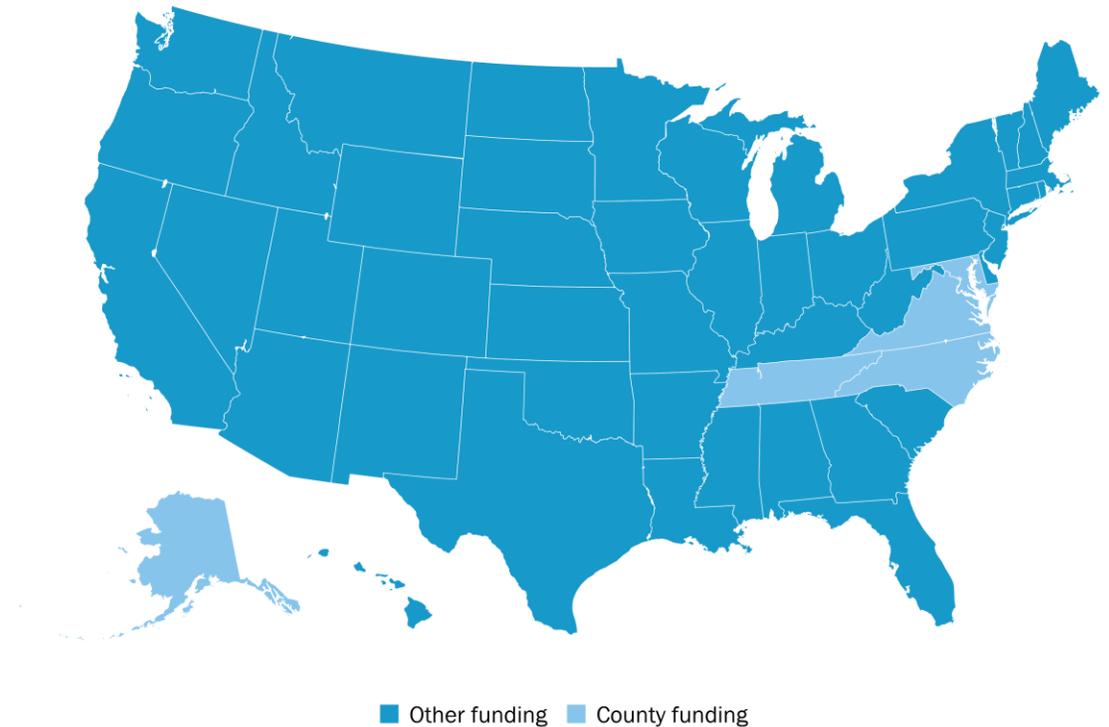
690 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • 202.393.6226 • www.naco.org  
fb.com/NACoDC • @NACoTweets • youtube.com/NACoVideo • linkedin.com/in/NACoDC

[Click to access resource](#)

# SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAMS

## COUNTIES PARTIALLY OR FULLY FUND K-12 SCHOOLS IN 5 STATES

- Alaska, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia
- Represented **18.2 percent** of school lunch participants in 2019
- Represented **10.1 percent** of school breakfast participants in 2019

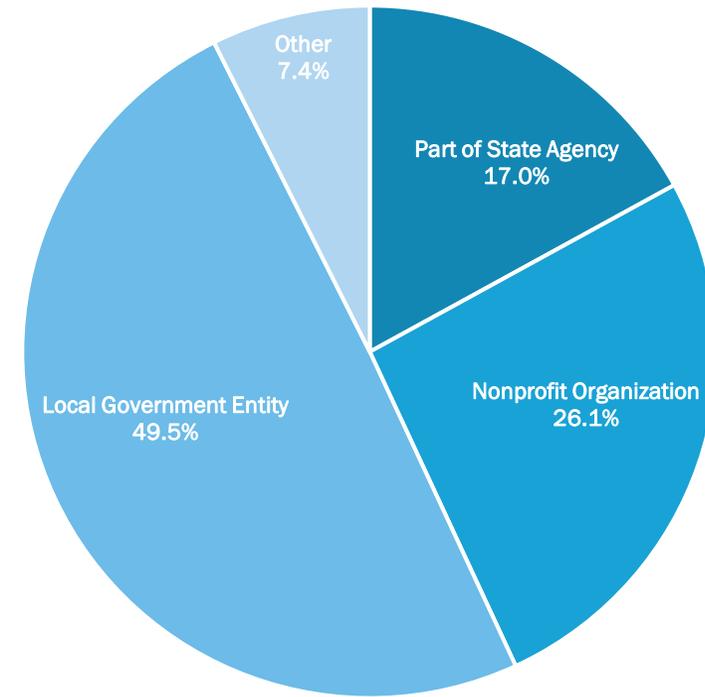


# SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

## STATE AGENCIES ADMINISTER WIC THROUGH 1,900 LOCAL AGENCIES IN 10,000 CLINIC SITES

- Nearly **50 percent** local agencies function as part of local government, including counties
- Clinic sites also include county health departments and other county sites

### LOCAL WIC AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE



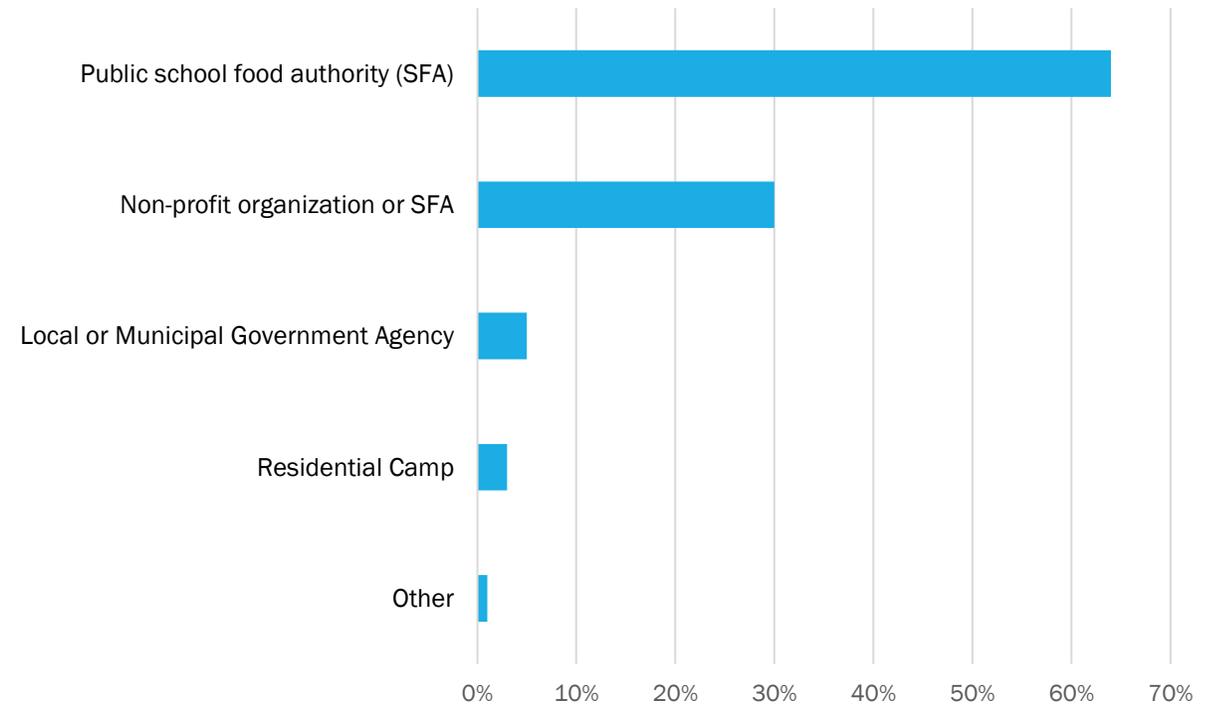
Source: USDA Food and Nutrition Service, National Survey of WIC Participants III

# SUMMER MEALS PROGRAMS

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES REPRESENT **3 PERCENT** OF ALL SUMMER MEAL SITE SPONSORS

- An estimated **7,362 sponsors** provide summer meals at **68,321 sites** across the country
- School food authorities, which are funded by county governments in **5 states**, are the most common summer meal sponsors

## SUMMER MEAL SPONSORS BY ORGANIZATION TYPE



Source: USDA Food and Nutrition Service, USDA Summer Meals Study Volume 2. Sponsor and Site Operational Characteristics, 2018

---

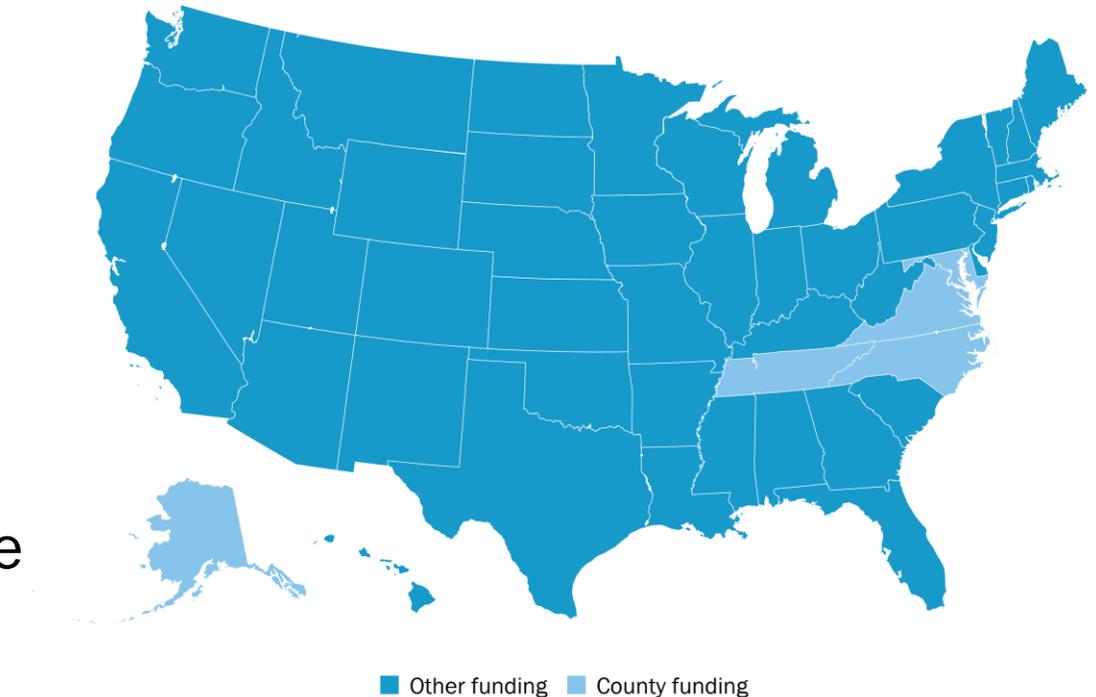
# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



# ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## COUNTIES PARTIALLY OR FULLY FUND K-12 SCHOOLS IN 5 STATES

- Alaska, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia
- Each year, counties invest **\$94.1 billion** dollars in K-12 education
- Even in states where counties are not responsible for funding school districts, we share a common tax base and often provide complementary services to participating children



# ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

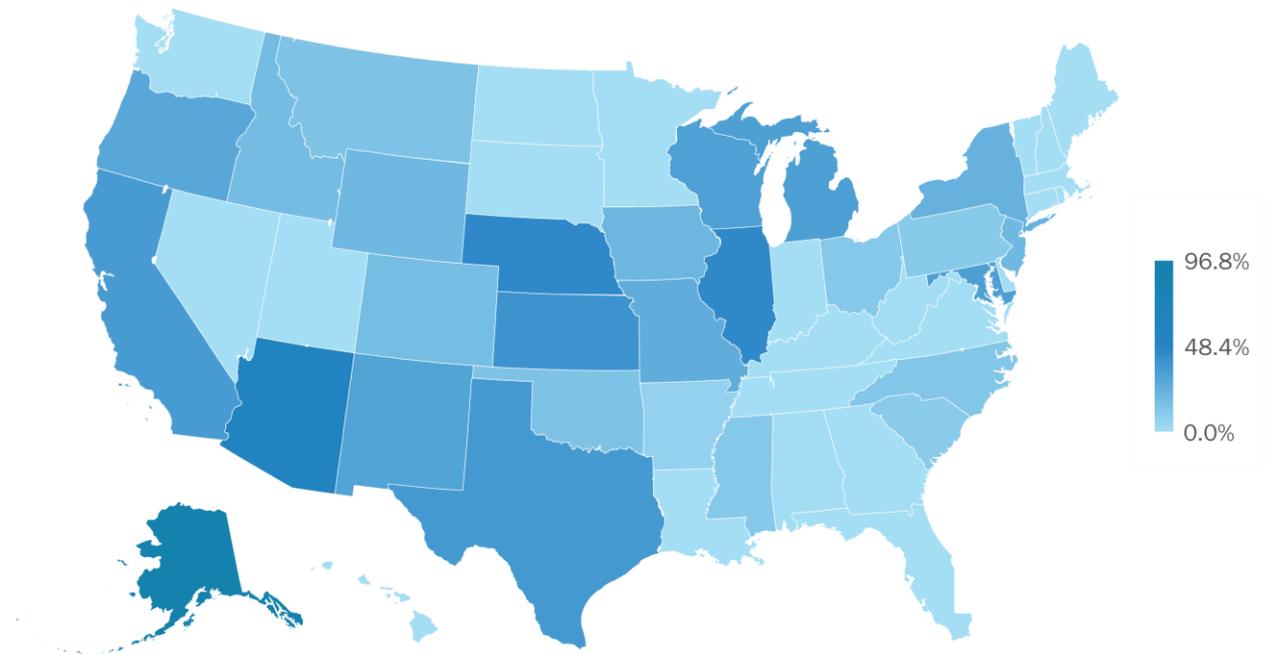
- **Maryland:** Elected (or appointed by Governor) county school board with funding provided by county board
- **Tennessee:** Elected county school board with funding provided by county board (there are also certain municipally-funded, dependent school districts within cities)
- **Virginia:** Appointed county school board with funding provided by county board or appointed city school board with funding provided by city council
- **North Carolina:** Elected county school boards. Counties are charged with building, equipping, and maintaining school facilities while the state is charged with funding school operations. However, counties often contribute to operating funds
- **Alaska:** Elected borough and city school boards, depend on borough and city governments for funding, respectively

# HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## LOCAL APPROPRIATIONS PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN 24 STATES

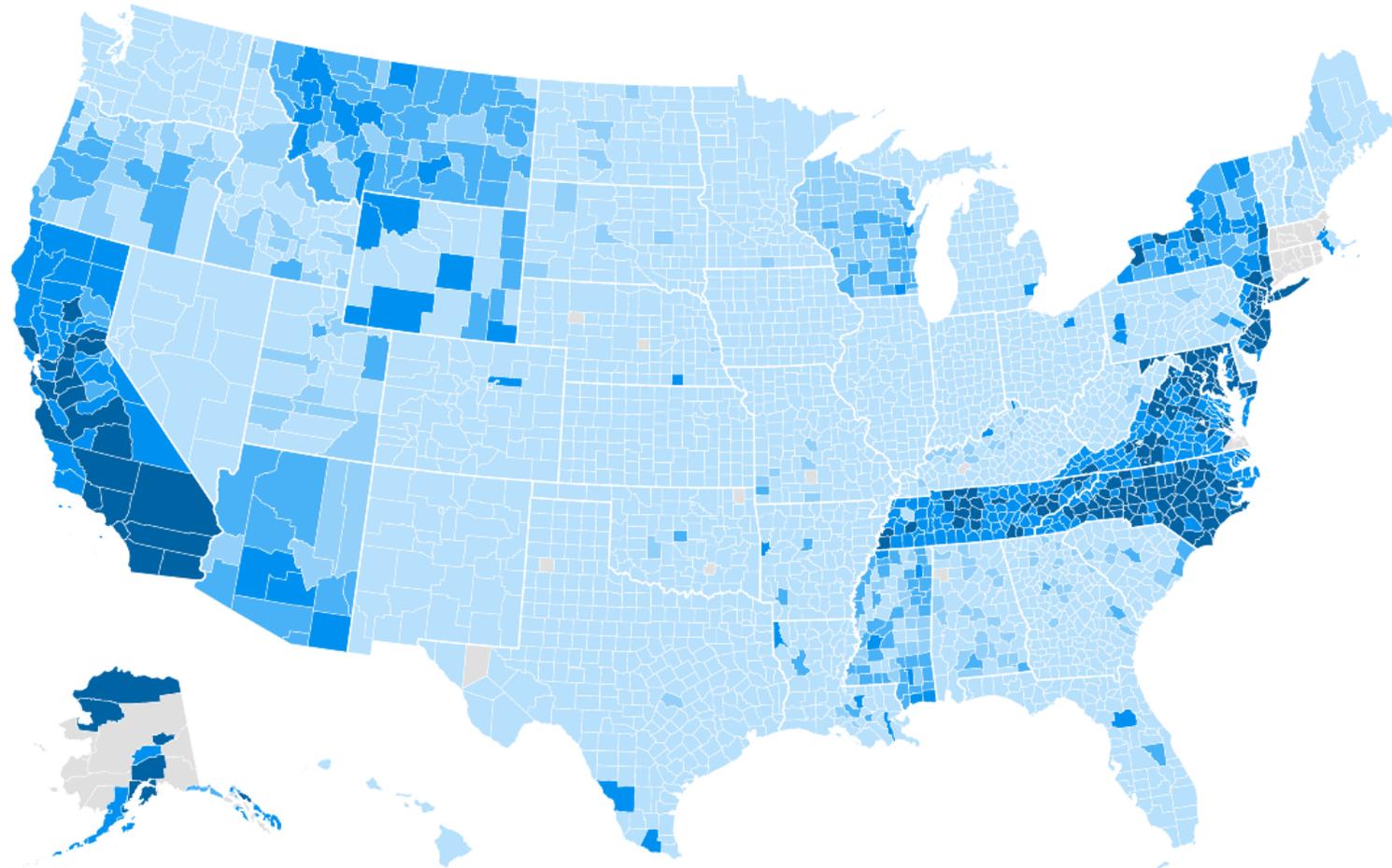
- Counties invest **\$8.6 billion** in higher education each year
- Counties also invest in Career and Technical Education (CTE) and workforce development in partnership with community colleges

## SHARE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE REVENUE FROM LOCAL APPROPRIATIONS

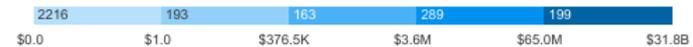


Data: Center for American Progress, [Tapping Local Support To Strengthen Community Colleges](#)

# COUNTY EXPENDITURES ON ALL EDUCATION, 2017



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES **NACo** Explorer.NACo.org **COUNTY EXPLORER**



---

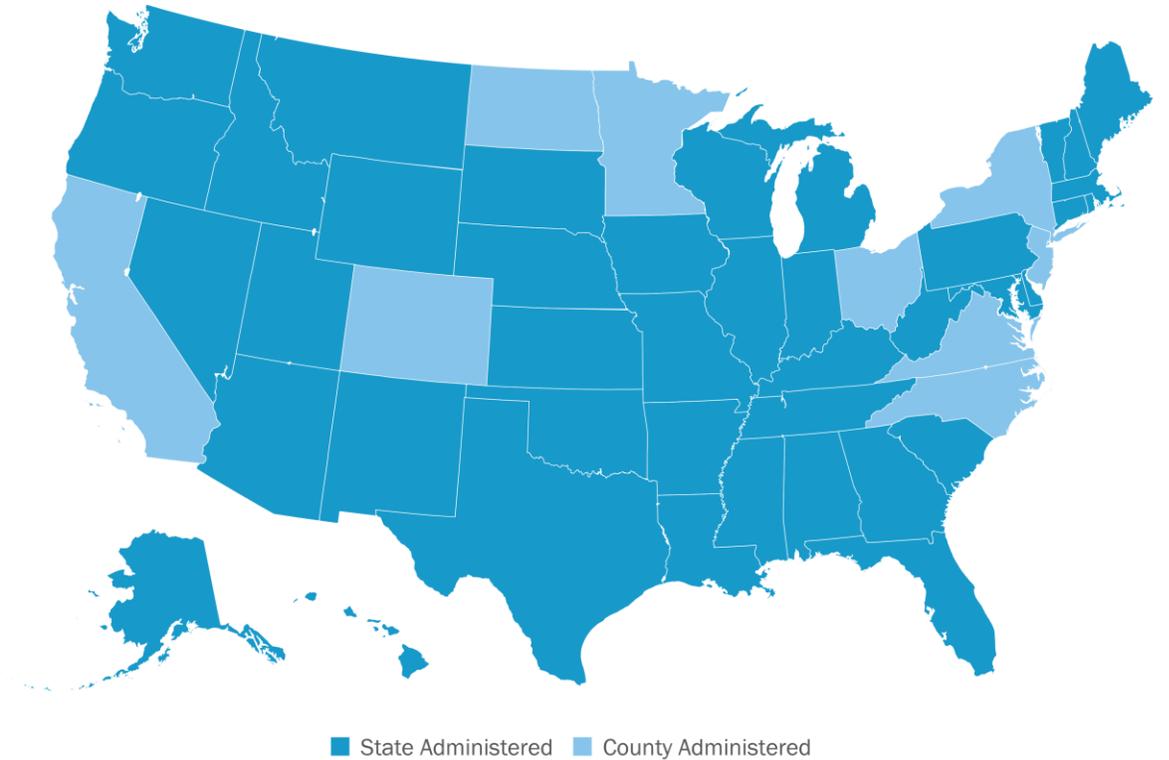
# **US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** **ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**



# TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

## COUNTIES ADMINISTER TANF IN 9 STATES

- California, Colorado, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, and Virginia
- Represent **55 percent** of total program participants
- Accounted for **\$14.4 billion** (45.6 percent) in federal, state and local TANF expenditures in FY 2020\*



\*Including TANF funds transferred to CCDF and SSBG

# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COUNTY ROLE IN TANF

## 2022 POLICY BRIEF



### REAUTHORIZE THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) BLOCK GRANT

#### ACTION NEEDED:

Urge your Members of Congress to enact a long-term, substantive reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

#### BACKGROUND:

As part of welfare reform, Congress created TANF in 1996 to replace the prevailing federal cash assistance program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF), TANF provides states with flexible funding for programs aimed at promoting stability, family preservation, and access to employment among low-income households with children.

Although TANF is a partnership between the federal government and states, nine states representing more than half of total participants delegate TANF administration, including MOE requirements, to counties: California, Colorado, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio and Virginia. Montgomery County, Maryland also operates TANF.

TANF represents an important source of flexible funding for a variety of anti-poverty activities benefiting vulnerable county residents, including cash assistance, child care, education, job training and work support programs. In FY 2020, states used 22.3 percent of TANF and MOE funds for basic assistance, 9.7 percent work, education, and training activities, and 16.6 percent for child care (including funds transferred to the Child Care Development Fund). While states have significant flexibility in using TANF funds, the program does impose certain limitations. Families do not qualify for cash assistance under TANF unless states require recipients to participate in narrowly defined "work activities" and a share of a state's participants meet a minimum weekly work threshold of 30 hours. There is also a five-year limit for cash assistance to families that include an adult recipient, although states may exceed the time limit for up to 20 percent of their

TANF HAS NOT RECEIVED A FULL REAUTHORIZATION **SINCE 2005** AND CONTINUES TO RELY ON SHORT TERM EXTENSIONS

**NINE STATES** REPRESENTING MORE THAN HALF OF TOTAL PARTICIPANTS DELEGATE TANF ADMINISTRATION TO COUNTIES

TANF HAS BEEN FUNDED AT **\$16.5 BILLION** ANNUALLY SINCE 1996, WITH NO GROWTH FOR INFLATION AND AN OUTDATED FORMULA

IN FY 2020, STATES USED **22.3 PERCENT** OF TANF AND MOE FUNDS FOR BASIC CASH ASSISTANCE, **9.7 PERCENT** FOR WORK ACTIVITIES AND **16.6 PERCENT** FOR CHILD CARE

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE BRIEF



660 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • 202.393.6226 • [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)  
[fb.com/NACoDC](https://fb.com/NACoDC) • [@NACoTweets](https://twitter.com/NACoTweets) • [youtube.com/NACoVideo](https://youtube.com/NACoVideo) • [linkedin.com/in/NACoDC](https://linkedin.com/in/NACoDC)

[Click to access resource](#)



# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COUNTY ROLE IN CHILD CARE

## 2022 POLICY BRIEF



### SUPPORT THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF)

#### ACTION NEEDED:

Urge your members of Congress to increase resources under the mandatory and discretionary titles Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program.

#### BACKGROUND:

The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF) administers CCDF, the federal government's funding source for child care subsidies to help eligible low-income families access child care and improve the quality of child care for all children. Last reauthorized in 2014, CCDF is comprised of both a mandatory component (not subject to the annual appropriations process), the Child Care Entitlement to States (CCES), and a discretionary portion, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), which Congress must fund every fiscal year. In FY 2021, CCDBG received \$ 5.9 billion and CCES received \$2.8 billion for a total of \$8.7 billion in CCDF funding.

Subsidized child care services under CCDF are available to eligible families through certificates (vouchers) or grants and contracts with providers. States have discretion to set income eligibility at or below 85 percent of State Median Income (SMI), setting the maximum age for children at or below 12 years, or at or below 18 years if children have special needs and defining the activities that qualify a family for assistance (work, education, etc.) County governments are responsible for administering CCDF in at least eight states, according to the most recent available state plans: Colorado, Minnesota, North Carolina, North Dakota, New York, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin. In FY 2018, these eight states together invested more than \$2 billion in federal, state and local funds in the CCDF program, accounting for more than a fifth of the national total. The scope of the county role in administering CCDF varies but means that county governments in these states may set policy related to eligibility, sliding fee scales, and payment rates as well as perform eligibility determinations, issue provider payments,

CCDF ENCOURAGES WORK AND POSITIVE CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT BY HELPING LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AFFORD CHILD CARE SERVICES

EIGHT STATES REPRESENTING 20 PERCENT OF PARTICIPATING CHILDREN DELEGATE CCDF ADMINISTRATION TO COUNTIES

IN 2018, 51 PERCENT OF AMERICANS LIVED IN NEIGHBORHOODS THAT QUALIFIED AS CHILD CARE DESERTS

CCDF REACHED ONLY 14 PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE CHILDRE IN 2018

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE BRIEF

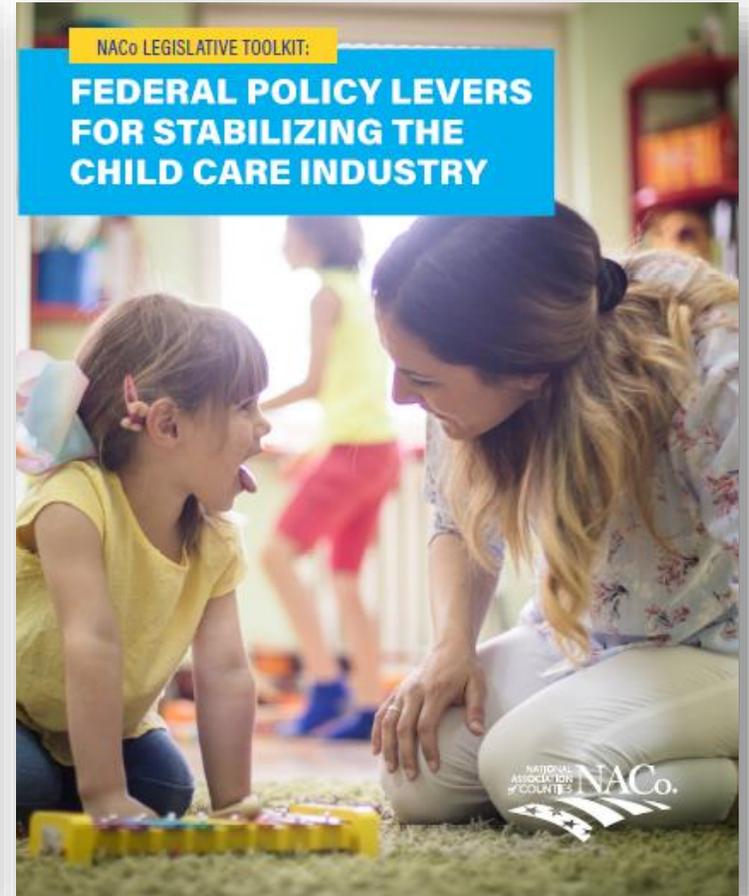


690 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • 202.393.6226 • www.naco.org  
fb.com/NACoDC • @NACoTweets • youtube.com/NACoVideo • linkedin.com/in/NACoDC

[Click to access resource](#)

NACo LEGISLATIVE TOOLKIT:

## FEDERAL POLICY LEVERS FOR STABILIZING THE CHILD CARE INDUSTRY



[Click to access resource](#)



# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COUNTY ROLE IN SSBG

## 2022 POLICY BRIEF



### SUPPORT THE SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (SSBG)

#### ACTION NEEDED:

Urge your Members of Congress to increase the funding cap for the Services Block Grant (SSBG).

#### BACKGROUND:

SSBG provides funding to states to support a wide range of social services for vulnerable children, adults and families. Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF), the program is a capped entitlement to states with no matching requirement, meaning Congress sets funding levels for the program each year during the appropriations process. SSBG had its highest cap at roughly \$2.8 billion, but since 2001, Congress has authorized SSBG at \$1.7 billion yearly. Additionally, since FY 2014, SSBG has been subject to sequestration—a spending reduction process by which budgetary resources are canceled to enforce budget policy goals—receiving cut of roughly 7 percent each fiscal year.

SSBG funds support nearly 30 different types of services that reduce dependency and promote self-sufficiency; protect children and adults from neglect, abuse and exploitation; and help individuals who are unable to take care of themselves to stay in their homes or to find the best institutional arrangements. In FY 2016, the last year for which data is available, 26 million individuals (41 percent of whom were children) received services supported in whole or in part by SSBG. The highest share of SSBG spending goes toward child welfare and child protective services, general support services, and adult protective services which prevent and remedy abuse, neglect and exploitation of the elderly and disabled adults.

Nine states pass SSBG funds directly to counties: Colorado, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin, though counties in other states can access SSBG funds as well. According to a NACo analysis of Federal Audit Clearinghouse data, counties used over \$763 million in SSBG funds between Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 and FY

SSBG FUNDING SUPPORTS SERVICES TO ROUGHLY **26 MILLION INDIVIDUALS**, 41 PERCENT OF WHOM ARE CHILDREN

**NINE STATES** PASS SSBG FUNDING DIRECTLY TO COUNTIES

COUNTIES REPORT USING SSBG FUNDS FOR ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

YEARS OF SEQUESTRATION CUTS HAVE ERODED SSBG FUNDING FOR STATES AND COUNTIES

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE BRIEF



660 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • 202.393.6226 • [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)  
[fb.com/NACoDC](https://fb.com/NACoDC) • [@NACoTweets](https://twitter.com/NACoTweets) • [youtube.com/NACoVideo](https://youtube.com/NACoVideo) • [linkedin.com/in/NACoDC](https://linkedin.com/in/NACoDC)

[Click to access resource](#)

# COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)

## STATES ADMINISTER CSBG THROUGH **1,000 LOCAL AGENCIES** IN 99 PERCENT OF THE NATION'S COUNTIES

- Most CSBG agencies are Community Action Agencies (CAAs)—non-profits that by law must have local government represented on their boards
- **151 local government agencies** function as CSBG designee
- CAAs also receive funds from non-profit, state and local governments, and other federal programs

## FUNDING SOURCES FOR CAAs IN FY 2018

Funding Source	Funding Amount	Share of Total
CSBG	\$ 691 M	5%
Other Federal Programs	\$ 8.78 B	59%
State Sources	\$ 1.84 B	12%
Local Sources	\$ 2.12 B	14%
Private Sources	\$ 1.49 B	10%

Source: National Association for State Community Services Programs FY 18 Community Services Block Grant National Performance Update

# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COUNTY ROLE IN CSBG

## 2022 POLICY BRIEF



### **SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)**

#### **ACTION NEEDED:**

Urge your members of Congress to reauthorize and fully fund the Community Services Block Grant to ensure the program is effectively meeting the current needs of local communities.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF) administers the CSBG, which supports local agencies in activities that mitigate the root causes of poverty. CSBG-eligible activities vary depending on local needs, but often include services related to educational attainment, accessing and maintaining employment and self-sufficiency, household budget management, obtaining adequate housing and promoting greater community participation. Most CSBG funding is distributed to states, which must pass at least 90 percent of the funds through to eligible local entities.

Counties play an integral role in administering CSBG. The program operates in 99 percent of the nation's counties through a network of over 1,000 eligible public or private entities. Eligible entities are primarily Community Action Agencies (CAAs) designated under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-482). Local elected officials or their representatives must (by law) make up one-third of each CAA board of directors; these boards are responsible for ensuring that agencies continue to assess and respond to the causes and conditions of poverty in their communities, achieve anticipated family and community outcomes and operate in an administratively and fiscally sound manner. Along with CSBG, CAAs also operate a variety of grants that come from federal, state and local sources, such as Head Start and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

According to the latest annual report from the National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP), in FY 2019 the CSBG network served 10.2 million individuals living in poverty, including 3.2 million children. The network reported more than 250,000 employment outcomes (such as obtaining and

**CSBG FUNDS ANTI-POVERTY  
ACTIVITIES THROUGH LOCAL  
AGENCIES IN 99 PERCENT OF THE  
NATION'S COUNTIES**

**CSBG SERVED 10.2 MILLION  
INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN POVERTY  
IN FY 2019, INCLUDING 3.2  
MILLION CHILDREN**

**BY LAW, CSBG AGENCIES MUST  
ENGAGE WITH LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

**CSBG HAS NOT BEEN  
REAUTHORIZED SINCE 1998**

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD  
THE BRIEF**



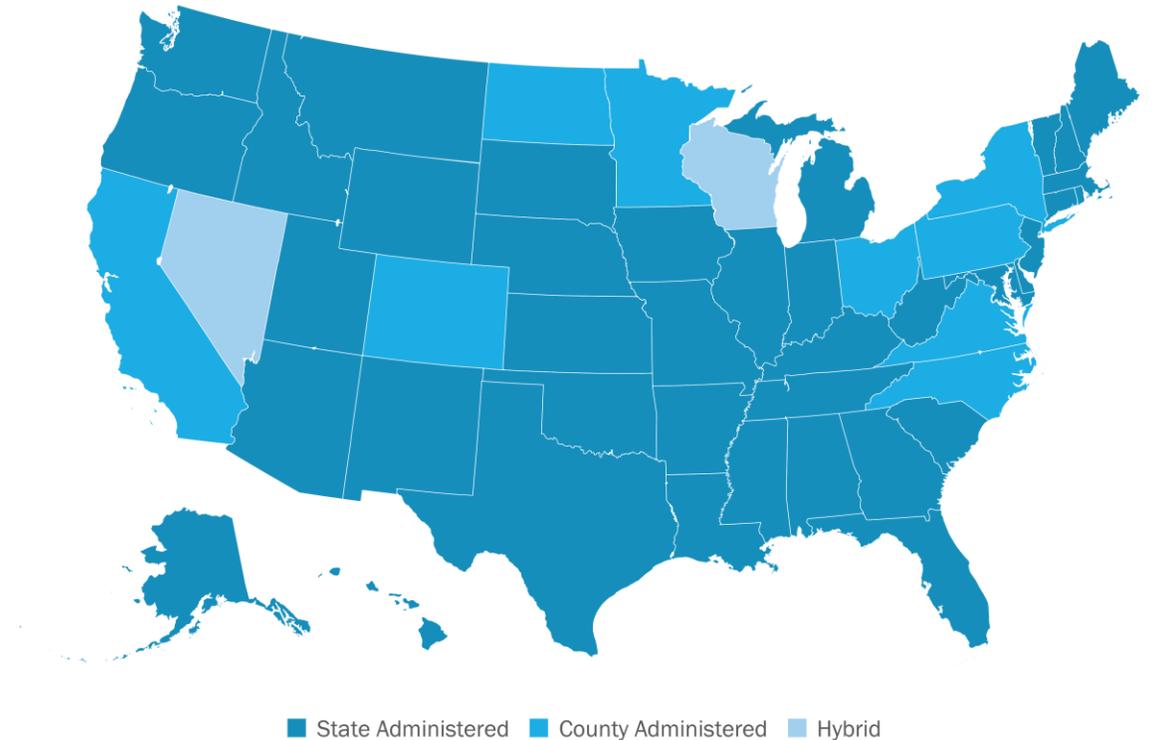
660 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • 202.393.6226 • [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)  
[fb.com/NACoDC](https://fb.com/NACoDC) • [@NACoTweets](https://twitter.com/NACoTweets) • [youtube.com/NACoVideo](https://youtube.com/NACoVideo) • [linkedin.com/in/NACoDC](https://linkedin.com/in/NACoDC)

[Click to access resource](#)

# THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

## COUNTIES FULLY OR PARTIALLY ADMINISTER CHILD WELFARE IN 11 STATES

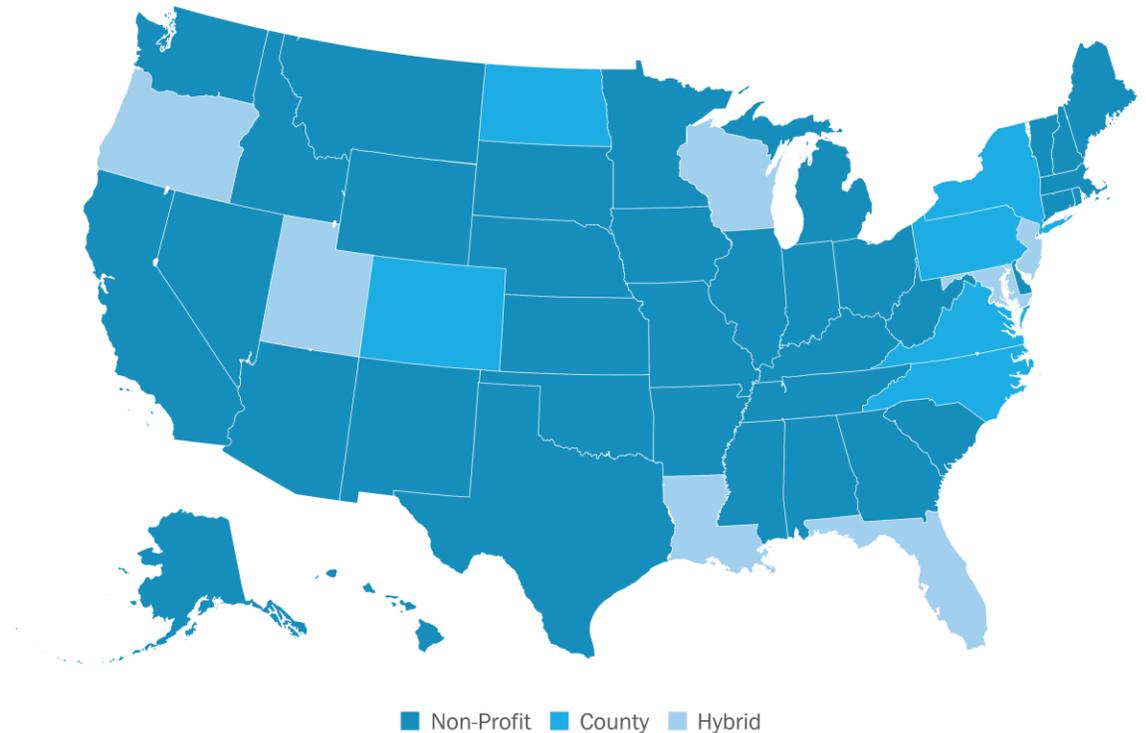
- County administered: California, Colorado, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia
- Hybrid (county & state): Nevada and Wisconsin
- Represent **33.5 percent** of children served in foster care



# LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

## COUNTIES OPERATE AS LIHEAP AGENCIES IN 13 STATES

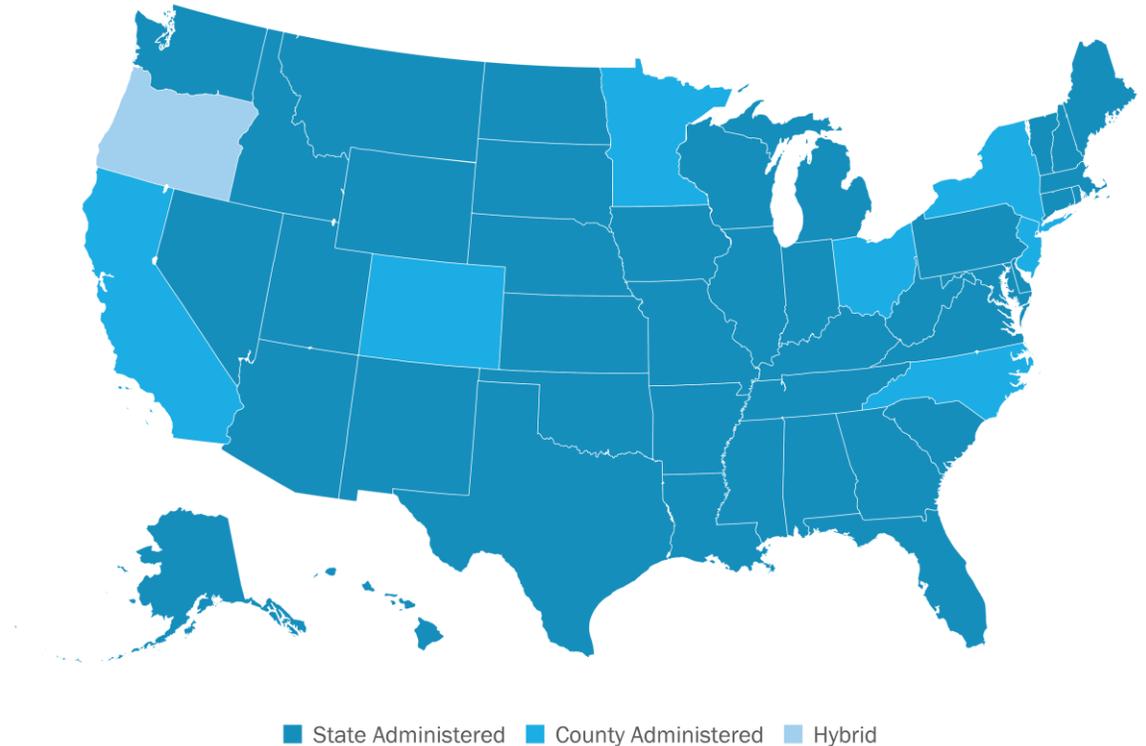
- All county: Colorado, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania and Virginia
- Hybrid (county and non-profits): Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, New Jersey, Oregon, Utah and Wisconsin
- Represented **37 percent** of total federal LIHEAP funding in FY 2020



# CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT (CSE)

## COUNTIES ADMINISTER CSE IN 7 STATES

- County administered: California, Colorado, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio
- Hybrid (state and county): Oregon
- Represented 30 percent of child support collections in FY 2019

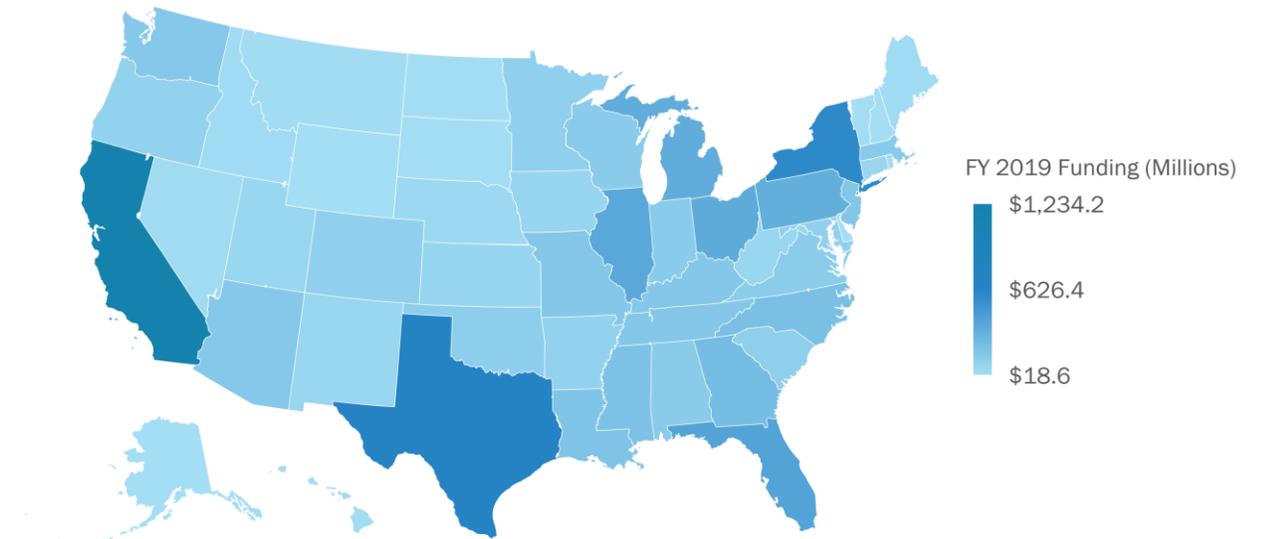


# HEAD START

## 1,600 LOCAL AGENCIES OPERATE HEAD START PROGRAMS

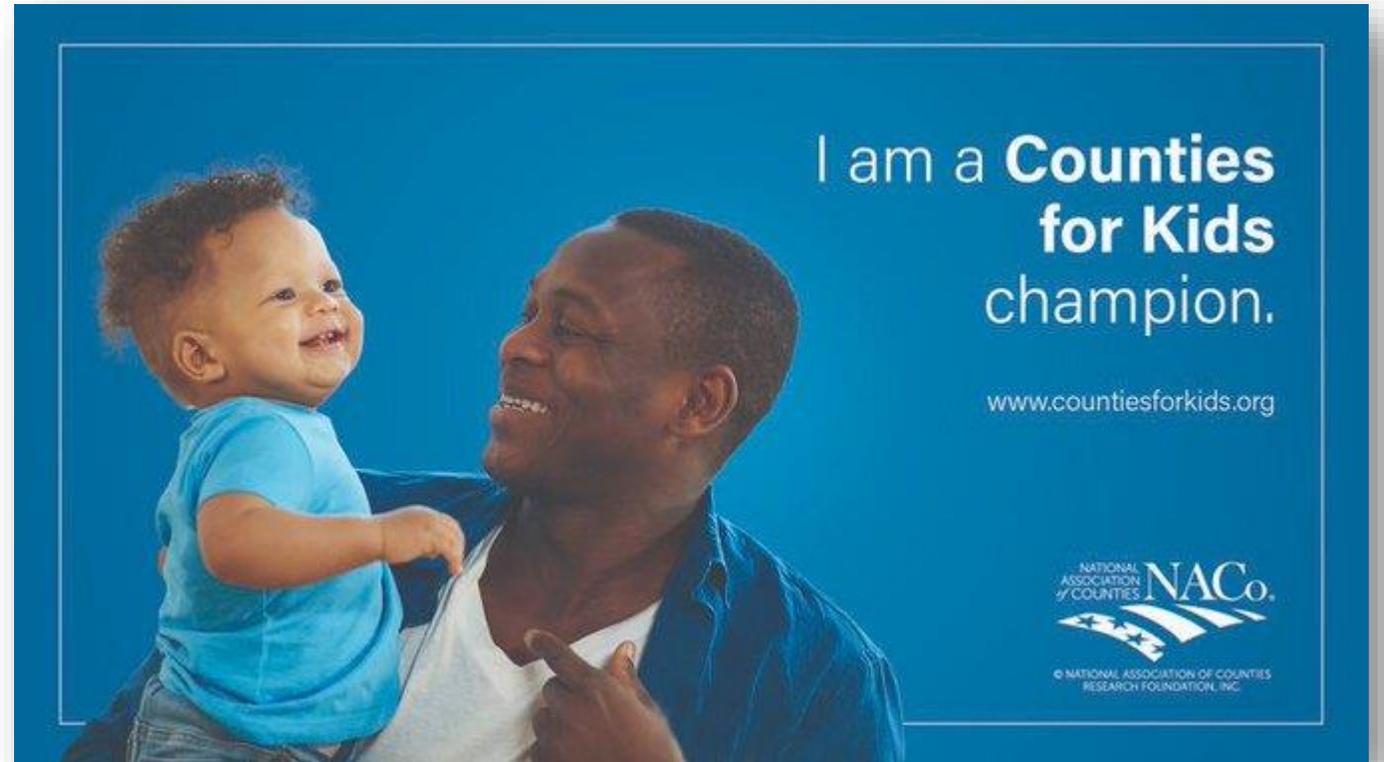
- Many county governments serve as Head Start grantees
- Counties also contribute local funds to support/expand Head Start programming

### FEDERAL HEAD START FUNDING BY STATE, FY 2019



Data: ACF, Head Start Annual Federal Funding and Funded Enrollment by State, FY 2019

# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COUNTY ROLE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD



[Click to access resource](#)

---

# **US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** **ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING**

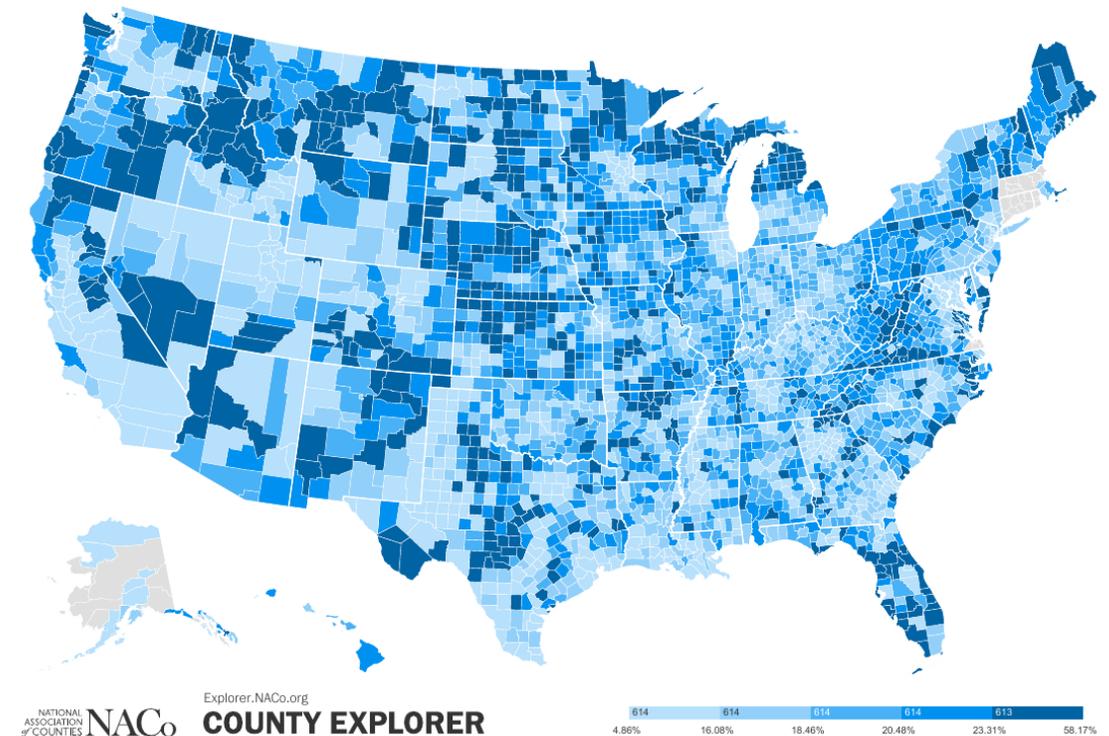


# OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA) PROGRAMS

COUNTIES ARE INVOLVED IN OPERATING **54 PERCENT** OF THE NATION'S 622 AREA AGENCIES ON AGING (AAAs)

- County governments operate **27 percent** of AAAs
- Regional councils, which typically include county governments, operate an additional **27 percent** of AAAs

2019 PERCENT 65 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER



# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COUNTY ROLE IN OAA PROGRAMS

## 2022 POLICY BRIEF



### FULLY FUND THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA)

#### ACTION NEEDED:

Urge your members of Congress to appropriate Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 funding for Older Americans Act (OAA) programs at or above the level of \$2.46 billion as authorized in the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020 (SOAA, P.L. 116-131).

#### BACKGROUND:

Originally enacted in 1965, the Older Americans Act (OAA) supports activities that help older adults live independently and remain part of the community. The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging (AOA) under the Administration for Community Living (ACL) administers most OAA programs. Only those promoting part-time employment opportunities and community service activities for seniors fall separately under the Department of Labor.

The majority of OAA programs are "core services" authorized by Title III—Grants for State and Community Programs on Aging. These core services vary depending on local needs, but often include transportation, nutrition, support for caregivers, recreation, in-home assistance, disease prevention and more. The OAA also authorizes funding for training, research and demonstration projects in the field of aging as well as grants for services for Native Americans and elder rights activities.

States receive Title III Grants according to a formula based on their share of the nation's population of individuals 60 and older. States then pass these funds to Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), which coordinate programs and services for senior citizens at the local level. Counties are key recipients of these dollars and frequent administrators of these programs. Roughly 25 percent of the 625 AAAs across the nation operate within county governments, while another 28 percent operate within regional planning councils or councils of governments that often include counties. Meanwhile, 56 percent of AAAs rely on local funding streams through counties or other local governments to provide additional programs and services.

OAA PROGRAMS HELP OLDER ADULTS LIVE INDEPENDENTLY AND REMAIN PART OF THE COMMUNITY

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SUPPORT OR OPERATE MORE THAN 56 PERCENT OF THE NATION'S AREA AGENCIES ON AGING

BY 2035, THE POPULATION OF ADULTS OVER 65 WILL OUTNUMBER CHILDREN UNDER 18

OAA PROGRAMS CONTINUE TO BE FUNDED BELOW AUTHORIZED LEVELS

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE BRIEF



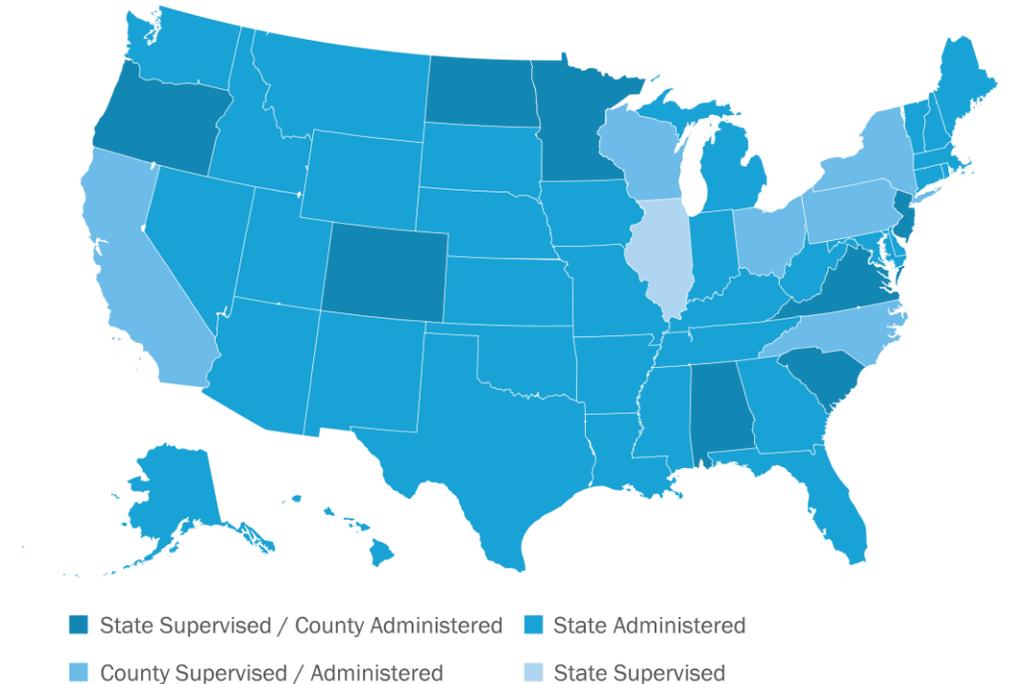
600 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • 202.393.6226 • www.naco.org  
fb.com/NACoDC • @NACoTweets • youtube.com/NACoVideo • linkedin.com/in/NACoDC

[Click to access resource](#)

# ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS) PROGRAMS

## COUNTIES ADMINISTER APS PROGRAMS IN 14 STATES

- State supervised and county administered: Alabama, Colorado, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, Virginia
- County supervised and administered: California, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin
- The federal government provides minimal funding for APS programs, meaning counties rely on state and local funding for these responsibilities



---

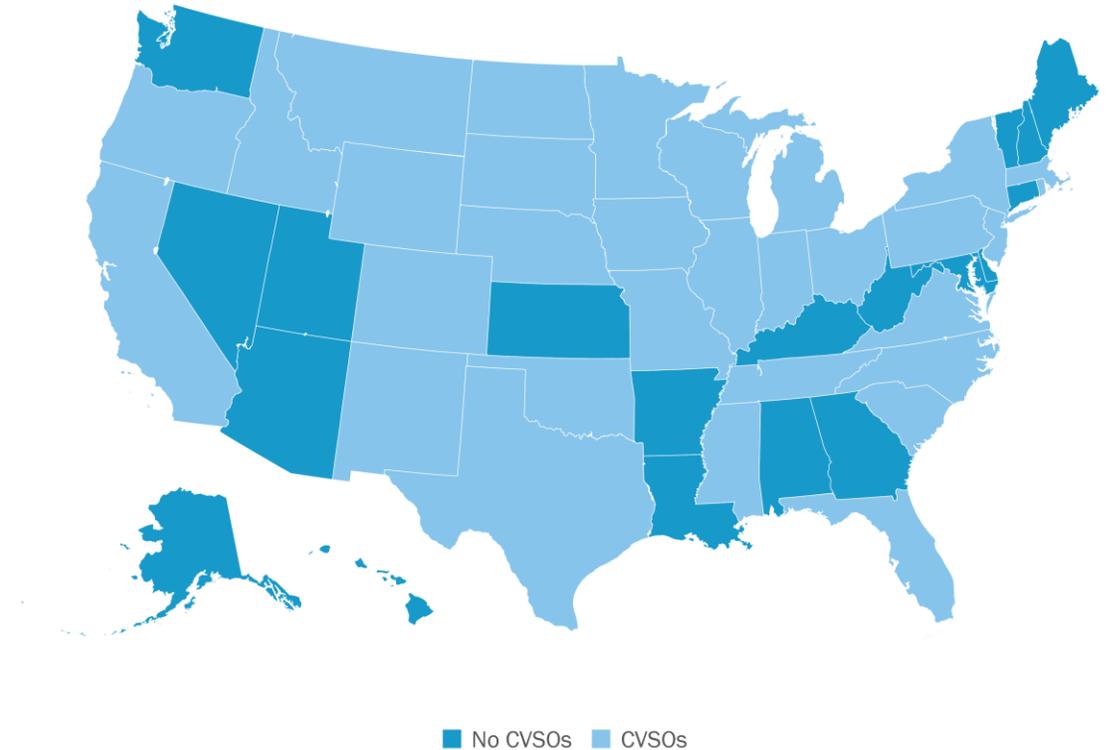
# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



# COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS (CVSOs)

## 29 STATES HAVE CVSOs

- CVSOs are largely funded by county dollars
- CVSOs help veterans claim more than **\$52 billion** in federal VA benefits each year
- Often, CVSOs are a veteran's first point of contact in the community for accessing services.



# LEARN MORE ABOUT CVSOS

## 2022 POLICY BRIEF



### AUTHORIZE RESOURCES FOR COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CVSOS)

#### ACTION NEEDED:

Urge your members of Congress to pass the *Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act* (H.R. 4602/S. 2405), which would authorize federal funding to expand and strengthen County Veteran Service Officers (CVSOS).

#### BACKGROUND:

CVSOS are local county employees who are nationally accredited by the VA to prepare, present, and prosecute U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) claims. Often, CVSOS are veteran's first point of contact in the community for accessing services. CVSOS assist veterans in accessing a range of benefits, including service-connected benefits, enrollment in VA health care, VA home loans, education benefits and available job placement assistance. Veterans are not always aware of the benefits available to them, and CVSOS are often the first to inform them about their eligibility.

CVSOS operate in 29 states and perform much of the VA's legwork for filing claims in their counties. This relatively small workforce is responsible for successfully processing nearly \$86 billion in direct compensation, pension, health care and other benefits for veterans each year. New qualitative research from the Center for a New American Security finds that disability compensation claims submitted by CVSOS are increasing in number and have a higher rate of success than those submitted by state-level and nonprofit Veteran Service Officers. CVSOS are often the first and most frequent point of contact for veterans, family members and caregivers as they navigate the complex intergovernmental chain of veterans services and resources.

Though CVSOS' primary focus is helping veterans navigate the federal benefits system, these offices are currently funded almost entirely by counties, which creates challenges for areas with high demand or counties that serve veterans in rural areas. Local resource constraints can significantly hinder the ability of county governments to expand our CVSOS staff and

CVSOS HELP VETERANS ACCESS THEIR FEDERAL VA BENEFITS IN **29 STATES**

CVSOS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCCESSFULLY PROCESSING NEARLY **\$86 BILLION** IN VA CLAIMS EACH YEAR

CVSOS ARE FUNDED WITH **COUNTY DOLLARS** EVEN THOUGH THEY HELP VETERANS ACCESS THEIR FEDERAL BENEFITS

THE CVSOS ACT WOULD AUTHORIZE **\$250 MILLION** OVER 5 YEARS TO EXPAND CVSOS IN **SIMILAR ENTITIES**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE BRIEF



690 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 • 202.393.6226 • [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)  
[fb.com/NACoDC](http://fb.com/NACoDC) • [@NACoTweets](https://twitter.com/NACoTweets) • [youtube.com/NACoVideo](https://youtube.com/NACoVideo) • [linkedin.com/in/NACoDC](https://linkedin.com/in/NACoDC)

[Click to access resource](#)

---

# **PART THREE**

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**



## ADDITIONAL NACo RESOURCES

- [NACo 2022 Policy Briefs: Human Services and Education](#)
- [NACo Human Services and Education Policy Steering Committee](#)
- [NACo County Explorer](#)
- [NACo Veterans and Military Services Committee](#)
- [NACo Reports and Toolkits: Human Services](#)

## NACo STAFF CONTACT

**RACHEL MACKEY**

**Legislative Director**

*Human Services and Education*

*Veterans and Military Services*

[rmackey@naco.org](mailto:rmackey@naco.org)