

Ada County
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

August 31, 2021 Report

Ada County, Idaho
2021 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Idaho's first confirmed COVID-19 case was reported on 3/13/20 in Ada County (County). On 3/24/20, Central District Health (CDH) confirmed community transmission.

[Central District Health \(idaho.gov\)](http://idaho.gov)

Per the April 1, 2020 Census, the County's population is 494,967 and as reported on August 22, 2021 only 50.95% of the County's eligible population has been fully vaccinated.

[Ada County, ID COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker | dailycomet.com](http://dailycomet.com)

The table below shows the COVID-19 health impact on the County as of August 23, 2021:

[Central District Health \(idaho.gov\)](http://idaho.gov)

County	Confirmed Cases	Probable Cases	Total Cases	Confirmed Deaths*	Probable Deaths	Total Deaths
Ada	49,270	9,929	59,199	472	32	504

Ada County is the largest of the 44 counties in Idaho and provides many public facing services through the following departments and offices:

<u>Elected Officials and Their Offices</u>	<u>Departments</u>	<u>Departments Continued</u>
Assessor	Billing Services	Procurement
Clerk	Development Services	Public Defender
Commissioners	Emergency Management	Solid Waste Management
Coroner	Expo Idaho	Trial Court Administrator
Prosecutor	Human Resources	Weed, Pest and Mosquito
Sheriff	Information Technology	
Treasurer	Juvenile Court Services	
	Operations	
	Paramedics	
	Parks & Waterways	

The County employs over 2,000 people and maintained varying levels of service without laying off staff during the heightened stages of the pandemic in 2020. Each department followed overall County directions as well as modified their own operational procedures to keep the public and staff safe as seen in the following excerpts from the August 2021 department survey:

- *“ . . . Clinicians learned to do telehealth remote appointments and put forms online. Staff began doing remote and hybrid appointments for probation visits and groups. Our teacher (programs) held classes outside. Probation officers met outside with youth and families. Medical and detention staff began rigorous quarantine and testing for youth coming into the facility. The detention kitchen was closed off to keep staff separate and detention officers picked up food/trays/snacks. Most court hearings were virtual, so detention officers set up and staffed rooms for youth to attend court virtually. Virtual visitations between detained youth and families were facilitated.”*
- *“Staffing plans for station brown outs, contingent standards of care, alternate responses to Covid patients, understaffing due to quarantine and/or isolation, managed a vaccine clinic for all first responders in Ada County.”*

- *“Installed intercom boxes, provided remote working abilities, PPE additions, stopped accepting cash, social distancing from customers”*
- *“. . . Our detention staff, including our medical staff, was on the frontline for quarantining and testing youth as they entered the facility. All divisions worked hard to maintain contacts with and provide services to youth and families.”*
- *“All the messaging coming from the county, including images, graphics, and content for the website had to be created and posted quickly. Additionally, reporters from around the region and elsewhere had numerous questions about mask protocols etc. That meant that all other work had to be set aside. In the realm of government public information, things like a pandemic are huge.”*

Although the County still faces COVID-19 health and safety risks, it has returned to face-to-face services with precautions established by CDH. People are coming back for marriage license, court assistance, driver’s license, building permits, business tax exemption, homeowners’ exemption, medical assistance, property assessment appeal, correctional commitments, volunteer board and protection orders.

In addition, County staff help people pay citations, trash bills, taxes, court fees, juvenile court services as well as indigent service payments. People come to get copies of damage claim forms, court records, death certificates, divorce decrees, legal notices, marriage license and public records requests, for jury duty and utilize other parts of the county for recreation such as floating the Boise River and larger gatherings and events at Expo Idaho.

Use of Funds

The County received an initial American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) award of \$46,771,314.50 on June 14, 2021. In July, the County established a Grant Administration position to ensure compliance and to facilitate internal and external project development and implementation.

The following process was developed to select the most beneficial use of ARPA funding:

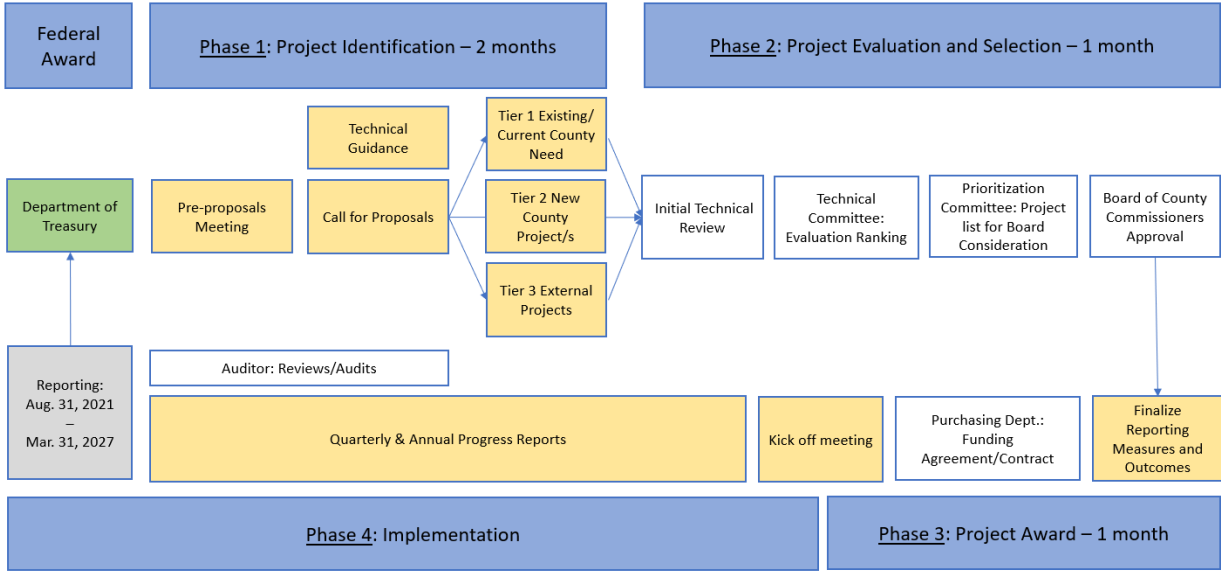
Phase 1: Provide stakeholder outreach and education, provide technical assistance during proposal development, and establish deadlines.

Phase 2: Develop a project evaluation, prioritization, approval process and establish a funding plan to respond to the pandemic and economic recovery.

Phase 3: Set reporting measures and outcomes, finalize terms and conditions, and enter into agreements and contracts.

Phase 4: Implement projects, gather data, and evaluate recovery efforts.

Implementation Plan



In Phase 2, the following key principles from the U.S. Treasury will be utilized to guide the project selection process:

- to ensure projects are not used for ineligible purposes,
- to setup a swift and effective implementation,
- to maintain robust documentation and compliance regime,
- to promote equitable delivery of government benefits, and
- to maintain transparency and public accountability.

Through an initial assessment of internal departments and external partners, the County obligated \$4,454,334 to support Public Health services:

- \$2,954,334 to support Central District Health and \$1,500,000 to support the County’s Indigent Services efforts to recover from, continue to respond to, and to protect the residents and staff from continued negative COVID-19 impacts.

In addition the County calculated a revenue loss of \$2,058,799 between calendar years 2020 and 2019 and will add to general fund to support on-going services.

Along with the ARPA funding, the County also received both Emergency Rental Assistance grants (ERA1 and ERA2) and contracts with the Boise City Ada County Housing Authority to address homelessness and housing issues caused by COVID-19. Other cities within the County have also contracted with the Housing Authority to standardize service delivery. The partners have been working together to identify ways to streamline processes but maintain the needed detail to account for financial and programmatic data as separate entities.

For the remaining ARPA funding, the County is currently in Phase 1 of the Implementation Plan. Additional projects are pending proposal submittal and project selection and will be provided during quarterly reports and annual Recovery Plan updates for the following categories:

- *Public Health*
- *Negative economic impacts*
- *Services to disproportionately impacted communities*
- *Premium Pay*
- *Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure*
- *Administration*

Promoting equitable outcomes

As COVID-19 mitigation and infrastructure projects are identified, 2019 data will be used as a baseline year to set performance indicators and compare changes to 2020 and identify any potential rebounding in 2021 and beyond.

Examples of the data and source follow: [Ada County, ID | Data USA](#)

Ada County: Race and Ethnicity	2019 Population	2019 Poverty	% of Race Population
White (non-Hispanic)	405,000	40,946	10%
White Hispanic	29,500	5,901	20%
Multiracial (non-Hispanic)	14,200	1,755	12%
Asian (non-Hispanic)	10,900	1,720	16%
Black or African American	6,530	2,219	34%
Other	6,440	985	15%
Multiracial Hispanic	3,100	N/A	N/A
American Indian & Alaska Native	243	N/A	N/A
	475,913		

For projects tracking unemployment insurance claims and employment in industry sectors:

Statewide: Unemployment Insurance Claims	March 2019	March 2020	August 14, 2021
Indicator: Filed Claims	1,330	32,900	931

Statewide: Employment by Industry Sector	March 2019	March 2020	March 2021
Indicator: Employed Leisure and Hospitality Employed	16,500,000	8,730,000	13,300,000
Percentage Change over 2019		47%	19%
Indicator: Other Employed	5,830,000	4,340,000	5,260,000
Percentage Change over 2019		26%	10%
Indicator: Trade, Transportation and Utilities	27,600,000	24,200,000	27,200,000
Percentage Change over 2019		12%	1%
Indicator: Educator and Health Services	24,300,000	22,000,000	23,600,000
Percentage Change over 2019		9%	3%
Government	23,500,000	22,700,000	22,500,000
Percentage Change over 2019		3%	4%

Each project will go through a SMART goal process to determine if it is specific enough, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timely before a contract or agreement is executed. This will ensure appropriate performance indicators and outcome goals are identified.

Community Engagement

Ada County scheduled two opportunities to submit proposals for the first U.S. Treasury allocation. In addition, a third and fourth opportunity have been scheduled to prepare for the second Treasury's distribution slated for June 2022.

The initial opportunity scheduled for September 1, 2021 is to identify the County's existing COVID-19 and infrastructure needs. The second call for proposals is slated for December 1, 2021 and is open to external partners as well as County departments as a coordinated effort to further strengthen the access and delivery of services.

The third and fourth opportunities are in March and June 2022 to align with the second distribution and are opened to both external partners and internal departments.

Participants	Call for Proposals	Proposal Due Dates	Evaluation & Selection	Implementation
County Dept.	Sep. 1, 2021	Oct. 31st	Nov.	Dec. 2021
County & External	Dec. 1, 2021	Jan. 31st	Feb.	Mar. 2022
County & External	Mar. 1, 2022	Apr. 30th	May	Jun. 2022
County & External	Jun. 1, 2022	Jul. 31st	Aug.	Sept. 2022

In addition to the State, Cities and CDH coordination and outreach efforts to respond to COVID-19, the County created the following landing page to track the ARPA recovery funds. Departments and external partners will be provided the link to incorporate into their public information sources as part of the funding agreements and contracts. This will allow the stakeholders and public to easily access reports and see the progress.

<https://adacounty.id.gov/clerk/budget-finance/arpa/>

Labor Practices

Ada County is in the project identification process and will identify workforce practices once infrastructure projects are identified.

Use of Evidence

Ada County is in the project identification process and will identify evidence-based interventions as projects are approved.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

As of August 31, 2021, Ada County has not expended any funds.

Project Inventory

Project List

As of August 31, 2021, Ada County has not started project implementation, but will utilize the following from the Treasury:

Project [Identification Number]: [Project Name]

Funding amount: [Funding amount]

Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

Project overview

- *A description of the project that includes an overview of the main activities of the project, the approximate timeline, primary delivery mechanisms and partners, if applicable, and intended outcomes.*
- *Link to the website of the project if available*
- *How project contributes to addressing climate change (for infrastructure projects under EC 5)*

Use of Evidence

- *Briefly describe the goals of the project, and whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions, the evidence base for the interventions, and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. If a recipient is conducting a program evaluation in lieu of reporting the amount of spending on evidence-based interventions, they must describe the evaluation design (see Reporting Guidance for additional details that should be included).*
- *Identify the dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions for each project in the Public Health (EC 1), Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2), and Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3) Expenditure Categories.*

Performance Report

As of August 31, 2021, Ada County has not identified key performance indicators, but intends to identify these as part of each project agreement/contract with internal departments and external contractors.