Since President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law in March 2021, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) has invested $3 billion\(^1\) in supplemental funding across all states and territories through six innovative programs. Taken together, the investments made through these programs will build more equitable, competitive and resilient local economies. The EDA American Rescue Plan investments include 780 awards across 433 unique counties to projects ranging from supporting core enabling infrastructure to planning and workforce development to entrepreneurship to transforming regional economic clusters. Each of EDA’s six American Rescue Plan programs were designed to prioritize equity, and as a result, over 70% of all competitive award funds are expected to directly benefit historically underserved communities and populations. This federal funding is expected to generate more than $20 billion of private investment and to create, save or place 220,000 jobs, according to grantee estimates. This collection of public investments demonstrates EDA’s ability to support regional economies through locally driven programs that invest in people, position communities for long-term growth and catalyze strategic industries, thereby building a better America.

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\(^1\) EDA was allocated $3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding, of which, $2.94 billion devoted to programs and $60 million set aside by Congress for the administration of the program.
$1 Billion Build Back Better Regional Challenge makes major investments of $25 to $65 million in 21 regional coalitions (3-8 interconnected component projects per coalition) that will enable emerging industries to grow in regional economies, transform local communities, enhance U.S. competitiveness and create thousands of good jobs in the process.

$500 Million Good Jobs Challenge supports 32 awardees with significant grants (average of $15.6 million per awardee) to develop and grow worker-centered, industry-led workforce training systems, placing over 50,000 American workers into quality jobs and supporting regional economies with the skilled, diverse workforce necessary to compete in the 21st Century.

$500 Million Economic Adjustment Assistance program invests in 256 diverse projects—including but not limited to enabling infrastructure, workforce development, business facilities and planning grants—addressing the economic development needs of communities today while preparing them for the future.

$100 Indigenous Communities program closes opportunity gaps and fosters economic mobility and resiliency through 51 diverse awards whose activities are similar to Economic Adjustment Assistance projects but specifically support Indigenous communities across the country. Across all six American Rescue Plan programs, inclusive of the Indigenous Communities program, EDA awarded a total of 127 grants totaling $448 million.

$750 Million Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation program supports communities across the country whose economies were hard hit by damage to the travel, tourism and outdoor recreation sectors from the COVID-19 pandemic through $240 million across 126 competitive awards, as well as $510 million in awards directly to each of the 59 U.S. states and territories. Award activities range from building new tourist attractions (museums, event venues, hiking trails, campgrounds, etc.), developing tourism-related economic plans and supporting workforce training in the tourism sector.

$90 Million Statewide Planning, Research and Networks program includes $1 million awards to each of the 59 U.S. states and territories to help them prepare for a more resilient economic future. This program also provided $31 million through 14 awards to enable real-time research and evaluation for EDA’s American Rescue Plan programs and to provide peer-to-peer learning, training and coaching to EDA American Rescue Plan awardees.

Additionally, through its Coal Communities Commitment, EDA allocated $300 million to invest in American coal communities as they recover from the pandemic. The funding for this commitment came from the American Rescue Plan Economic Adjustment Assistance program ($200 million) and the Build Back Better Regional Challenge ($100 million). As a result of robust demand, EDA has significantly exceeded this commitment, allocating $551.8 million of funding to coal communities across its 6 American Rescue Plan programs. This funding includes $208.3 million and 89 projects from EAA and $242.9 million across nine BBBRC phase 1 awards and five BBBRC winners in Alaska, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Another $100.6 million from EDA’s other American Rescue Plan programs is invested in or benefits coal communities.

The 780 American Rescue Plan awards include:

- 113 awards ($876 billion) to provide workers with the skills and supports needed to secure high-quality jobs and to build facilities to support that training
- 59 awards ($510 million) to directly support states and territories with the recovery of their tourism sectors
- 153 awards ($416 million) to build enabling infrastructure that create the conditions for businesses to succeed
- 38 awards ($315 million) to accelerate innovation in emerging technologies
- 239 awards ($222 million) for communities to engage in planning and receive the technical assistance needed to recover from the pandemic and build a more resilient economic future
- 46 awards ($176 million) to build new business facilities or provide equipment that enables commercial growth
- 73 awards ($171 million to build or upgrade tourist attractions—such as museums, event venues and hiking trails—that will attract visitors and commercial activity to American communities
- 30 awards ($126 million) to support business incubation and entrepreneurship
- 16 awards ($93 million) to strengthen U.S. supply chains by helping small and mid-sized businesses adopt new processes and enter new markets
- 13 awards ($45 million) to provide access to capital to enable small businesses to grow

Additionally, within the portfolio of investments described above, approximately 151 awards representing $739 million in funding will go towards projects that advance American manufacturing. And approximately 96 awards representing $543.7 million in funding will go to projects that combat the climate crisis.
People, Communities and Equity
With a focus on equity and providing support to historically underserved communities, EDA is meeting people and communities where they are and preparing them to lead their own economic future by driving stronger regional economies, supporting small business growth and investing in talent development and pathways to good jobs.

In Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi, the Mid-South Center for Occupational Innovation is leveraging Memphis’s growth as a “hotspot for Black tech talent” to create on-ramps into good jobs for diverse populations including workers of color in the advanced manufacturing and logistics sectors.
GOOD JOBS CHALLENGE | $21.5 MILLION

In Illinois, Rend Lake College is developing the Southern Illinois Manufacturing Academy to expand advanced manufacturing workforce training opportunities for the Southern Illinois community, its workers and businesses, all of which have been impacted by the declining use of coal.
ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE, COAL COMMUNITIES COMMITMENT | $5 MILLION

The Lummi Nation is building a critical and long-sought facility for Lummi artists, craftspeople, food vendors, florists and other small business owners to market their goods. This project will establish a much-needed permanent home for Indigenous entrepreneurs and small businesses, allowing a persistent poverty county to achieve sustainable visitation and commercial activity.
TRAVEL, TOURISM & OUTDOOR RECREATION | $4.6 MILLION

In Massachusetts, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is growing its Shellfish Farm to ensure its continued participation in the blue economy. The project will provide workforce training and other resources to help individuals secure quality jobs and to expand the footprint of a small fishing business in a community with unmatched expertise in aquaculture.
INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES | $1.1 MILLION

American Economic Competitiveness
Through strategically aligned place-based investments and partnerships, EDA is strengthening U.S. regional and global competitiveness. With projects that span helping to incubate new businesses and expand entrepreneurial activity to those that generate research and innovation, these investments are creating the conditions for high-wage, high-growth businesses to thrive in regions outside of historic innovation hubs.

In Kentucky, the University of Pikeville is constructing the University of Pikeville Ag-Tech Innovation Center of Excellence. This research and education center will include a greenhouse, classroom space, a laboratory and offices to help eastern Kentucky and Central Appalachia cement their competitive edge in agriculture and support the transition to next-generation agriculture.
ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE, COAL COMMUNITIES COMMITMENT | $4.4 MILLION

In Kansas, the South Kansas Coalition, led by Wichita State University, is strengthening America’s global advantage in the aerospace sector. With aircraft production expected to double in the next two decades, this project is bringing together leading academic institutions, employers and public sector actors to support small and medium-sized manufacturers, advance cutting-edge manufacturing methods and train workers on new technologies and secure good jobs in the process.
BUILD BACK BETTER REGIONAL CHALLENGE | $51.4 MILLION

In North Carolina and Virginia, the Hampton Roads Workforce Council is training local residents to work in the growing blue economy, clean energy and cybersecurity sectors. With support from major employers such as Newport News and community-based organizations such as the Urban League, the awardee will coordinate key partners and build talent pipelines to support these competitive sectors.
GOOD JOBS CHALLENGE | $11 MILLION

In Wyoming, Laramie County Community College is building an Advanced Manufacturing and Materials Center, which will include a Fabrication Laboratory and Concept Forge. This project will support the growth of advanced manufacturing, a critical pillar of America’s economic competitiveness, by enabling domestic workforce training with specialized equipment and supplying facilities for local entrepreneurs to engage in prototype development.
ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE | $2.3 MILLION
Recovery and Resiliency
EDA is strengthening American supply chains and building more diverse and durable regional economies. With investments that include long-term economic development planning and technical assistance, enabling infrastructure and extension services for businesses that are critical to U.S. supply chains, the American Rescue Plan investments are building communities that are resilient to future pandemics, economic downturns and climate-related shocks.

In California, the Foundation for California Community Colleges is working with multiple Minority-Serving Institutions, Indigenous-led partners, and leading local employers to train forestry and fire safety professionals. Recognizing the impact of wildfires on local economies, this project will work to supply talent to protect the region from the natural disasters and other effects caused by climate change.

**GOOD JOBS CHALLENGE** | $21.5 MILLION

In Nevada, the Walker River Paiute Tribe is improving and expanding water system infrastructure. This enabling infrastructure investment will address a long-standing need for the community, create more resilient water base and ensure businesses have the infrastructure they need to pursue long-term growth.

**INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES** | $5.2 MILLION

In Virginia, the Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing (APM) cluster, a coalition led by the Virginia Biotechnology Research Partnership authority (Activation Capital), is expanding and making a more robust and resilient domestic supply chain for essential medicines and critical active pharmaceutical ingredients.

**BUILD BACK BETTER REGIONAL CHALLENGE** | $52.9 MILLION

In Utah, the Shivwits Band of Paiutes is designing, building and engineering a solar farm and hydroelectric power plant. This project will allow the Tribe to become more resilient to changing energy markets, reduce its impact on climate change and to build a more diverse local economy.

**ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE** | $500,000

For more information about Economic Development Administration’s six American Rescue Plan Programs, collectively called Investing in America’s Communities, please click here.