Overview Analysis

U.S. Travel fielded a series of surveys to members to gain an understanding of what relief funding has been accessed, the amounts received and intended uses.

- Of those surveyed, nearly nine in 10 (89%) reported receiving some form of federal relief—whether from state & local ARPA funds, PPP or the Employee Retention Tax Credit—**totaling $487 million**.

- The total average funds received was **$4.1 million** per organization.
State & Local ARPA Funds

- Three in 10 organizations reported receiving ARPA funds from their state or local government, totaling more than $260 million.

- The average amount received was $7.2 million per organization.

- For some this number was far greater (e.g., Arizona’s Office of Tourism received $100 million).
  - Of those that reported receiving funds, the majority received funds from the State and the top usage was for marketing purposes.

Direct Federal Relief

- In addition to the federal funds administered at the state and local level, respondents received more than $226 million in direct federal relief, for an average of $2.4 million per organization.

- Direct federal relief was received through a variety of programs, with PPP being the top source of funding and payroll/staffing being the top use.
Federal Relief Program Spotlight

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

The Paycheck Protection Program provided forgivable loans of up to $10 million (1st Draw Loans) or $2 million (2nd Draw Loans) to small businesses, DMOs, and other entities. The application window for new PPP loans closed on May 31, 2021.

- Amount Enacted: $813.7 billion
- Amount Distributed: $812.9 billion
- Number of Recipients: 8.9 million
- Average Amount Received: $70,500

Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program

The Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program provides low-interest loans to eligible employers to cover working capital needs. The application window ends on December 31, 2021.

- Amount Authorized: $367.1 billion
- Amount Distributed: $292.7B
- Number of Recipients: 3.8 million
- Average Amount Received: $76,000

Airport Grants

Through multiple rounds of funding, grants were provided to airports to help prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19—including relief to airport concessionaires.

- Amount Enacted: $20 billion
- Amount Distributed: $15.8 billion
- Number of Recipients: 2,000
- Average Amount Received: $1.9 million

Aviation Payroll Support

The Aviation Payroll Support program provided grants to passenger air carriers, cargo air carriers, and aviation contractors for payroll expenses until September 30, 2021.

- Amount Enacted: $62 billion
- Amount Distributed: $59 billion
- Number of Recipients: 780
- Average Amount Received: $38 million

Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC)

The Employee Retention Tax Credit provided employers with a tax credit to use against payroll taxes, worth up to 70% of eligible compensation, up to $7,000 per employee per quarter. The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R.3684) retroactively moved up the expiration date of the credit to October 1, 2021.

- Amount Enacted: $86 billion
- Amount Distributed: Unknown

Sources: PandemicOversight.gov, CBO Letter to Sen. Sinema, CRS Report on SBA programs, and SBA COVID EIDL Reports