

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The Need for Action in Rhode Island

The pandemic and the associated economic crisis have had a severe impact on Rhode Island. The need for action is clear:

- Since the pandemic began, more than 128,000 people have been infected with COVID-19 and more than 2,500 people have died.
- The unemployment rate is 7.9%, up from 4% before the pandemic.
- Since February 2020, more than 43,900 fewer people are employed.
- 58,000 adults – 8% of all adults in the state – report not having enough food to eat. This includes 28,000 adults living with children, or 12% of all adults living with children, who report that the children in their household do not have enough to eat.
- An estimated 58,000 renters or 23% of renters are not caught up on rent.
- An estimated 222,500 adults or 30% of all adults statewide report having difficulty covering normal household expenses.

The Effect of the American Rescue Plan on Rhode Island

President Biden's American Rescue Plan will provide Rhode Island with:

- \$1.5 billion in state fiscal relief
- \$400 million in local fiscal relief
- More than \$415 million in relief for K-12 schools
- Economic impact payments of up to \$1,400 per person (above the \$600 per person provided in December) for more than 665,000 adults and 264,900 children. This is 85% of all adults in the state and 86% of all children in the state.
- Additional relief of up to \$1,600 per child through the Child Tax Credit to the families of 185,000 children, lifting 8,000 children out of poverty
- Additional relief of up to nearly \$1,000 through the Earned Income Tax Credit to 49,000 childless workers, including many in frontline jobs
- Marketplace health insurance premiums that are \$951 lower per month for a 60-year old couple earning \$75,000 per year