Federal aid comprises a significant portion of local government budgets. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that 23 percent of state and local budgets combined comes from the federal government. These federal dollars impact how residents in all regions live and work.

The non-defense portion of the federal budget allocated to regions:

- Provides essential investments that touch many parts of a community, including housing, transportation, health, workforce, energy, economic development, and public safety.
- Funds locally-controlled federal programs, providing local leaders the flexibility to allocate funds where they will have the most regional impact.
- Helps regions face long-term challenges, including an affordable housing crisis, a middle-skills workforce gap, extreme weather events, and substance abuse.
- Protects our communities by helping regional leaders build a stronger and more secure nation.
FUNDING CRITICAL PROGRAMS

As Congress begins work on the fiscal year 2020 appropriations process, regional leaders urge federal leaders to support non-defense funding at equal levels to defense funding so local governments can ensure the highest quality of life for their residents.

The National Association of Regional Councils urges Congress to provide the following regional priorities with funding at fully authorized levels:

- Economic Development Administration
- 2020 Census
- Community Development Block Grant Program
- HOME Investments Partnerships Program
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Social Services Block Grant Program
- Community Services Block Grant Program
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Block Grant
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Grants
- Senior Workforce Development Program
- Older Americans Act Title III Programs
- Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Grants Program
- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program
- Capital Investment Grants Program (New Starts)
- Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds
- EPA Brownfields Program
- USDA Water/Wastewater Loans

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