

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING ALLOCATION ANALYSIS REPORT

This report details the five-year historical funding allocation of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) federal funds received by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) under the jurisdiction of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice and administered by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's (CJCC) Victim Assistance Grants and Policy Division for Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

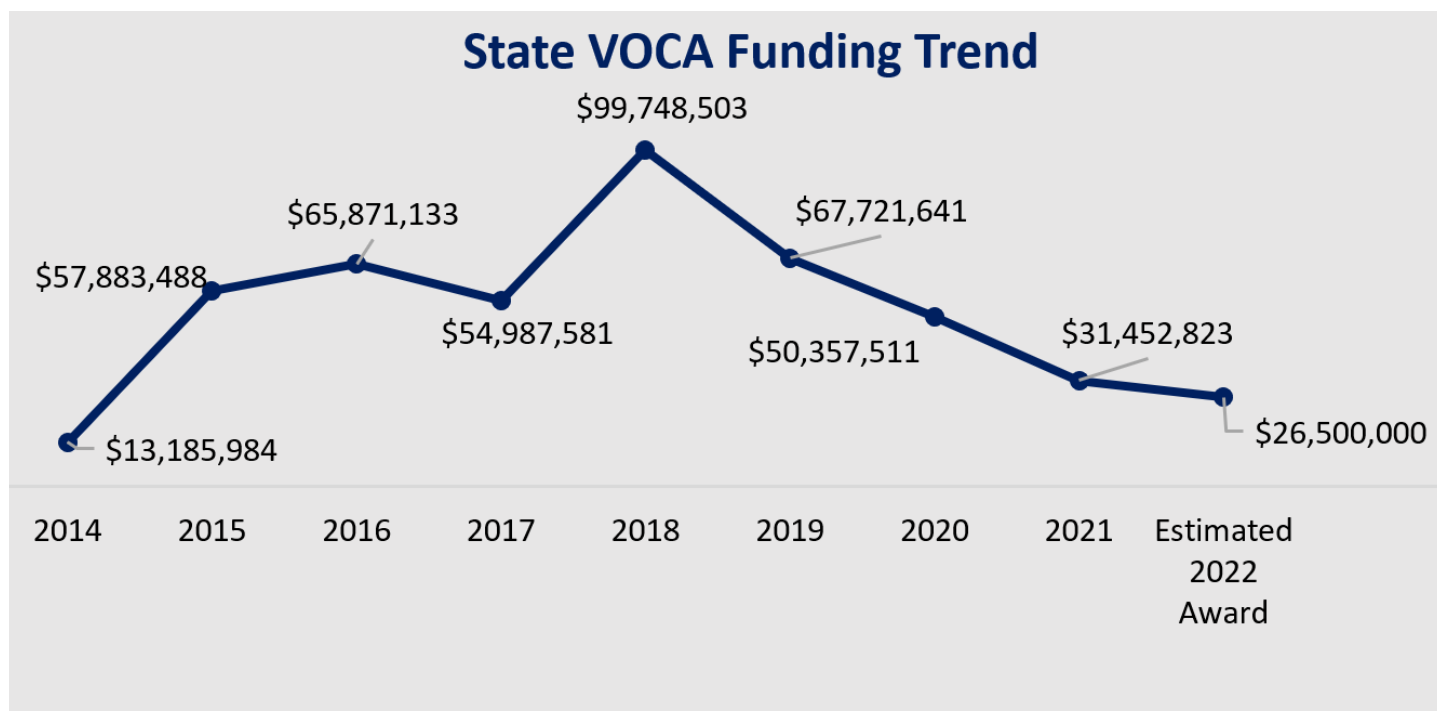
Below lists the federal awards received and administered by CJCC from OVC since FFY2015 to date:

Award Number	Office	Grant Name	Award Amount	Award Period
2015-VA-GX-0057	OVC	VOCA	\$57,883,488	10/01/14 – 09/30/18
2016-VA-GX-0023	OVC	VOCA	\$65,871,133	10/01/15 – 09/30/19
2017-VA-GX-0009	OVC	VOCA	\$54,987,581	10/01/16 – 09/30/20
2018-V2-GX-0066	OVC	VOCA	\$99,748,503	10/01/17 – 09/30/21
2019-V2-GX-0019	OVC	VOCA	\$67,721,641	10/01/18 – 09/30/22
2020-V2-GX-0014	OVC	VOCA	\$50,357,511	10/01/19 – 09/30/23
15POVC-21-GG-00619	OVC	VOCA	\$31,452,823	10/01/20 – 09/30/24
<i>Estimated FFY2022 Award</i>	OVC	VOCA	\$26,500,000	10/01/21 – 09/30/25

CJCC 2019–2022 VOCA Funding Strategy and Projections

Beginning in FFY2000, Congress placed a cap on the amount of Crime Victims Funding (CVF) available for distribution as a response to large fluctuations in deposits. These annual caps were intended to maintain the CVF as a stable source of support for future victim services. From FFY2000 to 2018, the amount of the annual cap varied from \$500 million to more than \$4 billion. In FFY2018, the cap was set at \$4.436 billion. Due to this increased cap, the State of Georgia's award increased from approximately \$13.5 million in FFY2014 to nearly \$105 million in FFY2018. As a result, CJCC was able to award \$75 million dollars to 268 programs in FFY2018 through competitive, continuation, and one-time cost applications.

Since FFY2018 the obligation cap has been reduced three consecutive times, the last cap for FFY2021 being set to \$2.015 billion. Due to this downtrend, the State of Georgia’s award decreased by \$68.296 million, from \$99.749 million in FFY2018 to \$31.453 million in FFY2021, which represents a 68.47% decrease in funding for programs. This reduction resulted in CJCC instituting a 20% cut to VOCA FFY2020 grant awards. In efforts to mitigate the harmful effects that the 20% reduction in VOCA funding would have on programs in FFY21, CJCC submitted numerous proposals for emergency supplemental funding to support victim service programs.

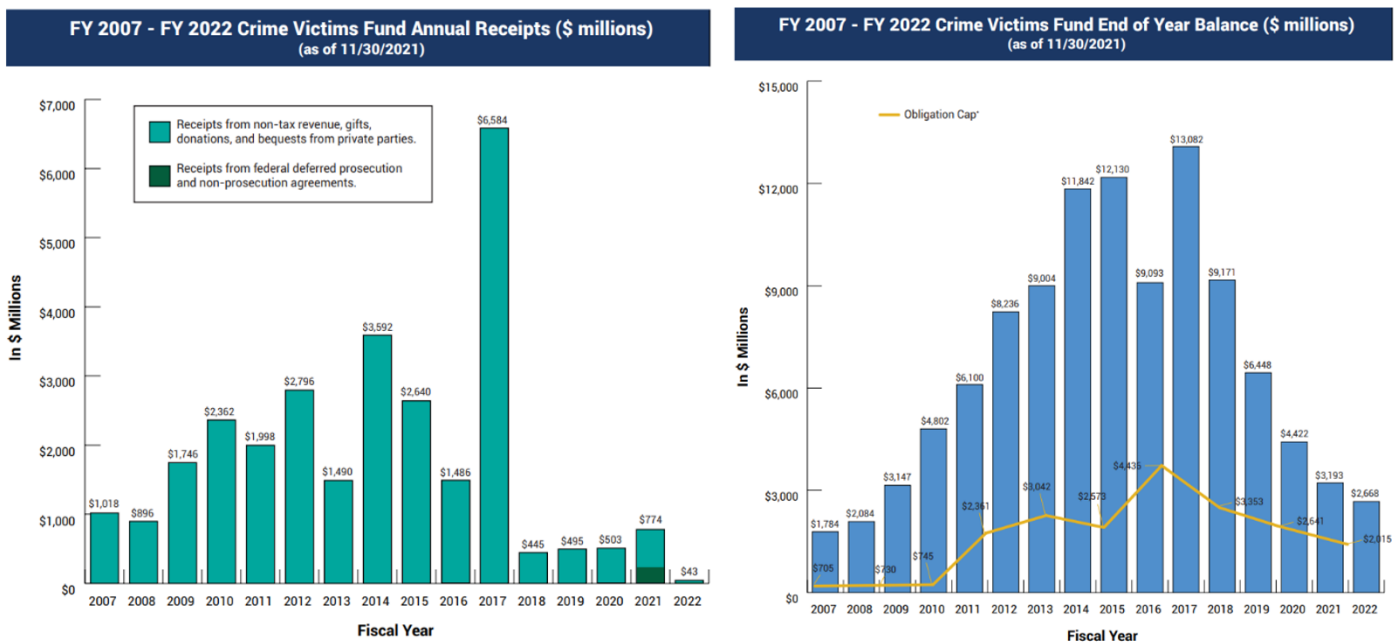


The Governor’s Office approved a proposal submitted by the CJCC’s Victim Assistance Division to utilize \$14 million of the Bureau of Justice Assistance Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant Program funds to provide resources to programs in preventing, preparing, and responding to the coronavirus. The division also received approval for a proposal to access \$1 million of funding for the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act American Rescue Act Supplemental Grant Program. The supplemental awards have been critical in supporting crime victims and victim service providers as they continue to navigate the short and long-term impacts of the pandemic. The one-time supplemental funds are actively being used by victim service providers to maintain access to services for crime victims statewide.

As of November 30, 2021, the CVF balance was \$2.668 billion. Taking into account the persistent decreases, and inconsistent deposits, made to the CVF, obligation caps may continue to be set at lower rates for the foreseeable future until the deposits increase and the CVF balance reaches more sustainable levels. Consequently, CJCC is estimating that the state’s FFY2022 award may decrease by an additional 16% percent for a projected award amount of \$26.5 million. The projected award level would result in an additional 22% resulting in an overall 37.7% reduction from FFY2020 funding levels. In addition, CJCC will deplete its current award balance in VOCA which would greatly reduce the agency's ability to sustain programs.

Crime Victims Fund Deposits

The tables below reflect a historical account of the deposits, end-of-year balances, and annual obligation caps placed on the CVF from FFY2007 to 2021.



Source: Office for Victims of Crime (<https://ovc.ojp.gov/about/crime-victims-fund>)

CJCC administers federal funding to over 260 victim service providers statewide. These cuts come at a critical time, as victim service programs are receiving increased calls for services, increased need for financial assistance, and as courts address the backlog of cases caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Without a solution to fill the gap in VOCA funding, victim service providers will be forced to turn victims away due to lack of funding for personnel and resources for supportive services.

Potential Impacts of Reduced FY21 VOCA Grant Program Funds for Victim Service Providers		
% Decrease VOCA Funds	Decreased VOCA Funds (\$)	Potential Reductions to Staffing Levels: FTEs Lost
37%	\$30M	>400

States that have Allocated ARPA to Offset VOCA Reductions

State	Amount of ARPA Funds Awarded for Victim Services
Texas	\$160M
Virginia	\$12,199,930
Wisconsin	\$20M
Colorado	\$15M
Minnesota	\$2.5M
Maryland	\$20M
Missouri	Amount Unspecified
Rhode Island (Under consideration)	\$28 M
Massachusetts (Under consideration)	\$70M

- **Texas:** [Governor Abbott Signs Senate Bill 8, Allocating Federal American Rescue Plan Act Funding | Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott](#)
- **Virginia:** [arpamemoandquestionnaire082421.pdf \(virginia.gov\)](#)
- **Wisconsin:** [Evers directs \\$45M in ARPA funds for violence prevention, victim services | WisPolitics.com; Evers allocating \\$45M in federal funds to violence prevention, crime victim programs | Wisconsin Public Radio \(wpr.org\)](#)
- **Colorado:** [SCAO Fiscal Recovery Funds Guidance\(1\).pdf \(state.co.us\)](#)
- **Minnesota:** [Grants - American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Grants \(mn.gov\)](#)
- **Maryland:** [Democrats Cry Foul as Hogan Announces \\$150 Million 'Re-Fund the Police' Initiative - Maryland Matters](#)
- **Missouri:** <https://governor.mo.gov/media/221/download>
- **Massachusetts:** [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) | Mass.gov](#)