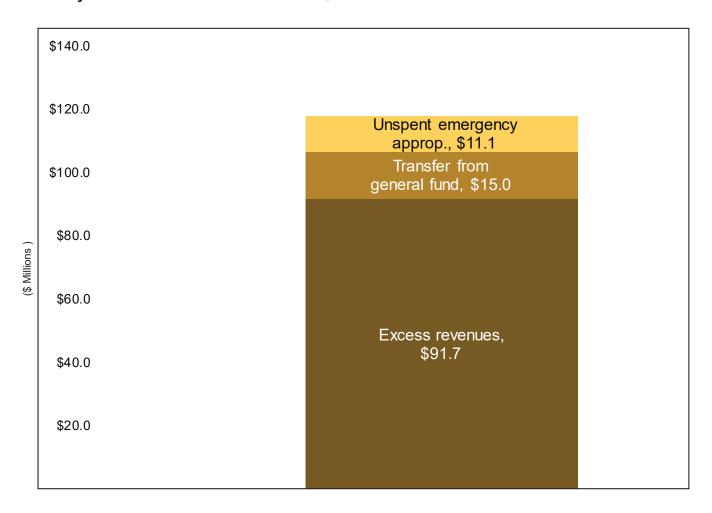


Chart of the Week | August 28, 2019

Montana's budget stabilization reserve fund provides the state with financial flexibility in times of need. To date, the fund totals \$117.8 million.



The budget stabilization reserve fund (BSRF) was established in the 2017 legislative session as a mechanism to provide stability in times of state financial uncertainty. To put the BSRF into context, annual general fund spending was \$2.4 billion in FY 2019.

The BSRF fund received its first influx of cash in FY 2019, the result of higher than anticipated revenues in FY 2018. The BSRF received a portion of excess revenues in FY 2020 when FY 2019 revenues came in higher than expected. Other smaller amounts into the fund came from a \$15.0 million general fund transfer in FY 2019 and leftover emergency appropriation transfer of \$11.1 million in FY 2020.

The BSRF is about \$4.0 million above its calculated limit. As directed in statute, excess above the statutory limit is to be transferred to the new HB 553 infrastructure fund. The executive has indicated that this transfer will occur in August 2020.