

FY 2025 Budget Engagement

Engagement Period:
Nov. 21, 2023 – Jan. 2, 2024

February 2024



FY 2025 BUDGET ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW



The following shows a snapshot of the FY 2025 budget engagement approach and insights from the community.

Who participated?



2,759 online participants
699 from pop-up engagements
5 submitted paper forms

3,463 Total Participants

How were participants reached?



Outreach to over 500 community partners, including nonprofits, faith organizations, and multi-family buildings.



13 pop-up engagements hosted at food distributions, multi-family buildings and grocery stores; **167 Spanish-speaking respondents.**



80 signs on ART buses (in English & Spanish) with scannable QR codes to the online form.



Expanded our online reach through increased social media presence, resulting in over 100,000 impressions.

Where did participants engage?



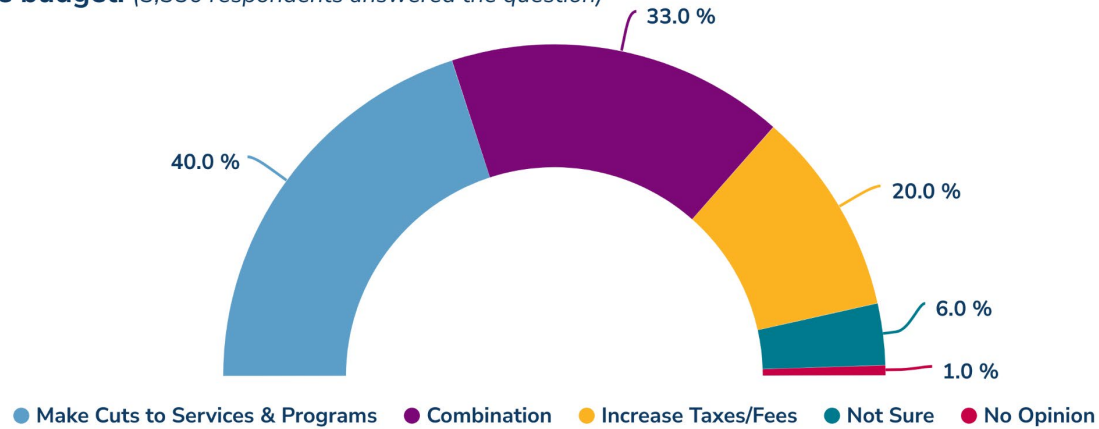
Online responses came from community members in **all Arlington zip codes** and **neighborhoods.**



In-person pop-up events with the greatest participation were the Rosslyn Tree Lighting; Gift Nook at Central Library; MegaMart; and Columbia Pike Farmers Market.

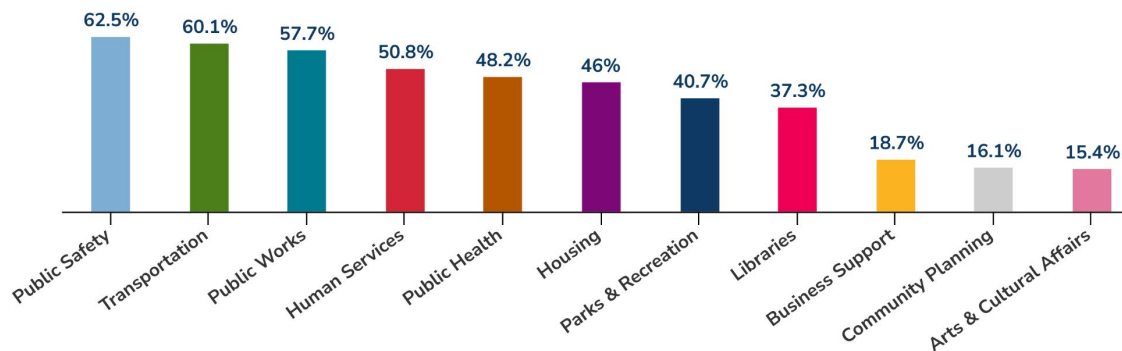
Balancing the Budget

Participants were asked how they think the County should approach balancing the budget. (3,350 respondents answered the question)



Budget Priorities

Participants were asked to select 5 services and programs they would recommend the County keep as top priorities in the FY 2025 Budget. (3,267 respondents answered the question)



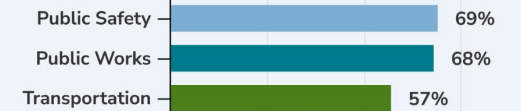
Renters and Homeowners in Arlington County share similar priorities.



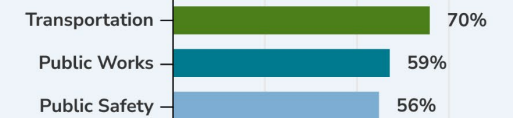
29% of respondents on the online form identified as renters, and 71% identified as homeowners

Based on online participation.

Homeowner Priorities



Renter Priorities



Top Budget Priority by Housing Type



50% of respondents on the online form reported living in an apartment, condo, or townhouse



Transportation

Top priority for respondents in **multi-family housing (apartment, condo, or townhouse)**



Public Safety

Top priority for respondents in **single-family, detached homes**

Who Participated?



Number of Participants

3,463 Participants



2,764

Includes 5 Paper Forms in Spanish and
4 Voicemail Responses

*Online and Paper Forms were
available in English, Spanish, Amharic,
Arabic, and Mongolian*



699

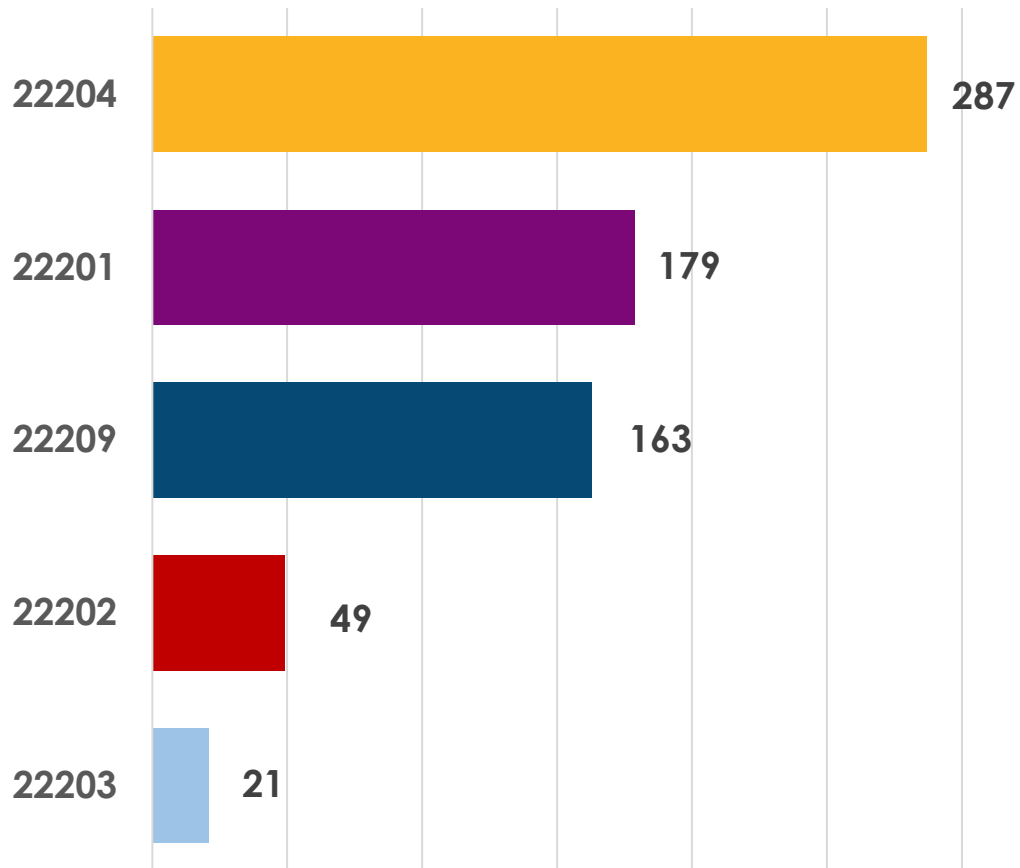
532 (English)
168 (Spanish)

Pop-Up Engagements
*Partnered with non-profit partners,
affordable housing complexes, and
ethnic grocery stores*

Who Participated: Pop-Ups

Participation by Zip Code

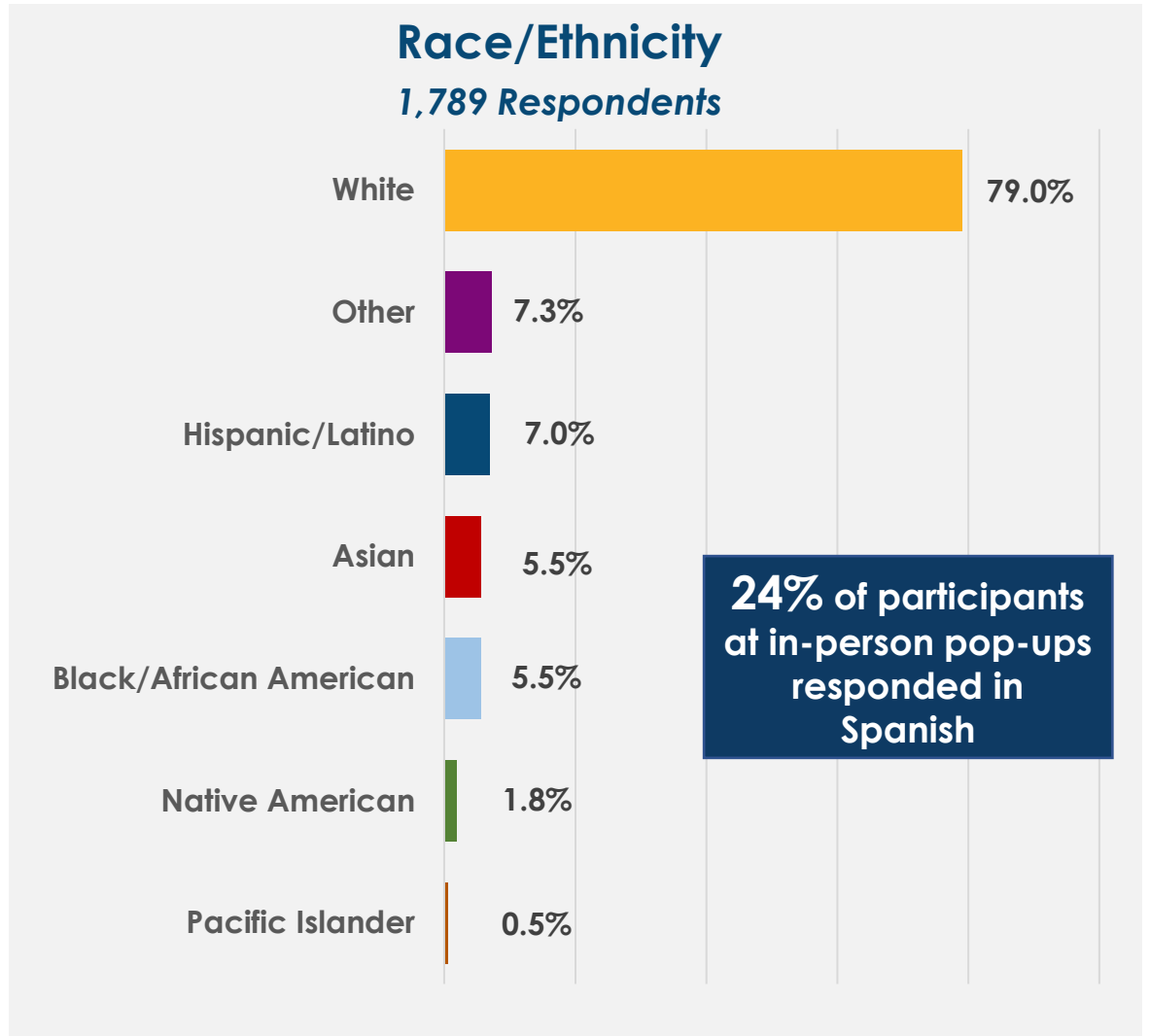
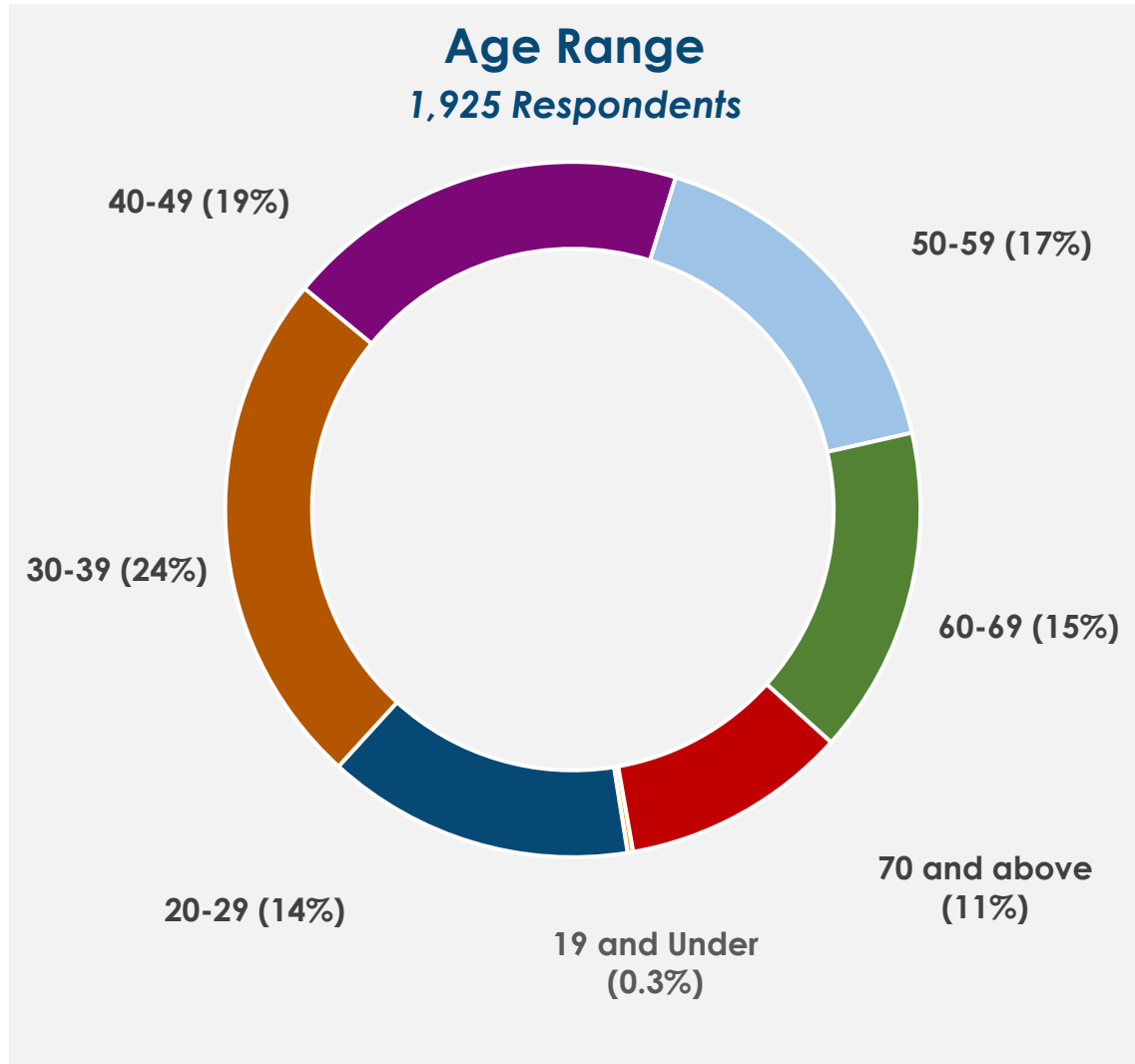
699 Participants



13 pop-up sites were selected to engage those we don't often reach online. Locations included:

- Affordable Housing Communities (APAH, AHC)
- Ethnic Grocery Stores (Mega Mart, Glebe Market)
- Special Events (Library Gift Nook, Rosslyn Tree Lighting)
- Non-Profit Partners (Arlington Free Clinic, Melwood)

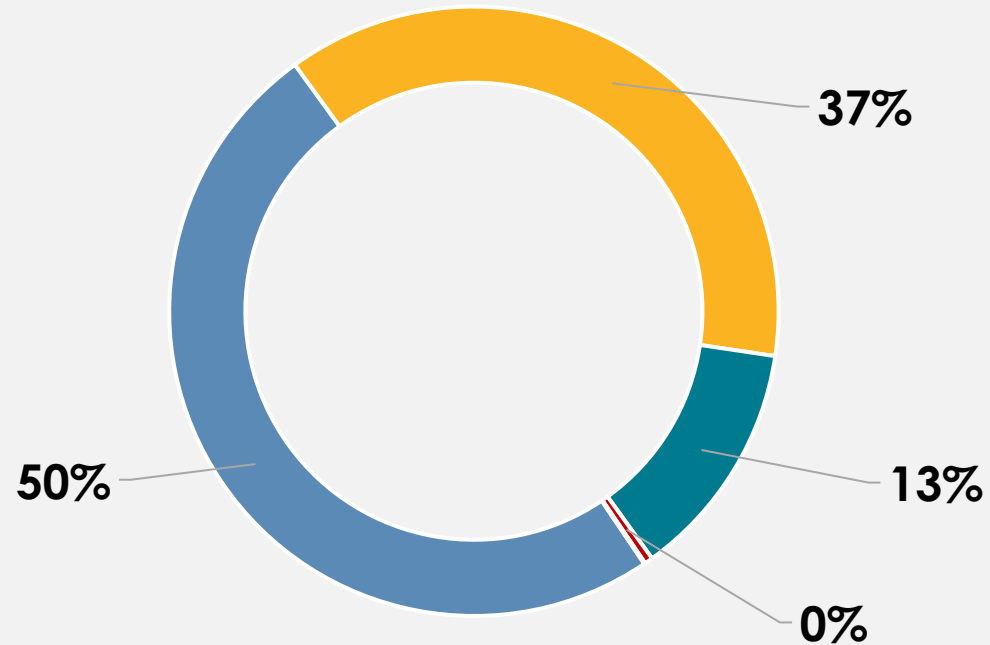
Who Participated: Online & Paper Forms



Who Participated: Online & Paper Forms

Housing Type

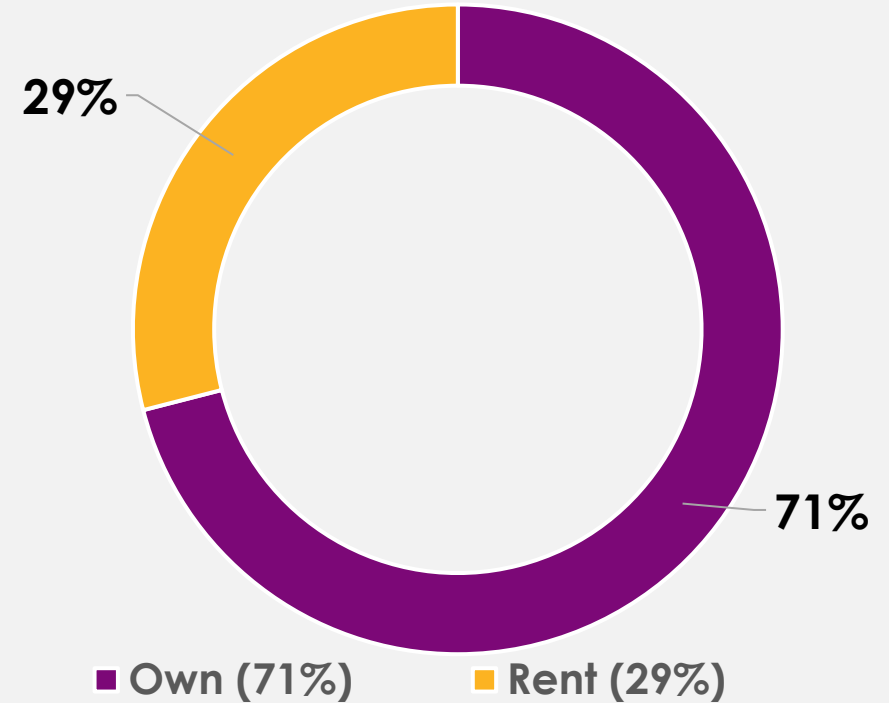
1,819 Respondents



- Single-family, detached house (49%)
- Apartment or condominium (37%)
- Townhouse, attached to other houses (13%)
- Other (1%)
- Military Housing (0%)

Home Ownership

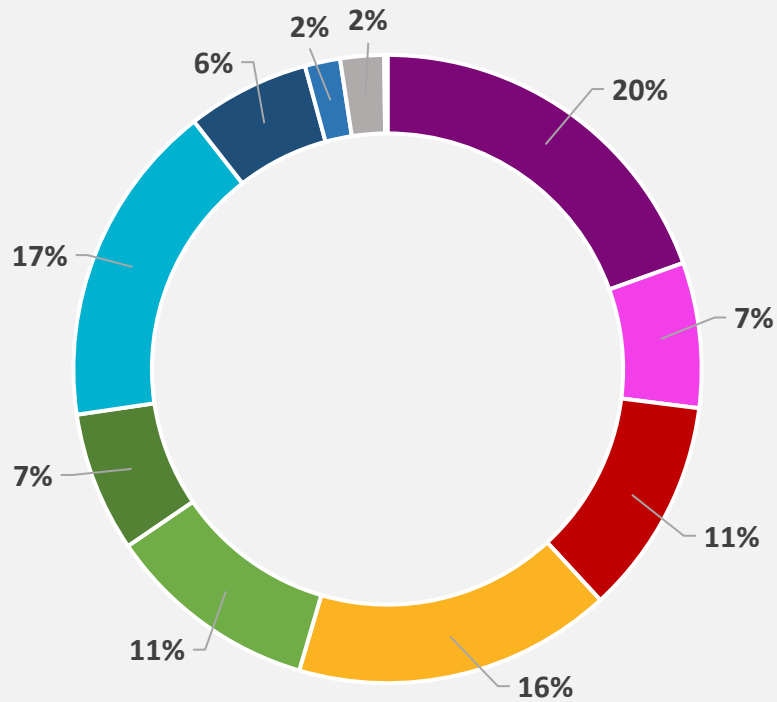
1,862 Respondents



29% of respondents identified as renters in the FY 2025 budget engagement as compared to 19% in FY 2024

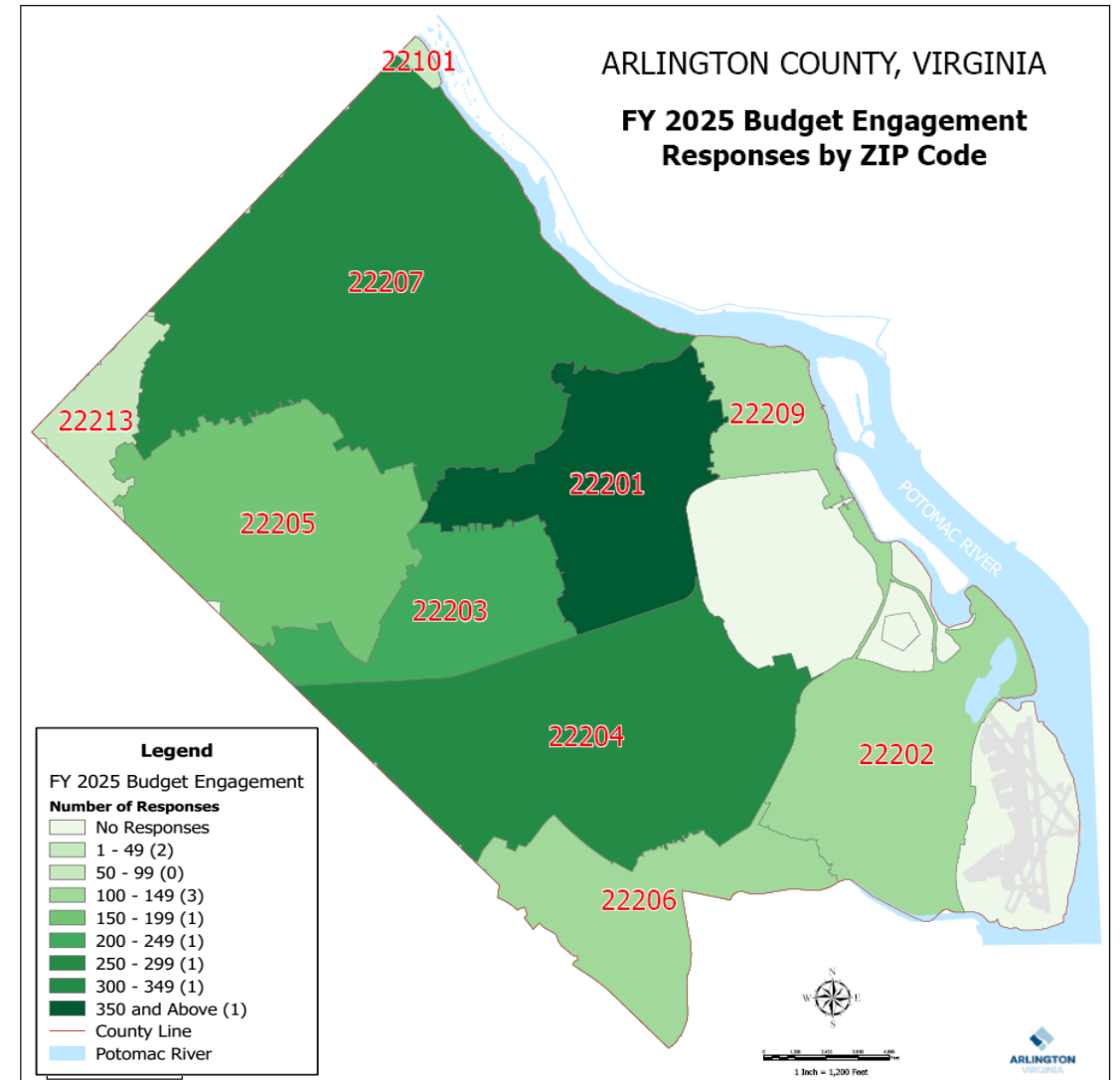
Who Participated: Online & Paper Forms

Zip Code
1,819 Respondents



287
respondents
participated at
in-person pop-
ups in the
22204 zip code

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| ■ 22201 (20%) | ■ 22202 (7%) | ■ 22203 (11%) | ■ 22204 (16%) |
| ■ 22205 (11%) | ■ 22206 (7%) | ■ 22207 (17%) | ■ 22209 (6%) |
| ■ 22213 (2%) | ■ Other (2%) | ■ 22101 (0%) | |

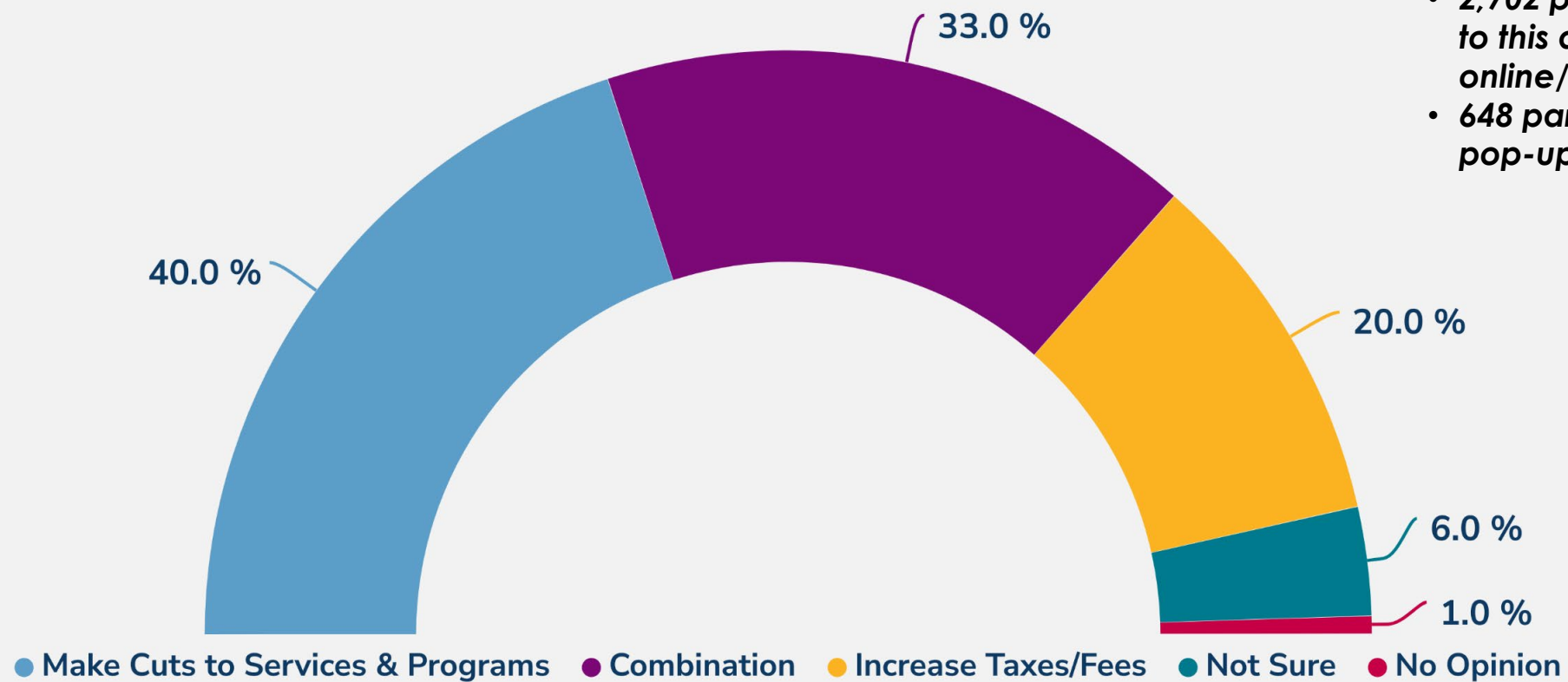


Budget Feedback



Balancing the FY 2025 Budget

Of 3,350 respondents (pop-ups and online), 40% recommend making cuts to services & programs to balance the budget.

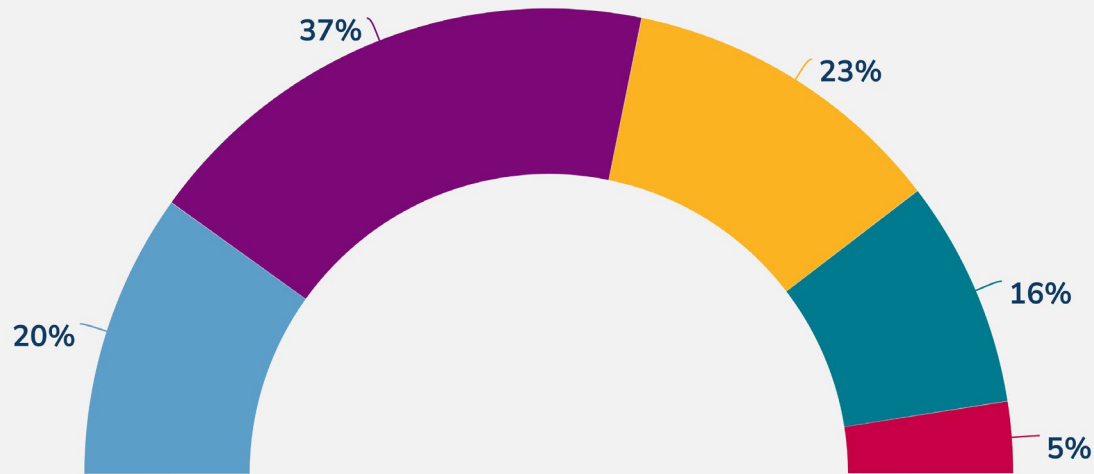


- 2,702 participants responded to this question in online/paper forms
- 648 participants responded at pop-up engagements

Balancing the FY 2025 Budget

Pop-Up Responses 648 Respondents

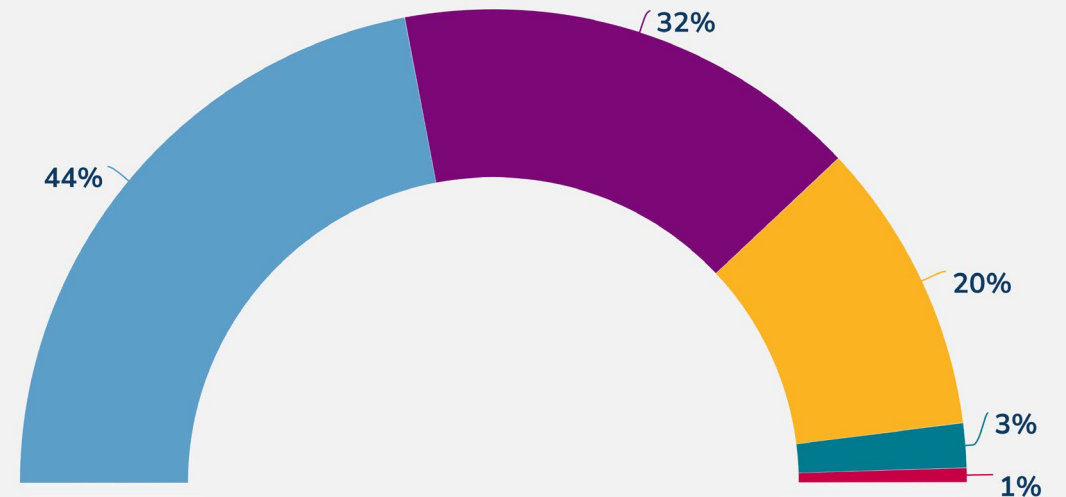
A plurality of pop-up participants recommend a combination of cuts to programs/services AND an increase in taxes/fees to balance the budget.



- Make Cuts to Services & Programs
- Combination
- Increase Taxes/Fees
- Not Sure
- No Opinion

Online Responses 2,702 Respondents

A plurality of online participants recommend making cuts to services and programs to balance the budget.



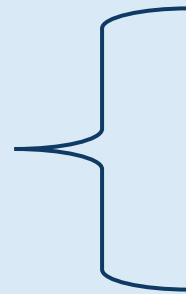
- Make Cuts to Services & Programs
- Combination
- Increase Taxes/Fees
- Not Sure
- No Opinion

Budget Priorities for FY 2025

Participants both online and in-person were asked to select 5 programs and services they recommend the County keep as top priorities in the FY 2025 Budget.

Top 5 Priorities

3,267 respondents
(in-person & online)



Public Safety

62.5%

Transportation

60.1%

Public Works

57.7%

Human Services

50.8%

Public Health

48.2%

Housing

41.6%

Parks and Recreation

40.7%

Libraries

37.3%

Recruitment, Retention and Support of Businesses

18.7%

Community Planning, Development, Zoning, and Code Enforcement

16.1%

Arts & Cultural Affairs

15.4%

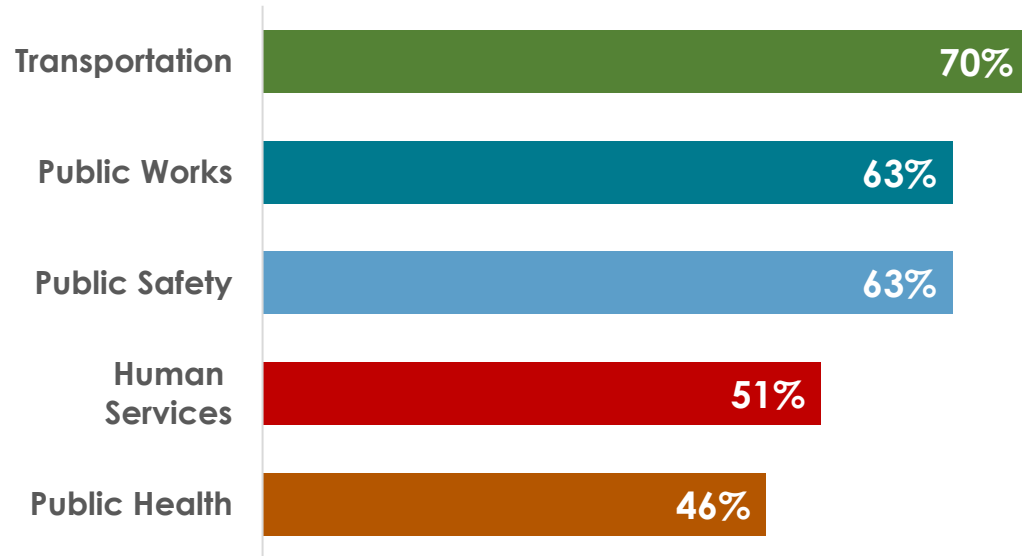
2,568 participants responded to this question in online/paper forms; 699 participants responded at in-person pop-ups

Budget Priorities for FY 2025

Respondents in apartments/condos/townhouses identified transportation as their top priority, compared to those in single-family homes who identified public works.

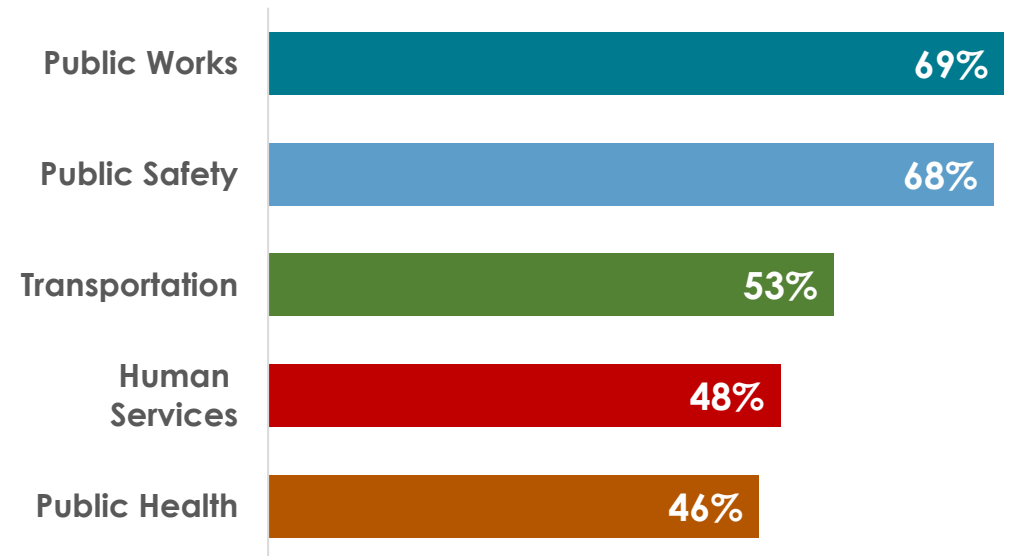
Online: Housing Type Apartment/Condo/Townhouse

910 participants responded using the online form



Online: Housing Type Single Family Home

898 participants responded to this question using the online form

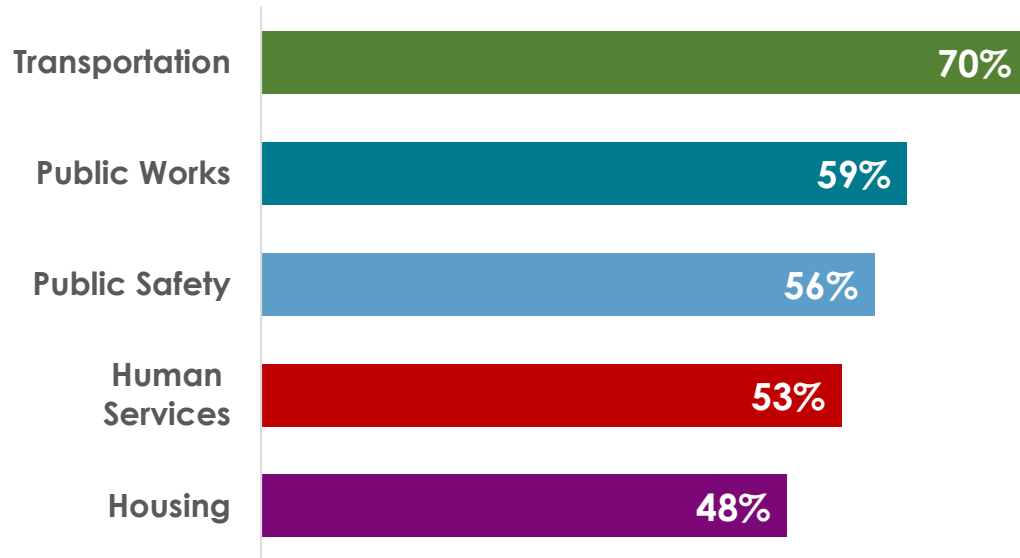


Budget Priorities for FY 2025

Top 5 Priorities by Homeownership/Renter

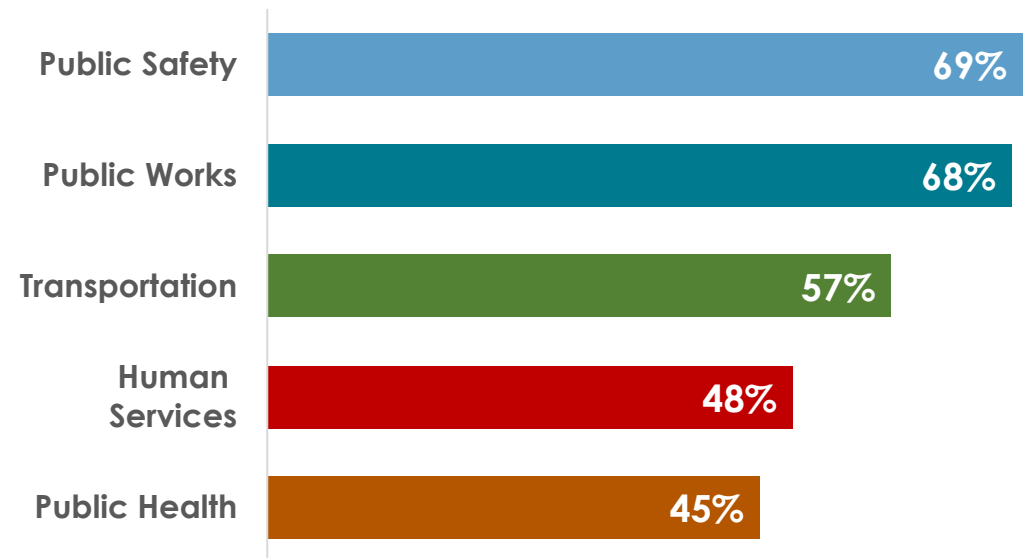
Online: Renter

537 participants responded to this question using the online form



Online: Owner

1,312 participants responded to this question using the online form



Budget Priorities for FY 2025

Priorities for those who participated online varied from those who participated at in-person pop-up events.

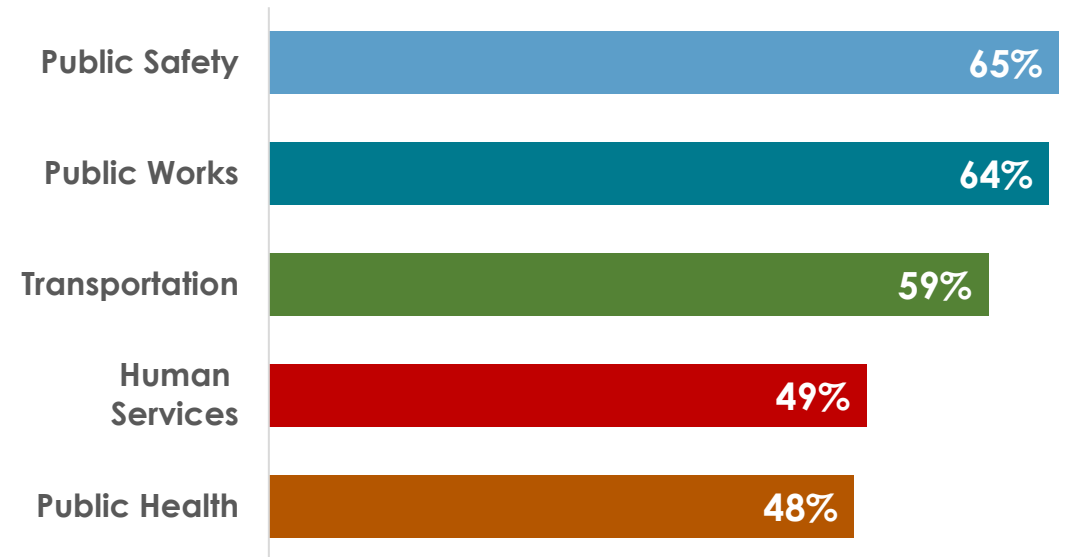
Top 5 Priorities (Pop-Up Engagements)

699 participants responded at in-person pop-ups



Top 5 Priorities (Online)

2,568 participants responded to this question using the online form



Suggestions for Service and Program Reductions



Suggestions for Service/Program Reductions

Over 2,600 comments were received with suggestions for service and program reductions for the FY 2025 budget. Some areas of suggested program reductions include:

- Arlington Public Schools
- Arts & Cultural Affairs
- Housing
- Human Resources
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning & Development
- Public Works

Respondents also shared 900 additional comments about the FY 2025 budget, including 300 specific to taxes and fees.

[Click here to view all comments.](#)

FY 2025 Budget Engagement

