
The William Penn Foundation 2025 Grantee and Applicant Perception Report: Public

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Survey Information.....	1
Interpreting Your Charts	2
Grantmaking Characteristics - Grantees	3
Application Characteristics - Declined Applicants.....	6
Overall Impact	7
Advancing Knowledge and Public Policy	9
Overall Understanding	10
Assistance Beyond the Grant.....	13
People and Communities Served.....	18
People and Communities Served - Applicants	23
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	26
Interactions.....	28
Grantee Ratings	29
Grantee Interaction Patterns	31
Applicant Ratings	35
Communication.....	36
Consistency of Communication	37
Transparency	38
Selection Process	39
Helpfulness and Effort.....	41
Clarity of Selection Process.....	43
Pressure to Modify Priorities	45
Declined Applications	46
Reasons Provided for Declining Proposal.....	49
Implications for Future Applications	50
Feedback on Declined Applications.....	51
Guidance from the Foundation About Future Applications	53
Time Between Submission and Funding Declination	54
Reporting and Evaluation Process	55
Reporting Process	56
Evaluation Process	58
Monetary Return and Time Spent on Processes.....	59
Time Spent on Selection Process	60
Time Spent on Reporting and Evaluation Process	63

WPF-Specific Questions	65
Role of the Foundation	66
RFP and Application Process	69
Site Visits	75
Grant Application Portal.....	78
Learning Communities - Grantees Only	81
Political or Policy Environment.....	83
Political Climate and Funding Sources	84
Reductions in Funding	87
Grantee and Applicant Experiences	90
Political or Policy Environment - Grantee Strategy Review Breakdown.....	94
Political Climate and Funding Sources	95
Reductions in Funding	97
Grantee and Applicant Experiences	99
Contextual Data	102
Application Characteristics	106
Grantee/Applicant Characteristics	107
Funder Characteristics	111
Methodology, Analysis, and Respondent Demographics	112
Standard Comparative Cohorts.....	113
Respondent Demographics	114
Respondent Job Title.....	122
Additional Survey Information	123
About CEP and Contact Information	129

Survey Information

Grantee Survey

Survey	Survey Fielded	Survey Population	Number of Responses Received	Survey Response Rate
WPF 2025	September and October 2025	885	450	51%
WPF 2022	September and October 2022	730	423	58%

Throughout this report, William Penn Foundation's survey results are compared to CEP's broader dataset of more than 60,000 grantee responses from over 350 funders built up over more than a decade of grantee surveys. A list of some funders who have recently participated in the GPR can be found at <https://cep.org/gpr-participants/>.

Subgroups

In addition to showing WPF's overall ratings, this report shows ratings segmented by whether their grant was made before or after the Foundation's 2024 strategy review.

Strategy Review	Number of Responses
Post-Strategy Review	167
Pre-Strategy Review	283

Applicant Survey

Survey	Survey Fielded	Survey Population	Number of Responses Received	Survey Response Rate
WPF 2025	September and October 2025	538	146	27%

Throughout this report, William Penn Foundation's applicant survey results are compared to CEP's broader dataset of more than 5,000 declined applicant responses from surveys of more than 50 funders.

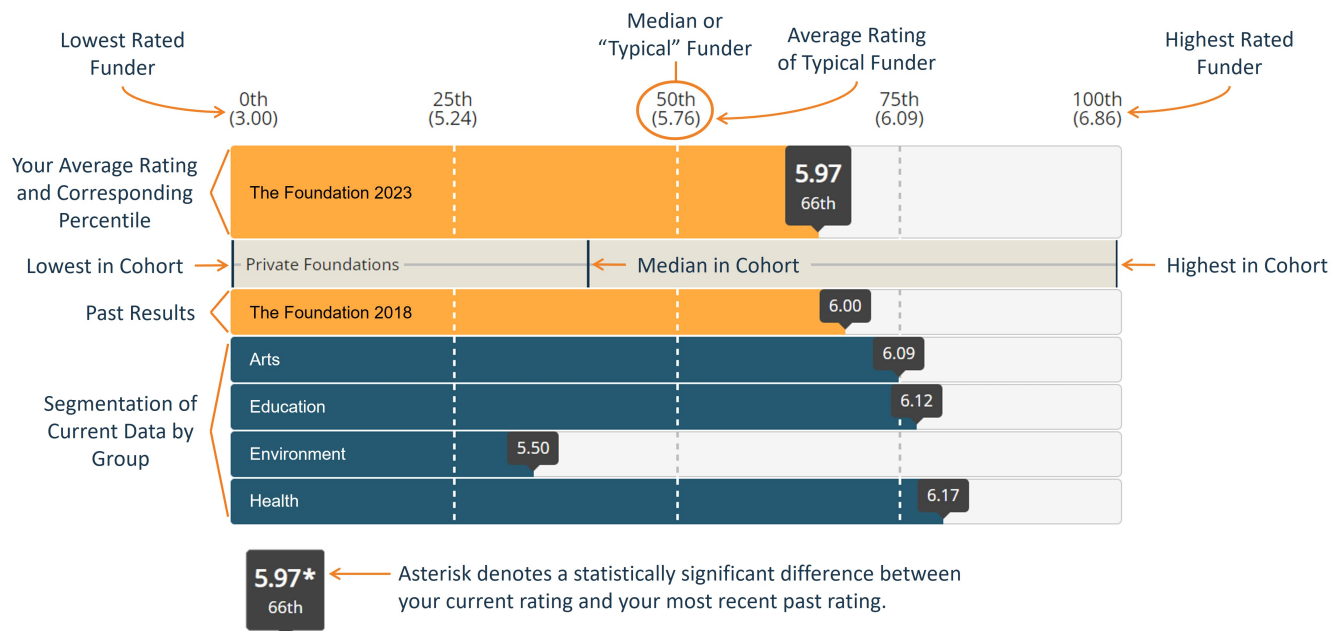
Customized Cohort

WPF selected a set of 11 funders to create a smaller comparison group for the grantee data that more closely resembles WPF in scale and scope.

Custom Cohort
Barr Foundation
Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation
Houston Endowment
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
The Duke Endowment
The Heinz Endowments
The James Irvine Foundation
The Kresge Foundation
The McKnight Foundation
The William Penn Foundation

Interpreting Your Charts

Many of the charts in this report are shown in this format. See below for an explanation of the chart elements.



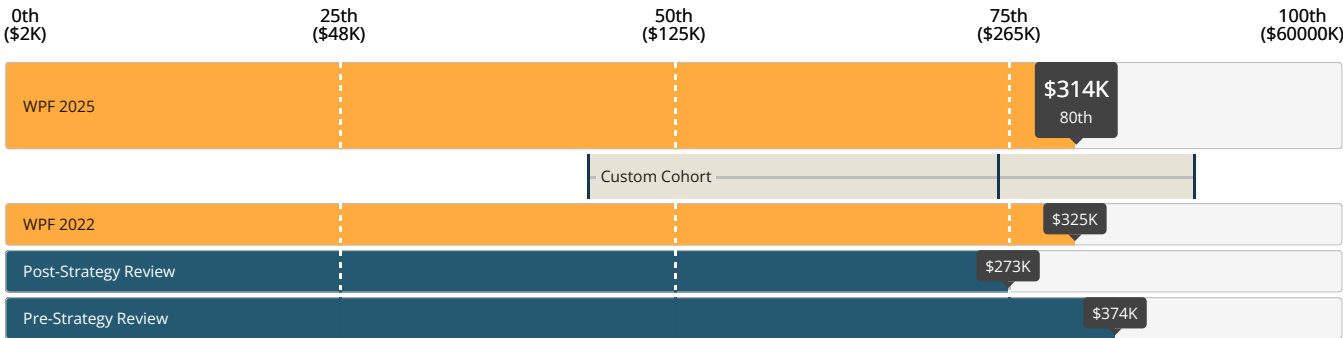
Missing data: Selected grantee ratings are not displayed in this report due to changes in the survey instrument, or when a question received fewer than ten responses.

Grantmaking Characteristics - Grantees

Funders make different choices about the ways they organize themselves, structure their grants, and the types of grantees they support. The following tables show some of these important characteristics. The information is based on self-reported data from funders, grantees, and applicants, and further detail is available in the Contextual Data section of this report.

Grantee Responses Median Grant Size

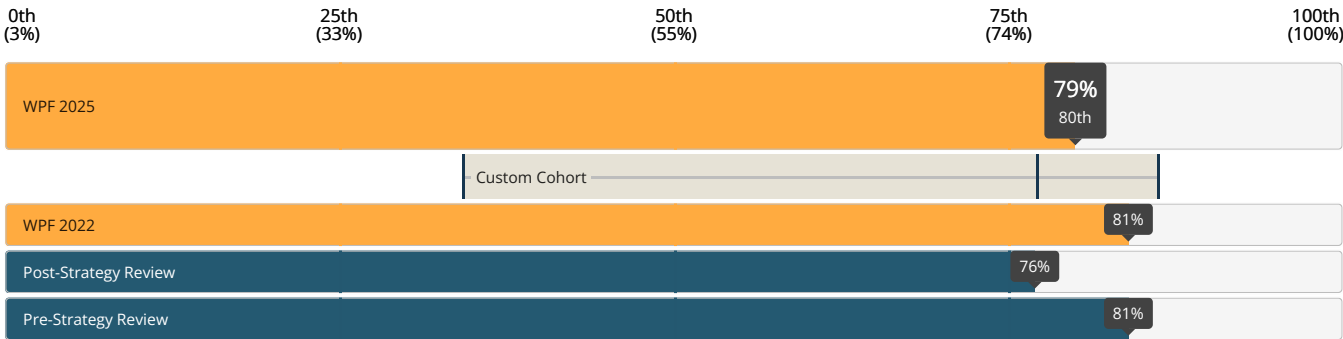
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Grantee Responses Proportion of Multi-year Grants

Proportion of grantees that report receiving grant for two years or longer

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

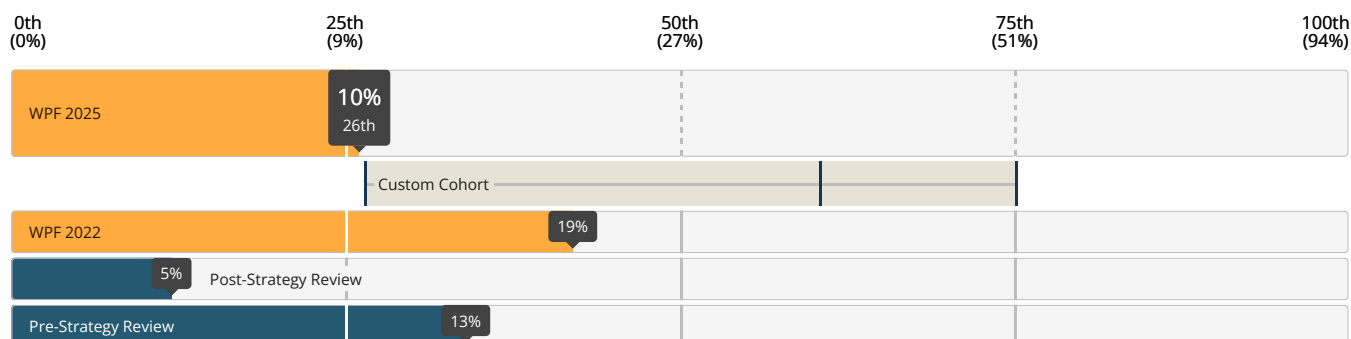


Grantee Responses

Proportion of Unrestricted Funding

Proportion of grantees responding 'No, this funding was not restricted to a specific use (e.g., general operating, core support)'

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

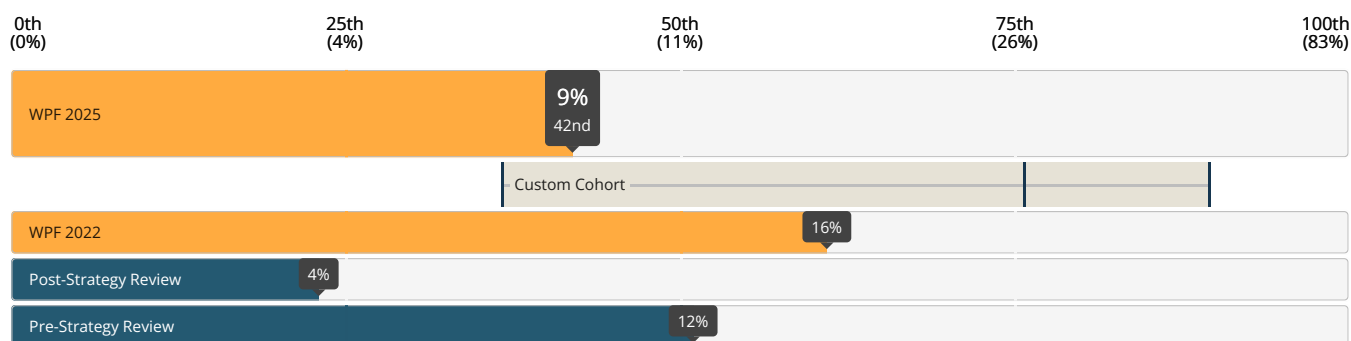


Grantee Responses

Proportion of Multi-year Unrestricted Grants

Proportion of grantees that report receiving grants for two years or longer and who report receiving general operating support funding that was not restricted to a specific use.

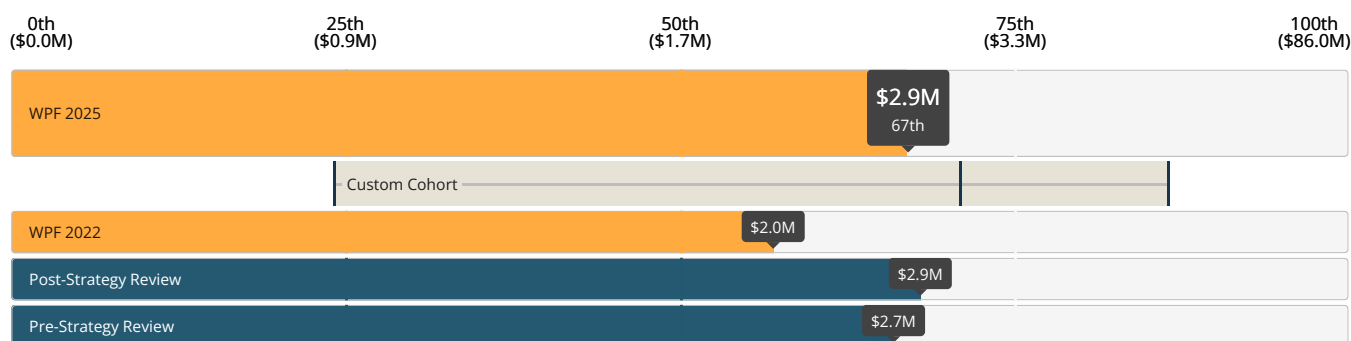
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Grantee Responses

Median Organizational Budget

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Median Percent of Budget Funded by Grant (Annualized)	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Size of grant relative to size of grantee budget	5%	7%	4%	5%

Subgroup: Strategy Review

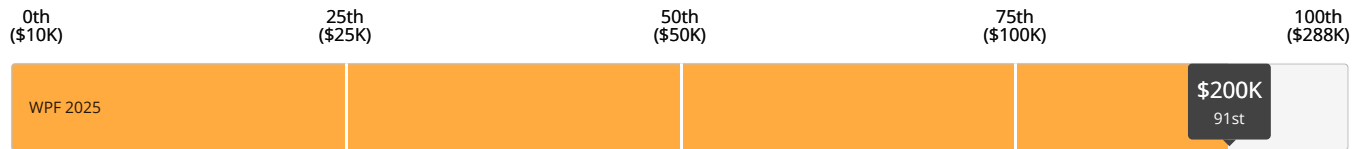
Median Percent of Budget Funded by Grant (Annualized) (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
Size of grant relative to size of grantee budget	5%	6%

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Program Staff Load	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Dollars awarded per program full-time employee	\$5.7M	\$3.9M	\$2.9M	\$5.3M
Applications per program full-time employee	53	10	20	14
Active grants per program full-time employee	39	44	30	32

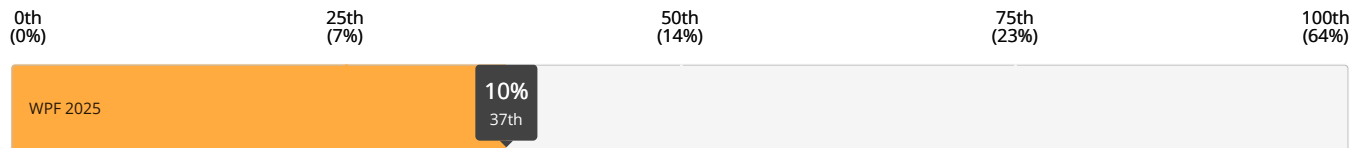
Application Characteristics - Declined Applicants

Applicant Responses Median Grant Request Size



Applicant Responses Proportion of Unrestricted Funding

Proportion of declined applicants responding 'No, the grant proposal was for funding not restricted to a specific use (e.g., general operating, core support)'



Applicant Responses Median Organizational Budget



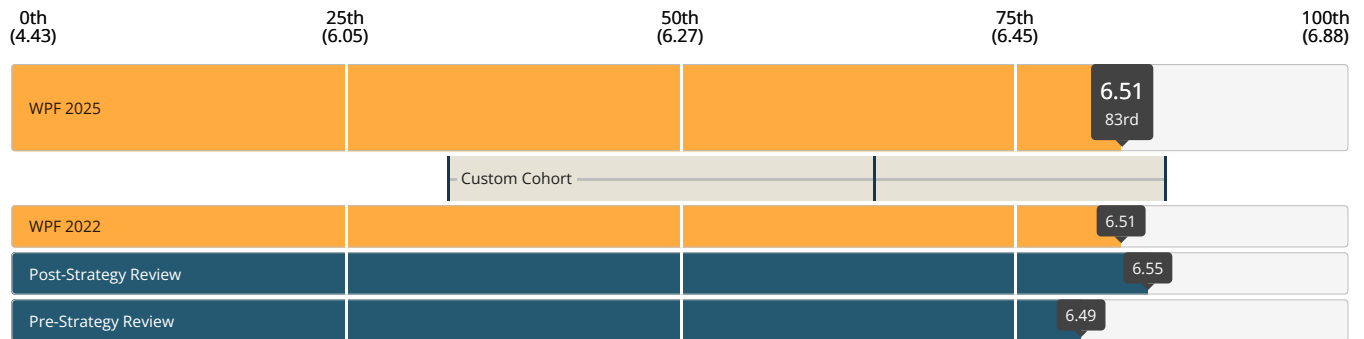
Overall Impact

Grantee Responses

Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your organization?

1 = No impact 7 = Significant positive impact

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

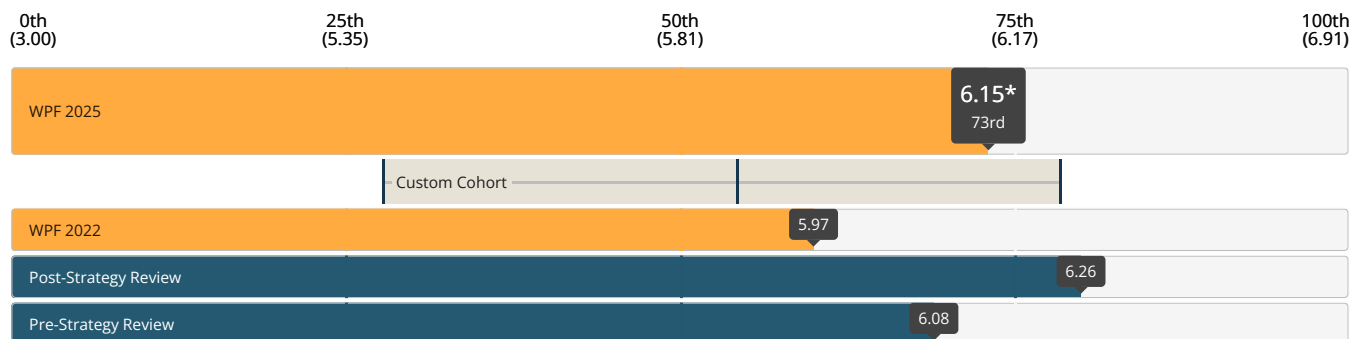


Grantee Responses

Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your local community?

1 = No impact 7 = Significant positive impact

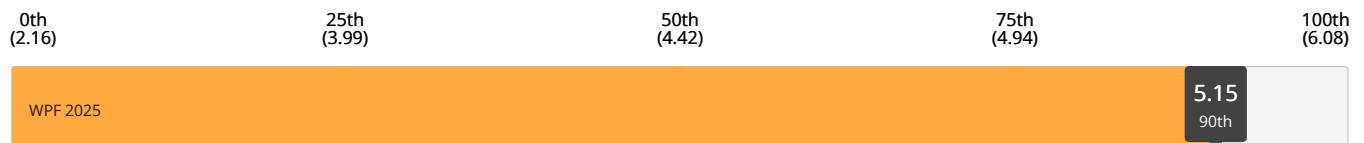
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your local community?

1 = No impact 7 = Significant positive impact

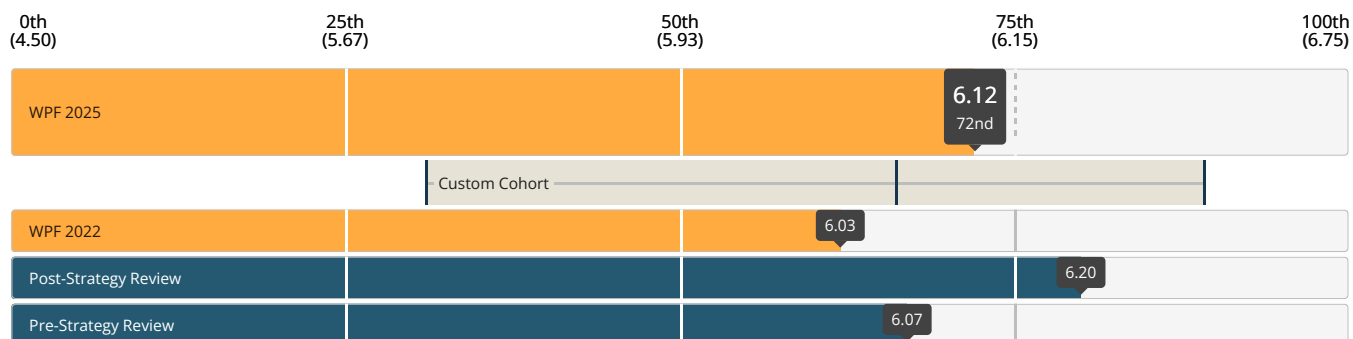


Grantee Responses

Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your field?

1 = No impact 7 = Significant positive impact

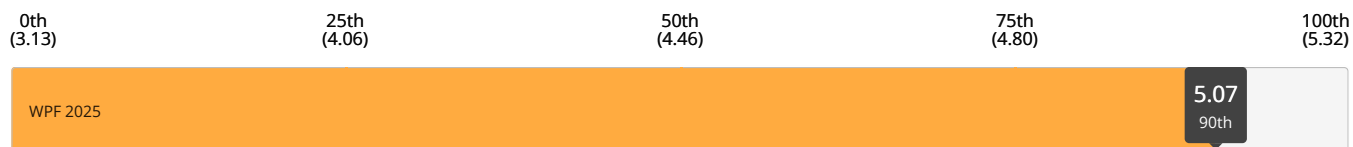
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your field?

1 = No impact 7 = Significant positive impact



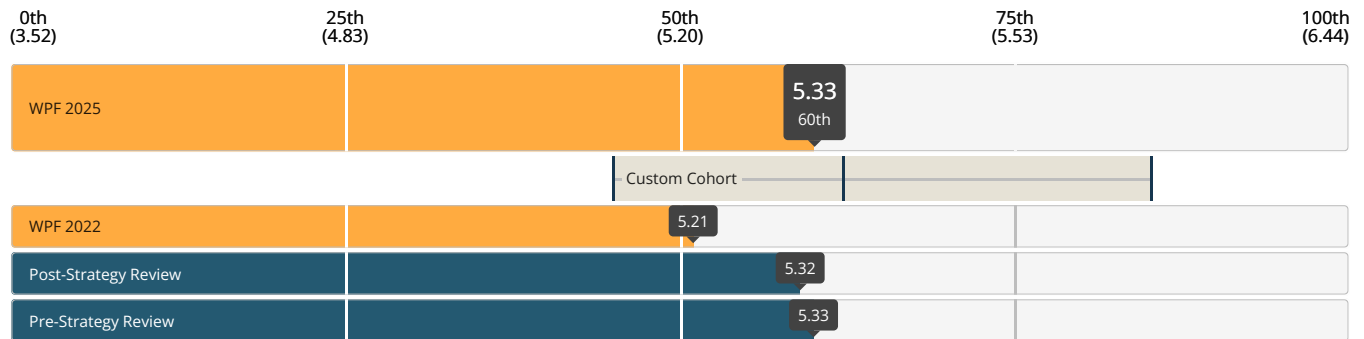
Advancing Knowledge and Public Policy

Grantee Responses

To what extent has the Foundation advanced the state of knowledge in your field?

1 = Not at all 7 = Leads the field to new thinking and practice

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

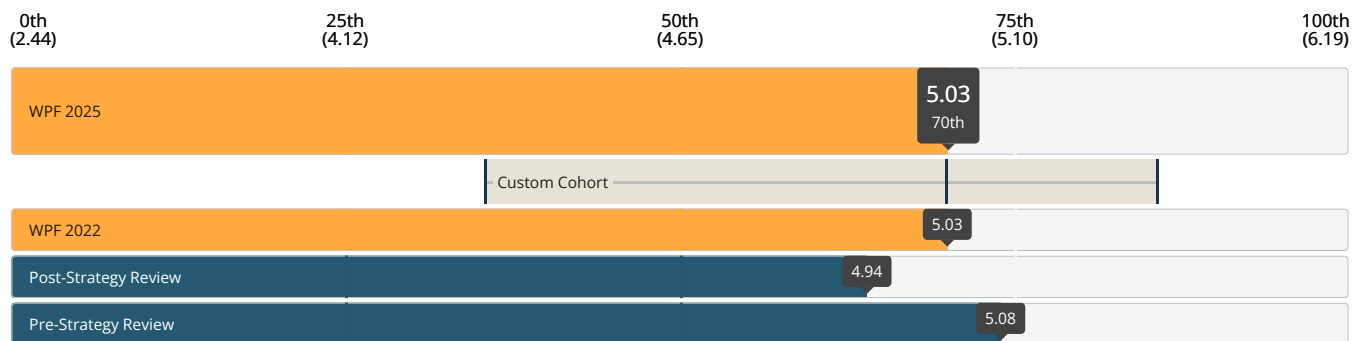


Grantee Responses

To what extent has the Foundation affected public policy in your field?

1 = Not at all 7 = Major influence on shaping public policy

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



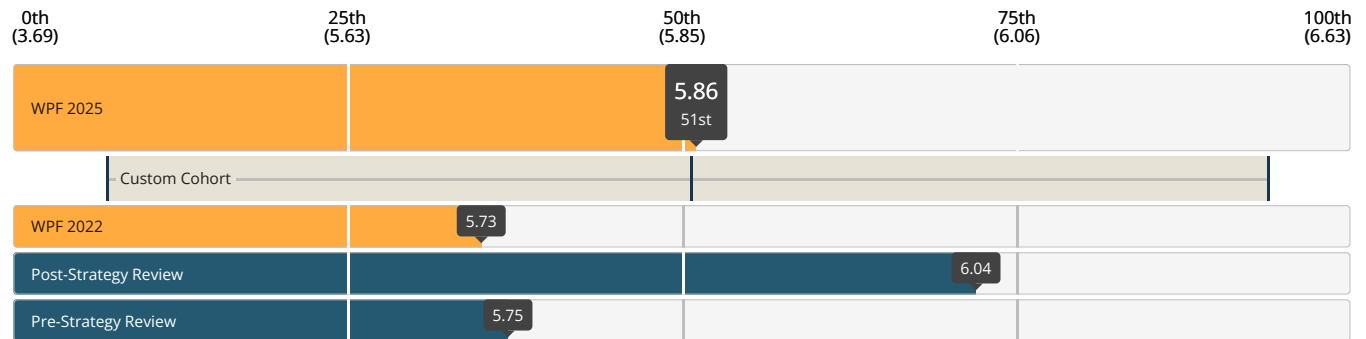
Overall Understanding

Grantee Responses

How well does the Foundation understand your organization's strategy and goals?

1 = Limited understanding 7 = Thorough understanding

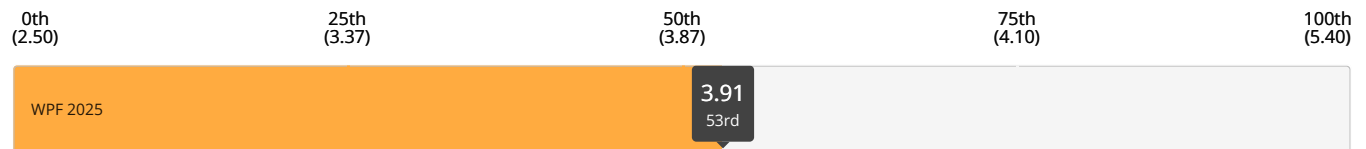
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

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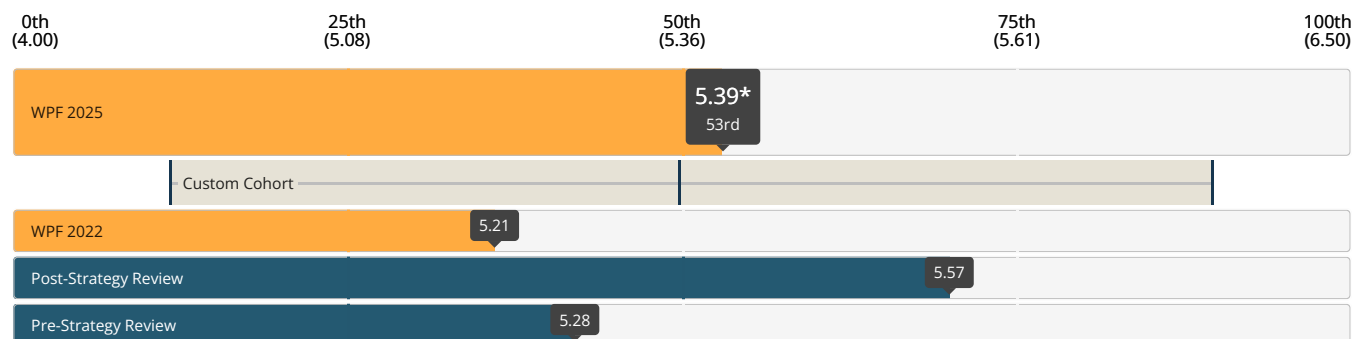


Grantee Responses

How aware is the Foundation of the challenges that your organization is facing?

1 = Not at all aware 7 = Extremely aware

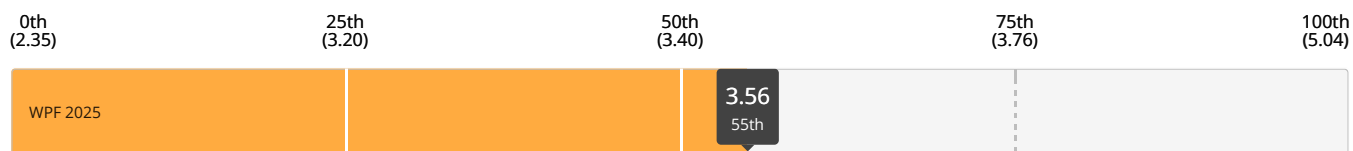
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



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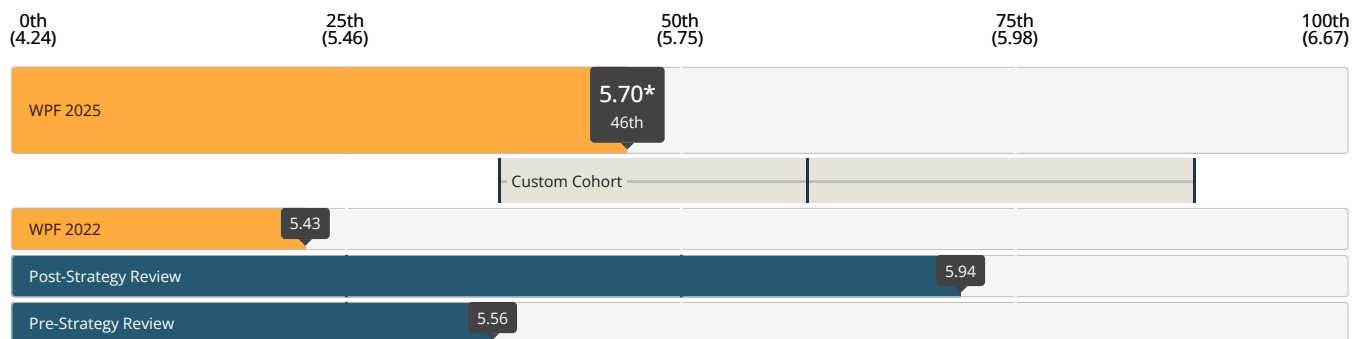


Grantee Responses

How well does the Foundation understand the social, cultural, or socioeconomic factors that affect your work?

1 = Limited understanding 7 = Thorough understanding

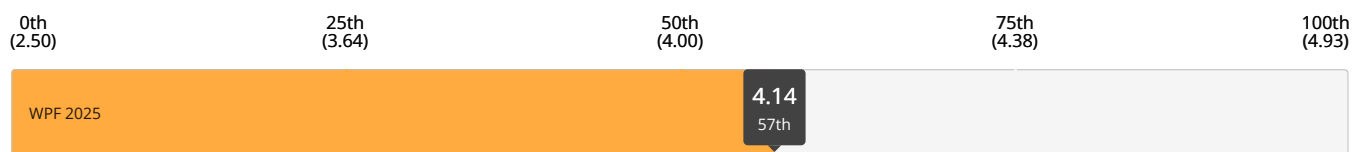
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



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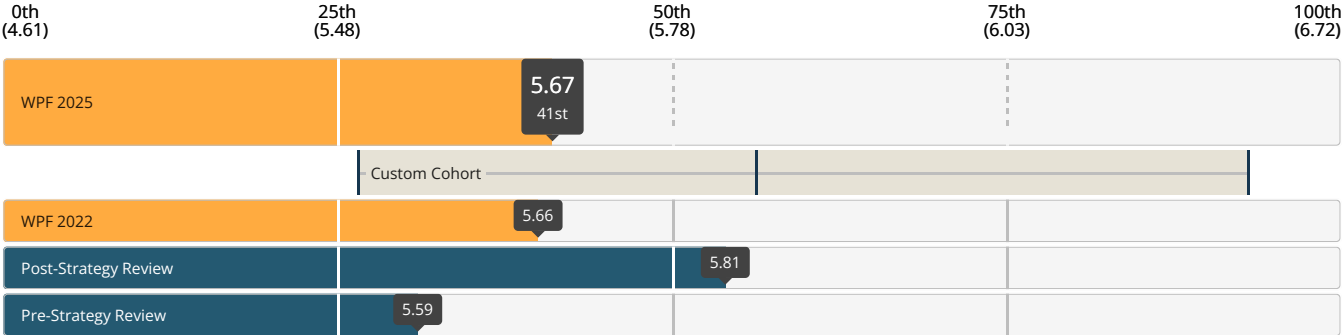


Grantee Responses

How well does the Foundation understand the field in which you work?

1 = Limited understanding of the field 7 = Regarded as an expert in the field

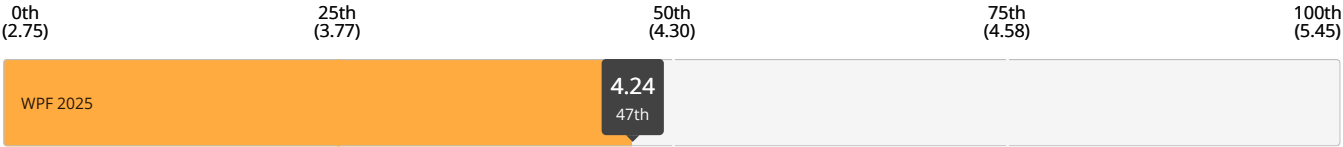
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



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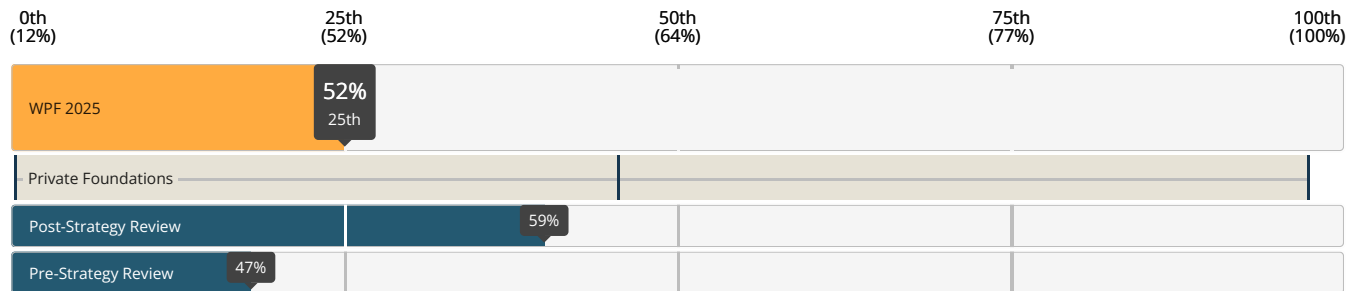
Assistance Beyond the Grant

Grantee Responses

Proportion of Grantees Receiving Assistance Beyond the Grant

Proportion of grantees who indicate receiving at least one form of assistance beyond the grant

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review

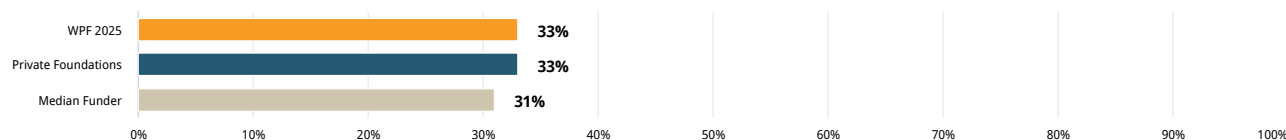


In the survey, grantees were asked about the assistance beyond the grant they received in a check-all-that-apply format. Therefore, the following charts provide greater detail on the previous assistance beyond the grant question.

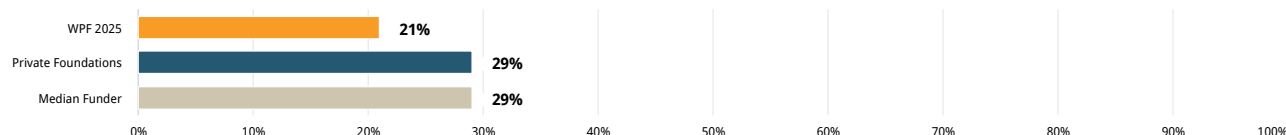
Please indicate any types of assistance beyond the grant that were a component of what you received from the Foundation (from staff or a third party paid for by the Foundation).

Cohort: Private Foundations

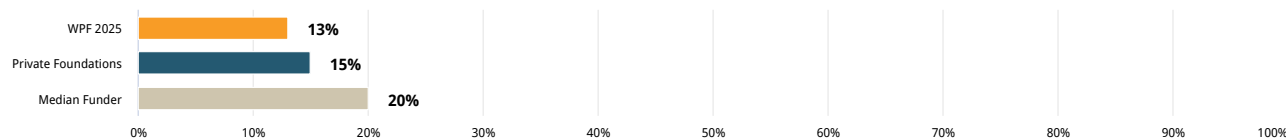
Field-Building Assistance (e.g., insight or advice about your field, fostering collaboration, grantee convenings, introductions to field leaders, etc.)



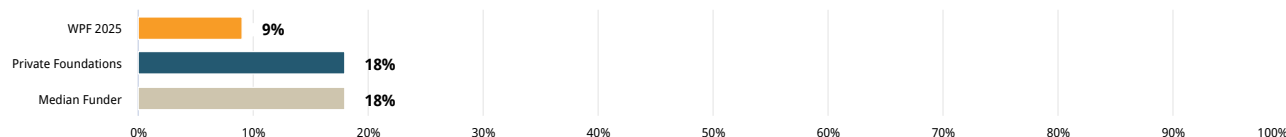
Program-Related Assistance (e.g., advice on your program approach or efforts, program assessment or evaluation assistance, etc.)



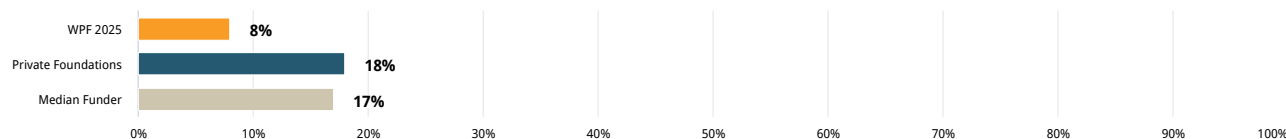
Communications Assistance (e.g., promoting your organization's work on the Foundation's social media, website, or other communication channels, drafting press releases, support for your organization's communications strategy, etc.)



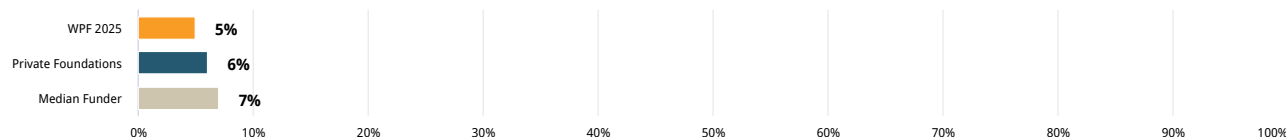
Fundraising and Development Assistance (e.g., introductions to other funders or donors, development consulting, fundraising review, etc.)



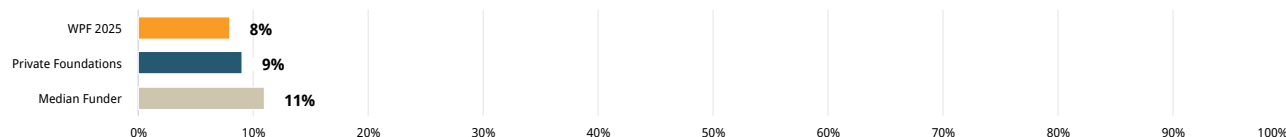
Organizational Capacity Building Assistance (e.g., advice on your organizational capacity, board development, etc.)



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Assistance (e.g., provide training or facilitation related to DEI, DEI assessment processes, expertise to add a DEI lens to your work, etc.)



Other assistance not listed above

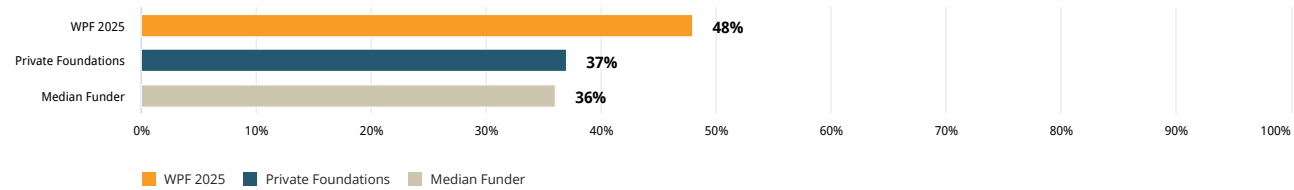


WPF 2025 Private Foundations Median Funder

Please indicate any types of assistance beyond the grant that were a component of what you received from the Foundation (from staff or a third party paid for by the Foundation).

Cohort: Private Foundations

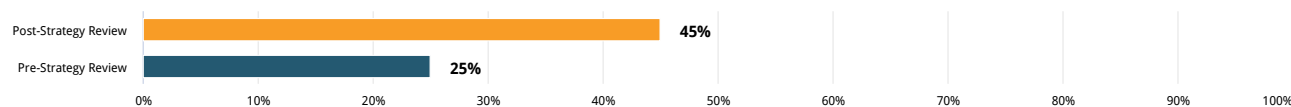
Did not receive any assistance beyond the grant



Please indicate any types of assistance beyond the grant that were a component of what you received from the Foundation (from staff or a third party paid for by the Foundation). - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Field-Building Assistance (e.g., insight or advice about your field, fostering collaboration, grantee convenings, introductions to field leaders, etc.)



Program-Related Assistance (e.g., advice on your program approach or efforts, program assessment or evaluation assistance, etc.)



Communications Assistance (e.g., promoting your organization's work on the Foundation's social media, website, or other communication channels, drafting press releases, support for your organization's communications strategy, etc.)



Fundraising and Development Assistance (e.g., introductions to other funders or donors, development consulting, fundraising review, etc.)



Organizational Capacity Building Assistance (e.g., advice on your organizational capacity, board development, etc.)



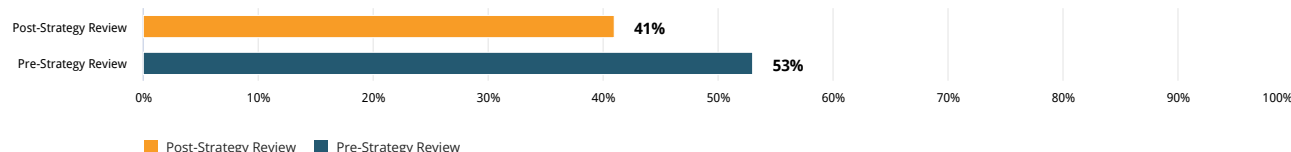
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Assistance (e.g., provide training or facilitation related to DEI, DEI assessment processes, expertise to add a DEI lens to your work, etc.)



Other assistance not listed above



Did not receive any assistance beyond the grant



Note: The following questions were asked only of grantees who indicated receiving at least one form of assistance beyond the grant in the previous question.

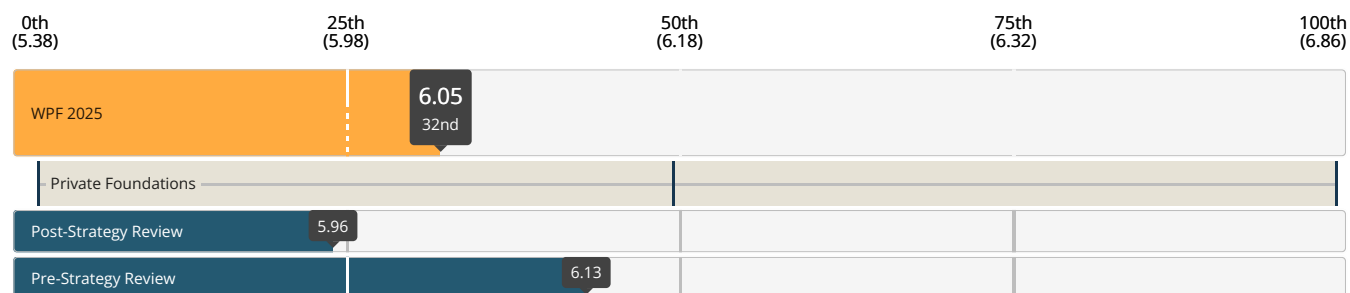
Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements about the assistance beyond the grant you received from the Foundation.

Grantee Responses

The support I received met an important need for my organization and/or program

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review

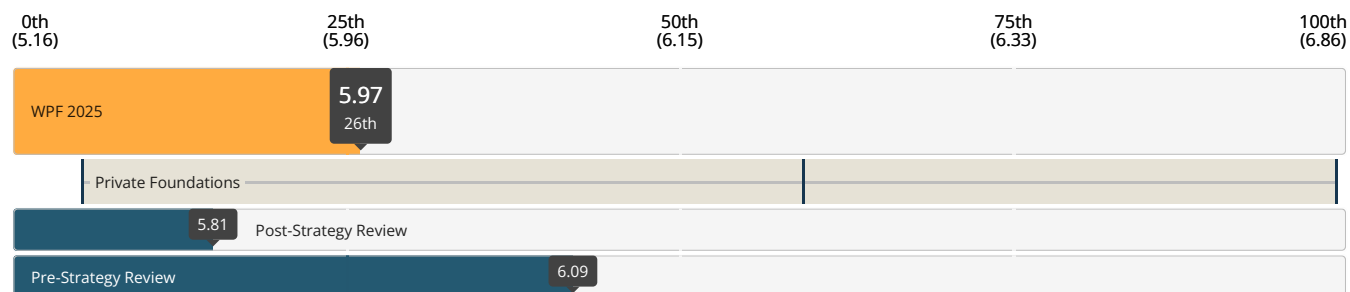


Grantee Responses

The Foundation's assistance beyond the grant was a worthwhile use of the time required of us

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review

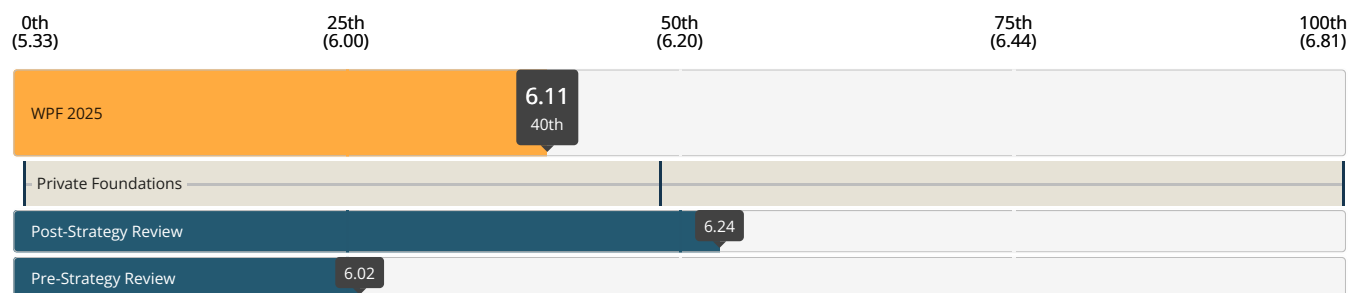


Grantee Responses

I felt the Foundation would be open to feedback about the assistance beyond the grant it provided

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review



People and Communities Served

Grantee Ratings

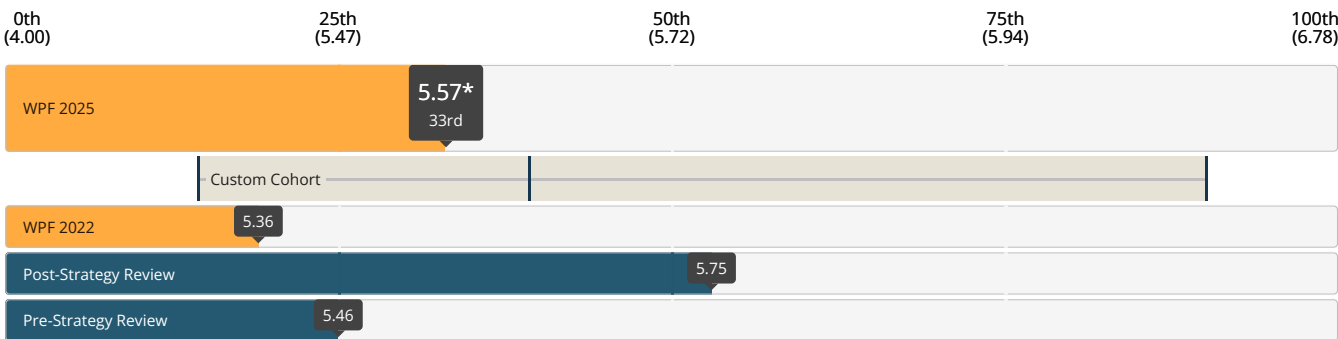
In the following question, we use the phrase "the people and communities that you serve" to refer to those your organization seeks to serve through the services and/or programs it provides.

Grantee Responses

How well does the Foundation understand the needs of the people and communities that you serve?

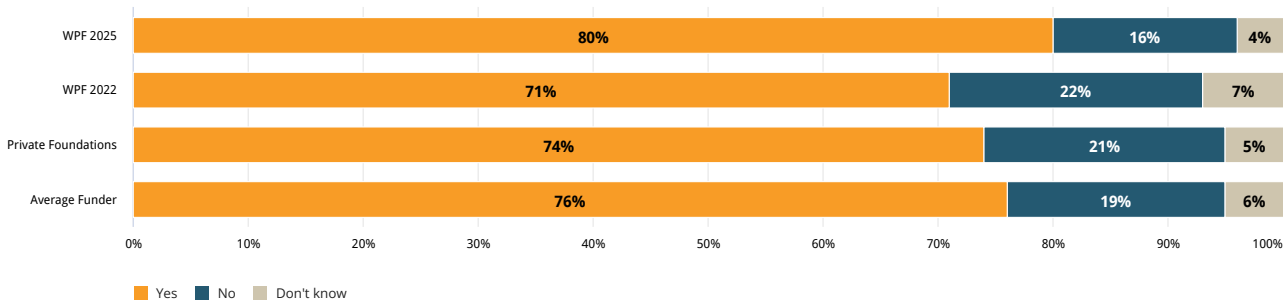
1 = Limited understanding 7 = Thorough understanding

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



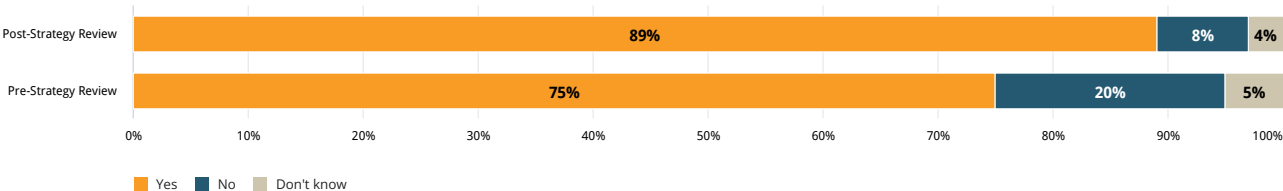
Are the efforts funded by this grant primarily meant to benefit historically disadvantaged groups?

Cohort: Private Foundations Past Results: On



Are the efforts funded by this grant primarily meant to benefit historically disadvantaged groups? - By Strategy Review

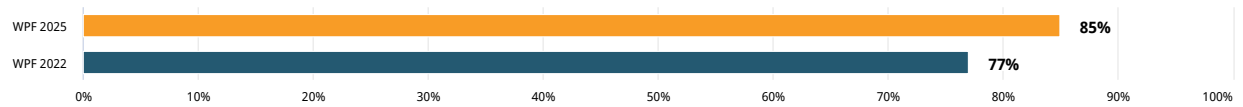
Subgroup: Strategy Review



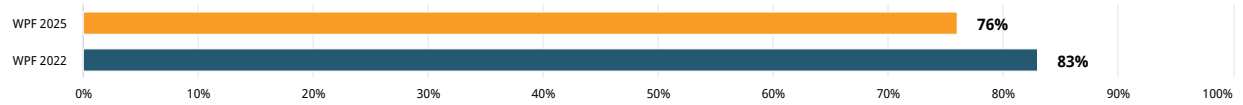
Specifically, are any of the following populations the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?

Past Results: On

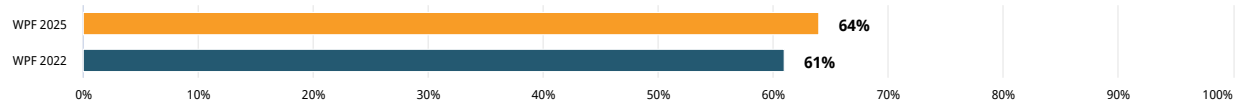
Low-income individuals and families



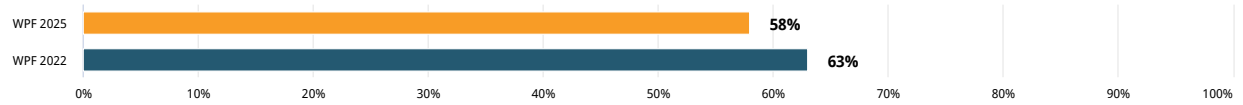
African American or Black individuals or communities



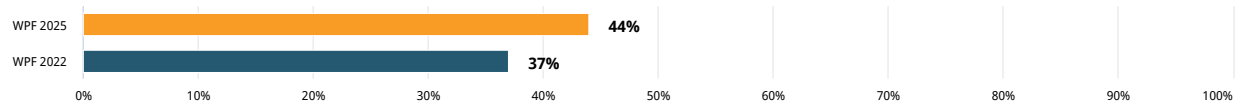
Children and/or youth



Latina, Latino, Latinx or Hispanic individuals or communities



Multiracial and/or Multi-ethnic individuals or communities



Women



Asian or Asian American individuals or communities



Refugees and immigrants



Individuals with disabilities



WPF 2025 WPF 2022

Specifically, are any of the following populations the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?

Past Results: On

English language learners



Members of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) community



Middle Eastern or North African individuals or communities



American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous individuals or communities



Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian individuals or communities



Don't know



None of the above

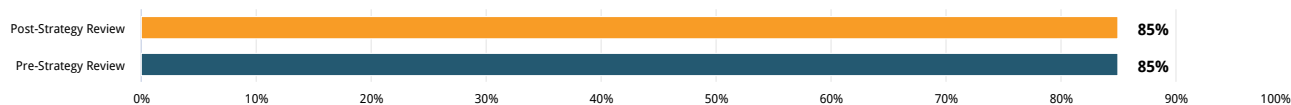


WPF 2025 WPF 2022

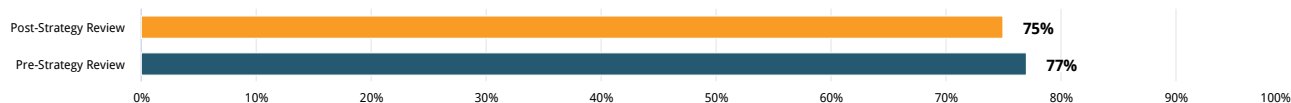
Specifically, are any of the following populations the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

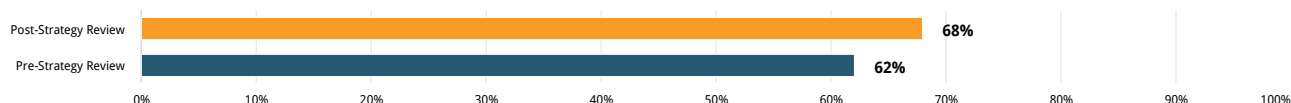
Low-income individuals and families



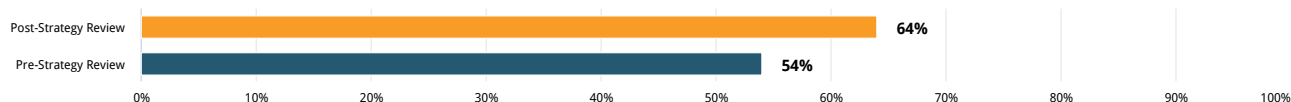
African American or Black individuals or communities



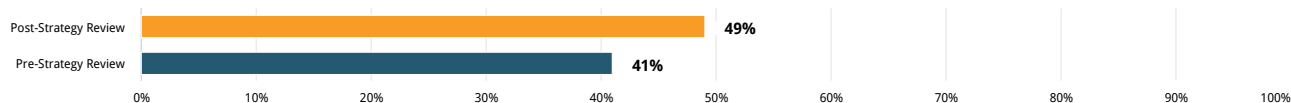
Children and/or youth



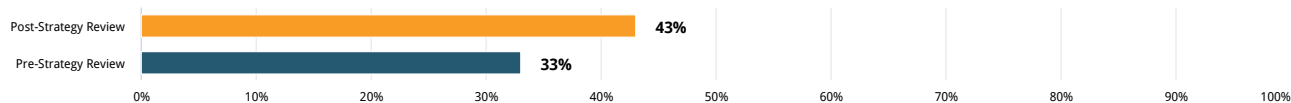
Latina, Latino, Latinx or Hispanic individuals or communities



Multiracial and/or Multi-ethnic individuals or communities



Women



Asian or Asian American individuals or communities



Refugees and immigrants



Individuals with disabilities



Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

Specifically, are any of the following populations the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

English language learners



Members of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) community



Middle Eastern or North African individuals or communities



American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous individuals or communities



Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian individuals or communities



Don't know



None of the above



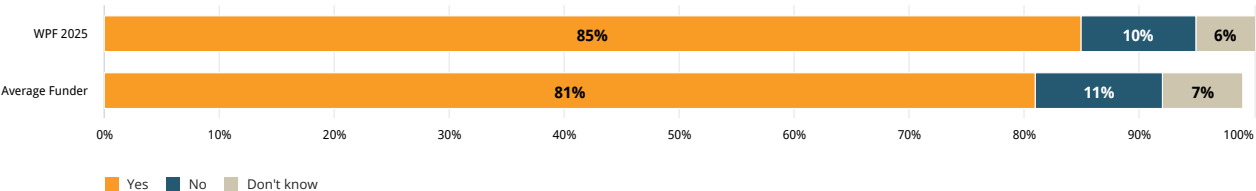
Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

People and Communities Served - Applicants

Applicant Ratings

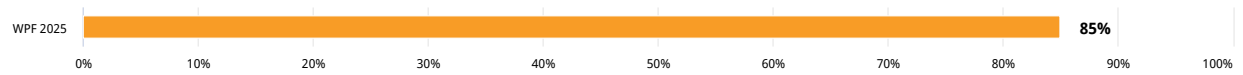
Would the efforts of your grant proposal primarily have been directed to benefit historically disadvantaged groups?

Past Results: On

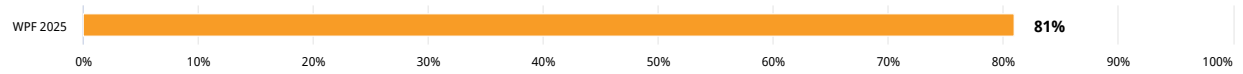


Specifically, would any of the following populations have been the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?

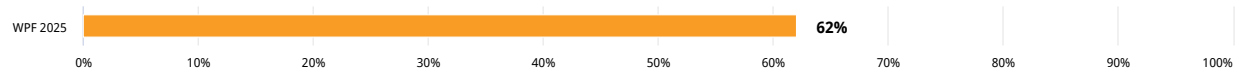
Low-income individuals and families



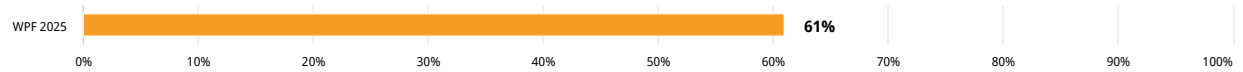
African American or Black individuals or communities



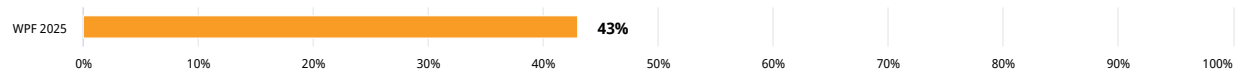
Latina, Latino, Latinx or Hispanic individuals or communities



Children and/or youth



Multiracial and/or Multi-ethnic individuals or communities



Women



Individuals with disabilities



Asian or Asian American individuals or communities



Refugees and immigrants



Members of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) community



English language learners



WPF 2025

Specifically, would any of the following populations have been the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?

American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous individuals or communities



Middle Eastern or North African individuals or communities



Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian individuals or communities



None of the above



Don't know



WPF 2025

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

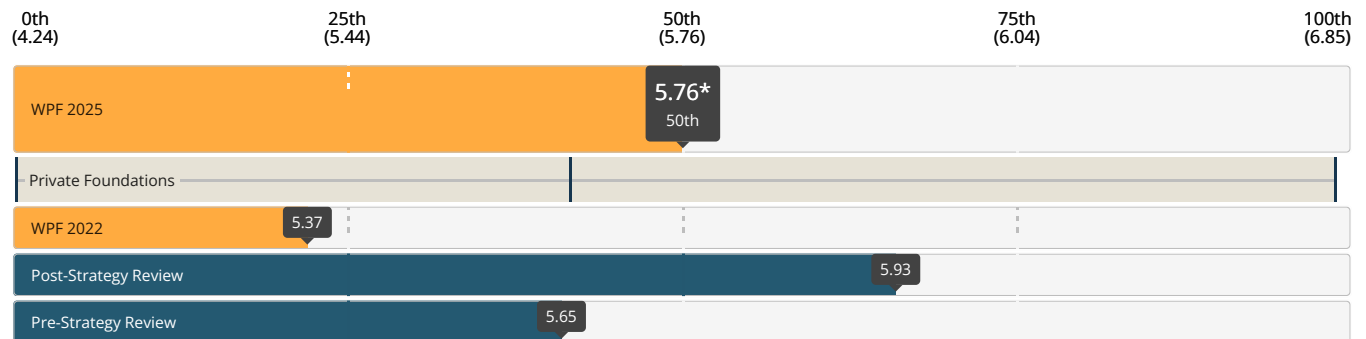
Grantee Ratings

Grantee Responses

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation has clearly communicated what diversity, equity, and inclusion means for its work?

1 = Strongly disagree 4 = Neither agree nor disagree 7 = Strongly agree

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

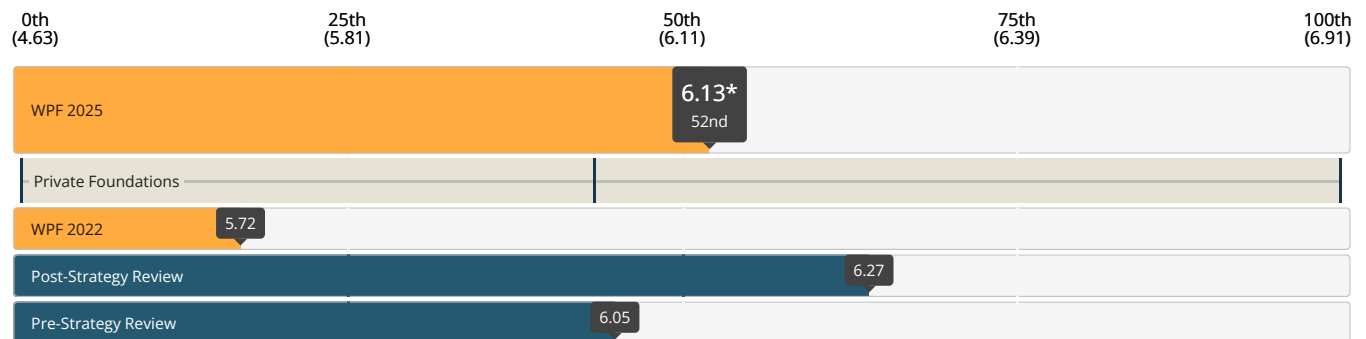


Grantee Responses

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation demonstrates an explicit commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in its work?

1 = Strongly disagree 4 = Neither agree nor disagree 7 = Strongly agree

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

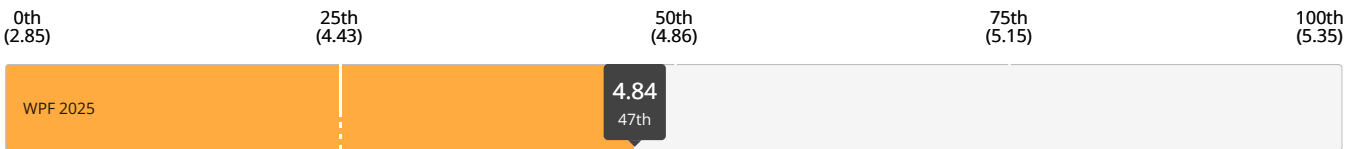


Applicant Ratings

Applicant Responses

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation has clearly communicated what diversity, equity, and inclusion means for its work?

1 = Strongly disagree 4 = Neither agree nor disagree 7 = Strongly agree



Applicant Responses

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation demonstrates an explicit commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in its work?

1 = Strongly disagree 4 = Neither agree nor disagree 7 = Strongly agree



Interactions

The following questions asked grantees and applicants to reflect on aspects of their relationship with the Foundation.

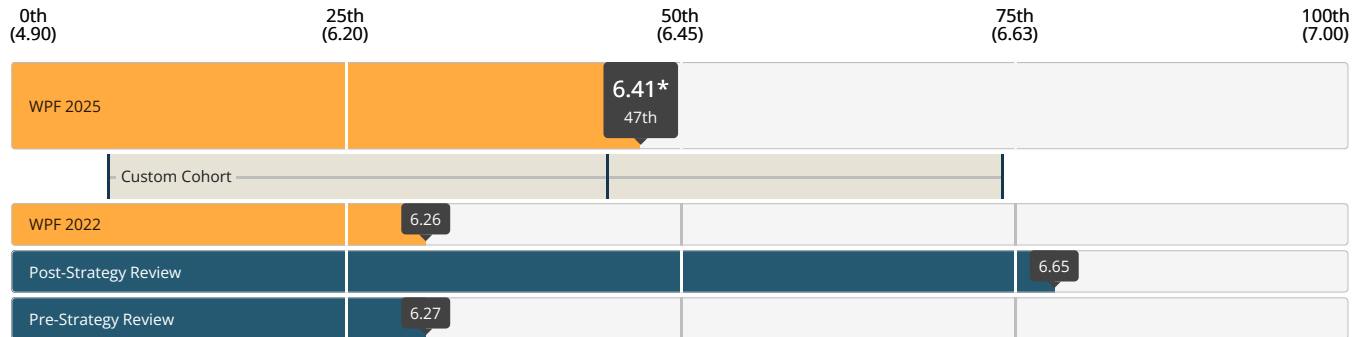
Grantee Ratings

Grantee Responses

Overall, how responsive was Foundation staff?

1 = Not at all responsive 7 = Extremely responsive

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

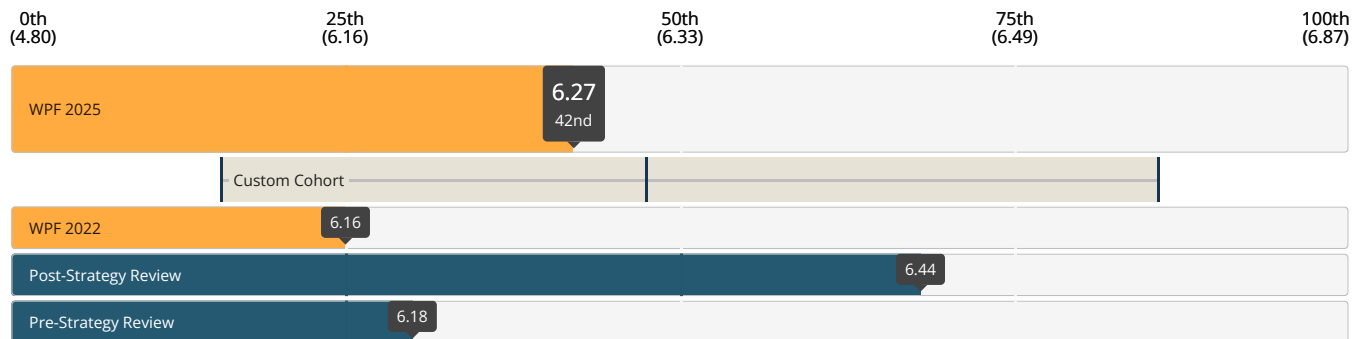


Grantee Responses

How comfortable do you feel approaching the Foundation if a problem arises?

1 = Not at all comfortable 7 = Extremely comfortable

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

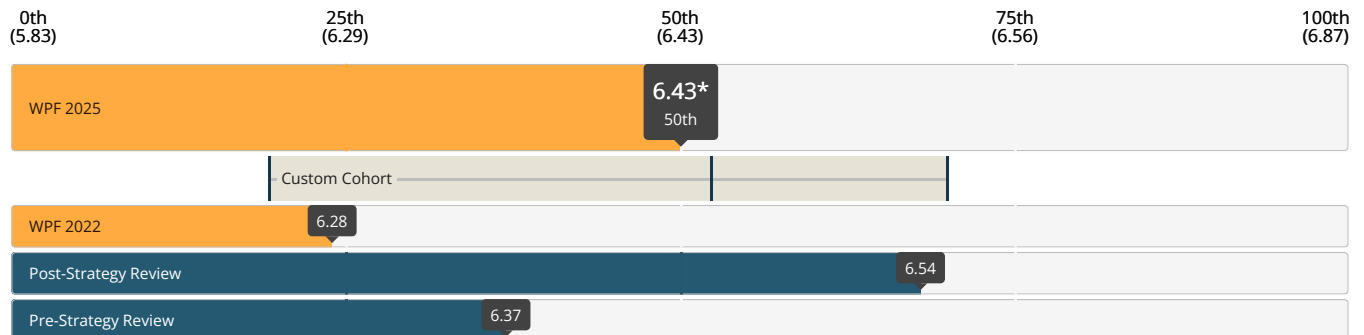


Grantee Responses

To what extent did the Foundation exhibit trust in your organization's staff during this grant?

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

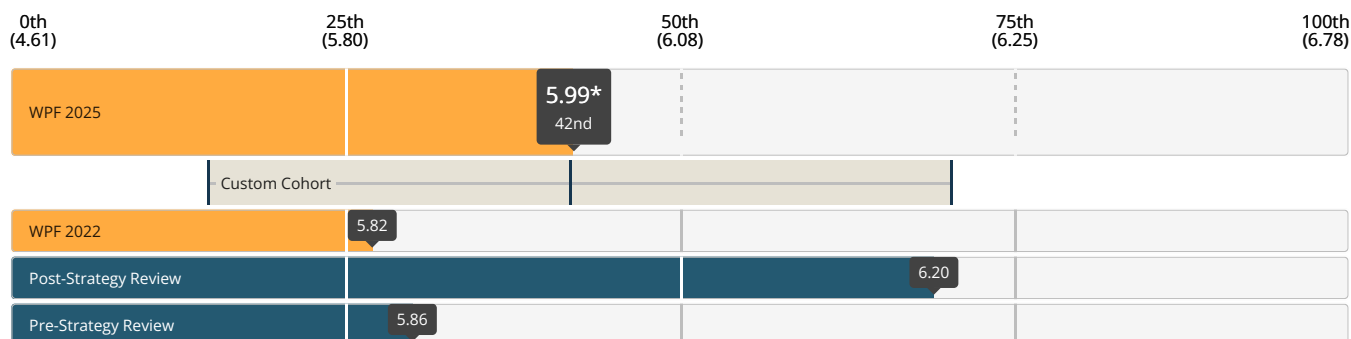


Grantee Responses

To what extent did the Foundation exhibit candor about the Foundation's perspectives on your work during this grant?

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

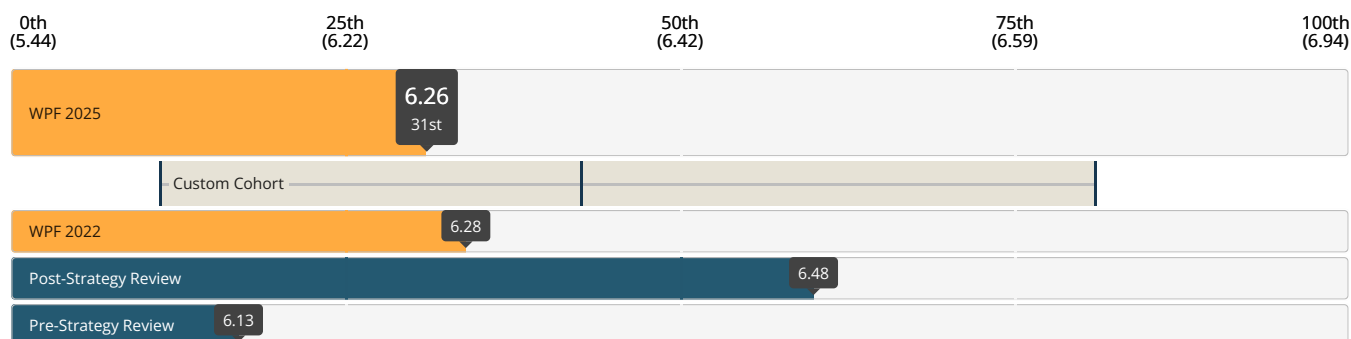


Grantee Responses

To what extent did the Foundation exhibit compassion for those affected by your work during this grant?

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

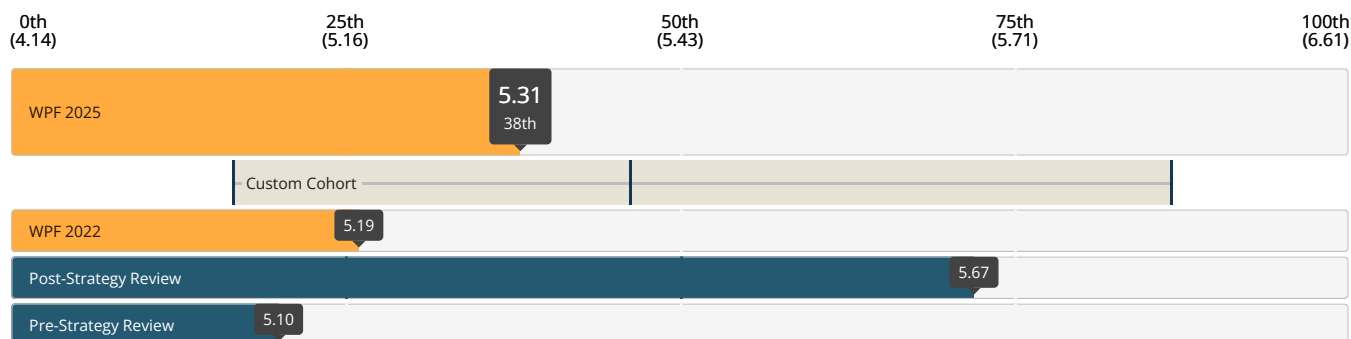


Grantee Responses

To what extent is the Foundation open to ideas from grantees about its strategy?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

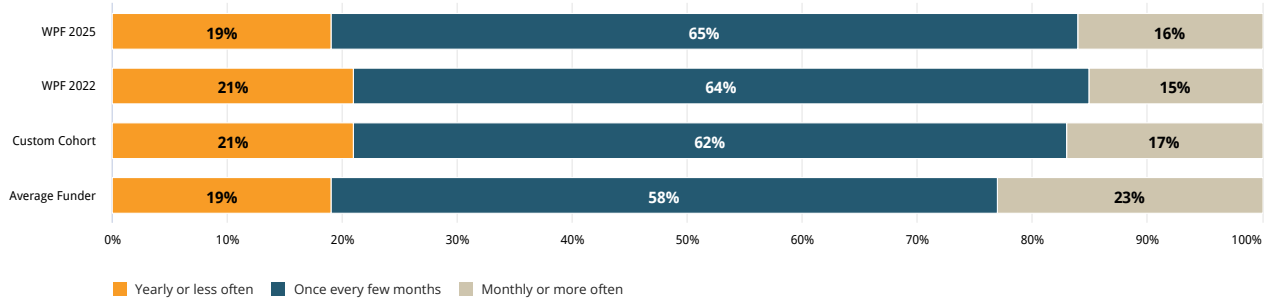


Grantee Interaction Patterns

Grantee Responses

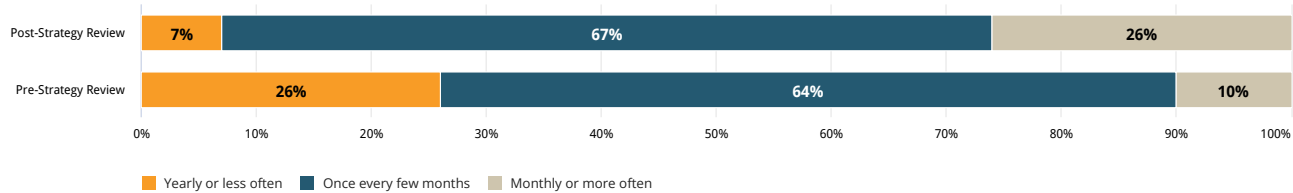
How often do/did you have contact with your program officer during this grant?

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On



How often do/did you have contact with your program officer during this grant? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

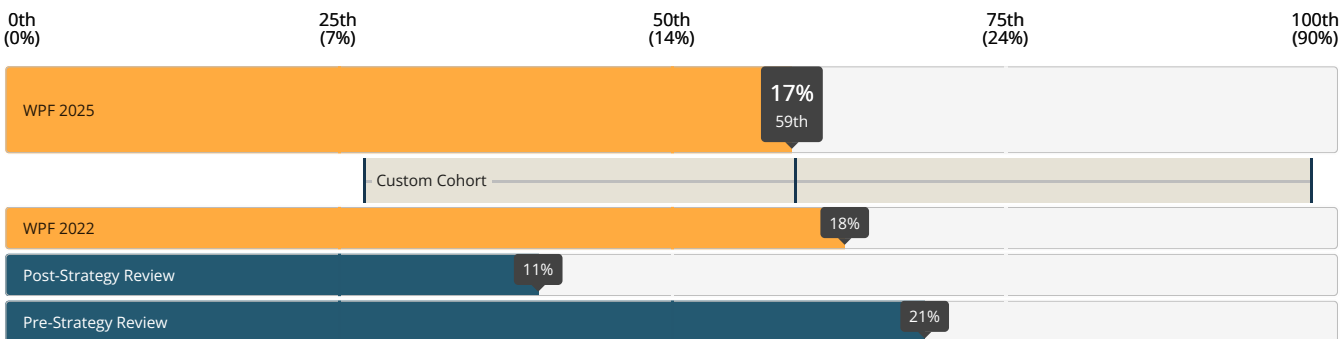


Grantee Responses

Has your main contact at the Foundation changed in the past six months?

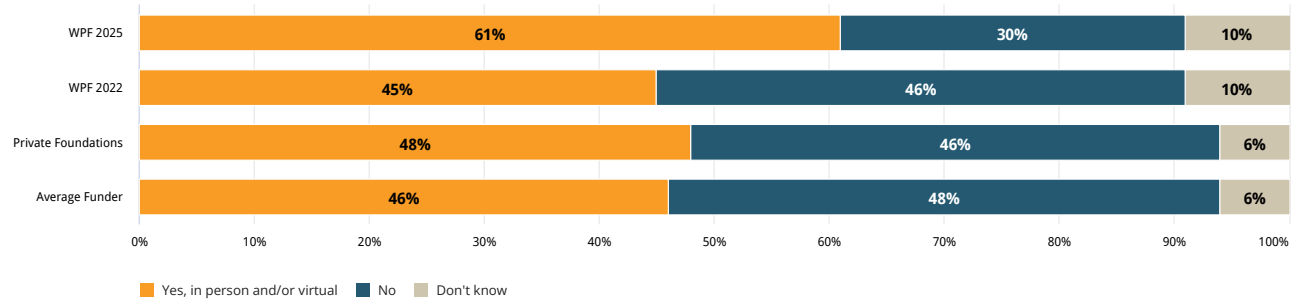
Proportion of grantees responding 'Yes'

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



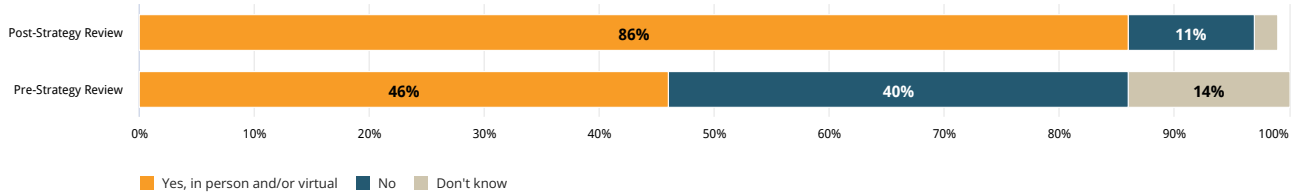
At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Foundation staff conduct a site visit?

Cohort: Private Foundations Past Results: On



At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Foundation staff conduct a site visit? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

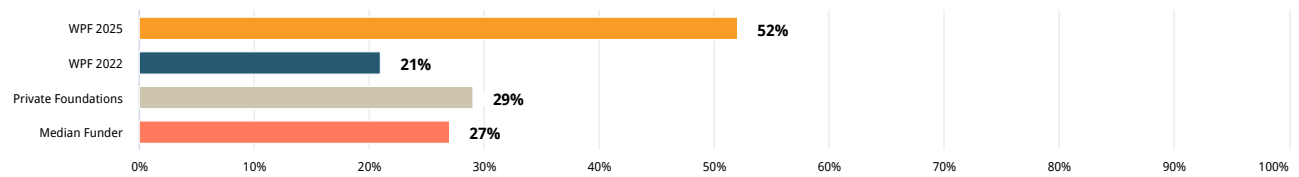


In the survey, respondents were asked the site visit question in a check-all-that-apply format. Therefore, the following charts provide greater detail on the previous site visit question.

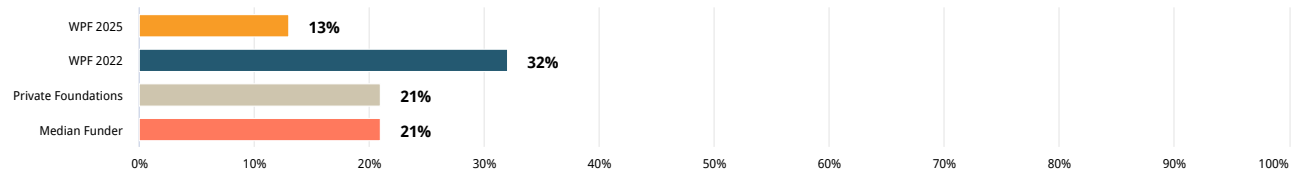
At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Foundation staff conduct a site visit?

Cohort: Private Foundations Past Results: On

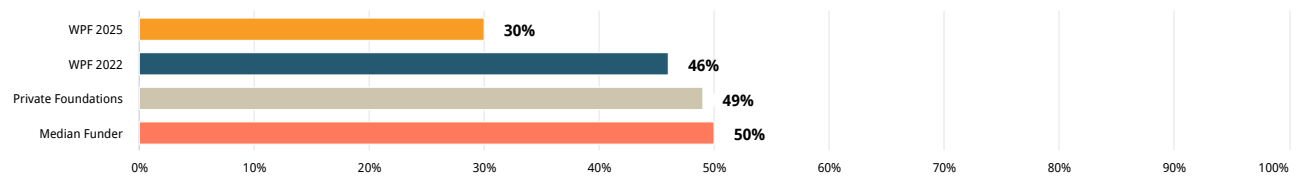
Yes, in person



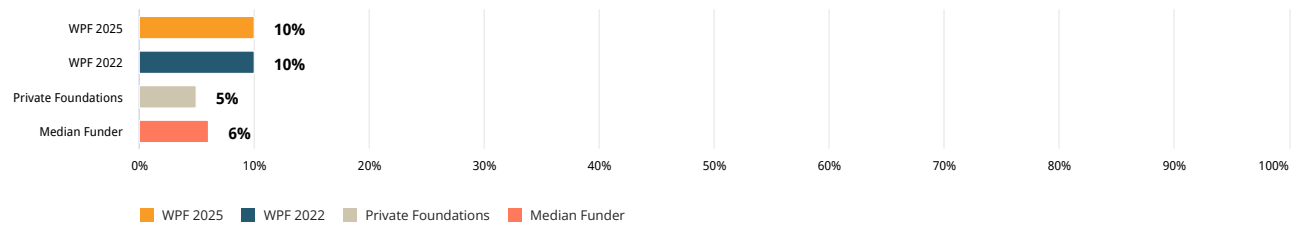
Yes, virtually



No



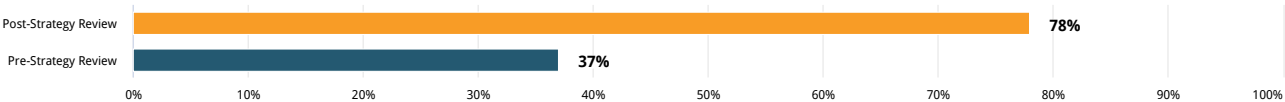
Don't know



At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Foundation staff conduct a site visit? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

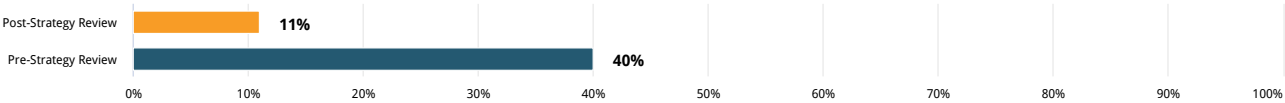
Yes, in person



Yes, virtually



No



Don't know



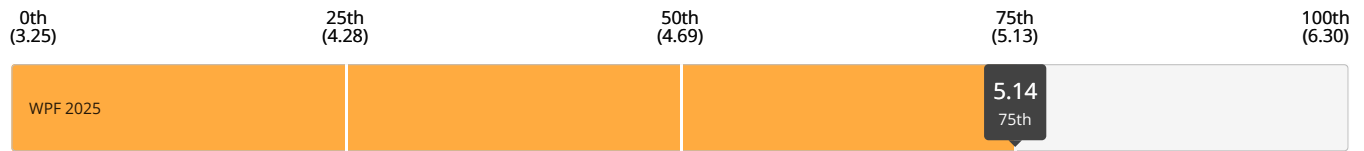
Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

Applicant Ratings

Applicant Responses

Overall, how responsive was Foundation staff?

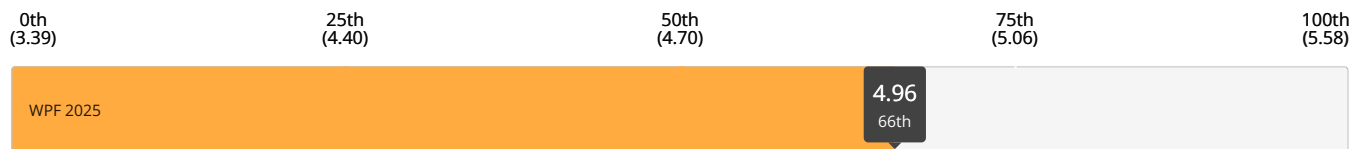
1 = Not at all responsive 7 = Extremely responsive



Applicant Responses

Overall, how fairly did the Foundation treat you?

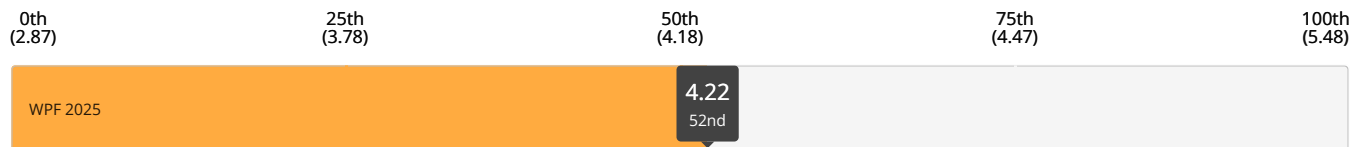
1 = Not at all fairly 7 = Extremely fairly



Applicant Responses

How accessible do you believe the Foundation is to applicants?

1 = Some organizations are favored over others 7 = Everyone has equal access



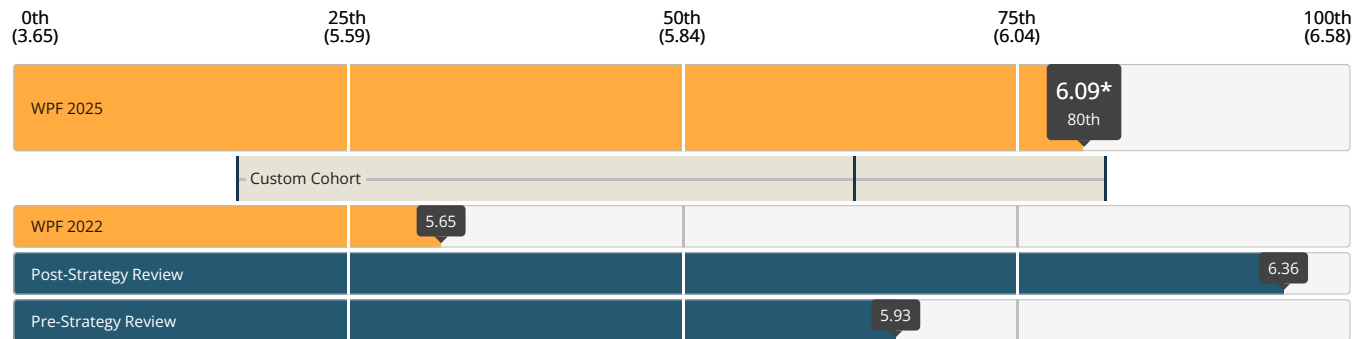
Communication

Grantee Responses

How clearly has the Foundation communicated its goals and strategy to you?

1 = Not at all clearly 7 = Extremely clearly

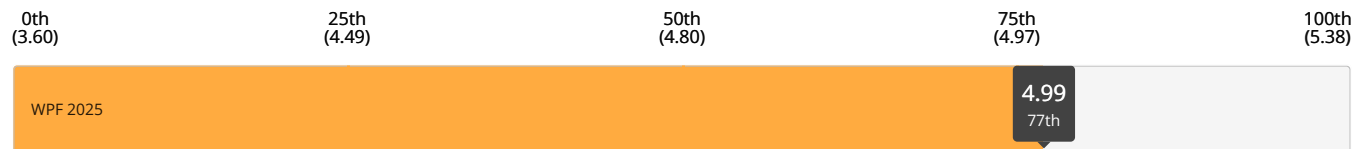
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

How clearly has the Foundation communicated its goals and strategy to you?

1 = Not at all clearly 7 = Extremely clearly

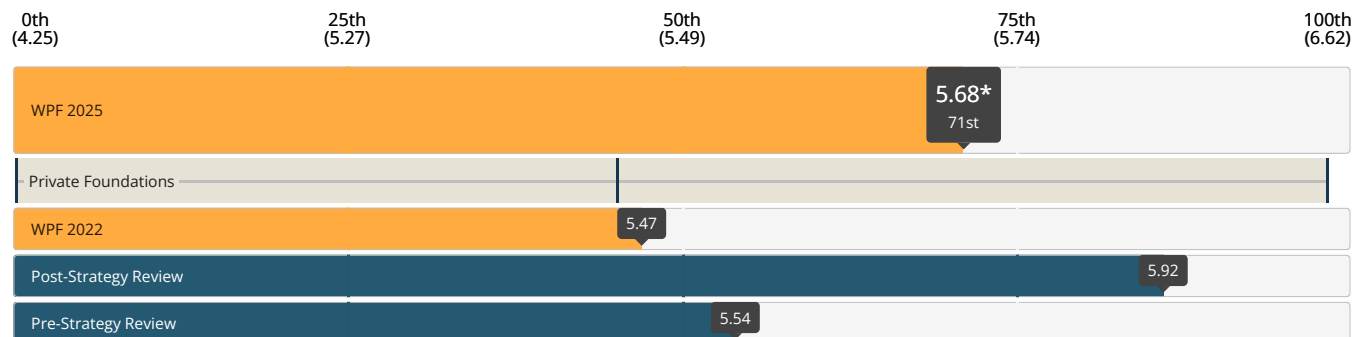


Grantee Responses

How well do you understand the way in which the work funded by this grant fits into the Foundation's broader efforts?

1 = Limited understanding 7 = Thorough understanding

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



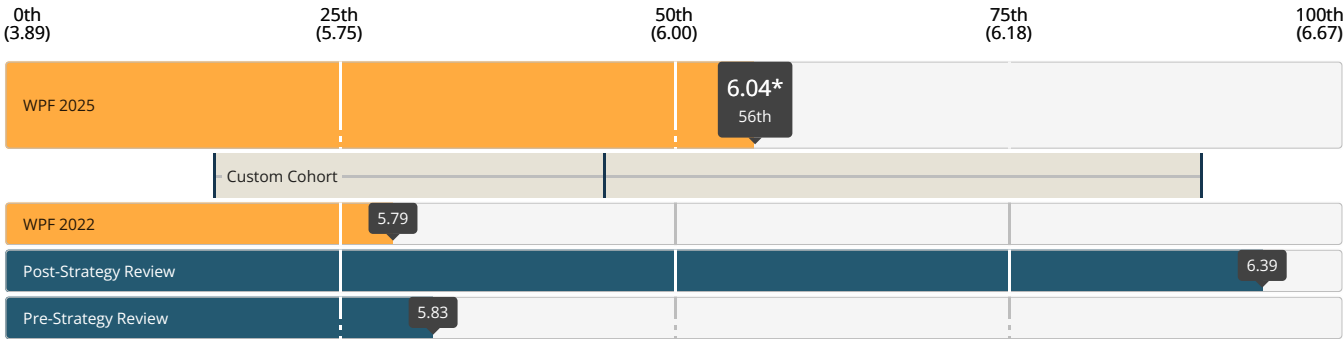
Consistency of Communication

Grantee Responses

How consistent was the information provided by different communication resources, both personal and written, that you used to learn about the Foundation?

1 = Not at all consistent 7 = Completely consistent

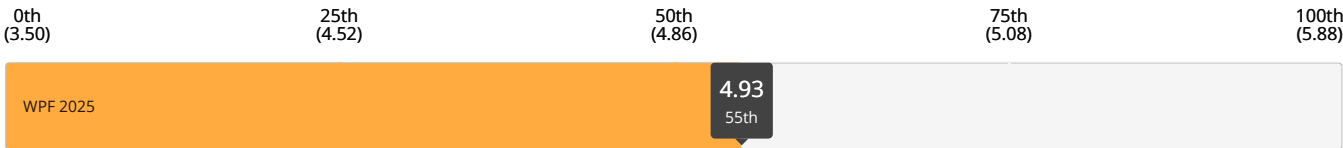
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

How consistent was the information provided by different communication resources, both personal and written, that you used to learn about the Foundation?

1 = Not at all consistent 7 = Completely consistent



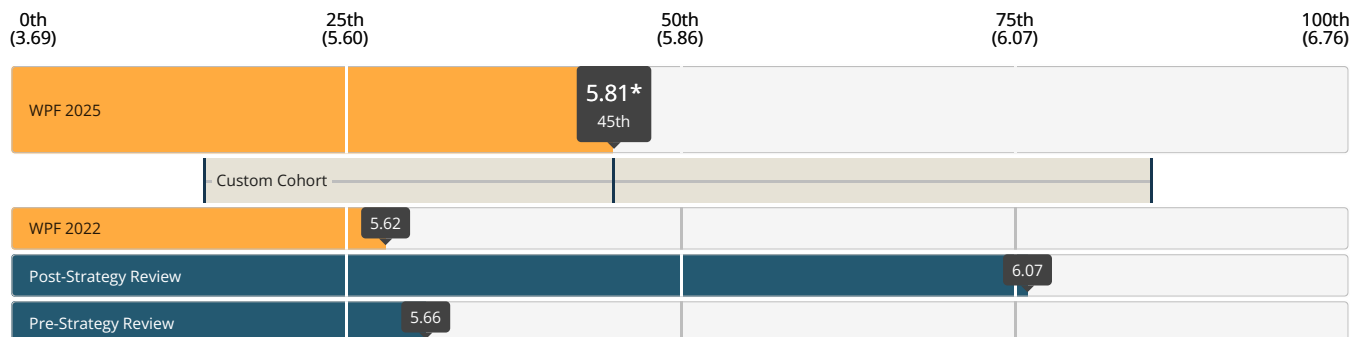
Transparency

Grantee Responses

Overall, how transparent is the Foundation with your organization?

1 = Not at all transparent 7 = Extremely transparent

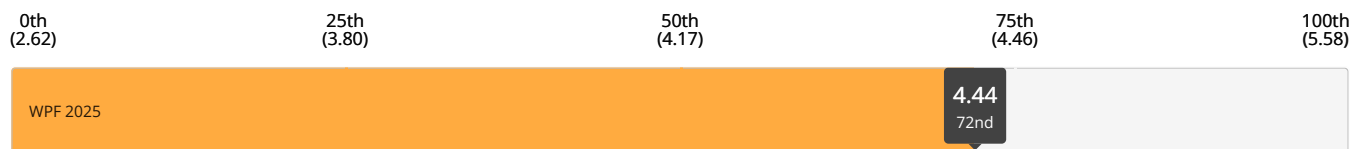
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

Overall, how transparent is the Foundation with your organization?

1 = Not at all transparent 7 = Extremely transparent

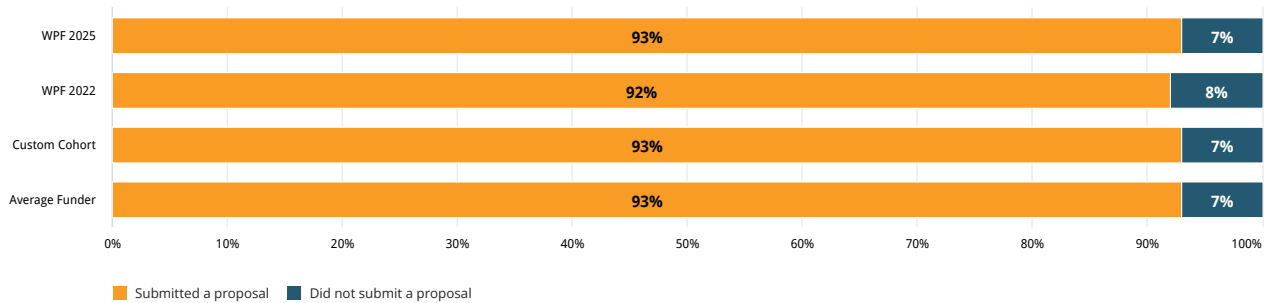


Selection Process

Grantee Ratings

Did you submit a proposal to the Foundation for this grant?

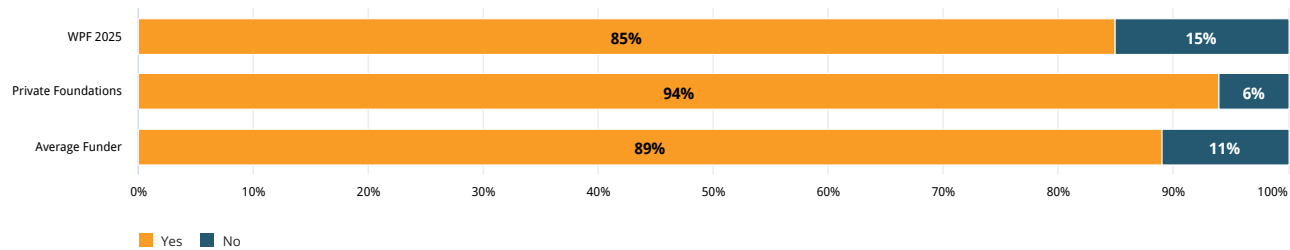
Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On



The following question was only asked of grantees that indicated submitting a proposal for their grant. This question was recently added to the grantee survey and depicts comparative data from fewer than 80 funders in the dataset.

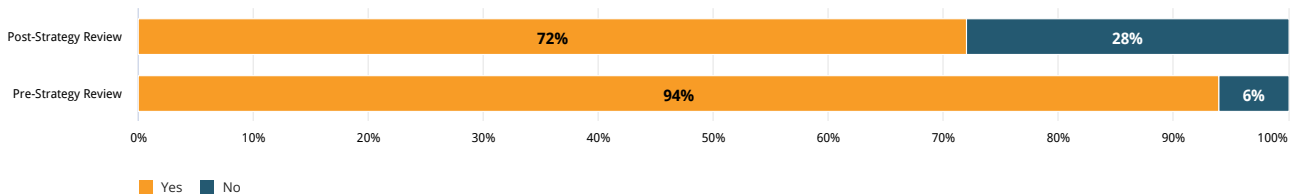
Did you have contact with a Foundation staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied?

Cohort: Private Foundations Past Results: On



Did you have contact with a Foundation staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied? - By Strategy Review

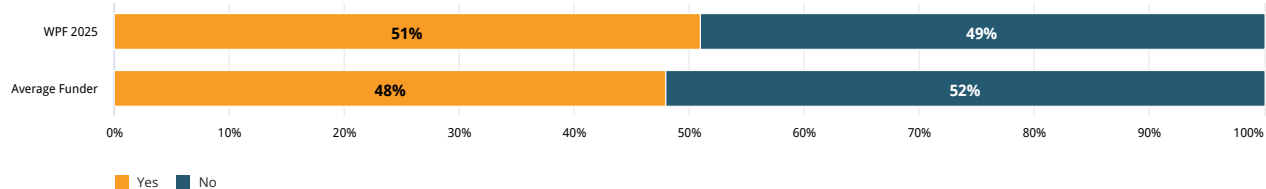
Subgroup: Strategy Review



Applicant Ratings

Did you have contact with a Foundation staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied?

Past Results: On



Helpfulness and Effort

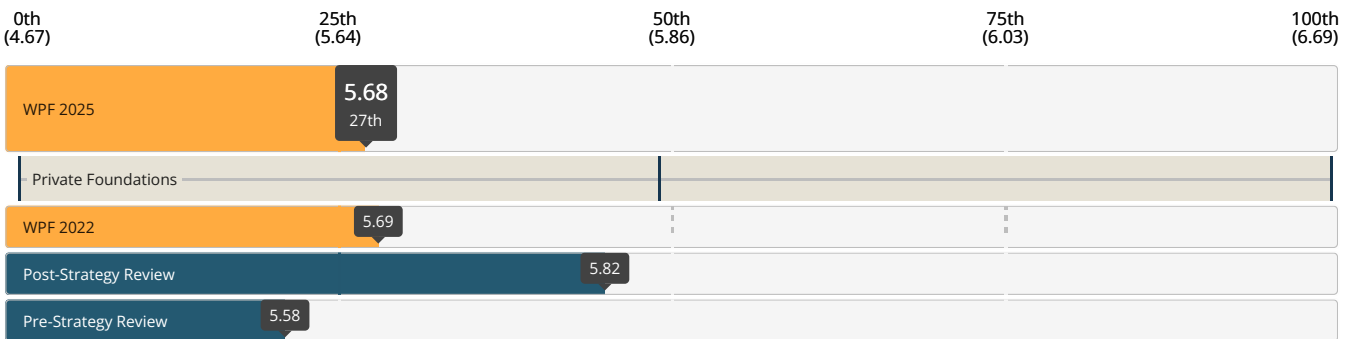
Note: CEP modified the following question in 2022 and determined, through recent analysis, that responses were not comparable to those provided prior to 2022. CEP has removed data from prior to 2022 from this question's comparative dataset. As a result, percentile rankings relative to CEP's comparative dataset may look different in this report than they did in your previous report.

Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation's selection process a helpful opportunity to strengthen the efforts funded by the grant?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

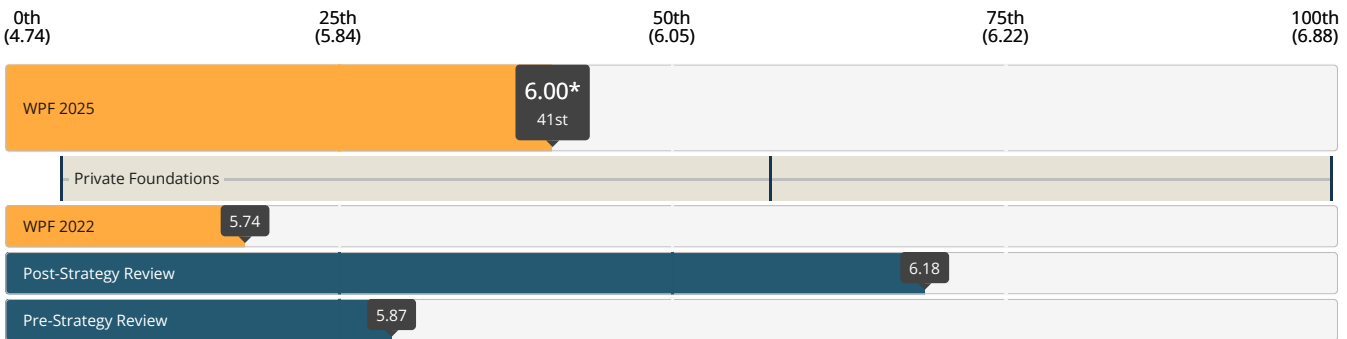


Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation's selection process an appropriate level of effort given the amount of funding received?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



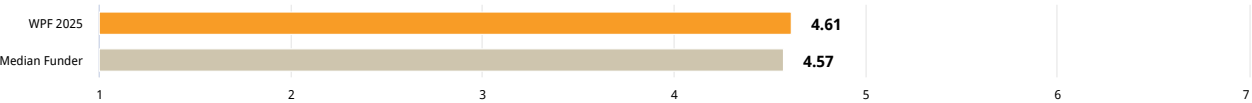
Applicant Responses

The following questions were recently added to the applicant survey and depict data from fewer than 25 funders in CEP's dataset.

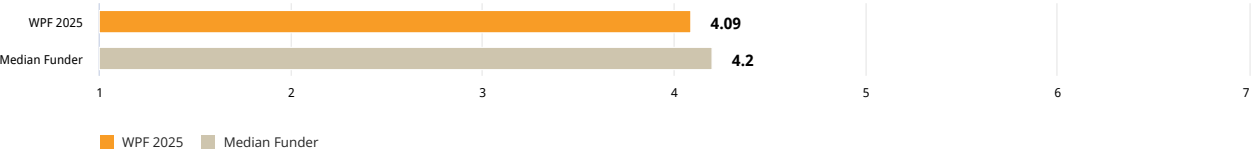
To what extent was the Foundation's selection process:

1 = Not at all, 7 = To a great extent

An appropriate level of effort given the amount of funding requested



A helpful opportunity to strengthen the efforts to which the grant funding would have been directed



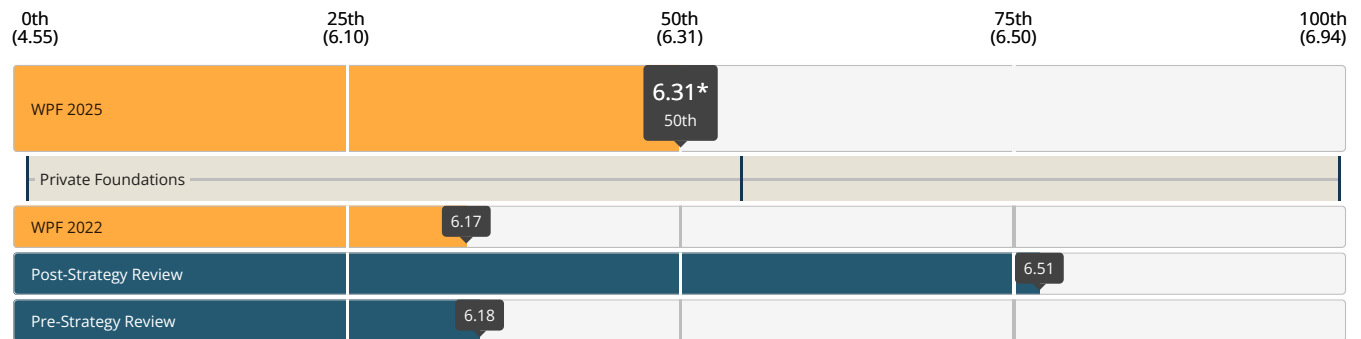
Clarity of Selection Process

Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation clear and transparent about the selection process requirements and timelines?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

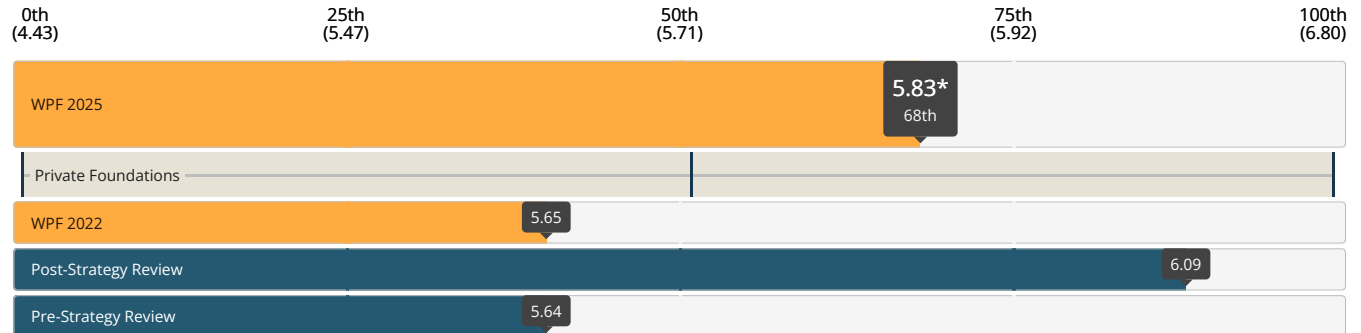


Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation clear and transparent about the criteria the Foundation uses to decide whether a proposal would be funded or declined?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Private Foundations Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



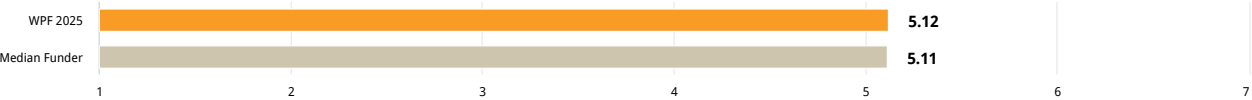
Applicant Responses

The following questions were recently added to the applicant survey and depict data from fewer than 25 funders in CEP's dataset.

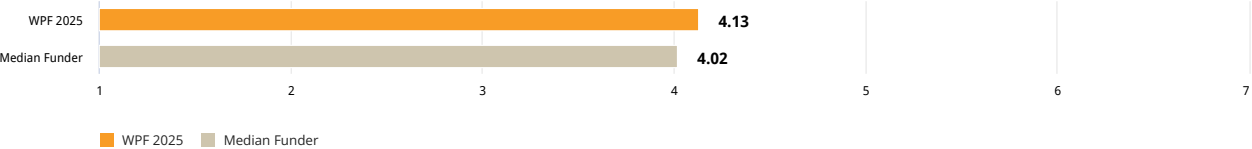
To what extent was the Foundation clear and transparent about:

1 = Not at all, 7 = To a great extent

The selection process requirements and timelines



The criteria the Foundation uses to decide whether a proposal would be funded or declined



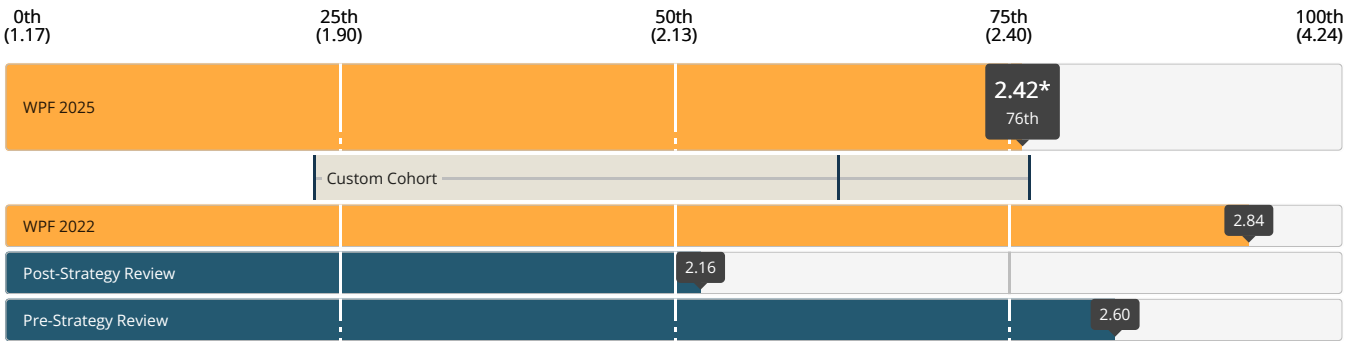
Pressure to Modify Priorities

Grantee Responses

As you developed your grant proposal, how much pressure did you feel to modify your organization's priorities in order to create a grant proposal that was likely to receive funding?

1 = No pressure 7 = Significant pressure

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

As you developed your grant proposal, how much pressure did you feel to modify your organization's priorities in order to create a grant proposal that was likely to receive funding?

1 = No pressure 7 = Significant pressure

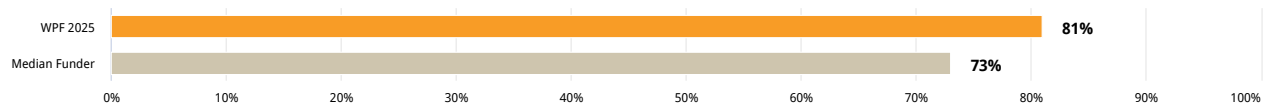


Declined Applications

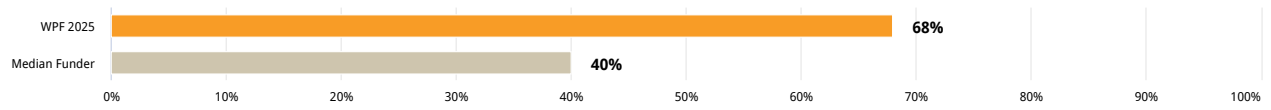
The following question was recently added to the applicant survey and depicts data from fewer than 25 funders in CEP's dataset.

What factors encouraged your decision to apply to the Foundation for funding?

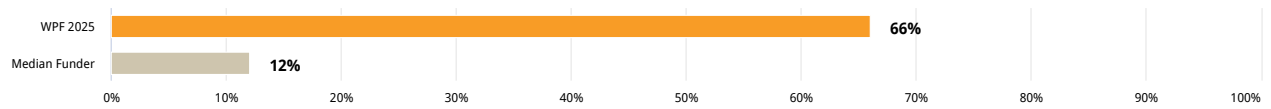
Read the funding guidelines and thought my proposal fit



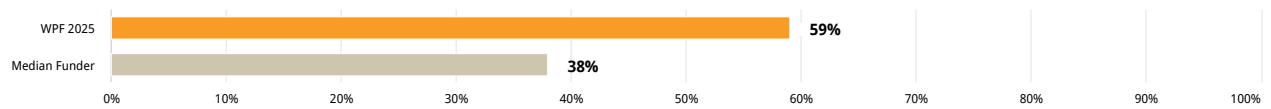
Responded to a call for proposals or other solicitation



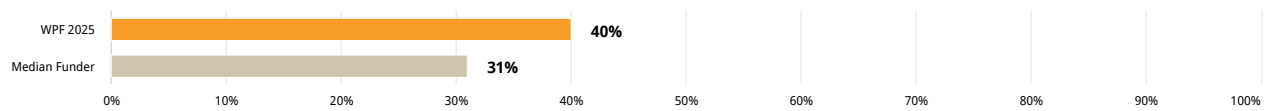
Attended Foundation informational event (webinar, workshop, etc.)



Is a major local funder, so seemed like a logical place to seek funding



Is a major funder in my field, so seemed like a logical place to seek funding



Encouraged to apply by people outside of the Foundation



Seemed like a logical follow-up to a previous grant



Foundation staff encouraged your organization to apply

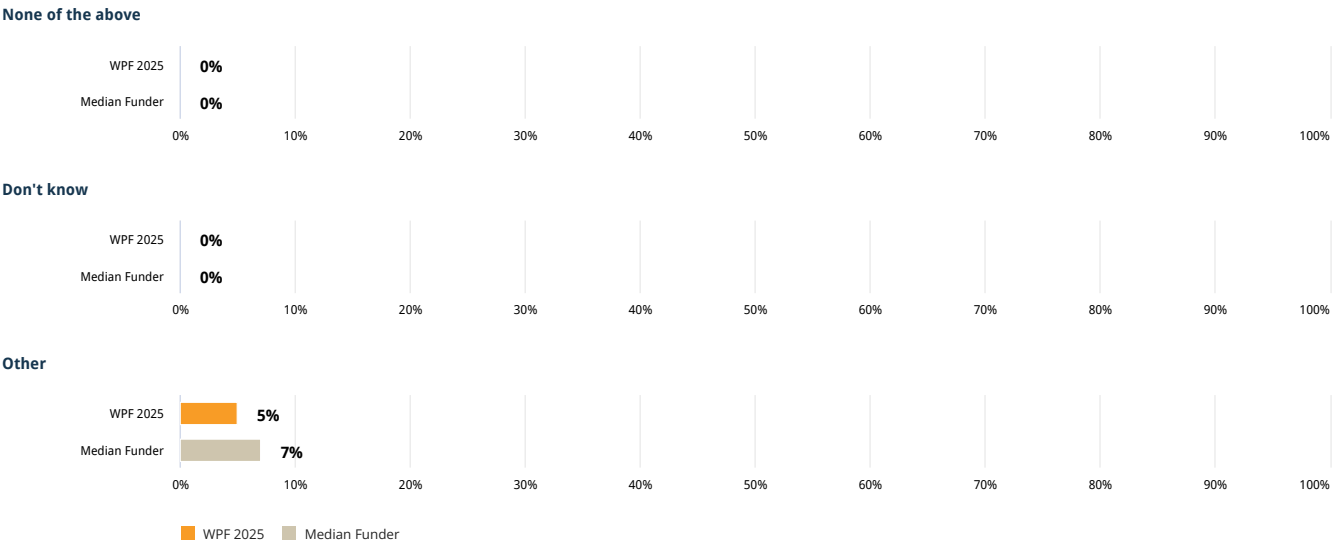


The Foundation proactively reached out to your organization to initiate a relationship



WPF 2025 Median Funder

What factors encouraged your decision to apply to the Foundation for funding?



Reasons Provided for Declining Proposal

Applicant Responses

"Please choose the option that most resembles the reason the Foundation gave when it declined to fund your proposal."

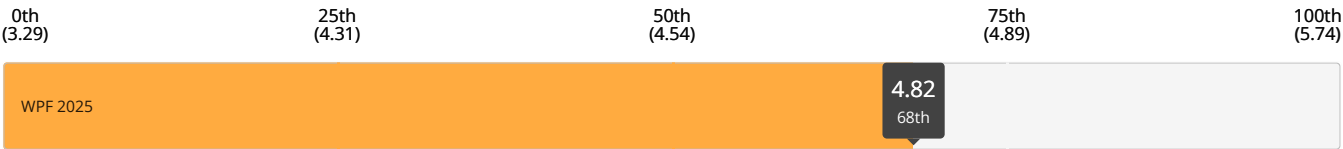
Past Results: On

Reasons Provided for Declining Proposal	WPF 2025	Average Funder
No reason provided	6%	17%
Not enough funds/too many good proposals	23%	35%
Doesn't fit Foundation priorities/guidelines, with no explanation as to why	10%	14%
Doesn't fit Foundation priorities/guidelines, with explanation as to why	36%	14%
Other	26%	21%

Applicant Responses

How would you rate the honesty of the reason(s) the Foundation gave for declining to fund your funding application?

1 = Not at all honest 7 = Extremely honest

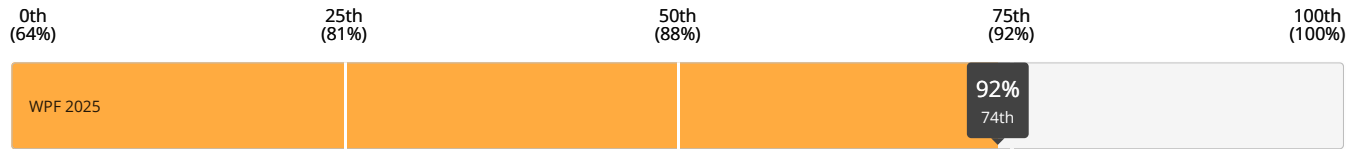


Implications for Future Applications

Applicant Responses

Would you consider applying for funding from the Foundation in the future?

Proportion that responded 'Yes'



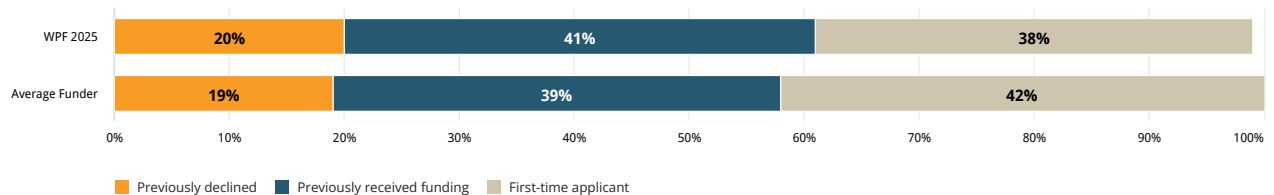
Past Results: On

Would you consider applying for funding from the Foundation in the future?

	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes, I would consider applying for a similar project	55%	52%
Yes, I would consider applying for a different project	37%	35%
No, I would not consider applying	8%	13%

History with the Foundation of Respondents That Would Consider Reapplying

Past Results: On



Feedback on Declined Applications

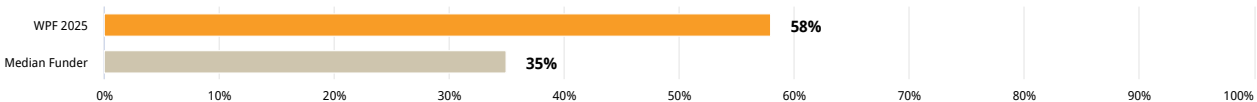
"After your request was declined did you request/receive any feedback or advice from the Foundation?"

Note: The below chart displays data from two separate questions in the applicant survey:

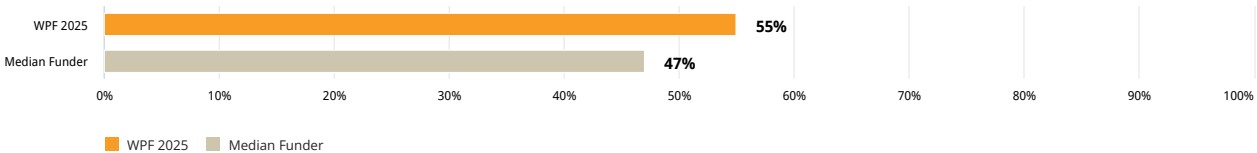
- "After your proposal was declined did you **request** any feedback or advice from the Foundation?"
- "After your proposal was declined did you **receive** any feedback or advice from the Foundation?"

Proportion of Applicants that Requested/Received Feedback

Received Feedback



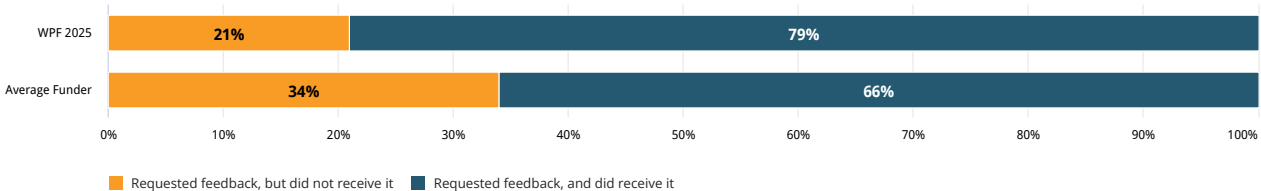
Requested Feedback



Note: The two subsequent charts exclusively look at data from applicants who, in the prior question, indicate requesting feedback after their proposal was declined.

Proportion of Applicants that Requested Feedback, Cont.

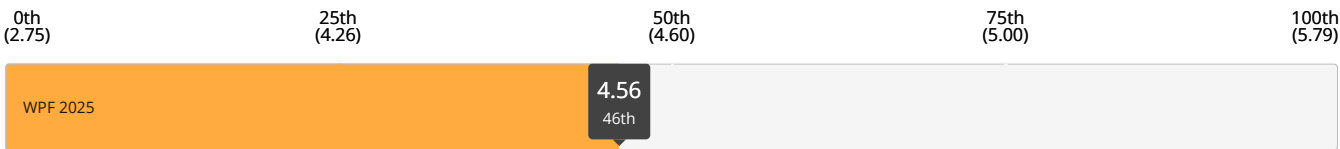
Past Results: On



Applicant Responses

Please rate the feedback and advice you received in terms of its helpfulness in strengthening future proposals to this funder.

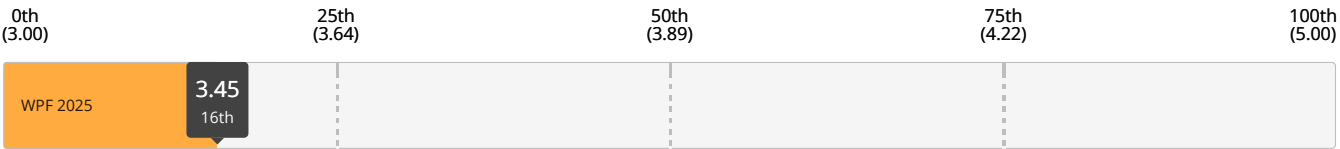
1 = Not at all helpful 7 = Extremely helpful



Applicant Responses

Please rate the feedback and advice you received in terms of its helpfulness in strengthening future proposals to other funders.

1 = Not at all helpful 7 = Extremely helpful



Guidance from the Foundation About Future Applications

Past Results: On

Did the Foundation provide guidance about whether you should consider applying for funding from the Foundation again?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Encouraged to apply in the future by the Foundation	49%	35%
Discouraged to apply in the future by the Foundation	3%	4%
Received no indication from the Foundation about whether you should apply in the future	49%	61%

Time Between Submission and Funding Declination

Applicant Responses

“How much time elapsed from initial submission of your grant proposal to the final decision not to fund your proposal?”

Past Results: On

Time Between Submission and Funding Decision	WPF 2025	Average Funder
3 months or less	89%	55%
4 - 6 months	9%	37%
7 - 12 months	1%	6%
More than 12 months	0%	2%

Reporting and Evaluation Process

Definition of Reporting and Evaluation

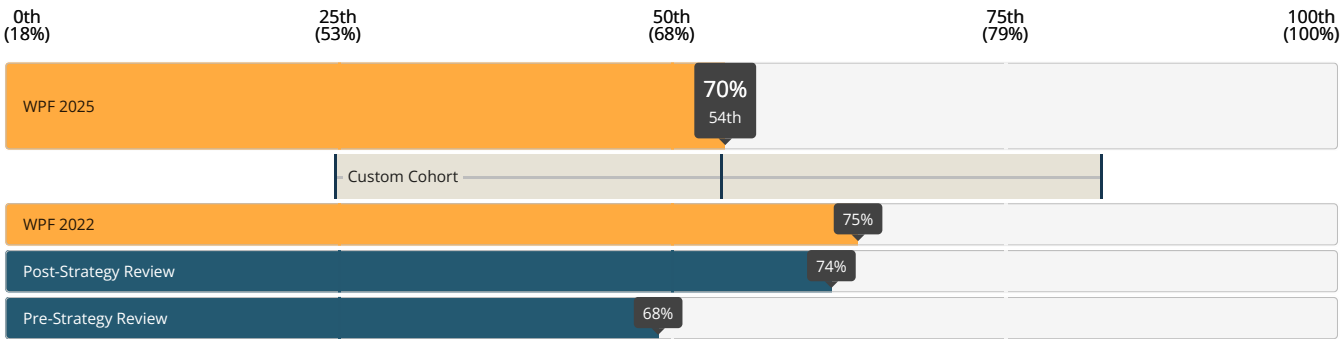
- "Reporting" - the Foundation's standard oversight, monitoring, and grant reporting.
- "Evaluation" - formal activities *beyond reporting* undertaken by the Foundation to assess or learn about a grant, a program, or the Foundation's efforts.

Grantee Responses

At any point during the proposal or the grant period, did the Foundation and your organization exchange ideas regarding how your organization would assess the results of the work funded by this grant?

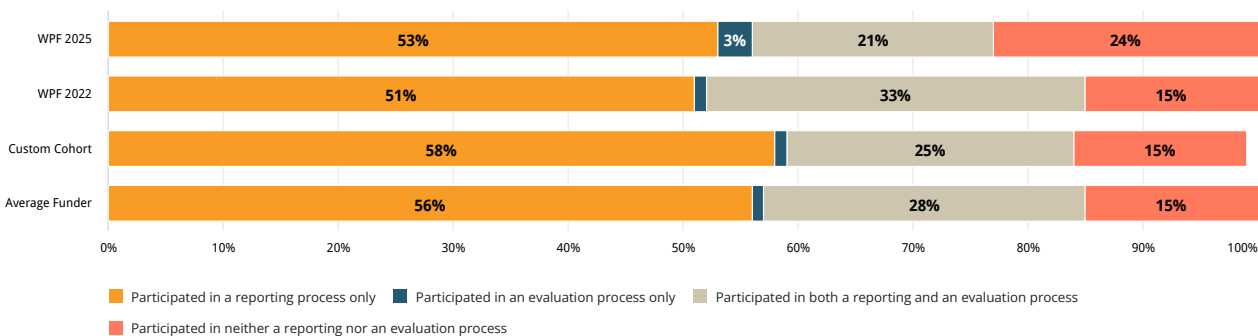
Proportion of grantees responding 'Yes'

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



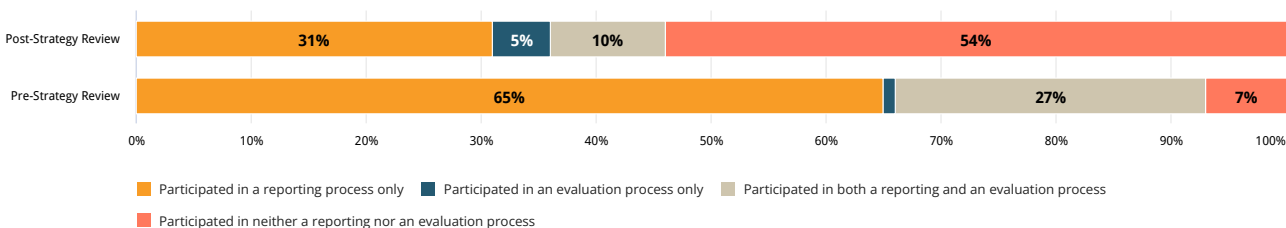
Participation in Reporting and/or Evaluation Processes

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On



Participation in Reporting and/or Evaluation Processes - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



Reporting Process

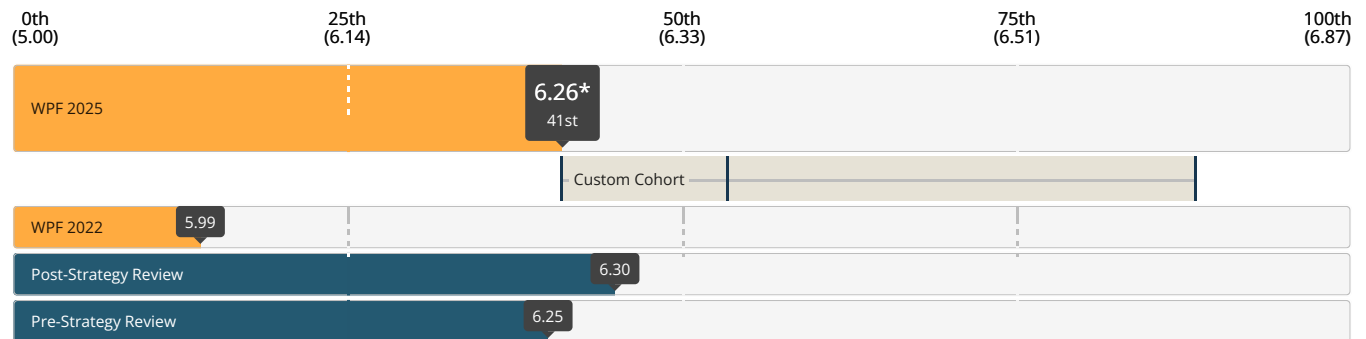
The following questions were only asked of grantees that indicated having participated in a reporting process. See the "Reporting and Evaluation Process" page for data on the proportion of grantees participating in this process.

Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process straightforward?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

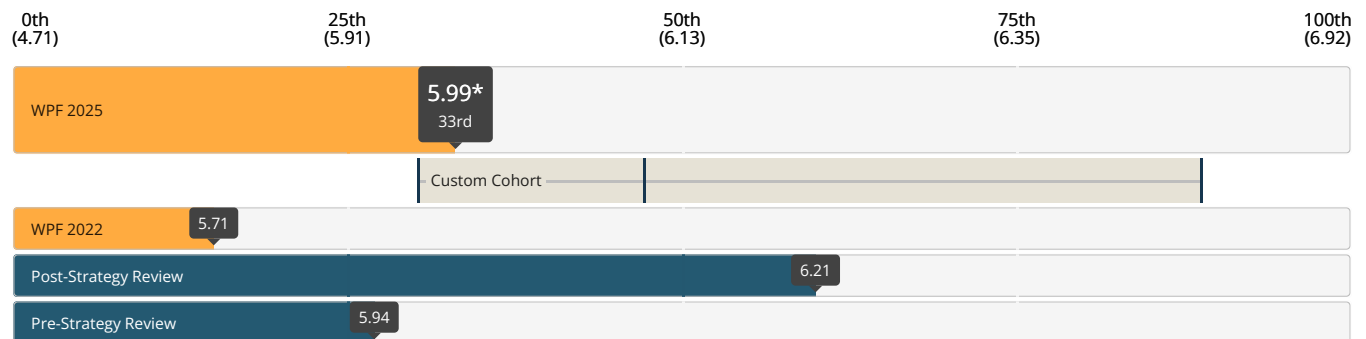


Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process adaptable, if necessary, to fit your circumstances?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

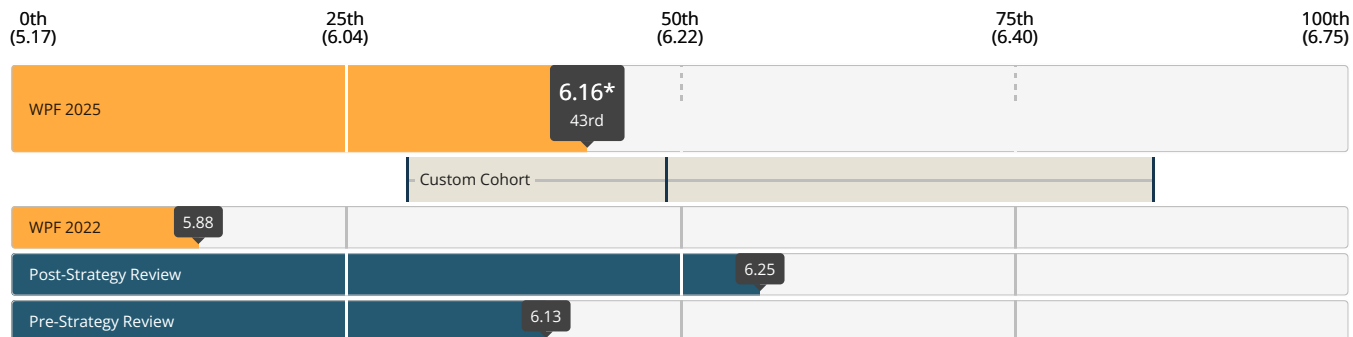


Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process relevant, with questions and measures pertinent to the work funded by this grant?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

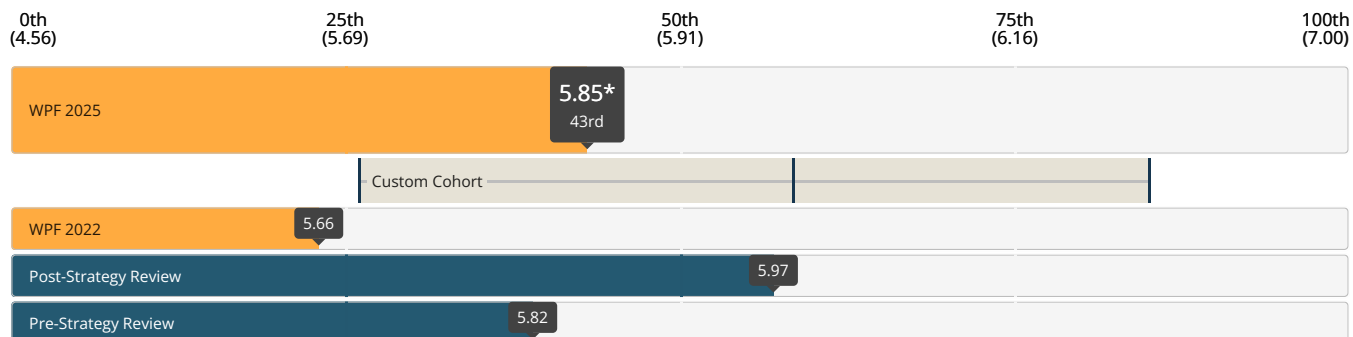


Grantee Responses

To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process a helpful opportunity for you to reflect and learn?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Evaluation Process

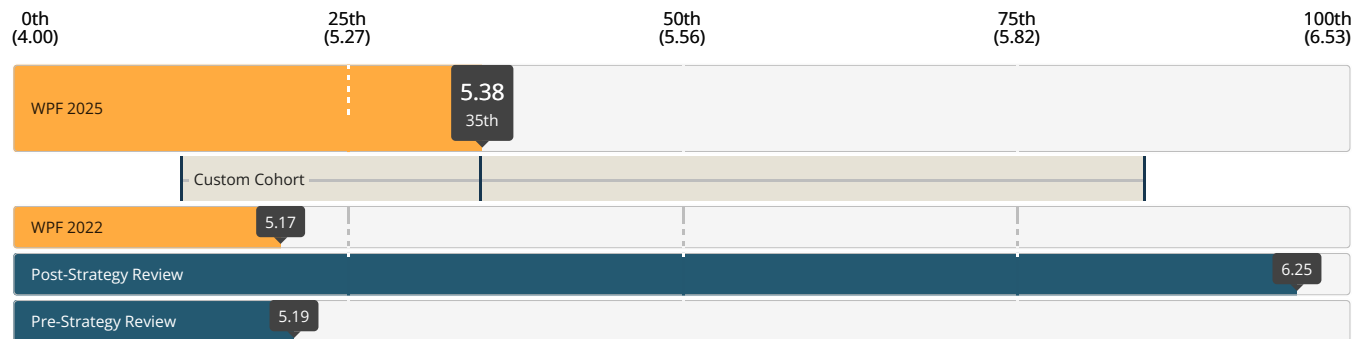
The following questions were only asked of grantees that indicated having participated in an evaluation process. See the "Reporting and Evaluation Process" page for data on the proportion of grantees participating in this process.

Grantee Responses

To what extent did the evaluation incorporate input from your organization in the design of the evaluation?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

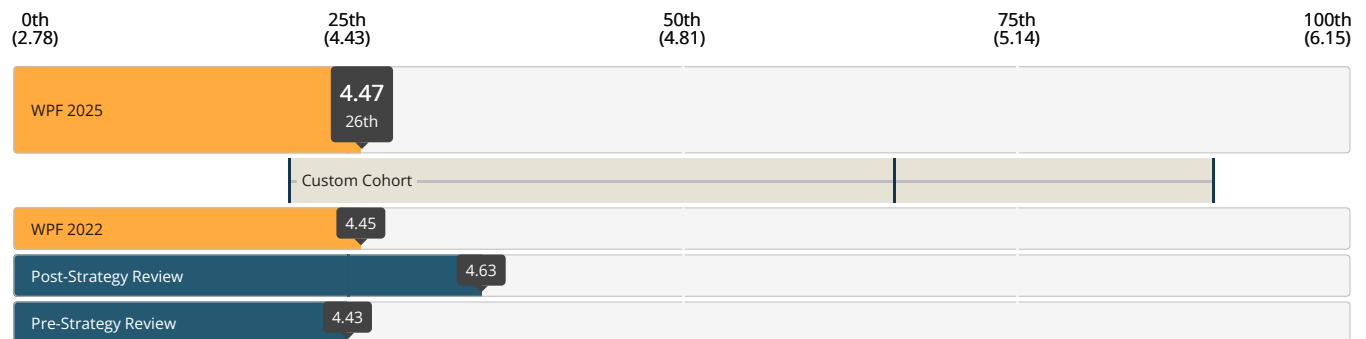


Grantee Responses

To what extent did the evaluation result in your organization making changes to the work that was evaluated?

1 = Not at all 7 = To a great extent

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



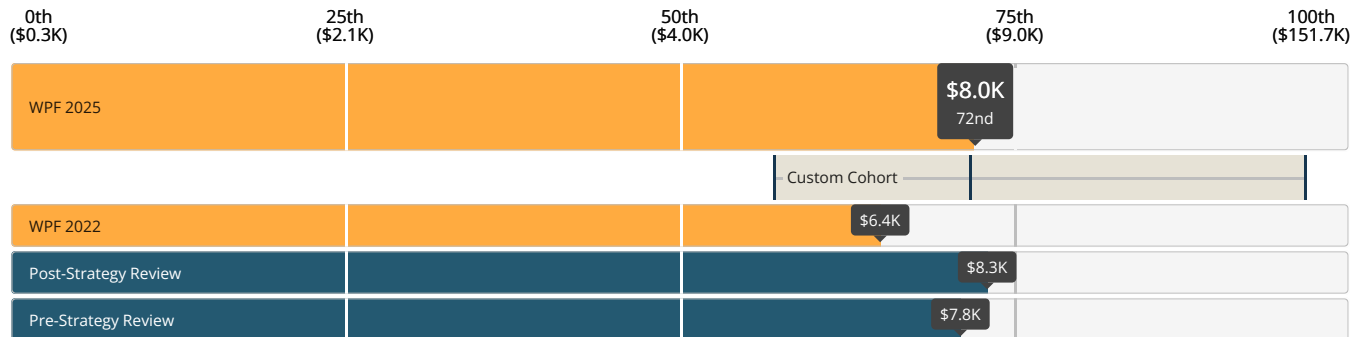
Monetary Return and Time Spent on Processes

Grantee Responses

Dollar Return: Median grant dollars awarded per process hour required

Includes total grant dollars awarded and total time necessary to fulfill the requirements over the lifetime of the grant

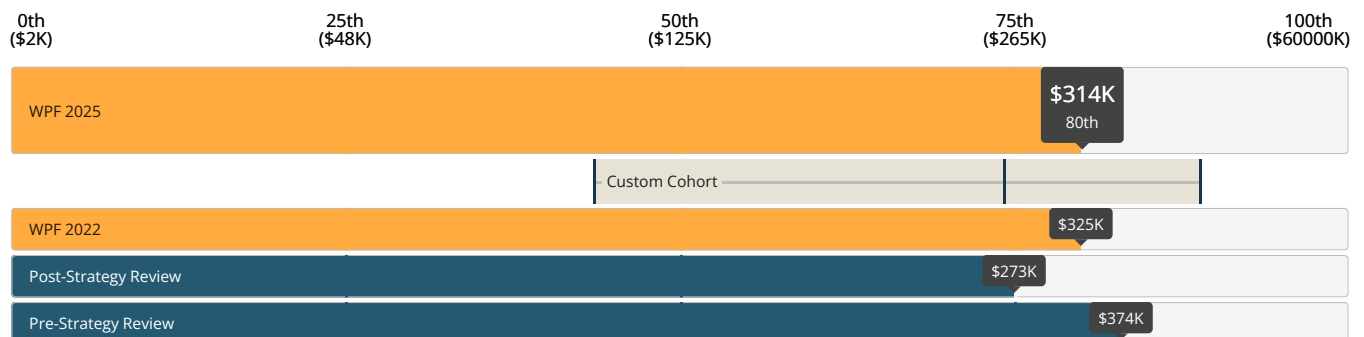
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Grantee Responses

Median Grant Size

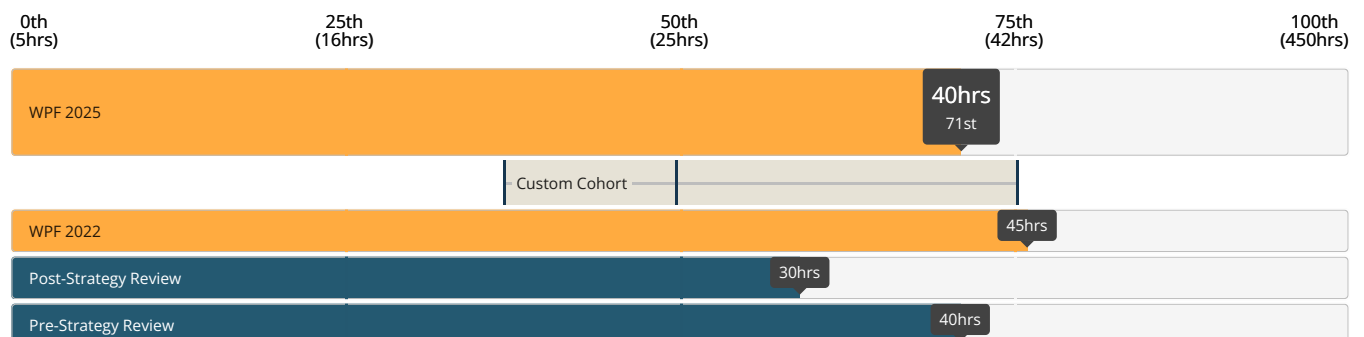
Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Grantee Responses

Median hours spent by grantees on funder requirements over grant lifetime

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On

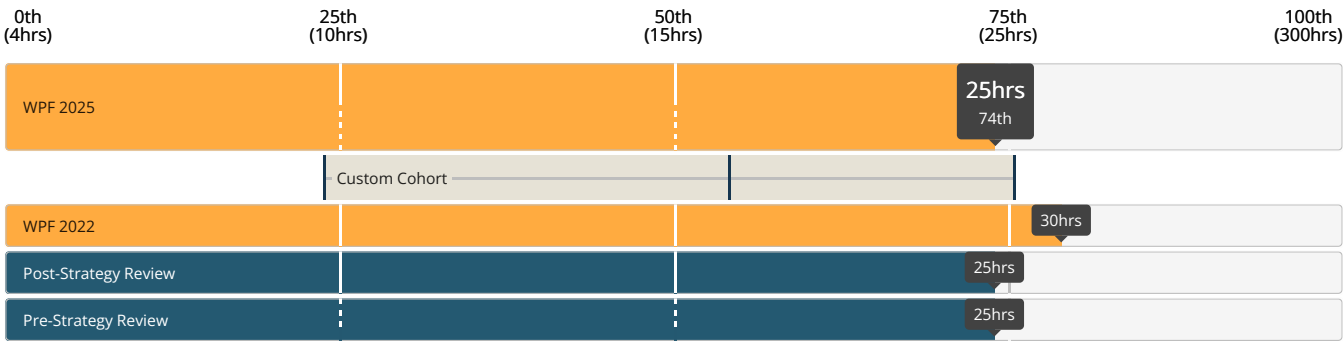


Time Spent on Selection Process

Grantee Responses

Grantee Responses Median Hours Spent on Proposal and Selection Process

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Time Spent On Proposal and Selection Process	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
1 to 9 hours	10%	9%	29%	22%
10 to 19 hours	21%	17%	23%	24%
20 to 29 hours	22%	21%	15%	20%
30 to 39 hours	8%	9%	6%	7%
40 to 49 hours	16%	17%	9%	11%
50 to 99 hours	17%	19%	9%	10%
100 to 199 hours	4%	6%	5%	3%
200+ hours	1%	2%	3%	1%

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Time Spent On Proposal and Selection Process (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
1 to 9 hours	11%	9%
10 to 19 hours	20%	22%
20 to 29 hours	26%	20%
30 to 39 hours	7%	9%
40 to 49 hours	16%	17%
50 to 99 hours	17%	17%
100 to 199 hours	3%	5%
200+ hours	0%	2%

Applicant Responses

Applicant Responses
Median Hours Spent on Proposal and Selection Process



Past Results: On

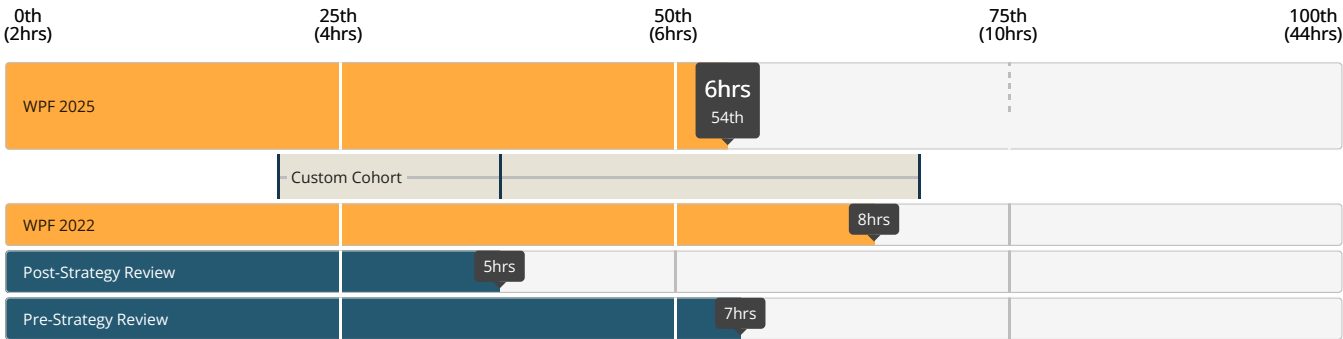
Time Spent on Selection Process	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Fewer than 10 hours	10%	23%
10 to 19 hours	27%	26%
20 to 29 hours	23%	17%
30 to 39 hours	7%	8%
40 to 49 hours	13%	8%
50 to 99 hours	14%	12%
100 to 199 hours	5%	4%
200 hours or more	1%	2%

Time Spent on Reporting and Evaluation Process

Grantee Responses

Median Hours Spent on Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation Process Per Year

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Time Spent On Monitoring, Reporting, And Evaluation Process (Annualized)	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
1 to 9 hours	62%	53%	60%	65%
10 to 19 hours	15%	29%	18%	18%
20 to 29 hours	11%	5%	9%	8%
30 to 39 hours	4%	4%	3%	2%
40 to 49 hours	4%	2%	3%	2%
50 to 99 hours	2%	5%	4%	3%
100+ hours	1%	2%	4%	2%

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Time Spent On Monitoring, Reporting, And Evaluation Process (Annualized) (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
1 to 9 hours	66%	61%
10 to 19 hours	13%	16%
20 to 29 hours	11%	11%
30 to 39 hours	5%	4%
40 to 49 hours	3%	5%
50 to 99 hours	1%	2%
100+ hours	1%	1%

WPF-Specific Questions

Grantees and applicants were asked a series of William Penn-specific custom questions. In the following, questions that were asked of both grantees and applicants are shown on the same page.

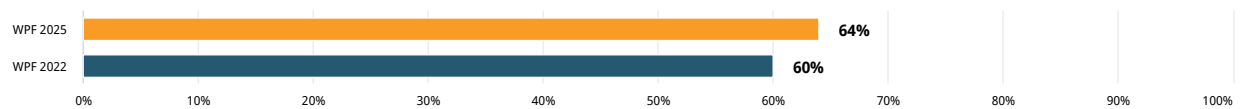
Role of the Foundation

Grantee Responses

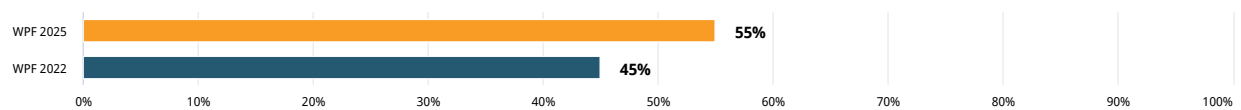
Please select the top three items you see as best describing the Foundation's current role, besides providing funding, in the region.

Past Results: On

Bringing investments into the region



Providing civic leadership



Informing policy



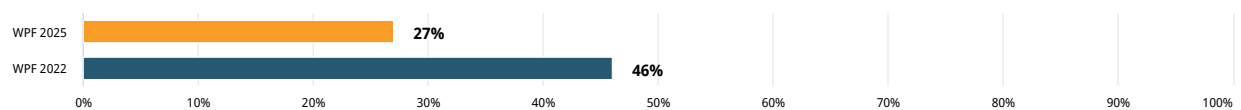
Hosting convenings



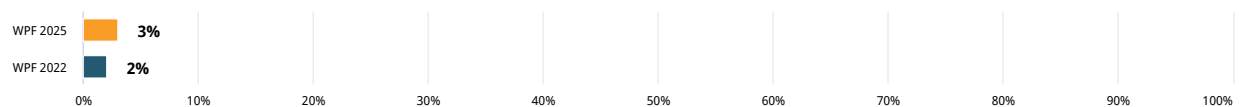
Raising the national profile of the region



Providing objective research and information



None of these



Other

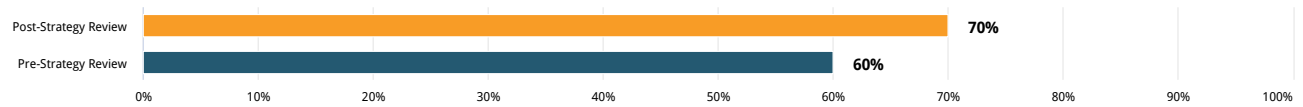


WPF 2025 WPF 2022

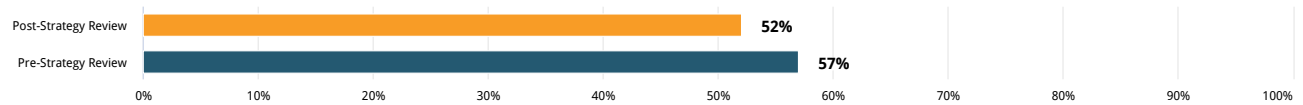
Please select the top three items you see as best describing the Foundation's current role, besides providing funding, in the region. - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Bringing investments into the region



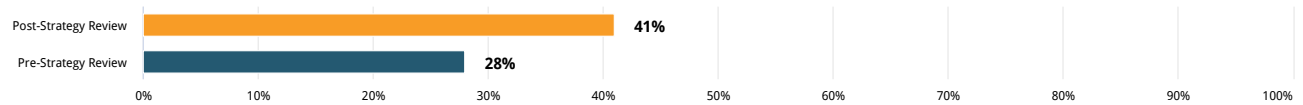
Providing civic leadership



Informing policy



Hosting convenings



Raising the national profile of the region



Providing objective research and information



None of these



Other

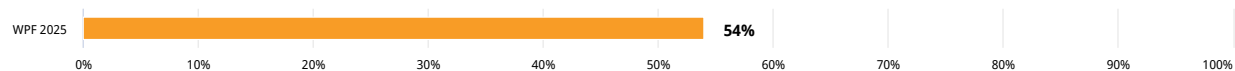


Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

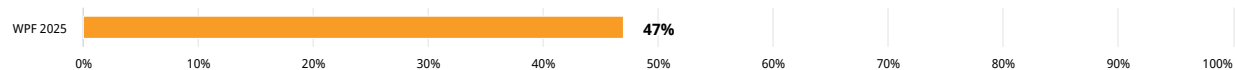
Applicant Responses

Please select the top three items you see as best describing the Foundation's current role, besides providing funding, in the region.

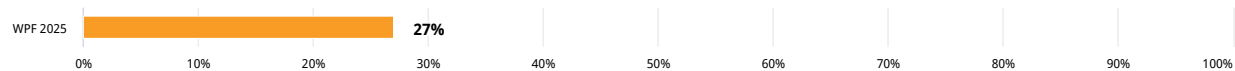
Bringing investments into the region



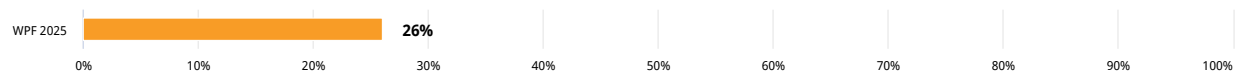
Providing civic leadership



Informing policy



Raising the national profile of the region



Providing objective research and information



Hosting convenings



None of these



Other



WPF 2025

RFP and Application Process

Grantee Responses

If you responded to an RFP, please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the RFP document and webinar

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

I learned about the webinar with enough time to plan to attend



There was sufficient time for questions in the webinar



I felt comfortable asking questions in the webinar



The RFP overall was easy to understand



The webinar addressed my needs



The criteria used to review proposals, as included in the RFP, were easy to understand



The amount of time we had to respond to the RFP was sufficient



WPF 2025

**If you responded to an RFP, please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the RFP document and webinar -
By Strategy Review**

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Subgroup: Strategy Review

I learned about the webinar with enough time to plan to attend



There was sufficient time for questions in the webinar



I felt comfortable asking questions in the webinar



The RFP overall was easy to understand



The webinar addressed my needs



The criteria used to review proposals, as included in the RFP, were easy to understand



The amount of time we had to respond to the RFP was sufficient



Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

Applicant Responses

If you responded to an RFP, please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the RFP document and webinar

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

I learned about the webinar with enough time to plan to attend



I felt comfortable asking questions in the webinar



There was sufficient time for questions in the webinar



The RFP overall was easy to understand



The webinar addressed my needs



The criteria used to review proposals, as included in the RFP, were easy to understand



The amount of time we had to respond to the RFP was sufficient



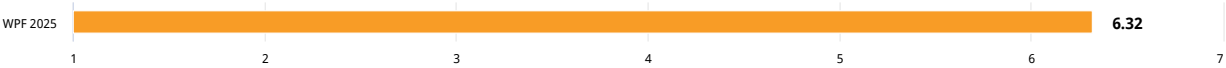
WPF 2025

Grantee Responses

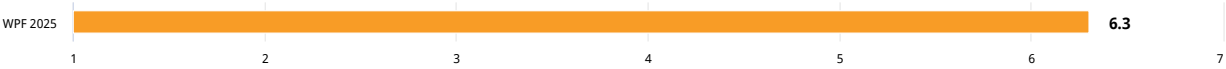
Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's application process

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

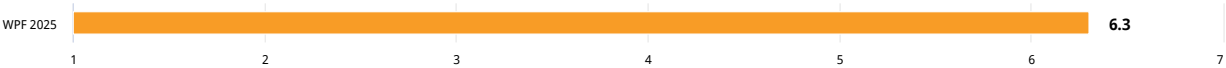
I could easily access program staff during the application process



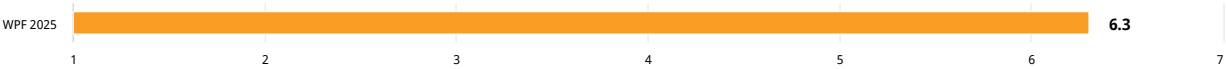
I felt comfortable reaching out to program staff during the application process



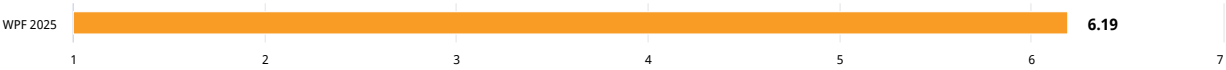
Support offered by program staff during the application process was helpful



The application questions allowed me to explain my project



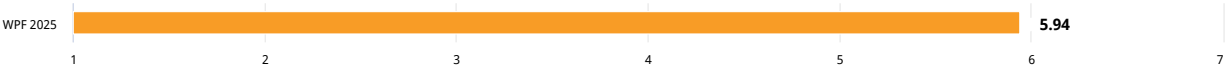
After going through the application process, it will be easier to develop future applications



The instructions and questions asked in the application were clear



When considering whether to apply, it was easy to assess the potential fit between my work and the Foundation's funding priorities



WPF 2025

Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's application process - By Strategy Review

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Subgroup: Strategy Review

I could easily access program staff during the application process



I felt comfortable reaching out to program staff during the application process



Support offered by program staff during the application process was helpful



The application questions allowed me to explain my project



After going through the application process, it will be easier to develop future applications



The instructions and questions asked in the application were clear



When considering whether to apply, it was easy to assess the potential fit between my work and the Foundation's funding priorities



Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

Applicant Responses

Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's application process

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

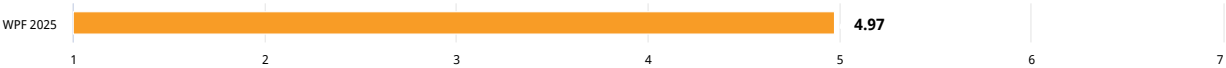
The application questions allowed me to explain my project



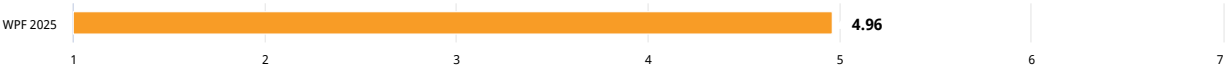
The instructions and questions asked in the application were clear



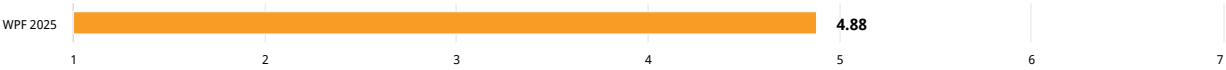
When considering whether to apply, it was easy to assess the potential fit between my work and the Foundation's funding priorities



I felt comfortable reaching out to program staff during the application process



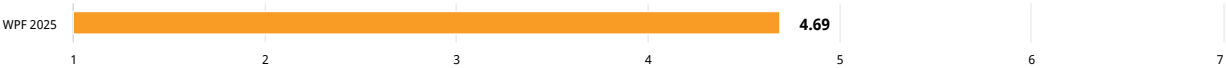
After going through the application process, it will be easier to develop future applications



I could easily access program staff during the application process



Support offered by program staff during the application process was helpful



WPF 2025

Site Visits

Grantee Responses

Note: The following question was only asked of grantees that indicated receiving a site visit earlier in the survey.

If you received a site visit as part of the application process , please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements:

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

The site visit allowed my organization to effectively explain our work and impact



Foundation staff clearly communicated the purpose and goals of the site visit



It's important that the Foundation includes site visits as part of its application process



Preparing for the site visits consumed an appropriate amount of time given the grant amount



WPF 2025

If you received a site visit as part of the application process , please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements: - By Strategy Review

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Subgroup: Strategy Review

The site visit allowed my organization to effectively explain our work and impact



Foundation staff clearly communicated the purpose and goals of the site visit



It's important that the Foundation includes site visits as part of its application process



Preparing for the site visits consumed an appropriate amount of time given the grant amount



Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

Applicant Responses

If you received a site visit as part of the application process , please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Preparing for the site visits consumed an appropriate amount of time given the grant amount



Foundation staff clearly communicated the purpose and goals of the site visit



It's important that the Foundation includes site visits as part of its application process



The site visit allowed my organization to effectively explain our work and impact



WPF 2025

Grant Application Portal

Grantee Responses

Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding using WPF's online grant application portal

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

The support offered by WPF administration staff regarding the portal was helpful



I could easily save our progress and return to my application later



I was able to easily access WPF administration staff for portal support



Submitting our completed application was simple



Entering our responses to the application questions in the portal was straightforward



Creating a portal account or accessing one previously created was easy



It was easy to collaborate with colleagues to respond to the questions in the online portal



WPF 2025

Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding using WPF's online grant application portal - By Strategy Review

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Subgroup: Strategy Review

The support offered by WPF administration staff regarding the portal was helpful



I could easily save our progress and return to my application later



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Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

Applicant Responses

Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding using WPF's online grant application portal

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

I could easily save my progress and return to my application later



The support offered by WPF administration staff regarding the portal was helpful



Submitting our completed application was simple



I was able to easily access WPF administration staff for portal support



Entering our responses to the application questions in the portal was straightforward



Creating a portal account or accessing one previously created was easy



It was easy to collaborate with colleagues to respond to the questions in the online portal



WPF 2025

Learning Communities - Grantees Only

Grantee Responses

Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's Learning Communities that bring together grantees working to advance the same objective

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

I believe that my Learning Community can help the Foundation shape some of its grantmaking in the future



I look forward to participating in meetings of my Learning Community in the future



I have learned about other organizations doing work that is related to mine



I have made professional connections that will be useful to my work or organization



I have communicated with people (Learning Community attendees or people I learned about in the meetings) outside of Learning Community meetings



WPF 2025

Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's Learning Communities that bring together grantees working to advance the same objective - By Strategy Review

1 = Not at all 4 = Somewhat 7 = To a great extent

Subgroup: Strategy Review

I believe that my Learning Community can help the Foundation shape some of its grantmaking in the future



I look forward to participating in meetings of my Learning Community in the future



I have learned about other organizations doing work that is related to mine



I have made professional connections that will be useful to my work or organization



I have communicated with people (Learning Community attendees or people I learned about in the meetings) outside of Learning Community meetings



Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

Political or Policy Environment

CEP added the following questions to its survey in the fall of 2025.

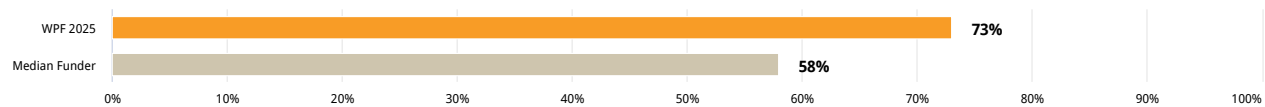
Political Climate and Funding Sources

Grantee Responses

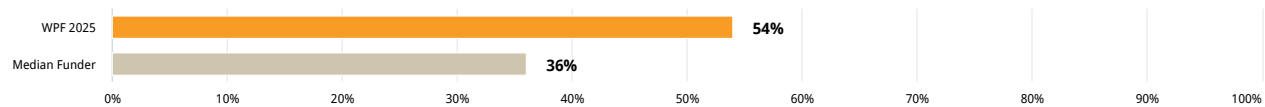
CEP added the following questions to its survey in the fall of 2025. These questions were shown only to U.S.-based grantees and depict comparative data from fewer than 25 funders. Some question may not yet include comparative data.

Does your organization usually receive any of the following types of U.S. government funding?

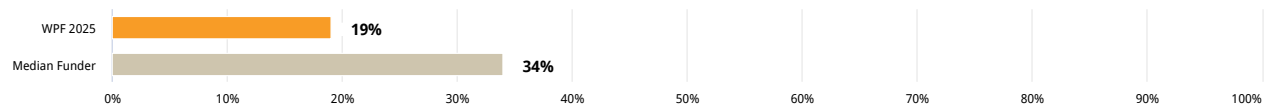
Yes, state or local funding



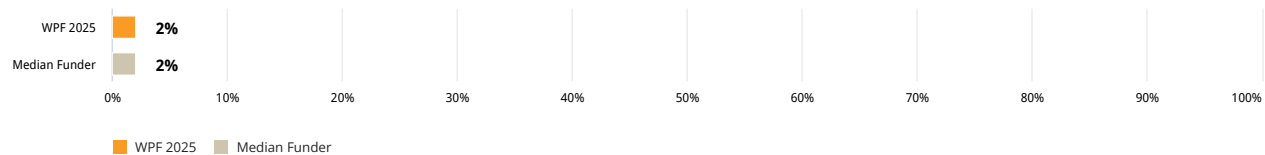
Yes, federal funding



No



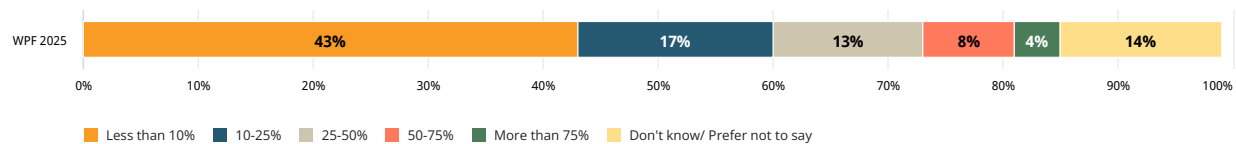
Don't know / Prefer not to say



The following question was only asked of grantees who indicated receiving federal funding in the previous question.

Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from federal funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?

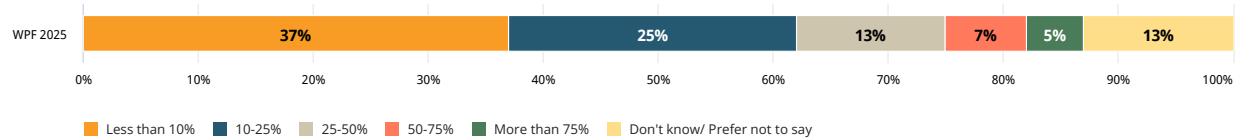
Past Results: On



The following question was only asked of grantees who indicated receiving state or local funding in the first question.

Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from state or local funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?

Past Results: On

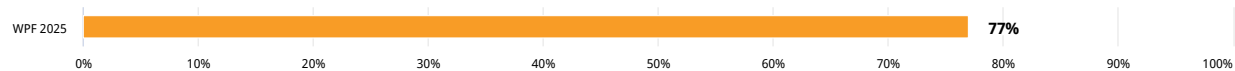


Applicant Responses

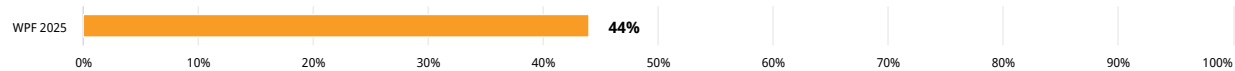
CEP added the following questions to its survey in the fall of 2025. These questions were shown only to U.S.-based applicants and do not include comparative data.

Does your organization usually receive any of the following types of U.S. government funding?

Yes, state or local funding



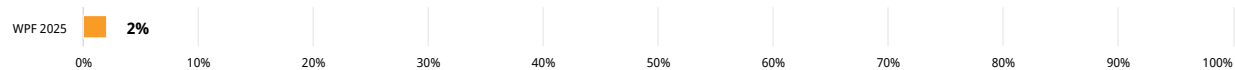
Yes, federal funding



No



Don't know / Prefer not to say

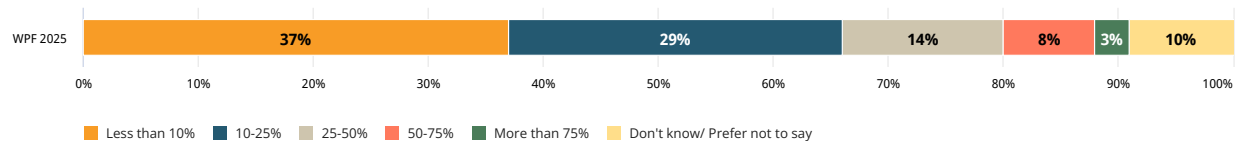


WPF 2025

The following question was only asked of applicants who indicated receiving federal funding in the previous question.

Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from federal funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?

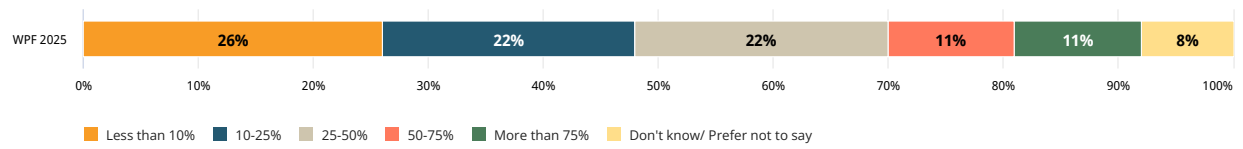
Past Results: On



The following question was only asked of applicants who indicated receiving state or local funding in the first question.

Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from state or local funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?

Past Results: On



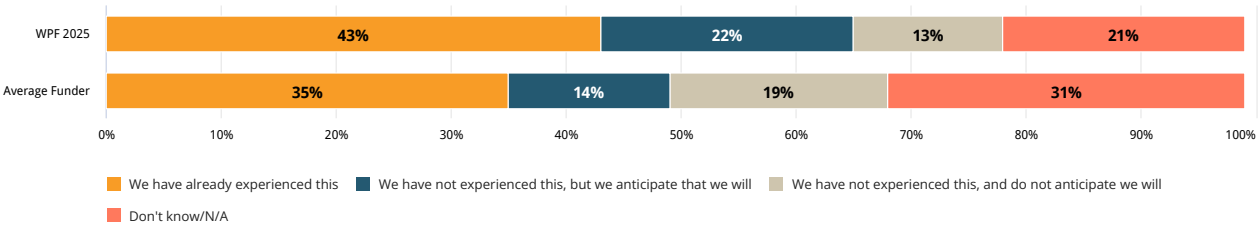
Reductions in Funding

Grantee Responses

As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?

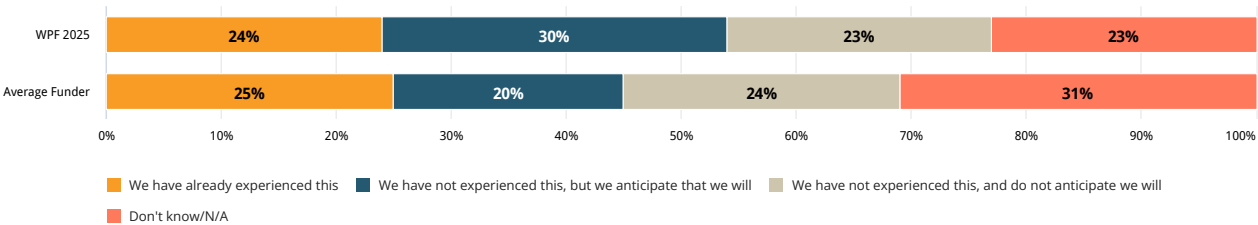
Reduced funding from U.S. federal government

Past Results: On



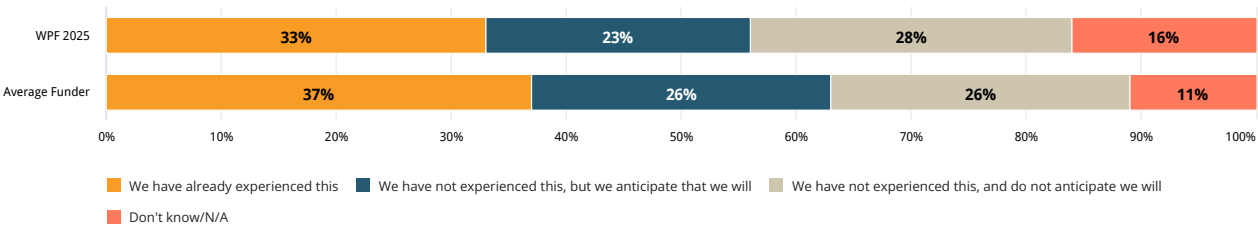
Reduced funding from U.S. state or local government

Past Results: On



Reduced funding from our private funders or donors

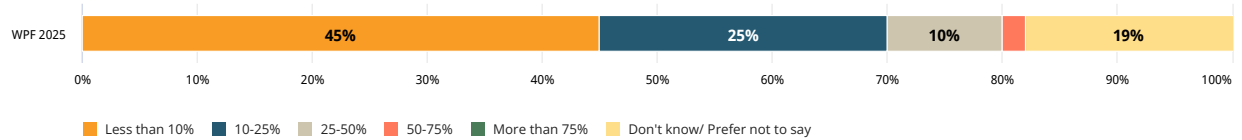
Past Results: On



The following question was only asked of grantees who indicate experiencing reduced funding from the U.S. federal government.

Approximately what proportion of your annual operating budget has your organization lost in 2025 as a result of U.S. federal funding cuts - through cancelled contracts, reduced awards, or other funding reductions?

Past Results: On

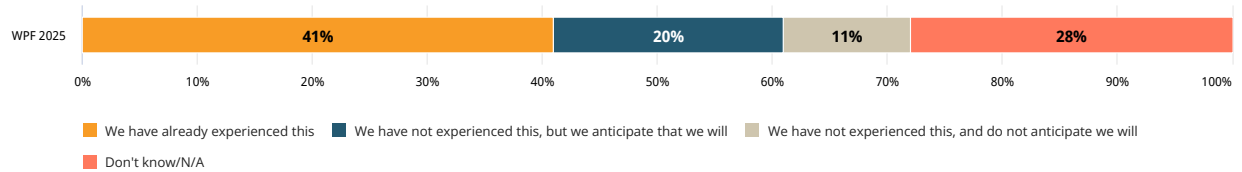


Applicant Responses

As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?

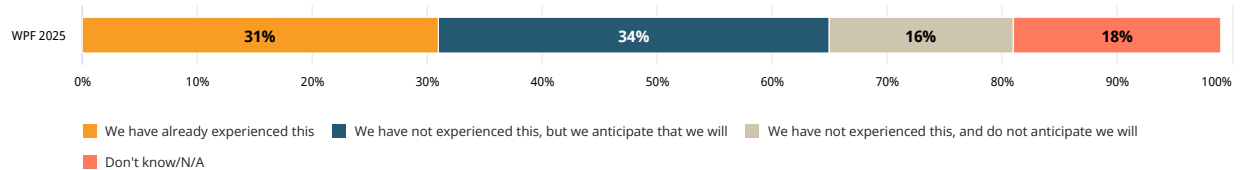
Reduced funding from U.S. federal government

Past Results: On



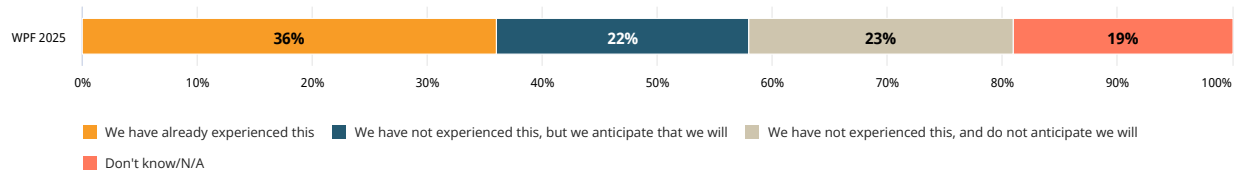
Reduced funding from U.S. state or local government

Past Results: On



Reduced funding from our private funders or donors

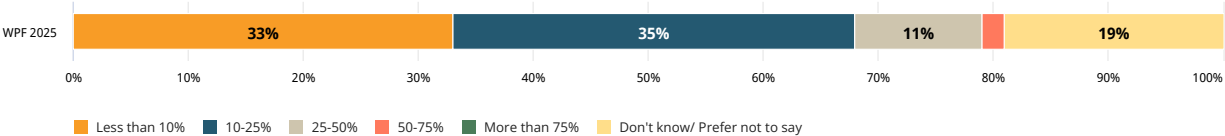
Past Results: On



The following question was only asked of applicants who indicate experiencing reduced funding from U.S. federal government.

Approximately what proportion of your annual operating budget has your organization lost in 2025 as a result of U.S. federal funding cuts - through cancelled contracts, reduced awards, or other funding reductions?

Past Results: On



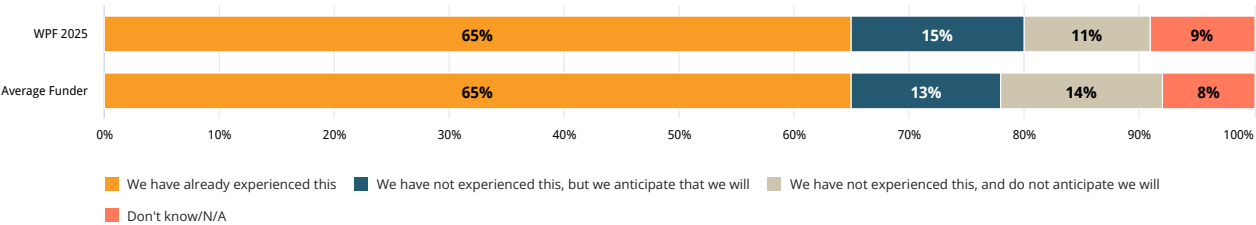
Grantee and Applicant Experiences

Grantee Responses

As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?

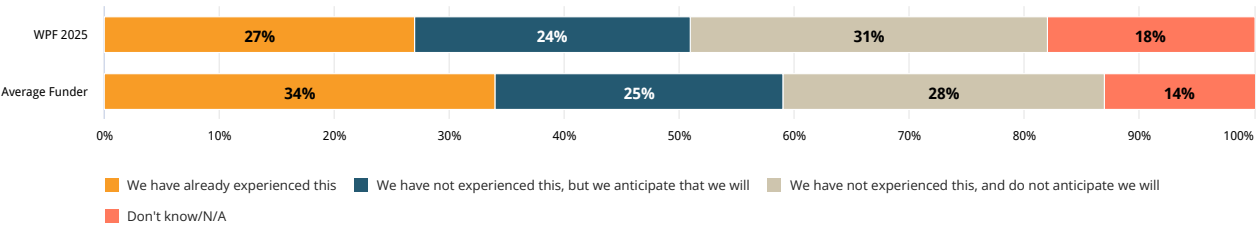
Experienced concerns about the well-being and safety of those that our organization is seeking to help

Past Results: On



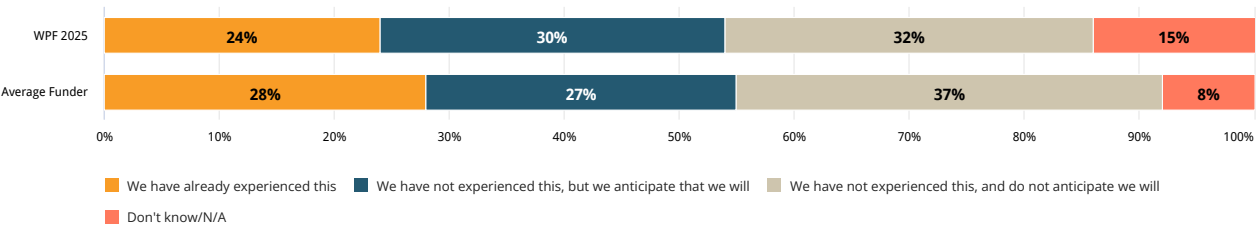
Experienced legal challenges related to the people or issues affected by our work

Past Results: On



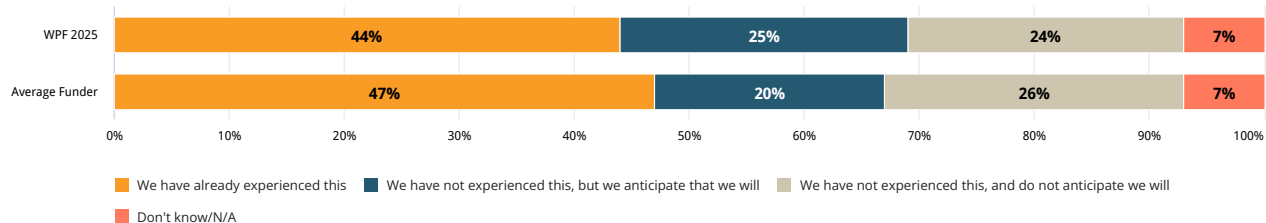
Faced backlash or opposition to our organization's mission

Past Results: On



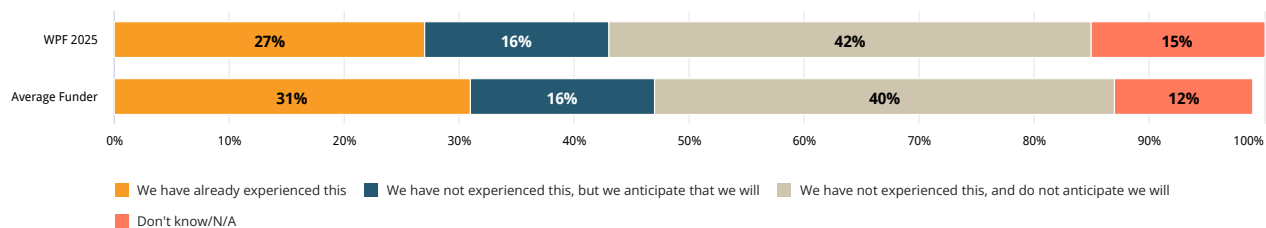
Faced pressure to meaningfully reframe how we publicly describe our work

Past Results: On



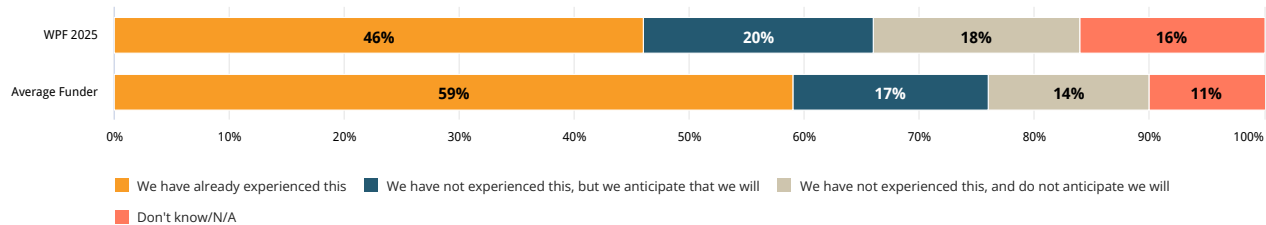
Faced concerns about our staff's or board's well-being and safety

Past Results: On



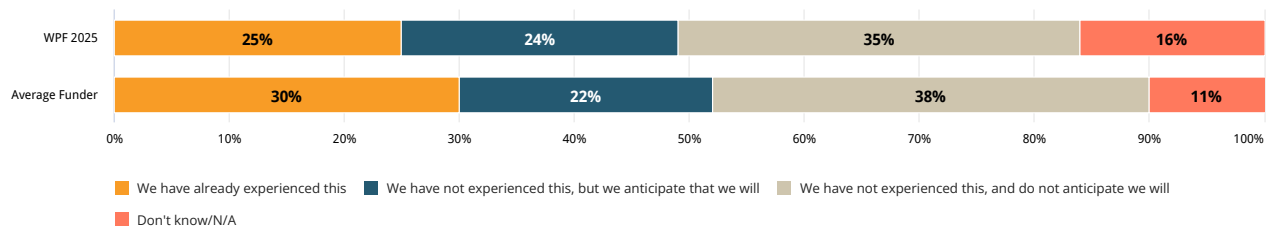
Experienced increased demand for our services

Past Results: On



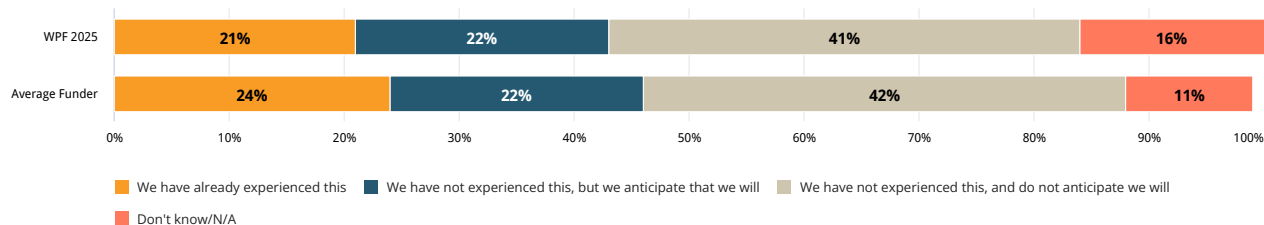
Had to reduce the services we provide

Past Results: On



Had to reduce our staffing

Past Results: On

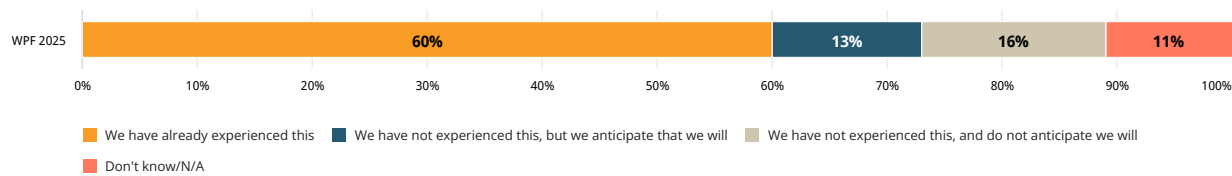


Applicant Responses

As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?

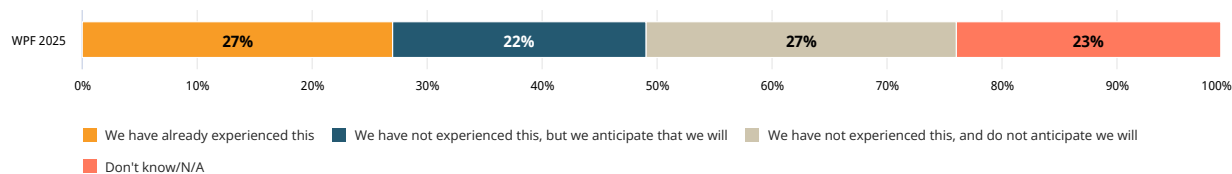
Experienced concerns about the well-being and safety of those that our organization is seeking to help

Past Results: On



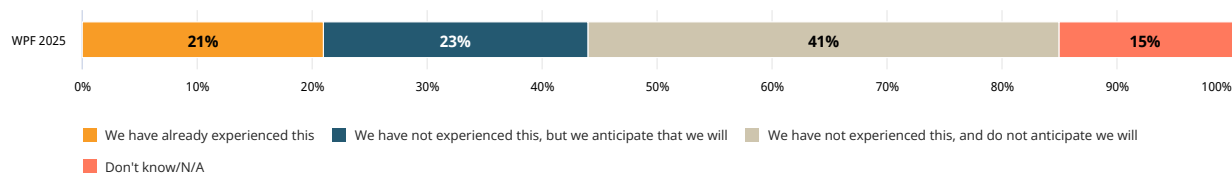
Experienced legal challenges related to the people or issues affected by our work

Past Results: On



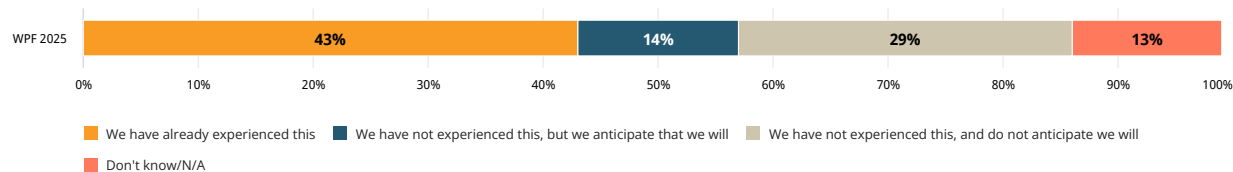
Faced backlash or opposition to our organization's mission

Past Results: On



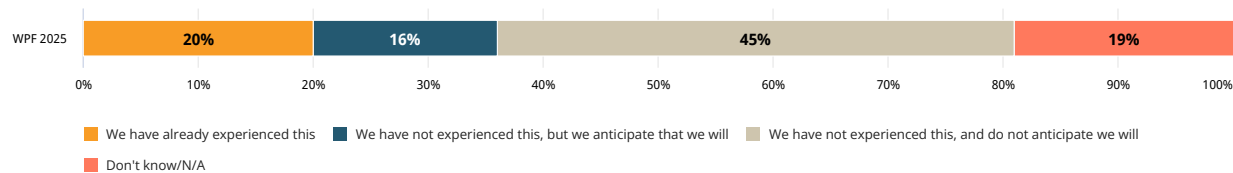
Faced pressure to meaningfully reframe how we publicly describe our work

Past Results: On



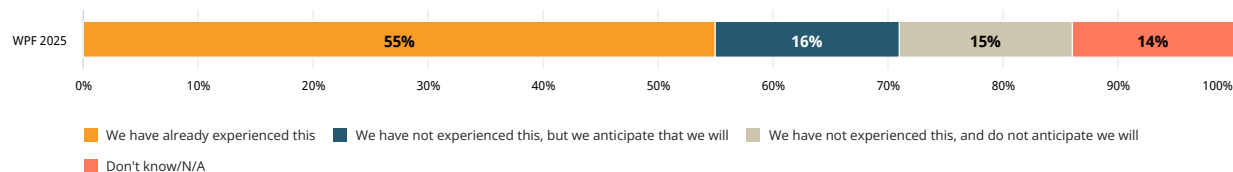
Faced concerns about our staff's or board's well-being and safety

Past Results: On



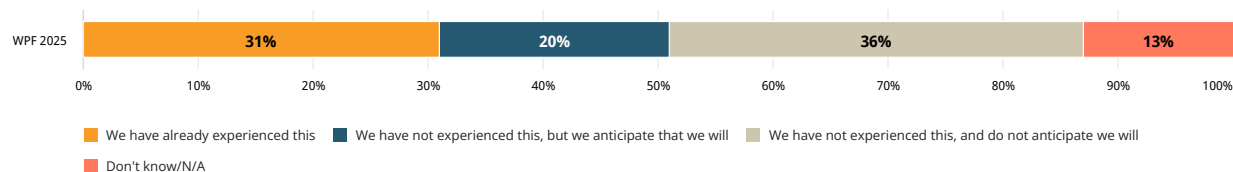
Experienced increased demand for our services

Past Results: On



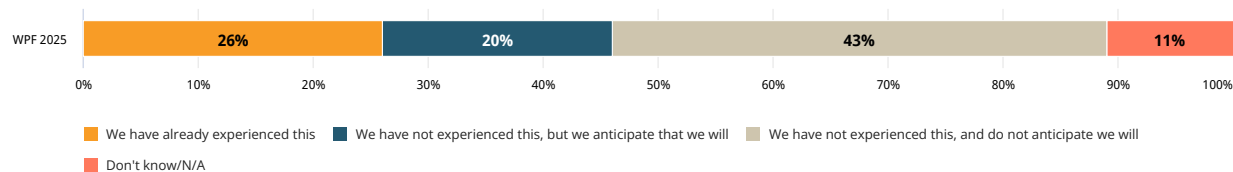
Had to reduce the services we provide

Past Results: On



Had to reduce our staffing

Past Results: On



Political or Policy Environment - Grantee Strategy Review Breakdown

CEP added the following questions to its survey in the fall of 2025.

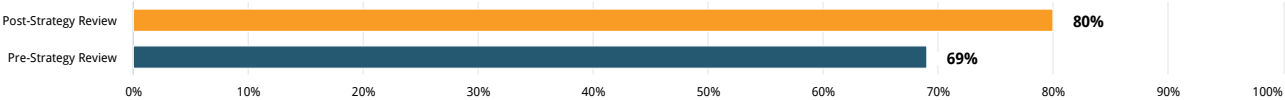
Political Climate and Funding Sources

Grantee Responses

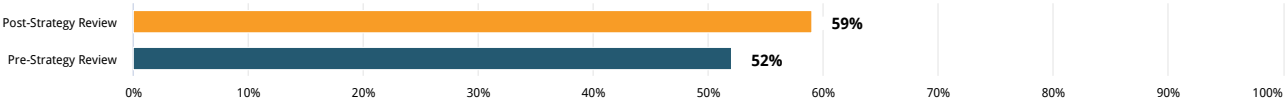
Does your organization usually receive any of the following types of U.S. government funding? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Yes, state or local funding



Yes, federal funding



No



Don't know / Prefer not to say

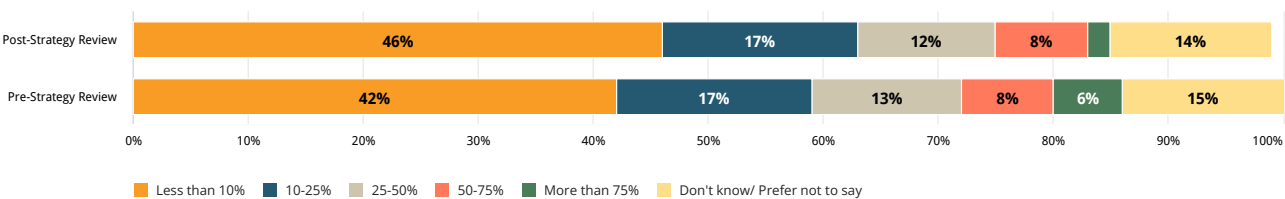


Post-Strategy Review Pre-Strategy Review

The following question was only asked of grantees who indicated receiving federal funding in the previous question.

Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from federal funding in your most recently completed fiscal year? - By Strategy Review

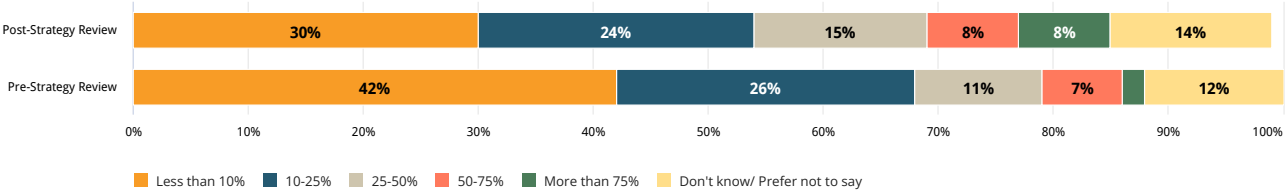
Subgroup: Strategy Review



The following question was asked of grantees who indicated receiving state or local funding in the first question.

Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from state or local funding in your most recently completed fiscal year? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



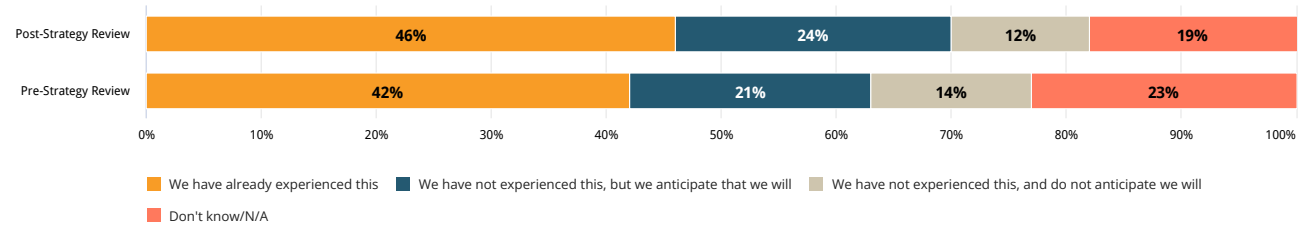
Reductions in Funding

Grantee Responses

As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?

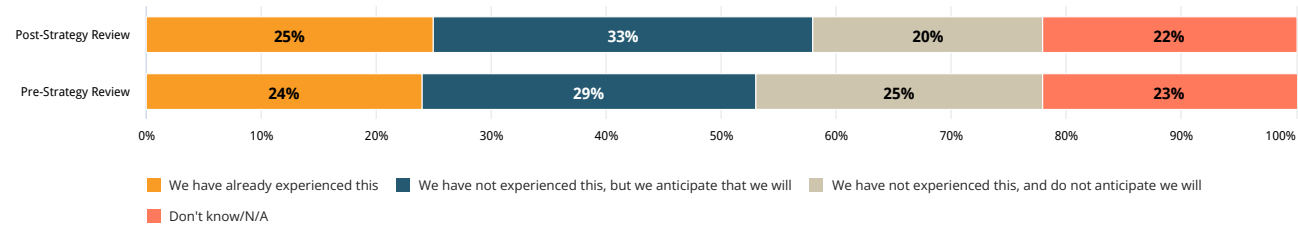
Reduced funding from U.S. federal government - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



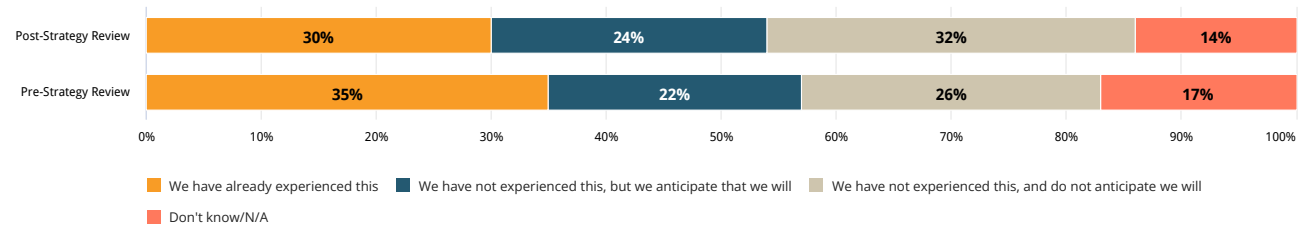
Reduced funding from U.S. state or local government - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



Reduced funding from our private funders or donors - By Strategy Review

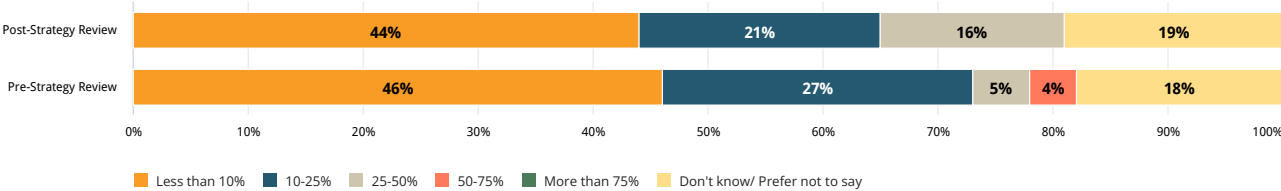
Subgroup: Strategy Review



The following question was only asked of grantees who indicate experiencing reduced funding from the U.S. federal government.

Approximately what proportion of your annual operating budget has your organization lost in 2025 as a result of U.S. federal funding cuts - through cancelled contracts, reduced awards, or other funding reductions? - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



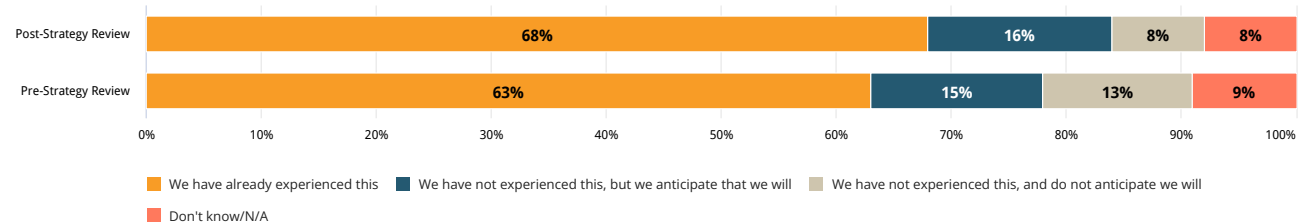
Grantee and Applicant Experiences

Grantee Responses

As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?

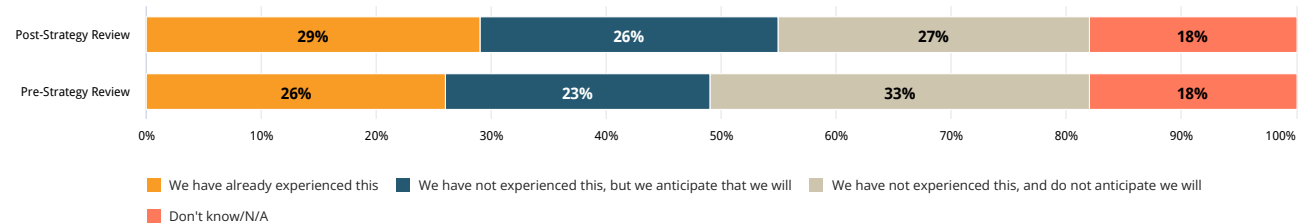
Experienced concerns about the well-being and safety of those that our organization is seeking to help - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



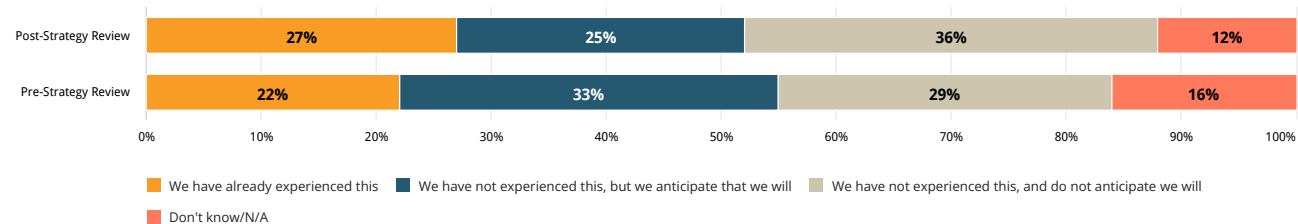
Experienced legal challenges related to the people or issues affected by our work - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



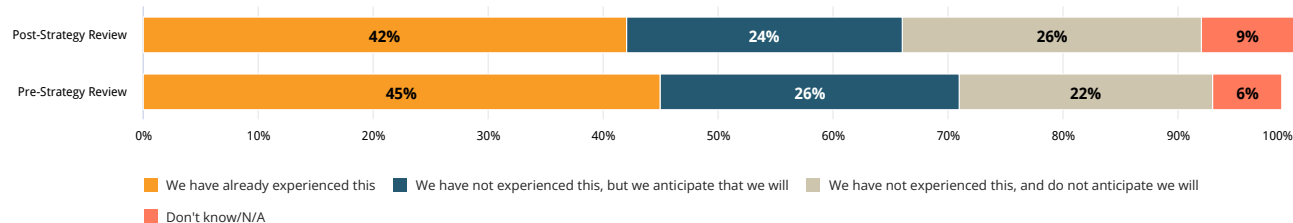
Faced backlash or opposition to our organization's mission - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



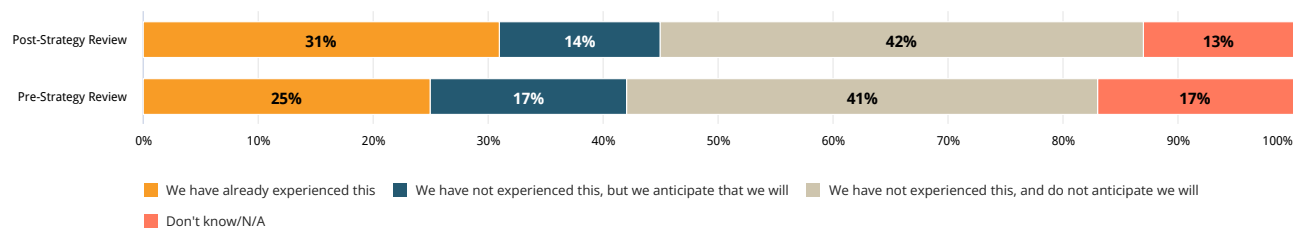
Faced pressure to meaningfully reframe how we publicly describe our work - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



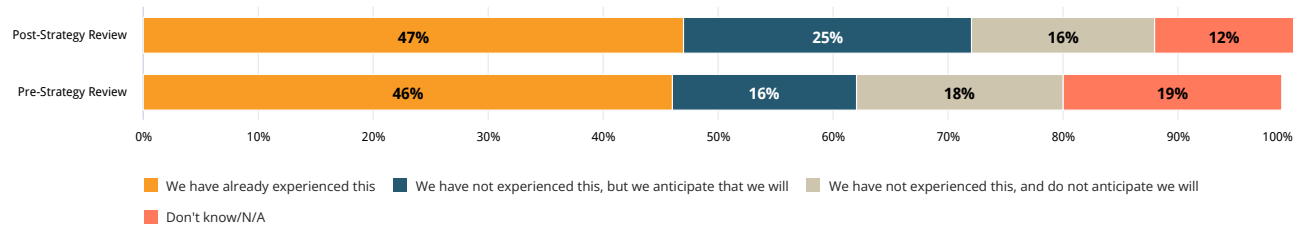
Faced concerns about our staff's or board's well-being and safety - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



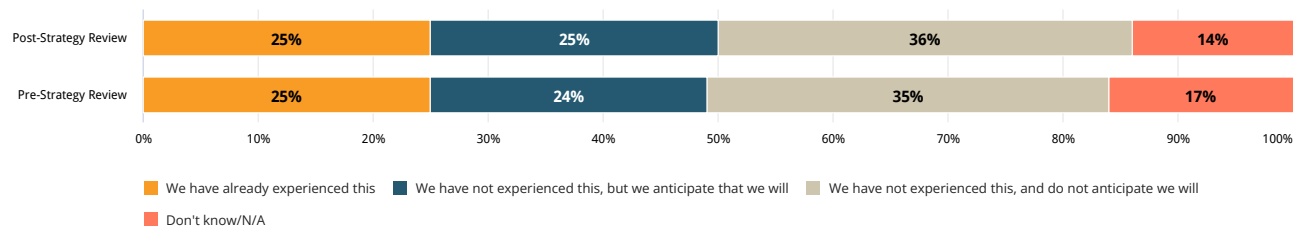
Experienced increased demand for our services - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



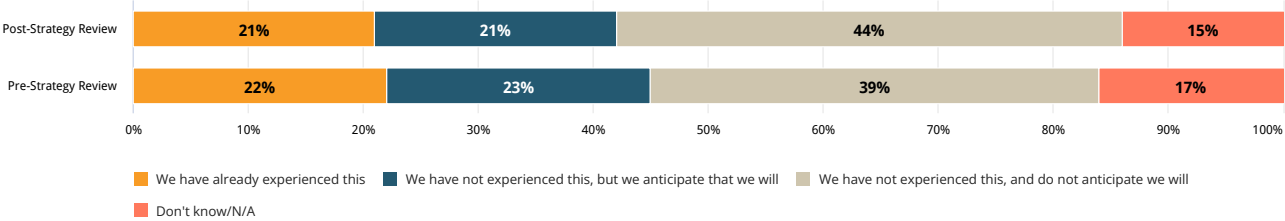
Had to reduce the services we provide - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



Had to reduce our staffing - By Strategy Review

Subgroup: Strategy Review



Contextual Data

Please note that all information in this section is based on self-reported data from grantees or declined applicants.

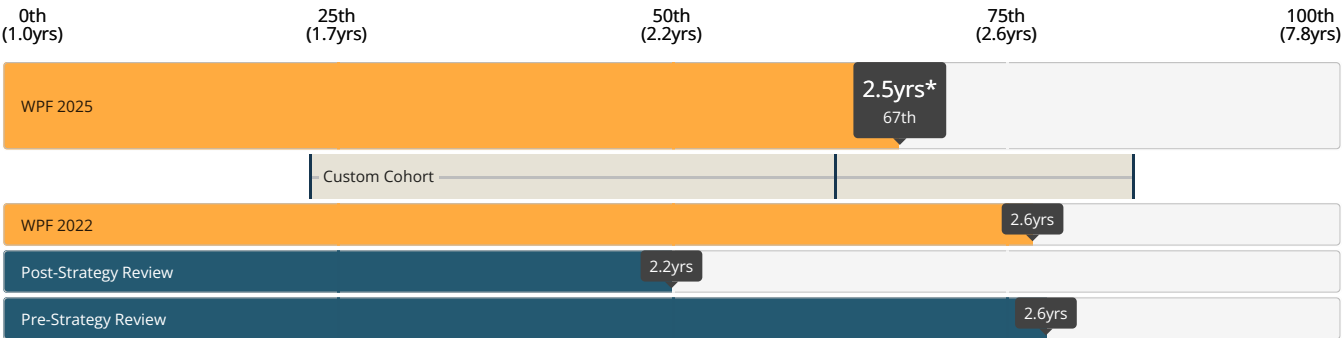
Grantee Data

Grantmaking Characteristics

Grantee Responses

Average Grant Length

Cohort: Custom Cohort Subgroup: Strategy Review Past Results: On



Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Length of Grant Awarded	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Average grant length	2.5 years	2.6 years	2.2 years	2.4 years

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Length of Grant Awarded	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
0 - 1.99 years	21%	19%	46%	28%
2 - 2.99 years	37%	30%	24%	38%
3 - 3.99 years	36%	43%	19%	26%
4 - 4.99 years	2%	4%	3%	2%
5 - 50 years	5%	5%	7%	5%

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Proportion of Unrestricted Funding	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
No, this funding was not restricted to a specific use (e.g., general operating, core support)	10%	19%	32%	34%
Yes, this funding was restricted to a specific use (e.g., supported a specific program, project, capital need, etc.)	90%	81%	68%	66%

Grantmaking Characteristics - By Subgroup

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Length of Grant Awarded (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
Average grant length	2.2 years	2.6 years

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Length of Grant Awarded (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
0 - 1.99 years	24%	19%
2 - 2.99 years	40%	35%
3 - 3.99 years	36%	36%
4 - 4.99 years	0%	3%
5 - 50 years	0%	8%

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Proportion of Unrestricted Funding (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
No, this funding was not restricted to a specific use (e.g., general operating, core support)	5%	13%
Yes, this funding was restricted to a specific use (e.g., supported a specific program, project, capital need, etc.)	95%	87%

Grant Size

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Grant Amount Awarded	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Median grant size	\$314.2K	\$325K	\$125K	\$261K

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Grant Amount Awarded	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
Less than \$10K	0%	0%	7%	1%
\$10K - \$24K	1%	1%	10%	2%
\$25K - \$49K	2%	3%	12%	4%
\$50K - \$99K	9%	10%	15%	11%
\$100K - \$149K	12%	11%	10%	11%
\$150K - \$299K	21%	20%	17%	23%
\$300K - \$499K	22%	25%	10%	18%
\$500K - \$999K	21%	19%	9%	16%
\$1MM and above	11%	11%	11%	14%

Grant Size - By Subgroup

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Grant Amount Awarded (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
Median grant size	\$273.2K	\$374.1K

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Grant Amount Awarded (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
Less than \$10K	0%	1%
\$10K - \$24K	1%	1%
\$25K - \$49K	2%	2%
\$50K - \$99K	10%	8%
\$100K - \$149K	12%	13%
\$150K - \$299K	27%	17%
\$300K - \$499K	28%	18%
\$500K - \$999K	17%	24%
\$1MM and above	2%	17%

Application Characteristics

Applicant Data

Please note that all information in this section is based on self-reported data from declined applicants.

Past Results: On

Was the grant proposal you submitted restricted to a specific use?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes, the grant proposal was for restricted funding	90%	81%
No, the grant proposal was for funding not restricted to a specific use	10%	19%

Past Results: On

Grant Amount Requested	WPF 2025	Median Funder
Median Grant Amount	\$200K	\$50K

Past Results: On

Grant Amount Requested	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Less than \$10K	3%	7%
\$10K - \$24K	10%	18%
\$25K - \$49K	5%	19%
\$50K - \$99K	12%	20%
\$100K - \$149K	12%	11%
\$150K - \$299K	25%	14%
\$300K - \$499K	11%	5%
\$500K - \$999K	17%	3%
\$1MM and above	6%	2%

Grantee/Applicant Characteristics

Operating Budget of Grantee Organizations

Please note that all information in this section is based on self-reported data from grantees or declined applicants.

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Operating Budget of Grantee Organization	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Median Budget	\$2.9M	\$2M	\$1.7M	\$3M

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Operating Budget of Grantee Organization	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
<\$100K	3%	1%	8%	4%
\$100K - \$499K	10%	15%	18%	14%
\$500K - \$999K	15%	15%	13%	12%
\$1MM - \$4.9MM	35%	38%	31%	33%
\$5MM - \$24MM	22%	20%	19%	23%
>=\$25MM	15%	10%	12%	14%

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Operating Budget of Grantee Organization (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
Median Budget	\$2.9M	\$2.7M

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Operating Budget of Grantee Organization (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
<\$100K	1%	3%
\$100K - \$499K	13%	8%
\$500K - \$999K	15%	15%
\$1MM - \$4.9MM	33%	36%
\$5MM - \$24MM	25%	20%
>=\$25MM	13%	17%

Operating Budget of Applicant Organizations

Past Results: On

Operating Budget of Applicant Organization	WPF 2025	Median Funder
Median Budget	\$1M	\$0.8M

Past Results: On

Operating Budget of Applicant Organization	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Less than \$100K	13%	16%
\$100K-\$499K	21%	25%
\$500K-\$999K	12%	13%
\$1MM-\$4.9MM	26%	24%
\$5MM-\$25MM	16%	12%
\$25MM and above	11%	10%

Operating Budget of Applicant Organization (By Subgroup)

Less than \$100K

\$100K-\$499K

\$500K-\$999K

\$1MM-\$4.9MM

\$5MM-\$25MM

\$25MM and above

Additional Grantee Characteristics

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Pattern of Grantees' Funding Relationship with the Foundation	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
First grant received from the Foundation	23%	20%	30%	30%
Consistent funding in the past	53%	61%	53%	52%
Inconsistent funding in the past	24%	19%	17%	18%

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Funding Status	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Percent of grantees currently receiving funding from the Foundation	76%	87%	82%	76%

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Pattern of Grantees' Funding Relationship with the Foundation (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
First grant received from the Foundation	35%	15%
Consistent funding in the past	43%	60%
Inconsistent funding in the past	23%	25%

Subgroup: Strategy Review

Funding Status (By Subgroup)	Post-Strategy Review	Pre-Strategy Review
Percent of grantees currently receiving funding from the Foundation	96%	65%

Additional Applicant Characteristics

Past Results: On

Was this your organization's first funding application to the Foundation?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes	39%	43%
No	61%	57%

Past Results: On

Has your organization ever received funding from the Foundation?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes	45%	40%
No	55%	60%

Funder Characteristics

Please note that all information below is based on self-reported data from The William Penn Foundation.

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Financial Information	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Total assets	\$3500M	\$3219.1M	\$349M	\$3200M
Total giving	\$155M	\$121.7M	\$22M	\$122.1M

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Funder Staffing	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Total staff (FTEs)	42	46	19	65
Percent of staff who are program staff	64%	68%	45%	38%

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Grantmaking Processes	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Median Funder	Custom Cohort
Proportion of grants that are invitation-only	6%	10%	64%	80%
Proportion of grantmaking dollars that are invitation-only	24%	90%	78%	64%

Methodology, Analysis, and Respondent Demographics

Grantee Survey Methodology

Survey	Survey Fielded	Survey Population	Number of Responses Received	Survey Response Rate
WPF 2025	September and October 2025	885	450	51%
WPF 2022	September and October 2022	730	423	58%

Applicant Survey Methodology

Survey	Survey Fielded	Survey Population	Number of Responses Received	Survey Response Rate
WPF 2025	September and October 2025	538	146	27%

Standard Comparative Cohorts

CEP included 18 standard GPR cohorts to allow for comparisons to a variety of different types of funders.

Strategy Cohorts

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Small Grant Providers	31	Funders with median grant size of \$20K or less
Large Grant Providers	85	Funders with median grant size of \$300K or more
High Touch Funders	33	Funders for which a majority of grantees report having contact with their primary contact monthly or more often
Proactive Grantmakers	131	Funders that make at least 90% of grants by invitation only
Responsive Grantmakers	115	Funders that make at most 10% of grants by invitation only
Intermediary Funders	27	Funders that primarily regrant philanthropic dollars
International Funders	59	Funders that fund outside of their own country

Annual Giving Cohorts

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Funders Giving Less Than \$5 Million	52	Funders with annual giving of less than \$5 million
Funders Giving \$50 Million or More	101	Funders with annual giving of \$50 million or more

Foundation Type Cohorts

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Private Foundations	189	All private foundations in the GPR dataset
Family Foundations	95	All family foundations in the GPR dataset
Community Foundations	40	All community foundations in the GPR dataset
Health Conversion Foundations	29	All health conversion foundations in the GPR dataset
Corporate Foundations	31	All corporate foundations in the GPR dataset

Other Cohorts

Cohort Name	Count	Description
Funders Outside the United States	51	Funders that are primarily based outside the United States
Recently Established Foundations	87	Funders that were established in 2000 or later
Recently Surveyed Funders	260	Funders who surveyed grantees in 2020 or later
European Funders	30	Funders that are headquartered in Europe

Respondent Demographics

Respondents in the United States are asked questions related to their gender identity, transgender identity, racial/ethnic identity, identity as a person of color, disability identity, and identity as a member of the LGBTQ+ community.

Survey language and response options for questions about race and ethnicity are guided by best practices shared by [National Institutes of Health](#), [Pew Research Center](#), [Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research](#), and the [US Census Bureau](#).

Survey language and response options for questions about gender and LGBTQ+ identity are guided by best practices shared by [Funders For LGBTQ Issues](#), [HRC Foundation's Welcoming Schools](#), and the [Williams Institute of the University of California – Los Angeles School of Law](#).

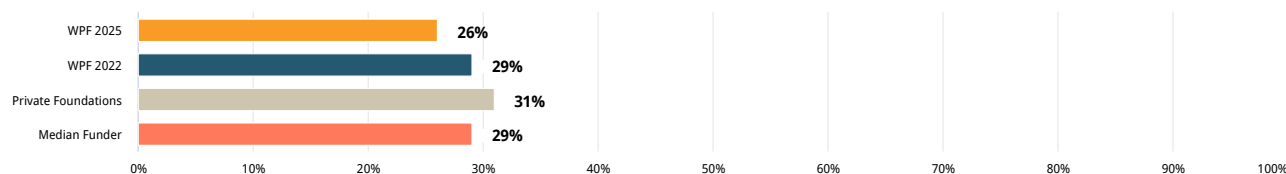
Survey respondents are asked to share their gender identities in a check-all-that-apply question. Each chart has the option of showing the average ratings of respondents who selected only "man," only "woman," multiple gender identities, "gender non-conforming or non-binary," "prefer to self-identify," and "prefer not to say" - as long as that response option had at least 10 respondents.

All demographic survey questions are optional.

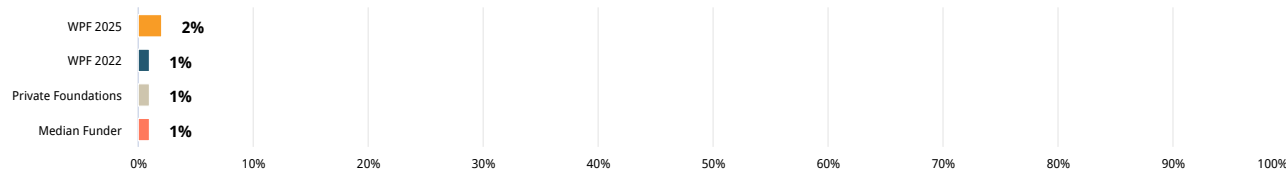
Please select the option that represents how you describe yourself:

Cohort: Private Foundations Past Results: On

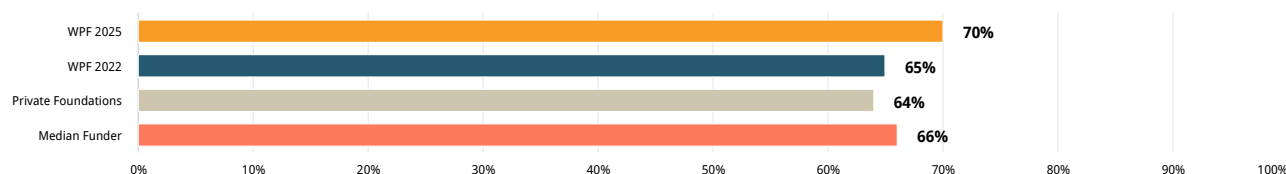
Man



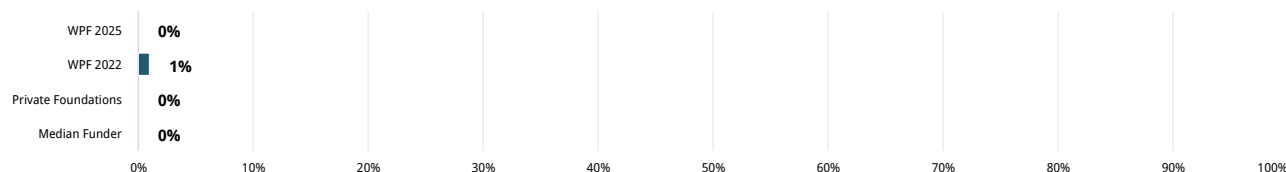
Non-binary or gender non-conforming



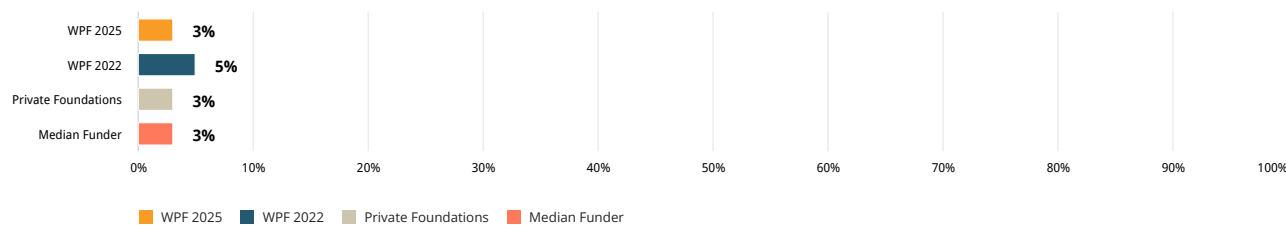
Woman



Prefer to self-identify



Prefer not to say



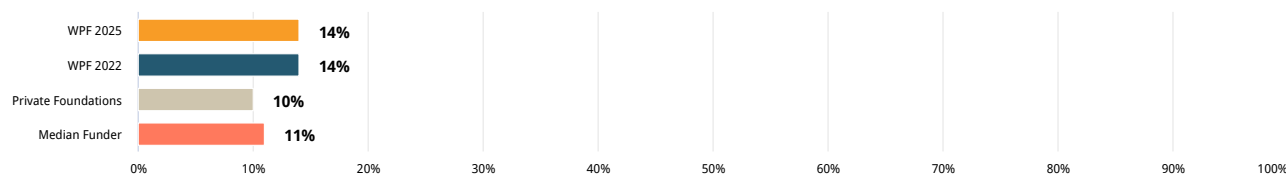
Past Results: On

Are you transgender?	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder
Yes	1%	0%	1%
No	96%	96%	96%
Prefer not to say	3%	4%	4%

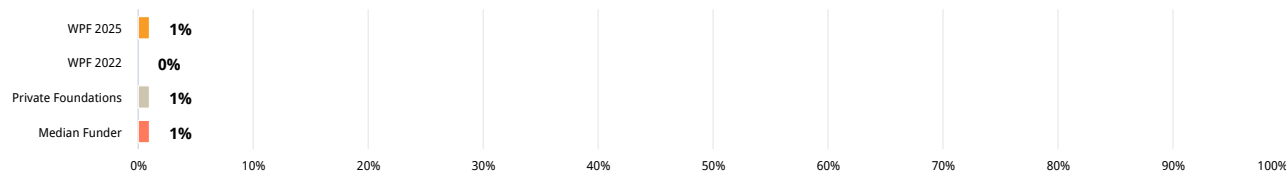
How would you describe your race and/or ethnicity?

Cohort: Private Foundations Past Results: On

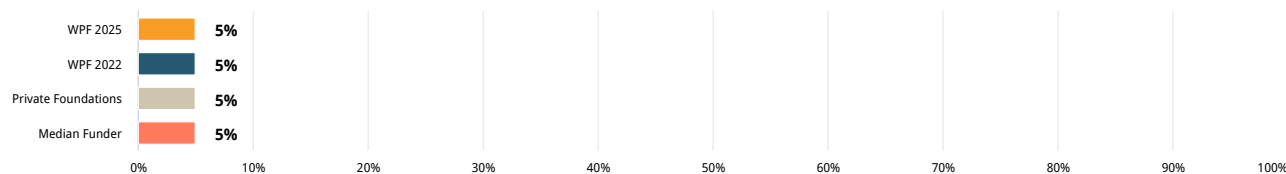
African American or Black



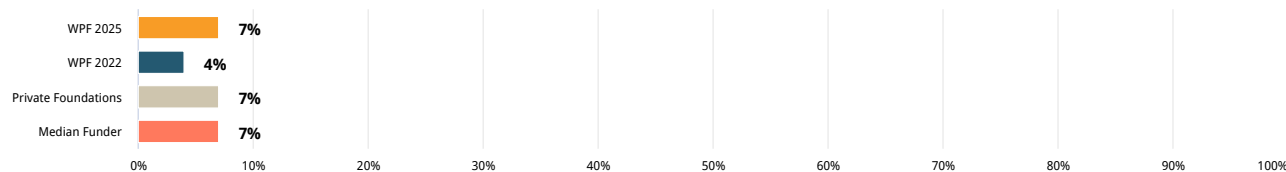
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous



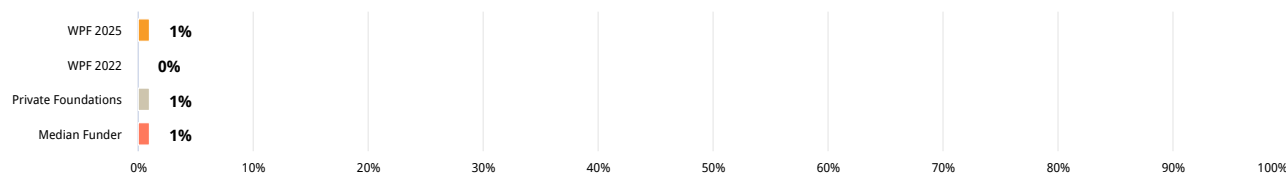
Asian or Asian American



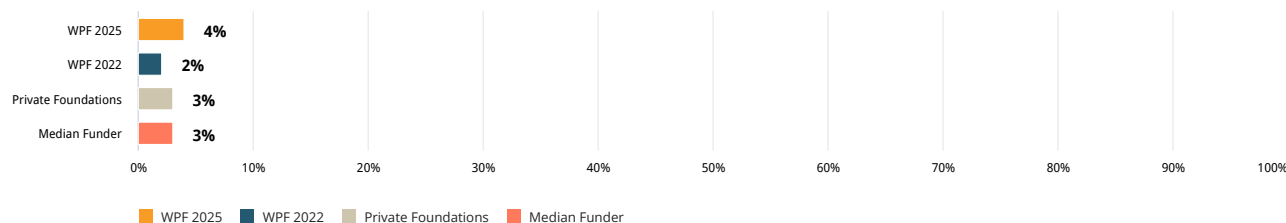
Latina, Latino, Latinx or Hispanic



Middle Eastern or North African



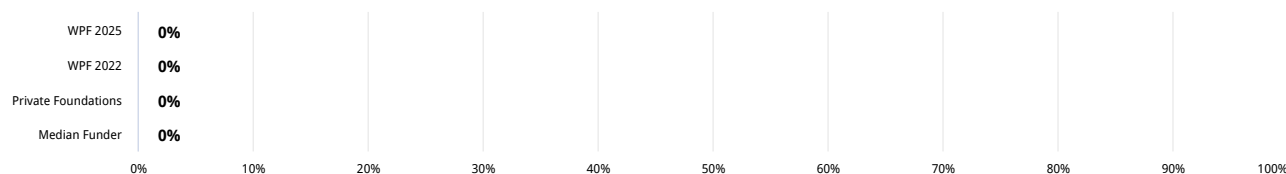
Multiracial and/or Multi-ethnic



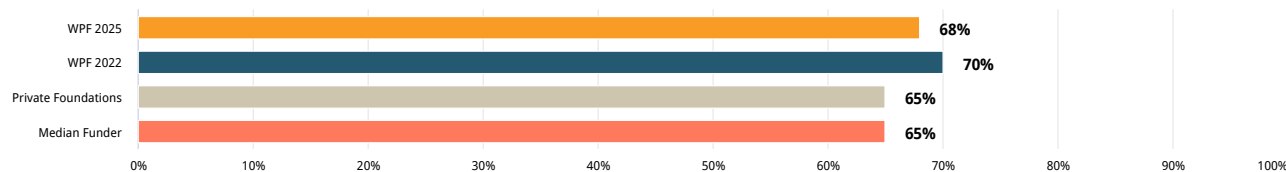
How would you describe your race and/or ethnicity?

Cohort: Private Foundations Past Results: On

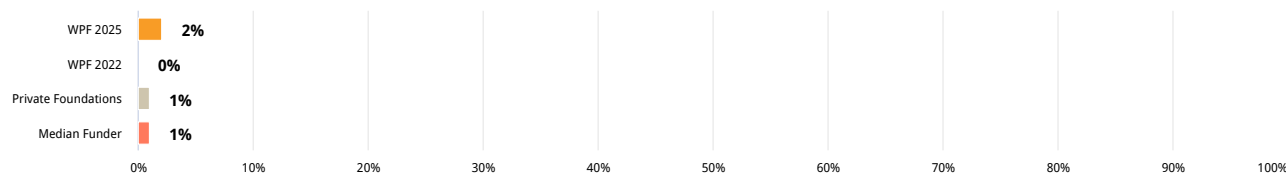
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian



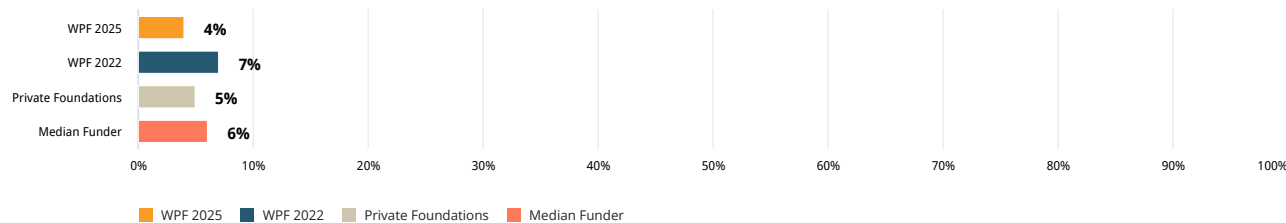
White



Race and/or ethnicity not included above



Prefer not to say



Past Results: On

Do you identify as a person of color?	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder
Yes	25%	22%	30%
No	70%	72%	65%
Prefer not to say	5%	6%	6%

Past Results: On

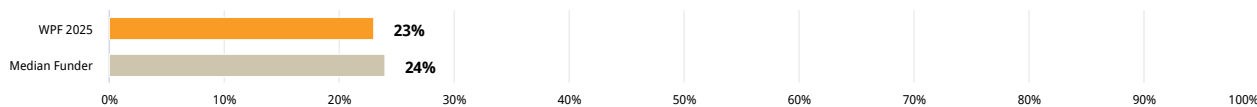
Do you have a disability?	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder
Yes	7%	5%	8%
No	86%	90%	87%
Prefer not to say	7%	5%	5%

Past Results: On

Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) community?	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder
Yes	12%	12%	12%
No	81%	82%	82%
Prefer not to say	6%	5%	5%

Please select the option that represents how you describe yourself:

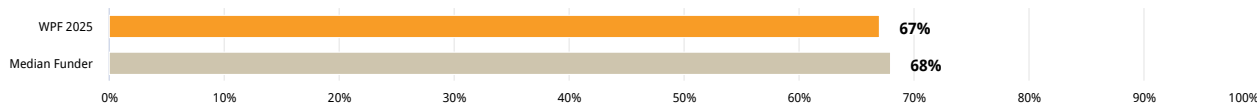
Man



Non-binary or gender non-conforming



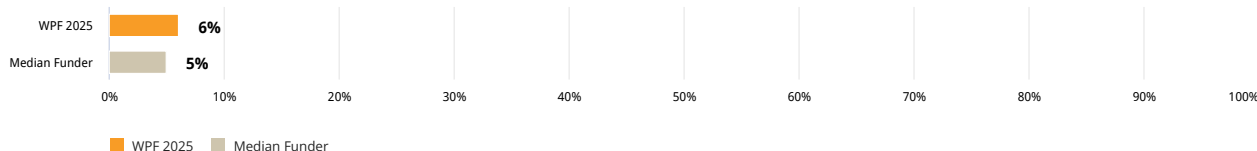
Woman



Prefer to self-identify



Prefer not to say

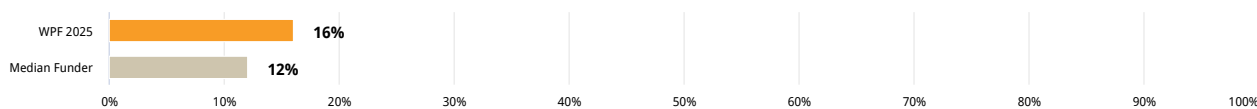


Past Results: On

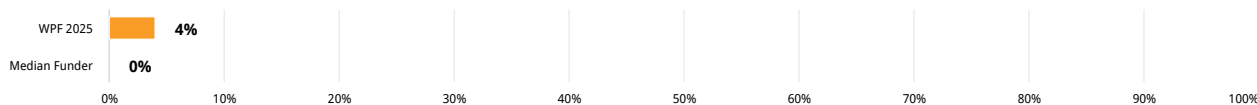
Are you transgender?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes	1%	1%
No	91%	93%
Prefer not to say	8%	7%

What is your race/ethnicity?

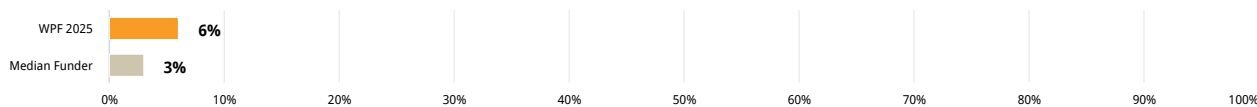
African American or Black



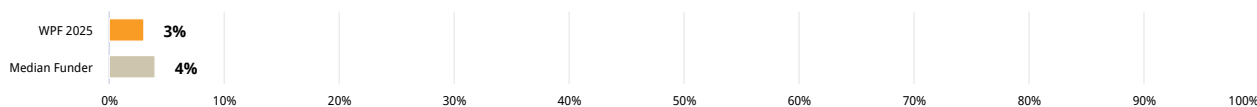
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous



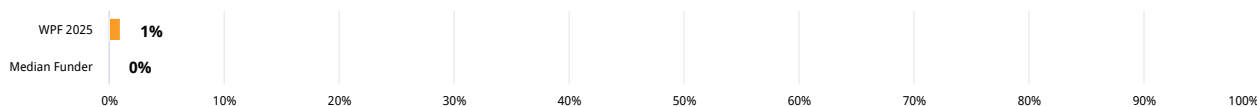
Asian or Asian American



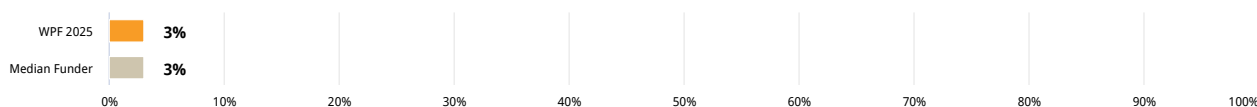
Latina, Latino, Latinx or Hispanic



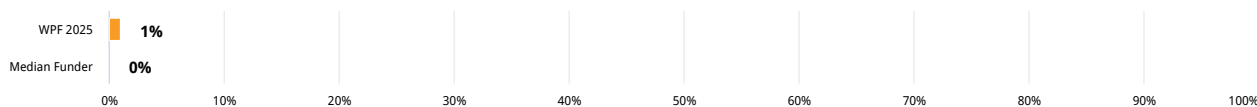
Middle Eastern or North African



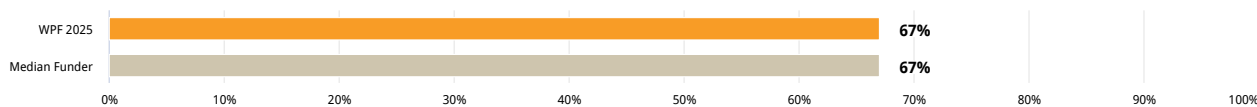
Multiracial and/or Multi-ethnic



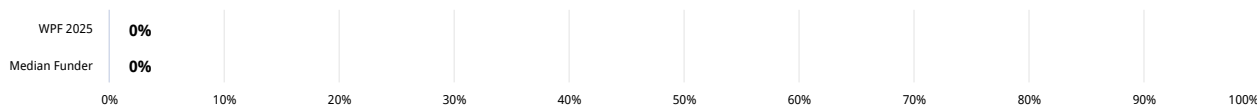
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian



White

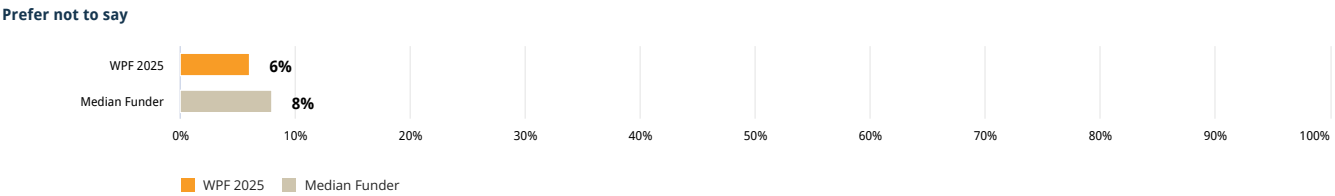


Race and/or ethnicity not included above



WPF 2025 Median Funder

What is your race/ethnicity?



Past Results: On

Do you identify as a person of color?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes	25%	23%
No	70%	68%
Prefer not to say	6%	9%

Past Results: On

Do you have a disability?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes	11%	7%
No	79%	86%
Prefer not to say	11%	6%

Past Results: On

Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) community?	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Yes	15%	12%
No	76%	81%
Prefer not to say	9%	8%

Respondent Job Title

Grantee Responses

Cohort: Custom Cohort Past Results: On

Job Title of Respondents	WPF 2025	WPF 2022	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
Executive Director/CEO	40%	47%	48%	49%
Other Senior Team (i.e., reporting to Executive Director/CEO)	28%	25%	20%	23%
Project Director	13%	14%	10%	8%
Development Staff	14%	10%	15%	14%
Volunteer	0%	0%	1%	1%
Other	5%	4%	5%	5%

Applicant Responses

Past Results: On

Job Title of Respondents	WPF 2025	Average Funder
Executive Director/CEO	45%	45%
Other Senior Team (i.e., reporting to Executive Director/CEO)	16%	14%
Project Director	5%	9%
Development Staff	26%	23%
Volunteer	2%	3%
Other	6%	6%

Additional Survey Information

Grantees and applicants may decide not to answer any question in the grantee and applicant surveys. On many questions in the surveys, respondents are allowed to select "don't know" or "not applicable" if they are not able to provide an alternative answer. In addition, some questions in the survey are only displayed to a select group of grantees or applicants for which that question is relevant based on a previous response.

As a result, there are some measures where only a subset of responses is included in the reported results. The table below shows the number of responses included in each of the survey measures.

Grantee Survey

Question Text	Number of Responses
Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your organization?	444
Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your local community?	421
Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your field?	435
To what extent has the Foundation advanced the state of knowledge in your field?	356
To what extent has the Foundation affected public policy in your field?	291
How well does the Foundation understand your organization's strategy and goals?	422
How aware is the Foundation of the challenges that your organization is facing?	450
How well does the Foundation understand the social, cultural, or socioeconomic factors that affect your work?	443
How well does the Foundation understand the field in which you work?	428
Please indicate any types of assistance beyond the grant that were a component of what you received from the Foundation.	436
Please rate the extent to which you agree with the following statements about the assistance beyond the grant you received from the Foundation:	
The assistance beyond the grant I received met an important need for my organization and/or program	225
The Foundation's assistance beyond the grant was a worthwhile use of the time required of us	225
I felt the Foundation would be open to feedback about the assistance beyond the grant it provided	223
How well does the Foundation understand the needs of the people and communities that you serve?	420
Are the efforts funded by this grant primarily meant to benefit historically disadvantaged groups?	450
Specifically, are any of the following the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?	360
To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation has clearly communicated what diversity, equity, and inclusion means for its work?	423
To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation demonstrates an explicit commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in its work?	434
How comfortable do you feel approaching the Foundation if a problem arises?	446
Overall, how responsive was the Foundation staff?	449
To what extent did the Foundation exhibit trust in your organization's staff during this grant?	447
To what extent did the Foundation exhibit candor about the Foundation's perspectives on your work during this grant?	448
To what extent did the Foundation exhibit compassion for those affected by your work during this grant?	446
To what extent is the Foundation open to ideas from grantees about its strategy?	444
How often do/did you have contact with your program officer during this grant?	448
Has your main contact at the Foundation changed in the past six months?	425
At any point during this grant, including the selection process, did Foundation staff conduct a site visit?	449
How clearly has the Foundation communicated its goals and strategy to you?	445
How consistent was the information provided by different communication resources, both personal and written, that you used to learn about the Foundation?	428
Overall, how transparent is the Foundation with your organization?	446
How well do you understand the way in which the work funded by this grant fits into the Foundation's broader efforts?	441
Did you submit a proposal to the Foundation for this grant?	445
Did you have contact with a Foundation staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied?	390
To what extent was the Foundation's selection process a helpful opportunity to strengthen the efforts funded by the grant?	395
To what extent was the Foundation's selection process an appropriate level of effort given the amount of funding received?	404
As you developed your grant proposal, how much pressure did you feel to modify your organization's priorities in order to create a grant proposal that was likely to receive funding?	413
To what extent was the Foundation clear and transparent about the selection process requirements and timelines?	428
To what extent was the Foundation clear and transparent about the criteria the Foundation uses to decide whether a proposal would be funded or declined?	393
At any point during the proposal or the grant period, did the Foundation and your organization exchange ideas regarding how your organization would assess the results of the work funded by this grant?	382

Question Text	Number of Responses
Have you participated in a reporting or evaluation process?	433
To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process straightforward?	300
To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process adaptable, if necessary, to fit your circumstances?	286
To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process relevant, with questions and measures pertinent to the work funded by this grant?	314
To what extent was the Foundation's reporting process a helpful opportunity for you to reflect and learn?	311
To what extent did the evaluation incorporate your input in the design of the evaluation?	86
To what extent did the evaluation result in you making changes to the work that was evaluated?	91
Total funding committed for this grant	438
Total number of years of approved funding for this grant	436
Was the funding you received restricted to a specific use?	448
What is the approximate annual operating budget of your organization?	421
Are you currently receiving funding from the Foundation?	445
Which of the following best describes the pattern of your organization's funding relationship with the Foundation?	429
Does your organization usually receive any of the following types of U.S. government funding?	447
Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from federal funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?	242
Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from state or local funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?	326
As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?	
Reduced funding from U.S. federal government	442
Reduced funding from U.S. state or local government	438
Reduced funding from our private funders or donors	443
Approximately what proportion of your annual operating budget has your organization lost in 2025 as a result of U.S. federal funding cuts - through cancelled contracts, reduced awards, or other funding reductions?	189
As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?	
Experienced concerns about the well-being and safety of those that our organization is seeking to help	441
Experienced legal challenges related to the people or issues affected by our work	441
Faced backlash or opposition to our organization's mission	442
Faced pressure to meaningfully reframe how we publicly describe our work	440
Faced concerns about our staff's or board's well-being and safety	441
Experienced increased demand for our services	441
Had to reduce the services we provide	441
Had to reduce our staffing	439
Custom Questions	
Please select the top three items you see as best describing the Foundation's current role, besides providing funding, in the region.	444
If you responded to an RFP, please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the RFP document and webinar	
The RFP overall was easy to understand	318
The criteria used to review proposals, as included in the RFP, were easy to understand	314
The amount of time we had to respond to the RFP was sufficient	317
I learned about the webinar with enough time to plan to attend	298
The webinar addressed my needs	286
I felt comfortable asking questions in the webinar	271
There was sufficient time for questions in the webinar	261
Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's application process	
When considering whether to apply, it was easy to assess the potential fit between my work and the Foundation's funding priorities	415
The instructions and questions asked in the application were clear	405
The application questions allowed me to explain my project	405
I felt comfortable reaching out to program staff during the application process	395
I could easily access program staff during the application process	376
Support offered by program staff during the application process was helpful	361

Question Text	Number of Responses
After going through the application process, it will be easier to develop future applications	395
If you received a site visit as part of the application process , please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements:	
Foundation staff clearly communicated the purpose and goals of the site visit	223
Preparing for the site visits consumed an appropriate amount of time given the grant amount	223
The site visit allowed my organization to effectively explain our work and impact	224
It's important that the Foundation includes site visits as part of its application process	223
Creating a portal account or accessing one previously created was easy	383
Entering our responses to the application questions in the portal was straightforward	390
I could easily save our progress and return to my application later	380
It was easy to collaborate with colleagues to respond to the questions in the online portal	304
Submitting our completed application was simple	387
I was able to easily access WPF administration staff for portal support	265
The support offered by WPF administration staff regarding the portal was helpful	266
Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's Learning Communities that bring together grantees working to advance the same objective	
I have learned about other organizations doing work that is related to mine	241
I have made professional connections that will be useful to my work or organization	235
I have communicated with people (Learning Community attendees or people I learned about in the meetings) outside of Learning Community meetings	213
I look forward to participating in meetings of my Learning Community in the future	249
I believe that my Learning Community can help the Foundation shape some of its grantmaking in the future	233

Applicant Survey

Question Text	Number of Responses
Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your local community?	131
Overall, how would you rate the Foundation's impact on your field?	127
How well does the Foundation understand your organization's strategy and goals?	122
How aware is the Foundation of the challenges that your organization is facing?	143
How well does the Foundation understand the social, cultural, or socioeconomic factors that affect your work?	143
How well does the Foundation understand the field in which you work?	125
Would the efforts of your grant proposal primarily have been directed to benefit historically disadvantaged groups?	145
Specifically, would any of the following populations have been the primary intended people and/or communities served by the efforts funded by this grant?	123
To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation has clearly communicated what diversity, equity, and inclusion means for its work?	134
To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Foundation demonstrates an explicit commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in its work?	134
Overall, how responsive was Foundation staff?	144
Overall, how fairly did the Foundation treat you?	144
How accessible do you believe the Foundation is to applicants?	145
How clearly has the Foundation communicated its goals and strategy to you?	145
How consistent was the information provided by different communications resources, both personal and written, that you used to learn about the Foundation?	138
Overall, how transparent is the Foundation with your organization?	144
Did you have contact with a Foundation staff member via phone, email, or in-person/video before you applied?	138
To what extent was the Foundation's selection process a helpful opportunity to strengthen the efforts that would have been funded by the grant?	123
To what extent was the Foundation's selection process an appropriate level of effort given the amount of funding requested?	119
To what extent was the foundation clear and transparent about the selection process requirements and timelines?	145
To what extent was the foundation clear and transparent about the criteria the foundation uses to decide whether a proposal would be funded or declined?	139
As you developed your grant proposal, how much pressure did you feel to modify your organization's priorities in order to create a grant proposal that was likely to receive funding?	146
What factors encouraged your decision to apply to the Foundation for funding?	146
Please choose the option that most resembles the reason the Foundation gave when it declined to fund your proposal.	145
How would you rate the honesty of the reason(s) the Foundation gave for declining to fund your funding application?	136
Would you consider applying for funding from the Foundation in the future?	146
Was this your organization's first funding application to the Foundation?	145
Has your organization ever received funding from the Foundation?	145
After your request was declined did you request any feedback or advice from the Foundation?	143
After your request was declined did you receive any feedback or advice from the Foundation?	142
Please rate the feedback and advice you received in terms of:	
Its helpfulness in strengthening future proposals to this funder	81
Its helpfulness in strengthening future proposals to other funders	80
Did the Foundation provide guidance about whether you should consider applying for funding from the Foundation again?	146
How much time elapsed from initial submission of your grant proposal to the final decision not to fund your proposal?	141
What was the dollar amount of your grant request to the Foundation?	118
Was the grant proposal you submitted restricted to a specific use?	146
What is the approximate annual operating budget of your organization?	141
Does your organization usually receive any of the following types of U.S. government funding?	143
Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from federal funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?	63
Approximately what proportion of your organization's revenue was derived from state or local funding in your most recently completed fiscal year?	110
As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?	
Reduced funding from U.S. federal government	136
Reduced funding from U.S. state or local government	137
Reduced funding from our private funders or donors	139

Question Text	Number of Responses
Approximately what proportion of your annual operating budget has your organization lost in 2025 as a result of U.S. federal funding cuts - through cancelled contracts, reduced awards, or other funding reductions?	54
As a result of changes in the political or policy environment in 2025, has your organization experienced any of the following?	
Experienced concerns about the well-being and safety of those that our organization is seeking to help	142
Experienced legal challenges related to the people or issues affected by our work	142
Faced backlash or opposition to our organization's mission	143
Faced pressure to meaningfully reframe how we publicly describe our work	143
Faced concerns about our staff's or board's well-being and safety	143
Experienced increased demand for our services	143
Had to reduce the services we provide	143
Had to reduce our staffing	141
Custom Questions	
Please select the top three items you see as best describing the Foundation's current role, besides providing funding, in the region.	142
If you responded to an RFP, please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the RFP document and webinar	
The RFP overall was easy to understand	140
The criteria used to review proposals, as included in the RFP, were easy to understand	138
The amount of time we had to respond to the RFP was sufficient	139
I learned about the webinar with enough time to plan to attend	134
The webinar addressed my needs	128
I felt comfortable asking questions in the webinar	118
There was sufficient time for questions in the webinar	113
Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding the Foundation's application process	
When considering whether to apply, it was easy to assess the potential fit between my work and the Foundation's funding priorities	144
The instructions and questions asked in the application were clear	145
The application questions allowed me to explain my project	144
I felt comfortable reaching out to program staff during the application process	128
I could easily access program staff during the application process	104
Support offered by program staff during the application process was helpful	93
After going through the application process, it will be easier to develop future applications	134
If you received a site visit as part of the application process , please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements	
Foundation staff clearly communicated the purpose and goals of the site visit	28
Preparing for the site visits consumed an appropriate amount of time given the grant amount	24
The site visit allowed my organization to effectively explain our work and impact	22
It's important that the Foundation includes site visits as part of its application process	36
Please rate how strongly you agree with the following statements regarding using WPF's online grant application portal	
Creating a portal account or accessing one previously created was easy	139
Entering our responses to the application questions in the portal was straightforward	140
I could easily save our progress and return to my application later	136
It was easy to collaborate with colleagues to respond to the questions in the online portal	89
Submitting our completed application was simple	139
I was able to easily access WPF administration staff for portal support	64
The support offered by WPF administration staff regarding the portal was helpful	65

About CEP and Contact Information

The Center for Effective Philanthropy's mission is to provide data, feedback, programs, and insights to help individual and institutional donors improve their effectiveness. We do this work because we believe effective donors, working collaboratively and thoughtfully, can profoundly contribute to creating a better and more just world.

CEP pursues this mission through several core activities:

Assessment and Advisory Services: Our [assessments](#) provide actionable insights on funders' work with and influence on key stakeholders through comparative benchmarking. Our assessments include the Grantee and Declined Applicant Perception Reports (GPR/APR), Donor Perception Report (DPR) for community foundations, and Staff Perception Report (SPR) for foundation staff. Our customized [advisory projects](#) offer data-driven services to help funders answer pressing questions about their work.

CEP Learning Institute: The [CEP Learning Institute](#) draws on CEP's rigorous research and decades of experience advising foundations to offer learning cohorts, trainings, and custom workshops - on topics including trust-based practices, building strong relationships, and more - for individuals and groups looking to improve philanthropic practice.

Programming and External Relations: CEP works to promote philanthropic effectiveness through resources such as our [website](#), [blog](#), [podcast](#), [newsletter](#), speaking engagements, social media, free webinars, and biennial national conferences.

Research: CEP's research provides data-based insights about effective foundation practices and trends in the philanthropic sector. All of CEP's research reports can be downloaded for free at our online [resource library](#).

YouthTruth: The [YouthTruth](#) initiative partners with schools, districts, states, educational organizations, and education funders to enhance learning for all young people through validated survey instruments for students, families, and staff, as well as tailored advisory services.

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