

# 2025

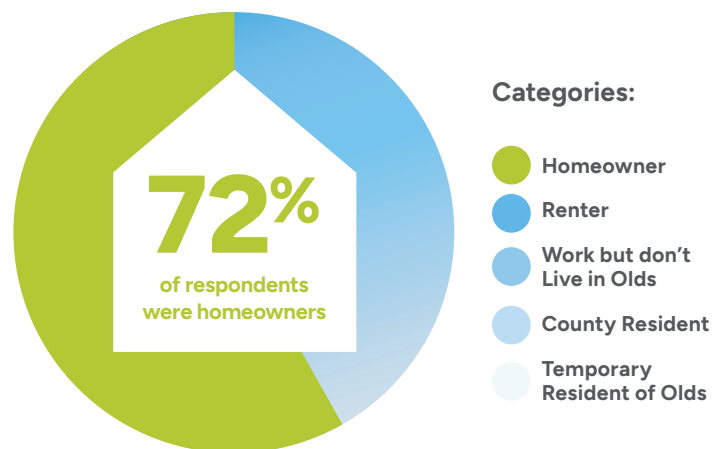
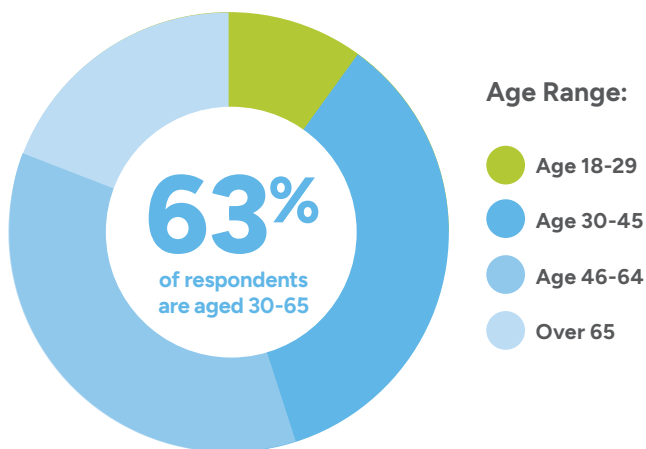
## Town of Olds Budget Survey Results: Community Priorities

Each year, we reach out to our community for feedback on the town's budget. This survey helps us make decisions, prioritize resources and improve life in Olds for residents.

From May 27 to July 5, 2024, 379 members of the Olds community participated in our budget survey. Here's what you told us about your priorities for the future of our town.



### Who Responded?



### What We Heard:



#### ***"More Taxes But Fewer Services!"***

Many residents and business owners feel they are paying higher taxes while receiving fewer services. More work needs to be done around communicating how property taxes are spent and to explain the demands placed on the Town through inflation and provincial funding reductions.

**2/3** of respondents felt that they are being adequately informed on local government decisions and activities.

The top 3 sources for information are Social Media, Website, and the Town's eNewsletter.



#### ***"We Need Better Roads!"***

Infrastructure emerged as the clear number one priority. Many residents want to see more effective repairs and better road conditions. Parks and Recreation was second.

***"Our roads are full of potholes that never seem to get fixed properly. It's frustrating and dangerous. We need to prioritize this."***



### **"Keep Our Green Spaces Beautiful!"**

**76%** of respondents chose green spaces like trails, playgrounds, and parks as top priorities. Residents value these areas for recreation and relaxation.

*"Green spaces are essential for our community's well-being. We need to keep investing in our parks and trails to make them enjoyable for everyone."*



### **"Support Local Businesses and Revitalize Uptowne!"**

Business retention and Uptowne revitalization were highlighted as crucial for economic growth. **64%** of respondents emphasized the importance of supporting local businesses and revitalizing Uptowne Olds.

*"A vibrant Uptowne is key to attracting visitors and boosting the local economy. We need to invest in our business district."*



### **"More Visible Policing!"**

Public safety is a key concern for many, with calls for more visible policing and effective bylaw enforcement.

**86%** of respondents chose Property Crime as the top concern for policing, followed by Drug Enforcement.

**58%** would like Municipal Officers to focus on Unsightly Properties then Traffic and Speed.



### **"Affordable Housing is a Must!"**

Housing is a significant issue, with **82%** calling for more affordable rental options. Majority of respondents prioritized affordable housing options, wanting the Town to reduce red-tape and offer more incentives.

*"We need more affordable rentals. It's hard for young families and singles to find a place to live in Olds."*



### **"More Support for Children & Youth!"**

**68%** of users felt that more programming is needed for youth and children.



### **"Keep Solid Waste Changes!"**

Positive feedback on the recent changes to solid waste with **63%** of respondents indicating they are satisfied with the current service level.

## **Looking Forward: Working Together for a Better Olds**

Thank you to all who participated in the survey. Your feedback helps us understand community priorities and guide our decisions. Together, we can make Olds an even better place to live, work, and play.



**Results showed Online Surveys were the preferred way for residents of Olds to share their opinions.**

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