

From Advocacy to Impact: Advancing Economic Well-Being Together

Stakeholder Briefing | May 13, 2026



ACT *for* **ALEXANDRIA**

A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Agenda

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Welcome & Introductions

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What is Economic Well-Being?

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**How ACT Advocates for
Economic Well-Being**

4

Our City: Data & Context

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Fireside Chat

6

Your Questions

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How You Can Help

Building Community on Zoom

Please Do

- Introduce yourself
- Share your experiences
- Bring curiosity and ask questions in the chat
- Plug into the conversation: react to comments and participate in polls
- Keep your video on and mic on mute



Please Avoid

- Solicitation
- Partisan commentary

Our Featured Speakers

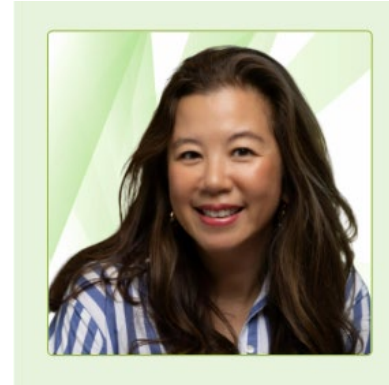


Katherine Clardy Key

Performance Analyst
City of Alexandria's Office of
Analytics, Innovation, & Data

As an urban planning professional, Katherine works to advance data-driven urban policy and programs that create just, safe, and prosperous cities for all.

The Office of Analytics, Innovation, & Data is an internal support department that collaborates across the City to transform data and information into insightful policy, impactful investment, and effective services for all Alexandrians.



Brandi Yee

Chief Program Officer
ACT for Alexandria

In her role, Brandi oversees ACT's community investment grantmaking and leadership initiatives that enable ACT to proactively and effectively address specific community needs and challenges over the long term.

Brandi is passionate about strengthening the nonprofit sector, advising donors on trust-based philanthropic giving and engaging community members in creating a vibrant place for all Alexandrians.

 Pulse Check

What does economic well-being mean to you?

Please select one (1):

- Ability to meet basic needs without constant worry
- Stable housing and long-term financial security
- Access to good jobs and fair opportunity
- Living in a community where everyone has the chance to thrive
- Other (respond in the chat)



What is Economic Well-Being?

Economic Well-Being

means having enough to *meet basic needs, build stability, and create opportunities* for the future.

It is more than surviving, it is about *Alexandrians thriving* and experiencing economic success, a sense of *dignity and belonging*, and *power and autonomy* as they build the lives and futures they want for themselves and their families in the community they call home.



How ACT advances Economic Well-Being



Strengthening the Nonprofit Ecosystem *through collaboration, fundraising, and grantmaking*

- Alexandria Community Support Initiative
- Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations
- Grants supporting nonprofits' mission and operations
- Spring2ACTion, Alexandria's Giving Day

Empowering Economic Mobility *through advocacy and community convening*

- **Advocacy & Economic Mobility Agenda**
- Eviction Diversion Pilot
- Youth Employment and Career & Technical Education (CTE) Initiative



Speaking up for Nonprofits and Alexandrians

Thriving Together

ACT's Economic Mobility Agenda, *shaped by community and nonprofit voices*, advocates for bold, sustained commitments to stabilize families, expand pathways to economic well-being, and strengthen nonprofits.

Read the full agenda [here](#).



Advocacy Wins



Local Wins

FY27 City Budget

secured funding for nonprofits serving residents

- **\$550K in new on-going funding** for survival services outside of Alexandria's Fund for Human Services (AFHS)
- **Maintain \$1.9M** for AFHS
- Rental assistance increased to **\$550K**



State Wins

General Assembly

strengthened tenant protections for housing stability

- Establishes a permanent **Eviction Reduction Program**
- Expands eligibility for the **Eviction Diversion Program**
- Extends waiting period from 5 to **14 days** before a landlord can end a rental agreement after a missed payment

ACT's Community Programming

Advocacy

our foundation for amplifying community voice

Eviction Diversion Pilot

- Organize conversations with local judges, government staff, and nonprofits
- Provide funding for courthouse navigator
- Including community voice in program design



Youth Employment and Career & Technical Education Initiative

- Convene leaders from city government, schools, nonprofits, funders, employers and higher education institutions
- Advocate for employer liaison and increasing work-based learning opportunities for students

Read the report [here](#).

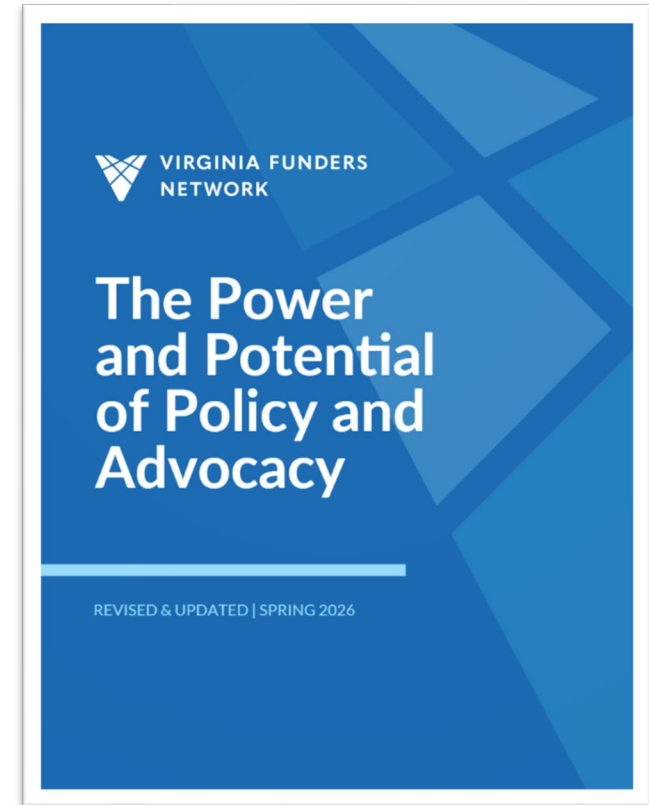
ACT's Partnership with Nonprofits

ACT works alongside nonprofits, donors, and philanthropic partners to build a stronger, more connected ecosystem.

Partnered with Voices for Virginia's Children and regional funders to deliver Nonprofit Advocacy Workshops

Hosting another capacity building series this summer focused on advocacy as a year-round practice

Featured in Virginia Funders Network's Spring 2026 *Power and Potential of Policy and Advocacy* as a model for community-centered advocacy



Read the report [here](#).



Department of
Analytics, Innovation & Data

The Economic Wellbeing of Alexandria Households

ACT for Alexandria Stakeholder Briefing

May 13, 2026



Upward Mobility Framework

The Urban Institute's [Upward Mobility Framework](#) includes three-part definition of upward mobility.

Dignity &
Belonging

Economic
Success

Power &
Autonomy



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Racial equity is necessary for all people and communities to prosper, especially those who have been excluded by structural inequities.

Dignity &
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Upward Mobility Framework

Racial equity is necessary for all people and communities to prosper, especially those who have been excluded by structural inequities.

Dignity &
Belonging

Rewarding
Work

Economic
Success

High-Quality
Education

Opportunity-
Rich &
Inclusive
Neighborhoods

Power &
Autonomy

Healthy
Environment
& Access to
Good Health
Care

Responsive
& Just
Governance



Three Indicators of Economic Wellbeing in Alexandria

- ▶ Access to Housing
- ▶ Access to Childcare
- ▶ Access to Employment Opportunities



Access to Housing: Affordability

▶ What is the average cost of market rate rental housing in the City of Alexandria?

Unit Type	2025 Average Utility-Adjusted Market-Rate Rents	Income Needed to Afford Average Utility Adjusted Rents
Studio	\$1,860	\$74,400
1 Bedroom	\$2,280	\$91,200
2 Bedroom	\$2,900	\$116,000
3 Bedroom	\$3,160	\$126,400
Average Unit	\$2,510	\$100,400

Sources: CoStar, City of Alexandria, July 2025



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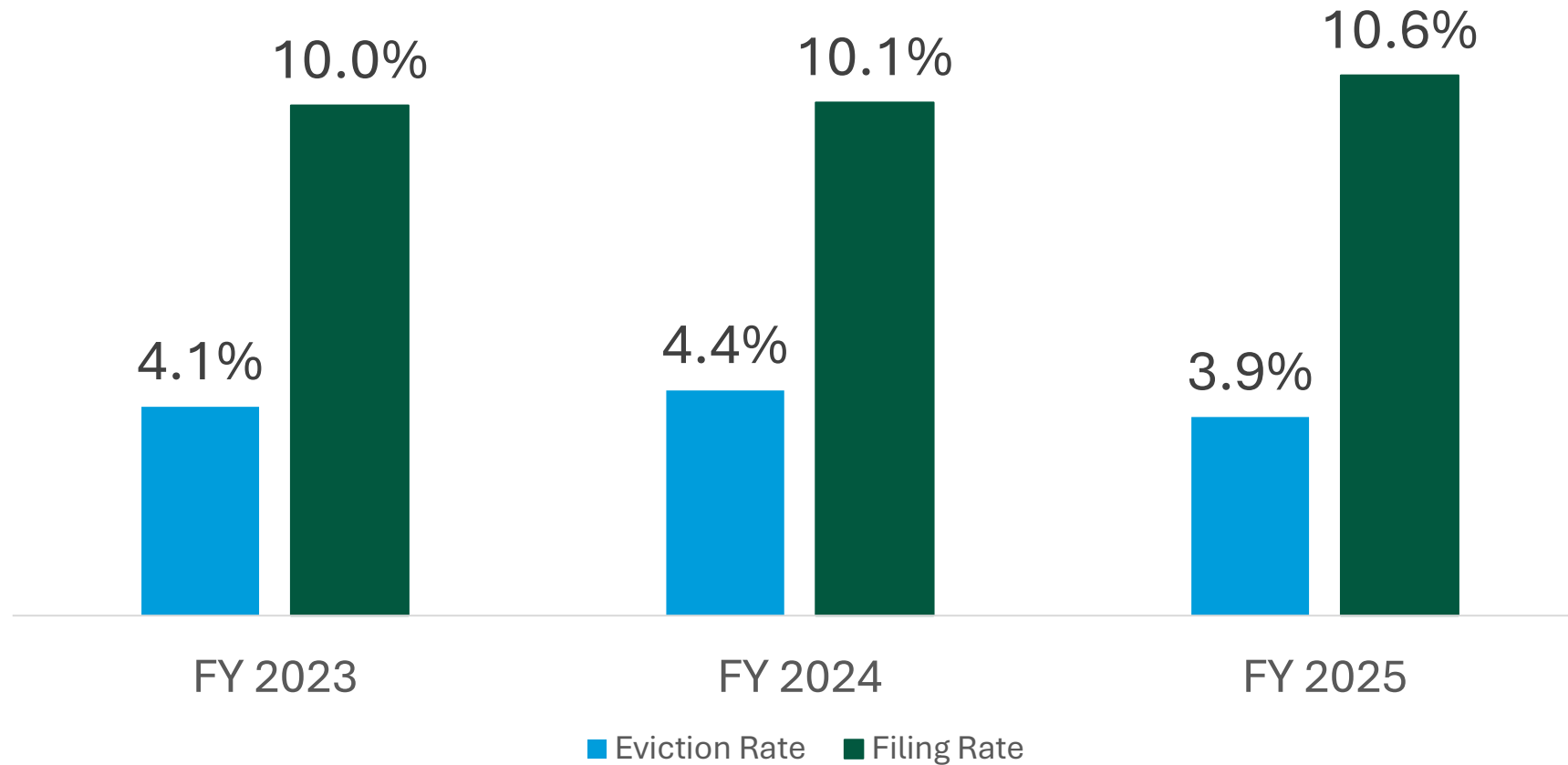
Alexandria's Median Household Income is \$119,681

Sources: CoStar, City of Alexandria, July 2025



Access to Housing: Stability

Eviction Rates in Alexandria



Source: [General District Court Online Case Information System](#)



Access to Childcare

▶ The cost of childcare as a percentage of median family income in Alexandria is among the highest rates in Virginia and the DMV.

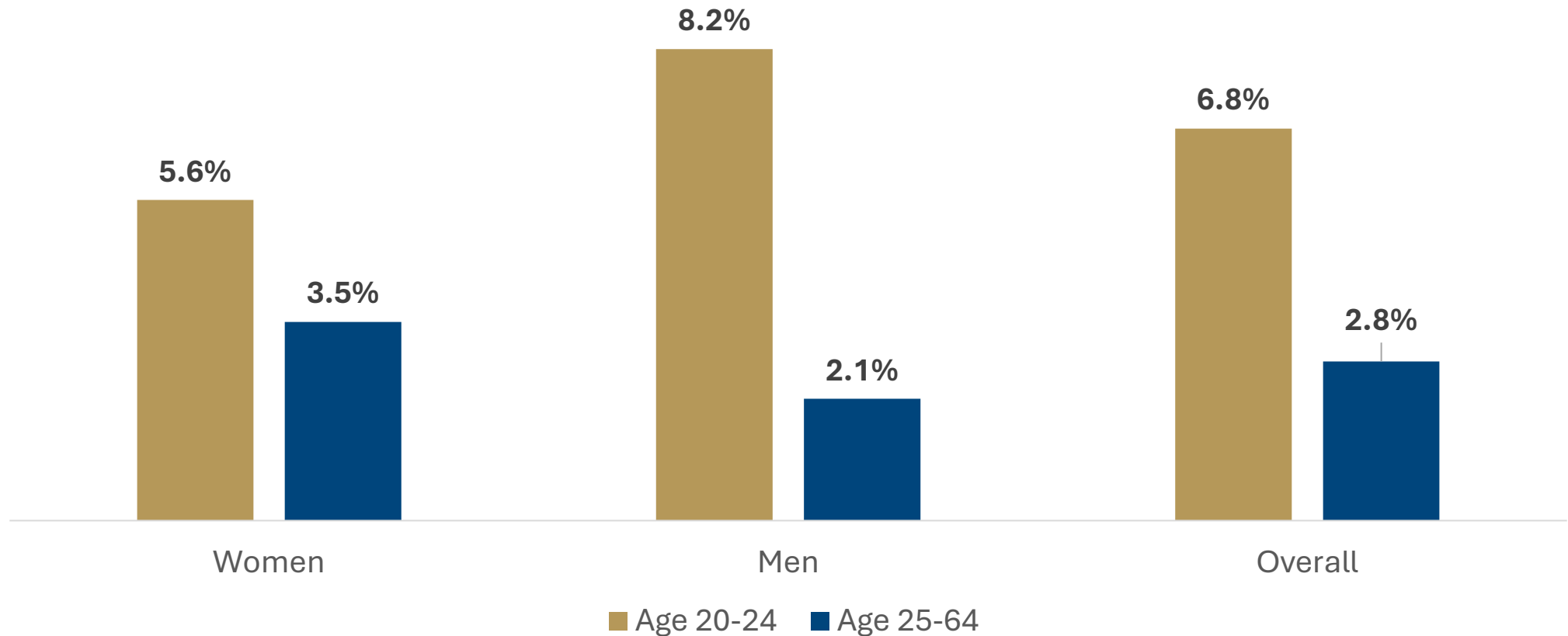
Care Setting	Median Yearly Price	% of Median Family Income
Infant Center-Based	\$25,401	17.4%
Infant Home-Based	\$15,914	10.9%
Toddler Center-Based	\$20,504	14.0%
Toddler Home-Based	\$13,772	9.4%

Source: National Database of Childcare Prices 2016-2018, Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor



Access to Workforce Opportunities

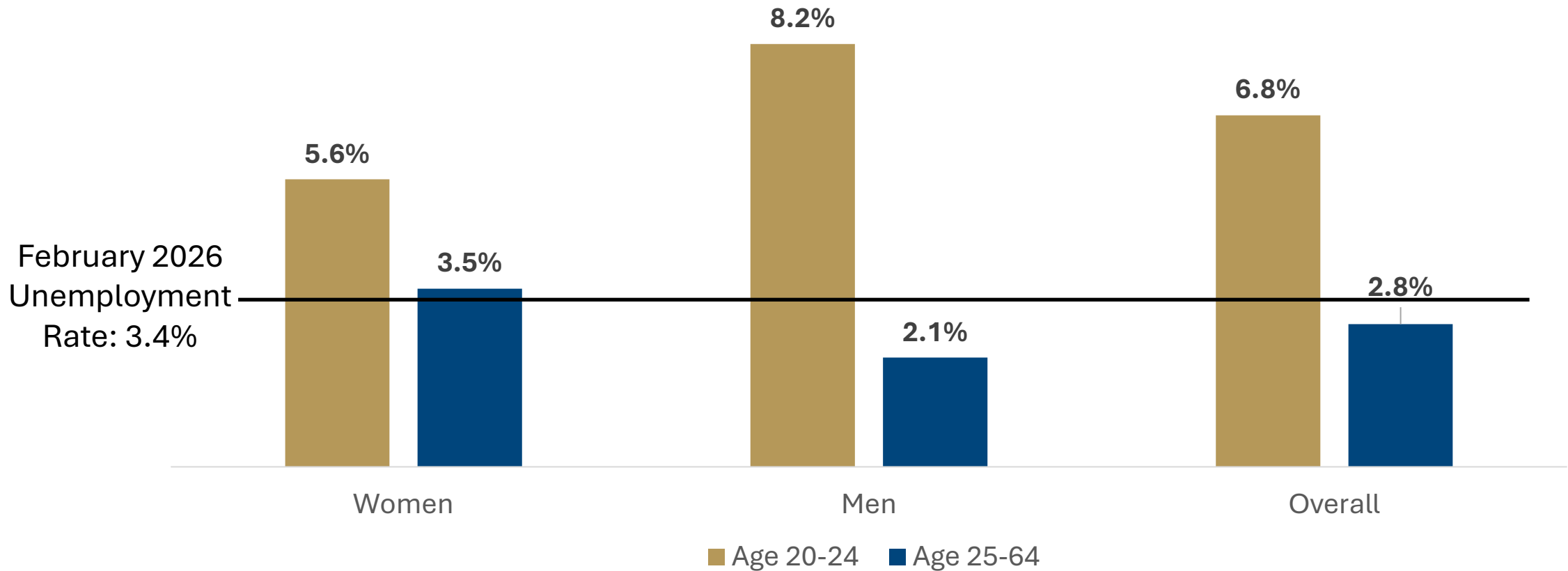
Estimated Unemployment Rate by Age





Access to Workforce Opportunities

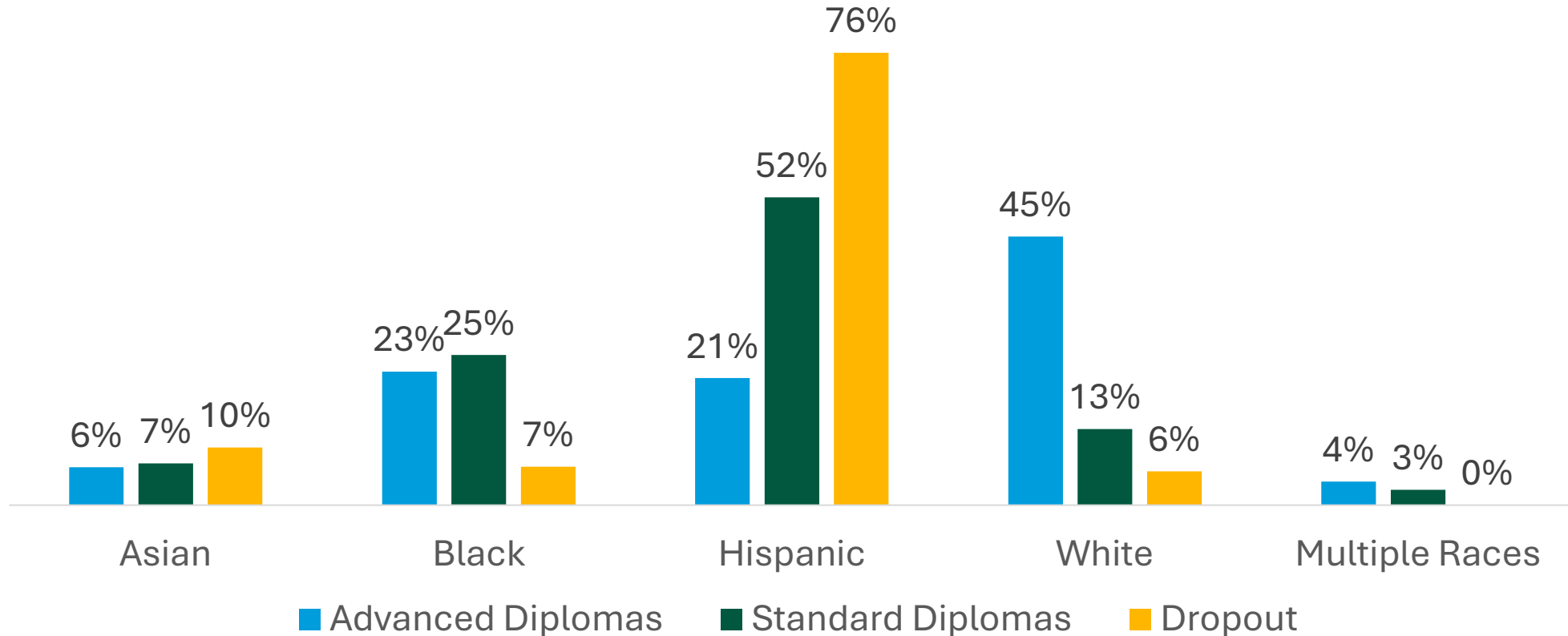
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Access to Workforce Opportunities

Diplomas and Completions Status
of 2024-2025 ACPS Cohort



Source: [Virginia Department of Education School Quality Profiles](#)

 **Pulse Check**

What role should ACT play in advancing economic well-being?

Please select one (1):

- Advocacy
- Capacity building/grantmaking
- Convening
- Storytelling
- Other (respond in the chat)



How to Get Involved

Dig Deeper

Explore the data and resources

- [Nickel and Dimed](#)
- [Evicted](#)
- [Opportunity Insights](#)
- [Voices for Virginia's Children](#)

Use Your Voice

Join ACT as an advocate by reaching out to your elected representatives and express support for policies that promote economic well-being.

Invest in Solutions

Support ACT's work at the systems level and help us drive lasting change.

Partner with Nonprofits

Volunteer, serve on a board, and show up for the organizations doing the work.



Thank You!

As this conversation sparks thoughts, ideas, or questions, we'd love to hear from you:

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