

ARID Institute

Anne Kinsinger

Director

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Review of Category 3 Research Centers/Institutes | May 15, 2026

Mission

ARID enhances the resilience of communities, ecosystems, and the economy to climate change through inclusive and equitable research, education and collaborative partnerships in New Mexico and drylands worldwide.

FY 2024-2025 Goals and Status

Goal 1. Contribute to climate resilience in New Mexico through applied research that addresses community, industry, and management needs.

- 6 active research projects
- Strong partnerships with government agencies, Tribes, community groups, and businesses
- \$25,000 in direct student research grants

Goal 2. Grow a climate-ready workforce for New Mexico by inclusively and equitably training and educating a diverse next generation that aligns with industry, management, and community needs.

- Developing partnerships on workforce development
- Focus on student training and skills building aligned with employer needs
- Resilience career panels every semester, resulting in 2 students placed in internships
- Student research grants include requirement to work with external partners

FY 2024-2025 Goals and Status

Goal 3. Support students and faculty in pursuing transdisciplinary research and studies.

- Building interdisciplinary thematic teams to develop project ideas
- Addressing institutional barriers
- Student research grants required to be transdisciplinary

Goal 4. Increased funding success and support for large regional grants related to climate resilience.

- \$30M in grant and contract funding
- Pre-planning for future NOFOs

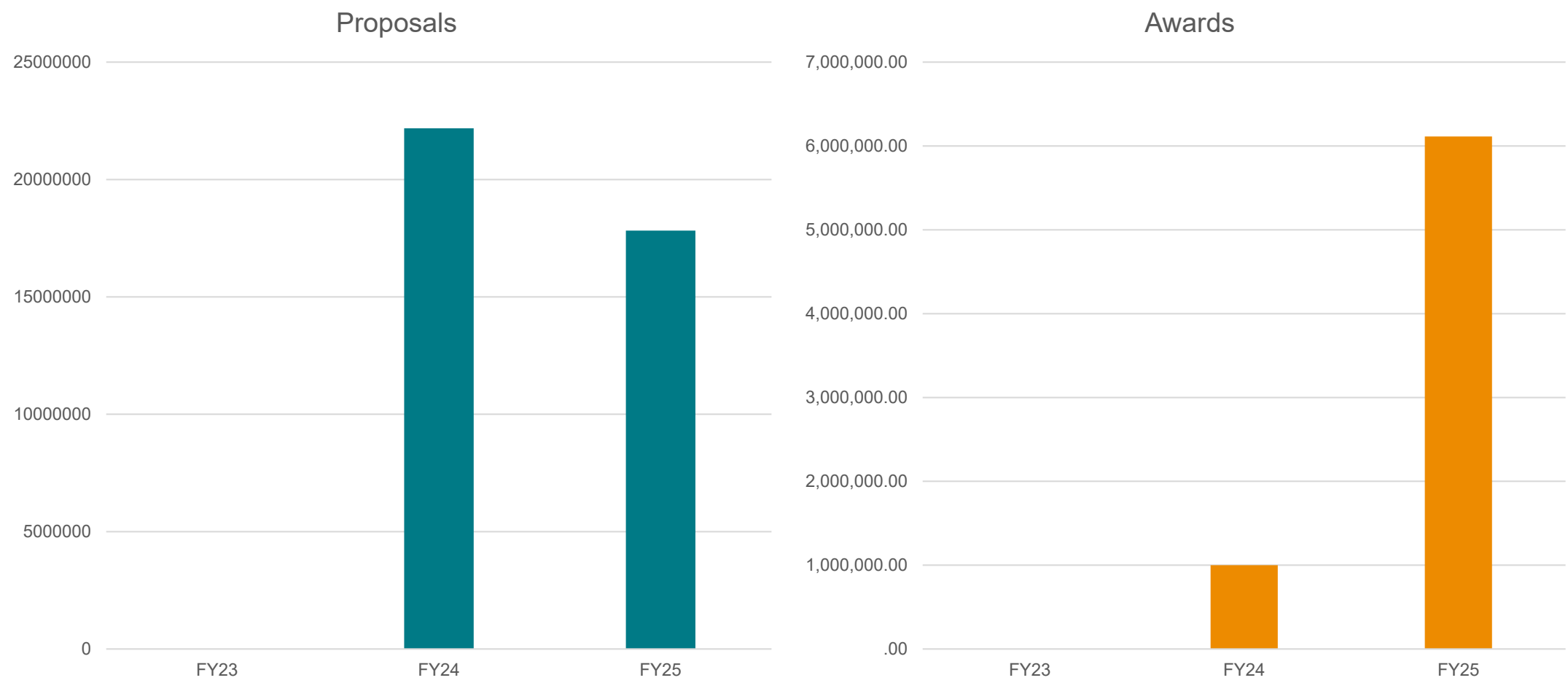
Membership of Advisory Committee

- Membership List
 - Anne Kinsinger, Marcy Litvak, Jenn Rudgers, Becky Bixby, Jose Cerrato, Jessica Rowland, Kim Eichhorst, Sang Han, Andreas Hernandez, Sang Han, Heather Himmelberger, Debbie Lee, Sebastian Medina, Mindy Morgan, Anjali Mulchandani, Claudia Pratesi, Mike Rocca, Heidi Rogers, Andy Schuler, Sam Truett, Tom Turner, Jingjing Wang, Alex Webster
- March 21, 2024 retreat/review.
- No FY2025 annual review was held.

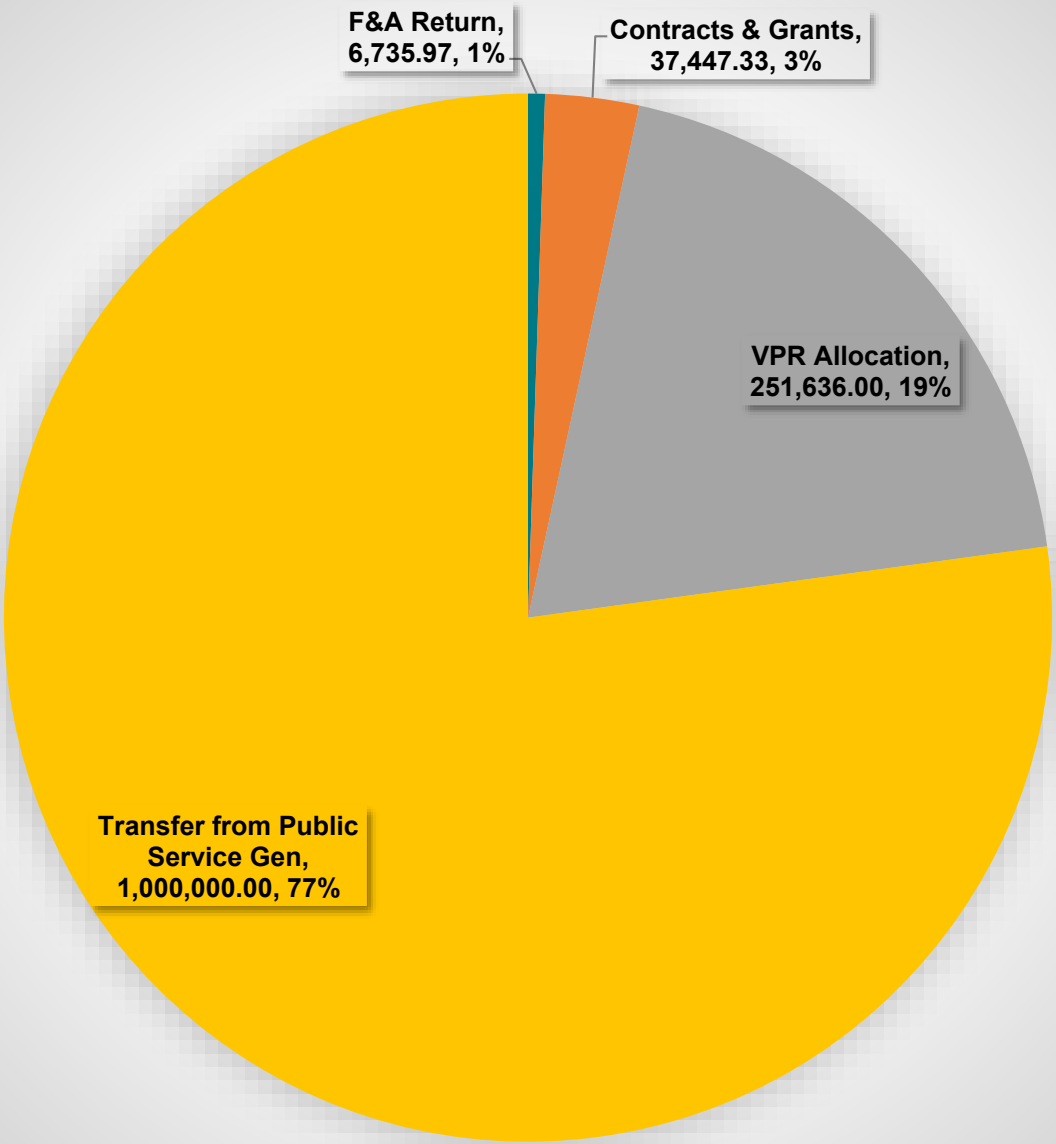
FY 2024-2025 Highlights

- Director search and hire (FY25)
- Awards:
 - UNM CHANGES (\$3.83M)
 - SEV-LTER renewal (\$7.65M)
 - FOR-NM (\$7M)
 - Rio Grande Futures Partnership (\$853K)
- Major events held:
 - Managers Workshop – November 2024
 - Future Scenario Planning for Drought and River Drying – October 2025

Proposals and Awards

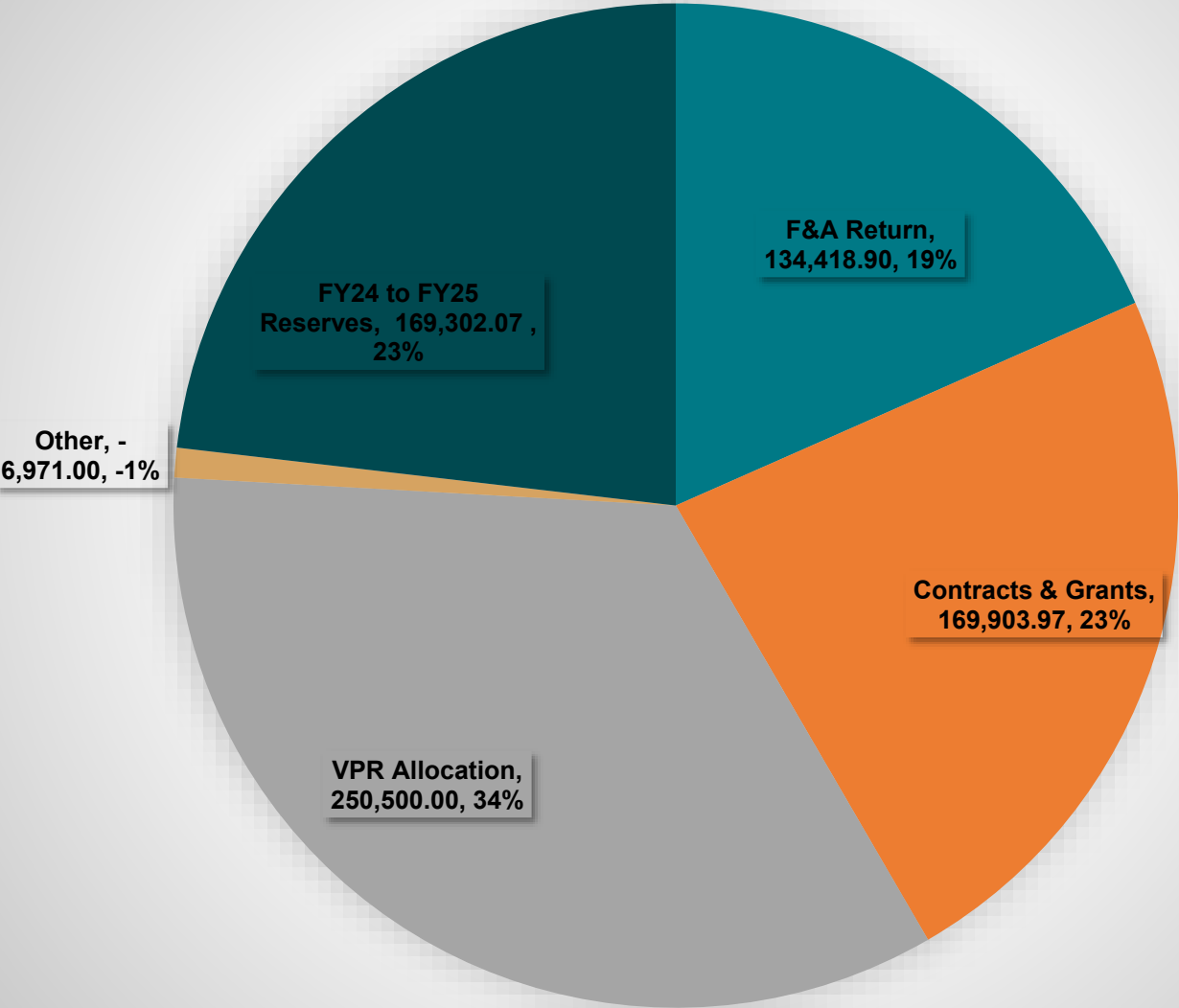


ARID Revenue Details FY24



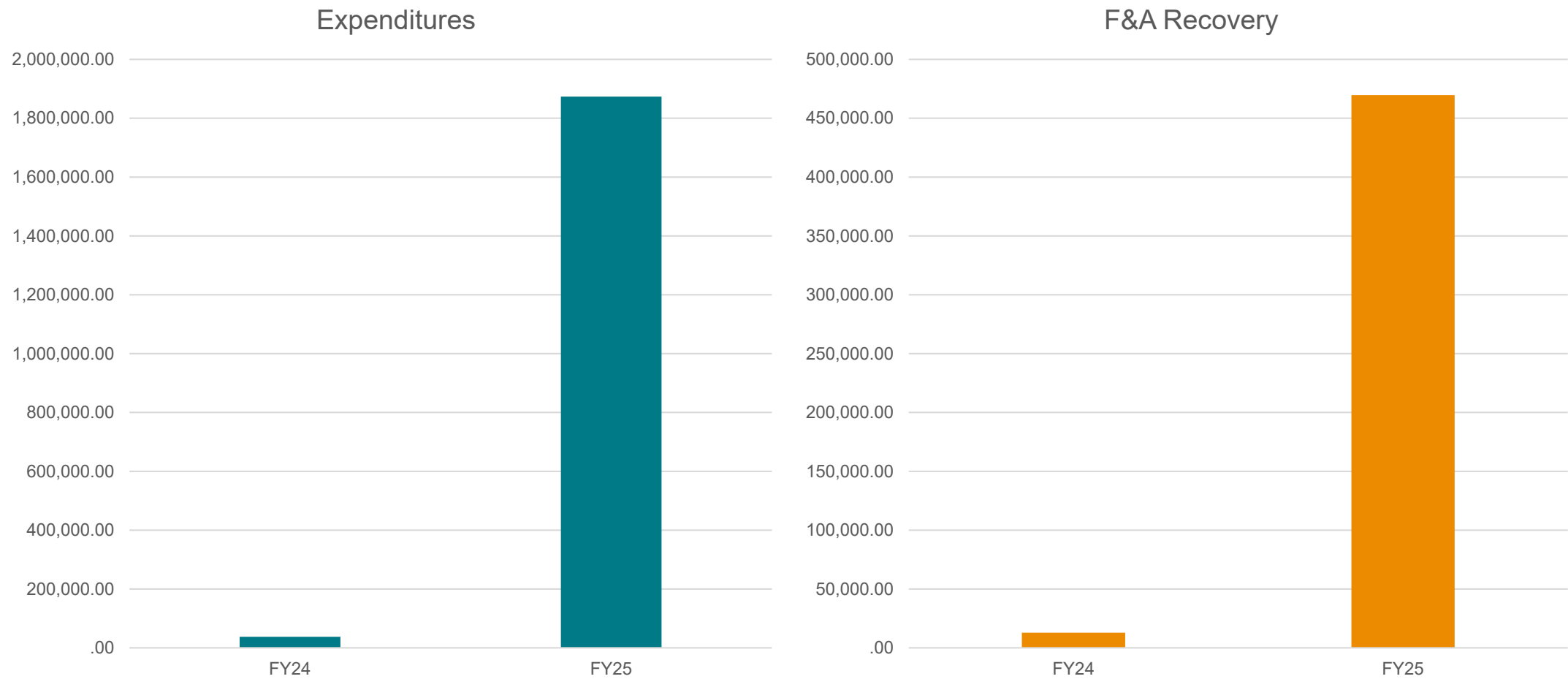
FY24 Sources of Revenue	
F&A Return	6,735.97
Contracts & Grants	37,447.33
VPR Allocation	251,636.00
Transfer from Public Service Gen	1,000,000.00
FY23 to FY24 Reserves	-
Total	1,295,819.30

ARID Revenue Details FY25

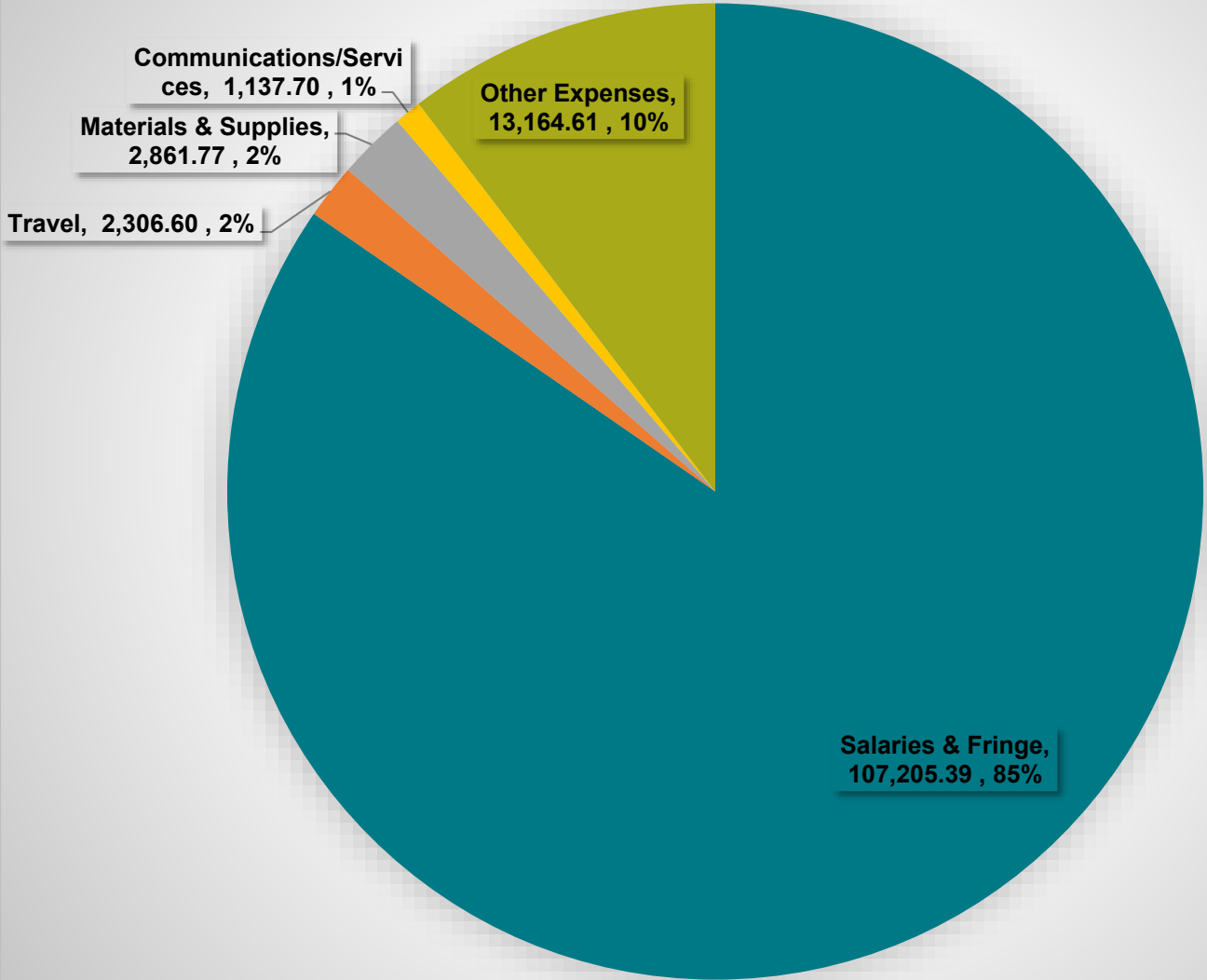


FY25 Sources of Revenue	
F&A Return	134,418.90
Contracts & Grants	169,903.97
VPR Allocation	250,500.00
Other	-6,971.00
FY24 to FY25 Reserves	169,302.07
Total	717,153.94

Research Expenditures and F&A

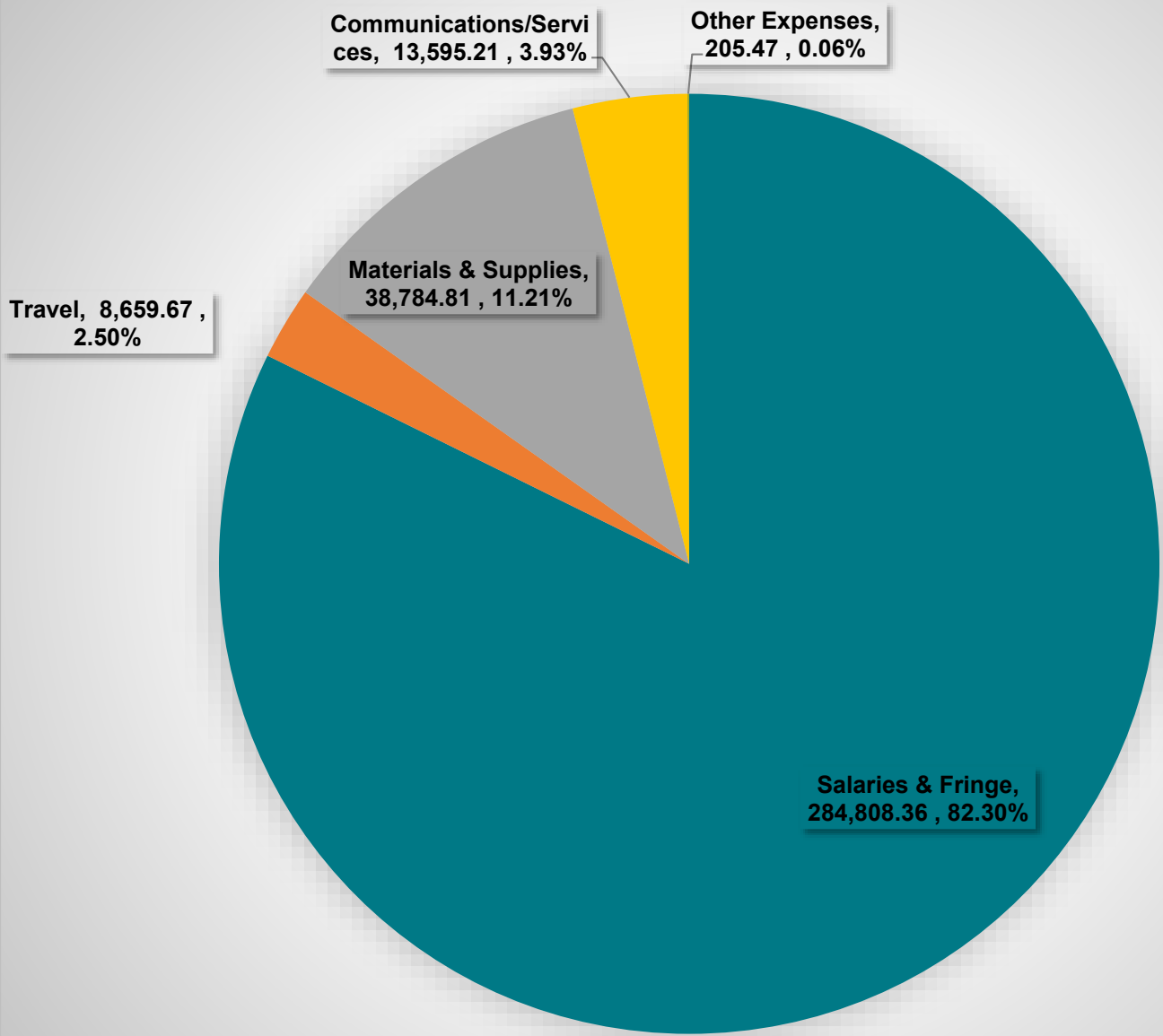


ARID Expenditure Details FY24



FY24 Expenditures:	
Salaries & Fringe	107,205.39
Travel	2,306.60
Materials & Supplies	2,861.77
Communications/Services	1,137.70
Plant/Maintenance	-
Other Expenses	13,164.61
Total	126,676.07

ARID Expenditure Details FY25



FY25 Expenditures:	
Salaries & Fringe	284,808.36
Travel	8,659.67
Materials & Supplies	38,784.81
Communications/Services	13,595.21
Plant/Maintenance	-
Other Expenses	205.47
Total	346,053.52

ARID Impacts

- Direct training for students on applied research through workshops, Resilience Solutions Incubators, and scholarship/fellowship opportunities
- Key partner on community engagement for EMNRD and City of Albuquerque climate action planning efforts
- Contributing to state climate goals and priorities through filling data gaps, providing adaptation strategies, and linking UNM research to broader impacts
- Creating non-traditional partnerships on- and off-campus to address resilience issues

Return on Investment

- 10 awards totaling ~\$30M since inception in 2023
- ~140 undergraduate students trained in resilience a year across the state
- Student research funding: ~35 undergraduate, 10 graduate, 2 PhD students/year
- 10 community-focused events a year
 - 1 major convening
 - 2 career panels
 - 4 science communication engagements
 - 2 outreach events
 - 1 training workshop
- 10 partner events co-sponsored a year

ARID has strong partnerships across the state and region, particularly in the areas of sustainable water and healthy ecosystems. These have been leveraged to some huge wins in funding and access to key partners. We already have a good reputation in NM, particularly in state agencies, and are actively being invited to participate in initiatives.

STRENGTHS

ARID has heard hesitation from PIs and departments to run proposals and projects through ARID, due to lack of clarity around F&A return, and policies that do not prioritize intra-departmental activities and collaboration.

WEAKNESSES

With the emphasis in NM on tech/IT innovation and development, there is an opportunity for ARID to participate in those conversations. We are building relationships with QNM-I and CARC, and are exploring ways to contribution to economic development efforts. We are also building partnerships with HSC units to engage on and contribute to environmental and community health conversations.

OPPORTUNITIES

Two of our largest projects are going to end in 2026 and 2027, which will impact the F&A return to ARID. We are also facing a lack of current capacity with our current ARID Leadership Team to pursue new grants.

THREATS

Looking Ahead to Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027

- Building relationships with foundations and private donors
- Strategically building teams on-campus around projects so there are “shovel ready” proposals ready to respond to NOFOs
- Engaging with the Sentinel Landscapes Program and Innovation Landscapes Program, and exploring feasibility of creating a new landscape in NM
- Increasing staff capacity within ARID to support students, and provide more pre- and post-award support
- Form an external advisory board

Summary

ARID was formed in July 2023, and we are actively in a growth and planning phase. ARID already have some early huge wins to build on and is working to strategically position itself to better address the state and region's priority issues, and supporting economic development, technology innovation, and workforce development needs.