

ALICE: A STUDY OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN WISCONSIN



2020 REPORT



34 percent of households in Wisconsin struggle to afford basic needs such as housing, child care, food, transportation, and health care.

ALICE is an acronym for **Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**.



What is ALICE?



United for ALICE is a collaboration of more than 648 United Ways in 21 states, including Wisconsin. ALICE research provides our state's most comprehensive look to-date at the portion of the population that earns above the federal poverty level, but still struggles to afford a basic household budget. The project provides a framework and language for stakeholders to reassess public and corporate policies and implement changes that improve lives.

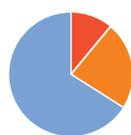
Who is ALICE?

ALICE is a way of defining our hard-working families, neighbors, and colleagues that cannot make ends meet. Those who are "ALICE" educate our children, keep us healthy, and make our quality of life possible. ALICE families are frequently forced to make tough choices, such as deciding between quality childcare or paying the rent, which creates long-term consequences for our communities.

Special thanks to the major funders and supporters of the United Way ALICE Report in Wisconsin:

- ▶ Thrivent
- ▶ U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation

Key takeaways from the Wisconsin ALICE research. In 2018:



■ Poverty = 11% ■ ALICE = 23% ■ Above ALICE Threshold = 66%

While the overall economic climate has improved since 2010, **more than one third (34%)** of Wisconsin's households still struggled to make ends meet.



Statewide, **70% of single-female-headed families with children** are below the ALICE Threshold.



59 percent of Wisconsin jobs pay less than \$20 an hour and a record number of workers (60%) were paid by the hour.



Due to factors such as job insecurity, disruption of child care services, and barriers to working virtually, **households below the ALICE Threshold face acute hardship as the pandemic's devastating economic effects unfold.**

Household Survival Budget, Fox Cities Average, 2018

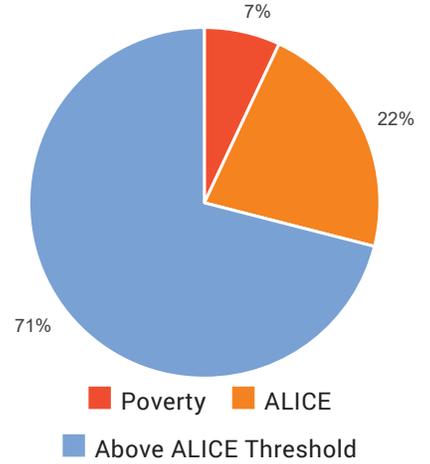
	Single Adult	Two Adults and Two Children in Child Care
Monthly Costs		
Housing	\$563	\$812
Child Care	\$-	\$1,442
Food	\$263	\$797
Transportation	\$326	\$795
Health Care	\$214	\$699
Technology	\$55	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$169	\$544
Taxes	\$265	\$823
Monthly Total	\$1,855	\$5,987
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$22,260	\$71,844
Hourly Wage*	\$11.13	\$35.92

*Full-time wage required to support this budget. Note: The miscellaneous category is equal to 10 percent of the total budget (including taxes) to cover cost overruns and other essentials (e.g. diapers).

ALICE IN CALUMET COUNTY

2018 Point-in-Time Data

Population: 49,807
Number of Households: 19,567
Median Household Income: \$72,530 (state average: \$60,773)
Unemployment Rate: 2.2% (state average: 3.2%)
ALICE Households: 22% (state average: 23%)
Households in Poverty: 7% (state average 11%)



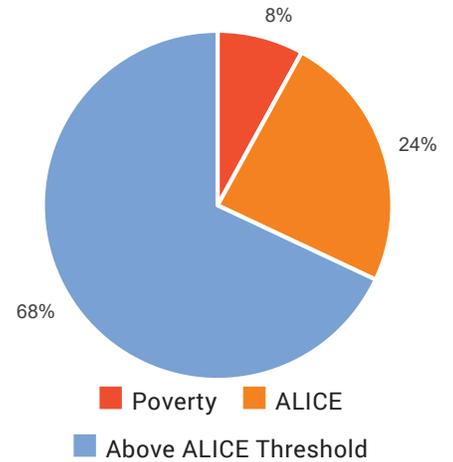
Household Survival Budget

Single Adult: \$22,056 (or \$11.03 hourly wage)
Two Adults, Two Children in Child Care: \$70,656 (or \$35.33 hourly wage)

ALICE IN OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

2018 Point-in-Time Data

Population: 187,365
Number of Households: 74,603
Median Household Income: \$64,759 (state average: \$60,773)
Unemployment Rate: 2.9% (state average: 3.2%)
ALICE Households: 24% (state average: 23%)
Households in Poverty: 8% (state average 11%)



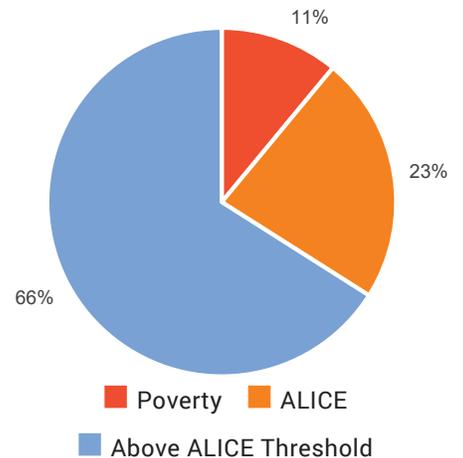
Household Survival Budget

Single Adult: \$22,584 (or \$11.29 hourly wage)
Two Adults, Two Children in Child Care: \$73,536 (or \$36.77 hourly wage)

ALICE IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY

2018 Point-in-Time Data

Population: 171,020
Number of Households: 71,332
Median Household Income: \$56,589 (state average: \$60,773)
Unemployment Rate: 3.8% (state average: 3.2%)
ALICE Households: 23% (state average: 23%)
Households in Poverty: 11% (state average 11%)



Household Survival Budget

Single Adult: \$22,116 (or \$11.06 hourly wage)
Two Adults, Two Children in Child Care: \$71,328 (or \$35.66 hourly wage)