

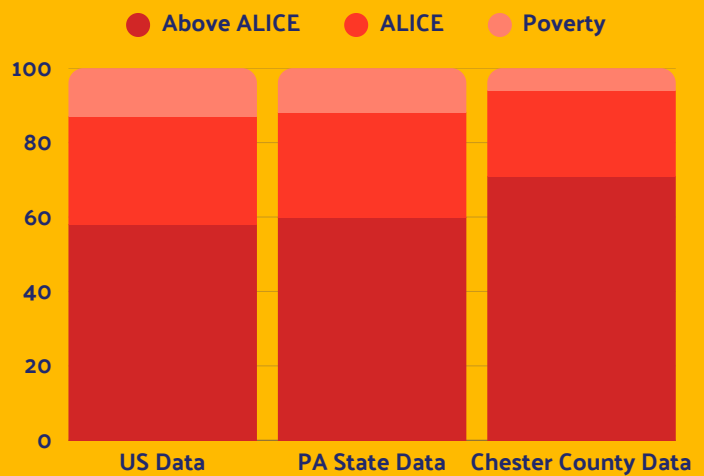
# ALL ABOUT A.L.I.C.E.

**Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**

## Meet ALICE

ALICE is an **acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**, and represents the growing number of families who are unable to afford the basics of housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and technology. These workers often struggle to keep their own households from financial ruin, while keeping our local communities running.

Percentage of Households in 2023



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2010–2023; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2023

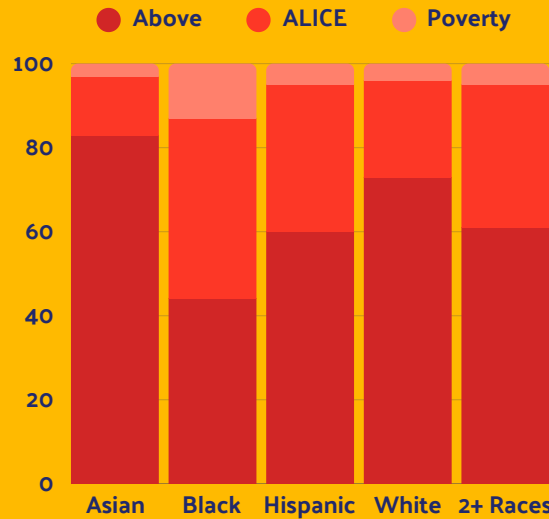
**29%** Households in Chester County fall below the ALICE Threshold



## Key Terms

- **ALICE:** Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – households with income above the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) but less than the basic cost of living in their county
- **ALICE Household Survival Budget:** Reflects the minimum costs of household necessities (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and technology) plus taxes, adjusted for all U.S. counties and various household compositions
- **ALICE Threshold:** Derived from the Household Survival Budget, the minimum average income that a household needs to afford basic costs, calculated for all U.S. counties
- **Below ALICE Threshold:** Includes households in poverty and ALICE households combined

ALICE in Chester County by Race in 2023



Household Survival Budget, Chester County, Pennsylvania 2023

Monthly Costs	Single Adult	One Adult, One Child	One Adult, One In Child Care	Two Adults	Two Adults Two Children	Two Adults, Two In Child Care	Single Adult 65+	Two Adults 65+
Housing	\$1,189	\$1,340	\$1,340	\$1,340	\$1,617	\$1,617	\$1,189	\$1,340
Child Care	\$0	\$441	\$1,177	\$0	\$883	\$2,581	\$0	\$0
Food	\$594	\$1,005	\$902	\$1,089	\$1,827	\$1,612	\$546	\$1,002
Transportation	\$397	\$520	\$520	\$616	\$944	\$944	\$332	\$488
Health Care	\$172	\$393	\$393	\$393	\$660	\$660	\$545	\$1,089
Technology	\$86	\$86	\$86	\$116	\$116	\$116	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$244	\$379	\$442	\$355	\$605	\$753	\$270	\$404
Taxes	\$452	\$495	\$653	\$579	\$765	\$1,135	\$518	\$852
Monthly Total	\$3,134	\$4,659	\$5,513	\$4,488	\$7,417	\$9,418	\$3,486	\$5,291
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$37,608	\$55,908	\$66,156	\$53,856	\$89,004	\$113,016	\$41,832	\$63,492
Hourly Wage	\$18.80	\$27.95	\$33.08	\$26.93	\$44.50	\$56.51	\$20.92	\$31.75

Workers' Median Hourly Wage in the 20 Most Common Occupations

Labor Characteristics, Most Common Occupations, Pennsylvania, 2023

Most Common Occupations	Total Employment (BLS)	Percent of Workers Below ALICE Threshold (ACS PUMS)	Median Hourly Wage (BLS)
Personal Care Aides	213,020	44%	\$13.94
Laborers and Movers, Hand	150,470	33%	\$18.84
Delivery Drivers/Sales Workers	148,580	27%	\$20.93
General and Operations Managers	145,770	9%	\$47.66
Registered Nurses	144,100	9%	\$39.80
Fast Food and Counter Workers	139,950	40%	\$13.36
Retail Salespersons	134,160	29%	\$14.51
Cashiers	126,400	42%	\$14.40
Office Clerks	122,170	23%	\$19.62
Customer Service Representatives	112,850	24%	\$20.00
Janitors and Building Cleaners	112,580	43%	\$16.93
Stockers and Order Fillers	104,930	34%	\$17.16
Cooks	87,580	42%	\$15.35
Waiters and Waitresses	81,500	36%	\$14.28
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	81,320	20%	\$20.20
Elementary and Middle School Teachers	79,880	10%	\$36.84
Orderlies and Psychiatric Aides	69,910	36%	\$19.65
Administrative Support Supervisors	67,840	17%	\$29.74
Nursing Assistants	65,220	44%	\$18.53
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	65,100	9%	\$41.97

Note: BLS = Bureau of Labor Statistics; ACS PUMS = American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample. This figure includes all workers with income from these occupations (full-time, part-time, and freelance). ALICE Threshold status is determined by comparing workers' total household income to the ALICE Household Survival Budget for their household composition and location.

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2023; Bureau of Labor Statistics—Occupational Employment Statistics, 2023; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, PUMS, 2023



In Pennsylvania this research is brought to you by United Way of Pennsylvania, representing 39 member United Ways. Learn more about how the ALICE data is being used to inform strategies and solutions across our partner states in the [ALICE in Action Database](#).