

Funding change. Pursuing equity.

WRF History

- Governor Rockefeller's Legacy
- Thriving and Prosperous Arkansas
- Theory of Change





Investing in an Arkansas where everyone can earn a livable wage, get a quality education, and build generational wealth.

Funding change. Pursuing equity.

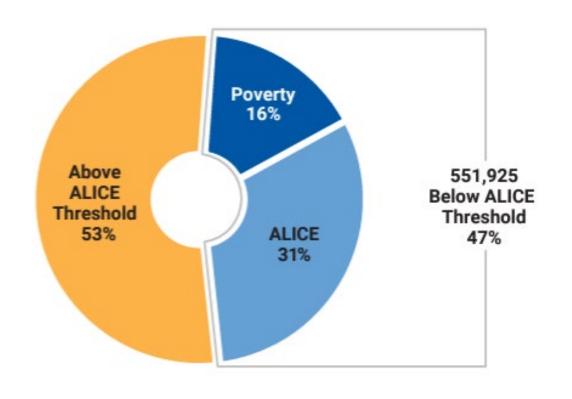
A.L.I.C.E

- ALICE households earn above the FPL, but not enough to afford the basics in the communities where they live.
- Despite being employed, these hardworking individuals struggle to afford basic necessities due to low wages, rising living costs, and unexpected expenses.



ALICE IN ARKANSAS?

 According to the FPL, 16% of households in Arkansas (189,831) were in poverty in 2021. Yet United For ALICE data shows that another 31% (362,094 households) — nearly twice as many — were ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed).





HOW COSTLY TO LIVE IN AR?

Figure 1. ALICE Household Survival Budget and Federal Poverty Level, Arkansas, 2021

	Federal Poverty Level Census income thresholds that vary by household size but not geography to determine who is in poverty	ALICE Household Survival Budget The cost of the essentials needed to live and work in the modern economy, by household type and location	
Family of Four			
Monthly Total	\$2,208	\$4,579	
Annual Total	\$26,500	\$54,948	
Percent Change, 2019-2021	3%	6%	
Single Adult			
Monthly Total	\$1,073	\$1,983	
Annual Total	\$12,880	\$23,796	
Percent Change, 2019-2021	3%	13%	

Note: Percent change is pre-tax.

Sources: ALICE Household Survival Budget, 2021; Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), HHS poverty guidelines for 2021, U.S. Department of Health and Human ServicesALICE in the COVID Economy: Arkansas Overview



HOW COSTLY TO LIVE IN AR?

	ALICE Household Survival Budget	Average Monthly Costs, Arkansas, 2021	
	Description, Update, and Sources	One Adult	Family of Four
Housing	Rent: Fair Market Rent (40 th percentile) for an efficiency, one-bedroom, or two-bedroom apartment (based on family size), adjusted in metro areas using the American Community Survey (ACS) — minus utilities Utilities: As captured by the Community Expenditure Survey (CEX) Update: Costs of rent and utilities are now shown separately. Sources: ACS metro housing costs and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (rent); CEX (utilities)	379 rent + \$154 utilities	\$427 rent + \$292 utilities
Child Care	Cost for registered Family Child Care Homes for infants (0–2 years), preschool-age (3–4), and school-age children (5–12) Source: Arkansas State University Childhood Services, 2019	\$-	\$761
Food	USDA Thrifty Food Plan by age with county variation from Feeding America Update: A change in legislation requires the USDA Thrifty Food Plans to reflect the cost for resource-constrained households to purchase a healthy, practical diet, starting in 2021, increasing costs from prior years. Sources: Feeding America; U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)	\$379	\$1,034
Transportation	Operating costs for a car (average daily miles by age, cost per mile, license, fees, and insurance), or public transportation where viable Update: The decline in public transportation use during the pandemic reduced. the average expenditure, yet the cost for workers who had to use it to commute remained the same. To reflect this, the budget uses 2019 average CEX spending. Sources: AAA, Federal Highway Administration, The Zebra (car); CEX (public transportation)	\$345	\$821
Health Care	Health insurance premiums based on employer-sponsored plans plus out-of-pocket costs for households with \$40,000-\$69,000 annual income by age, weighted with the poor-health multiplier. For the senior budget, cost of Medicare Part A and B, out-of-pocket costs, plus average out-of-pocket spending for the top five chronic diseases as reported by CMS. Sources: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS); CEX (health); Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS)	\$225	\$869



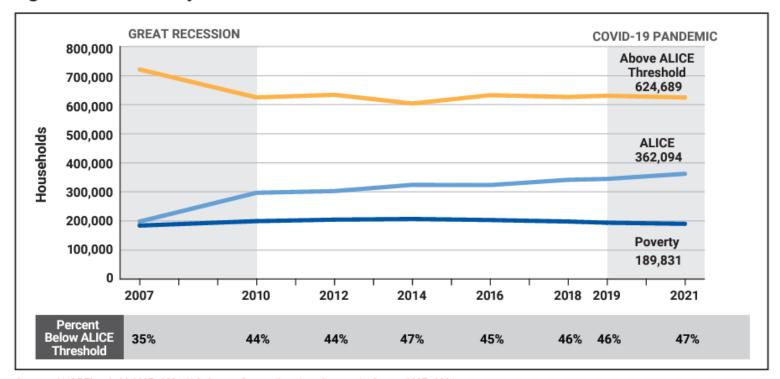
HOW COSTLY TO LIVE IN AR?

ALICE Household Survival Budget, Arkansas Average, 2021			
	Single Adult	Single Senior	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
Monthly Costs			
Housing - Rent	\$379	\$379	\$427
Housing - Utilities	\$154	\$154	\$292
Child Care	-	-	\$761
Food	\$379	\$350	\$1,034
Transportation	\$345	\$298	\$821
Health Care	\$225	\$503	\$869
Technology	\$75	\$75	\$110
Miscellaneous	\$156	\$176	\$431
Tax Before Credits	\$270	\$324	\$890
Monthly Total	\$1,983	\$2,259	\$5,635
ANNUAL TOTAL Before Credits	\$23,796	\$27,108	\$67,620
Tax Credits (CTC and CDCTC)	-	-	(\$12,672)
ANNUAL TOTAL with Credits	\$23,796	\$27,108	\$54,948
Full-Time Hourly Wage	\$11.90	\$13.55	\$27.47



ALICE FAMILIES INCOME?

Figure 2. Households by Income, Arkansas, 2007-2021



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2021; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2021



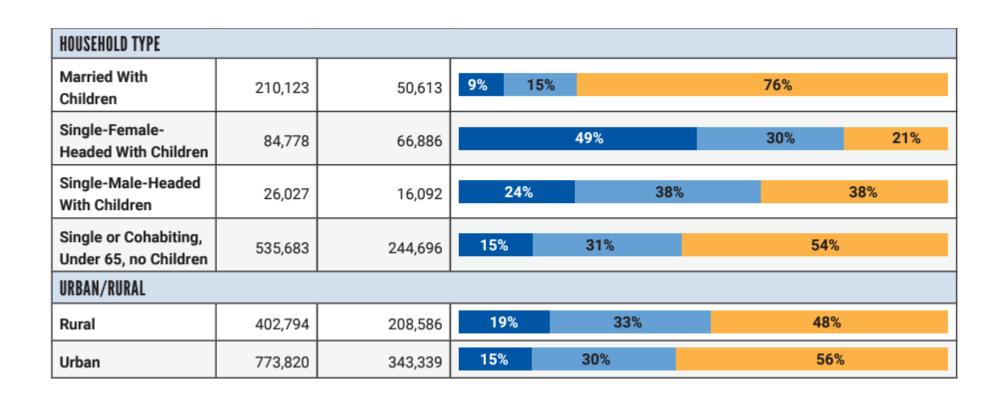
A.L.I.C.E by Demographic

Figure 3. Household Financial Status and Key Demographics, Arkansas, 2021

	Total	Below ALICE Threshold	Poverty ALICE Abo	ve ALICE Theshold
ALL HOUSEHOLDS	1,176,614	551,925	16% 31%	53%
AGE				
Under 25 Years	57,520	39,797	31% 38%	31%
25 to 44 Years	376,648	159,242	18% 25%	58%
45 to 64 Years	422,443	179,248	15% 27%	58%
Seniors (65+)	320,003	173,638	13% 41%	46%
RACE/ETHNICITY				
American Indian/ Alaska Native	6,126	3,472	17% 39%	43%
Asian	15,617	5,311	6% 28% 66%	
Black	177,773	118,470	22% 45%	33%
Hispanic	62,385	32,981	45%	47%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	2,445	1,309	3% 50%	46%
Two or More Races	44,653	22,848	12% 39%	49%
White	859,555	366,099	11% 31%	57%



A.L.I.C.E by Demographic





Occupations, Wages Below ALICE

Figure 4. Top Occupations, Employment, Wages, and Percentage Below ALICE Threshold, Arkansas, 2021

Occupation	Total Employment (BLS)	Median Hourly Wage (BLS)	Percent Median Wage Change From 2019 (BLS)	Percent Workers Below ALICE Threshold (ACS PUMS)
Driver/Sales Workers and Truck Drivers	45,800	\$20.59	17%	26%
Fast Food and Counter Workers	34,530	\$11.34	18%	65%
Retail Salespersons	32,460	\$11.61	6%	38%
Cashiers	30,170	\$11.20	11%	60%
General and Operations Managers	27,120	\$30.78	-10%	7%
Laborers and Movers, Hand	27,070	\$14.29	15%	41%
Registered Nurses	26,320	\$29.58	2%	10%
Office Clerks, General	25,310	\$14.40	2%	37%
Cooks	23,740	\$12.11	17%	54%
Stockers and Order Fillers	20,410	\$13.61	14%	49%
Customer Service Representatives	18,680	\$15.33	6%	34%
Elementary and Middle School Teachers	18,290	\$23.17	-1%	16%
Nursing Assistants	17,620	\$13.66	11%	46%
Personal Care Aides	17,290	\$11.32	8%	60%
Waiters and Waitresses	15,970	\$11.00	17%	44%
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	14,580	\$26.79	4%	12%



Income & Expenses

\$80,000 Economic Impact Payments \$70,000 Child Tax Taxes Emergency \$60,000 Assistance Child Dependen Technology SNAP \$50,000 Care Transportation EITC \$40,000 Child Tax Economic Impact Retail Sales **Health Care** Child Dependent \$30,000 Food \$20,000 **Retail Sales Child Care** Cashier \$10,000 Cashier Part-Time Housing \$0 **Household Survival** 2 Full-Time 2 Part-Time Federal Poverty Level Workers Workers Budget

Figure 5. Income and Expenses, Family of Four, Arkansas, 2021

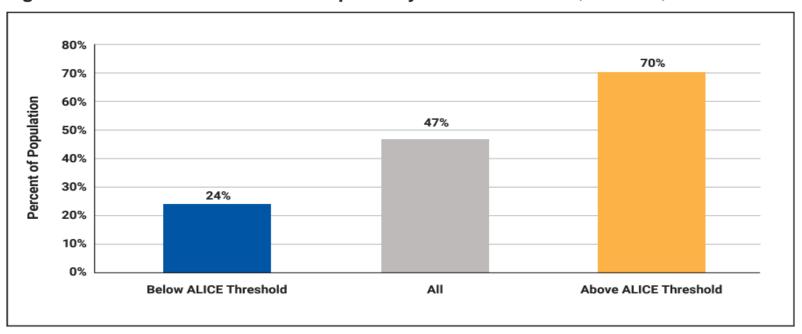
Note: Full-time income is calculated based on 40 hours per week; part-time income is based on 20 hours per week

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2021; Bureau of Labor Statistics—Occupational Employment Statistics, 2021; Internal Revenue Service, tax credits - CTC, CDCTC, EITC, 2021; USDA, SNAP, 2021; U.S. Treasury, 2022



"Rainy Day" Funds

Figure 6. Funds to Cover Three Months' Expenses by the ALICE Threshold, Arkansas, 2021



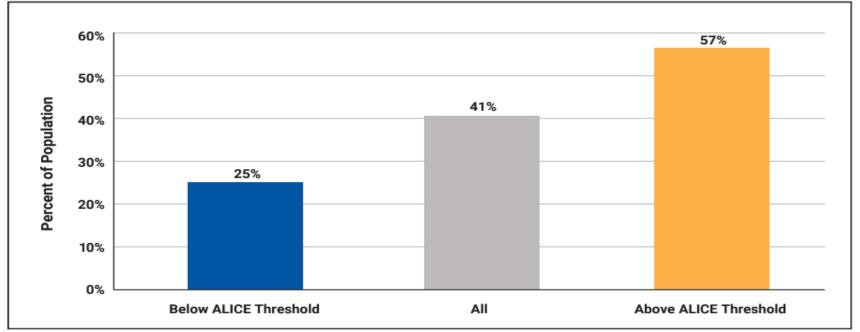
Question: Have you set aside emergency or rainy day funds that would cover your expenses for three months in the case of sickness, job loss, economic downturn, or other emergencies?

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2021; Federal Reserve Board, Survey of Household Economics and Decisionmaking (SHED), November 2021



Retirement Assets by ALICE

Figure 7. Retirement Assets by the ALICE Threshold, Arkansas, 2021



Question: Do you currently have each of the following types of retirement savings? Selected at least one: 401(k); IRA; pension; savings outside a retirement account, business, or real estate holding that will provide income in retirement; other retirement savings

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2021; Federal Reserve Board, Survey of Household Economics and Decisionmaking (SHED), November 2021



FOOD INSUFFICIENCY

Figure 8. Food Insufficiency, Above and Below the ALICE Threshold, Arkansas, 2022

Food Insufficiency				
	Below ALICE Threshold	State Average		
Black	31%	6%		
Female	23%	4%	7.40	
With a Disability	37%	7% 11%		
LGBT	20%	7%		

Question: In the last seven days, which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household? Selected: Sometimes or often not enough

Note: Black respondents are non-Hispanic; the "With a Disability" group includes respondents who have one or more vision, hearing, cognitive, mobility, or self-care difficulties; the "LGBT" group includes respondents who identify as gay or lesbian, bisexual, and/or transgender; the Hispanic group was too small to include in this analysis.

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2021; U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, September 14, 2022-November 14, 2022, Phase 3.6



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Identify where:

- there are/are not policies that support ALICE
- there are job opportunities,
- where housing is affordable relative to local wages,
- where strong community resources exist for ALICE households
- where there are gaps



