

# ALICE IN COLUMBIA COUNTY



## 2023 Point-in-Time Data

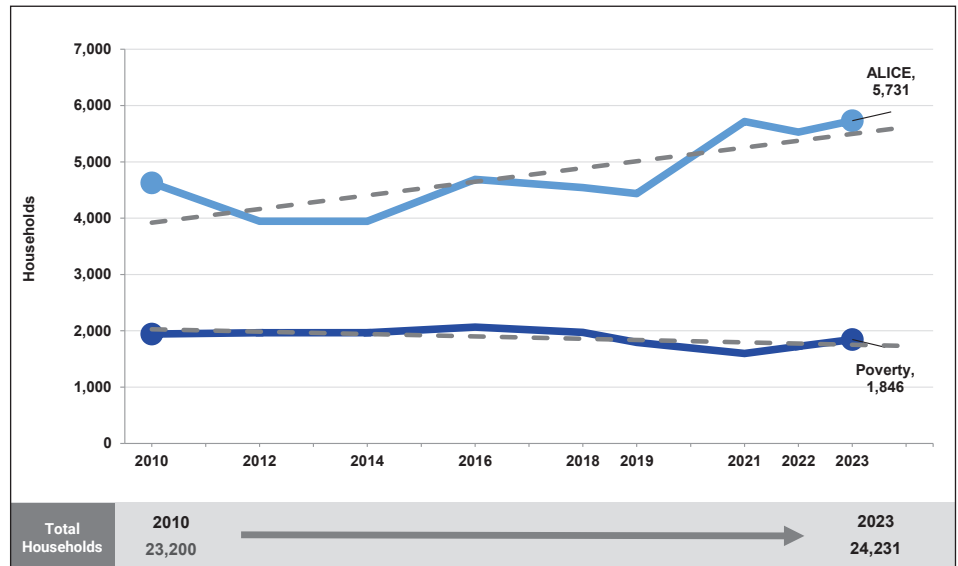
**Population:** 58,322 • **Number of Households:** 24,231  
**Median Household Income:** \$82,792 (state: \$74,631)  
**Labor Force Participation Rate:** 65.6% (state: 65.2%)  
**ALICE Households:** 24% (state: 24%) • **Households in Poverty:** 8% (state: 11%)

## Trends in Financial Hardship

ALICE is an acronym for **A**sset Limited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mloyed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold). Households below the ALICE Threshold – ALICE households plus those in poverty – can't afford the essentials.

Households move below or above the ALICE Threshold as economic factors and circumstances change. The line graph to the right shows the number of ALICE and poverty-level households (solid blue lines), as well as the trend over time (dotted gray lines). **By 2023, 7,577 households (31%) were below the ALICE Threshold in Columbia County.**

## ALICE and Poverty-Level Households, Columbia County, 2010–2023



Note: See an interactive version of this data at [UnitedForALICE.org/Wisconsin](https://UnitedForALICE.org/Wisconsin)

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2010–2023; American Community Survey, 2010–2023

## The Cost of Basics Outpaces Wages

The Household Survival Budget reflects the minimum cost to live and work in the current economy and includes housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, technology, and taxes. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college or retirement. The Household Survival Budget is calculated at the county level and by household composition, as costs can vary greatly depending on location and household needs.

In 2023, household costs in Columbia County were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$14,580 for a single adult and \$30,000 for a family of four.

To see costs for different household compositions in Columbia County, visit [UnitedForALICE.org/Household-Budgets/Wisconsin](https://UnitedForALICE.org/Household-Budgets/Wisconsin)

Household Survival Budget, Columbia County, 2023		
	Single Adult	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
<b>Monthly Costs</b>		
Housing	\$924	\$1,243
Child Care	–	\$1,357
Food	\$462	\$1,253
Transportation	\$387	\$935
Health Care	\$174	\$617
Technology	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$203	\$552
Taxes	\$322	\$610
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$2,558</b>	<b>\$6,683</b>
<b>ANNUAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,696</b>	<b>\$80,196</b>
<b>Hourly Wage*</b>	<b>\$15.35</b>	<b>\$40.10</b>

\*Full-time wage required to support this budget

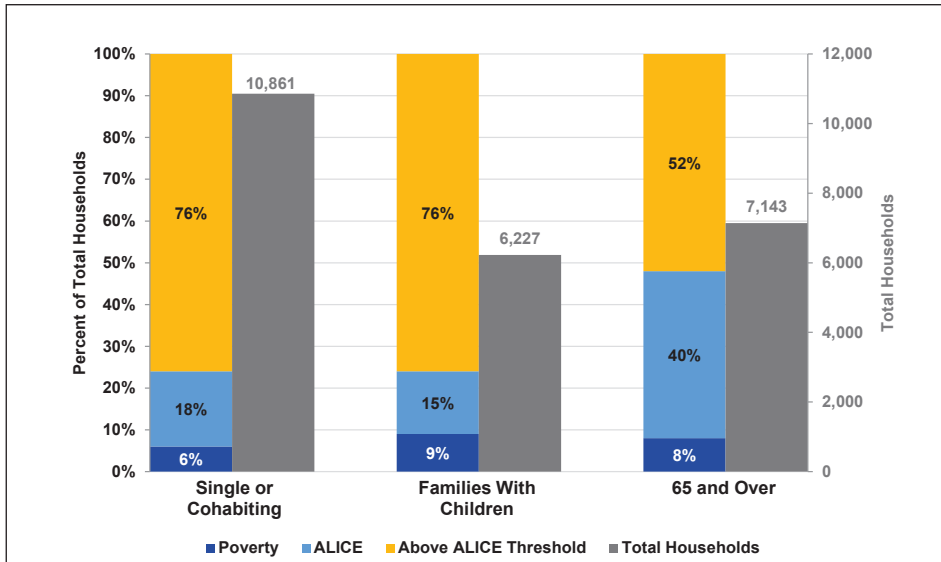
For ALICE Household Survival Budget sources, visit [UnitedForALICE.org/Methodology](https://UnitedForALICE.org/Methodology)

# Financial Hardship is Not Evenly Distributed

The largest demographic groups in the county also tend to have the largest number of households below the ALICE Threshold. However, when looking at the percentage of each group that is below the Threshold, some groups face higher rates of hardship.

Explore more demographic data at [UnitedForALICE.org/Wisconsin](https://UnitedForALICE.org/Wisconsin) and visit [UnitedForALICE.org/Mapping-Tool](https://UnitedForALICE.org/Mapping-Tool) to see ALICE data for all available geographies.

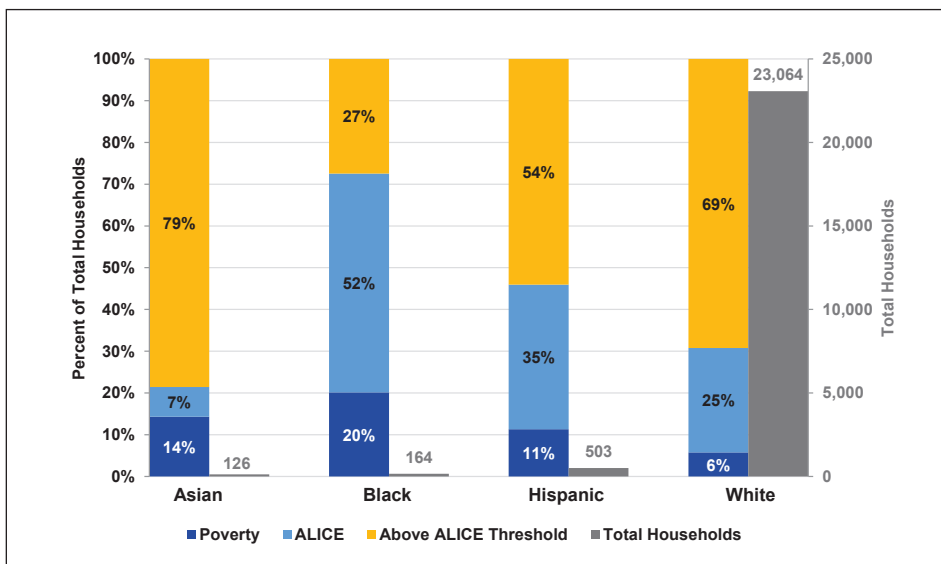
## Household Financial Status by Household Type, Columbia County, 2023



Note: Families with children include married-parent, single-female-headed, and single-male-headed households.

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2023; American Community Survey, 2023

## Household Financial Status by Race/Ethnicity, Columbia County, 2023



Note: Asian, Black, and White racial categories are for one race alone. Race and Hispanic ethnicity are overlapping categories. The Asian and Black groups may include Hispanic households; the White group includes only White, non-Hispanic households. The Hispanic ethnic group may include households of any race.

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2023; American Community Survey, 2023

Columbia County, 2023		
Town	Total Households	% ALICE & Poverty
Arlington town	326	17%
Arlington village	341	11%
Caledonia town	609	34%
Cambria village	319	38%
Columbus city	2,434	33%
Columbus town	212	23%
Courtland town	254	22%
Dekorra town	1,023	21%
Fall River village	669	37%
Fort Winnebago town	364	35%
Fountain Prairie town	307	25%
Friesland village	108	28%
Hampden town	230	20%
Leeds town	355	23%
Lewiston town	591	26%
Lodi city	1,425	20%
Lodi town	1,475	16%
Lowville town	406	29%
Marcellon town	311	24%
Newport town	288	37%
Otsego town	305	34%
Pacific town	1,223	30%
Pardeeville village	790	38%
Portage city	4,149	44%
Poynette village	1,097	32%
Randolph town	348	29%
Randolph village	159	35%
Rio village	457	36%
Scott town	338	47%
Springvale town	156	37%
West Point town	908	24%
Wisconsin Dells city	1,198	40%
Wyocena town	696	21%
Wyocena village	267	35%

Note: Municipal-level data on this page is 5-year averages for U.S. Census County Subdivisions, which include Census County Divisions (CCDs). Data for counties with populations over 65,000 is 1-year estimates. Geographies with fewer than 100 households are not included. Therefore, totals will not match the county-level numbers.