

## 2022 Point-in-Time Data

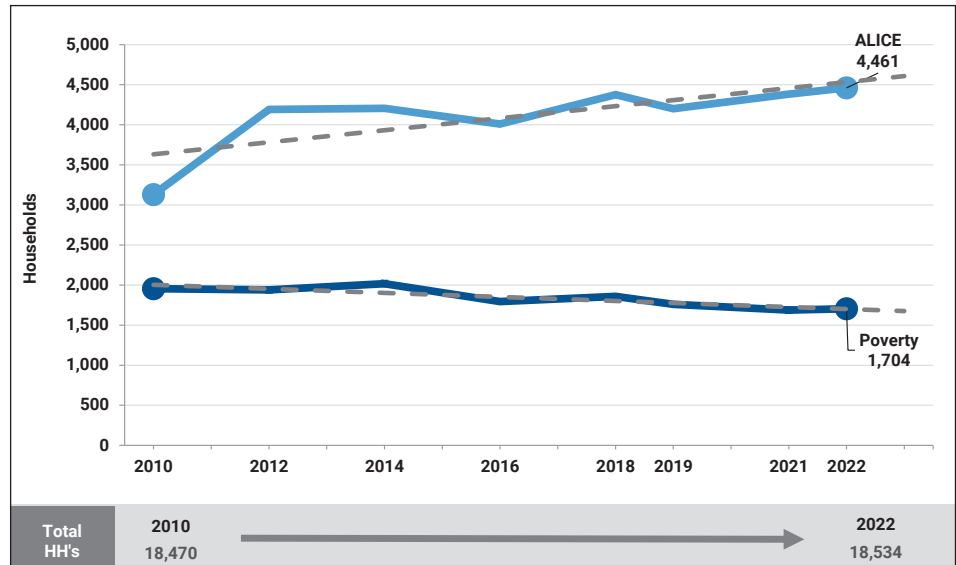
**Population:** 45,128 • **Number of Households:** 18,534  
**Median Household Income:** \$74,142 (state average: \$70,996)  
**Labor Force Participation Rate:** 62.5% (state average: 65.1%)  
**ALICE Households:** 24% (state average: 24%) • **Households in Poverty:** 9% (state average: 11%)

## Financial Hardship Over Time

ALICE is an acronym for **A**sset **L**imited, **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. This was especially true amid the economic crosscurrents of the COVID-19 pandemic, with higher wages, inflation, and additional pandemic assistance. By 2022, 6,165 households (33%) were below the ALICE Threshold in Polk County.

## Households by Income, Polk County, 2010–2022



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

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2010–2022; American Community Survey, 2010–2022

## 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 2022, household costs in Polk County were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$13,590 for a single adult and \$27,750 for a family of four.

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

## Household Survival Budget, Polk County, 2022

	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER
<b>Monthly Costs and Credits</b>		
Housing – Rent	\$430	\$583
Housing – Utilities	\$163	\$310
Child Care	–	\$1,199
Food	\$464	\$1,265
Transportation	\$395	\$1,045
Health Care	\$182	\$638
Technology	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$172	\$516
Tax Payments	\$269	\$1,035
Tax Credits	\$0	-\$433
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$2,161</b>	<b>\$6,274</b>
<b>ANNUAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,932</b>	<b>\$75,288</b>
<b>Hourly Wage*</b>	<b>\$12.97</b>	<b>\$37.64</b>

\*Wage working full-time required to support this budget

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

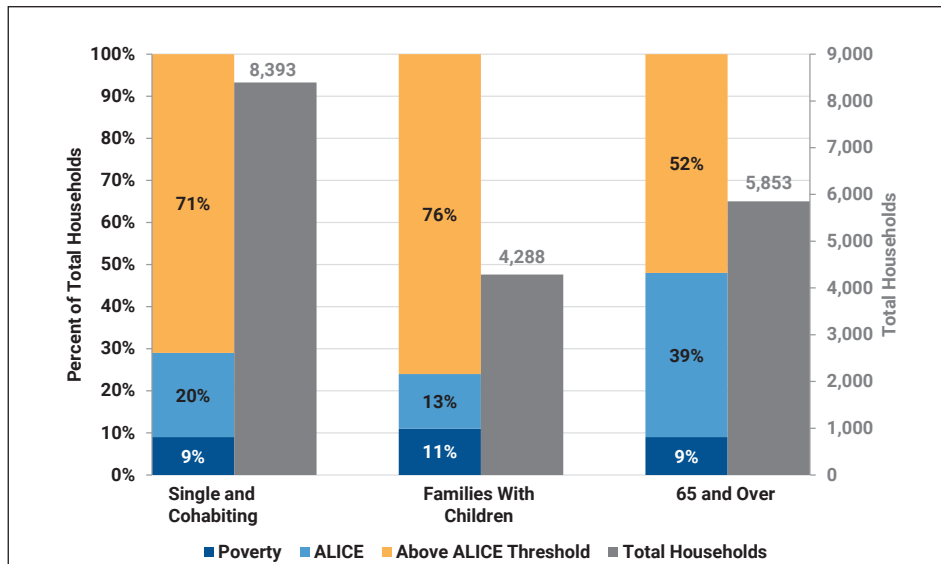
# Financial Hardship is Not Evenly Distributed

Groups with the largest number of households below the ALICE Threshold tend to also be the largest demographic groups. However, when looking at the percentage of each group that is below the ALICE Threshold, some groups are more likely to be ALICE than others.

By addressing the disparities in financial hardship by county demographics, community members can move toward more equitable solutions.

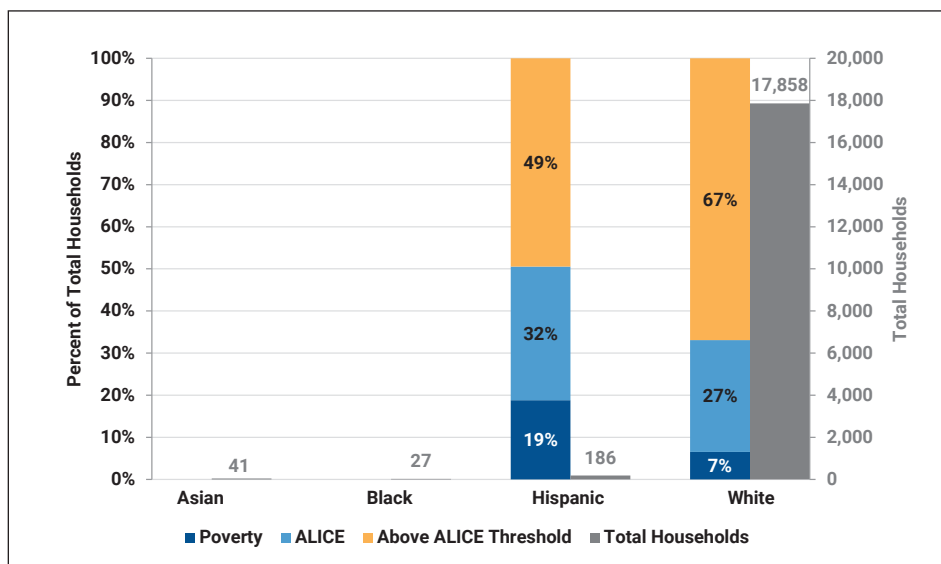
Visit [UnitedForALICE.org/Wisconsin](https://UnitedForALICE.org/Wisconsin) to view more national, state, and county data.

## Household Financial Status by Household Type, Polk County, 2022



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2022; American Community Survey, 2022

## Household Financial Status by Race/Ethnicity, Polk County, 2022



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.

Source: ALICE Threshold, 2022; American Community Survey, 2022

Polk County, 2022		
Town	Total Households	% ALICE & Poverty
Alden town	1,156	20%
Amery city	1,090	30%
Apple River town	437	33%
Balsam Lake town	601	21%
Balsam Lake village	378	56%
Beaver town	424	29%
Black Brook town	512	14%
Bone Lake town	330	27%
Centuria village	433	59%
Clam Falls town	237	48%
Clayton town	440	33%
Clayton village	157	55%
Clear Lake town	332	22%
Clear Lake village	437	36%
Dresser village	366	24%
Eureka town	738	28%
Farmington town	779	20%
Frederic village	442	52%
Garfield town	624	25%
Georgetown town	446	37%
Johnstown town	199	31%
Laketown town	428	29%
Lincoln town	893	21%
Lorain town	122	39%
Luck town	379	35%
Luck village	500	43%
McKinley town	130	51%
Milltown town	579	39%
Milltown village	424	58%
Osceola town	1,133	20%
Osceola village	1,342	50%
St. Croix Falls city	980	40%
St. Croix Falls town	420	34%
Sterling town	334	42%
West Sweden town	283	41%

Note: Municipal-level data on this page is 5-year averages for Census County Subdivisions. 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.