

ALICE IN LEHIGH COUNTY



2023 Point-in-Time Data

Population: 377,754 • **Number of Households:** 147,524

Median Household Income: \$76,508 (state: \$73,824)

Labor Force Participation Rate: 64.2% (state: 62.8%)

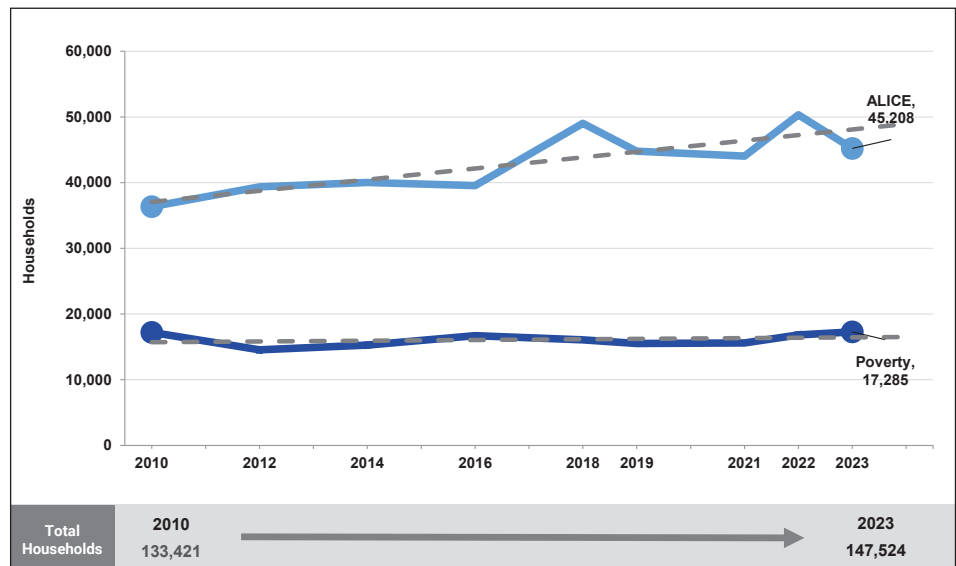
ALICE Households: 31% (state: 28%) • **Households in Poverty:** 12% (state: 12%)

Trends in Financial Hardship

ALICE is an acronym for **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed – 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, 62,493 households (42%) were below the ALICE Threshold in Lehigh County.**

ALICE and Poverty-Level Households, Lehigh County, 2010–2023



Note: See an interactive version of this data at UnitedForALICE.org/Pennsylvania

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 Lehigh 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 Lehigh County, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Household-Budgets/Pennsylvania

Household Survival Budget, Lehigh County, 2023

	Single Adult	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
Monthly Costs		
Housing	\$1,089	\$1,573
Child Care	–	\$1,859
Food	\$512	\$1,389
Transportation	\$397	\$944
Health Care	\$172	\$660
Technology	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$226	\$654
Taxes	\$407	\$888
Monthly Total	\$2,889	\$8,083
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$34,668	\$96,996
Hourly Wage*	\$17.33	\$48.50

**Full-time wage required to support this budget*

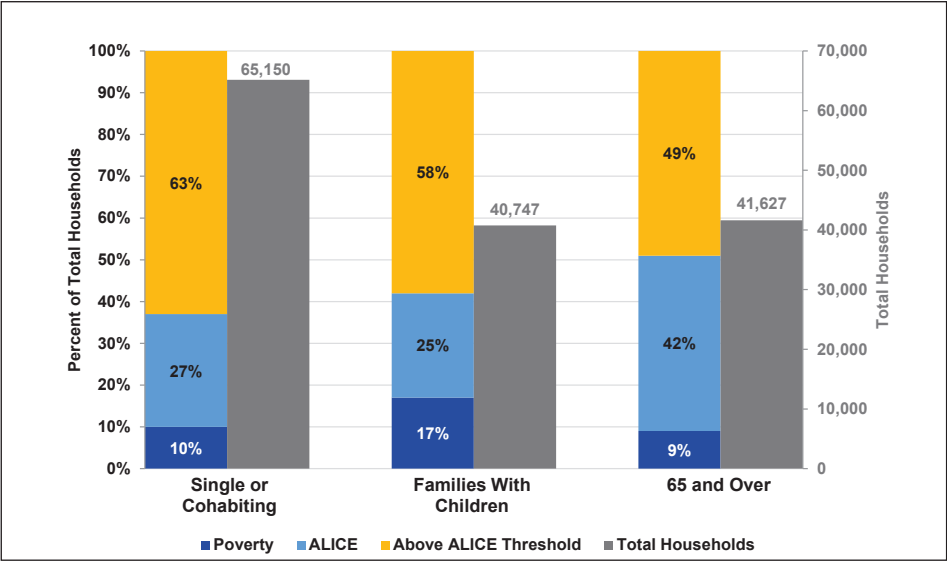
For ALICE Household Survival Budget sources, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Methodology

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.

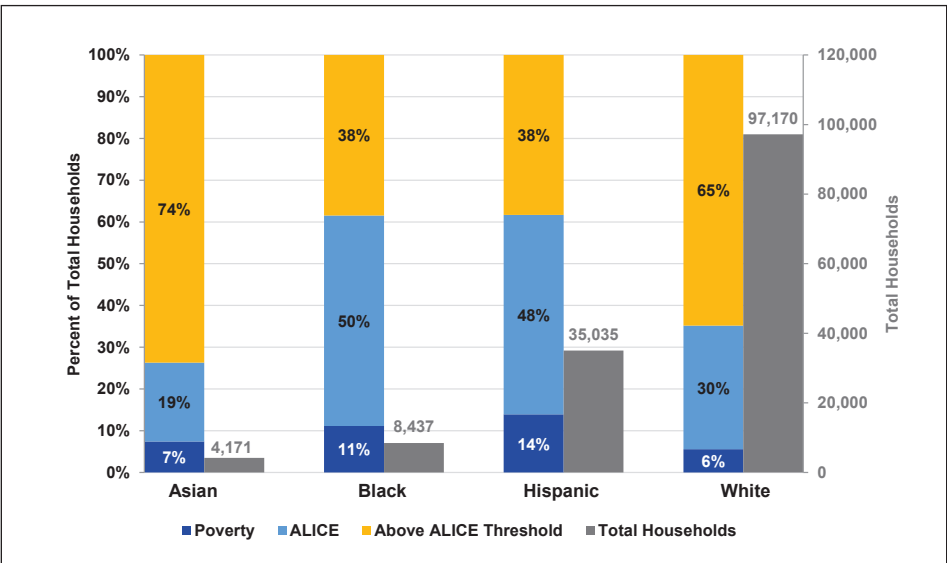
Explore more demographic data at UnitedForALICE.org/Pennsylvania and visit UnitedForALICE.org/Mapping-Tool to see ALICE data for all available geographies.

Household Financial Status by Household Type, Lehigh 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, Lehigh 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

Lehigh County, 2023		
Town	Total Households	% ALICE & Poverty
Alburtis borough	856	28%
Allentown city	46,039	61%
Bethlehem city	8,890	46%
Catasauqua borough	2,743	45%
Coopersburg borough	1,115	50%
Coplay borough	1,479	49%
Emmaus borough	4,752	37%
Fountain Hill borough	1,800	58%
Hanover township	878	59%
Heidelberg township	1,300	29%
Lower Macungie township	12,475	23%
Lower Milford township	1,488	29%
Lowhill township	841	20%
Lynn township	1,656	40%
Macungie borough	1,444	48%
North Whitehall township	5,992	30%
Salisbury township	5,124	34%
Slatington borough	1,711	61%
South Whitehall township	8,239	30%
Upper Macungie township	9,560	19%
Upper Milford township	2,930	29%
Upper Saucon township	5,925	18%
Washington township	2,762	36%
Weisenberg township	1,839	15%
Whitehall township	11,607	48%

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.