

ALICE—an acronym for **Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**—represents the growing number of working households in our communities that live above the poverty line, but do not earn enough to afford basic necessities.

ALICE: Working Hard and Struggling to Survive

ALICE IS THE BACKBONE OF OUR COMMUNITY

They're our friends and neighbors. They make our quality of life possible.



Daycare Worker



Janitor/
Custodian



Grocery Store Worker



Restaurant Server



Customer Service Representative



Home Healthcare Worker

Not only do ALICE families struggle to achieve a good quality of life, **their struggle also has a huge impact on our regional economy.**

Due to low wages, limited work hours, and a lack of savings, ALICE lives on the edge financially, struggling to meet basic needs and unable to save for the future, let alone weather a financial setback, such as an unexpected medical bill or car repair. These are families who work hard to provide for their families but often slip through the cracks because they aren't eligible for poverty-level support, but also don't earn enough to truly get by, let alone thrive.

HOW DOES UNITED WAY HELP?

United Way works to help stabilize ALICE families, a need further amplified by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We ensure households are able to meet their immediate basic needs—a roof over their heads, access to food, a path to a new career, and other vital services.

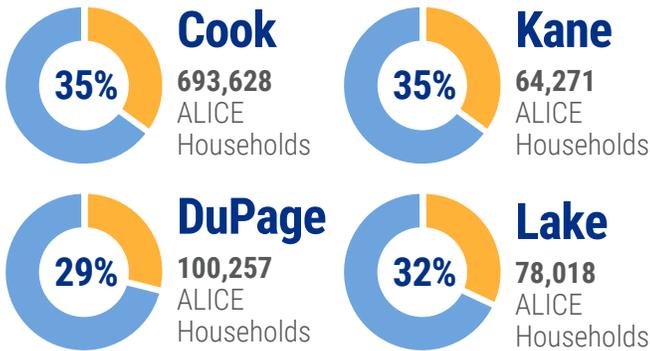
LEARN MORE  Download the full ALICE report at LIVEUNITEDchicago.org/ALICE

ALICE* By-the-numbers

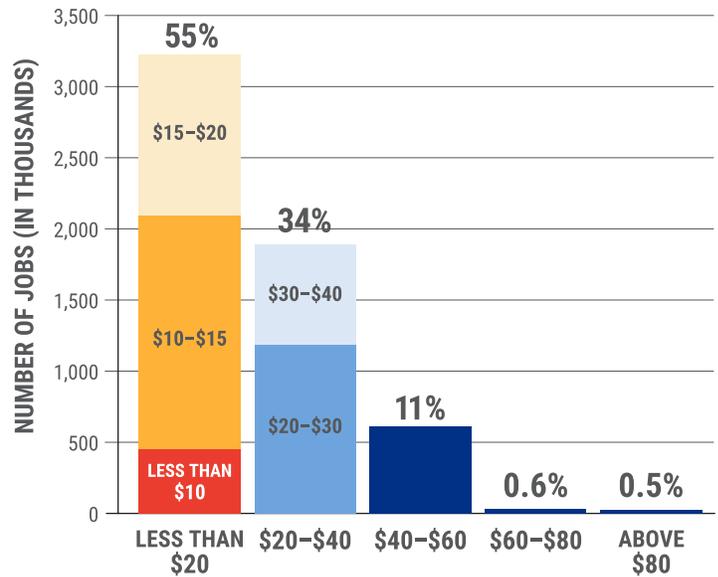
Nationally, ALICE households were more adversely impacted by the pandemic, with **60% having lost income** and more than **40% struggling to get by**.

Households by Income (Cook, DuPage, Kane, and Lake Counties)

■ Poverty and ALICE Households
■ Above ALICE Threshold



Number of Jobs by Hourly Wage (State of Illinois)



\$33.13 PER HOUR

Hourly wage a family of four in Illinois needs for "Household Survival"

Household Survival Budget (Cook, DuPage, Kane, and Lake Counties)

	SINGLE ADULT				2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER			
	Cook	DuPage	Kane	Lake	Cook	DuPage	Kane	Lake
Housing	\$879	\$1,031	\$913	\$941	\$1,180	\$1,384	\$1,225	\$1,263
Child Care	—	—	—	—	\$1,458	\$2,146	\$1,792	\$1,360
Food	\$273	\$290	\$260	\$289	\$826	\$878	\$788	\$875
Transportation	\$80	\$335	\$335	\$335	\$159	\$803	\$803	\$803
Health Care	\$208	\$208	\$208	\$208	\$745	\$745	\$745	\$745
Technology	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$175	\$231	\$211	\$219	\$507	\$716	\$636	\$596
Taxes	\$254	\$388	\$341	\$359	\$624	\$1,128	\$936	\$839
Monthly Total	\$1,924	\$2,538	\$2,323	\$2,406	\$5,574	\$7,875	\$7,000	\$6,556
Annual total	\$23,088	\$30,456	\$27,876	\$28,872	\$66,888	\$94,500	\$84,000	\$78,672
Hourly Wage Needed	\$11.54	\$15.23	\$13.94	\$14.44	\$33.44	\$47.25	\$42.00	\$39.34

*Data pulled from the pre-pandemic 2020 ALICE report