## **ALICE IN CALHOUN COUNTY**

2017 Point-in-Time Data

**Population:** 134,128 • **Number of Households:** 54,556 **Median Household Income:** \$45,386 (state average: \$54,909)

**Unemployment Rate:** 8% (state average: 5.9%)

ALICE Households: 26% (state average: 29%) • Households in Poverty: 19% (state average: 14%)

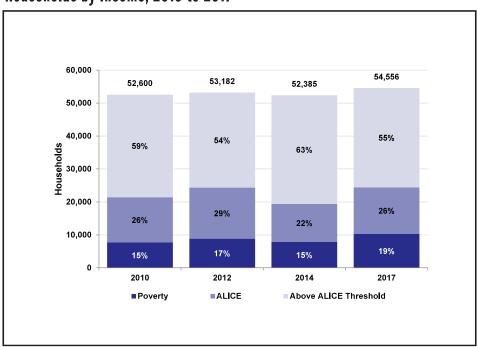
### How has the number of ALICE households changed over time?

ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold). Combined, the number of ALICE and poverty-level households equals the total population struggling to afford basic needs. The number of households below the ALICE Threshold changes over time; households move in and out of poverty and ALICE status as their circumstances improve or worsen. The recovery, which started in 2010, has been uneven across the state. Conditions have improved for some families, but with rising costs, many still find themselves struggling.

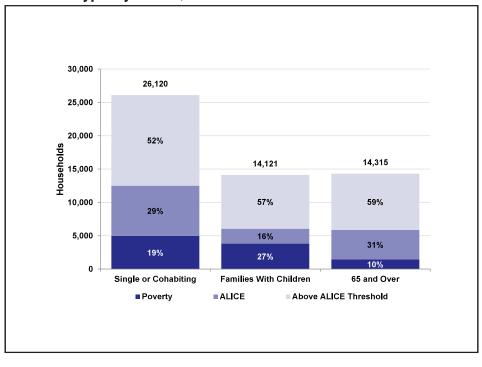
# What types of households are struggling?

The way Americans live is changing. There are more different family and living combinations than ever before, including more adults living alone, with roommates, or with their parents. Families with children are changing: There are more non-married cohabiting parents, same-sex parents, and blended families with remarried parents. The number of senior households is also increasing. Yet all types of households continue to struggle: ALICE and povertylevel households exist across all of these living arrangements.

#### Households by Income, 2010 to 2017



## Household Types by Income, 2017



## Why do so many households struggle?

#### The cost of living continues to increase...

The Household Survival Budget reflects the bare minimum that a household needs to live and work today. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college. In 2017, costs were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,060 for a single adult and \$24,600 for a family of four. Family costs increased by 26 percent statewide from 2010 to 2017, compared to 12 percent inflation nationally.

Household Survival Budget, Calhoun County		
	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 Preschooler
Monthly Costs		
Housing	\$514	\$806
Child Care	\$-	\$1,073
Food	\$199	\$604
Transportation	\$340	\$679
Health Care	\$236	\$888
Technology	\$55	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$159	\$465
Taxes	\$246	\$524
Monthly Total	\$1,749	\$5,114
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$20,988	\$61,368
Hourly Wage	\$10.49	\$30.68

#### ...and wages lag behind

Employment and wages vary by location; firms generally pay higher wages in areas with a higher cost of living, although those wages still do not always cover basic needs. Employment and wages also vary by firm size: Large firms tend to offer higher wages and more job stability; smaller businesses can account for more jobs overall, especially in rural areas, but may pay less and offer less stability. Medium-size firms pay more but typically employ the fewest workers.

#### Private-Sector Employment by Firm Size With Average Annual Wages, 2017



Sources: 2017 Point-in-Time Data: American Community Survey, 2017. ALICE Demographics: American Community Survey and the ALICE Threshold, 2017. Wages: BLS, 2017. Budget: BLS, 2017; Consumer Reports, 2017; HUD, 2017; IRS, 2016, 2017; Michigan Department of Education Office of Great Start, 2018; Tax Foundation 2017, 2018; USDA, 2017.

#### Calhoun County, 2017 Total HH Town Poverty 2,940 Albion City Albion Township Athens Township 935 35% 20,606 52% Battle Creek City Bedford Charter 3,814 41% Township 686 36% **Burlington Township** Clarence Township 808 34% 444 Clarendon Township 41% 38% Convis Township 32% **Eckford Township** 476 **Emmett Charte** 4.905 36% Township 660 31% Fredonia Township 1.148 Homer Township 50% Lee Township 347 38% 1,425 22% Leroy Township Marengo Township 836 30% Marshall City 3,215 44% Marshall Township 1,219 26% 956 23% Newton Township Pennfield Charter 3 631 36% 757 Sheridan Township 49% Springfield City 2,041 59% Tekonsha Township 614 47%

Note: Municipal-level data on this page is for County Subdivisions. Municipal-level data relies on 5-year averages and is not available for the smallest towns. Since there are missing geographies, totals will not match county-level numbers.

## **ALICE IN KALAMAZOO COUNTY**

2017 Point-in-Time Data

**Population:** 262,985 • **Number of Households:** 104,075 **Median Household Income:** \$56,025 (state average: \$54,909)

**Unemployment Rate:** 4.8% (state average: 5.9%)

ALICE Households: 26% (state average: 29%) • Households in Poverty: 12% (state average: 14%)

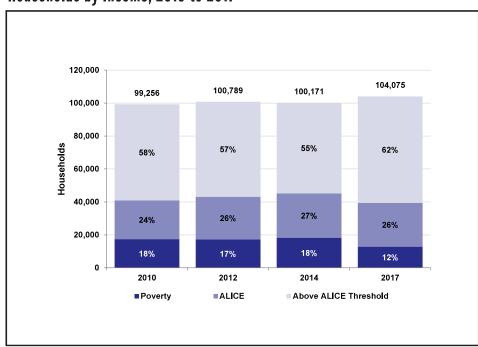
### How has the number of ALICE households changed over time?

ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold). Combined, the number of ALICE and poverty-level households equals the total population struggling to afford basic needs. The number of households below the ALICE Threshold changes over time; households move in and out of poverty and ALICE status as their circumstances improve or worsen. The recovery, which started in 2010, has been uneven across the state. Conditions have improved for some families, but with rising costs, many still find themselves struggling.

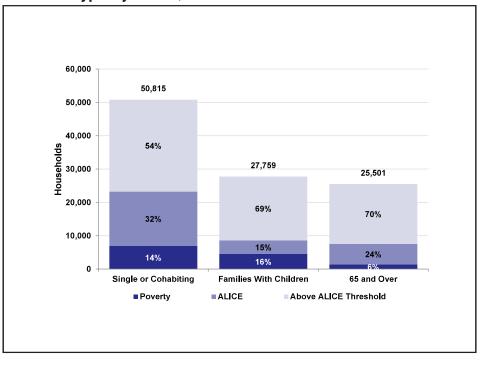
# What types of households are struggling?

The way Americans live is changing. There are more different family and living combinations than ever before, including more adults living alone, with roommates, or with their parents. Families with children are changing: There are more non-married cohabiting parents, same-sex parents, and blended families with remarried parents. The number of senior households is also increasing. Yet all types of households continue to struggle: ALICE and povertylevel households exist across all of these living arrangements.

#### Households by Income, 2010 to 2017



### Household Types by Income, 2017



## Why do so many households struggle?

#### The cost of living continues to increase...

The Household Survival Budget reflects the bare minimum that a household needs to live and work today. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college. In 2017, costs were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,060 for a single adult and \$24,600 for a family of four. Family costs increased by 26 percent statewide from 2010 to 2017, compared to 12 percent inflation nationally.

Household Survival Budget, Kalamazoo County		
	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 Preschooler
Monthly Costs		
Housing	\$513	\$782
Child Care	\$-	\$1,381
Food	\$199	\$604
Transportation	\$340	\$679
Health Care	\$236	\$888
Technology	\$55	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$159	\$504
Taxes	\$246	\$631
Monthly Total	\$1,748	\$5,544
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$20,976	\$66,528
Hourly Wage	\$10.49	\$33.26

#### ...and wages lag behind

Employment and wages vary by location; firms generally pay higher wages in areas with a higher cost of living, although those wages still do not always cover basic needs. Employment and wages also vary by firm size: Large firms tend to offer higher wages and more job stability; smaller businesses can account for more jobs overall, especially in rural areas, but may pay less and offer less stability. Medium-size firms pay more but typically employ the fewest workers.

#### Private-Sector Employment by Firm Size With Average Annual Wages, 2017



Sources: 2017 Point-in-Time Data: American Community Survey, 2017. ALICE Demographics: American Community Survey and the ALICE Threshold, 2017. Wages: BLS, 2017. Budget: BLS, 2017; Consumer Reports, 2017; HUD, 2017; IRS, 2016, 2017; Michigan Department of Education Office of Great Start, 2018; Tax Foundation 2017, 2018; USDA, 2017.

#### Kalamazoo County, 2017 Total HH Poverty 1,477 Alamo Township **Brady Township** 1.620 Charleston Township 31% 769 28% 946 Climax Township Comstock Charter 6.250 40% Township Cooper Charter 3 928 27% **Galesburg City** 828 66% Kalamazoo Charter 9.004 46% Township 28,996 58% Kalamazoo City Oshtemo Charter 10,441 47% Township 827 Parchment City Pavilion Township 2 345 36% Portage City 19,552 Prairie Ronde 833 21% Township Richland Township 2.999 20% 2,055 25% Ross Township Schoolcraft Township 3,290 34% Texas Charter 5 692 15% Township Wakeshma Township 510 37%

Note: Municipal-level data on this page is for County Subdivisions. Municipal-level data relies on 5-year averages and is not available for the smallest towns. Since there are missing geographies, totals will not match county-level numbers.