

# 2021 ALICE

## IN BLOUNT COUNTY



### Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

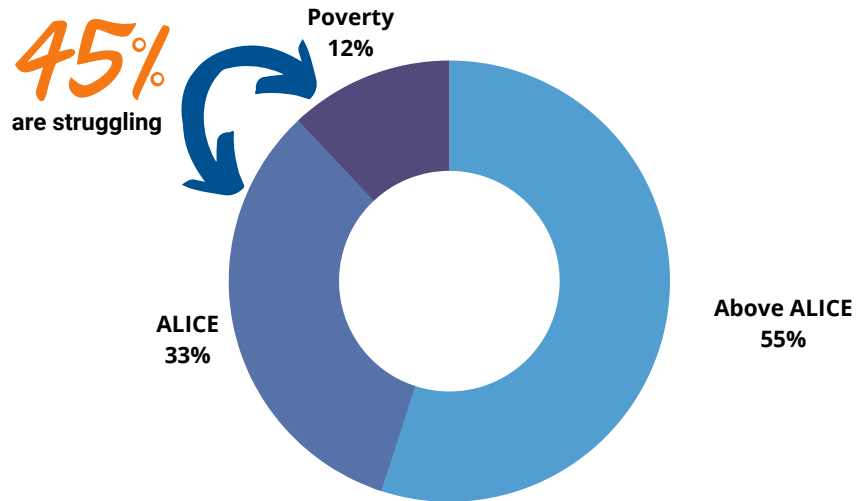
Households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE threshold)

## MEET ALICE

For many families, the cost of living outpaces what they earn. These households struggle to manage even their most basic needs - housing, food, transportation, child care, health care, and necessary technology.

Combined, the number of ALICE and poverty-level households equal 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.

### Households By Income



## Where is ALICE?

AREA	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	% OF ALICE OR BELOW
Alcoa	5,026	60%
Eagleton	4,740	46%
Friendsville	4,702	42%
Louisville	4,989	49%
Maryville	4,216	35%
Rockford	4,518	43%
Townsend	4,698	46%

**67%**  
of Blacks & Hispanics are below the ALICE threshold

**81%**  
of Female-headed households are below the ALICE threshold

**NEED DOESN'T STOP AT THE POVERTY LINE.**

# 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 2018, costs were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,140 for a single adult and \$25,100 for a family of four. And government aid does not make up the difference. As income rises, benefits fall away before households can survive.

*In the past 10 years, family costs increased by 31% while median earnings increased by only 15% statewide.*

### Household Survival Budget, 2018

	Single Adult	Two Adults Two School-Age Children
Housing	\$667	\$1,028
Child Care	\$0	\$391
Food	\$283	\$980
Transportation	\$332	\$801
Health Care	\$193	\$760
Technology	\$55	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$190	\$477
Taxes	\$365	\$738
Monthly Total	\$2,085	\$5,250
Annual Total	\$25,020	\$63,000
Hourly Wage	\$12.51	\$31.50

- Population: 131,349
- Households: 51,446
- Median Household Income: \$58,809
- Unemployment Rate: 4%
- Jobs that pay less than \$15/hr: 41%
- ALICE Households: 33%
- Households in Poverty: 12%
- People Living as ALICE or Below: 59,107
- Young Adults Living as ALICE or Below: 75%
- Seniors Living as ALICE or Below: 50%

Municipal-level data is a 1-5 year average based on estimated census data.



**Benefits like health insurance, paid time off, sick leave and consistent pay rapidly decrease for those who don't hold a full-time salary position.**



## SAVING MONEY SAVES MONEY

**Instead of a downward cycle of accumulating fees, debt and stress, families can have an upward cycle of savings and health.**



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