

2021 Point-in-Time Data

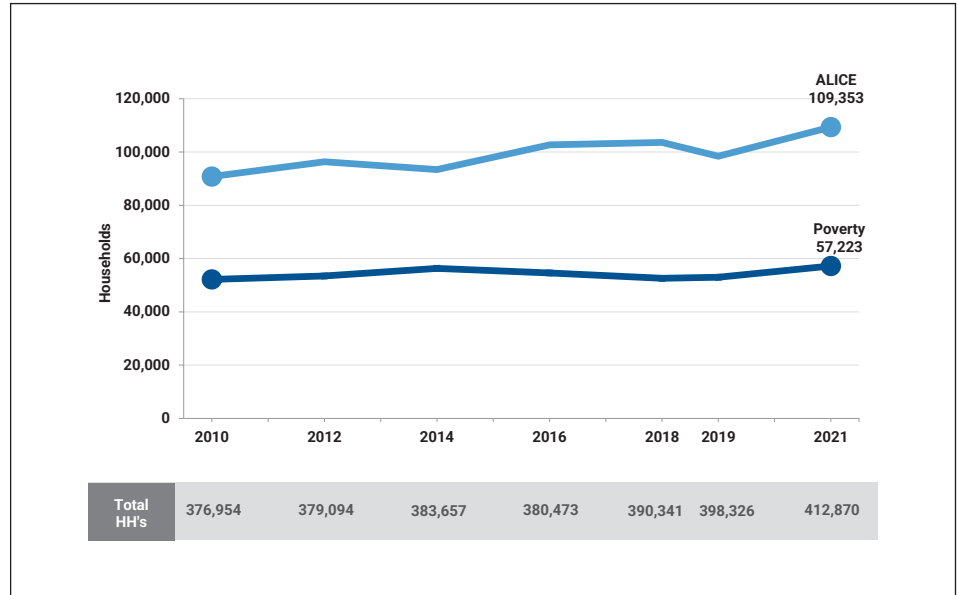
Population: 950,683 • **Number of Households:** 412,870 (4% change from 2019)
Median Household Income: \$63,035 (state average: \$74,314)
Labor Force Participation Rate: 62.8% (state average: 62.5%)
ALICE Households: 26% (state average: 30%) • **Households in Poverty:** 14% (state average: 14%)

Financial Hardship Changes Over Time

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.

As circumstances change, households may find themselves below or above the ALICE Threshold at different times. While the COVID-19 pandemic brought employment shifts, health struggles, and school/business closures in 2021, it also spurred unprecedented public assistance through pandemic relief measures. In 2019, 151,376 households in Erie County were below the ALICE Threshold; in 2021 this number changed to 166,576, (a 10% change).

Households by Income, Erie County, 2010–2021



Note: See an interactive version of this data at UnitedForALICE.org/New-York.

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2010–2021; American Community Survey, 2010–2021

The Cost of Basics Outpaces Wages

The Household Survival Budget reflects the minimum cost to live and work in the modern economy and includes housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, a smartphone plan, 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 varies by household composition, as costs can vary greatly depending on location and household needs.

In 2021, household costs in Erie County were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,880 for a single adult and \$26,500 for a family of four.

To see costs for different household compositions in Erie County, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Household-Budgets/New-York

Household Survival Budget, Erie County, 2021

	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER
Monthly Costs and Credits		
Housing – Rent	\$693	\$756
Housing – Utilities	\$154	\$292
Child Care	–	\$2,146
Food	\$456	\$1,242
Transportation	\$358	\$835
Health Care	\$226	\$784
Technology	\$75	\$110
Miscellaneous	\$196	\$616
Tax Payments	\$353	\$1,339
Tax Credits	\$0	-\$1,865
Monthly Total	\$2,511	\$6,255
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$30,132	\$75,060
Hourly Wage*	\$15.07	\$37.53

*Wage working full-time required to support this budget

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

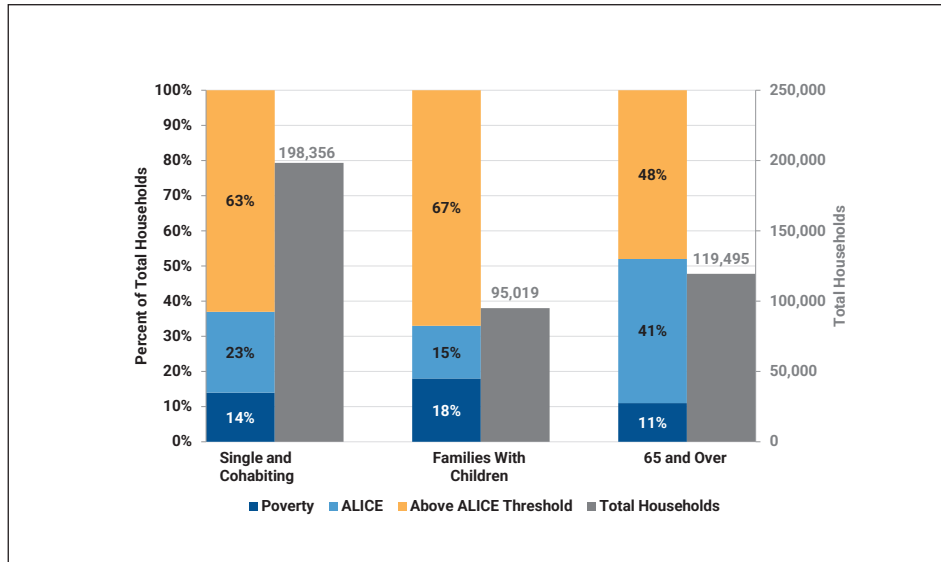
Financial Hardship is Not Evenly Distributed

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.

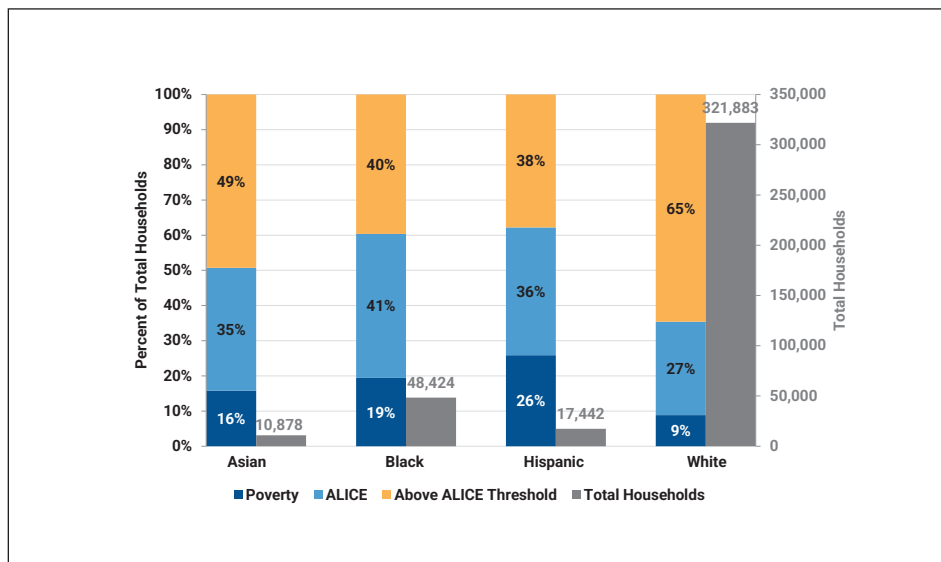
Visit UnitedForALICE.org/New-York to view more national, state, and county data.

Household Financial Status by Household Type, Erie County, 2021



Source: ALICE Threshold, 2021; American Community Survey, 2021

Household Financial Status by Race/Ethnicity, Erie County, 2021



Note: All racial categories are for one race alone. Race and ethnicity are overlapping categories; the Asian and Black groups may include Hispanic households. The White group includes only White, non-Hispanic households. The Hispanic group may include households of any race.

Source: ALICE Threshold, 2021; American Community Survey, 2021

Erie County, 2021		
Town	Total Households	% ALICE & Poverty
Alden town	3,043	33%
Amherst town	51,766	31%
Aurora town	5,466	21%
Boston town	3,753	30%
Brant town	898	42%
Buffalo city	118,071	56%
Cattaraugus Reservation	722	57%
Cheektowaga town	39,548	40%
Clarence town	12,605	21%
Colden town	1,208	22%
Collins town	1,976	44%
Concord town	3,673	44%
Eden town	3,054	26%
Elma town	4,665	26%
Evans town	6,428	37%
Grand Island town	8,800	23%
Hamburg town	25,949	34%
Holland town	1,407	45%
Lackawanna city	8,475	55%
Lancaster town	19,430	29%
Marilla town	2,051	21%
Newstead town	3,817	38%
North Collins town	1,354	31%
Orchard Park town	12,195	30%
Sardinia town	1,103	36%
Tonawanda city	6,947	44%
Tonawanda town	33,509	37%
Wales town	1,285	21%
West Seneca town	19,863	34%



Learn More at uwbec.org/impact

Note: Municipal-level data on this page is 5-year averages for Census County Subdivisions. Totals will not match county-level numbers because data is not available for the smallest County Subdivisions, and county-level data is often 1-year estimates.