

# ALICE IN CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

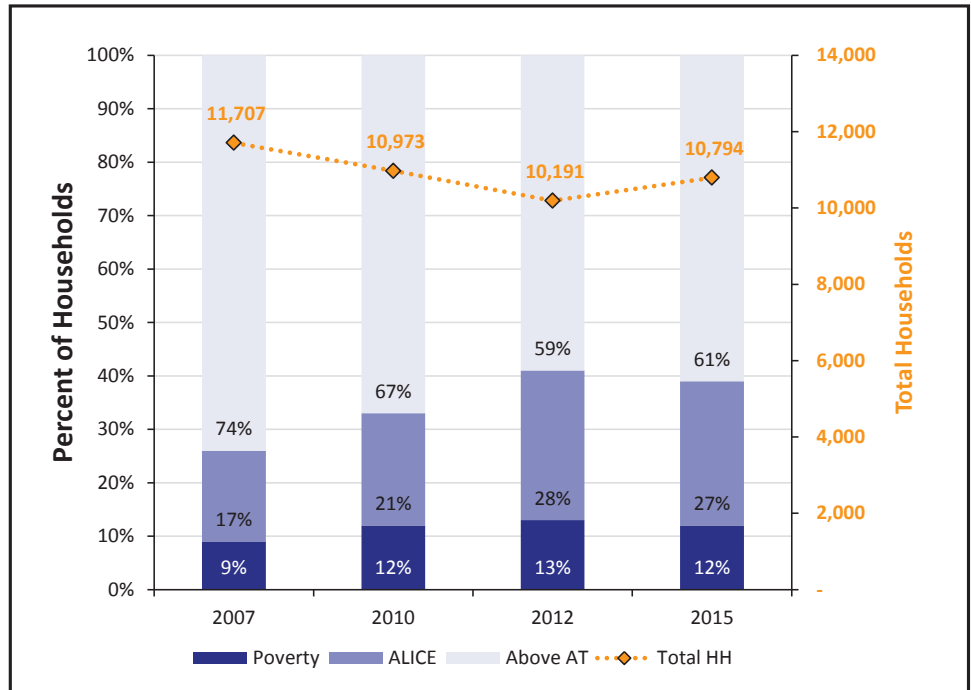
## 2015 Point-in-Time Data

**Population:** 26,134 | **Number of Households:** 10,794  
**Median Household Income:** \$46,554 (state average: \$51,084)  
**Unemployment Rate:** 7.8% (state average: 7.2%)  
**ALICE Households:** 27% (state average: 25%); **Poverty Households:** 12% (state average: 15%)

## How many households are struggling?

**ALICE** is an acronym for **A**sset Limited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mloyed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold, or AT). Combined, the number of poverty and ALICE 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 as circumstances improve or worsen. The Great Recession, from 2007 to 2010, caused hardship for many families. Conditions started to improve in 2010 and 2012 for some, but not for all.

## Households by Income, 2007 to 2015



## What does it cost to afford the basic necessities?

The bare-minimum Household Survival Budget does not include any savings, leaving a household vulnerable to unexpected expenses. ALICE households typically earn above the Federal Poverty Level of \$11,770 for a single adult and \$24,250 for a family of four, but less than the Household Survival Budget.

## Household Survival Budget, Charlevoix County

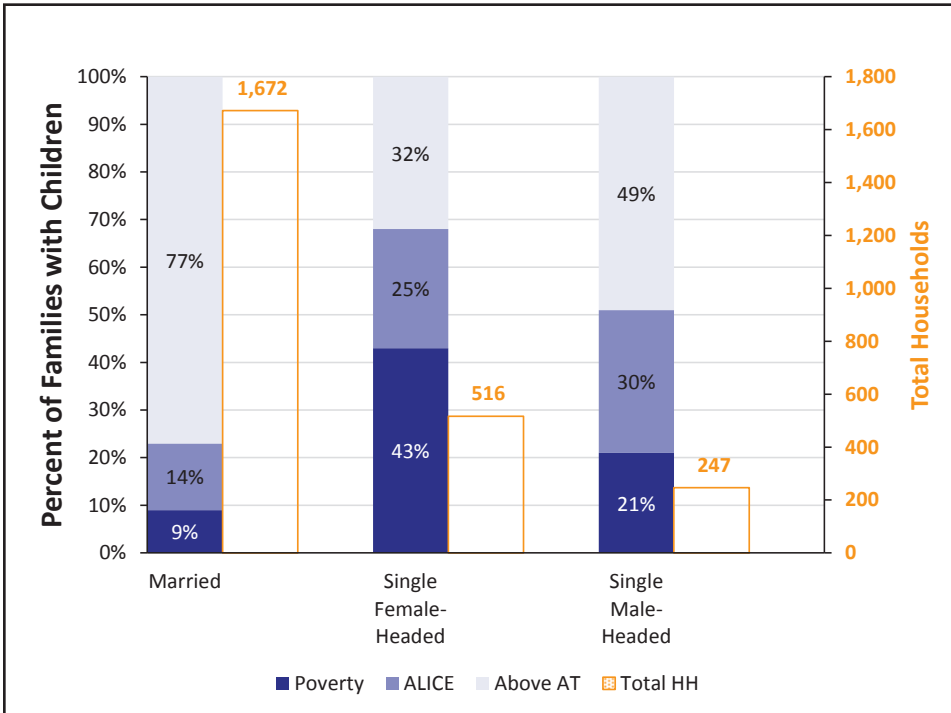
	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER
<b>Monthly Costs</b>		
Housing	\$533	\$660
Child Care	\$-	\$1,229
Food	\$184	\$609
Transportation	\$349	\$697
Health Care	\$184	\$707
Miscellaneous	\$143	\$424
Taxes	\$184	\$333
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$1,577</b>	<b>\$4,659</b>
<b>ANNUAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,924</b>	<b>\$55,908</b>
<b>Hourly Wage</b>	<b>\$9.46</b>	<b>\$27.95</b>

Sources: 2015 Point-in-Time Data: American Community Survey. ALICE Demographics: American Community Survey; the ALICE Threshold. Budget: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); Internal Revenue Service (IRS); Michigan Department of Treasury; Early Childhood Investment Corporation.

## How many families with children are struggling?

Children add significant expense to a family budget, so it is not surprising that many Charlevoix County families with children live below the ALICE Threshold. Though more Charlevoix County families are headed by married parents, those families with a single parent are more likely to have income below the ALICE Threshold.

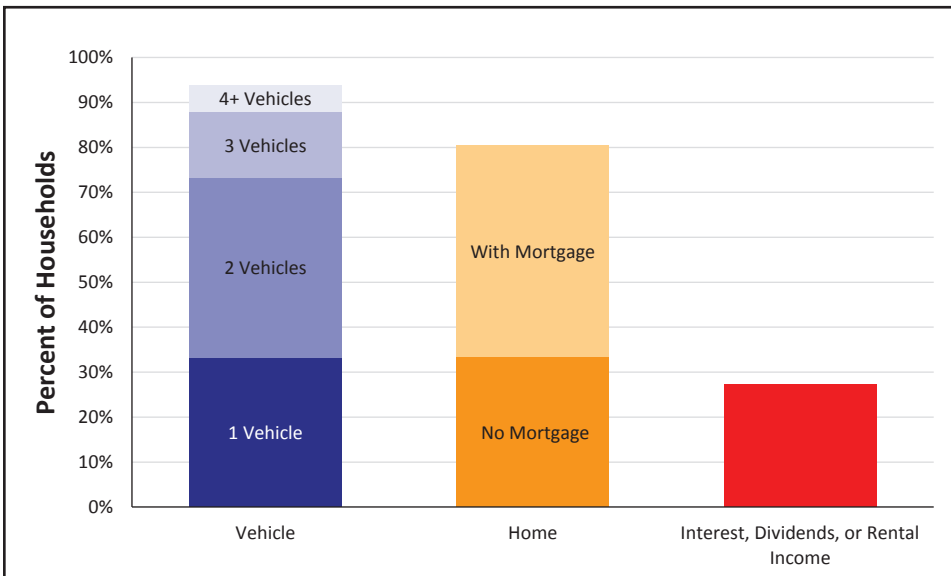
### Families with Children by Income, 2015



## What assets do households have?

Ownership of assets can contribute to stability of households. Yet few families in Charlevoix County own liquid assets, such as a savings account, 401(k) plan, or rental income, that are readily available to cover emergency expenses. Vehicles, the most common asset, depreciate over time. Homeownership, the next most common asset, can build wealth, but is not a liquid asset.

### Assets, All Households, 2015



Charlevoix County, 2015		
Town	Total HH	% ALICE & Poverty
Bay Township	493	22%
Boyer City	1,628	44%
Boyer Valley Township	536	35%
Chandler Township	112	35%
Charlevoix City	1,333	54%
Charlevoix Township	607	33%
East Jordan City	959	55%
Evangeline Township	325	36%
Eveline Township	639	29%
Hayes Township	771	31%
Hudson Township	257	33%
Marion Township	629	31%
Melrose Township	513	44%
Norwood Township	320	29%
Peaine Township	128	24%
South Arm Township	668	37%
St. James Township	141	47%
Wilson Township	735	32%

*Note: Municipal-level data on this page is for Places and County Subdivisions, which include Census Designated Places (CDP). These are overlapping geographies so totals will not match county-level data. Municipal-level data often relies on 5-year averages and is not available for the smallest towns that do not report income.*