ALICE IN SPENCER COUNTY, INDIANA, 2024

Population: 19,955 **Number of Households:** 8,078

Median Household Income: $74,506 (state average: $71,959)

Labor Force Participation Rate: 63% (state average: 64%)

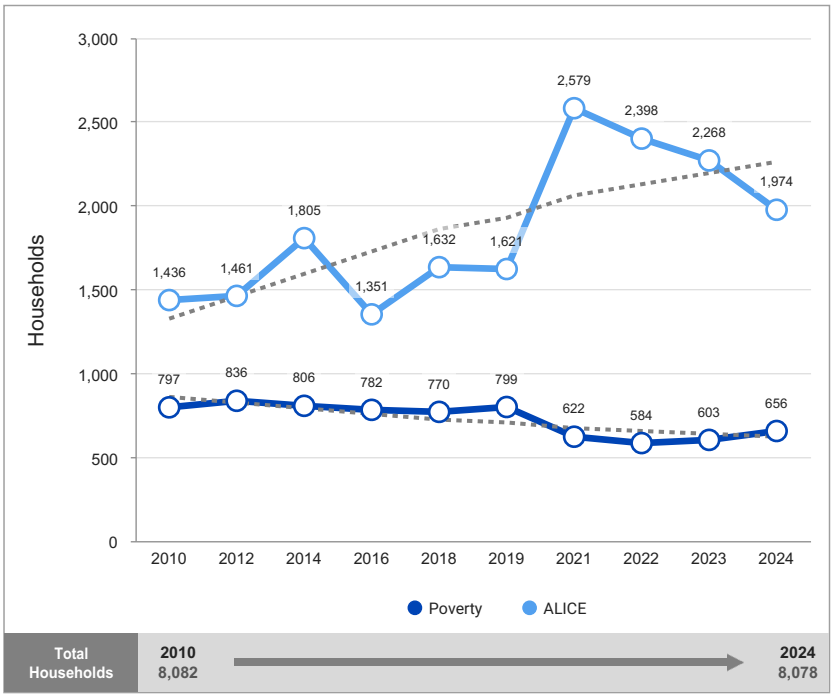
ALICE Households: 24% (state average 26%) **Households in Poverty:** 8% (state average 12%)

TRENDS IN FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

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. Households below the ALICE Threshold — ALICE households plus those in poverty — can't afford the essentials.

The line graph to the right shows the number of ALICE and poverty-level households (blue lines), as well as the trend over time (dotted gray lines). By 2024, there were 2,630 households (33%) below the ALICE Threshold in Spencer County.

ALICE and Poverty-Level Households, Spencer County, 2010–2024



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2010–2024; American Community Survey, 2010–2024

THE COST OF BASICS OUTPACES WAGES

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

To see costs for different household compositions in Spencer County, visit UnitedForALICE.org/household-budgets/indiana

Household Survival Budget, Spencer County, 2024

Monthly Costs	Single Adult	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
Housing	$644	$949
Child Care	$0	$1,092
Food	$451	$1,224
Transportation	$356	$802
Health Care	$181	$700
Technology	$99	$133
Miscellaneous	$173	$490
Taxes	$285	$493
Monthly Total	$2,189	$5,883
ANNUAL TOTAL	**$26,268**	**$70,596**
Hourly Wage	*$13.13*	*$35.30*

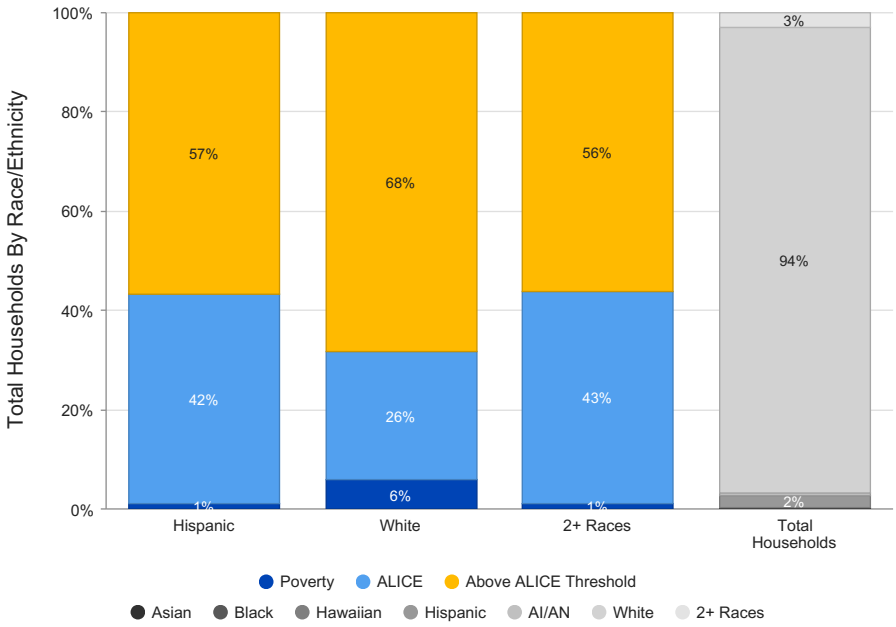
Note: Full-time hourly wage represents the wage needed at 40 hours per week to support the annual totals. For a family of four, this represents the combined wage needed for two workers.

Sources: For ALICE Household Survival Budget sources, see the Methodology page

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IS NOT EQUALLY DISTRIBUTED

Groups with the largest total number of households below the ALICE Threshold tend to be the largest demographic groups in the state. However, when looking at the proportion of each group that is below the ALICE Threshold, it is clear that some groups are more likely to be ALICE than others.

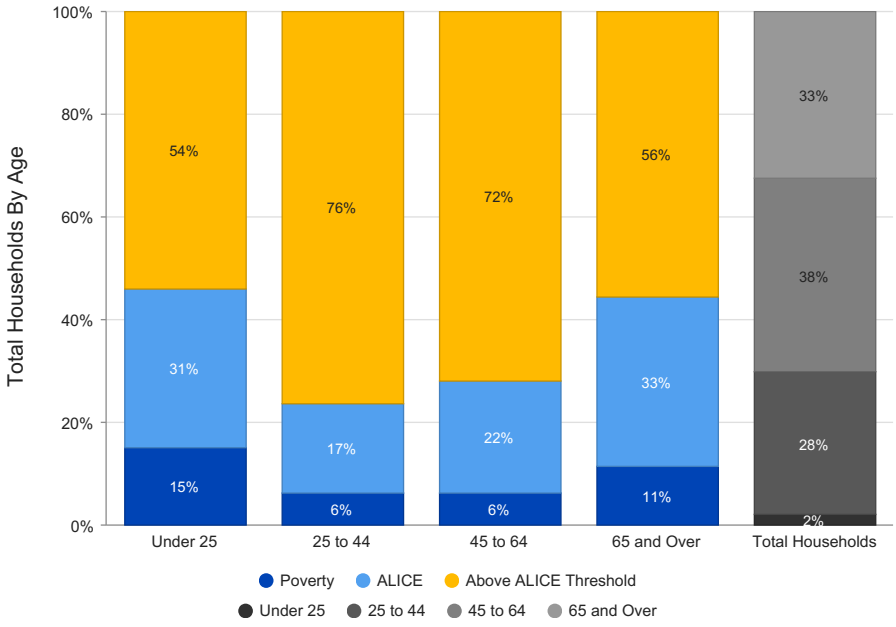
Households by Race/Ethnicity, Spencer County, 2024



Notes: All racial categories except Two or More Races are for one race alone. Race and ethnicity are overlapping categories; the AI/AN (American Indian/Alaska Native), Asian, Black, Hawaiian (includes other Pacific Islanders), and Two or More Races groups may include Hispanic households. The White group includes only White, non-Hispanic households. The Hispanic group may include households of any race.

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2024; American Community Survey, 2024

Households by Age of Householder, Spencer County, 2024



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2024; American Community Survey, 2024

Spencer County, 2024

Zip Code	Total Households	% ALICE & Poverty
ZCTA5 47523	1,262	26%
ZCTA5 47531	382	7%
ZCTA5 47537	378	41%
ZCTA5 47550	284	27%
ZCTA5 47577	466	42%
ZCTA5 47579	1,101	24%
ZCTA5 47611	423	42%
ZCTA5 47615	689	33%
ZCTA5 47634	895	38%
ZCTA5 47635	2,356	40%

Note: The data in this table are 1-year American Community Survey estimates for counties with more than 65,000 total households and 5-year estimates for counties with fewer than 65,000 total households. Geographies with fewer than 100 households are not included. Therefore, totals will not always match the county-level numbers.

Sources: American Community Survey, 2024; ALICE Threshold, 2024