

ALICE IN CATAWBA COUNTY



2023 Point-in-Time Data

Population: 164,645 • **Number of Households:** 68,126

Median Household Income: \$64,214 (state: \$70,804)

Labor Force Participation Rate: 62.5% (state: 63.2%)

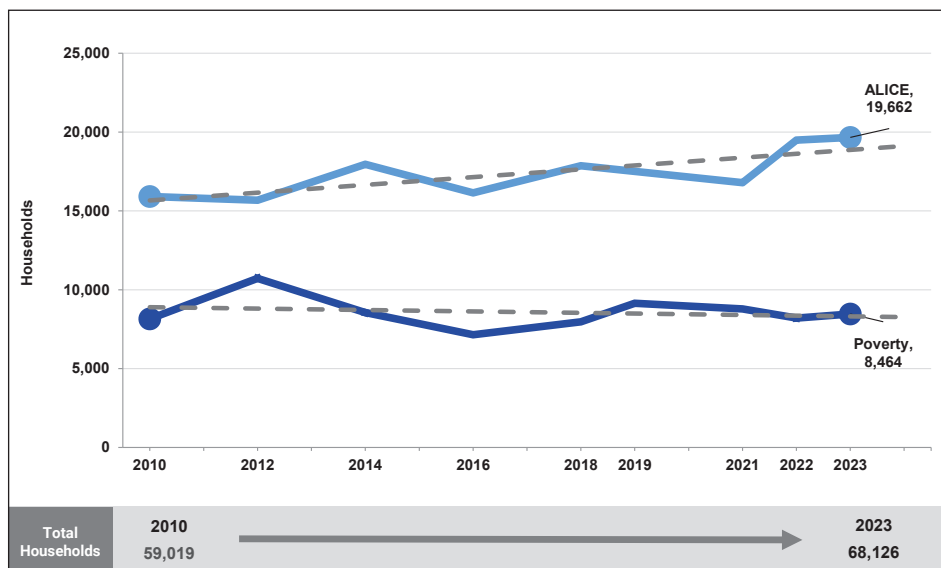
ALICE Households: 29% (state: 29%) • **Households in Poverty:** 12% (state: 13%)

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

Households move below or above the ALICE Threshold as economic factors and circumstances change. The line graph to the right shows the number of ALICE and poverty-level households (solid blue lines), as well as the trend over time (dotted gray lines). **By 2023, 28,126 households (41%) were below the ALICE Threshold in Catawba County.**

ALICE and Poverty-Level Households, Catawba County, 2010–2023



Note: See an interactive version of this data at UnitedForALICE.org/North-Carolina

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2010–2023; American Community Survey, 2010–2023

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.

In 2023, household costs in Catawba County were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$14,580 for a single adult and \$30,000 for a family of four.

To see costs for different household compositions in Catawba County, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Household-Budgets/North-Carolina

Household Survival Budget, Catawba County, 2023

	Single Adult	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
Monthly Costs		
Housing	\$770	\$935
Child Care	–	\$1,578
Food	\$456	\$1,237
Transportation	\$408	\$935
Health Care	\$192	\$757
Technology	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$191	\$556
Taxes	\$306	\$645
Monthly Total	\$2,409	\$6,759
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$28,908	\$81,108
Hourly Wage*	\$14.45	\$40.55

**Full-time wage required to support this budget*

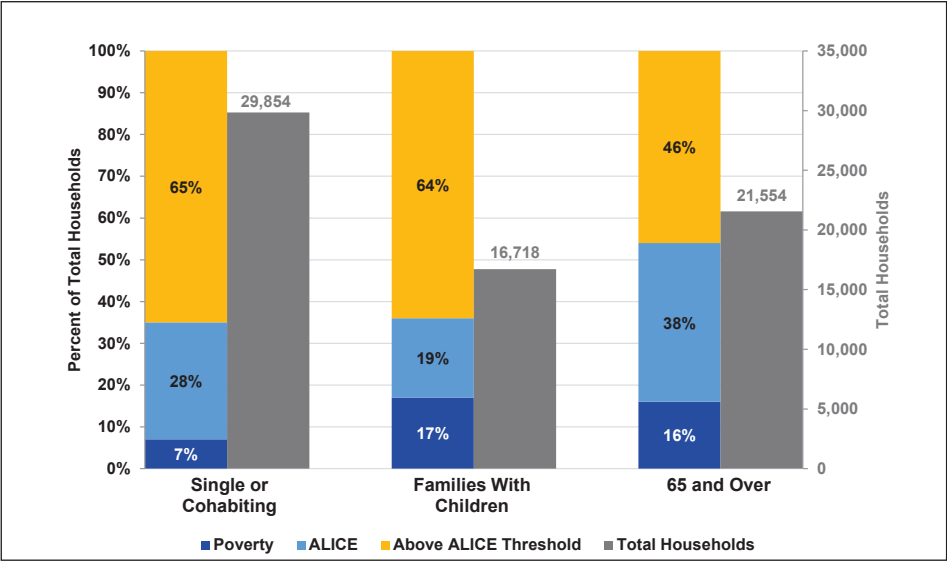
For ALICE Household Survival Budget sources, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Methodology

Financial Hardship is Not Evenly Distributed

The largest demographic groups in the county also tend to have the largest number of households below the ALICE Threshold. However, when looking at the percentage of each group that is below the Threshold, some groups face higher rates of hardship.

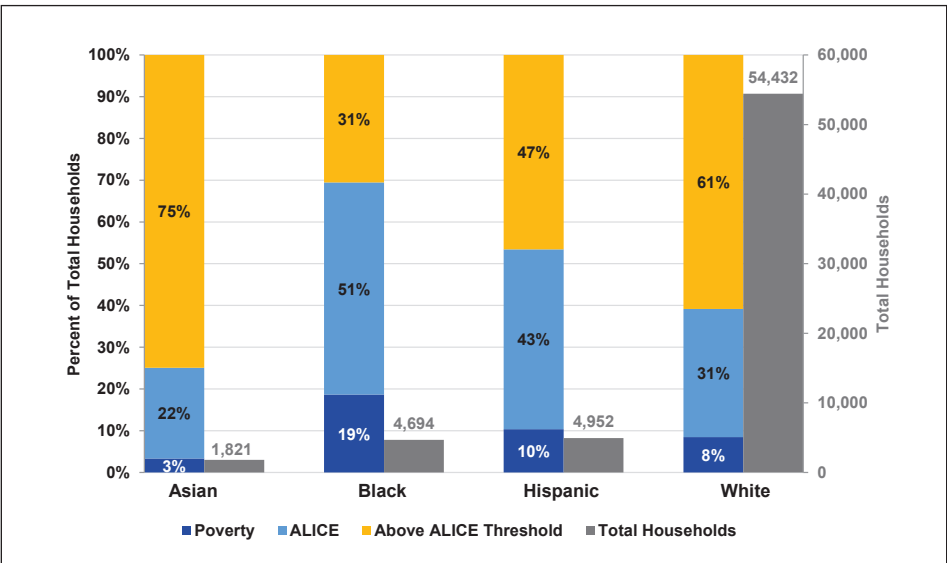
Explore more demographic data at UnitedForALICE.org/North-Carolina and visit UnitedForALICE.org/Mapping-Tool to see ALICE data for all available geographies.

Household Financial Status by Household Type, Catawba County, 2023



Note: Families with children include married-parent, single-female-headed, and single-male-headed households.
Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2023; American Community Survey, 2023

Household Financial Status by Race/Ethnicity, Catawba County, 2023



Note: Asian, Black, and White racial categories are for one race alone. Race and Hispanic ethnicity are overlapping categories. The Asian and Black groups may include Hispanic households; the White group includes only White, non-Hispanic households. The Hispanic ethnic group may include households of any race.
Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2023; American Community Survey, 2023

Catawba County, 2023		
Town	Total Households	% ALICE & Poverty
Bandy's township	1,962	44%
Brookford town	180	58%
Caldwell township	3,187	32%
Catawba town	343	60%
Catawba township	3,672	43%
Claremont city	844	47%
Clines township	10,877	41%
Conover city	3,412	45%
Hickory city	17,309	42%
Hickory township	25,836	44%
Jacobs Fork township	1,971	31%
Lake Norman of Catawba CDP	3,871	17%
Long View town	2,173	60%
Maiden town	1,391	50%
Mountain Creek township	4,927	21%
Mountain View CDP	1,223	37%
Newton city	5,139	45%
Newton township	12,769	44%
St. Stephens CDP	3,913	48%

Note: Municipal-level data on this page is 5-year averages for U.S. Census County Subdivisions, which include Census County Divisions (CCDs) and Places, which include Incorporated Places and Census Designated Places (CDPs). Data for counties with populations over 65,000 is 1-year estimates. Geographies with fewer than 100 households are not included. Therefore, totals will not match the county-level numbers.