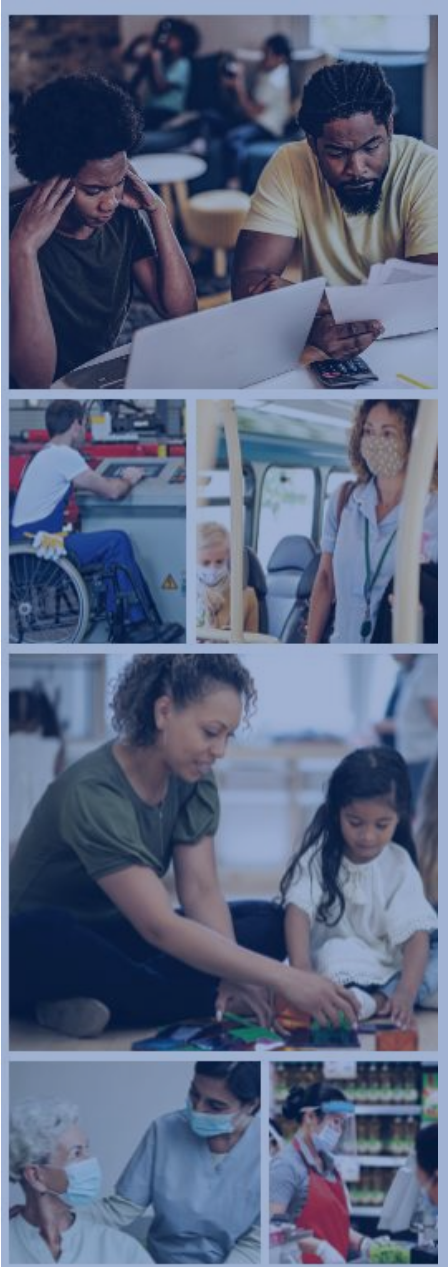


# ALICE:

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed.





# ALICE Methodology: Overview.



ALICE Household Survival Budget Methodology Overview		
	Description	Source
<b>Housing</b>	Fair Market Rent (40th percentile) for an efficiency, one-bedroom, or two-bedroom apartment (based on family size), adjusted in metro areas using the ACS – minus utilities.	ACS metro housing costs and US Department of Housing and Urban Development
<b>Utilities</b>	As captured by the Community Expenditure Survey.	CEX
<b>Child Care</b>	Cost for registered Family Child Care Homes for infants (0-2 years), preschool-age (3-4), and school-age children (5-12).	Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, 2022
<b>Food</b>	USDA Thrifty Food Plan by age with county variation from Feeding America; reflects updates to USDA Thrifty Plan in 2021.	Feeding America; US Department of Agriculture (USDA)
<b>Transportation</b>	Operating costs for a car (average daily miles by age, cost per mile, license, fees, and insurance), or public transportation where viable.	AAA, Federal Highway Administration, The Zebra (car); CEX (public transportation)
<b>Health Care</b>	Health insurance premiums based on employer-sponsored plans plus out-of-pocket costs for households with \$40,000-\$69,000 annual income by age, weighted with poor-health multiplier.	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS); CEX (health); Medical Expenditure Panel Survey
<b>Technology</b>	Smartphone plan with 10GB of data for each adult in a household; increased from 5GB to 10GB data to reflect increased need for internet access.	Consumer Reports
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Cost overruns estimated at 10% of the budget, excluding taxes, to cover one-time unanticipated costs within the other categories.	
<b>Taxes</b>	Federal, state, and local taxes owed on the amount of income to cover the Survival Budget, as well as tax credits, including the federal Child Tax Credit (CTC) and the federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC); due to the significant effect of the expanded tax credits in 2021, total taxes before federal credits and the credits are both listed.	Internal Revenue Services; Tax Foundation

The full 2023 ALICE Report methodology is available at [unitedforalice.org/methodology](https://unitedforalice.org/methodology)



[alice.ctunitedway.org](https://alice.ctunitedway.org) | [UnitedforALICE.org](https://UnitedforALICE.org)



COVID AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN  
**CONNECTICUT**

2023 Report | [UnitedforALICE.org](https://UnitedforALICE.org)



## Connecticut Key Findings:

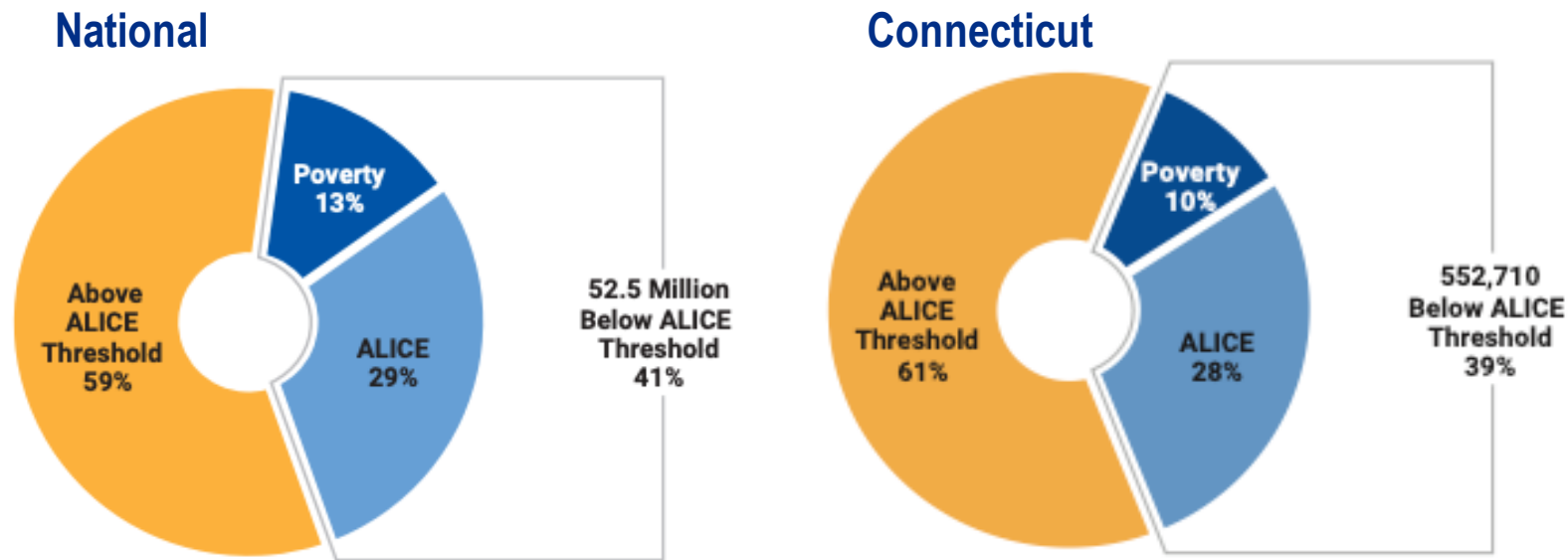
- Financial hardship of Connecticut households continues to grow.
- The problem: a mismatch between wages and the costs of basics.
- Racial, age and gender disparities persist.
- Pandemic-related enhancements to federal benefits have expired – increasing the strain.
- The rising costs of household essentials is putting financial stability further out of reach.



Connecticut United Ways



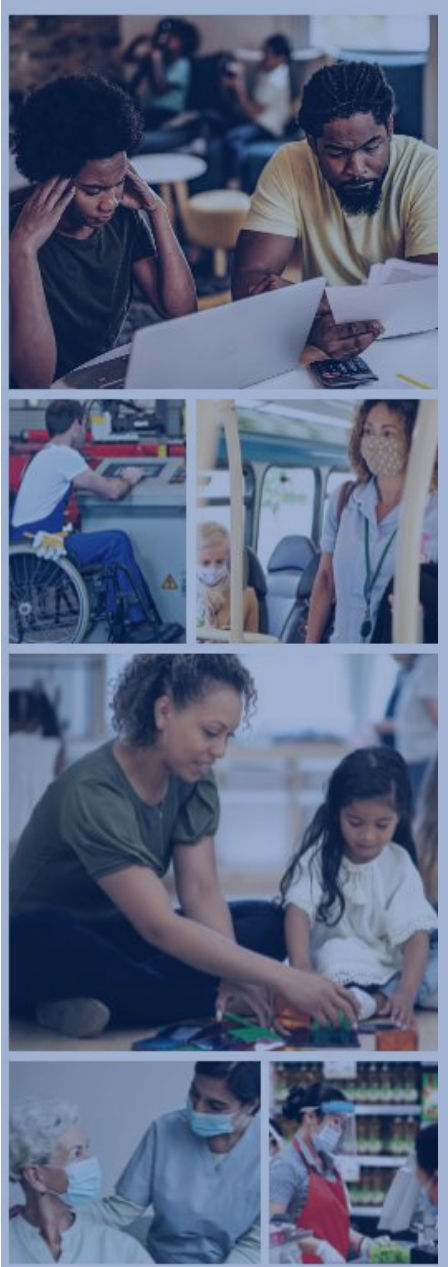
Of the 1.4 million households in Connecticut, 552,710 – or 39 percent – had income below the ALICE Threshold of Financial Survival in 2021; more than 54,000 additional households compared to 2019.



# What households are saying:

- **20 percent** did not have enough food;
- **19 percent** were behind on rent; and,
- **22 percent** felt nervous, anxious and/or on edge every single day.





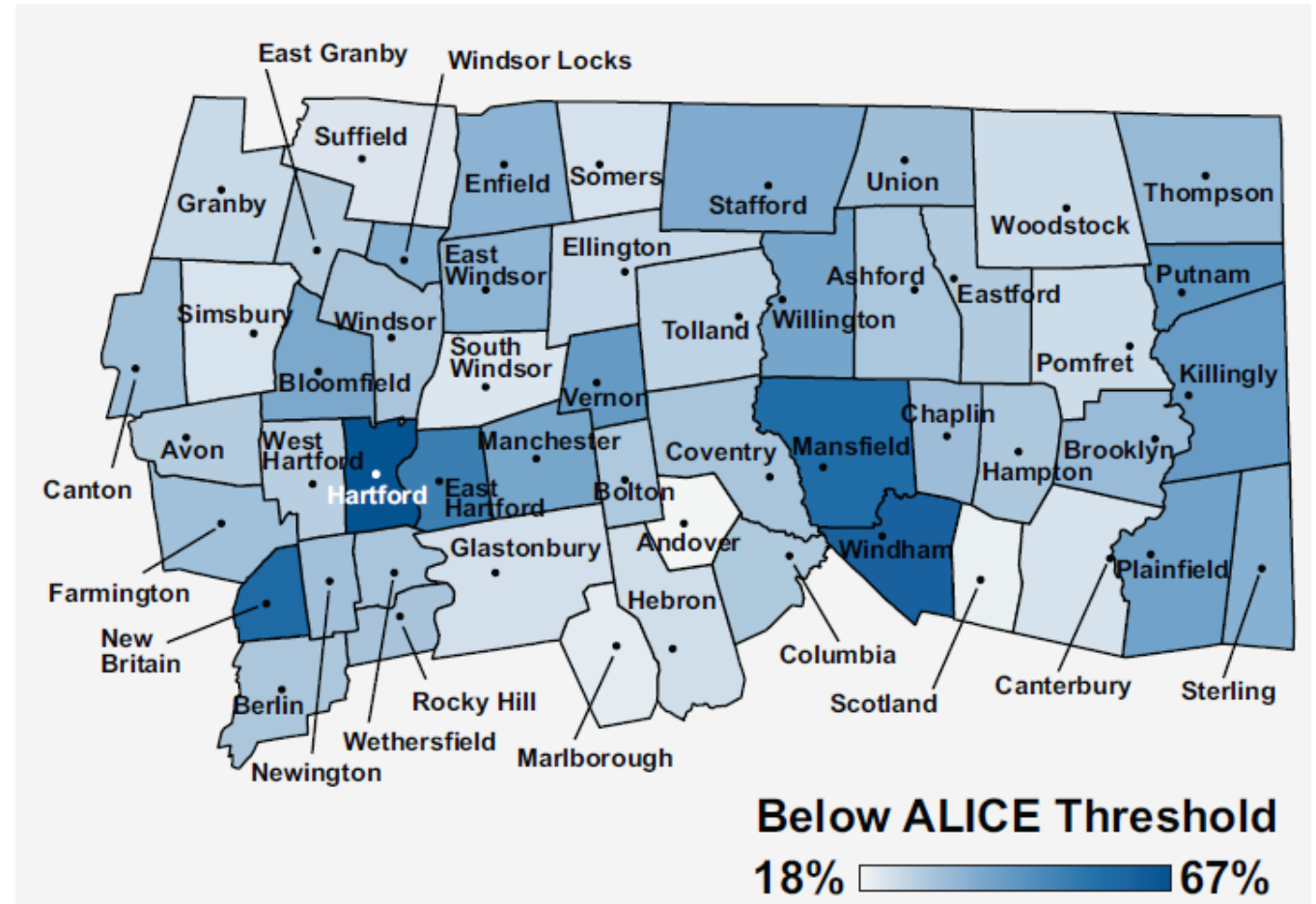
## KEY FINDING:

Financial hardship continues to grow in Connecticut.

# ALICE households live in every community in our region.

39 percent of central and northeastern Connecticut households live below the ALICE Threshold.

In some communities, that percentage is as high as 68 percent.





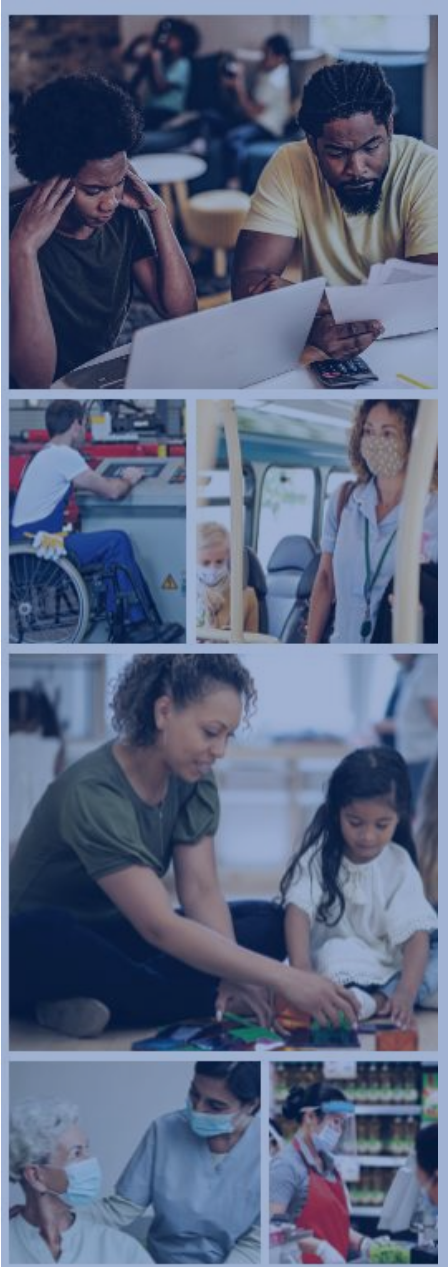
Town	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Andover	1,178	18%
Ashford	1,762	29%
Avon	7,398	27%
Berlin	8,105	29%
Bloomfield	8,802	37%
Bolton	1,868	28%
Brooklyn	2,807	32%
Canterbury	2,138	22%
Canton	4,232	30%
Chaplin	893	32%
Columbia	2,216	28%
Coventry	4,780	29%
East Granby	1,896	27%
East Hartford	19,647	51%
East Windsor	4,916	34%
Eastford	630	28%
Ellington	6,714	25%
Enfield	16,588	34%
Farmington	10,986	31%
Glastonbury	14,078	23%

Town	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Granby	4,247	24%
Hampton	690	29%
Hartford	46,879	67%
Hebron	3,603	23%
Killingly	7,099	41%
Manchester	24,952	38%
Mansfield	6,482	57%
Marlborough	2,142	20%
New Britain	28,261	58%
Newington	12,575	30%
Plainfield	6,045	39%
Pomfret	1,690	24%
Putnam	3,756	43%
Rocky Hill	8,894	30%
Scotland	591	19%
Simsbury	9,110	22%
Somers	3,340	22%
South Windsor	9,926	21%
Stafford	4,747	37%

Town	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Sterling	1,255	35%
Suffield	5,209	21%
Thompson	3,802	33%
Tolland	5,411	26%
Union	413	31%
Vernon	13,695	42%
West Hartford	25,805	27%
Wethersfield	11,411	29%
Willington	2,542	38%
Windham	8,862	62%
Windsor	11,278	29%
Windsor Locks	5,357	35%
Woodstock	3,405	24%
United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut	405,108	39%
Connecticut	1,397,324	39%

# The Household Survival Budget adjusts for geography and household composition.

View more household compositions and maps by county, town and legislative district at [unitedforalice.org/Connecticut](https://unitedforalice.org/Connecticut)



## KEY FINDING:

The problem - mismatch between wages and the cost of basics.

## Eight of the 20 Most Common Occupations, Connecticut, 2021.

Occupation	Total Employment (BLS)	Median Hourly Wage (BLS)	Percent Median Wage Change From 2019 (BLS)	Percent Workers Below ALICE Threshold (ACS PUMS)
Retail Salesperson	41,520	\$14.16	6%	32%
Personal Care Aides	38,040	\$14.30	12%	58%
Cashiers	37,600	\$13.80	17%	43%
Stockers and Order Fillers	30,160	\$17.34	29%	43%
Driver/Sales Workers and Truck Drivers	29,060	\$20.53	2%	28%
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	24,960	\$22.73	-1%	24%
Cooks	18,930	\$16.56	11%	46%
Secondary School Teachers	16,890	\$37.72	-1%	9%

**60 percent**  
of the top 20  
jobs in  
Connecticut  
paid **less**  
**than \$20/hour**  
(\$40,000/year)  
in 2021.

Data for the 20 top occupations in Connecticut, 2021, are available in the 2023 ALICE Report.

## Household Survival Budget, 2021\*

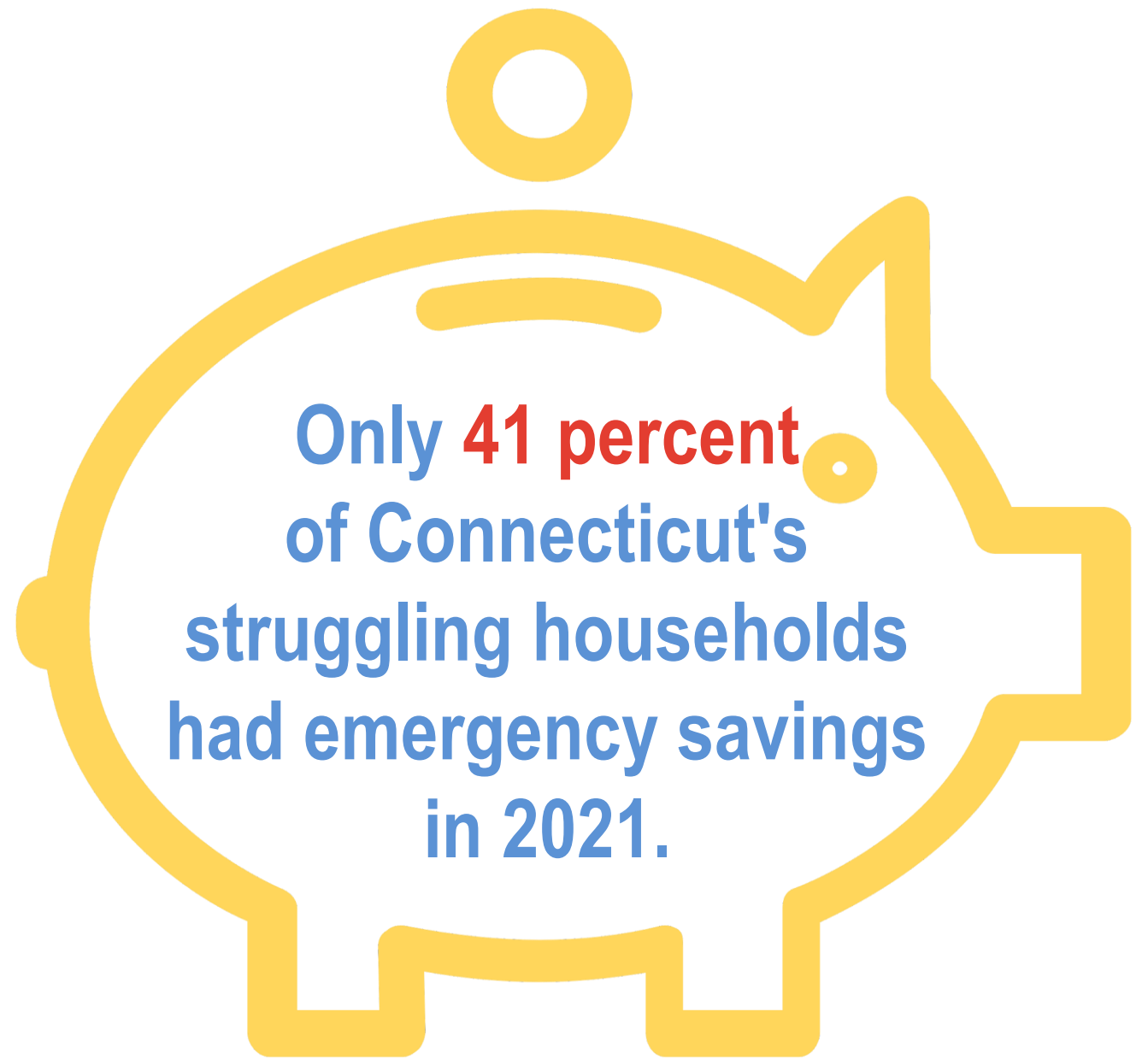
	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER
<b>Monthly Costs</b>		
Housing	\$719	\$965
Utilities	\$154	\$292
Child Care	-	\$1,910
Food	\$489	\$1,334
Transportation	\$357	\$834
Health Care	\$241	\$815
Technology	\$75	\$110
Miscellaneous	\$204	\$626
Taxes	\$395	\$1,383
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$2,634</b>	<b>\$8,269</b>
<b>Annual Total before Credits</b>	<b>\$31,608</b>	<b>\$99,228</b>
<b>Full-Time Hourly Wage**</b>	<b>\$15.80</b>	<b>\$49.61</b>
Federal Tax Credits (CTC and CDCTC)***		(\$15,204)
<b>Monthly Total with credits</b>	<b>\$2,634</b>	<b>\$7,002</b>
<b>Annual Total with Credits</b>	<b>\$31,608</b>	<b>\$84,024</b>
<b>Full-Time Hourly Wage with Credits**</b>	<b>\$18.67</b>	<b>\$42.01</b>

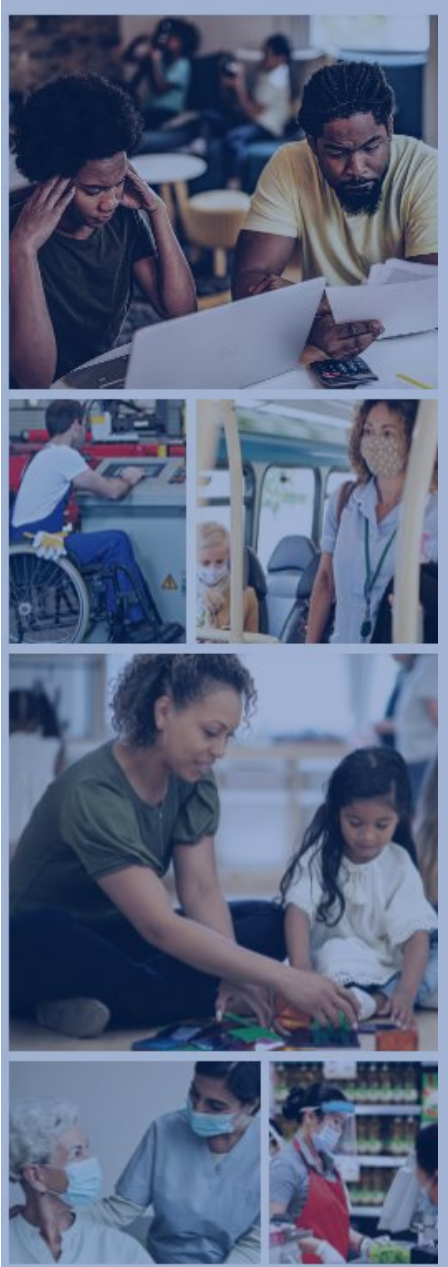
The **ALICE Household Survival Budget** provides the *bare minimum budget* for essentials by household composition, in every county.

\*Full-Time Hourly Wage is based on working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year.

The Household Survival Budget includes only the necessities to live and work in the modern economy.

Most notably, it does not include **savings** or **debt service**.





## KEY FINDING:

Rates of financial hardship in Connecticut differed substantially by race, age and gender.



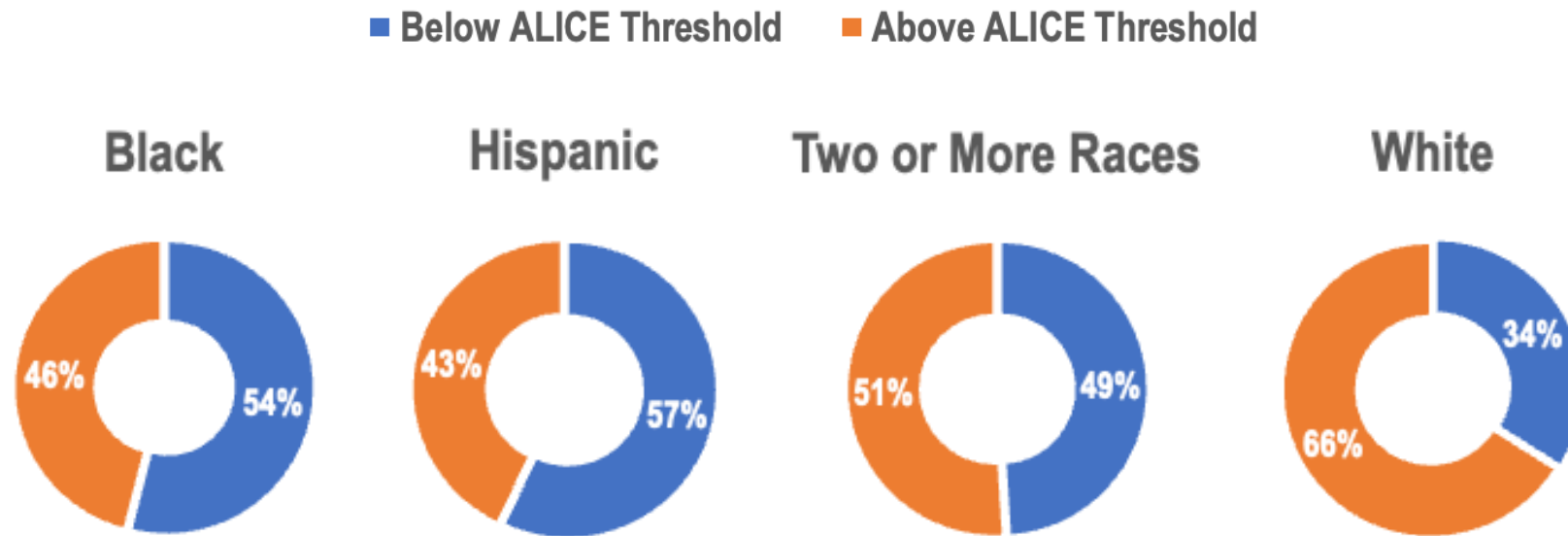
Disparities are a result of multiple factors including **persistent racism, gender discrimination, age and geographic barriers.**

In Connecticut:

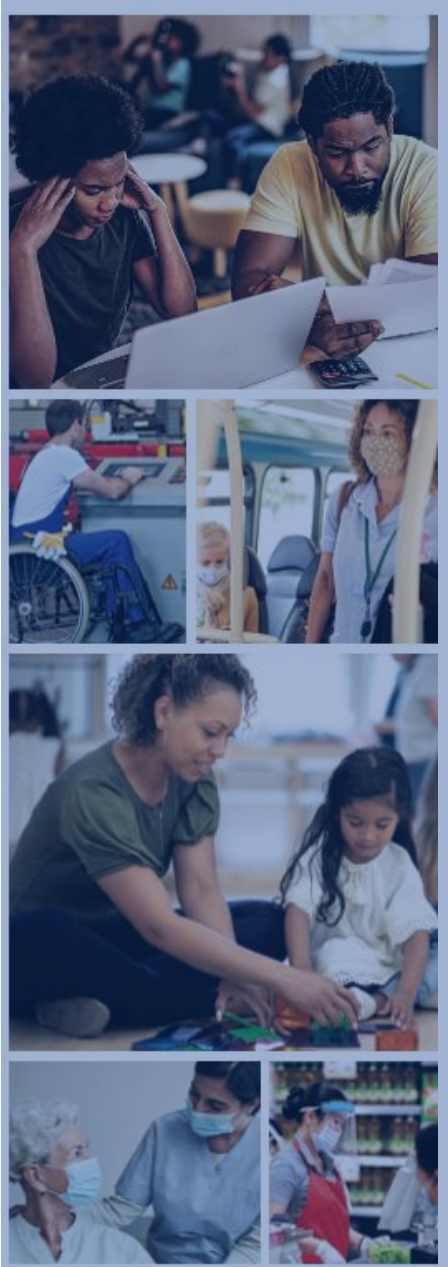
- 54 percent of Black households
- 57 percent of Hispanic households
- 68 percent of female-headed households with children
- Youngest (25 and younger) and Eldest (65+) households

lived below the ALICE Threshold.

In many cases, the **pandemic exposed and exacerbated disparities** and vulnerabilities that have long existed in our society, with substantial differences in rates of hardship by race/ethnicity, age and household composition.



In Connecticut in 2021, **Black and Hispanic households, young households and single-parent households had the highest rates below the ALICE Threshold.** White and Asian households, working-age households and married-parent households had the lowest rates below the Threshold.



## KEY FINDING:

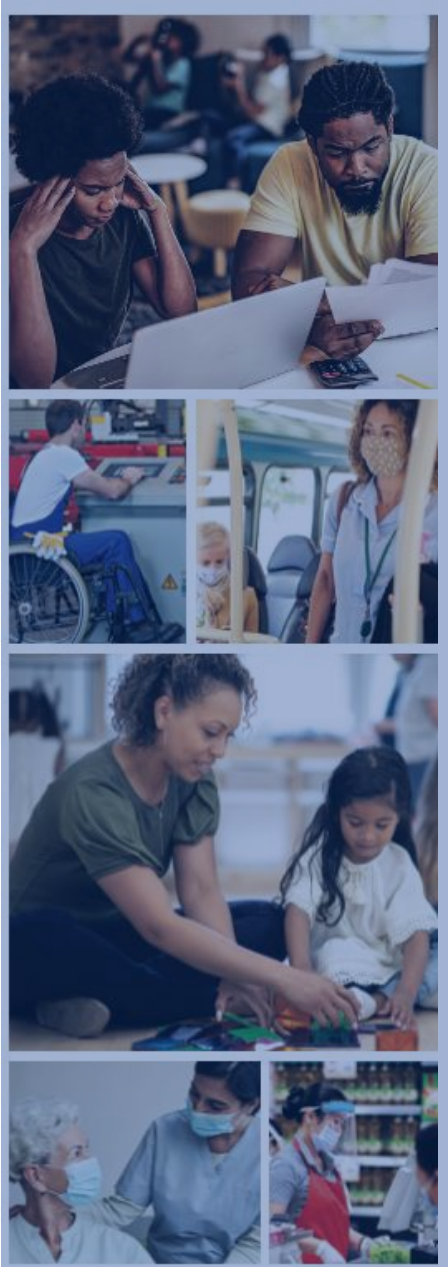
Pandemic-related enhancements to federal benefits have expired – increasing the strain.

In 2021, the enhanced **federal Child Tax Credit + Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit** contributed **\$15,204** to the household budget of two working adults with one infant and one toddler.



## Pandemic Assistance in 2021:

- **January to November 2021** — Emergency rental assistance provided on average \$4,345 to lower-income households to pay rent/utilities
- **March 2021** — Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,400 for eligible individuals.
- **July to December 2021** — enhanced Child Tax Credit + direct monthly payments (up to \$300/month/child).
- **September 2021** — National end of all Emergency Pandemic UI benefits.
- **October 2021** — End of CDC's eviction moratorium.



## KEY FINDING:

The rising costs of household essentials is putting financial stability further out of reach.

The **ALICE Essentials Index**, which measures change over time in the cost of household essentials, projects an **18.2 percent statewide increase in the Household Survival Budget from 2021 to 2023** (before taxes).

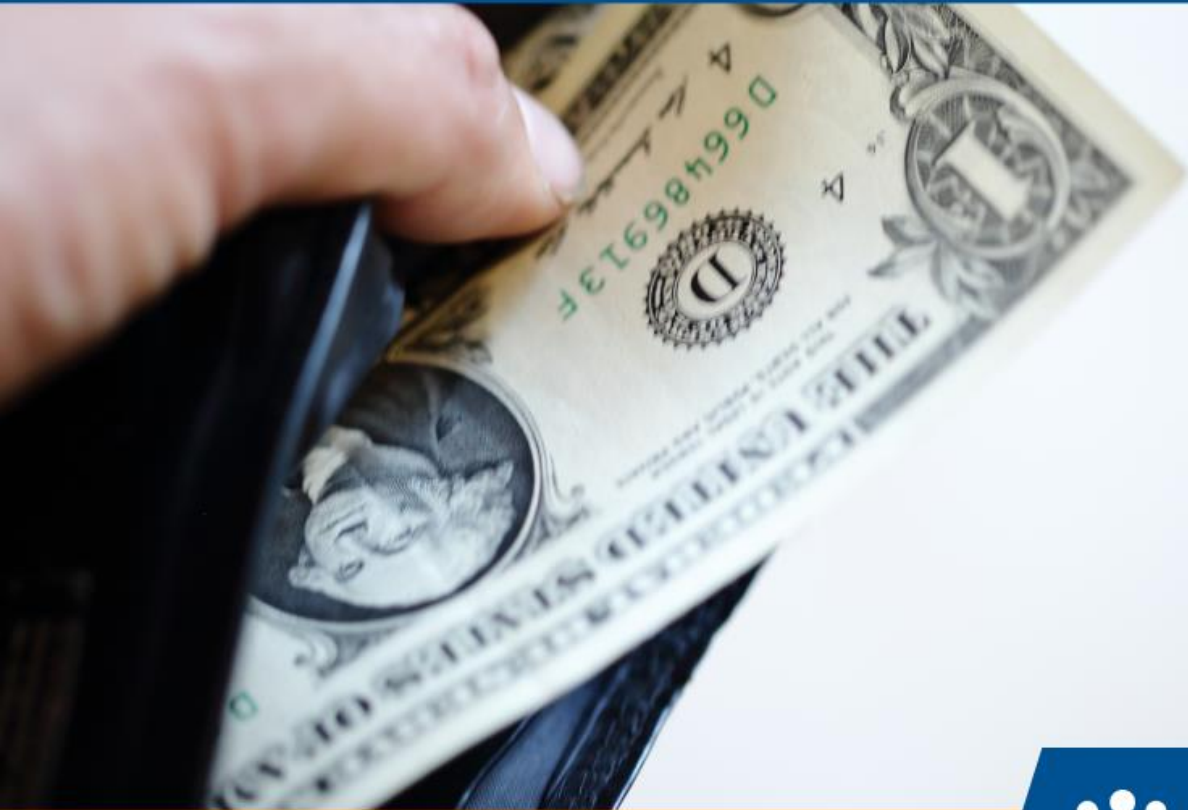
For the average central and northeastern Connecticut household, depending on the available tax credits, the costs of basics in 2023 could be as high as **\$117,000 for a family of four** and **\$37,300 for a single adult**.

Learn more at [unitedforalice.org/essentials-index](https://unitedforalice.org/essentials-index).





# ALICE IS LOSING MAJOR GROUND



With the cost of basics climbing higher and ALICE wages failing to keep up, ALICE households continue to lose buying power.

*For a retail salesperson in Connecticut, that loss over 15 years equates to nearly \$42,500 – more than a full year's earnings.*

#ALICEindex



Connecticut United Ways





UNITED WAY RAPID RESPONSE FUND:  
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



United Way of Central and  
Northeastern Connecticut

<https://unitedwayinc.org/rapid-response/>

# Questions.



Connecticut United Ways



# THANK YOU!

For more information, contact:  
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[alice.ctunitedway.org](http://alice.ctunitedway.org)



Connecticut United Ways

