

WHO IS ALICE?

ALICE stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed and it refers to a large percentage of our population that work hard and earn above the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), but not enough to afford the basic household budget of housing, child care, food, transportation, and health care. ALICE households include women and men, single adults and families, young and old, urban, suburban, and rural, and all races and ethnicities, and they live in every county in the Pacific Northwest.

WHAT IS THE ALICE REPORT?

The ALICE report is an in-depth and more accurate measure of individuals above the poverty line that are still struggling to make ends meet. This groundbreaking report from United Way reveals a closer look at this population in the Pacific Northwest - Washington, Idaho, and Oregon. The report provides state, county, and city specific data.

CORE STATISTICS:

	Washington	Whatcom County
% Households below ALICE but above poverty	19%	24%
% Households below Poverty line	13%	18%
Total ALICE and Poverty	32%	42%
Survival Budget family of 4	\$52,152	\$57,672
Survival Budget single adult	\$17,280	\$18,396
Stability Budget family of 4	\$98,340	

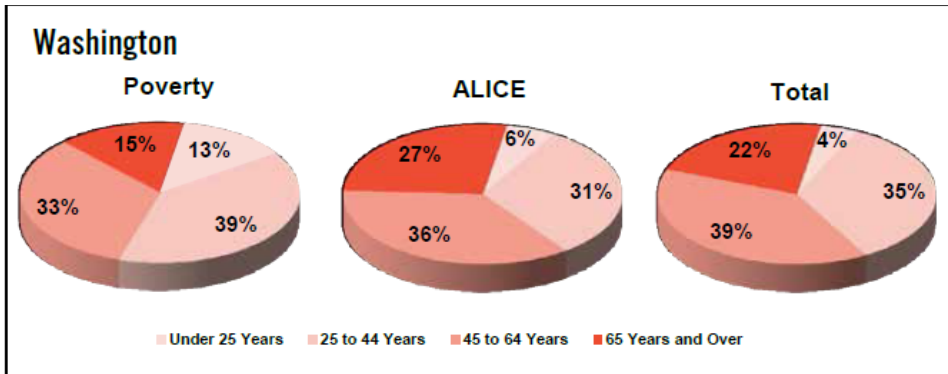
HOW IS THE ALICE RESEARCH CONDUCTED?

- The report uses publicly available data from available sources including the U.S. Census, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- The lead researcher is United Way ALICE Project National Director Stephanie Hoopes, Ph.D., who works from the Project's home base at United Way of Northern New Jersey and is on the faculty at Rutgers University-Newark's School of Public Affairs and Administration.
- Each state has an ALICE Research Advisory Committee that is part of the research team and is comprised of top experts from that state representing academia, government, business and nonprofits.

WHY UNDERTAKE THE ALICE STUDY?

- Our region had an opportunity to partner with this research group which has conducted this study with other United Ways across the country
- The federal poverty rate measures a particular group in our society but does not necessarily measure individuals who are struggling outside of that group
- The study provides objective, comprehensive data that can be used for driving community progress while supporting ongoing work to build a stronger community

Figure 10.
Household Income by Age, Pacific Northwest, 2013

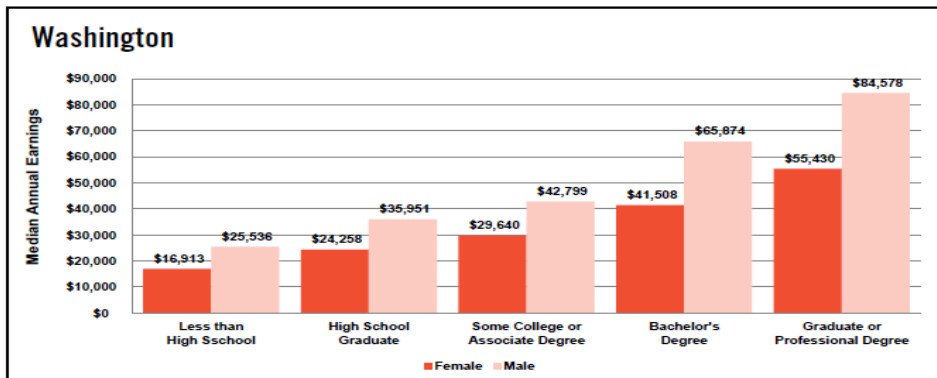


Source: American Community Survey, 2013, and the ALICE Threshold, 2013

KEY FACT

ALICE is men and women, young and old, of all races, largely mirroring the state's basic demographic make-up. More than one third are within their prime wage-earning years of 45 to 64 years old.

Figure 18.
Median Annual Earnings by Education and Gender, Pacific Northwest, 2013

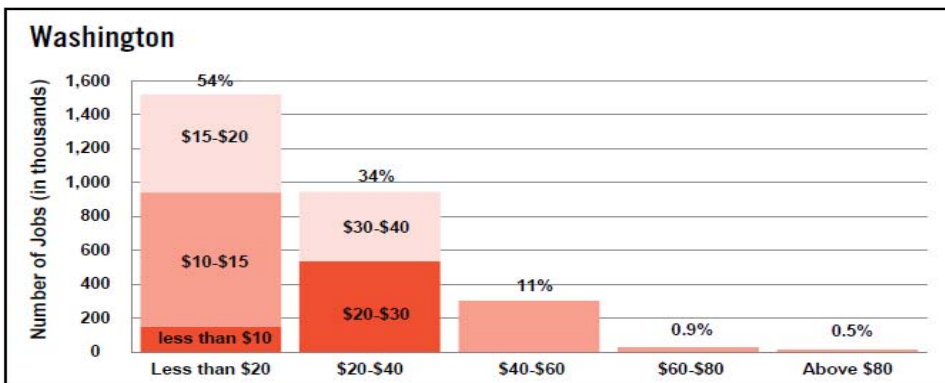


Source: American Community Survey, 2013

KEY FACT

Individuals of both genders earn more the higher their education level. This is one of the reasons why United Way focuses so heavily on early learning and increasing the high school graduation rate.

Figure 24.
Number of Jobs by Hourly Wage, Pacific Northwest, 2013



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013b

KEY FACT

More than half of all jobs in the Pacific Northwest pay less than \$20 an hour even though just to reach a survival budget for a family of 4 one person would need to make \$28 an hour. Childcare is the largest expense e for these families.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

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