

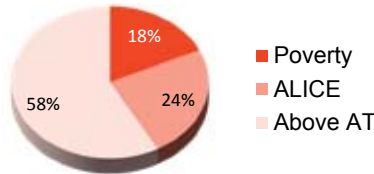
# ALICE IN WHATCOM COUNTY

## 2013 Point-in-Time Data

**Population:** 206,353 | **Number of Households:** 78,330  
**Median Household Income:** \$50,186 (state average: \$58,405)  
**Unemployment Rate:** 8% (state average: 7.9%)  
**Gini Coefficient** (zero = equality; one = inequality): 0.45 (state average: 0.46)

## How many households are struggling?

**ALICE**, an acronym for **A**sset Limited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mloyed, are households that earn more than the U.S. poverty level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county. Combined, the number of poverty and ALICE households equals the total population struggling to afford basic needs.



## What are the economic conditions?

The **Economic Viability Dashboard** evaluates community conditions for ALICE in three core areas. Each is an index with a scale of 1 (worst) to 100 (best).

**Housing Affordability**  
poor (30)

**Job Opportunities**  
fair (50)

**Community Resources**  
fair (55)

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

This bare-minimum budget does not allow for any savings, leaving a household vulnerable to unexpected expenses. Affording only a very modest living in each community, this budget is still significantly more than the U.S. poverty level of \$11,490 for a single adult and \$23,550 for a family of four.

Whatcom County, 2013		
Town	Total HH	% ALICE & Poverty
Bellingham City	34,018	49%
Birch Bay CDP	3,541	41%
Blaine City	2,130	38%
Custer CDP	247	40%
Deming CDP	103	59%
Everson City	875	45%
Ferndale City	4,355	37%
Geneva CDP	882	16%
Lynden City	4,749	34%
Maple Falls CDP	155	58%
Marietta-Alderwood CDP	1,625	57%
Nooksack City	416	28%
Peaceful Valley CDP	1,432	55%
Point Roberts CDP	652	46%
Sudden Valley CDP	2,645	21%
Sumas City	422	39%

## Household Survival Budget, Whatcom County

	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER
Housing	\$583	\$902
Child Care	\$0	\$1,419
Food	\$191	\$579
Transportation	\$350	\$700
Health Care	\$119	\$474
Miscellaneous	\$139	\$437
Taxes	\$151	\$295
Monthly total	\$1,533	\$4,806
<b>ANNUAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,396</b>	<b>\$57,672</b>
Hourly wage	\$9.20	\$28.84

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and state Treasury, and ChildCare Aware, 2013; American Community Survey, 1 year estimate.

NOTE: Municipal-level data on this page is for Census Places. Totals will not match county-level data; municipal-level data often relies on 3- and 5-year averages and is not available for the smallest towns that do not report income.