

ALICE IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, D.C. METRO AREA, 2024

Population: 702,250 **Number of Households:** 329,687

Median Household Income: \$109,707

Labor Force Participation Rate: 71%

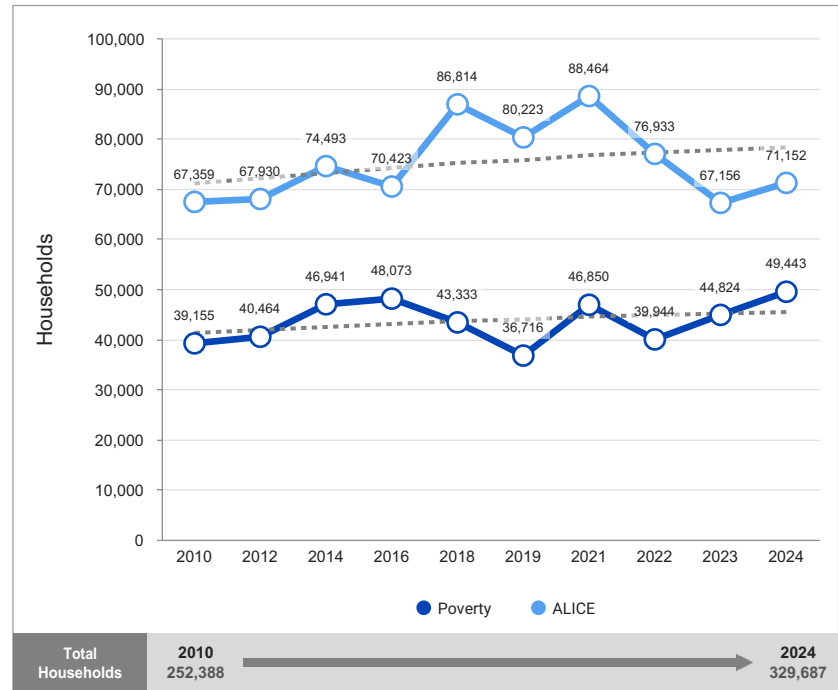
ALICE Households: 22% **Households in Poverty:** 15%

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 120,595 households (37%) below the ALICE Threshold in District of Columbia.

ALICE and Poverty-Level Households, District of Columbia, 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 District of Columbia, visit UnitedForALICE.org/household-budgets/dc-metro

Household Survival Budget, District of Columbia, 2024		
Monthly Costs	Single Adult	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
Housing	\$1,949	\$2,250
Child Care	\$0	\$2,861
Food	\$637	\$1,728
Transportation	\$211	\$421
Health Care	\$212	\$830
Technology	\$157	\$191
Miscellaneous	\$317	\$828
Taxes	\$638	\$1,196
Monthly Total	\$4,121	\$10,305
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$49,452	\$123,660
Hourly Wage	\$24.73	\$61.83

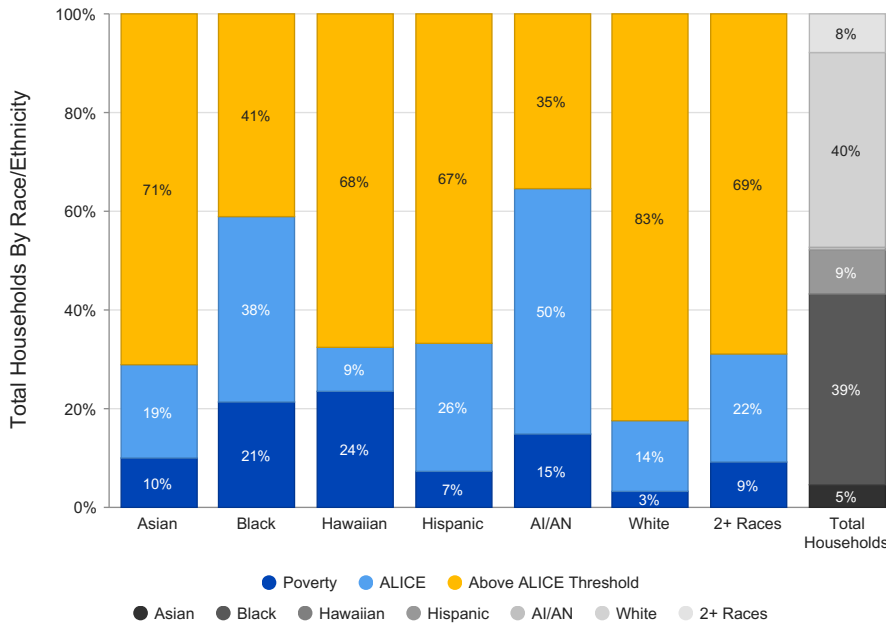
Note: Full-time hourly wage represents the wage needed at 40 hours per week to support the annual totals. For a family of four, this represents the combined wage needed for two workers.

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.

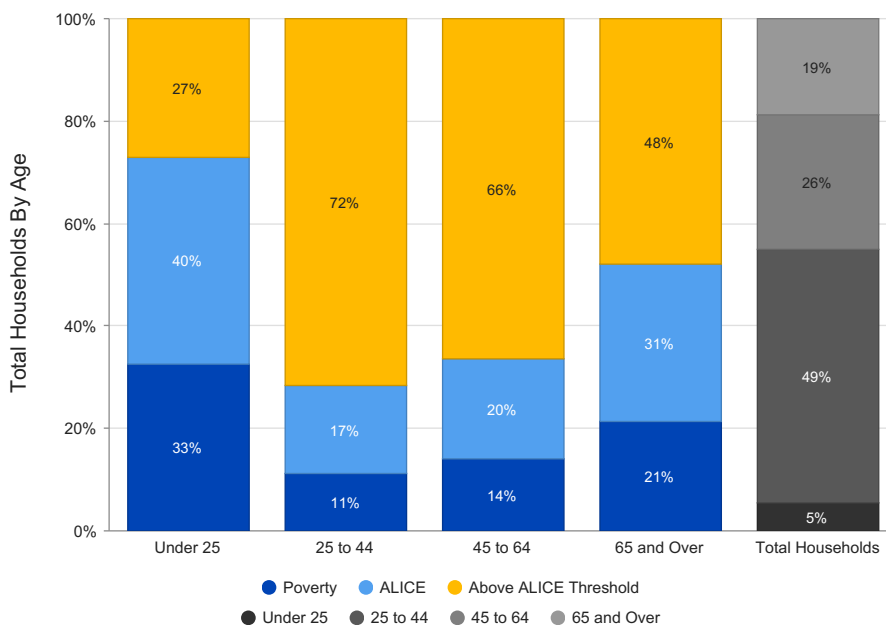
Households by Race/Ethnicity, District of Columbia, 2024



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, District of Columbia, 2024



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

District of Columbia, 2024

Zip Code	Total Households	% ALICE & Poverty
ZCTA5 20001	23,868	28%
ZCTA5 20002	35,515	31%
ZCTA5 20003	19,858	18%
ZCTA5 20004	1,274	14%
ZCTA5 20005	8,667	32%
ZCTA5 20006	729	78%
ZCTA5 20007	12,027	23%
ZCTA5 20008	16,818	28%
ZCTA5 20009	29,210	23%
ZCTA5 20010	14,376	33%
ZCTA5 20011	27,774	36%
ZCTA5 20012	7,155	34%
ZCTA5 20015	6,337	17%
ZCTA5 20016	14,294	23%
ZCTA5 20017	9,037	34%
ZCTA5 20018	9,021	44%
ZCTA5 20019	26,254	59%
ZCTA5 20020	22,943	64%
ZCTA5 20024	10,097	35%
ZCTA5 20032	17,651	65%
ZCTA5 20036	3,885	32%
ZCTA5 20037	7,579	34%

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