

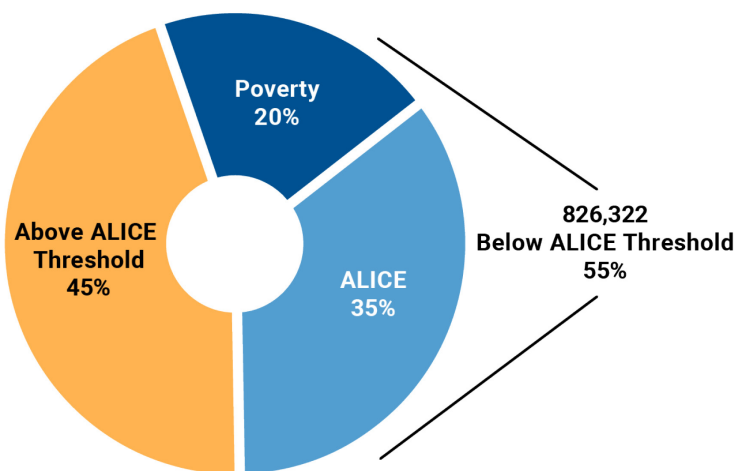
CHILDREN IN FINANCIAL HARDSHIP: TENNESSEE

The number of children growing up in financial hardship in Tennessee has been systematically undercounted. For decades, policymakers and community stakeholders have relied on the outdated Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to understand the extent of financial hardship in their communities. According to the FPL, 20% of children in Tennessee (300,924) lived in poverty in 2019. Yet United For ALICE data shows that another 35% (525,398) were also growing up in hardship, in households that earned above the FPL but not enough to afford the basics in the communities where they lived.

The reality is that 826,322 children in Tennessee — 55% of all children — lived in a household with income below the [ALICE Threshold of Financial Survival](#). These households included families in poverty as well as those who were **ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**. ALICE households don't earn enough to afford the essentials of housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, a smartphone plan, and taxes — the basics needed to live and work in the modern economy. There are children below the ALICE Threshold in [communities across the state \(PUMAs\)](#), at rates ranging from 18% in southeast Shelby County to 83% in southeast Memphis City.

Children by Household, Tennessee, 2019

Number of Children in Tennessee = 1.5 Million



Note: This research uses the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS) and focuses on children, whose ALICE status is determined by their household's income compared to local cost of living. The data does not include children who are unhoused or living in group quarters. In this brief, percentages are rounded to whole numbers for ease of reading, which may result in percentages totaling 99% or 101%. All numbers are presented in the [ALICE Children Data Dashboard](#).

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2019; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, PUMS, 2019



KEY FINDINGS

- More than half (55%) of children in Tennessee lived in households experiencing financial hardship in 2019. While 20% were below the FPL, an additional 35% were ALICE.
- While there are children below the ALICE Threshold across all demographic groups, 81% of Hispanic children and 71% of Black children in Tennessee lived in households with income below the Threshold in 2019, compared to 46% of White and 45% of Asian children.
- Having working parents or guardians does not guarantee financial stability: 33% of Tennessee children with two adults in the labor force were still below the ALICE Threshold in 2019.
- Children below the ALICE Threshold often lack access to resources ranging from stable housing and public assistance to education and broadband services. More than 529,000 children below the Threshold in Tennessee did not receive SNAP and nearly 270,000 had no high-speed internet access at home in 2019.

WHO ARE ALICE CHILDREN?

Children below the ALICE Threshold are those under age 18 living in households with income below the basic cost of living for their communities. In 2019, 18% of children below the Threshold in Tennessee were infants (0–2 years), 12% were preschool-age (3–4 years), and 71% were school-age (5–17 years). Children in Tennessee’s struggling households are from all demographic groups; they include children born in the U.S. and abroad, of all abilities and races/ethnicities, living with parents or guardians who are married or single, working or not working. Children in households below the Threshold live in rural, urban, and suburban areas across the state.

Race/Ethnicity and Nativity

In 2019, the largest number of ALICE children in Tennessee were found in the largest racial/ethnic populations: Children below the ALICE Threshold were predominantly White (443,854), Black (193,682) and Hispanic (124,195). Yet Black and Hispanic children are disproportionately represented among ALICE children — a result of [persistent discrimination and systemic barriers](#) that limit their families’ access to resources and opportunities for financial stability. In 2019, 81% of Hispanic children and 71% of Black children lived in households below the ALICE Threshold, compared to 46% of White children and 45% of Asian children. Although the population of American Indian/Alaska Native children in Tennessee is smaller than other racial/ethnic groups (3,964), these children were also disproportionately represented below the Threshold, at 73%.

Nativity and English-speaking ability also have an impact. Of the 35,399 children in Tennessee who were born outside the country (2% of all children in the state), 71% were below the ALICE Threshold in 2019, compared to 54% for those born in the U.S. Rates were even higher for Tennessee children living in a family with limited English-speaking ability, with 91% below the Threshold (compared to 84% nationally).

Disability Status

In 2019, there were 76,842 children with a disability in Tennessee — 5% of all children in the state. However, this is likely a significant underestimate as the number of [children being served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#) in the state is substantially higher. Children with a disability were more likely to live in households below the ALICE Threshold (68%) than those without a disability (54%).

The most common disability, impacting 58,102 children age 5 and older, was a cognitive difficulty due to a physical, mental, or emotional issue — having trouble remembering, concentrating, or making decisions.

Having a household member with a disability affects everyone in the family. In 2019 there were 339,629 children in Tennessee living in a household where someone had a disability, and 68% were below the ALICE Threshold. When a parent or guardian had a disability, children were even more likely to be below the Threshold, at 72%.

Key Terms

- **ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed** — households that earn above the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) but cannot afford the basic cost of living in their county. While the FPL for a family of four in 2019 was \$25,750, the average bare-minimum cost of living for a family in Tennessee according to the ALICE Household Survival Budget was just over \$65,000.
- **ALICE Threshold:** Derived from the Household Survival Budget, the average income that a household needs to afford housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a smartphone plan, plus taxes. Calculated for various household types for every U.S. state and county.
- **Below ALICE Threshold:** Includes children in both poverty-level and ALICE households combined.

ALICE Children Data Dashboard

Explore data on children living in hardship by:

- State, regional, and local geographies
- Demographic categories including children’s age, race/ethnicity, disability, and nativity
- Household characteristics like work status and living arrangements
- Children’s access to key resources

Visit UnitedForALICE.org/Focus-Children

Living Arrangements

ALICE children live in all kinds of households – with married or unmarried parents, single parents, grandparents, or guardians. Children are more likely to be below the ALICE Threshold when their families have fewer adults and/or adults with lower earning potential due to systemic [racism](#) and [gender](#) and [age discrimination](#).

Most children in Tennessee (93%) lived with at least one of their parents (biological or adoptive) in 2019: 59% lived in a household with both parents and 34% in a household with one parent. The largest number of children below the ALICE Threshold were in married-couple households (411,316) followed by single-female-headed households (316,350). Other living arrangements, representing smaller groups, were disproportionately ALICE: 68% of children in single-male-headed households were below the ALICE Threshold, as were 73% of children in unmarried-couple households.

There were also differences in the share of households below the Threshold by [marital status and partnership type](#):

- For married-couple households, there was a higher rate of children below the ALICE Threshold among those with different-sex couples (43%), compared to those with same-sex couples (23%).
- For unmarried-couple households, there was an even higher rate of children below the ALICE Threshold among those with different-sex couples (74%), compared to those with same-sex couples (35%).

In 2019, 14% of Tennessee’s children (206,754) lived in a home with a grandparent. Children living with grandparents were as likely to be living in poverty as those living without a grandparent (21% vs. 20%), but were more likely to be ALICE (44% vs. 33%).

In addition, there were 102,072 children in Tennessee living in households without their parents in 2019. Just over 6% of these children in Tennessee (6,511) were in [foster care](#) (compared to 7% nationwide). But many more children who lived without their parents were in [arrangements outside of the formal system](#), including households headed by a grandparent or other relatives (72,805), or nonrelatives (22,756). Children living without their parents were more likely to be below the ALICE Threshold than other Tennessee children, and at a rate higher than the nation (72% vs. 62%).

The largest number of children below the Threshold living without their parents were White. Yet a higher percentage of both Black and Hispanic children living without their parents were below the ALICE Threshold (at 77% and 81%, respectively) compared to those who were White (71%).

Household Work Status

The largest driver of a child’s financial stability is the employment status of household members. In 2019, most children in Tennessee lived in a household with at least one worker (93%). But having working parents or guardians does not guarantee financial stability.

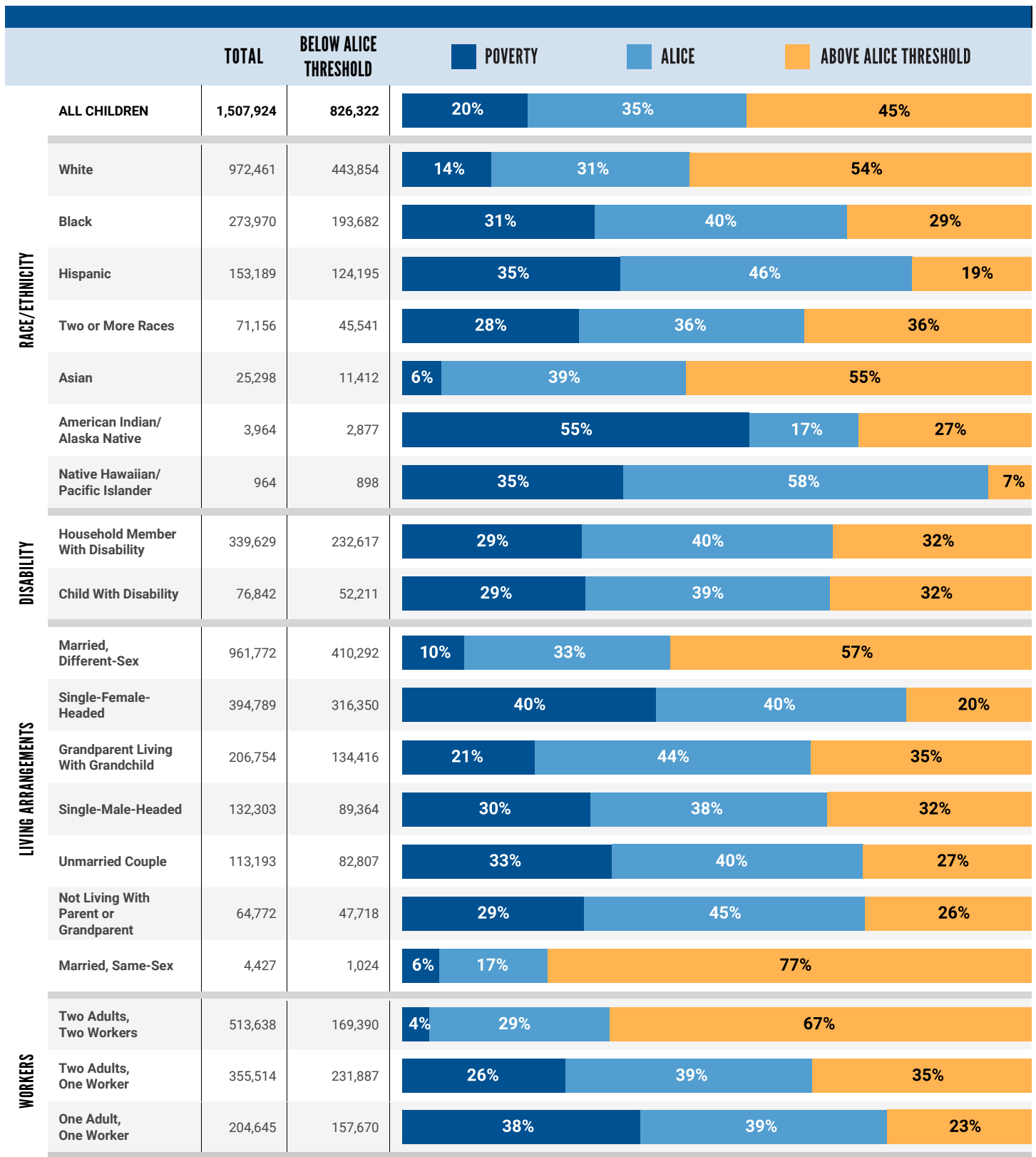
Children living with two adults were more likely to be financially stable than children living with a single parent or guardian. Yet even in households with two working adults, 33% of children were below the ALICE Threshold. When only one of two adults worked, the rate increased to 65%. Children living in a household with a single working parent or guardian were even more likely to be below the Threshold (77%).

While parents and guardians work in every industry and sector in Tennessee, children below the ALICE Threshold are concentrated in families where adults work in occupations with low median hourly wages. For example, in 2019, 80% of children with an adult working as a cashier, earning a median wage of \$10.13 per hour, were below the ALICE Threshold. Similarly, 59% of children with adults working as a retail salesperson (median wage of \$11.37 per hour) were below the Threshold.

Even children with an adult working in a higher-wage job, such as an elementary or middle school teacher (median wage of \$24.99 per hour) or a registered nurse (median wage of \$29.42 per hour), were below the ALICE Threshold (28% for both), as household expenses vary by household size, composition, and location.

In addition, mirroring the national average, 22% of 16- and 17-year-olds in Tennessee were in the labor force in 2019 (36,159). Of teens living in households with income below the ALICE Threshold, 18% were in the labor force compared to 26% living in households above the Threshold. While at first glance these findings may seem counterintuitive, they are in line with existing [research on teen employment](#) that shows low-income youth have fewer opportunities and resources needed to work than teens from higher-income families.

Children by Household Financial Status and Key Demographics, Tennessee, 2019



Note: Percentages are rounded to whole numbers for ease of reading, which may result in percentages totaling 99% or 101%. The groups shown in this figure overlap across categories (Race/Ethnicity, Disability Status, Living Arrangements, and Workers). All racial categories except Two or More Races are for one race alone. The Hispanic group may include children of any race. "Grandparent Living With Grandchild" includes any arrangement where grandparents live with their grandchild, including where parents or other adults are present. For the Workers category, the number of workers is defined as "workers in the family over the last 12 months" from when the survey was conducted. View more on the [ALICE Children Data Dashboard](#).

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2019; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, PUMS, 2019

WHAT RESOURCES DO ALICE CHILDREN LACK?

Many ALICE families earn too much to be eligible for public assistance but still struggle to meet basic needs for their children. ALICE households are much more likely to lack stable housing, quality childcare/early education, private health insurance, and home internet access, yet they still don't qualify for many public assistance programs. When these necessities are at risk, there are both [short-and long-term consequences](#) for ALICE children.

Stable Housing

Housing instability has a profound impact on a family and child's overall well-being. Children in families without stable housing face greater risks for [poor physical health](#), [increased family stress](#), [social isolation](#), and [lower academic performance](#). Children living in rented housing units and cost-burdened households are more likely to go through the stress of moving — and ALICE children and children in poverty are more likely to live in both types of housing.

Among children below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee in 2019, 55% were in families who rented and 45% were in families who owned their home (vs. 17% and 83%, respectively, for households above the Threshold). There were also gaps by race and ethnicity, both above and below the Threshold. Below the ALICE Threshold, families of Black children had the lowest homeownership rate (24%), while families of Asian children had the highest rate (67%). Above the Threshold, the homeownership rate for families of Black children was higher (57%), but still substantially lower than families of White children (88%), the population with the highest homeownership rate above the Threshold.

46%

of children in renter households below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee were rent burdened

Because housing is one of the most expensive items in the Household Survival Budget, it is not surprising that 46% of children in renter households below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee paid more than 35% of household income on rent (compared to 2% of children in renter households above the Threshold).

The highest rate of children living in rent burdened households were in north Shelby County, in north and east Bartlett City and Millington City, where 80% of all households below the Threshold were rent burdened.

For all children — regardless of whether their family rented or owned — the longer they lived at their place of residence, the more likely they were to have higher income. Both above and below the ALICE Threshold, children in renter households were more likely to have moved in the past year, compared to owner households (30% vs. 9%).



Education

Quality early-childhood programs have proven to be critical to [healthy child development](#), and to acquiring foundational skills required for a [successful transition to school](#) and [future academic achievement](#). Of all preschool-age children in Tennessee, 41% were enrolled in preschool in 2019, lower than the national average (49%). In neighboring states, enrollment rates ranged from 36% in Kentucky, to 51% in Georgia. Preschool enrollment rates also differed by household financial status: 35% of preschool-age children below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee were enrolled in preschool in 2019, compared to 48% of their peers above the Threshold. A smaller difference was seen in kindergarten enrollment (88% of kindergarten-age children below the Threshold vs. 89% above).

[Being a high school graduate prepares teens for future academic and career success](#). Yet in 2019, 5,700 Tennessee children aged 15–17 were not in school.

Health Insurance

Access to health insurance is critical to both [wellness](#) and [financial stability](#) for families below the ALICE Threshold and [especially children](#). While most children in Tennessee had health insurance in 2019 (95%, mirroring the national rate), 6% of children in households below the ALICE Threshold did not have coverage. Children in families below the Threshold were more likely to have public insurance (58%), while those above the Threshold were more likely to have private insurance (86%).

Children: Tennessee	Below ALICE Threshold	Above ALICE Threshold
No Insurance	6% (52,744)	3% (21,416)
Public Insurance	58% (480,956)	11% (75,626)
Private Insurance	35% (292,622)	86% (584,560)

Home Internet

The availability of internet access — especially high-speed internet — for online learning and work has become increasingly essential for young people, yet the [digital divide](#) by income and race/ethnicity persists. In Tennessee, 94% of children overall had home internet access in 2019, slightly below the national rate (95%). However, children below the ALICE Threshold were less likely to have home internet access than those above the Threshold (90% vs. 97%) and considerably less likely to have high-speed internet (67% vs. 85%).

Nearly
270,000

children in families below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee did not have access to high-speed internet at home

Access to high-speed internet differed even more by race/ethnicity: 38% of Black children and 33% of Hispanic children in households below the ALICE Threshold did not have high-speed internet access, compared to 30% of White children and 24% of Asian children below the Threshold.

Access by location varied considerably. The percentage of children below the ALICE Threshold without high-speed internet access was highest in Memphis City (Central Riverside) at 69% and Campbell, Claiborne, Scott, Morgan, and Hancock Counties at 58%, compared to east Memphis, Lakeland City & south Arlington Town where only 3% of children below the Threshold lacked access.

Public Assistance

For a [variety of reasons](#), public assistance does not reach all children in households that are struggling. While most children in poverty are eligible, ALICE children live in households that often earn too much to qualify for assistance. For example, the income [eligibility](#) threshold in Tennessee for one of the most far-reaching public assistance programs, the [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP, formerly food stamps), is [130%](#) of the FPL. Even though all children in poverty should be covered by SNAP, in Tennessee the program was utilized by only 62% of children in poverty (187,042) and a mere 21% of children in ALICE households (110,133) in 2019. This left a gap of 529,147 children whose families were struggling to make ends meet but not participating in SNAP.

More than
529,000

children below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee were struggling but did not participate in SNAP

SNAP coverage of children below the ALICE Threshold also varied among neighboring states, from 29% in Virginia to 42% in Mississippi, with Tennessee in the middle at 36%.

Differences by race and ethnicity were also striking. In 2019, 51% of Black children below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee participated in SNAP, compared to 30% of White children and 29% of Hispanic children below the Threshold.

HOW HAVE CHILDREN FARED DURING THE PANDEMIC?

How a child starts in life impacts their long-term health, wellness, education, and career. Family financial stability is one of the strongest [predictors of current and future well-being](#). Financial instability not only contributes to current experiences of [trauma and hardship](#), but it impedes a child's opportunity for [future success](#), including higher education, a higher income, and long-term asset building.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, children below the ALICE Threshold experienced the ripple effect of challenges related to their parents' work status, lack of income/savings, and family responsibilities. As shown in our recent report, [The Pandemic Divide](#), households below the ALICE Threshold suffered disproportionately during the pandemic, with vulnerabilities caused by longstanding racial inequities ensuring that Black and Hispanic households experienced the greatest hardship.

Expanding on [The Pandemic Divide](#), our analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's most recent [Household Pulse Surveys](#) (July–October 2021) reveals that **children and households below the ALICE Threshold bear the brunt of the pandemic's physical and emotional toll:**

- **Financial uncertainties:** Because households below the ALICE Threshold with children continue to suffer from loss of employment income and are unable to save, they remain far less confident in their ability to make their next rent or mortgage payment on time. In Tennessee, 42% of families below the Threshold with children were slightly confident, not at all confident, or had deferred their payment compared to 8% of those above the Threshold.
- **Food insufficiency:** Throughout the pandemic, families below the ALICE Threshold with children consistently struggled to afford food. As recently as the fall of 2021, 37% of Tennessee families below the Threshold with children reported that sometimes or often “children were not eating enough because we just couldn't afford enough food.” While this was less common in higher-income households, 16% of respondents above the ALICE Threshold also struggled to afford food for their children. Public assistance filled in only part of the gap. In the fall of 2021, more than half (56%) of children below the ALICE Threshold picked up or ate a free meal at school, received an EBT card to help buy groceries, or had free meals delivered, which means that 44% did not.

- **Interrupted learning:** The pandemic has disrupted student learning for two years, and children in households below the ALICE Threshold have been disproportionately affected. The most immediate way to compensate for disrupted K–12 schooling is to attend summer academic programs. In the summer of 2021, children below the ALICE Threshold in Tennessee were more likely to have attended such programs (20% vs. 13% above the Threshold), reinforcing the research that shows [children from low-income households are more likely to have experienced a loss of learning](#). Higher education was also impacted as many students [changed their plans to attend college](#), and those below the ALICE Threshold were almost twice as likely as those above to cancel plans to take classes (23% vs. 12%).
- **Delayed or missed health care:** Children below the ALICE Threshold were less likely to have had preventive health care: In the fall of 2021, 42% of Tennessee households below the Threshold with children had to miss, delay, or skip their child's preventive check-up in the last 12 months, compared to 27% of those above the Threshold. Forgoing or postponing care caused some children to go without routine vaccinations, screenings, and ongoing care for chronic health conditions.
- **The Child Tax Credit:** More than one-third (38%) of Tennessee households below the ALICE Threshold with children had still not received the advance Child Tax Credit in the fall of 2021, for numerous reasons such as a parent not having filed a recent tax return or a child not having a Social Security number. The immediate need for the additional income is evident from the ways Tennessee families who did receive the advance Child Tax Credit used it: Those below the ALICE Threshold were more likely to use it to pay off debt than those above the Threshold (49% vs. 32%), and they were less likely to save it (18% vs. 35%).

38%

of Tennessee households below the ALICE Threshold with children still had not received the advance Child Tax Credit in the fall of 2021

ALICE IN FOCUS: CHILDREN KEY INDICATORS BY STATE, 2019

State	Total	Household Income Status			Rent Burden	Preschool	Internet	SNAP
	Number of Children	% Poverty	% ALICE	% Below ALICE Threshold	% Below ALICE Threshold Paying 35% or More on Rent	% Preschool-Age Enrolled in School	% Below ALICE Threshold with High-speed Internet Access	% Below ALICE Threshold Participating in SNAP
United States	72,723,350	16%	33%	49%	53%	49%	69%	36%
Alabama	1,084,431	21%	32%	53%	41%	45%	56%	40%
Alaska	177,930	12%	33%	45%	50%	47%	59%	32%
Arizona	1,635,592	18%	33%	51%	46%	42%	64%	36%
Arkansas	696,534	23%	32%	55%	39%	48%	57%	31%
California	8,857,941	15%	41%	56%	59%	51%	73%	29%
Colorado	1,250,988	10%	40%	50%	51%	52%	78%	22%
Connecticut	725,789	13%	29%	42%	65%	67%	77%	37%
Delaware	203,357	15%	33%	48%	56%	54%	72%	34%
D.C.	127,468	20%	34%	54%	54%	84%	75%	49%
Florida	4,219,941	17%	39%	56%	61%	53%	71%	38%
Georgia	2,498,618	19%	38%	57%	50%	51%	69%	35%
Hawaii	299,765	12%	35%	47%	64%	53%	80%	32%
Idaho	448,452	12%	33%	45%	47%	33%	68%	28%
Illinois	2,809,314	15%	26%	41%	56%	56%	69%	42%
Indiana	1,566,776	16%	28%	44%	48%	41%	63%	31%
Iowa	719,042	14%	25%	39%	45%	47%	62%	39%
Kansas	698,097	15%	30%	45%	48%	50%	71%	26%
Kentucky	996,896	21%	28%	49%	44%	36%	66%	38%
Louisiana	1,084,053	26%	31%	57%	53%	51%	60%	45%
Maine	245,182	12%	36%	48%	37%	51%	76%	40%
Maryland	1,328,582	12%	35%	47%	57%	50%	76%	32%
Massachusetts	1,345,145	11%	34%	45%	55%	59%	78%	35%
Michigan	2,134,523	17%	27%	44%	52%	47%	68%	41%
Minnesota	1,299,381	10%	26%	36%	52%	48%	74%	29%
Mississippi	696,324	27%	27%	54%	45%	60%	51%	42%
Missouri	1,363,714	16%	32%	48%	43%	46%	64%	36%
Montana	225,787	17%	27%	44%	45%	38%	67%	37%
Nebraska	472,477	11%	29%	40%	37%	47%	77%	31%
Nevada	689,628	18%	34%	52%	59%	37%	72%	30%
New Hampshire	256,279	7%	32%	39%	45%	58%	82%	27%
New Jersey	1,926,659	12%	29%	41%	59%	70%	75%	31%
New Mexico	472,259	24%	32%	56%	47%	48%	56%	48%
New York	3,995,206	17%	35%	52%	58%	60%	69%	36%
North Carolina	2,288,488	19%	32%	51%	47%	46%	67%	39%
North Dakota	176,687	9%	24%	33%	27%	32%	62%	30%
Ohio	2,566,933	18%	28%	46%	46%	47%	71%	42%
Oklahoma	948,484	20%	30%	50%	47%	45%	57%	39%
Oregon	859,939	13%	35%	48%	49%	43%	74%	38%
Pennsylvania	2,615,510	17%	27%	44%	54%	43%	73%	47%
Rhode Island	202,058	12%	31%	43%	52%	49%	77%	44%
South Carolina	1,107,123	19%	36%	55%	45%	43%	62%	37%
South Dakota	213,617	13%	29%	42%	33%	42%	74%	38%
Tennessee	1,507,924	20%	35%	55%	46%	41%	67%	36%
Texas	7,380,301	19%	34%	53%	52%	44%	63%	37%
Utah	926,458	10%	31%	41%	53%	45%	76%	19%
Vermont	112,768	9%	33%	42%	45%	69%	78%	39%
Virginia	1,852,456	12%	35%	47%	54%	50%	72%	29%
Washington	1,660,090	11%	32%	43%	51%	50%	78%	34%
West Virginia	357,343	19%	29%	48%	38%	32%	71%	53%
Wisconsin	1,260,851	12%	26%	38%	48%	45%	72%	37%
Wyoming	134,190	10%	25%	35%	40%	32%	68%	20%

NEXT STEPS

There is a lot more to be done to change the trajectory for ALICE children. Visit UnitedForALICE.org to learn more, then share this data with stakeholders in your community.

Learn more with:

- The [ALICE Children Data Dashboard](#), to dig deeper into related topics, demographics, and sub-state geographies
- [Resources related to children and financial hardship](#), including the references linked in this Research Brief, as well as additional resources that offer important context and even deeper analysis
- [The Pandemic Divide: An ALICE Analysis of National COVID Surveys](#) (2021) and other resources on the ALICE and COVID-19 webpage, to see the impacts of the pandemic on ALICE
- [On Uneven Ground: ALICE and Financial Hardship in the U.S.](#) (2020), to learn about the trends that contributed to a growing number of ALICE households even before the pandemic
- The [ALICE Wage Tool](#), to explore wage levels by geography and occupation

Connect with stakeholders:

- [Contact your local United Way](#) for support and volunteer opportunities
- [See members of the committees that support this work](#), including the ALICE in Focus National Research Advisory Committee for Children, and the ALICE in Focus National Leadership Committee for Children
- Find your state and federal representatives and see ALICE household data by legislative district with our [ALICE Legislative District Tool](#)
- Advocate for more accurate data collection by the [U.S. Census Bureau](#) for children who have been [historically undercounted](#), including (but not limited to) young children, children of color, children with disabilities, and children in low-income households

United For ALICE is a driver of innovative research and action around financial hardship. The data and analysis are shared with United Ways, corporations, foundations, government, and nonprofits, to inform policy and promote positive change.

United For ALICE partners with [United Ways of Tennessee](#) to bring the ALICE research to Tennessee, and this work is sponsored by the Tennessee Afterschool Network.



United Ways of Tennessee



The **ALICE in Focus Series** utilizes ALICE measures – the Household Survival Budget and the ALICE Threshold – to analyze the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Each “Focus” in the series highlights a different demographic group. For more details about the methodology for the ALICE in Focus Series, go to UnitedForALICE.org/Methodology.