

MICHIGAN • 2019 COUNTY PROFILES

Counties are the core geography for ALICE data: They reveal variations often masked by statewide averages, and the data is reported regularly and reliably.

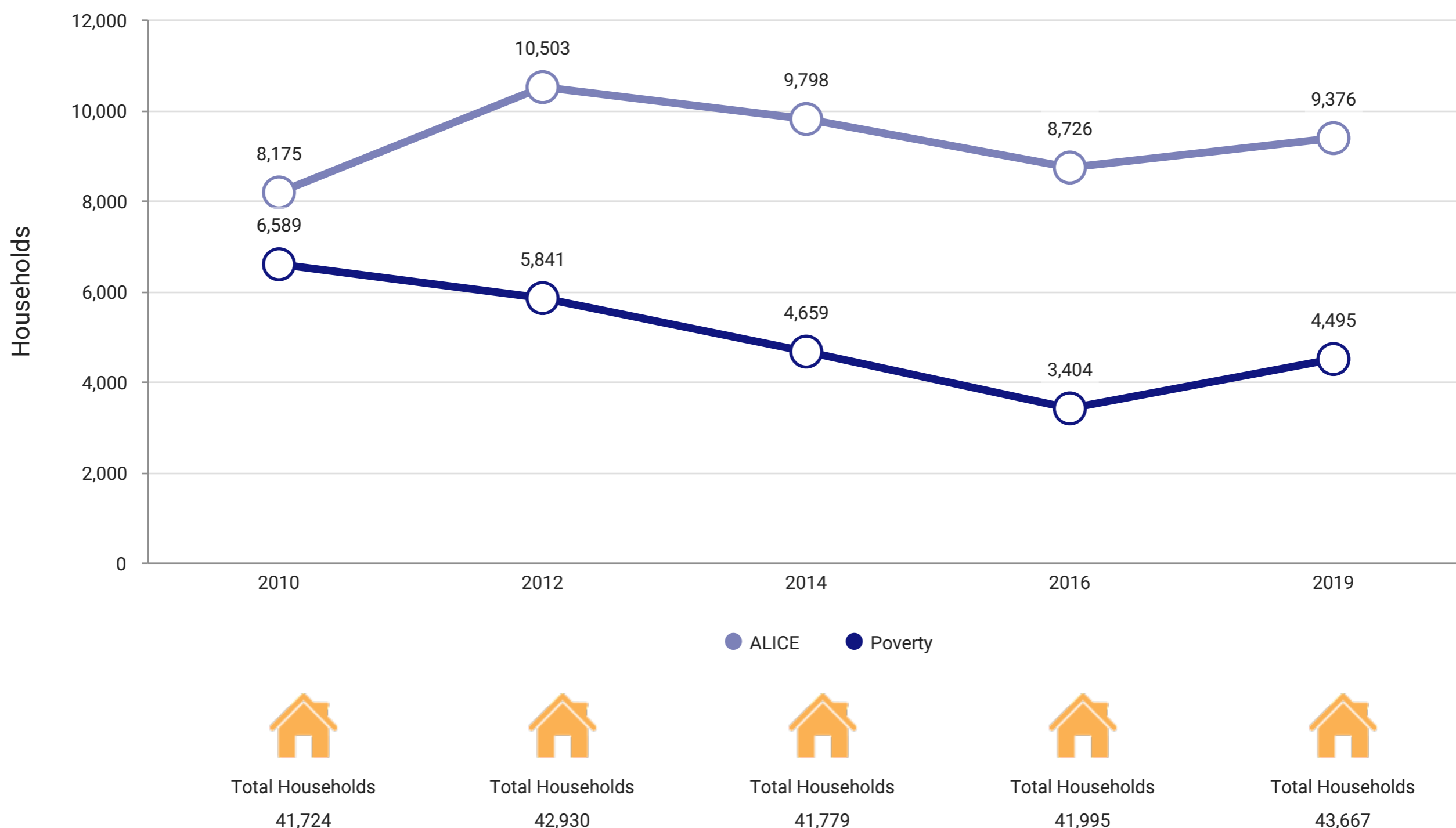
ALICE IN ALLEGAN COUNTY

2019 Point-in-Time-Data

Population:	118,081	Number of Households:	43,667
Median Household Income:	\$66,278 (state average: \$59,584)		
Unemployment Rate:	2.0% (state average: 5.0%)		
ALICE Households:	21% (state average: 25%)		
Households in Poverty:	10% (state average: 13%)		

How Has the Number of ALICE Households Changed Over Time?

ALICE is an acronym for **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mloyed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold). While conditions have improved for some households, many continue to struggle, especially as wages fail to keep pace with the cost of household essentials (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a basic smartphone plan).



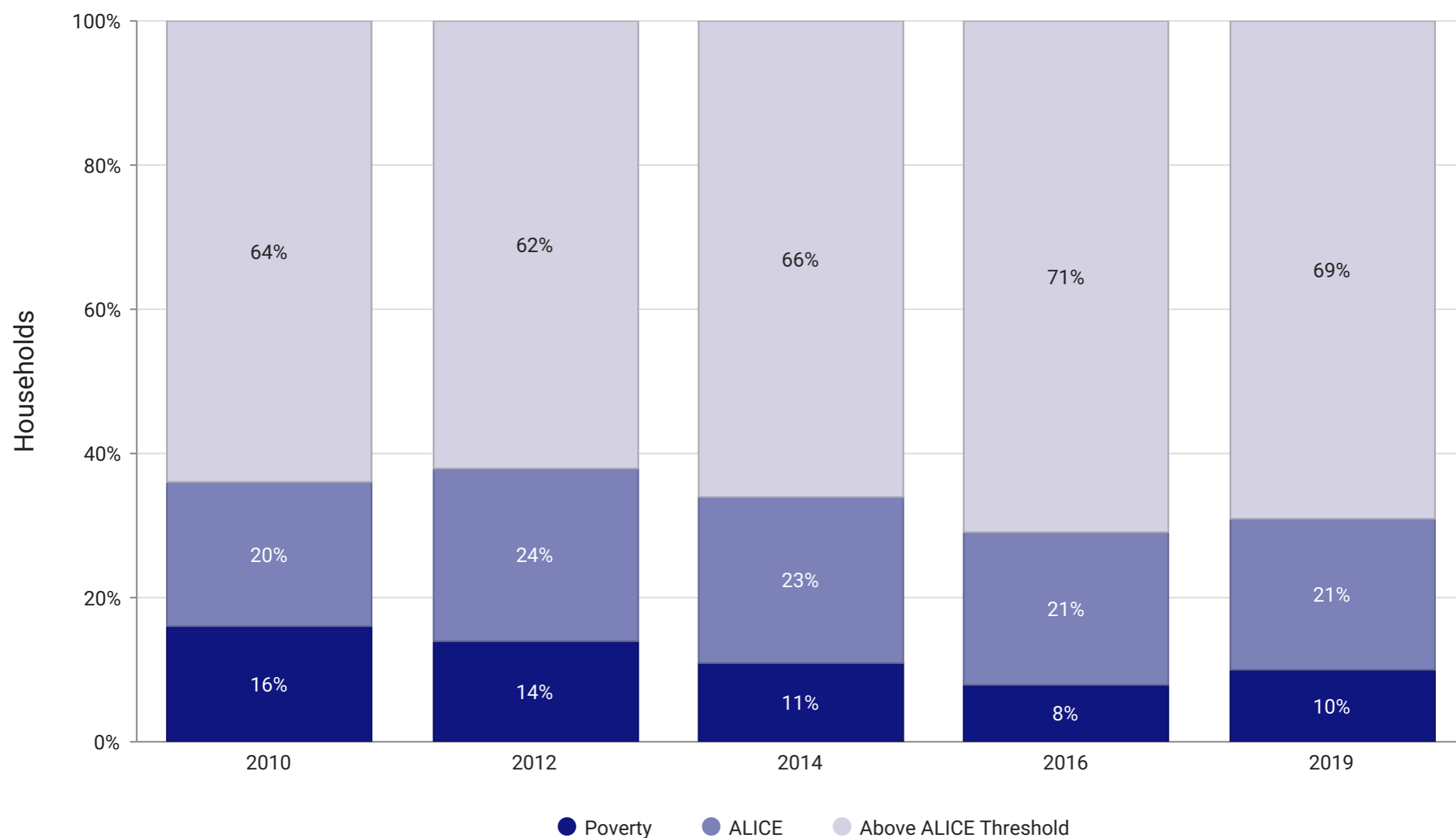
Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

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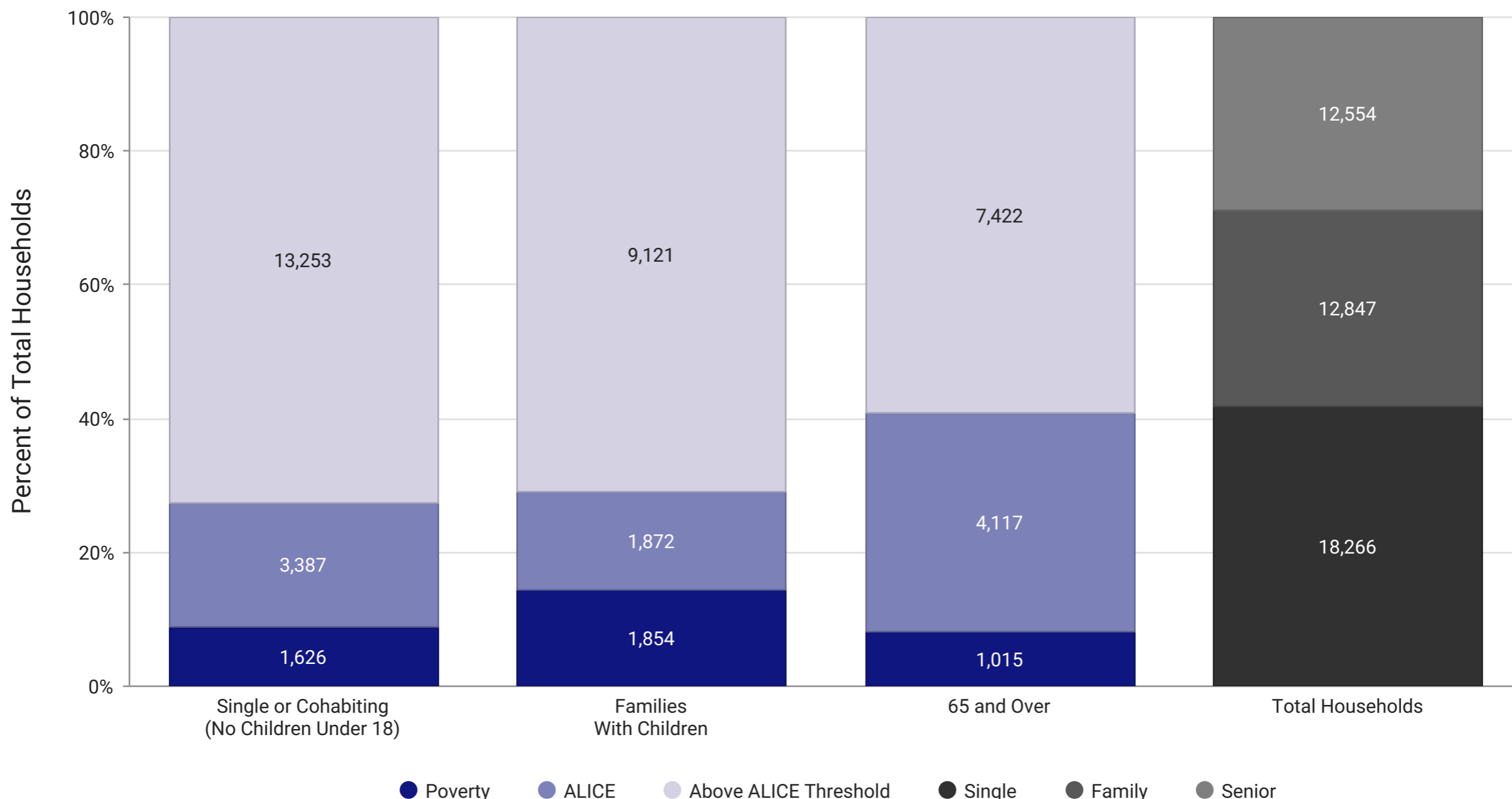
ALICE and Poverty in Allegan County Over Time...continued



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019

What Types of Households Are Struggling?

In the past few decades, there have been major shifts in household composition. The share of American adults who have never been married is at a historic high, as is the number of senior households. There is also a growing number of people who live alone or with roommates, and an increasing share of grown children who live with their parents. Yet all types of households continue to struggle: ALICE and poverty-level households exist across all of these living arrangements.



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019

Why Do So Many Households Struggle?

The cost of household basics outpaces wages...

The Household Survival Budget reflects the bare minimum cost to live and work in the modern economy and includes housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, technology (a smartphone plan), and taxes. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college or retirement. In 2019, household costs were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,490 for a single adult and \$25,750 for a family of four.

	Single Adult	One Adult, One Child	One Adult, One In Child Care	Single Senior
Housing	\$643	\$647	\$647	\$643
Child Care	\$0	\$188	\$533	\$0
Food	\$248	\$431	\$360	\$214
Transportation	\$457	\$606	\$606	\$406
Health Care	\$189	\$403	\$403	\$461
Technology	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55
Miscellaneous	\$188	\$260	\$293	\$208
Taxes	\$288	\$270	\$324	\$297
Monthly Total	\$2,068	\$2,860	\$3,221	\$2,284
Annual Total	\$24,816	\$34,320	\$38,652	\$27,408
Hourly Wage	\$12.41	\$17.16	\$19.33	\$13.70

	Two Adults	Two Adults Two Children	Two Adults, Two In Child Care	Two Seniors
Housing	\$647	\$782	\$782	\$647
Child Care	\$0	\$375	\$1,033	\$0
Food	\$516	\$864	\$755	\$441
Transportation	\$647	\$929	\$929	\$545
Health Care	\$403	\$569	\$569	\$922
Technology	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$265	\$396	\$469	\$300
Taxes	\$364	\$369	\$548	\$373
Monthly Total	\$2,917	\$4,359	\$5,160	\$3,303
Annual Total	\$35,004	\$52,308	\$61,920	\$39,636
Hourly Wage	\$17.50	\$26.15	\$30.96	\$19.82

Sources: ALICE Household Survival Budget, 2019; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics, 2019

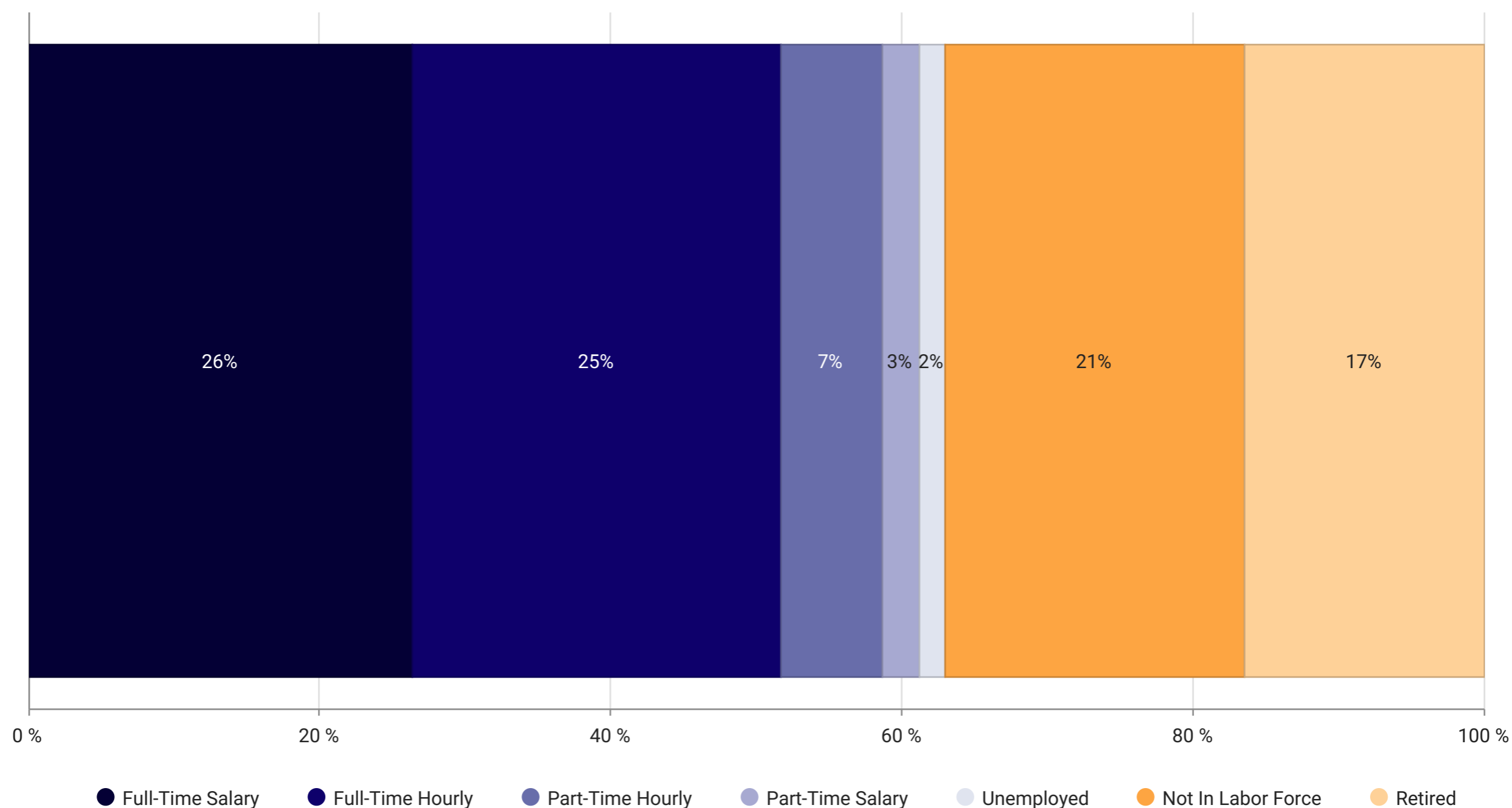
Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

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...and the labor landscape is challenging for ALICE workers.

A breakdown of the labor force shows a small portion of adults (16 years and older) who are unemployed and a large number who are working. However, a significant portion of full- and part-time workers are paid by the hour; these workers are more likely to have fluctuations in income and less likely to receive benefits. There is also a high number of workers outside of the labor force (people who are not employed and not looking for work), which has helped keep wages low: When more workers are available, employers have less incentive to raise wages to attract employees.

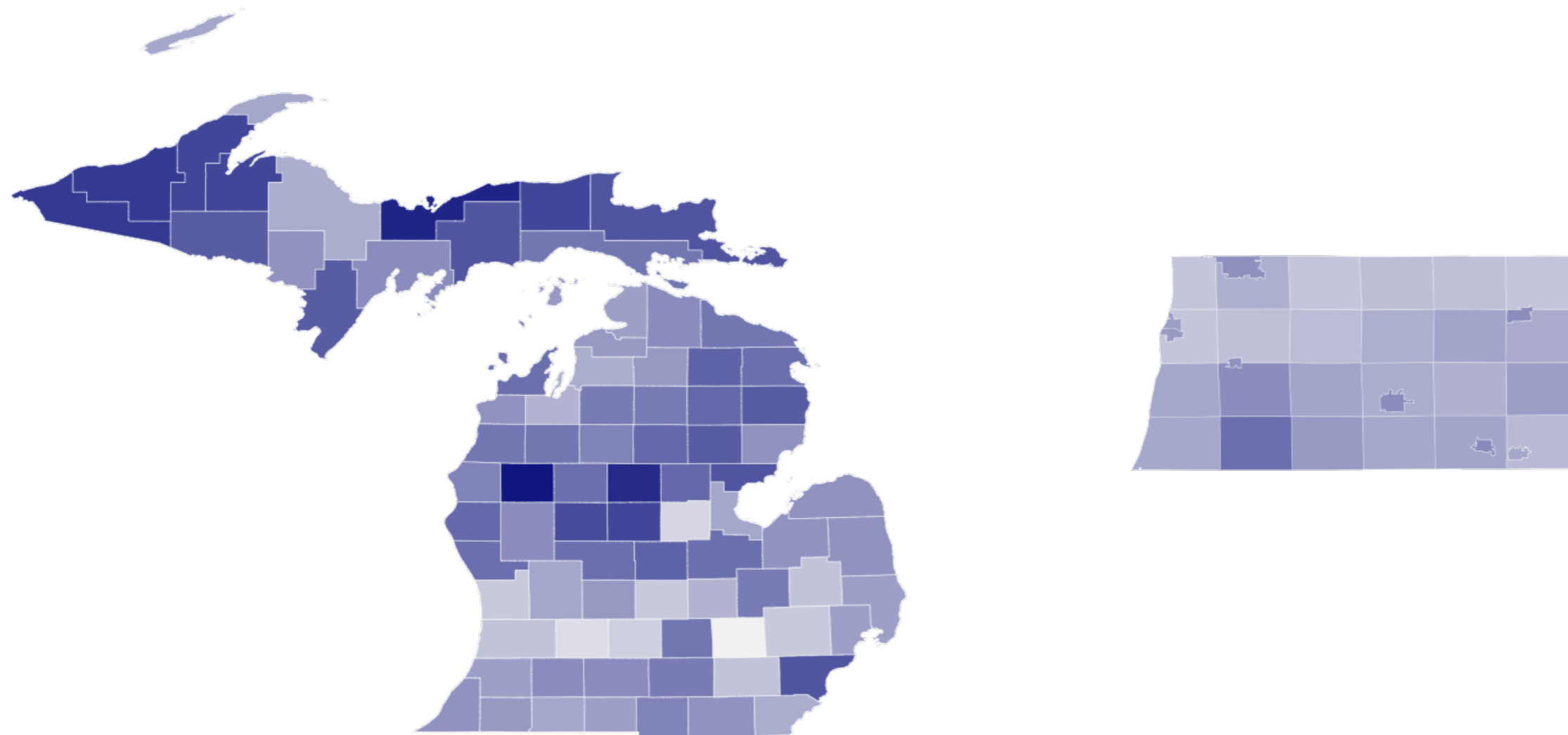


Note: Data for hourly full- and part-time jobs is only available at the national level; these national rates (51% of full-time workers paid hourly and 75% of part-time workers paid hourly) have been applied to the workforce at the county-level to calculate the breakdown shown in this figure. Because this figure sums county-level data (some using 1-year estimates and some using 5-year estimates), the state percentages may differ slightly from those shown in the 2020 Report. Full-time represents 35 hours per week or more at one or more jobs for 48 weeks per year.

Sources: American Community Survey, 2019; Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, 2019

How Does the Number of ALICE Households Vary Within the County?

There is significant variation in the number of households who live below the ALICE Threshold within the county.



Source: ALICE Threshold, 2019; American Community Survey, 2019

County Subdivision	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Allegan city, Allegan County, Michigan	1,713	46%
Allegan township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,772	31%
Casco township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,226	33%
Cheshire township, Allegan County, Michigan	889	40%
Clyde township, Allegan County, Michigan	802	45%
Dorr township, Allegan County, Michigan	2,720	22%
Douglas city, Allegan County, Michigan	475	40%
Fennville city, Allegan County, Michigan	670	44%
Fillmore township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,003	30%
Ganges township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,080	34%
Gun Plain township, Allegan County, Michigan	2,207	25%
Heath township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,173	24%
Holland city, Allegan County, Michigan	2,810	44%
Hopkins township, Allegan County, Michigan	924	35%
Laketown township, Allegan County, Michigan	2,402	20%
Lee township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,224	59%
Leighton township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,933	20%
Manlius township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,048	22%
Martin township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,097	38%
Monterey township, Allegan County, Michigan	931	30%
Otsego city, Allegan County, Michigan	1,724	47%
Otsego township, Allegan County, Michigan	2,030	35%
Overisel township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,013	20%
Plainwell city, Allegan County, Michigan	1,543	34%
Salem township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,688	23%
Saugatuck city, Allegan County, Michigan	411	38%
Saugatuck township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,397	20%
Trowbridge township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,025	33%
Valley township, Allegan County, Michigan	774	35%

County Subdivision	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Watson township, Allegan County, Michigan	812	29%
Wayland city, Allegan County, Michigan	1,715	45%
Wayland township, Allegan County, Michigan	1,185	32%

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019