

# HAVE YOU MET ALICE?

A STUDY OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN EASTERN IDAHO



ALICE is an acronym:

A: Asset,  
L: Limited,  
I: Income  
C: Constrained,  
E: Employed



aka Idaho's "Working Poor"

ALICE is a hardworking member of your community. They are employed, but don't make enough to cover basic necessities.

44%

of households in Eastern Idaho are at or below ALICE thresholds

ALICE makes *too much*, but not enough.

IN IDAHO:

FPL - \$24,300  
Survival Budget - \$54,096

Variance - \$29,796

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

vs

Household Survival Budget

(the bare minimum cost to live and work in Idaho's modern economy)

ALICE makes *too much* to qualify for food assistance, but not enough to feed their family.

ALICE makes *too much* to qualify for childcare subsidies so they can go to work, but doesn't make enough to afford childcare on their own.

ALICE cannot always pay the bills, has little or nothing in savings, and is forced to make tough choices, like paying for child care or paying the rent.



Idaho's economy is booming, but ALICE is being left behind.

% of households at or below ALICE are growing at rate faster than total households across the state.

\$400

in unexpected emergency expenses can push these families over the edge

## Who is ALICE?

a child care worker  
your parent on Social Security  
the cashier at your supermarket  
an elementary school teacher  
the salesperson at your big box store  
your waitress

a home health aide  
your neighbor  
the person next to you in the church pew  
an office clerk  
your friend  
the bookkeeper at your office

## IDAHO RUNS ON ALICE

The United Way ALICE Report for Idaho is commissioned and paid for by the United Ways of Idaho. Data collection is done by Rutgers University and is updated every two years.

More info, including full ALICE report and methodology, are available at [unitedwayif.org](http://unitedwayif.org).



United Way of Idaho Falls and Bonneville County