

ALICE IN PORTER COUNTY

Porter County, 2012

Area	Total HH	% ALICE & Poverty
Boone Township	2,321	33%
Center Township	16,522	33%
Jackson Township	1,781	17%
Liberty Township	3,372	26%
Morgan Township	1,208	12%
Pine Township	1,207	28%
Pleasant Township	1,520	26%
Portage City	13,731	34%
Portage Township	17,740	38%
Porter Township	3,492	21%
Union Township	2,992	14%
Valparaiso City	11,897	31%
Washington Township	1,622	14%
Westchester Township	7,535	30%

Population: 165,682 | **Number of Households:** 61,661
Median Household Income: \$63,050 (state average: \$46,974)
Unemployment Rate: 7.5% (state average: 8.7%)
Gini Coefficient (zero = equality; one = inequality): 0.39 (state average: 0.44)

How many households are struggling?

ALICE, an acronym for **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed, 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.

Poverty	ALICE	STRUGGLING	Above ALICE
6,626 HH 11%	10,338 HH 17%		44,697 HH 72%

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 (43)

Job Opportunities
good (70)

Community Support
good (58)

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 rate of \$11,170 for a single adult and \$23,050 for a family of four.

Household Survival Budget, Porter County

	SINGLE ADULT	FAMILY (INFANT AND PRE-K)
Housing	\$538	\$818
Child care	\$0	\$1,232
Food	\$170	\$515
Transportation	\$330	\$659
Health care	\$140	\$562
Miscellaneous	\$137	\$420
Taxes	\$196	\$417
Monthly total	\$1,512	\$4,622
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$18,138	\$55,469
Hourly wage	\$9.00	\$28.00

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, 2012; American Community Survey, 1 year estimate.

NOTE: Not all townships, towns, or cities within a county will be listed in the table above, as there is insufficient data for jurisdictions with small populations. Data for many townships, towns, and cities rely on 3- and 5-year averages (whereas most counties have 1-year averages). Some townships, towns, and cities may overlap with Census Designated Places (CDP).