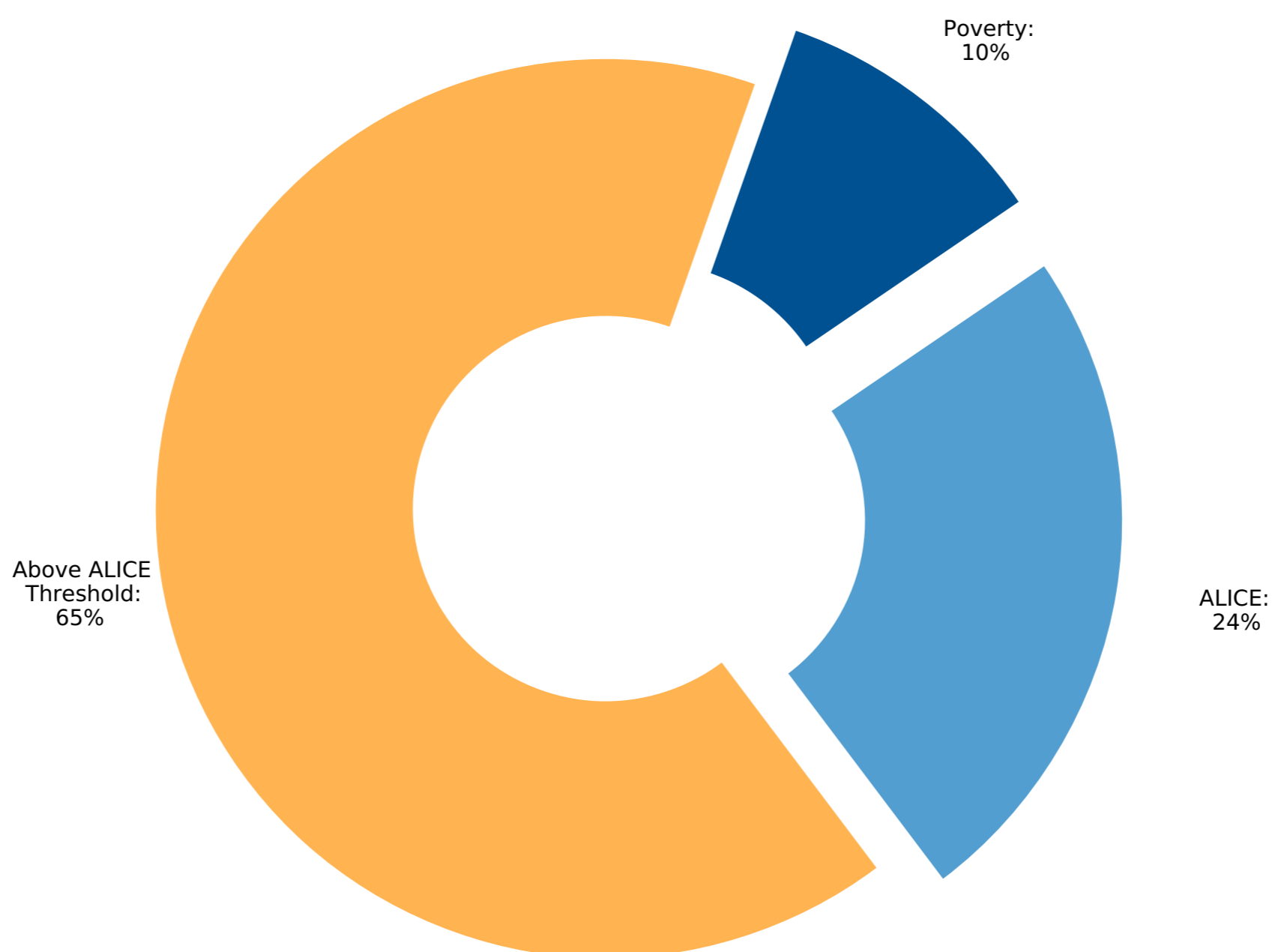


Washington • Overview

United For ALICE calculates the cost of household essentials for all counties in Washington. These costs, outlined in the [Household Survival Budget](#), are calculated for various household sizes and compositions.

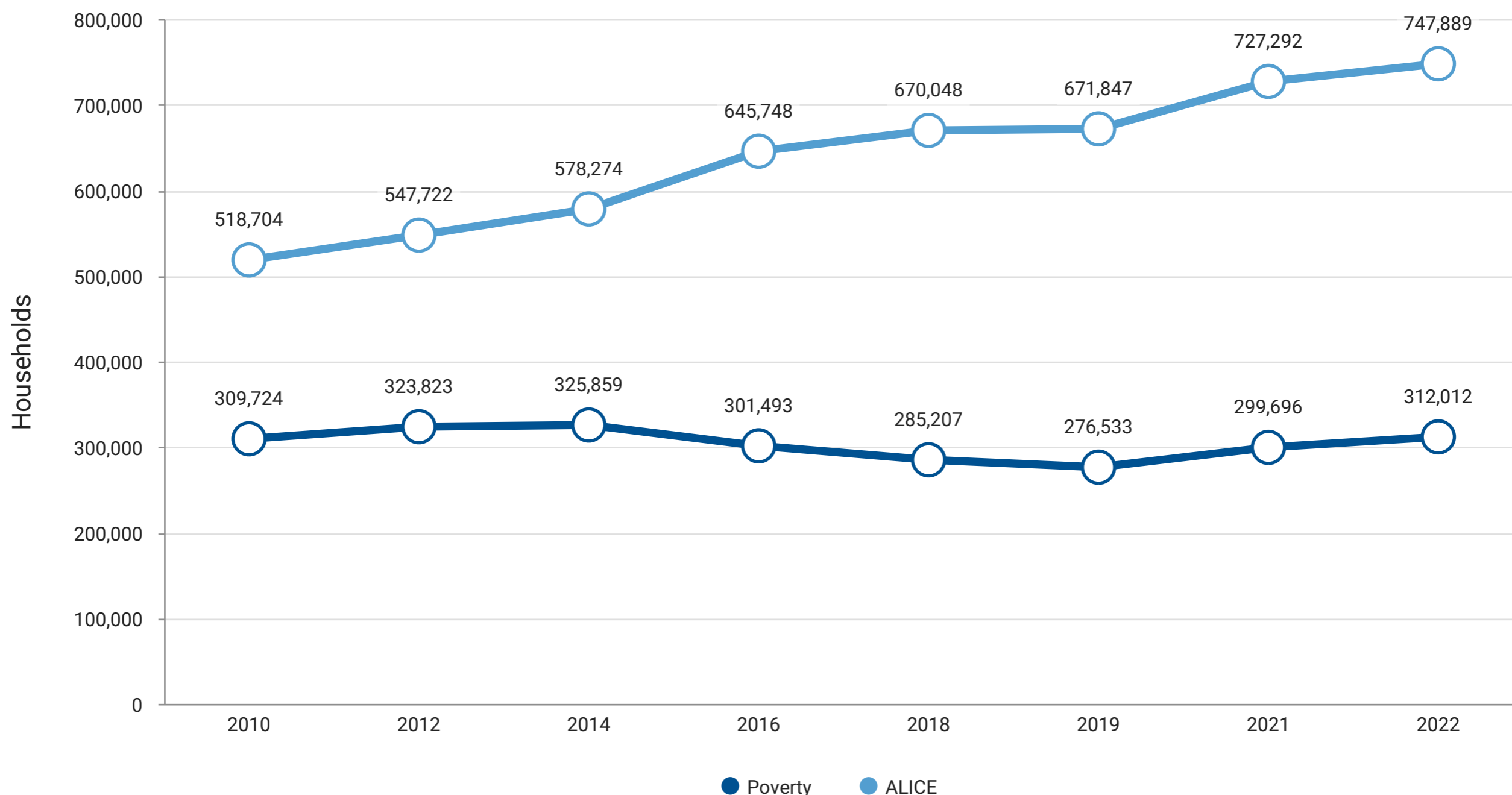
Of Washington's 3,064,367 households in 2022...

- 10% earned **below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)**
- 24% were **ALICE**, in households that earned above the FPL but not enough to afford the basics in the communities where they live
- Together, 35% of households in Washington were **below the ALICE Threshold** (poverty + ALICE divided by total households)

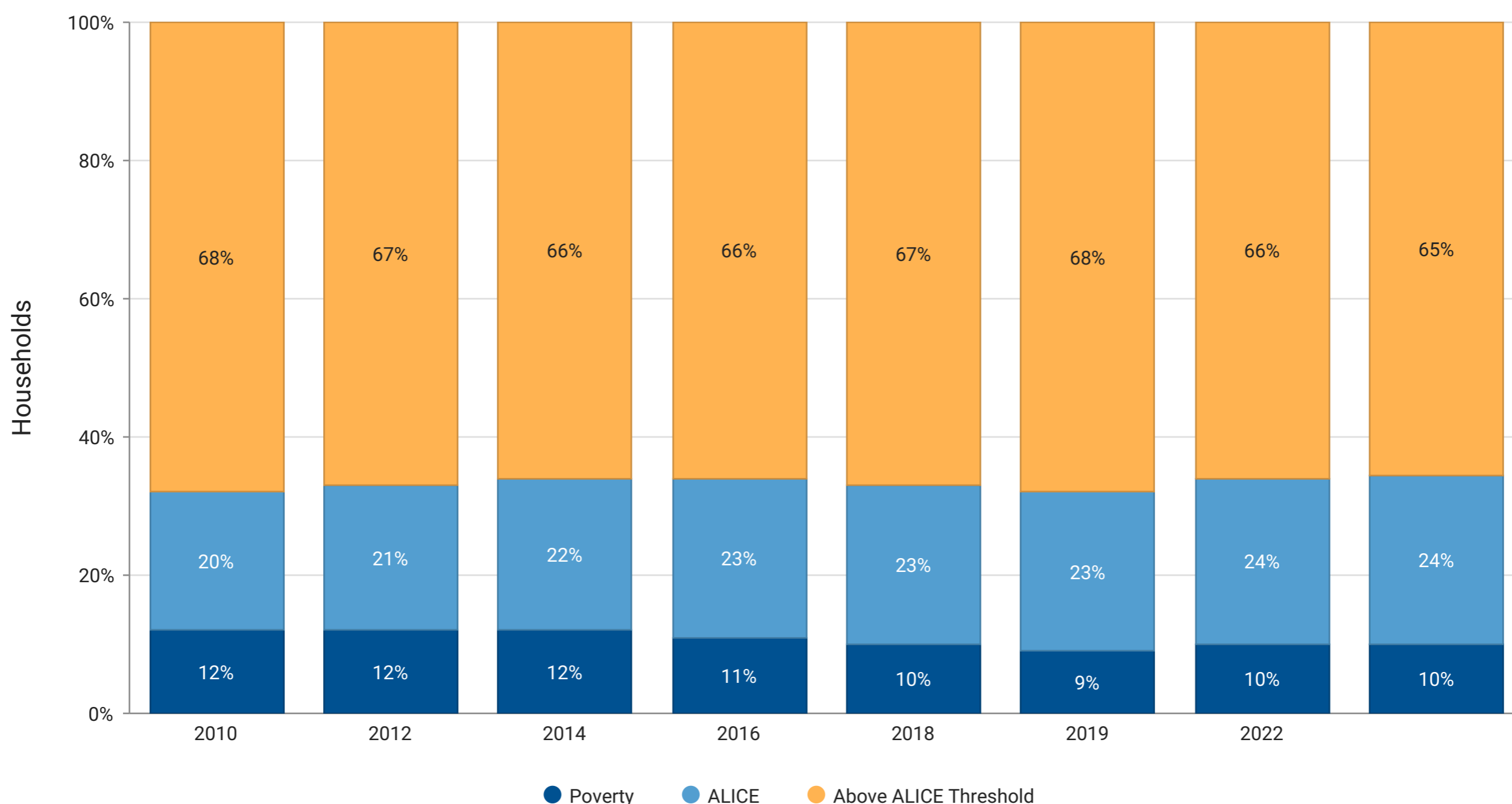


While the COVID-19 pandemic brought employment shifts, health struggles, and school/business closures, it also spurred temporary expansion of public assistance through pandemic relief measures (which then reverted to pre-pandemic levels in 2022)unprecedented public assistance through pandemic relief measures. In 2019, 948,380 households in Washington were below the ALICE Threshold; by 2022, that number had changed to 1,059,901.

Number of Households



Percentage of Households



ALICE Lives in Every Community

ALICE lives in rural, urban, and suburban areas across the state. ALICE household data for Washington is available by **County**, **ZIP code**, **Census Designated Place**, and **County Subdivision** (on the [Maps](#) page) and by [Legislative District](#). You can also compare states and explore national-level data on the [National Overview](#) page or download an Excel version of this data.

County	HOUSEHOLDS	% BELOW ALICE THRESHOLD
Adams	6,304	51%
Asotin	9,499	39%
Benton	78,231	34%
Chelan	30,414	40%
Clallam	35,527	38%
Clark	198,400	41%
Columbia	1,804	35%
Cowlitz	44,049	39%
Douglas	15,474	37%
Ferry	3,025	49%
Franklin	28,350	45%
Garfield	1,009	41%
Grant	36,134	42%
Grays Harbor	30,995	38%
Island	35,498	34%
Jefferson	15,859	43%
King	945,040	29%
Kitsap	109,245	29%
Kittitas	19,250	41%
Klickitat	9,618	41%
Lewis	31,511	44%
Lincoln	4,532	38%
Mason	27,099	35%
Okanogan	17,005	45%
Pacific	10,689	61%



Pend Oreille	5,737	43%
Pierce	351,652	34%
San Juan	8,654	38%
Skagit	50,818	39%
Skamania	4,812	39%
Snohomish	314,888	35%
Spokane	220,879	39%
Stevens	18,471	41%
Thurston	118,571	31%
Wahkiakum	1,954	42%
Walla Walla	22,978	45%
Whatcom	94,813	38%
Whitman	17,963	53%
Yakima	87,616	48%

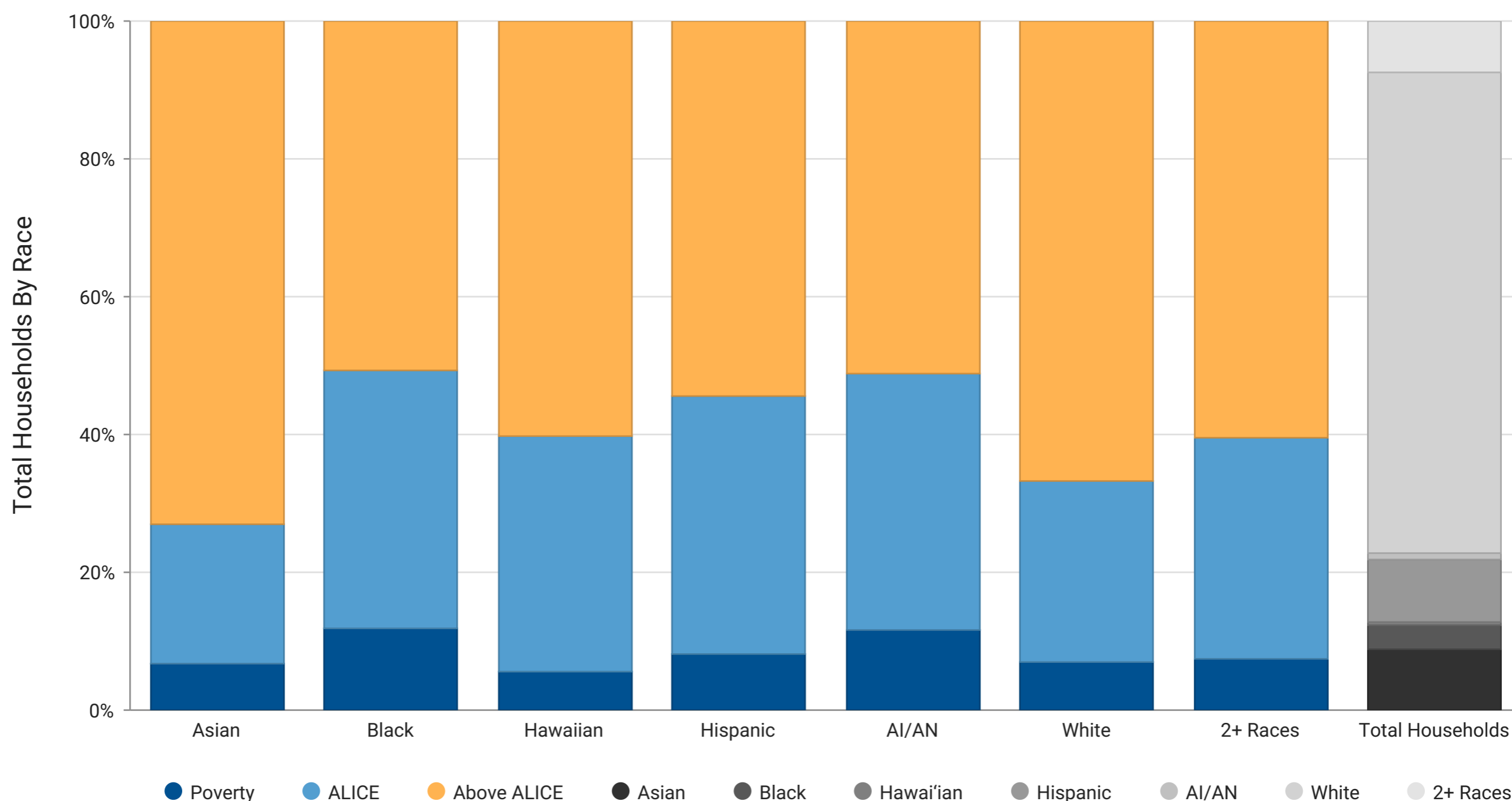


ALICE Households are Diverse, but Financial Hardship is Not Equally Distributed

ALICE households are as diverse as the communities they live in. ALICE household data is available at the state and county levels by race/ethnicity, household composition (families with children, single households), and age of householder. Exploring the demographics of financial hardship highlights inequities in the state and local economy.

For example, the figure below shows the substantial disparities in financial hardship that exist by race/ethnicity.

Households by Race, Washington, 2022



ALICE Works Hard, But It's Not Enough

A key contributor to the number of ALICE households in Washington is the fundamental mismatch between the cost of living and what jobs pay. For example, 8% of Accountants And Auditors (the most common occupation in Washington) were below the ALICE Threshold in 2022.

Top Occupations, Employment, Wages, and Percentage Below ALICE Threshold, Washington, 2022

County	Total Employment (BLS)	Median Hourly Wage (BLS)	Percent Median Wage Change From 2019 (BLS)	Percent Workers Below ALICE Threshold (ACS PUMS)
Fast Food And Counter Workers	98,870	\$16.61	26%	39%
Personal Care Aides	97,730	\$18.25	27%	35%
Software Developers	91,200	\$73.04	0%	5%
Retail Salespersons	85,750	\$17.18	17%	31%
Driver/Sales Workers And Truck Drivers	70,470	\$22.66	7%	31%
Registered Nurses	64,920	\$48.67	21%	9%
Cashiers	59,120	\$16.50	20%	41%
Stockers And Order Fillers	54,970	\$18.38	17%	33%
General And Operations Managers	53,980	\$56.95	11%	10%
Office Clerks, General	53,430	\$21.77	17%	33%
Laborers And Freight, Stock, And Material Movers, Hand	52,200	\$18.76	15%	33%
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	51,390	\$38.43	0%	9%
Cooks	50,250	\$19.43	19%	38%
Customer Service Representatives	50,160	\$21.53	15%	26%



Sales Representatives, Wholesale And Manufacturing	48,640	\$56.20	70%	18%
Elementary And Middle School Teachers	43,560	\$41.12	24%	10%
Teaching Assistants	39,270	\$19.72	11%	26%
Bookkeeping, Accounting, And Auditing Clerks	35,470	\$23.63	8%	13%
Secretaries And Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, And Executive	34,910	\$23.95	14%	19%
Accountants And Auditors	33,530	\$39.03	10%	8%



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United Way of Jackson County



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United Way of Thurston County



United Way of Whatcom County

