The 2020 AUW ALICE Report shows three critical trends in Hawaii pre-COVID-19. The pandemic exacerbates the situation and magnifies the vulnerabilities of ALICE.

WHO IS ALICE?

**ASSET LIMITED**
ALICE has no safety net for emergencies

**INCOME CONSTRAINED**
ALICE’s income falls short of basic necessities

**EMPLOYED**
ALICE is working, but can’t afford the cost of living

SINCE 2010, AROUND 42% (OR 190,390) OF HAWAII’S HOUSEHOLDS HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING TO GET BY

The 2020 AUW ALICE Report shows three critical trends in Hawaii pre-COVID-19. The pandemic exacerbates the situation and magnifies the vulnerabilities of ALICE.

**THE COST OF LIVING IS INCREASING FOR ALICE HOUSEHOLDS.**
The cost of household essentials (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, phone and taxes) is rising faster than the cost of other goods and services.

**THE NUMBER OF ALICE HOUSEHOLDS IS ON THE RISE.**
While the number of households in poverty remained relatively flat from 2007 to 2018, the number of ALICE households has continued to increase as a result of rising costs and stagnant wages.

**WORKER VULNERABILITY IS GROWING WHILE WAGES STAGNATE IN ALICE JOBS.**
The only growth is concentrated in low-wage jobs with no growth in mid- and high-wage jobs that pay a reasonable living wage.

ALOHA UNITED WAY 211

**TOP 3 COVID ASSISTANCE REQUESTS**
The COVID-19 pandemic has magnified ALICE vulnerabilities. AUW 211 helpline calls have increased 600% and the top requests align with the trends identified in the latest ALICE Report.

1. Housing / Shelter
2. Healthcare
3. Employment / Income

Aloha United Way established the ALICE Fund in 2018 to tackle the issues that cause financial instability for ALICE individuals and families. Through transformative initiatives that bring together people, resources and sustainable solutions, the ALICE Fund strives to enhance the financial stability of our ALICE ohana to make our community stronger and more resilient. [AUW.org/united-for-alice](http://AUW.org/united-for-alice)
The COVID crisis has placed unprecedented strains on Hawai’i’s households. We will not understand the full extent of the economic burden COVID-19 has placed on individuals, households and communities for quite some time. The situation is still unfolding. However, in partnership with the Hawaii Data Collaborative, we have been able to estimate potential impacts in the near and longer term.

**IMPACT OF THE COVID ECONOMIC SHOCK:**

- **Before COVID:**
  - 42% (or 190,390) Households ALICE or below
  - 33% (148,771 households) ALICE
  - 9% (41,619 households) Poverty
  - 58% (254,479 households) Above ALICE Threshold

- **Following COVID:**
  - 59% (or 268,531) Households ALICE or below
  - 40% (182,052 households) ALICE
  - 19% (96,420 households) Poverty
  - 41% (186,607 households) Above ALICE Threshold

State unemployment benefits and CARES Act funds are keeping most these household afloat for now. However, with uncertainty around the trajectory of our economic recovery and the availability of funds to continue this support, the future for these households is uncertain.

Unemployment forecasts range from **15% to 20%** unemployment for 2020*, which means that as many as:

**35,000 ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLDS WILL HAVE FALLEN INTO ALICE STATUS OR BELOW BY THE END OF THE YEAR**