
VIRGINIA • HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS 2018

Traditional economic measures systematically underestimate the actual cost of basic needs and how quickly they increase over time, concealing important aspects of the local and national economy. To better capture the reality of how much households need to live and work in the modern economy in each Virginia county, United For ALICE provides three basic budgets, each of which can be calculated for various household types:

The ALICE Household Survival Budget

The minimal estimate of the total cost of household essentials — housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a smartphone plan, plus taxes and a miscellaneous contingency fund equal to 10% of the budget.

The Senior Survival Budget

Adjusts the Household Survival Budget to reflect the fact that seniors have lower food costs than younger adults, travel fewer miles for work and family responsibilities, and have increasing health needs and out of pocket health care expenses.

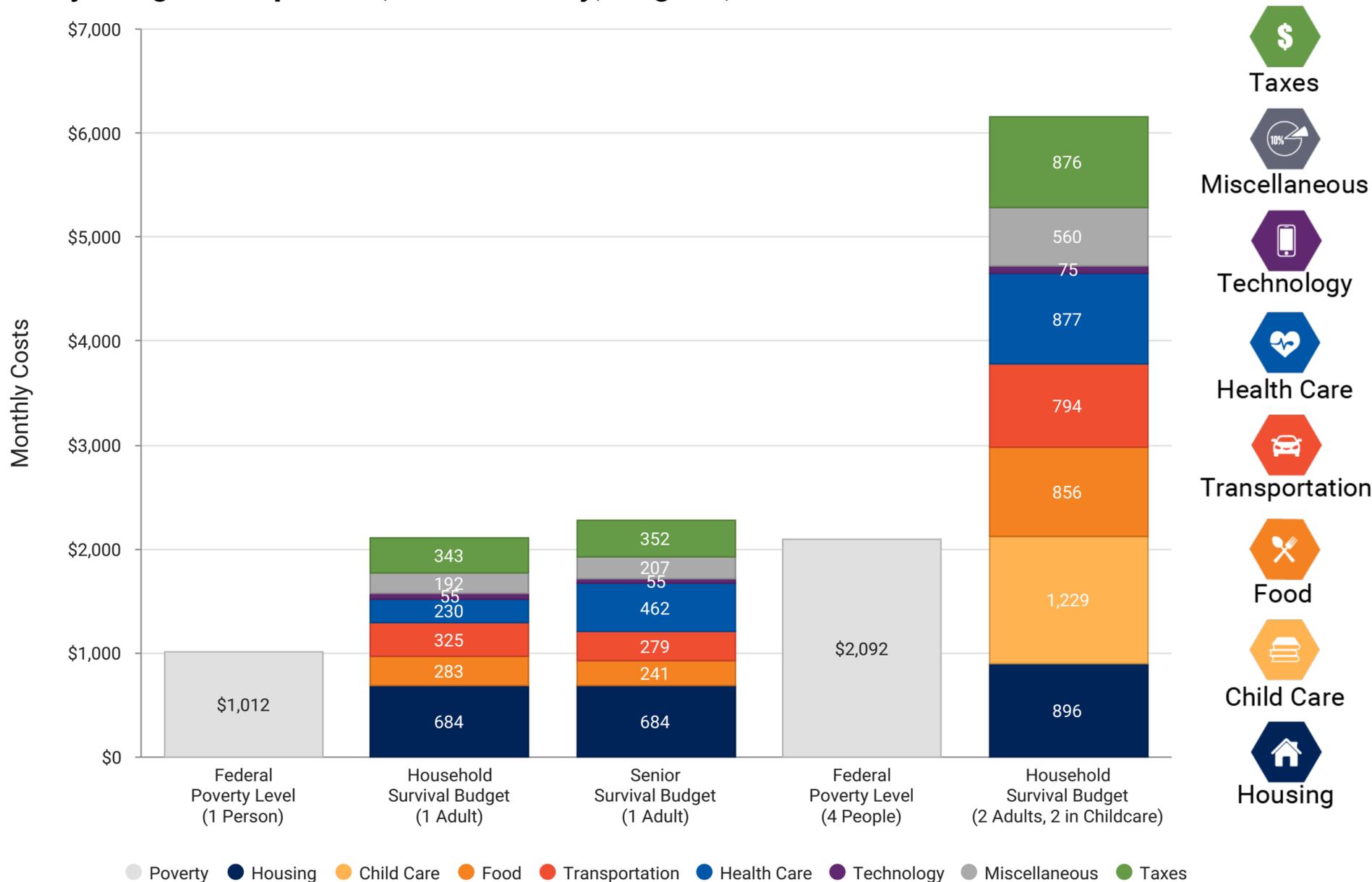
The ALICE Household Stability Budget

Posits a more sustainable budget model that estimates the higher costs of maintaining a viable household over time, including a 10% savings category that can be used in an emergency, for additional education, or to buy a home.

ALICE Budgets Differ by Household Type and Location

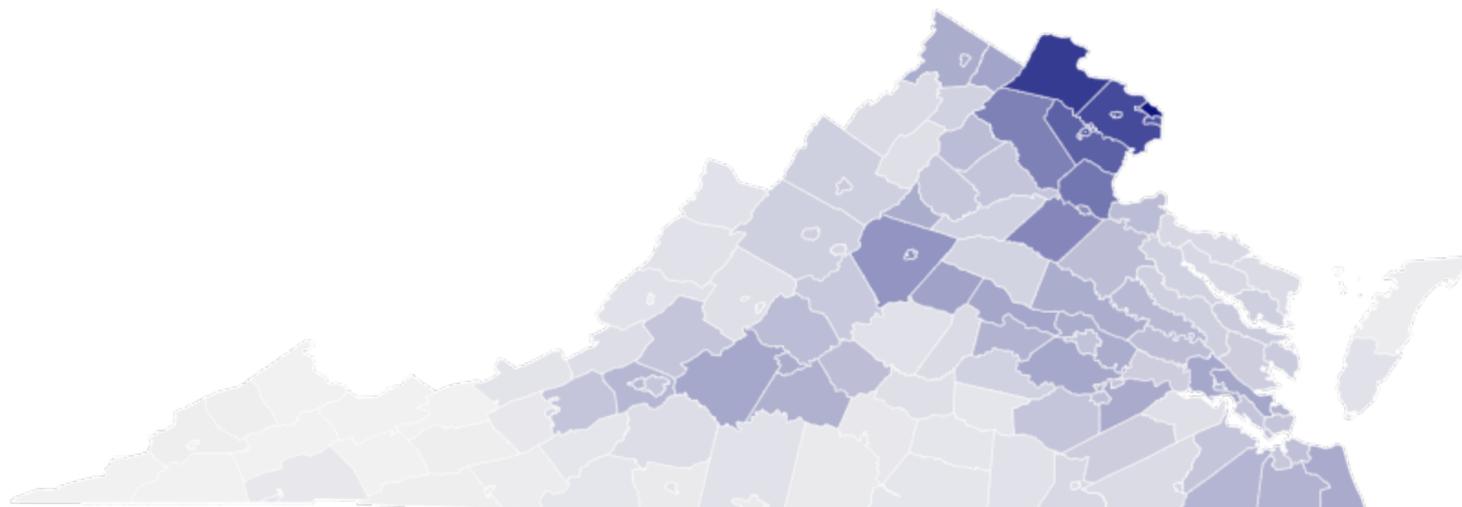
The map and figure below show how the ALICE budgets differ by household type and location, and how they compare to the Federal Poverty Level.

Monthly Budget Comparison, Staunton City, Virginia, 2018



For ALICE Survival Budget sources, see the 2020 Methodology Overview on the Methodology tab

Cost of Living by Geography, Virginia, 2018



For ALICE Survival Budget sources, see the 2020 Methodology Overview on the Methodology tab

ALICE Household Survival Budget, Staunton City, Virginia, 2018

	Single Adult	One Adult, One Child	One Adult, One In Child Care	Single Senior
Housing	\$684	\$688	\$688	\$684
Child Care	\$0	\$211	\$667	\$0
Food	\$283	\$488	\$408	\$241
Transportation	\$325	\$483	\$483	\$279
Health Care	\$230	\$515	\$515	\$462
Technology	\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55
Miscellaneous	\$192	\$282	\$332	\$207
Taxes	\$343	\$380	\$507	\$352
Monthly Total	\$2,112	\$3,102	\$3,655	\$2,280
Annual Total	\$25,344	\$37,224	\$43,860	\$27,360
Hourly Wage	\$12.67	\$18.61	\$21.93	\$13.68

	Two Adults	Two Adults Two Children	Two Adults, Two In Child Care	Two Seniors
Housing	\$688	\$896	\$896	\$688
Child Care	\$0	\$422	\$1,229	\$0
Food	\$587	\$980	\$856	\$500
Transportation	\$497	\$794	\$794	\$405
Health Care	\$515	\$877	\$877	\$924
Technology	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$286	\$469	\$560	\$310
Taxes	\$502	\$645	\$876	\$503
Monthly Total	\$3,150	\$5,158	\$6,163	\$3,405
Annual Total	\$37,800	\$61,896	\$73,956	\$40,860
Hourly Wage	\$18.90	\$30.95	\$36.98	\$20.43

Note: The budget for two adults and two in childcare includes costs for one infant and one preschooler

For ALICE Survival Budget sources, see the 2020 Methodology Overview on the Methodology tab

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

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Additional Household Sizes, Staunton City, Virginia, 2018

The ALICE Household Survival Budget can also be customized for different household sizes using the numbers below:

Add 1 Adult	Add 1 Senior (65+)	Add 1 Infant	Add 1 Preschooler	Add 1 School-Age Child
\$14,231	\$15,269	\$18,708	\$17,458	\$12,050

Note: Add the dollar amounts shown in this table to the annual totals in the table above to create customized household compositions. To calculate the new hourly wage needed, divide the annual total by 40, then 50.

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ALICE Household Stability Budget, Staunton City, Virginia, 2018

	Single Adult	Two Adults	Two Adults Two Children	Two Adults, Two in Child Care
Housing	\$860	\$1,120	\$1,048	\$1,048
Child Care	\$0	\$0	\$563	\$1,500
Food	\$568	\$1,153	\$2,051	\$1,790
Transportation	\$769	\$967	\$1,288	\$1,288
Health Care	\$193	\$429	\$741	\$741
Technology	\$125	\$145	\$145	\$145
Miscellaneous	\$325	\$484	\$750	\$839
Savings	\$325	\$484	\$750	\$839
Taxes	\$738	\$1,027	\$1,662	\$1,879
Monthly Total	\$3,903	\$5,809	\$8,998	\$10,069
Annual Total	\$46,836	\$69,708	\$107,976	\$120,828
Hourly Wage	\$23.42	\$34.85	\$53.99	\$60.41

Note: The budget for two adults and two in childcare includes costs for one infant and one preschooler
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