



Economic Mobility in Iowa

Iowa HHS' Fostering Economic Mobility Project is improving the structures and economic supports that help people realize their full potential. We are creating pathways for families to build assets and thrive by addressing barriers that, too often, lead to catastrophic hardships. Our economy depends on the success of all families, and this project is designed to identify solutions that provide the right supports at the right time, and prepare our workforce with the appropriate skills and opportunities to meet demands in our state.

Demographics

Data provided by the 2023 ALICE (Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed) Report from the United Way of Iowa.

25% of Iowa households who work, earn, and pay taxes, cannot meet their basic needs.

450,000 Iowa families struggle to achieve financial stability.

5.8% of married-couple households* experience poverty[^].

32.9% of households led by a single mother with no spouse present** experience poverty[^].

*2022 American Community Survey – 1,939,138 Iowans live in married-couple families

**2022 American Community Survey – 348,118 Iowans live in female head of household, no spouse present families

[^]Less than 125% of the Federal Poverty Level, or \$46,875/year for a family of 4