North Carolina

Some Families in North Carolina with Income Just Below the Poverty Line Are Subject to the Income Tax

North Carolina's 2001 income tax threshold — the income level at which families begin paying income tax:

Ranking among 42 states with income taxes

For two-parent families of four: \$17,000.

17th lowest

For single-parent families of three: \$13,900.

17th lowest

North Carolina's 2001 income tax on working-poor and near-poor families:

For families of four with *incomes at the poverty line (\$18,104):* **\$68.**

17th highest

For families of three with *incomes at the poverty line (\$14,129):* **\$14.**

17th highest

No tax on families of three or four with *full-time minimum wage earnings* (\$10,712).

For families of three with *incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$17,661):* **\$227.**

13th highest

For families of four with *incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$22,630):*

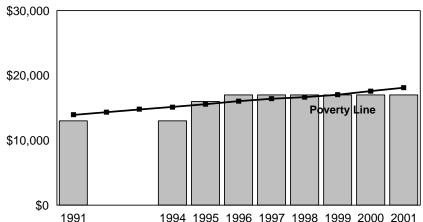
\$338.

15th highest

For the last three years, North Carolina has taxed families of four with incomes below the poverty line.

- From 1995 to 1998, North Carolina's tax threshold for families of four was above the poverty line. (See chart.)
- Because the state did not act to increase the threshold the last three years, North Carolina now levies a tax on families of four with poverty-level incomes.

Income Tax Threshold for Family of Four



Year	Threshold
1991	\$13,000
1994	\$13,000
1995	\$16,000
1996	\$17,000
1997	\$17,000
1998	\$17,000
1999	\$17,000
2000	\$17,000
2001	\$17,000

Source: CBPP, State Income Tax Burdens on Low-Income Families in 2001, February 26, 2002.