South Carolina

South Carolina Exempts Poor Families from the Income Tax

South 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: \$22,100.

13th highest

For single-parent families of three: \$18,300.

18th highest

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

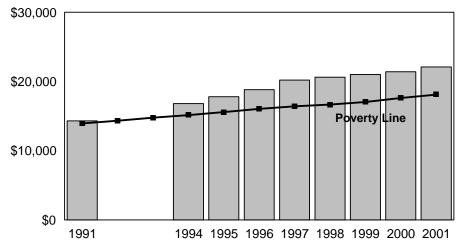
- No tax on families with *incomes at the poverty line (\$18,104 for family of four, \$14,129 for family of three).*
- No tax on families of three or four with *full-time minimum wage earnings* (\$10,712).
- No tax on families of three with incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$17,661).
- For families of four with *incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$22,630):* **\$13.**

13th lowest

South Carolina has consistently exempted families with below-poverty earnings from the income tax.

- Because South Carolina's tax threshold for families of four has risen over the last decade, the threshold has remained above the poverty line.
- In 1991, a family of four owed no tax until its income reached 3 percent *above* the poverty line. South Carolina's tax threshold is now 22 percent *above* the poverty line

Income Tax Threshold for Family of Four



Year	Threshold
1991	\$14,300
1994	\$16,800
1995	\$17,800
1996	\$18,800
1997	\$20,200
1998	\$20,600
1999	\$21,000
2000	\$21,400
2001	\$22,100

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