

# Oklahoma

## Poor Families in Oklahoma Remain Subject to Income Tax

**Oklahoma's 2002 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 three: **\$15,500.** **19<sup>th</sup> lowest**
- ⇒ For single-parent families of four: **\$16,500.** **15<sup>th</sup> lowest**

**Oklahoma's 2002 income tax on working-poor and near-poor families:**

- ⇒ No tax on families of three with *incomes at the poverty line (\$14,351)*: **\$52 refund.** **11<sup>th</sup> highest (refund)**
- ⇒ For families of four with *incomes at the poverty line (\$18,390)*: **\$98.** **14<sup>th</sup> highest**
- ⇒ For families of three with *minimum-wage earnings (\$10,712)*: **\$145 refund.** **10<sup>th</sup> highest (refund)**
- ⇒ For families of four with *minimum-wage earnings (\$10,712)*: **\$207 refund.** **10<sup>th</sup> highest (refund)**
- ⇒ For families of three with *incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$17,939)*: **\$131.** **19<sup>th</sup> highest**
- ⇒ For families of four with *incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$22,988)*: **\$396.** **12<sup>th</sup> highest**

**Oklahoma has consistently taxed families with income below the poverty line, but income taxes on poor declined in 2002.**

- ⇒ A new state Earned Income Tax Credit introduced in tax year 2002 raised the tax threshold for families of four from \$13,400 to \$16,500 and cut the tax for a family at the poverty line from \$252 to \$98.
- ⇒ In 1991, a family of four owed tax when its income exceeded 72 percent of the poverty line. By 2002, Oklahoma's tax threshold rose to 90 percent of the poverty line.

**Income Tax Threshold for Family of Four**

