

# Utah

## Poor Families in Utah Do Not Pay Income Tax, But Tax Slightly Above Poverty Line Can Be Substantial

**Utah's income tax threshold — the income level at which families begin paying income tax:**

*Ranking among 42 states with income taxes*  
**20<sup>th</sup> lowest (tie)**

⇒ For two-parent families of three: **\$15,900.**

⇒ For single-parent families of four: **\$19,900.**

**20<sup>th</sup> lowest**

**Utah'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)

⇒ No tax on families of four with *incomes at the poverty line* (\$18,390).

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

⇒ For families of three with *incomes at 125% of poverty line* (\$17,939):  
**\$132.**

**17<sup>th</sup> highest**

⇒ For families of four with *incomes at 125% of poverty line* (\$22,988):  
**\$219.**

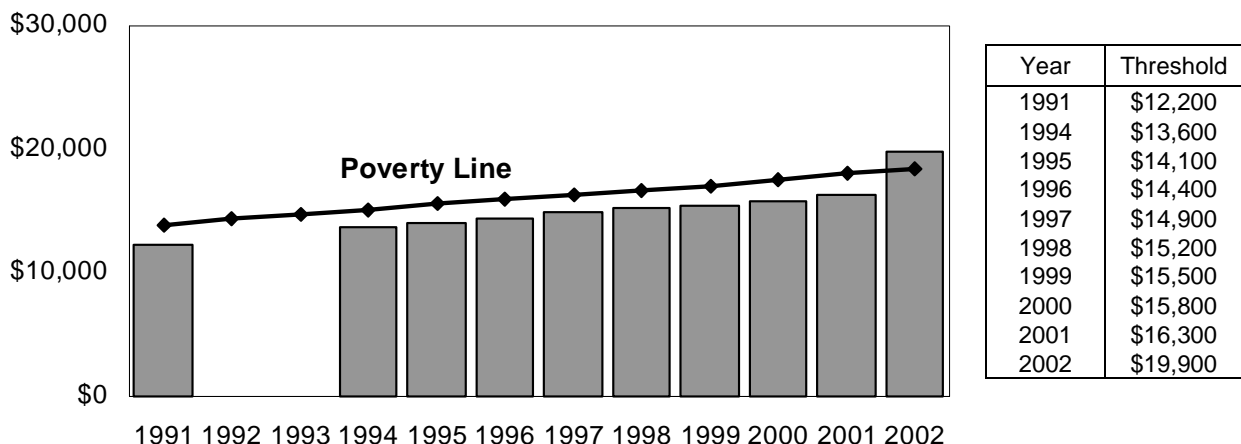
**21<sup>st</sup> highest**

**In 2002, Utah exempted from income tax families with incomes below the poverty line.**

⇒ A law passed in 2001 has increased the threshold above the poverty line in tax year 2002.

⇒ In 1991, a family of four owed tax when its income exceeded 88 percent of the poverty line. For 2002, Utah's tax threshold is 8 percent above the poverty line.

**Income Tax Threshold for Family of Four**



Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, *State Income Tax Burdens on Low-Income Families in 2002*, April 11, 2003.