South Carolina

South Carolina Exempts Working-Poor and Near-Poor Families from Income Tax

South Carolina's 2005 income tax threshold

Rank among the 42 states with income taxes

(The income level at which families begin paying income tax)

(1 = lowest threshold)

For single-parent families of three: \$20,100

(tied for) 29

For two-parent families of four: \$27,000

35

South Carolina's 2005 income tax levied on working-poor and near-poor families Rank (1 = highest tax)

For families of three with incomes at the poverty line (\$15,577): \$0

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For families of four with incomes at the poverty line (\$19,961): \$0

(tied for) 17 (tied for) 20

For families of three with minimum-wage earnings (\$10,712): \$0

(tied for) 7

For families of three with incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$19,471): \$0

(tied for) 28

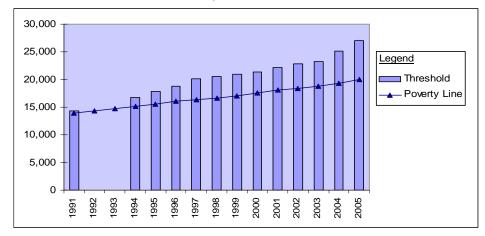
For families of four with incomes at 125% of poverty line (\$24,951): \$0

(tied for) 32

South Carolina has consistently exempted families with belowpoverty earnings from the income tax.

South Carolina's tax threshold for families of four has risen steadily since the early 1990s, from just 3 percent above the poverty line in 1991 to 35 percent above the poverty line in 2005.

Income Tax Threshold for Family of Four



Year	Threshold
1991	\$14,300
1992	no data
1993	no data
1994	\$16,800
1995	\$17,800
1996	\$18,800
1997	\$20,200
1998	\$20,600
1999	\$21,000
2000	\$21,400
2001	\$22,100
2002	\$22,900
2003	\$23,200
2004	\$25,200
2005	\$27,000



Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, The Impact of State Income Taxes on Low-Income Families in 2005. Available online at: http://www.cbpp.org/2-22-06sfp.htm.