

**Table 709. Poverty Thresholds by Size of Family Unit: 1980 to 2008**

[In dollars per year. For information on the official poverty thresholds; see text, this section. For more on poverty, see <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/overview/measure.html>>]

Size of family unit	1980	1990	1995	2000 <sup>1</sup>	2004 <sup>2</sup>	2005	2006	2007	2008
One person (unrelated individual) <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	4,190	6,652	7,763	8,791	9,646	9,973	10,294	10,590	10,991
Under 65 years old . . . . .	4,290	6,800	7,929	8,959	9,827	10,160	10,488	10,787	11,201
65 years old and over . . . . .	3,949	6,268	7,309	8,259	9,060	9,367	9,669	9,944	10,326
Two persons . . . . .	5,363	8,509	9,933	11,235	12,335	12,755	13,167	13,540	14,051
Householder under 65 years old . . . . .	5,537	8,794	10,259	11,589	12,714	13,145	13,569	13,954	14,489
Householder 65 years old and over . . . . .	4,983	7,905	9,219	10,418	11,430	11,815	12,201	12,550	13,030
Three persons . . . . .	6,565	10,419	12,158	13,740	15,066	15,577	16,079	16,530	17,163
Four persons . . . . .	8,414	13,359	15,569	17,604	19,307	19,971	20,614	21,203	22,025
Five persons . . . . .	9,966	15,792	18,408	20,815	22,830	23,613	24,382	25,080	26,049
Six persons . . . . .	11,269	17,839	20,804	23,533	25,787	26,683	27,560	28,323	29,456
Seven persons . . . . .	12,761	20,241	23,552	26,750	29,233	30,249	31,205	32,233	33,529
Eight persons . . . . .	14,199	22,582	26,237	29,701	32,641	33,610	34,774	35,816	37,220
Nine or more persons . . . . .	16,896	26,848	31,280	35,150	39,062	40,288	41,499	42,739	44,346

<sup>1</sup> Implementation of Census 2000-based population controls and sample expanded by 28,000 households. <sup>2</sup> The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC). <sup>3</sup> A person living alone or with non-relatives.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2008*, Current Population Reports, P60-236, and Historical Tables—Table 1, September 2009. See also <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty.html>> and <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/historical/people.html>>.

**Table 710. People Below Poverty Level and Below 125 Percent of Poverty Level by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1980 to 2008**

[29,272 represents 29,272,000. People as of March of the following year. Based on Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC); see text, this section, Section 1, and Appendix III. For data collection changes over time, see <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/data/historical/history.html>>]

Year	Number of persons below poverty (1,000)					Percent of persons below poverty					Below 125 percent <sup>6</sup> of poverty level	
	All races <sup>1</sup>	White <sup>2</sup>	Black <sup>3</sup>	Asian and Pacific Islander <sup>4</sup>	Hispanic <sup>5</sup>	All races <sup>1</sup>	White <sup>2</sup>	Black <sup>3</sup>	Asian and Pacific Islander <sup>4</sup>	Hispanic <sup>5</sup>	Number (1,000)	Percent of total population
1980 . . . . .	29,272	19,699	8,579	(NA)	3,491	13.0	10.2	32.5	(NA)	25.7	40,658	18.1
1985 . . . . .	33,064	22,860	8,926	(NA)	5,236	14.0	11.4	31.3	(NA)	29.0	44,166	18.7
1987 <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	32,221	21,195	9,520	1,021	5,422	13.4	10.4	32.4	16.1	28.0	43,032	17.9
1988 . . . . .	31,745	20,715	9,356	1,117	5,357	13.0	10.1	31.3	17.3	26.7	42,551	17.5
1989 . . . . .	31,528	20,785	9,302	939	5,430	12.8	10.0	30.7	14.1	26.2	42,653	17.3
1990 . . . . .	33,585	22,326	9,837	858	6,006	13.5	10.7	31.9	12.2	28.1	44,837	18.0
1991 . . . . .	35,708	23,747	10,242	996	6,339	14.2	11.3	32.7	13.8	28.7	47,527	18.9
1992 <sup>8</sup> . . . . .	38,014	25,259	10,827	985	7,592	14.8	11.9	33.4	12.7	29.6	50,592	19.7
1993 <sup>9</sup> . . . . .	39,265	26,226	10,877	1,134	8,126	15.1	12.2	33.1	15.3	30.6	51,801	20.0
1994 . . . . .	38,059	25,379	10,196	974	8,416	14.5	11.7	30.6	14.6	30.7	50,401	19.3
1995 . . . . .	36,425	24,423	9,872	1,411	8,574	13.8	11.2	29.3	14.6	30.3	48,761	18.5
1996 . . . . .	36,529	24,650	9,694	1,454	8,697	13.7	11.2	28.4	14.5	29.4	49,310	18.5
1997 . . . . .	35,574	24,396	9,116	1,468	8,308	13.3	11.0	26.5	14.0	27.1	47,853	17.8
1998 . . . . .	34,476	23,454	9,091	1,360	8,070	12.7	10.5	26.1	12.5	25.6	46,036	17.0
1999 <sup>10</sup> . . . . .	32,791	22,169	8,441	1,285	7,876	11.9	9.8	23.6	10.7	22.7	45,030	16.3
2000 <sup>11</sup> . . . . .	31,581	21,645	7,982	1,258	7,747	11.3	9.5	22.5	9.9	21.5	43,612	15.6
2001 . . . . .	32,907	22,739	8,136	1,275	7,997	11.7	9.9	22.7	10.2	21.4	45,320	16.1
2002 <sup>12</sup> . . . . .	34,570	23,466	8,602	1,161	8,555	12.1	10.2	24.1	10.1	21.8	47,084	16.5
2003 . . . . .	35,861	24,272	8,781	1,401	9,051	12.5	10.5	24.4	11.8	22.5	48,687	16.9
2004 <sup>13</sup> . . . . .	37,040	25,327	9,014	1,201	9,122	12.7	10.8	24.7	9.8	21.9	49,693	17.1
2005 . . . . .	36,950	24,872	9,168	1,402	9,368	12.6	10.6	24.9	11.1	21.8	49,327	17.8
2006 . . . . .	36,460	24,116	9,048	1,353	9,243	12.3	10.3	24.3	10.3	20.6	49,688	17.8
2007 . . . . .	37,276	25,120	9,237	1,349	9,890	12.5	10.5	24.5	10.2	21.5	50,876	16.0
2008 . . . . .	39,829	26,990	9,379	1,576	10,987	13.2	11.2	24.7	11.8	23.2	53,805	17.9

NA Not available. <sup>1</sup> Includes other races, not shown separately. <sup>2</sup> Beginning 2002, data represent White alone, which refers to people who reported White and did not report any other race category. <sup>3</sup> Beginning 2002, data represent Black alone, which refers to people who reported Black and did not report any other race category. <sup>4</sup> Beginning 2002, data represent Asian alone, which refers to people who reported Asian and did not report any other race category. <sup>5</sup> People of Hispanic origin may be any race. <sup>6</sup> Includes those in poverty, plus those who have income above poverty but less than 1.25 times their poverty threshold. <sup>7</sup> Implementation of a new March CPS processing system. <sup>8</sup> Implementation of 1990 census population controls. <sup>9</sup> The March 1994 income supplement was revised to allow for the coding of different income amounts on selected questionnaire items. Limits either increased or decreased in the following categories: earnings increased to \$99,999; social security increased to \$49,999; supplemental security income and public assistance increased to \$24,999; veterans' benefits increased to \$99,999; child support and alimony decreased to \$49,999. <sup>10</sup> Implementation of Census-2000-based population controls. <sup>11</sup> Implementation of sample expansion by 28,000 households. <sup>12</sup> Beginning with the 2003 Current Population Survey (CPS), the questionnaire allowed respondents to choose more than one race. For 2002 and later, data represent persons who selected this race group only and exclude persons reporting more than one race. The CPS in prior years allowed respondents to report only one race group. See also comments on race in the text for Section 1, Population. <sup>13</sup> Data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 ASEC.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2008*, Current Population Reports, series P60-236, and Historical Tables—Tables 2 and 6, September 2009. See also <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty.html>> and <<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/historical/people.html>>.