

Table 3.E8
Poverty guidelines for families of specified size, 1965–2012 (in dollars)

Date of issuance ^a	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons	Increment ^b
December 1965	1,540	1,990	2,440	3,130	3,685	4,135	4,635	5,135	500
August 1967	1,600	2,000	2,500	3,200	3,800	4,200	4,700	5,300	500
September 1968	1,600	2,100	2,600	3,300	3,900	4,400	4,900	5,400	500
September 1969	1,800	2,400	3,000	3,600	4,200	4,800	5,400	6,000	600
December 1970	1,900	2,500	3,100	3,800	4,400	5,000	5,600	6,200	600
November 1971	2,000	2,600	3,300	4,000	4,700	5,300	5,900	6,500	600
October 1972	2,100	2,725	3,450	4,200	4,925	5,550	6,200	6,850	650
March 1973	2,200	2,900	3,600	4,300	5,000	5,700	6,400	7,100	700
May 1974	2,330	3,070	3,810	4,550	5,290	6,030	6,770	7,510	740
March 1975	2,590	3,410	4,230	5,050	5,870	6,690	7,510	8,330	820
April 1976	2,800	3,700	4,600	5,500	6,400	7,300	8,200	9,100	900
April 1977	2,970	3,930	4,890	5,850	6,810	7,770	8,730	9,690	960
April 1978	3,140	4,160	5,180	6,200	7,220	8,240	9,260	10,280	1,020
May 1979	3,400	4,500	5,600	6,700	7,800	8,900	10,000	11,100	1,100
April 1980	3,790	5,010	6,230	7,450	8,670	9,890	11,110	12,330	1,220
March 1981	4,310	5,690	7,070	8,450	9,830	11,210	12,590	13,970	1,380
April 1982	4,680	6,220	7,760	9,300	10,840	12,380	13,920	15,460	1,540
February 1983	4,860	6,540	8,220	9,900	11,580	13,260	14,940	16,620	1,680
February 1984	4,980	6,720	8,460	10,200	11,940	13,680	15,420	17,160	1,740
March 1985	5,250	7,050	8,850	10,650	12,450	14,250	16,050	17,850	1,800
February 1986	5,360	7,240	9,120	11,000	12,880	14,760	16,640	18,520	1,880
February 1987	5,500	7,400	9,300	11,200	13,100	15,000	16,900	18,800	1,900
February 1988	5,770	7,730	9,690	11,650	13,610	15,570	17,530	19,490	1,960
February 1989	5,980	8,020	10,060	12,100	14,140	16,180	18,220	20,260	2,040
February 1990	6,280	8,420	10,560	12,700	14,840	16,980	18,120	21,260	2,140
February 1991	6,620	8,880	11,140	13,400	15,660	17,920	20,180	22,440	2,260
February 1992	6,810	9,190	11,570	13,950	16,330	18,710	21,090	23,470	2,380
February 1993	6,970	9,430	11,890	14,350	16,810	19,270	21,730	24,190	2,460
February 1994	7,360	9,840	12,320	14,800	17,280	19,760	22,240	24,720	2,480
February 1995	7,470	10,030	12,590	15,150	17,710	20,270	22,830	25,390	2,560
March 1996	7,740	10,360	12,980	15,600	18,220	20,840	23,460	26,080	2,620
March 1997	7,890	10,610	13,330	16,050	18,770	21,490	24,210	26,960	2,720
February 1998	8,050	10,850	13,650	16,450	19,250	22,050	24,850	27,650	2,800
March 1999	8,240	11,060	13,880	16,700	19,520	22,340	25,160	27,980	2,820
February 2000	8,350	11,250	14,150	17,050	19,950	22,850	25,750	28,650	2,900
February 2001	8,590	11,610	14,630	17,650	20,670	23,690	26,710	29,730	3,020
February 2002	8,860	11,940	15,020	18,100	21,180	24,260	27,340	30,420	3,080
February 2003	8,980	12,120	15,260	18,400	21,540	24,680	27,820	30,960	3,140
February 2004	9,310	12,490	15,670	18,850	22,030	25,210	28,390	31,570	3,180
February 2005	9,570	12,830	16,090	19,350	22,610	25,870	29,130	32,390	3,260
January 2006	9,800	13,200	16,600	20,000	23,400	26,800	30,200	33,600	3,400
January 2007	10,210	13,690	17,170	20,650	24,130	27,610	31,090	34,570	3,480
January 2008	10,400	14,000	17,600	21,200	24,800	28,400	32,000	35,600	3,600
January 2009	10,830	14,570	18,310	22,050	25,790	29,530	33,270	37,010	3,740
January 2010	10,830	14,570	18,310	22,050	25,790	29,530	33,270	37,010	3,740
January 2011	10,890	14,710	18,530	22,350	26,170	29,990	33,810	37,630	3,820
January 2012	11,170	15,130	19,090	23,050	27,010	30,970	34,930	38,890	3,960

SOURCES: Department of Health and Human Services, *Federal Register*, vol. 77, no. 17 (January 26, 2012), pp. 4034–4035; earlier *Federal Register* notices (1968–2011); and Israel Putnam, "Poverty Thresholds: Their History and Future Development" [November 1970], p. 281 in Mollie Orshansky [editor], *Documentation of Background Information and Rationale for Current Poverty Matrix* (Technical Paper I of *The Measure of Poverty*), Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1977.