

5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857. To speak to a person, call (301) 443-5656. To receive a Hill-Burton information package, call 1-800-638-0742 (for callers outside Maryland) or 1-800-492-0359 (for callers in Maryland), and leave your name and address on the Hotline recording. Persons with Internet access may visit the Division of Facilities Compliance and Recovery Internet home page site at <http://www.hrsa.gov/osp/dfcr>. The Division of Facilities Compliance and Recovery notes that as set by 42 CFR 124.505(b), the effective date of this update of the poverty guidelines for facilities obligated under the Hill-Burton Uncompensated Services Program is sixty days from the date of this publication.

For information about the percentage multiple of the poverty guidelines to be used on immigration forms such as INS Form I-864, Affidavit of Support, contact the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. To obtain information on the most recent applicable poverty guidelines from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, call 1-800-375-5283. Persons with Internet access may obtain the information from the Immigration and Naturalization Service Internet site at <http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/howdoi/affsupp.htm>.

For information about the Department of Labor's Lower Living Standard Income Level (an alternative eligibility criterion with the poverty guidelines for certain programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998), contact Haskel Lowery, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor—telephone: (202) 693-3608—e-mail: [hlowery@doleta.gov](mailto:hlowery@doleta.gov); persons with Internet access may visit the Employment and Training Administration's Lower Living Standard Income Level Internet site at <http://wdsc.doleta.gov/lisil>.

For information about the number of people in poverty since 1959 or about the Census Bureau statistical poverty thresholds, contact the HHES Division, Room G251, Federal Office Building #3, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-8500—telephone: (301) 763-3242—or send e-mail to [hhes-info@census.gov](mailto:hhes-info@census.gov); persons with Internet access may visit the Poverty section of the Census Bureau's Internet site at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty.html>.

#### 2003 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Size of family unit	Poverty guideline
1 .....	\$8,980
2 .....	12,120
3 .....	15,260
4 .....	18,400
5 .....	21,540
6 .....	24,680
7 .....	27,820
8 .....	30,960

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$3,140 for each additional member. (The same increment applies to smaller family sizes also, as can be seen in the figures above.)

#### 2003 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR ALASKA

Size of family unit	Poverty guideline
1 .....	\$11,210
2 .....	15,140
3 .....	19,070
4 .....	23,000
5 .....	26,930
6 .....	30,860
7 .....	34,790
8 .....	38,720

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$3,930 for each additional member. (The same increment applies to smaller family sizes also, as can be seen in the figures above.)

#### 2003 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR HAWAII

Size of family unit	Poverty guideline
1 .....	\$10,330
2 .....	13,940
3 .....	17,550
4 .....	21,160
5 .....	24,770
6 .....	28,380
7 .....	31,990
8 .....	35,600

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$3,610 for each additional member. (The same increment applies to smaller family sizes also, as can be seen in the figures above.)

(Separate poverty guideline figures for Alaska and Hawaii reflect Office of Economic Opportunity administrative practice beginning in the 1966-1970 period. Note that the Census Bureau poverty thresholds—the version of the

poverty measure used for statistical purposes—have never had separate figures for Alaska and Hawaii. The poverty guidelines are not defined for Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Palau. In cases in which a Federal program using the poverty guidelines serves any of those jurisdictions, the Federal office which administers the program is responsible for deciding whether to use the contiguous-states-and-DC guidelines for those jurisdictions or to follow some other procedure.)

The preceding figures are the 2003 update of the poverty guidelines required by section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1981 (Pub. L. 97-35—reauthorized by Pub. L. 105-285, Section 201 (1998)). As required by law, this update reflects last year's change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U); it was done using the same procedure used in previous years. (The poverty guidelines are calculated each year from the latest published Census Bureau poverty thresholds—not from the previous year's guidelines. Besides the inflation adjustment, the figures are also adjusted to standardize the differences between family sizes.)

Section 673(2) of OBRA-1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)) requires the use of these poverty guidelines as an eligibility criterion for the Community Services Block Grant program. The poverty guidelines are also used as an eligibility criterion by a number of other Federal programs (both HHS and non-HHS). Due to confusing legislative language dating back to 1972, the poverty guidelines have sometimes been mistakenly referred to as the "OMB" (Office of Management and Budget) poverty guidelines or poverty line. In fact, OMB has never issued the guidelines; the guidelines are issued each year by the Department of Health and Human Services (formerly by the Office of Economic Opportunity/Community Services Administration). The poverty guidelines may be formally referenced as "the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the **Federal Register** by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2)."

The poverty guidelines are a simplified version of the Federal Government's statistical poverty thresholds used by the Census Bureau to prepare its statistical estimates of the number of persons and families in