

Facts You Need to Know *About Taxes*



Your Reference Guide to:

2020 Tax Rates

College Savings Incentives

IRA and 401(k) Contributions

ABLE Accounts

Social Security Benefits



2020 Income Tax Rates

Marrieds Filing Jointly or a Qualifying Widow(er)		
If your taxable income is over:	But not over:	The tax is:
\$0	\$19,750	10% of the taxable income
\$19,750	\$80,250	\$1,975 plus 12% of the excess over \$19,750
\$80,250	\$171,050	\$9,235 plus 22% of the excess over \$80,250
\$171,050	\$326,600	\$29,211 plus 24% of the excess over \$171,050
\$326,600	\$414,700	\$66,543 plus 32% of the excess over \$326,600
\$414,700	\$622,050	\$94,735 plus 35% of the excess over \$414,700
\$622,050	\$167,307.50 plus 37% of the excess over \$622,050	

Head of Households		
If your taxable income is over:	But not over:	The tax is:
\$0	\$14,100	10% of the taxable income
\$14,100	\$53,700	\$1,410 plus 12% of the excess over \$14,100
\$53,700	\$85,500	\$6,162 plus 22% of the excess over \$53,700
\$85,500	\$163,300	\$13,158 plus 24% of the excess over \$85,500
\$163,300	\$207,350	\$31,830 plus 32% of the excess over \$163,300
\$207,350	\$518,400	\$45,926 plus 35% of the excess over \$207,350
\$518,400	\$154,793.50 plus 37% of the excess over \$518,400	

Singles		
If your taxable income is over:	But not over:	The tax is:
\$0	\$9,875	10% of the taxable income
\$9,875	\$40,125	\$987.50 plus 12% of the excess over \$9,875
\$40,125	\$85,525	\$4,617.50 plus 22% of the excess over \$40,125
\$85,525	\$163,300	\$14,605.50 plus 24% of the excess over \$85,525
\$163,300	\$207,350	\$33,271.50 plus 32% of the excess over \$163,300
\$207,350	\$518,400	\$47,367.50 plus 35% of the excess over \$207,350
\$518,400	\$156,235 plus 37% of the excess over \$518,400	

Married Filing Separately		
If your taxable income is over:	But not over:	The tax is:
\$0	\$9,875	10% of the taxable income
\$9,875	\$40,125	\$987.50 plus 12% of the excess over \$9,875
\$40,125	\$85,525	\$4,617.50 plus 22% of the excess over \$40,125
\$85,525	\$163,300	\$14,605.50 plus 24% of the excess over \$85,525
\$163,300	\$207,350	\$33,271.50 plus 32% of the excess over \$163,300
\$207,350	\$311,025	\$47,367.50 plus 35% of the excess over \$207,350
\$311,025	\$83,653.75 plus 37% of the excess over \$311,025	

Trusts and Estates		
If your taxable income is over:	But not over:	The tax is:
\$0	\$2,600	10% of the taxable income
\$2,600	\$9,450	\$260 plus 24% of the excess over \$2,600
\$9,450	\$12,950	\$1,904 plus 35% of the excess over \$9,450
\$12,950	\$3,129 plus 37% of the excess over \$12,950	

Standard Deduction Amounts for 2020	
Marrieds filing jointly	\$24,800
Singles	\$12,400
Married filing separately	\$12,400
Heads of households	\$18,650

Additional Standard Deductions	
At least age 65 and single	\$1,650
At least age 65 and married	\$1,300
Married, both over 65	\$2,600
Blind	\$1,300

Child and Family Credits	
Qualifying child (under 17)	\$2,000
Other dependent	\$500
Refundable amount	\$1,400
Credit phaseout Married, filing jointly	AGI over \$400,000
All other taxpayers	AGI over \$200,000

2020 Business Tax Rates	
Corporate Tax Rate	21%
Deduction for Pass-Through Business Income	20%

Alternative Minimum Tax

AMT Tax Rates for 2020		
Rate	Married filing separately	All other filers
26%	Up to \$98,950	Up to \$197,900
28%	More than \$98,950	More than \$197,900
AMT Exemption Amounts		
Single individual		\$72,900
Marrieds filing jointly		\$113,400
Marrieds filing separately		\$56,700
AMT Exemption Phaseout		
		Begins above
Marrieds Filing Jointly		\$1,036,800
Singles		\$518,400
Married Filing Separately		\$518,400

Affordable Care Act (ACA) Taxes

Additional Medicare Tax	0.9% tax on wages and self-employment income over:
Marrieds filing jointly	\$250,000
Singles	\$200,000
Married filing separately	\$125,000
Net Investment Income Tax	Additional 3.8% tax on net investment income if Modified Adjusted Gross Income exceeds:
Marrieds filing jointly	\$250,000
Singles	\$200,000
Marrieds filing separately	\$125,000
Head of household	\$200,000
Qualifying widow(er)	\$250,000

Estate and Gift Taxes

Estates. The federal estate tax exemption in 2020 is about \$11,580,000. With appropriate tax filings and tax elections, married couples may secure a \$23,160,000 exemption regardless of which spouse dies first or how the couple owns their property (assuming that they both die in 2020). Amounts in excess of the exemption are taxed at a 40% rate.

Gifts. The lifetime federal gift tax exemption in 2020 is about \$11,580,000. Amounts transferred in excess of the exemption are taxed at 40%.

For 2020, the annual exclusion from the gift tax is \$15,000. A gift no larger than \$15,000 may be given to each of as many people as you wish without incurring gift tax or using up your lifetime federal gift tax exclusion. To qualify for the annual exclusion, the gift must be of a “present interest,” meaning that the person receiving the gift must have the immediate right to use and enjoy the gift, without strings attached. Couples may “split” their gifts to secure a \$30,000 annual exclusion.

Developments occurring after January 1, 2020, are not reflected in this guide.

This publication is designed to provide informative material and is distributed with the understanding that it does not constitute legal or other professional advice. Although it is intended to be accurate, neither we nor any other party will assume liability for loss or damage as a result of reliance on it. Appropriate legal or other expert assistance should be sought from a competent professional.

© 2020 M.A. Co. All rights reserved.

College Savings Incentives

Section 529 plans. No federal tax need be paid on the income earned on amounts accumulated in a state-sponsored Section 529 plan. When withdrawals are made and used for qualified education expenses (college or up to \$10,000 of elementary or secondary school expenses) or up to \$10,000 (lifetime limit per individual) used to pay principal or interest on qualified education loan, they won't be taxed either.

Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (CESAs). You can contribute up to \$2,000 a year per child to a CESA. Earnings grow tax free as long as withdrawals are used for qualified education expenses. Eligibility to contribute the full amount phases out between a modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) of \$95,000 and \$110,000 (singles); between \$190,000 and \$220,000 (marrieds filing jointly).

American Opportunity Tax Credit. The maximum American Opportunity Tax Credit is 100% of the first \$2,000 and 25% for the next \$2,000 of qualified tuition and related expenses. The credit phases out at MAGI of \$160,000 for marrieds filing jointly (\$80,000 for singles).

Lifetime Learning Credit. The maximum Lifetime Learning Credit is \$2,000, with the credit phasing out at modified adjusted gross income of \$118,000 for marrieds filing jointly (\$59,000 for singles).

U.S. Savings Bonds income exclusion. For 2020 the income from certain U.S. Savings Bonds used to pay qualified higher education expenses may be excluded from tax. Eligibility for the exclusion phases out from \$123,550 to \$153,550 for marrieds filing jointly, \$82,350 and \$97,350 for all other returns.

Interest deduction for education loans. A tax deduction is available for up to \$2,500 in qualified education loan interest. Eligibility for the deduction phases out between MAGI of more than \$70,000 and \$85,000 (singles); between \$140,000 and \$170,000 (marrieds filing jointly).

Other Credits and Deductions

Long-term care insurance premiums. In some instances, portions of the premiums paid for qualified long-term care insurance may be tax deductible. For 2020 they are: \$430 for those who are age 40 or under at the end of the tax year; \$810, if older than 40 but not older than 50; \$1,630, older than 50 but not older than 60; \$4,350, older than 60 but not older than 70; \$5,430, older than 70.

Adoption credit. You may be able to take a tax credit of up to \$14,300 for qualifying expenses paid to adopt an eligible child. Phaseout begins at modified adjusted gross income of \$214,520, and is phased out completely at \$254,520.

ABLE Accounts. Beginning in 2015, Congress authorized ABLE Accounts for disabled persons. "ABLE" is the acronym for "Achieving a Better Life Experience." Annual contributions are permitted up to the gift tax annual exclusion amount, \$15,000 in 2020. Additional contributions are permitted in some circumstances. Earnings of ABLE Accounts are tax free, as are distributions for qualified disability expenses, including education, housing, transportation, and employment training, among others. ABLE Account balances won't be counted in determining eligibility for government programs. At the death of the beneficiary, the government may make a claim on the ABLE Account for the amount of its expenses.

Investments

Maximum long-term capital gains tax rates		
	0% tax rate	15% tax rate
Marrieds filing jointly or surviving spouse	\$80,000	\$496,600
Head of household	\$53,600	\$469,050
Single	\$40,000	\$441,450
Estate or trust	\$2,650	\$13,150

At higher income levels the maximum tax rate on long-term capital gains is 20%.

IRA Required Minimum Distributions					
Age	Divisor	Percentage	Age	Divisor	Percentage
72.0	25.6	3.9%	94.0	9.1	11.0%
73.0	24.7	4.0%	95.0	8.6	11.6%
74.0	23.8	4.2%	96.0	8.1	12.3%
75.0	22.9	4.4%	97.0	7.6	13.2%
76.0	22.0	4.5%	98.0	7.1	14.1%
77.0	21.2	4.7%	99.0	6.7	14.9%
78.0	20.3	4.9%	100.0	6.3	15.9%
79.0	19.5	5.1%	101.0	5.9	16.9%
80.0	18.7	5.3%	102.0	5.5	18.2%
81.0	17.9	5.6%	103.0	5.2	19.2%
82.0	17.1	5.8%	104.0	4.9	20.4%
83.0	16.3	6.1%	105.0	4.5	22.2%
84.0	15.5	6.5%	106.0	4.2	23.8%
85.0	14.8	6.8%	107.0	3.9	25.6%
86.0	14.1	7.1%	108.0	3.7	27.0%
87.0	13.4	7.5%	109.0	3.4	29.4%
88.0	12.7	7.9%	110.0	3.1	32.3%
89.0	12.0	8.3%	111.0	2.9	34.5%
90.0	11.4	8.8%	112.0	2.6	38.5%
91.0	10.8	9.3%	113.0	2.4	41.7%
92.0	10.2	9.8%	114.0	2.1	47.6%
93.0	9.6	10.4%	115+	1.9	52.6%

Retirement Plans and Social Security

Social Security for 2020	
Social Security wage base	\$137,700

Retirement Earnings Test Exempt Amounts	
Under full retirement age (\$1 in benefits is withheld for every \$2 in earnings above the limit.)	\$18,240
The year in which full retirement age is reached (\$1 in benefits is withheld for every \$3 in earnings above the limit but only for months prior to reaching full retirement age.)	\$48,600
After full retirement age is reached	no limit

Taxation of Social Security Benefits	
Singles with <i>Provisional Income</i> *	
below \$25,000	pay no tax on benefits
from \$25,000 to \$34,000	pay tax on 50% of benefits
over \$34,000	pay tax on up to 85% of benefits
Marrieds filing a joint return with <i>Provisional Income</i> *	
below \$32,000	pay no tax on benefits
from \$32,000 to \$44,000	pay tax on 50% of benefits
over \$44,000	pay tax on up to 85% of benefits

*The IRS defines *Provisional Income* as your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) plus one-half of your Social Security benefits. (MAGI is AGI plus tax-exempt income.)

Maximum Retirement Plan Contribution Limits for 2020		
	Maximum contribution	Maximum contribution for those age 50 and over
Traditional IRA/ Roth IRA	\$6,000	\$7,000
401(k) plans	\$19,500	\$26,000

Phaseout of Deductibility of IRA Contributions Based on MAGI (If you are an active participant in a company retirement plan)	
Singles and Heads of Household	\$65,000 to \$75,000
Marrieds filing joint returns and both spouses are active plan participants	\$104,000 to \$124,000
Marrieds filing joint returns and one spouse is active plan participant	\$196,000 to \$206,000
Married filing separately	\$0 to \$10,000

Phaseout of Roth IRA Contributions Based upon MAGI	
Singles	\$124,000 to \$139,000
Marrieds filing a joint return	\$196,000 to \$206,000

