



2026 Federal Tax Reference Guide

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2026 FEDERAL INCOME TAX BRACKETS

Single Filers

Taxable Income*

<i>From \$</i>	<i>To \$</i>	<i>Rate %</i>
0	12,400	10
12,401	50,400	12
50,401	105,700	22
105,701	201,775	24
201,776	256,225	32
256,225	640,600	35
640,401	And up	37

Married Filing jointly

Taxable Income*

<i>From \$</i>	<i>To \$</i>	<i>Rate %</i>
0	24,800	10
24,801	100,800	12
100,801	211,400	22
211,401	403,550	24
403,551	512,450	32
512,251	768,700	35
768,701	And up	37

Married Filing Separately

Taxable Income*

<i>From \$</i>	<i>To \$</i>	<i>Rate %</i>
0	8,500	10
12,401	50,400	12
50,401	105,700	22
105,701	201,775	24
201,776	256,225	32
256,226	384,350	35

384,351	<i>And up</i>	37
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Head of Household

*Taxable Income**

<i>From \$</i>	<i>To \$</i>	<i>Rate %</i>
0	17,700	10
17,701	67,450	12
67,451	105,700	22
105,701	201,750	24
201,751	256,200	32
256,201	640,600	35
640,601	<i>And up</i>	37

*Taxable income is after subtracting the applicable standard deduction or itemized deductions from adjusted gross income.

Estate and Trust

<i>From \$</i>	<i>To \$</i>	<i>Rate %</i>
0	3,300	10
3,301	11,700	24
11,701	16,000	35
16,001	<i>And up</i>	37

Source: IRS Publication 17

LONG TERM CAPITAL GAINS BRACKETS AND QUALIFYING DIVIDENDS

*Taxable Income**

Filing Status	0% Rate	15%Rate	20% Rate
Single	Up to \$49,450	\$49,451-\$545,500	Over -\$545,500
Head of Household	Up to \$66,200	\$66,201-\$579,600	Over \$579,600
Married Filing Jointly	Up to \$98,900	\$98,901-\$613,700	Over \$613,700
Married Filing Separately	Up to \$49,500	\$49,451-306,850	Over \$306,850
Estates and Trusts	Up to \$3,300	\$3,301-\$16,250	Over \$16,250

For **collectibles** (such as art, coins, stamps, precious metals, antiques), the **long-term capital gains tax rate** is different from the standard rates:

Maximum rate: 28% on long-term gains from collectibles, regardless of your income bracket.

This applies to assets held more than one year.

If you're in a lower ordinary-income bracket, your effective rate could be below 28%, but it will never exceed 28%.

Short-term gains on collectibles (held one year or less) are taxed as **ordinary income** at your regular tax rate.

Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain Max Rate 25% from depreciation on real estate

NET INVESTMENT INCOME TAX (NIIT)

- If your **modified adjusted gross income (MAGI)** exceeds:
 - \$200,000 (Single/HOH)
 - \$250,000 (Married Filing Jointly)
 - \$125,000 (Married Filing Separately)
- Then an **additional 3.8% NIIT** applies to the lesser of:
 - Net investment income (including collectibles gains), or
 - MAGI over the threshold.

STANDARD DEDUCTION

Single Filers	\$16,100
Married Filing Jointly	\$32,200
Married Filing Separately	\$16,100
Head of Household	\$24,150
Additional for Blind Taxpayers or are age 65 or older	\$1,650 Married, \$2,050 single

Effective for 2025 through 2028

An **additional** \$6,000 per taxpayer aged 65 or older

\$12,000 if both spouses qualify

Phase-out begins at modified adjusted gross income of \$75,000 for single filers, and \$150,000 for joint filers.

WHO MUST FILE A RETURN

Filing Status	And at the end of 2026 you were	Then file a return if your gross* income is at least
Single	Under age 65	\$16,100
	Age 65 or older	\$18,150
Married Filing Jointly**	Under age 65 (both spouses)	\$32,200
	65 or older (one spouse)	\$33,500
	65 or older (both spouses)	\$35,500
Married Filing separately	any age (in most cases)	\$5
Head of Household	under age 65	\$24,150
	Age 65 or older	\$26,200
Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child	Under age 65	\$32,200
	65 or older	\$33,850

*Gross income means all income you received in the form of money, goods, property, and services that is not exempt from tax, including any income from sources outside the United States or from the sale of your main home (even if you can exclude part or all of it). Do not include any social security benefits unless (a) you are married, filing a separate return, and you live with your spouse at any time during the year or (b) one-half of your social security benefits plus your other gross income and any tax-exempt interest is more than \$25,000 (\$34,000 if married filing jointly).

**If you did not live with your spouse at the end of the tax year (or on the date your spouse died) and your gross income was at least \$5, you must file a return regardless of your age.

Source: IRS 1040 forms and instructions.

If you can be claimed as a dependent of another taxpayer, different rules apply. See IRS 1040 forms and instructions.

SOCIAL SECURITY

TAXES

	Wage Base *	FICA Tax Rate	Self Employed Tax Rate
Social Security	\$184,500	6.20%	12.40%
Medicare		1.45%	2.90%

*Maximum Taxable Earnings

Taxes on Social Security Benefits		
	Provisional Income*	Percent Taxable
Individual	\$25,000-\$34,000	50%
	\$34,000 and UP	85%
Joint Return	\$32,000-\$44,000	50%
	\$44,000 and UP	85%

*See IRS Pub 915 for total income calculation and worksheet for figuring out your Taxable benefits

Social Security Retirement Age	
Birth Year	Full retirement age
1942 & earlier	eligible for full benefit
1943-1954	66
1955	66 and 2 months
1956	66 and 4 months
1957	66 and 6 months
1958	66 and 8 months
1959	66 and 10 months
1960 or later	67

2026 IRMAA CHARGES FOR MEDICARE, PART B

Single filer income	Joint filer income	Monthly Irmaa charge per person	Total monthly premium, per person
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$0	\$202.90
109,001-137,000	218,001-274,000	81.2	284.1
137,001-171,000	274,001-342,000	202.9	405.8
171,001-250,000	342,001-410,000	324.6	527.5
250,001-499,999	410,001-749,999	446.3	649.2
500,00 or more	750,000 or more	487	689.9

Note: Income is defined as adjusted gross income plus tax-exempt interest for 2024. Figures are different for immunosuppressive drug-only Part B coverage. Irmaa charges also apply for Medicare Part D drug coverage.

Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

RETIREMENT

TRADITIONAL IRA

Standard Contribution Limit	\$7,500
Limit for age 50+	\$8,600

You or your spouse must have earned income to the contribution amount to contribute.

Traditional IRA Deduction Phase-out Begins at AGI of (Taxpayer or Spouse Covered by Employer Retirement Plan):

Phase Out AGI			
Single or HOH	MFJ covered spouse	MJF Non Covered Spouse	MFS
\$81,000 to \$91,000	\$129,000 to 149,000	\$242,000-252,000	0

If only one spouse participates in an employer-sponsored retirement plan and both spouses are working, the spouse without an employer-sponsored plan may deduct up to \$7,500 if married filing jointly, and AGI is under \$242,000. The deduction is phased out for AGI between \$242,000 and \$252,000.

For married filing separately taxpayers, the phase-out is \$0-\$10,000 of AGI.

ROTH

Standard Contribution Limit \$7,500

Limit for age 50+ \$8,600

Phase Out AGI		
Single or HOH	MFJ covered spouse	MFS
\$153,000 to \$168,000	\$242,000 to 252,000	\$0

You or your spouse must have earned income to the contribution amount to contribute.

To receive the full benefit of the Roth (tax-free withdrawals) you must:

- have established Roth for five years
- have attained age 59 ½ , be disabled, or deceased
- Use for qualified first-time home buyer expenses up to \$10,000

Useful IRS publication.
590, Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRA)

EMPLOYER/SELF-EMPLOYED PLANS

Simple 401 (k)	\$17,000
Catch up age 50 or older	\$4,000
SEP IRA Contribution limit (25% of total compensation up to the limit)	\$72,000

NET EARNINGS FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT MUST TAKE THE CONTRIBUTION INTO ACCOUNT.

COMPENSATION IS GENERALLY LIMITED TO \$360,000 IN 2026

USEFUL IRS PUBLICATIONS;

560 RETIREMENT PLANS FOR SMALL BUSINESS

571 TAX-SHELTERED ANNUITY PLANS 403B PLANS

575 PENSIONS AND ANNUITY INCOME

OTHER LIMITS FOR RETIREMENT PLANS

Elective deferrals 401(k),403(b), 457	\$24,500
Catch-up contribution age 50 and older	\$8,000
Defined contribution (415(c)(i)(a))	\$72,000
Annual Compensation Limit (401(a)(17))	\$360,000

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026, THE LIMITATION ON THE ANNUAL BENEFIT UNDER A DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN UNDER SECTION 415(B)(1)(A) OF THE CODE IS INCREASED FROM \$280,000 TO \$290,000.

FOR A PARTICIPANT WHO SEPARATED FROM SERVICE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2026, THE PARTICIPANT'S LIMITATION UNDER A DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN UNDER SECTION 415(B)(1)(B) IS COMPUTED BY MULTIPLYING THE PARTICIPANT'S COMPENSATION LIMITATION, AS ADJUSTED THROUGH 2025, BY 1.0288.

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION

The table below can be used to calculate the required minimum distribution (RMD) unless you have a spouse who is your sole beneficiary and is more than ten years younger than the IRA owner.

The RMD starts in the year the IRA owner turns age 73. When the IRA owner turns 73, you can take the RMD by December 31 of that year or defer it until April 1 of the following year. If you delay the RMD until April 1 of the following year, you must still take the RMD for that year by December 31.

Example

If the IRA owner turns 73 in 2026. The IRA owner can take RMD by December 31, 2026, or delay until April 1, 2027. If the IRA owner delays the RMD until April 1, 2027, they must still take their 2027 RMD by December 31, 2027.

UNIFORM LIFETIME TABLE

Age	Factor	Age	Factor	Age	Factor
72	27.4	90	12.2	108	3.9
73	26.5	91	11.5	109	3.7
74	25.5	92	10.8	110	3.5
75	24.6	93	10.1	111	3.4
76	23.7	94	9.5	112	3.3
77	22.9	95	8.9	113	3.1
78	22	96	8.4	114	3
79	21.1	97	7.8	115	2.9
80	20.2	98	7.3	116	2.8
81	19.4	99	6.8	117	2.7
82	18.5	100	6.4	118	2.5
83	17.7	101	6	119	2.3
84	16.8	102	5.6	120 and Older	2
85	16	103	5.2		
86	15.2	104	4.9		
87	14.4	105	4.6		
88	13.7	106	4.3		
89	12.9	107	4.1		

For a full explanation and all Lifetime Tables for RMD please reference IRS Publication 590.

QUALIFYING CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS QCD

A QCD can be made after the IRA account owner turns age 70 1/2. The maximum QCD is \$111,000 per person for 2026. For married couples, each spouse may exclude up to \$111,000 if the other spouse is over 70 1/2 when the distributions are made, and both spouses have IRAs.

The charity must be a qualified charity. A qualified charity is a 501(c)3 organization/charity. You can use the IRS [Tax Exempt Organization Search Tool](#) to ensure your charity qualifies.

QUALIFIED LONGEVITY ANNUITY CONTRACT (QLAC)

Lifetime limit \$210,000

EDUCATION

Student Loan Interest Deduction

Maximum interest deduction	\$2,500
Modified Adjusted Gross Income Phaseout:	
Married Filing Jointly	\$175,000-\$205,000
Single/Head of Household	\$85,000-\$100,000

EE bonds- Tax-free redemption phaseout

Single	\$101,800-\$116,800
Married filing jointly	\$152,650-\$182,650

Coverdell Education Savings Account phaseout

Single	\$95,000-\$110,000
Married filing jointly	\$190,000-\$220,000

Lifetime Learning Credit-20% of qualified expenses up to \$10,000

Single	\$50,000-\$60,000
Married filing jointly	\$100,000-\$120,000

American opportunity tax credit-Maximum of \$2,500

100% up to \$2,000 of qualified expenses

25% on next \$2,000-phaseout:

Single	\$80,000-\$90,000
Married filing jointly	\$160,000-\$180,000

SMALL BUSINESS

Section 179 Deduction

Maximum election	\$2.56 Million
Phaseout begins	\$4.09 Million
SUV Deduction Limit	\$32,000

Standard Mileage Rate

Business Use	\$0.72.5
Charity Work	\$0.14
Medical/Moving	\$0.20.5

QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME DEDUCTION

	<i>Threshold</i>
MFJ	\$403,500
MFS	\$201,775
Single/HOH	\$201,275

BEGINNING OF PHASE-IN RANGE

MFJ	\$553,500
MFS	\$276,750
Single/HOH	\$276,275

MACRS RECOVERY PERIODS

Type of Property	General Depreciation System (years)	Alternative Depreciation System (years)
Computers and their peripheral equipment	5	5
Office Machinery	5	6
Automobiles	5	6
Light trucks	5	5
Appliances	5	9
Carpets	5	9
Furniture used in rental property	5	9
Any property that does not have a class life and that has not been designated by law as being in any other class	7	10
Roads	7	12
Shrubbery	15	20
Fences	15	20
Residential rental property	27.5	40
Additions and improvements, including new roof	The same recovery period as that of the property to which the addition or improvement is made, determined as if the property were placed in service at the same time as the addition or improvement.	

ESTATE AND GIFT TAXES

GIFT TAX

Estate and Gift Tax Exclusion	\$15 Million
Basic Unified Credit Amount	\$5,945,800
Annual Gift tax exclusion	\$19,000
Exclusion for gift to spouse who is not a U.S. citizen	\$194,000

KIDDIE TAX

2026 age limit	18
2026 unearned income limitation	\$2,600

WEBSITES AND PHONE NUMBERS

Internal Revenue Service

www.irs.gov

1-800-829-1040

Social Security

www.ssa.gov

1-800-772-1213

Medicare

www.medicare.gov

1-800-633-4227

Small Business Administration

www.SBA.gov

1-800-827-5722

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