



Federal income taxes

Ordinary-income brackets apply to taxable income after deductions, not gross income. [1]

Single

Taxable income	Base tax	Rate
\$0 - \$12,400	\$0	10%
Over \$12,400 - \$50,400	\$1,240	12%
Over \$50,400 - \$105,700	\$5,800	22%
Over \$105,700 - \$201,775	\$17,966	24%
Over \$201,775 - \$256,225	\$41,024	32%
Over \$256,225 - \$640,600	\$58,448	35%
Over \$640,600	\$192,979.25	37%

Married filing jointly / surviving spouse

Taxable income	Base tax	Rate
\$0 - \$24,800	\$0	10%
Over \$24,800 - \$100,800	\$2,480	12%
Over \$100,800 - \$211,400	\$11,600	22%
Over \$211,400 - \$403,550	\$35,932	24%
Over \$403,550 - \$512,450	\$82,048	32%
Over \$512,450 - \$768,700	\$116,896	35%
Over \$768,700	\$206,583.50	37%

Head of household

Taxable income	Base tax	Rate
\$0 - \$17,700	\$0	10%
Over \$17,700 - \$67,450	\$1,770	12%
Over \$67,450 - \$105,700	\$7,740	22%
Over \$105,700 - \$201,750	\$16,155	24%
Over \$201,750 - \$256,200	\$39,207	32%
Over \$256,200 - \$640,600	\$56,631	35%
Over \$640,600	\$191,171	37%

Married filing separately

Taxable income	Base tax	Rate
\$0 - \$12,400	\$0	10%
Over \$12,400 - \$50,400	\$1,240	12%
Over \$50,400 - \$105,700	\$5,800	22%
Over \$105,700 - \$201,775	\$17,966	24%
Over \$201,775 - \$256,225	\$41,024	32%
Over \$256,225 - \$384,350	\$58,448	35%
Over \$384,350	\$103,291.75	37%

Estates and trusts

Taxable income	Base tax	Rate
\$0 - \$3,300	\$0	10%
Over \$3,300 - \$11,700	\$330	24%
Over \$11,700 - \$16,000	\$2,346	35%
Over \$16,000	\$3,851	37%

Standard deductions

Filing status	2026	2025
Single / MFS	\$16,100	\$15,750
MFJ / surviving spouse	\$32,200	\$31,500
Head of household	\$24,150	\$23,625

Additional standard deduction, per qualifying condition (age 65+ or blindness): unmarried, not a surviving spouse: \$2,050 (\$2,000 in 2025); married or surviving spouse: \$1,650 (\$1,600 in 2025).

How to use a bracket: Base tax + rate multiplied by income above the lower threshold. Example: single, \$60,000 taxable income: \$5,800 + 22% x (\$60,000 - \$50,400) = \$7,912 before credits and other taxes.

For the first bracket, apply the rate to all taxable income. These schedules do not include capital-gain rates, AMT, NIIT, credits or state taxes.



Retirement contributions

Annual limits are per person and subject to compensation, eligibility and plan terms. [2, 3]

Contribution limits

Plan / limitation	2026	2025
Traditional + Roth IRA combined	\$7,500	\$7,000
IRA catch-up, age 50+	\$1,100	\$1,000
401(k), 403(b), most governmental 457(b): regular deferral	\$24,500	\$23,500
Regular plan catch-up: ages 50-59 and 64+	\$8,000	\$7,500
Higher catch-up: ages 60-63	\$11,250	\$11,250
SIMPLE: general employee deferral limit	\$17,000	\$16,500
SIMPLE: general catch-up, ages 50-59 and 64+	\$4,000	\$3,500
SIMPLE: higher catch-up, ages 60-63	\$5,250	\$5,250
Defined contribution annual additions, excluding catch-up	\$72,000	\$70,000
Defined benefit maximum annual benefit	\$290,000	\$280,000
Maximum compensation considered; also applies to SEP	\$360,000	\$350,000
SEP maximum contribution, subject to compensation limit	\$72,000	\$70,000
Highly compensated employee compensation threshold	\$160,000	\$160,000
Key employee: officer compensation threshold	\$235,000	\$230,000

Plan notes: Traditional/Roth and 401(k)/403(b) deferrals generally share a limit; governmental 457(b) is generally separate. Special 403(b), 457(b) and SIMPLE rules may apply. HCE status generally uses prior-year compensation.

529 plans: gifting reference, not contribution caps

Gift-tax planning amount (per beneficiary)	2026	2025
Annual exclusion: one donor / two donors	\$19k / \$38k	\$19k / \$38k
Five-year election: one donor / two donors	\$95k / \$190k	\$95k / \$190k

529 contributions are not federally deductible. Amounts above are gift exclusions, not plan caps (k = \$1,000). Five-year averaging requires a gift-tax election and coordination with other gifts. State rules differ.

Traditional IRA deduction phaseouts

MAGI range	2026	2025
Single / HOH, covered at work	\$81k-\$91k	\$79k-\$89k
MFJ, contributor covered at work	\$129k-\$149k	\$126k-\$146k
MFJ, contributor not covered; spouse covered	\$242k-\$252k	\$236k-\$246k
MFS, lived with spouse; coverage applies	\$0-\$10k	\$0-\$10k

No workplace coverage for either spouse generally means no income-based IRA deduction phaseout. MFS taxpayers living apart all year generally use single-filer rules.

Roth IRA contribution phaseouts

MAGI range	2026	2025
Single / HOH; MFS apart all year	\$153k-\$168k	\$150k-\$165k
MFJ / qualifying surviving spouse	\$242k-\$252k	\$236k-\$246k
MFS, lived with spouse	\$0-\$10k	\$0-\$10k

Catch-up changes: For 2026, affected participants with more than \$150,000 of 2025 FICA wages from the sponsoring employer generally must make age-based catch-up contributions as Roth contributions. [4]



Investments, education & health

2026 federal reference amounts, with selected 2025 comparisons. [1, 5]

Long-term capital gains and qualified dividends

Filing status	0% through	15% through	20% above
Single	\$49,450	\$545,500	\$545,500
Married filing jointly / surviving spouse	\$98,900	\$613,700	\$613,700
Head of household	\$66,200	\$579,600	\$579,600
Married filing separately	\$49,450	\$306,850	\$306,850
Estates and trusts	\$3,300	\$16,250	\$16,250

Thresholds use total taxable income; capital gains stack above ordinary income. Short-term gains generally use ordinary rates. Collectibles and unrecaptured section 1250 gain have special maximum rates. NIIT may apply in addition.

Net investment income tax (NIIT)

Filing status	MAGI threshold
MFJ / surviving spouse	\$250,000
Single / HOH	\$200,000
MFS	\$125,000

3.8% applies to the lesser of net investment income or MAGI above the threshold. For trusts/estates, generally the lesser of undistributed net investment income or AGI above \$16,000.

Alternative minimum tax

Filing status	Exemption	Phaseout starts
Single / HOH	\$90,100	\$500,000
MFJ / survivor	\$140,200	\$1,000,000
MFS	\$70,100	\$500,000

AMT rates after exemption: 26% through \$244,500; 28% above. MFS breakpoint: \$122,250. Capital gains have coordinated rates.

Health savings accounts

Contribution limit	2026	2025
Self-only	\$4,400	\$4,300
Family	\$8,750	\$8,550
Age 55+ catch-up	\$1,000	\$1,000

Requires HSA eligibility; employer and employee contributions share the limit. Medicare enrollment generally ends contribution eligibility. Each spouse needs a separate HSA for their own catch-up. California does not conform to federal HSA treatment. [5, 12]

Student loan interest

MAGI phaseout	2026	2025
Single / HOH	\$85k-\$100k	\$85k-\$100k
Married filing jointly	\$175k-\$205k	\$170k-\$200k

Maximum eligible deduction: \$2,500. MFS taxpayers cannot claim it; other eligibility restrictions apply.



Medicare premiums

2026 premiums are monthly, per beneficiary, and generally use 2024 income. [6]

2026 Medicare Part B premiums

Individual MAGI	Joint MAGI	Monthly Part B
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$202.90
Over \$109,000 through \$137,000	Over \$218,000 through \$274,000	\$284.10
Over \$137,000 through \$171,000	Over \$274,000 through \$342,000	\$405.80
Over \$171,000 through \$205,000	Over \$342,000 through \$410,000	\$527.50
Over \$205,000; below \$500,000	Over \$410,000; below \$750,000	\$649.20
\$500,000 or more	\$750,000 or more	\$689.90

MAGI generally equals adjusted gross income plus tax-exempt interest. The annual Part B deductible is \$283. Premiums shown include the standard premium and income-related monthly adjustment (IRMAA).

MFS: lived with spouse during tax year

Individual MAGI	Monthly Part B
\$109,000 or less	\$202.90
Over \$109,000; below \$391,000	\$649.20
\$391,000 or more	\$689.90

Premium planning

Capital gains, Roth conversions and other income can increase future Medicare premiums. A qualifying life-changing event, such as retirement or loss of certain income, may support an IRMAA reduction request. The income lookback and available relief should be reviewed before a large transaction.

2026 Medicare Part D income adjustments

Individual MAGI	Joint MAGI	Part D add-on*
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$0.00
Over \$109,000 through \$137,000	Over \$218,000 through \$274,000	\$14.50
Over \$137,000 through \$171,000	Over \$274,000 through \$342,000	\$37.50
Over \$171,000 through \$205,000	Over \$342,000 through \$410,000	\$60.40
Over \$205,000; below \$500,000	Over \$410,000; below \$750,000	\$83.30
\$500,000 or more	\$750,000 or more	\$91.00

*Added to the premium charged by your Part D plan. MFS taxpayers who lived with a spouse: \$0 at MAGI of \$109,000 or less; \$83.30 above \$109,000 but below \$391,000; \$91.00 at \$391,000 or more. Special immunosuppressive-drug-only Part B coverage has different premiums.



Social Security reference

Earnings limits, claiming ages and federal taxability. [7, 8, 9]

Social Security earnings limits

Earnings test	2026	2025
Below full retirement age	\$24,480	\$23,400
Year reaching full retirement age	\$65,160	\$62,160

Below full retirement age: \$1 of benefits withheld per \$2 of excess earnings. In the year reaching full retirement age: \$1 per \$3, counting only earnings before that month. No earnings limit beginning with the month full retirement age is reached.

Monthly equivalents: \$2,040 / \$5,430 for 2026 and \$1,950 / \$5,180 for 2025. Special first-year monthly rules may apply; these are not universal monthly caps.

Delayed retirement credits

For workers born in 1943 or later, delayed retirement credits generally increase benefits 8% annually from full retirement age until age 70. Early-claiming reductions shown at right apply to the worker benefit, not spousal benefits.

Federal taxability of benefits

Provisional income	Single / HOH	Married filing jointly
Generally no taxable benefits	\$25,000 or less	\$32,000 or less
Up to 50% of benefits may be taxable	Over \$25,000 through \$34,000	Over \$32,000 through \$44,000
Up to 85% of benefits may be taxable	Over \$34,000	Over \$44,000

Provisional income generally = AGI before Social Security + tax-exempt interest + half of Social Security benefits, with certain adjustments. MFS taxpayers who lived with a spouse during the year generally have a \$0 base amount; up to 85% can be taxable. This describes the taxable share, not an 85% tax rate.

California: Social Security benefits are generally excluded from state taxable income. The federal enhanced senior deduction is a separate deduction and does not automatically make Social Security benefits tax-free. [11, 12]

Full retirement age and early claiming

Birth year	Full retirement age	Age-62 reduction
1943-1954	66	25.00%
1955	66 + 2 months	25.83%
1956	66 + 4 months	26.67%
1957	66 + 6 months	27.50%
1958	66 + 8 months	28.33%
1959	66 + 10 months	29.17%
1960 or later	67	30.00%

Starting retirement benefits at 62 generally creates a permanent reduction relative to claiming at full retirement age. Your best claiming date depends on health, longevity, work plans, cash flow and spousal or survivor benefits.



Required minimum distributions

Uniform Lifetime Table: selected ages 72-101. Use the applicable table for your circumstances. [10]

Calculation: Prior December 31 account balance divided by the distribution period for your age in the distribution year. Percentages below are rounded equivalents of 100 divided by the factor.

Age	Factor	Approx. %	Age	Factor	Approx. %
72	27.4	3.65%	87	14.4	6.94%
73	26.5	3.77%	88	13.7	7.30%
74	25.5	3.92%	89	12.9	7.75%
75	24.6	4.07%	90	12.2	8.20%
76	23.7	4.22%	91	11.5	8.70%
77	22.9	4.37%	92	10.8	9.26%
78	22.0	4.55%	93	10.1	9.90%
79	21.1	4.74%	94	9.5	10.53%
80	20.2	4.95%	95	8.9	11.24%
81	19.4	5.15%	96	8.4	11.90%
82	18.5	5.41%	97	7.8	12.82%
83	17.7	5.65%	98	7.3	13.70%
84	16.8	5.95%	99	6.8	14.71%
85	16.0	6.25%	100	6.4	15.62%
86	15.2	6.58%	101	6.0	16.67%

When distributions begin

For owners reaching the starting age under current rules, RMDs generally begin at 73 for those born in 1951-1959, and 75 for those born in 1960 or later. Older birth cohorts began under earlier rules. Age 72 is shown only as a table reference, not as the current general starting age.

Choose the right table

The Uniform Lifetime Table generally applies to account owners whose spouse is not the sole beneficiary more than 10 years younger. If your spouse is the sole beneficiary and more than 10 years younger, the Joint and Last Survivor Table generally applies. Inherited accounts have separate rules.

Deadlines and account type

The first RMD can generally be delayed until April 1 of the following year, but the next RMD is still due December 31 of that year. Certain employer plans allow a still-working delay; IRA and 5%-owner exceptions differ. Roth IRAs and designated Roth plan accounts have no lifetime owner RMDs.

Example: A 75-year-old owner with a \$500,000 prior-year-end balance and a 24.6 factor has an RMD of approximately \$20,325.20. Withholding, account aggregation and beneficiary facts require separate review.



Business, estate & state reference

Selected business and transfer-tax rules, plus office information and source references.

Business taxes and payroll

Federal item	2026
C corporation income tax	21%
Social Security wage base	\$184,500
Employee Social Security / Medicare	6.2% / 1.45%
Self-employed Social Security / Medicare	12.4% / 2.9%
Earnings needed for one SSA credit	\$1,890

2025 wage base: \$176,100; earnings per credit: \$1,810. Maximum four credits annually. Medicare has no wage ceiling. Self-employment tax uses net-earnings rules; Additional Medicare Tax is separate.

Additional Medicare Tax: 0.9% on combined covered wages and self-employment income above \$250,000 MFJ, \$125,000 MFS, or \$200,000 other filers. These are earned-income thresholds, not NIIT MAGI thresholds.

Pass-through income and QBI

S corporation and partnership income generally passes to owners. An LLC is a legal form; its tax classification controls treatment. Eligible taxpayers may claim up to a 20% section 199A deduction, subject to limits; W-2 wages are not QBI.

2026 taxable-income range*	Start	End
MFJ	\$403,500	\$553,500
MFS	\$201,775	\$276,775
Other returns	\$201,750	\$276,750

*Before the QBI deduction. SSTB eligibility phases out across these ranges; wage/property limits also phase in. Not every K-1 item qualifies. California does not allow the federal QBI deduction. [1, 12]

Senior deduction: separate from the standard deduction

For 2025-2028, eligible taxpayers age 65+ may claim up to \$6,000 per person, including itemizers. Reduction begins above \$75,000 MAGI (\$150,000 MFJ); married taxpayers must file jointly to qualify. This does not eliminate tax on Social Security. [11]

Federal gifts and estates

Item	2026	2025
Annual gift exclusion, per recipient	\$19,000	\$19,000
Basic estate/gift exclusion, per person	\$15 million	\$13.99 million
Qualifying gifts to noncitizen spouse	\$194,000	\$190,000
Top estate/gift tax rate	40%	40%

The \$15 million figure is an exclusion amount, not the unified credit itself. Gifts over the annual exclusion may require Form 709 without immediate tax. Prior taxable gifts reduce remaining exclusion; portability requires appropriate filing.

State estate and inheritance taxes

Estate tax: CT, DC, HI, IL, MA, MD, ME, MN, NY, OR, RI, VT, WA.

Inheritance tax: KY, MD, NE, NJ, PA.

Residence, property location, beneficiary relationship and date of death determine exposure. [13]

Community property

General community-property states: AZ, CA, ID, LA, NV, NM, TX, WA, WI. Elective community-property arrangements exist in AK, FL, KY, SD and TN. Trust requirements and federal tax consequences vary; do not treat an elective trust state as a general community-property state. [14]



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Source reference index

[1] Federal tax brackets, deductions, AMT and gifts
IRS Revenue Procedure 2025-32

[2-4] Retirement limits, IRA rules and Roth catch-ups
IRS retirement COLA tables; Publications 590-A and catch-up guidance

[5] Health savings accounts
IRS Revenue Procedure 2025-19 and Publication 969

[6] Medicare premiums and income adjustments
CMS 2026 Medicare Parts A & B Premiums and Deductibles

[7-8] Social Security earnings and retirement ages
SSA 2026 COLA Fact Sheet and retirement planning tables

[9-10] Taxability of benefits and RMD tables
IRS Publications 915 and 590-B; IRC section 401(a)(9)

[11] Enhanced senior deduction
IRS Working Families Tax Cuts guidance

[12] California adjustments
FTB Schedule CA instructions and conformity guidance

[13-14] State transfer taxes and community property
Tax Foundation 2026 overview; IRS Pub. 555 / IRM 25.18.1; FL 736.15; KY 386.622

About this guide: Federal calendar-year 2026 reference, updated October 29, 2026. Selected comparisons are for 2025. Summaries omit exceptions and do not replace individualized tax or legal advice. State treatment can differ. Confirm applicable rules, deadlines and subsequent changes before acting. Office details and visual branding are taken from titaniumtaxes.com.