

# 2026 Tax REFERENCE GUIDE



Fort Washington  
Private Client Group

## Tax Brackets for 2026

*Taxable income (i.e., income minus deductions and credits) between:*

### Married, Joint & Surviving Spouses

	Marginal Tax Rates
\$0–\$24,800	10%
\$24,801–\$100,800	12%
\$100,801–\$211,400	22%
\$211,401–\$403,550	24%
\$403,551–\$512,450	32%
\$512,451–\$768,700	35%
over \$768,701	37%
<i>Capital gains/qualified dividends</i>	
\$0–\$98,900	0%
\$98,901–\$613,700	15%
over \$613,700	20%

### Single

\$0–\$12,400	10%
\$12,401–\$50,400	12%
\$50,401–\$105,700	22%
\$105,701–\$201,775	24%
\$201,776–\$256,225	32%
\$256,226–\$640,600	35%
over \$640,601	37%
<i>Capital gains/qualified dividends</i>	
\$0–\$49,450	0%
\$49,451–\$545,500	15%
over \$545,500	20%

### Married, Separate

\$0–\$12,400	10%
\$12,401–\$50,400	12%
\$50,401–\$105,700	22%
\$105,701–\$201,775	24%
\$201,776–\$256,225	32%
\$256,226–\$640,600	35%
over \$640,601	37%
<i>Capital gains/qualified dividends</i>	
\$0–\$49,450	0%
\$49,451–\$306,850	15%
over \$306,850	20%

### Head of Household (HOH)

\$0–\$17,700	10%
\$17,701–\$67,450	12%
\$67,451–\$105,700	22%
\$105,701–\$201,775	24%
\$201,776–\$256,200	32%
\$256,201–\$640,600	35%
over \$640,601	37%
<i>Capital gains/qualified dividends</i>	
\$0–\$66,200	0%
\$66,201–\$579,600	15%
over \$579,600	20%

### Estate and Trusts

\$0–\$3,300	10%
\$3,301–\$11,700	24%
\$11,701–\$16,000	35%
over \$16,000	37%
<i>Capital gains/qualified dividends</i>	
\$0–\$3,300	0%
\$3,301–\$16,250	15%
over \$16,250	20%

### Corporate Tax Rate

*Capital gains/qualified dividends*

	21%
	21%

## Standard Deduction

Married, joint	\$32,200
Single; married, separate	\$16,100
HOH	\$24,150
Blind or over age 65: add \$1,650 if married, \$2,050 if single or HOH (no phaseout)	
Additional deduction for over age 65: add additional \$6,000 for each qualifying senior	
Phaseout	
Single, HOH	\$75,000–\$175,000
Married, joint	\$150,000–\$250,000

## Mortgage Interest Deduction

On acquisition indebtedness up to \$750,000 for 1st and 2nd homes  
No deduction for home equity indebtedness unless used to substantially improve the home

## State and Local Tax (SALT) Deduction Limit

Married, joint, single, HOH	\$10,000 minimum–\$40,400
Married, separate	\$5,000 minimum–\$20,200
Phaseout for deducting SALT above minimum	
Married, joint, single, HOH	\$505,000–\$606,333
Married, separate	\$252,500–\$303,167

## Alternative Minimum Tax Exemption Amount

Married, joint	\$140,200
Single, HOH	\$90,100
Estates and Trusts	\$31,400
Married, separate	\$70,100

## IRA and Pension Plan Limits

IRA contribution	
Under age 50	\$7,500
Age 50 and over	\$8,600
Phaseout for deducting IRA contribution <sup>1</sup>	
Married, joint	\$129,000–\$149,000 MAGI
Single, HOH	\$81,000–\$91,000 MAGI
Married, separate	\$0–\$10,000 MAGI

## Phaseout for deducting spousal IRA<sup>1</sup>

\$242,000–\$252,000 MAGI

Phaseout of Roth contribution eligibility	
Married, joint	\$242,000–\$252,000 MAGI
Single, HOH	\$153,000–\$168,000 MAGI
Married, separate	\$0–\$10,000 MAGI

## SEP contribution

Up to 25% of compensation, limit \$72,000

Compensation to participate in SEP \$800

SIMPLE elective deferral	
Under age 50	\$17,000
Age 50 to 59 <sup>2</sup>	\$21,000
Age 60 to 63 <sup>2</sup>	\$22,250

## 401(k), 403(b)<sup>3</sup>, 457<sup>4</sup> and SARSEP elective deferral

Under age 50	\$24,500
Age 50 to 59 <sup>2</sup>	\$32,500
Age 60 to 63 <sup>2</sup>	\$35,750

Annual defined contribution limit \$72,000

Annual defined benefit limit \$290,000

Highly compensated employee \$160,000

Key Employee in top heavy plans \$235,000

Annual compensation taken into account for qualified plans \$360,000

## Qualified Charitable Distribution Limit

\$111,000

CRAT

\$55,000

Maximum qualified longevity annuity contract (QLAC) premium \$210,000<sup>5</sup>

## Gift and Estate Tax

Gift tax annual exclusion	\$19,000
Annual exclusion for gifts to noncitizen spouse	\$194,000
Estate and gift tax rate	40%
Unified estate & gift/GST exemption	\$15,000,000

## Additional Medicare Tax on Income Exceeding \$200,000 (\$250,000 married, joint; \$125,000 married, separate)

Additional tax on excess of earned income <sup>6</sup>	0.9%
Additional tax on Net Investment Income <sup>7</sup>	3.8%

## 199A Qualified Business Income Deduction Phaseout

Married, joint	\$403,500–\$553,500
All others	\$201,775–\$276,775

## Qualified Overtime Compensation Deduction

Married, joint	\$25,000
Single; married, separate	\$12,500
Phaseout	
Married, joint	\$300,000–\$550,000
Single; married, separate	\$150,000–\$275,000

## Qualified Tip Deduction

Maximum deduction	\$25,000
Phaseout	
Married, joint	\$300,000–\$550,000
Single; married, separate	\$150,000–\$400,000



## Fort Washington Private Client Group

303 Broadway, Cincinnati, OH 45202

► 513.361.7600

► [fortwashington.com](http://fortwashington.com)

## Education

Coverdell Education Savings Account	\$2,000
Phaseout	
Married, joint	\$190,000–\$220,000
All others	\$95,000–\$110,000
Student loan interest deduction limit	\$2,500
Phaseout	
Married, joint	\$170,000–\$200,000 MAGI
All others	\$85,000–\$100,000 MAGI
Lifetime Learning Credits	\$2,000
Phaseout	
Married, joint	\$160,000–\$180,000
All others	\$80,000–\$90,000
Tax-free savings bonds interest phased out	
Married, joint	\$152,650–\$182,650 MAGI
All others	\$101,800–\$116,800 MAGI

## Social Security<sup>8</sup>

Maximum taxable earnings base	\$184,500
Amount Needed to Earn	
One Credit (Maximum 4 per year)	\$1,890
Social Security and Medicare Tax Rates	
Employee	7.65%
Employer	7.65%
Self-Employed	15.30%
Maximum Monthly Retirement Benefit at Full Retirement Age <sup>9</sup>	\$4,152
Cost of Living Adjustment	2.8%
Income causing Social Security benefits to be taxable <sup>10</sup>	
Married, joint	
Up to 50% taxable	\$32,000 MAGI
Up to 85% taxable	\$44,000 MAGI
Single	
Up to 50% taxable	\$25,000 MAGI
Up to 85% taxable	\$34,000 MAGI

## Reduction of Social Security retirement benefits:

In years before full retirement age, \$1 in benefits will be reduced for every \$2 of earnings in excess of \$24,480. In the year of full retirement age, \$1 in benefits will be reduced for every \$3 of earnings in excess of \$65,160 (applies only to months of earnings prior to full retirement age). There is no limit on earnings beginning the month an individual attains full retirement age.

## Average Monthly Benefit (December 2024)

Average Monthly Retirement Benefit	
Men	\$2,181
Women	\$1,780
Average Monthly Survivor Benefit	
Men	\$1,616
Women	\$1,843

Source: *Fast Facts and Figures about Social Security, 2025*

## Uniform Lifetime Table

Use to calculate Required Minimum Distributions from IRAs and qualified plans **during** owner's life. If owner has spousal beneficiary more than 10 years younger, use instead Joint Life Table from IRS Pub. 590.

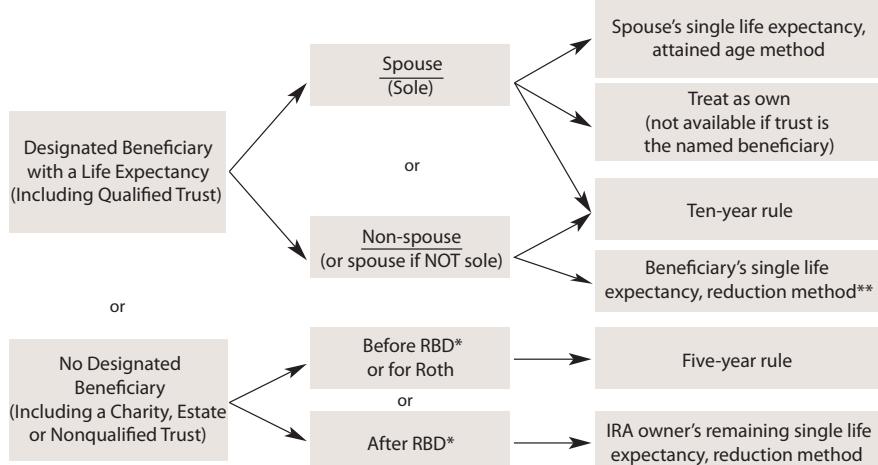
Taxpayer's Age	Life Expectancy	Taxpayer's Age	Life Expectancy
72	27.4	95	8.9
73	26.5	96	8.4
74	25.5	97	7.8
75	24.6	98	7.3
76	23.7	99	6.8
77	22.9	100	6.4
78	22.0	101	6.0
79	21.1	102	5.6
80	20.2	103	5.2
81	19.4	104	4.9
82	18.5	105	4.6
83	17.7	106	4.3
84	16.8	107	4.1
85	16.0	108	3.9
86	15.2	109	3.7
87	14.4	110	3.5
88	13.7	111	3.4
89	12.9	112	3.3
90	12.2	113	3.1
91	11.5	114	3.0
92	10.8	115	2.9
93	10.1	116	2.8
94	9.5	117	2.7

## Single Life Table

Use to calculate Required Minimum Distributions from IRAs and qualified plans **after** owner's death. See IRS Pub. 590 for complete table of ages 0 through 111+.

Age	Life Expectancy	Age	Life Expectancy
39	46.7	63	24.5
40	45.7	64	23.7
41	44.8	65	22.9
42	43.8	66	22.0
43	42.9	67	21.2
44	41.9	68	20.4
45	41.0	69	19.6
46	40.0	70	18.8
47	39.0	71	18.0
48	38.1	72	17.2
49	37.1	73	16.4
50	36.2	74	15.6
51	35.3	75	14.8
52	34.3	76	14.1
53	33.4	77	13.3
54	32.5	78	12.6
55	31.6	79	11.9
56	30.6	80	11.2
57	29.8	81	10.5
58	28.9	82	9.9
59	28.0	83	9.3
60	27.1	84	8.7
61	26.2	85	8.1
62	25.4	86	7.6

## IRA Beneficiary Options



\*RBD defined as "Required Beginning Date" (April 1 following the year a Traditional IRA owner reaches age 73).

\*\*Method only available if the non-spouse beneficiary is the minor child of the deceased IRA owner (until the child's age of majority), disabled, chronically ill or not more than 10 years younger than the deceased IRA owner.

- 1 Applicability depends on the type of IRA, which persons participate in an employer-sponsored plan, the type of employer-sponsored plan offered, and MAGI.
- 2 All catch up contributions limited to Roth for those earning \$150,000 and above effective in 2026. Super catch up is optional for 401(k) plans.
- 3 Special increased limit may apply to certain 403(b) contributors with 15 or more years of service.
- 4 In last 3 years prior to year of retirement, 457(b) plan participant may be able to double elective deferral if needed to catch up on prior missed contributions, but if they do, they cannot use catch up.
- 5 Increased to \$200,000 (as indexed) for contracts purchased or exchanged after 12/28/2022.
- 6 Total Employee Medicare Tax is 1.45% + 0.9% = 2.35%.
- 7 Including interest, dividends, capital gains and annuity distributions.
- 8 Source: [www.ssa.gov/news/cola](http://www.ssa.gov/news/cola), 11/19/2025.
- 9 In 2026, for those turning age 62, full retirement age is 67 years.
- 10 Income is most income including muni bond interest but only 1/2 of Social Security.

Information contained herein is current as of 12/1/2025, general in nature, for informational purposes only, subject to legislative changes and is not intended to be legal or tax advice. Consult a qualified tax advisor regarding specific circumstances. The investment products discussed are not bank products and are neither the obligations of, nor are they guaranteed by, the financial institution where they are offered. They are not insured by the FDIC, NCUA, or any other federal entity and are subject to investment risk, including possible loss of principal and interest.



Fort Washington  
Private Client Group

Fort Washington Private Client Group  
303 Broadway, Cincinnati, OH 45202  
513.361.7600  
[fortwashington.com](http://fortwashington.com)