

Summary of the Latest Federal Income Tax Data, 2015 Update

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The Internal Revenue Service has recently released new data on individual income taxes for calendar year 2013, showing the number of taxpayers, adjusted gross income, and income tax shares by income percentiles.¹

The data demonstrates that the U.S. individual income tax continues to be progressive, borne mainly by the highest income earners.

Key Findings

- In 2013, 138.3 million taxpayers reported earning \$9.03 trillion in adjusted gross income and paid \$1.23 trillion in income taxes.
- Every income group besides the top 1 percent of taxpayers reported higher income in 2013 than the previous year. All income groups paid higher taxes in 2013 than the previous year.
- The share of income earned by the top 1 percent of taxpayers fell to 19.0 percent in 2013. Their share of federal income taxes fell slightly to 37.8 percent.
- In 2012, the top 50 percent of all taxpayers (69.2 million filers) paid 97.2 percent of all income taxes while the bottom 50 percent paid the remaining 2.8 percent.
- The top 1 percent (1.3 million filers) paid a greater share of income taxes (37.8 percent) than the bottom 90 percent (124.5 million filers) combined (30.2 percent).
- The top 1 percent of taxpayers paid a higher effective income tax rate than any other group, at 27.1 percent, which is over 8 times higher than taxpayers in the bottom 50 percent (3.3 percent).

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¹ *Individual Income Tax Rates and Tax Shares*, Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Income, <http://www.irs.gov/uac/SOI-Tax-Stats-Individual-Income-Tax-Rates-and-Tax-Shares>.

Reported Income Decreased in 2013, but Taxes Increased

Taxpayers reported \$9.03 trillion in adjusted gross income (AGI) on 138.3 million tax returns in 2013. While the U.S. economy grew in 2013, total AGI fell by \$8 billion from 2012 levels. Furthermore, there were 2.2 million more returns filed in 2013 than 2012, meaning that average AGI fell by \$1,131 per return.

The most likely explanation behind lower AGI in 2013 is unusually high capital gains realizations in 2012.² Because the top tax rate on long-term capital gains and qualified dividends was set to rise from 15 percent to 23.8 percent in 2013, many high-income Americans realized their capital gains in 2012, to take advantage of low tax rates. As capital gains realizations fell to normal levels in 2013, overall AGI decreased. Accordingly, only the top 1 percent of taxpayers saw a decrease in income in 2013; all other groups saw their income increase.

Despite the decrease in overall income reported, taxes paid increased by \$46 billion to \$1.232 trillion in 2013. Taxes paid increased for all income groups.

The share of income earned by the top 1 percent fell to 19.04 percent of total AGI, down from 21.86 percent in 2012. The share of the income tax burden for the top 1 percent also fell slightly, from 38.09 percent in 2012 to 37.80 percent in 2013.

Table 1.
Summary of Federal Income Tax Data, 2013

	Number of Returns*	AGI (\$ millions)	Income Taxes Paid (\$ millions)	Group's Share of Total AGI	Group's Share of Income Taxes	Income Split Point	Average Tax Rate
All Taxpayers	138,313,155	\$9,033,840	\$1,231,911	100.00%	100.00%		
Top 1%	1,383,132	\$1,719,794	\$465,705	19.04%	37.80%	\$428,713	27.08%
1-5%	5,532,526	\$1,389,594	\$255,537	15.38%	20.74%		18.39%
Top 5%	6,915,658	\$3,109,388	\$721,242	34.42%	58.55%	\$179,760	23.20%
5-10%	6,915,658	\$1,034,110	\$138,621	11.45%	11.25%		13.40%
Top 10%	13,831,316	\$4,143,498	\$859,863	45.87%	69.80%	\$127,695	20.75%
10-25%	20,746,973	\$2,008,180	\$202,935	22.23%	16.47%		10.11%
Top 25%	34,578,289	\$6,151,678	\$1,062,798	68.10%	86.27%	\$74,955	17.28%
25-50%	34,578,289	\$1,843,925	\$134,805	20.41%	10.94%		7.31%
Top 50%	69,156,578	\$7,995,603	\$1,197,603	88.51%	97.22%	\$36,841	14.98%
Bottom 50%	69,156,578	\$1,038,237	\$34,307	11.49%	2.78%	\$36,841	3.30%

*Does not include dependent filers.
Source: Internal Revenue Service.

² See Richard Rubin, *Capital Gains Rose 60% in Year Before U.S. Tax Increase*, Bloomberg, Mar. 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2014-03-20/capital-gains-rose-60-in-year-before-u-s-tax-increase>.

High-Income Americans Paid the Majority of Federal Taxes

In 2013, the bottom 50 percent of taxpayers (those with AGIs below \$36,841) earned 11.49 percent of total AGI. This group of taxpayers paid approximately \$34 billion in taxes, or 2.78 percent of all income taxes in 2013.

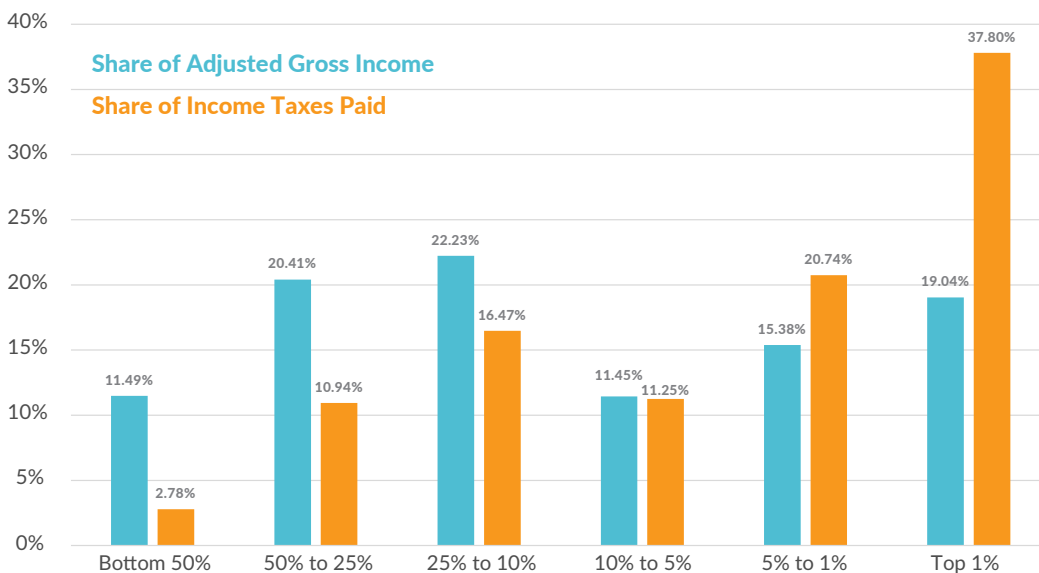
In contrast, the top 1 percent of all taxpayers (taxpayers with AGIs of \$428,713 and above), earned 19.04 percent of all AGI in 2013, but paid 37.80 percent of all federal income taxes.

In 2013, the top 1 percent of taxpayers accounted for more income taxes paid than the bottom 90 percent combined. The top 1 percent of taxpayers paid \$465 billion, or 37.80 percent of all income taxes, while the bottom 90 percent paid \$372 billion, or 30.20 percent of all income taxes.

Chart 1.

Half of Taxpayers Pay 97.2 Percent of All Income Taxes

Share of Income and Share of Income Taxes Paid, by Income Group (2013)



Source: IRS, Statistics of Income, Individual Income Rates and Tax Shares (2015)

High-Income Taxpayers Pay the Highest Average Tax Rates

The 2013 IRS data shows that taxpayers with higher incomes pay much higher average income tax rates than lower-income taxpayers.

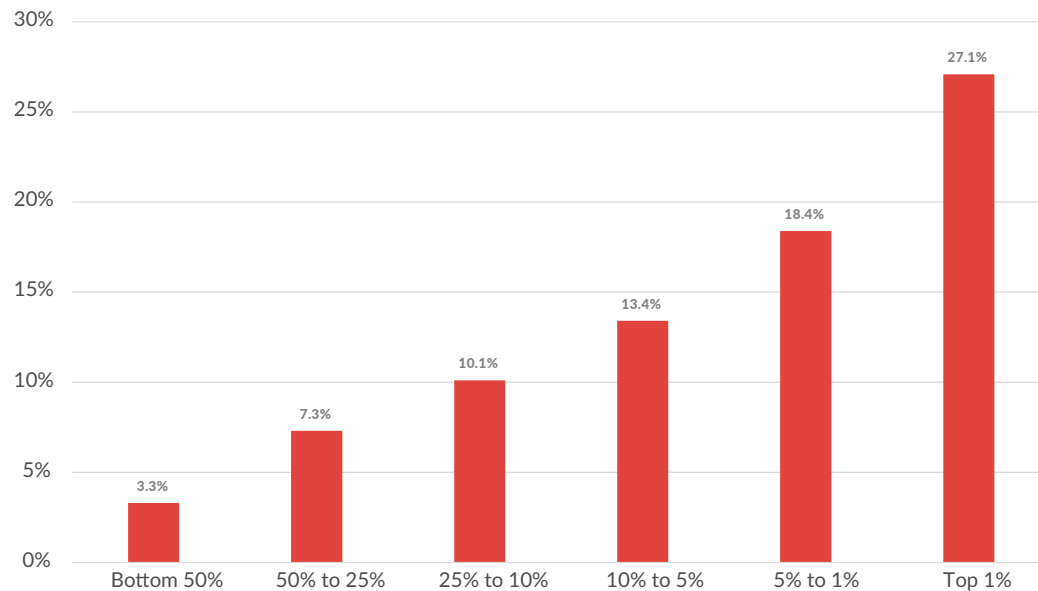
The bottom 50 percent of taxpayers (taxpayers with AGIs below \$36,841) faced an average income tax rate of 3.3 percent. Other taxpayers face much higher rates: for example, taxpayers with AGIs between the 10th and 5th percentile (\$127,695 and \$179,760) pay an average effective rate of 13.4 percent – four times the rate paid by those in the bottom 50 percent.

The top 1 percent of taxpayers (AGI of \$428,713 and above) paid the highest effective income tax rate at 27.1 percent, 8.19 times the rate faced by the bottom 50 percent of taxpayers.

Chart 2.

High-Income Taxpayers Pay the Highest Average Tax Rates

Average Income Tax Rate, by Income Group (2013)



Source: IRS, Statistics of Income, Individual Income Rates and Tax Shares (2015)

Taxpayers at the very top of the income distribution, the top 0.1 percent (with AGIs over \$1.86 million), paid an even higher average tax rate, of 27.9 percent.

The average tax rate of the top 1 percent of taxpayers rose significantly in 2013, from 21.9 percent in 2012 to 27.1 percent in 2013. This increase in the average tax rate of the 1 percent was largely due to several changes to the federal tax code, imposed at the end of 2012 as part of the “fiscal cliff” tax deal: a new 39.6 percent income tax bracket, a higher top rate on capital gains and dividends, and the reintroduction of the Pease limitation on itemized deductions.³

³ Scott Greenberg, *Here's How Much Taxes on the Rich Rose in 2013*, Tax Foundation, Aug. 2015, <http://taxfoundation.org/blog/here-s-how-much-taxes-rich-rose-2013>.

Table 2.

Number of Federal Individual Income Tax Returns Filed, 1980–2013 (in thousands)

Year	Total	Top 0.1%	Top 1%	Top 5%	Between 5% & 10%	Top 10%	Between 10% & 25%	Top 25%	Between 25% & 50%	Top 50%	Bottom 50%
1980	93,239		932	4,662	4,662	9,324	13,986	23,310	23,310	46,619	46,619
1981	94,587		946	4,729	4,729	9,459	14,188	23,647	23,647	47,293	47,293
1982	94,426		944	4,721	4,721	9,443	14,164	23,607	23,607	47,213	47,213
1983	95,331		953	4,767	4,767	9,533	14,300	23,833	23,833	47,665	47,665
1984	98,436		984	4,922	4,922	9,844	14,765	24,609	24,609	49,218	49,219
1985	100,625		1,006	5,031	5,031	10,063	15,094	25,156	25,156	50,313	50,313
1986	102,088		1,021	5,104	5,104	10,209	15,313	25,522	25,522	51,044	51,044
The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed the definition of AGI, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.											
1987	106,155		1,062	5,308	5,308	10,615	15,923	26,539	26,539	53,077	53,077
1988	108,873		1,089	5,444	5,444	10,887	16,331	27,218	27,218	54,436	54,436
1989	111,313		1,113	5,566	5,566	11,131	16,697	27,828	27,828	55,656	55,656
1990	112,812		1,128	5,641	5,641	11,281	16,922	28,203	28,203	56,406	56,406
1991	113,804		1,138	5,690	5,690	11,380	17,071	28,451	28,451	56,902	56,902
1992	112,653		1,127	5,633	5,633	11,265	16,898	28,163	28,163	56,326	56,326
1993	113,681		1,137	5,684	5,684	11,368	17,052	28,420	28,420	56,841	56,841
1994	114,990		1,150	5,749	5,749	11,499	17,248	28,747	28,747	57,495	57,495
1995	117,274		1,173	5,864	5,864	11,727	17,591	29,319	29,319	58,637	58,637
1996	119,442		1,194	5,972	5,972	11,944	17,916	29,860	29,860	59,721	59,721
1997	121,503		1,215	6,075	6,075	12,150	18,225	30,376	30,376	60,752	60,752
1998	123,776		1,238	6,189	6,189	12,378	18,566	30,944	30,944	61,888	61,888
1999	126,009		1,260	6,300	6,300	12,601	18,901	31,502	31,502	63,004	63,004
2000	128,227		1,282	6,411	6,411	12,823	19,234	32,057	32,057	64,114	64,114
The IRS changed methodology, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.											
2001	119,371	119	1,194	5,969	5,969	11,937	17,906	29,843	29,843	59,685	59,685
2002	119,851	120	1,199	5,993	5,993	11,985	17,978	29,963	29,963	59,925	59,925
2003	120,759	121	1,208	6,038	6,038	12,076	18,114	30,190	30,190	60,379	60,379
2004	122,510	123	1,225	6,125	6,125	12,251	18,376	30,627	30,627	61,255	61,255
2005	124,673	125	1,247	6,234	6,234	12,467	18,701	31,168	31,168	62,337	62,337
2006	128,441	128	1,284	6,422	6,422	12,844	19,266	32,110	32,110	64,221	64,221
2007	132,655	133	1,327	6,633	6,633	13,265	19,898	33,164	33,164	66,327	66,327
2008	132,892	133	1,329	6,645	6,645	13,289	19,934	33,223	33,223	66,446	66,446
2009	132,620	133	1,326	6,631	6,631	13,262	19,893	33,155	33,155	66,310	66,310
2010	135,033	135	1,350	6,752	6,752	13,503	20,255	33,758	33,758	67,517	67,517
2011	136,586	137	1,366	6,829	6,829	13,659	20,488	34,146	34,146	68,293	68,293
2012	136,080	136	1,361	6,804	6,804	13,608	20,412	34,020	34,020	68,040	68,040
2013	138,313	138	1,383	6,916	6,916	13,831	20,747	34,578	34,578	69,157	69,157

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

Table 3.

Adjusted Gross Income of Taxpayers in Various Income Brackets, 1980–2013
(in Billions of Dollars)

Year	Total	Top 0.1%	Top 1%	Top 5%	Between 5% & 10%	Top 10%	Between 10% & 25%	Top 25%	Between 25% & 50%	Top 50%	Bottom 50%
1980	\$1,627		\$138	\$342	\$181	\$523	\$400	\$922	\$417	\$1,339	\$288
1981	\$1,791		\$149	\$372	\$201	\$573	\$442	\$1,015	\$458	\$1,473	\$318
1982	\$1,876		\$167	\$398	\$207	\$605	\$460	\$1,065	\$478	\$1,544	\$332
1983	\$1,970		\$183	\$428	\$217	\$646	\$481	\$1,127	\$498	\$1,625	\$344
1984	\$2,173		\$210	\$482	\$240	\$723	\$528	\$1,251	\$543	\$1,794	\$379
1985	\$2,344		\$235	\$531	\$260	\$791	\$567	\$1,359	\$580	\$1,939	\$405
1986	\$2,524		\$285	\$608	\$278	\$887	\$604	\$1,490	\$613	\$2,104	\$421

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed the definition of AGI, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.

1987	\$2,814		\$347	\$722	\$316	\$1,038	\$671	\$1,709	\$664	\$2,374	\$440
1988	\$3,124		\$474	\$891	\$342	\$1,233	\$718	\$1,951	\$707	\$2,658	\$466
1989	\$3,299		\$468	\$918	\$368	\$1,287	\$768	\$2,054	\$751	\$2,805	\$494
1990	\$3,451		\$483	\$953	\$385	\$1,338	\$806	\$2,144	\$788	\$2,933	\$519
1991	\$3,516		\$457	\$943	\$400	\$1,343	\$832	\$2,175	\$809	\$2,984	\$532
1992	\$3,681		\$524	\$1,031	\$413	\$1,444	\$856	\$2,299	\$832	\$3,131	\$549
1993	\$3,776		\$521	\$1,048	\$426	\$1,474	\$883	\$2,358	\$854	\$3,212	\$563
1994	\$3,961		\$547	\$1,103	\$449	\$1,552	\$929	\$2,481	\$890	\$3,371	\$590
1995	\$4,245		\$620	\$1,223	\$482	\$1,705	\$985	\$2,690	\$938	\$3,628	\$617
1996	\$4,591		\$737	\$1,394	\$515	\$1,909	\$1,043	\$2,953	\$992	\$3,944	\$646
1997	\$5,023		\$873	\$1,597	\$554	\$2,151	\$1,116	\$3,268	\$1,060	\$4,328	\$695
1998	\$5,469		\$1,010	\$1,797	\$597	\$2,394	\$1,196	\$3,590	\$1,132	\$4,721	\$748
1999	\$5,909		\$1,153	\$2,012	\$641	\$2,653	\$1,274	\$3,927	\$1,199	\$5,126	\$783
2000	\$6,424		\$1,337	\$2,267	\$688	\$2,955	\$1,358	\$4,314	\$1,276	\$5,590	\$834

The IRS changed methodology, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.

2001	\$6,116	\$492	\$1,065	\$1,934	\$666	\$2,600	\$1,334	\$3,933	\$1,302	\$5,235	\$881
2002	\$5,982	\$421	\$960	\$1,812	\$660	\$2,472	\$1,339	\$3,812	\$1,303	\$5,115	\$867
2003	\$6,157	\$466	\$1,030	\$1,908	\$679	\$2,587	\$1,375	\$3,962	\$1,325	\$5,287	\$870
2004	\$6,735	\$615	\$1,279	\$2,243	\$725	\$2,968	\$1,455	\$4,423	\$1,403	\$5,826	\$908
2005	\$7,366	\$784	\$1,561	\$2,623	\$778	\$3,401	\$1,540	\$4,940	\$1,473	\$6,413	\$953
2006	\$7,970	\$895	\$1,761	\$2,918	\$841	\$3,760	\$1,652	\$5,412	\$1,568	\$6,980	\$990
2007	\$8,622	\$1,030	\$1,971	\$3,223	\$905	\$4,128	\$1,770	\$5,898	\$1,673	\$7,571	\$1,051
2008	\$8,206	\$826	\$1,657	\$2,868	\$905	\$3,773	\$1,782	\$5,555	\$1,673	\$7,228	\$978
2009	\$7,579	\$602	\$1,305	\$2,439	\$878	\$3,317	\$1,740	\$5,058	\$1,620	\$6,678	\$900
2010	\$8,040	\$743	\$1,517	\$2,716	\$915	\$3,631	\$1,800	\$5,431	\$1,665	\$7,096	\$944
2011	\$8,317	\$737	\$1,556	\$2,819	\$956	\$3,775	\$1,866	\$5,641	\$1,716	\$7,357	\$961
2012	\$9,042	\$1,017	\$1,977	\$3,331	\$997	\$4,328	\$1,934	\$6,262	\$1,776	\$8,038	\$1,004
2013	\$9,034	\$816	\$1,720	\$3,109	\$1,034	\$4,143	\$2,008	\$6,152	\$1,844	\$7,996	\$1,038

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

Table 4.

Total Income Tax after Credits, 1980–2013 (in Billions of Dollars)

Year	Total	Top 0.1%	Top 1%	Top 5%	Between 5% & 10%	Top 10%	Between 10% & 25%	Top 25%	Between 25% & 50%	Top 50%	Bottom 50%
1980	\$249		\$47	\$92	\$31	\$123	\$59	\$182	\$50	\$232	\$18
1981	\$282		\$50	\$99	\$36	\$135	\$69	\$204	\$57	\$261	\$21
1982	\$276		\$53	\$100	\$34	\$134	\$66	\$200	\$56	\$256	\$20
1983	\$272		\$55	\$101	\$34	\$135	\$64	\$199	\$54	\$252	\$19
1984	\$297		\$63	\$113	\$37	\$150	\$68	\$219	\$57	\$276	\$22
1985	\$322		\$70	\$125	\$41	\$166	\$73	\$238	\$60	\$299	\$23
1986	\$367		\$94	\$156	\$44	\$201	\$78	\$279	\$64	\$343	\$24

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed the definition of AGI, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.

1987	\$369		\$92	\$160	\$46	\$205	\$79	\$284	\$63	\$347	\$22
1988	\$413		\$114	\$188	\$48	\$236	\$85	\$321	\$68	\$389	\$24
1989	\$433		\$109	\$190	\$51	\$241	\$93	\$334	\$73	\$408	\$25
1990	\$447		\$112	\$195	\$52	\$248	\$97	\$344	\$77	\$421	\$26
1991	\$448		\$111	\$194	\$56	\$250	\$96	\$347	\$77	\$424	\$25
1992	\$476		\$131	\$218	\$58	\$276	\$97	\$374	\$78	\$452	\$24
1993	\$503		\$146	\$238	\$60	\$298	\$101	\$399	\$80	\$479	\$24
1994	\$535		\$154	\$254	\$64	\$318	\$108	\$425	\$84	\$509	\$25
1995	\$588		\$178	\$288	\$70	\$357	\$115	\$473	\$88	\$561	\$27
1996	\$658		\$213	\$335	\$76	\$411	\$124	\$535	\$95	\$630	\$28
1997	\$727		\$241	\$377	\$82	\$460	\$134	\$594	\$102	\$696	\$31
1998	\$788		\$274	\$425	\$88	\$513	\$139	\$652	\$103	\$755	\$33
1999	\$877		\$317	\$486	\$97	\$583	\$150	\$733	\$109	\$842	\$35
2000	\$981		\$367	\$554	\$106	\$660	\$164	\$824	\$118	\$942	\$38

The IRS changed methodology, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.

2001	\$885	\$139	\$294	\$462	\$101	\$564	\$158	\$722	\$120	\$842	\$43
2002	\$794	\$120	\$263	\$420	\$93	\$513	\$143	\$657	\$104	\$761	\$33
2003	\$746	\$115	\$251	\$399	\$85	\$484	\$133	\$617	\$98	\$715	\$30
2004	\$829	\$142	\$301	\$467	\$91	\$558	\$137	\$695	\$102	\$797	\$32
2005	\$932	\$176	\$361	\$549	\$98	\$647	\$145	\$793	\$106	\$898	\$33
2006	\$1,020	\$196	\$402	\$607	\$108	\$715	\$157	\$872	\$113	\$986	\$35
2007	\$1,112	\$221	\$443	\$666	\$117	\$783	\$170	\$953	\$122	\$1,075	\$37
2008	\$1,029	\$187	\$386	\$597	\$115	\$712	\$168	\$880	\$117	\$997	\$32
2009	\$863	\$146	\$314	\$502	\$101	\$604	\$146	\$749	\$93	\$842	\$21
2010	\$949	\$170	\$355	\$561	\$110	\$670	\$156	\$827	\$100	\$927	\$22
2011	\$1,043	\$168	\$366	\$589	\$123	\$712	\$181	\$893	\$120	\$1,012	\$30
2012	\$1,185	\$220	\$451	\$699	\$133	\$831	\$193	\$1,024	\$128	\$1,152	\$33
2013	\$1,232	\$228	\$466	\$721	\$139	\$860	\$203	\$1,063	\$135	\$1,198	\$34

Source: Internal Revenue Service.



Table 5.

Adjusted Gross Income Shares, 1980–2013 (Percent of Total AGI Earned by Each Group)

Year	Total	Top 0.1%	Top 1%	Top 5%	Between 5% & 10%	Top 10%	Between 10% & 25%	Top 25%	Between 25% & 50%	Top 50%	Bottom 50%
1980	100%		8.46%	21.01%	11.12%	32.13%	24.57%	56.70%	25.62%	82.32%	17.68%
1981	100%		8.30%	20.78%	11.20%	31.98%	24.69%	56.67%	25.59%	82.25%	17.75%
1982	100%		8.91%	21.23%	11.03%	32.26%	24.53%	56.79%	25.50%	82.29%	17.71%
1983	100%		9.29%	21.74%	11.04%	32.78%	24.44%	57.22%	25.30%	82.52%	17.48%
1984	100%		9.66%	22.19%	11.06%	33.25%	24.31%	57.56%	25.00%	82.56%	17.44%
1985	100%		10.03%	22.67%	11.10%	33.77%	24.21%	57.97%	24.77%	82.74%	17.26%
1986	100%		11.30%	24.11%	11.02%	35.12%	23.92%	59.04%	24.30%	83.34%	16.66%

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed the definition of AGI, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.

1987	100%	12.32%	25.67%	11.23%	36.90%	23.85%	60.75%	23.62%	84.37%	15.63%
1988	100%	15.16%	28.51%	10.94%	39.45%	22.99%	62.44%	22.63%	85.07%	14.93%
1989	100%	14.19%	27.84%	11.16%	39.00%	23.28%	62.28%	22.76%	85.04%	14.96%
1990	100%	14.00%	27.62%	11.15%	38.77%	23.36%	62.13%	22.84%	84.97%	15.03%
1991	100%	12.99%	26.83%	11.37%	38.20%	23.65%	61.85%	23.01%	84.87%	15.13%
1992	100%	14.23%	28.01%	11.21%	39.23%	23.25%	62.47%	22.61%	85.08%	14.92%
1993	100%	13.79%	27.76%	11.29%	39.05%	23.40%	62.45%	22.63%	85.08%	14.92%
1994	100%	13.80%	27.85%	11.34%	39.19%	23.45%	62.64%	22.48%	85.11%	14.89%
1995	100%	14.60%	28.81%	11.35%	40.16%	23.21%	63.37%	22.09%	85.46%	14.54%
1996	100%	16.04%	30.36%	11.23%	41.59%	22.73%	64.32%	21.60%	85.92%	14.08%
1997	100%	17.38%	31.79%	11.03%	42.83%	22.22%	65.05%	21.11%	86.16%	13.84%
1998	100%	18.47%	32.85%	10.92%	43.77%	21.87%	65.63%	20.69%	86.33%	13.67%
1999	100%	19.51%	34.04%	10.85%	44.89%	21.57%	66.46%	20.29%	86.75%	13.25%
2000	100%	20.81%	35.30%	10.71%	46.01%	21.15%	67.15%	19.86%	87.01%	12.99%

The IRS changed methodology, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.

2001	100%	8.05%	17.41%	31.61%	10.89%	42.50%	21.80%	64.31%	21.29%	85.60%	14.40%
2002	100%	7.04%	16.05%	30.29%	11.04%	41.33%	22.39%	63.71%	21.79%	85.50%	14.50%
2003	100%	7.56%	16.73%	30.99%	11.03%	42.01%	22.33%	64.34%	21.52%	85.87%	14.13%
2004	100%	9.14%	18.99%	33.31%	10.77%	44.07%	21.60%	65.68%	20.83%	86.51%	13.49%
2005	100%	10.64%	21.19%	35.61%	10.56%	46.17%	20.90%	67.07%	19.99%	87.06%	12.94%
2006	100%	11.23%	22.10%	36.62%	10.56%	47.17%	20.73%	67.91%	19.68%	87.58%	12.42%
2007	100%	11.95%	22.86%	37.39%	10.49%	47.88%	20.53%	68.41%	19.40%	87.81%	12.19%
2008	100%	10.06%	20.19%	34.95%	11.03%	45.98%	21.71%	67.69%	20.39%	88.08%	11.92%
2009	100%	7.94%	17.21%	32.18%	11.59%	43.77%	22.96%	66.74%	21.38%	88.12%	11.88%
2010	100%	9.24%	18.87%	33.78%	11.38%	45.17%	22.38%	67.55%	20.71%	88.26%	11.74%
2011	100%	8.86%	18.70%	33.89%	11.50%	45.39%	22.43%	67.82%	20.63%	88.45%	11.55%
2012	100%	11.25%	21.86%	36.84%	11.03%	47.87%	21.39%	69.25%	19.64%	88.90%	11.10%
2013	100%	9.03%	19.04%	34.42%	11.45%	45.87%	22.23%	68.10%	20.41%	88.51%	11.49%

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

Table 6.

Total Income Tax Shares, 1980–2013 (Percent of Federal Income Tax Paid by Each Group)

Year	Total	Top 0.1%	Top 1%	Top 5%	Between 5% & 10%	Top 10%	Between 10% & 25%	Top 25%	Between 25% & 50%	Top 50%	Bottom 50%
1980	100%		19.05%	36.84%	12.44%	49.28%	23.74%	73.02%	19.93%	92.95%	7.05%
1981	100%		17.58%	35.06%	12.90%	47.96%	24.33%	72.29%	20.26%	92.55%	7.45%
1982	100%		19.03%	36.13%	12.45%	48.59%	23.91%	72.50%	20.15%	92.65%	7.35%
1983	100%		20.32%	37.26%	12.44%	49.71%	23.39%	73.10%	19.73%	92.83%	7.17%
1984	100%		21.12%	37.98%	12.58%	50.56%	22.92%	73.49%	19.16%	92.65%	7.35%
1985	100%		21.81%	38.78%	12.67%	51.46%	22.60%	74.06%	18.77%	92.83%	7.17%
1986	100%		25.75%	42.57%	12.12%	54.69%	21.33%	76.02%	17.52%	93.54%	6.46%
The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed the definition of AGI, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.											
1987	100%		24.81%	43.26%	12.35%	55.61%	21.31%	76.92%	17.02%	93.93%	6.07%
1988	100%		27.58%	45.62%	11.66%	57.28%	20.57%	77.84%	16.44%	94.28%	5.72%
1989	100%		25.24%	43.94%	11.85%	55.78%	21.44%	77.22%	16.94%	94.17%	5.83%
1990	100%		25.13%	43.64%	11.73%	55.36%	21.66%	77.02%	17.16%	94.19%	5.81%
1991	100%		24.82%	43.38%	12.45%	55.82%	21.46%	77.29%	17.23%	94.52%	5.48%
1992	100%		27.54%	45.88%	12.12%	58.01%	20.47%	78.48%	16.46%	94.94%	5.06%
1993	100%		29.01%	47.36%	11.88%	59.24%	20.03%	79.27%	15.92%	95.19%	4.81%
1994	100%		28.86%	47.52%	11.93%	59.45%	20.10%	79.55%	15.68%	95.23%	4.77%
1995	100%		30.26%	48.91%	11.84%	60.75%	19.62%	80.36%	15.03%	95.39%	4.61%
1996	100%		32.31%	50.97%	11.54%	62.51%	18.80%	81.32%	14.36%	95.68%	4.32%
1997	100%		33.17%	51.87%	11.33%	63.20%	18.47%	81.67%	14.05%	95.72%	4.28%
1998	100%		34.75%	53.84%	11.20%	65.04%	17.65%	82.69%	13.10%	95.79%	4.21%
1999	100%		36.18%	55.45%	11.00%	66.45%	17.09%	83.54%	12.46%	96.00%	4.00%
2000	100%		37.42%	56.47%	10.86%	67.33%	16.68%	84.01%	12.08%	96.09%	3.91%
The IRS changed methodology, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.											
2001	100%	15.68%	33.22%	52.24%	11.44%	63.68%	17.88%	81.56%	13.54%	95.10%	4.90%
2002	100%	15.09%	33.09%	52.86%	11.77%	64.63%	18.04%	82.67%	13.12%	95.79%	4.21%
2003	100%	15.37%	33.69%	53.54%	11.35%	64.89%	17.87%	82.76%	13.17%	95.93%	4.07%
2004	100%	17.12%	36.28%	56.35%	10.96%	67.30%	16.52%	83.82%	12.31%	96.13%	3.87%
2005	100%	18.91%	38.78%	58.93%	10.52%	69.46%	15.61%	85.07%	11.35%	96.41%	3.59%
2006	100%	19.24%	39.36%	59.49%	10.59%	70.08%	15.41%	85.49%	11.10%	96.59%	3.41%
2007	100%	19.84%	39.81%	59.90%	10.51%	70.41%	15.30%	85.71%	10.93%	96.64%	3.36%
2008	100%	18.20%	37.51%	58.06%	11.14%	69.20%	16.37%	85.57%	11.33%	96.90%	3.10%
2009	100%	16.91%	36.34%	58.17%	11.72%	69.89%	16.85%	86.74%	10.80%	97.54%	2.46%
2010	100%	17.88%	37.38%	59.07%	11.55%	70.62%	16.49%	87.11%	10.53%	97.64%	2.36%
2011	100%	16.14%	35.06%	56.49%	11.77%	68.26%	17.36%	85.62%	11.50%	97.11%	2.89%
2012	100%	18.60%	38.09%	58.95%	11.22%	70.17%	16.25%	86.42%	10.80%	97.22%	2.78%
2013	100%	18.48%	37.80%	58.55%	11.25%	69.80%	16.47%	86.27%	10.94%	97.22%	2.78%

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

Table 7.
Dollar Cut-Off, 1980–2013 (Minimum AGI for Tax Returns to Fall into Various Percentiles; Thresholds Not Adjusted for Inflation)

Year	Top 0.1%	Top 1%	Top 5%	Top 10%	Top 25%	Top 50%
1980		\$80,580	\$43,792	\$35,070	\$23,606	\$12,936
1981		\$85,428	\$47,845	\$38,283	\$25,655	\$14,000
1982		\$89,388	\$49,284	\$39,676	\$27,027	\$14,539
1983		\$93,512	\$51,553	\$41,222	\$27,827	\$15,044
1984		\$100,889	\$55,423	\$43,956	\$29,360	\$15,998
1985		\$108,134	\$58,883	\$46,322	\$30,928	\$16,688
1986		\$118,818	\$62,377	\$48,656	\$32,242	\$17,302
The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed the definition of AGI, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.						
1987		\$139,289	\$68,414	\$52,921	\$33,983	\$17,768
1988		\$157,136	\$72,735	\$55,437	\$35,398	\$18,367
1989		\$163,869	\$76,933	\$58,263	\$36,839	\$18,993
1990		\$167,421	\$79,064	\$60,287	\$38,080	\$19,767
1991		\$170,139	\$81,720	\$61,944	\$38,929	\$20,097
1992		\$181,904	\$85,103	\$64,457	\$40,378	\$20,803
1993		\$185,715	\$87,386	\$66,077	\$41,210	\$21,179
1994		\$195,726	\$91,226	\$68,753	\$42,742	\$21,802
1995		\$209,406	\$96,221	\$72,094	\$44,207	\$22,344
1996		\$227,546	\$101,141	\$74,986	\$45,757	\$23,174
1997		\$250,736	\$108,048	\$79,212	\$48,173	\$24,393
1998		\$269,496	\$114,729	\$83,220	\$50,607	\$25,491
1999		\$293,415	\$120,846	\$87,682	\$52,965	\$26,415
2000		\$313,469	\$128,336	\$92,144	\$55,225	\$27,682
The IRS changed methodology, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.						
2001	\$1,393,718	\$306,635	\$132,082	\$96,151	\$59,026	\$31,418
2002	\$1,245,352	\$296,194	\$130,750	\$95,699	\$59,066	\$31,299
2003	\$1,317,088	\$305,939	\$133,741	\$97,470	\$59,896	\$31,447
2004	\$1,617,918	\$339,993	\$140,758	\$101,838	\$62,794	\$32,622
2005	\$1,938,175	\$379,261	\$149,216	\$106,864	\$64,821	\$33,484
2006	\$2,124,625	\$402,603	\$157,390	\$112,016	\$67,291	\$34,417
2007	\$2,251,017	\$426,439	\$164,883	\$116,396	\$69,559	\$35,541
2008	\$1,867,652	\$392,513	\$163,512	\$116,813	\$69,813	\$35,340
2009	\$1,469,393	\$351,968	\$157,342	\$114,181	\$68,216	\$34,156
2010	\$1,634,386	\$369,691	\$161,579	\$116,623	\$69,126	\$34,338
2011	\$1,717,675	\$388,905	\$167,728	\$120,136	\$70,492	\$34,823
2012	\$2,161,175	\$434,682	\$175,817	\$125,195	\$73,354	\$36,055
2013	\$1,860,848	\$428,713	\$179,760	\$127,695	\$74,955	\$36,841

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

Table 8.
Average Tax Rate, 1980–2013 (Percent of AGI Paid in Income Taxes)

Year	Total	Top 0.1%	Top 1%	Top 5%	Between 5% & 10%	Top 10%	Between 10% & 25%	Top 25%	Between 25% & 50%	Top 50%	Bottom 50%
1980	15.31%		34.47%	26.85%	17.13%	23.49%	14.80%	19.72%	11.91%	17.29%	6.10%
1981	15.76%		33.37%	26.59%	18.16%	23.64%	15.53%	20.11%	12.48%	17.73%	6.62%
1982	14.72%		31.43%	25.05%	16.61%	22.17%	14.35%	18.79%	11.63%	16.57%	6.10%
1983	13.79%		30.18%	23.64%	15.54%	20.91%	13.20%	17.62%	10.76%	15.52%	5.66%
1984	13.68%		29.92%	23.42%	15.57%	20.81%	12.90%	17.47%	10.48%	15.35%	5.77%
1985	13.73%		29.86%	23.50%	15.69%	20.93%	12.83%	17.55%	10.41%	15.41%	5.70%
1986	14.54%		33.13%	25.68%	15.99%	22.64%	12.97%	18.72%	10.48%	16.32%	5.63%
The Tax Reform Act of 1986 changed the definition of AGI, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.											
1987	13.12%		26.41%	22.10%	14.43%	19.77%	11.71%	16.61%	9.45%	14.60%	5.09%
1988	13.21%		24.04%	21.14%	14.07%	19.18%	11.82%	16.47%	9.60%	14.64%	5.06%
1989	13.12%		23.34%	20.71%	13.93%	18.77%	12.08%	16.27%	9.77%	14.53%	5.11%
1990	12.95%		23.25%	20.46%	13.63%	18.50%	12.01%	16.06%	9.73%	14.36%	5.01%
1991	12.75%		24.37%	20.62%	13.96%	18.63%	11.57%	15.93%	9.55%	14.20%	4.62%
1992	12.94%		25.05%	21.19%	13.99%	19.13%	11.39%	16.25%	9.42%	14.44%	4.39%
1993	13.32%		28.01%	22.71%	14.01%	20.20%	11.40%	16.90%	9.37%	14.90%	4.29%
1994	13.50%		28.23%	23.04%	14.20%	20.48%	11.57%	17.15%	9.42%	15.11%	4.32%
1995	13.86%		28.73%	23.53%	14.46%	20.97%	11.71%	17.58%	9.43%	15.47%	4.39%
1996	14.34%		28.87%	24.07%	14.74%	21.55%	11.86%	18.12%	9.53%	15.96%	4.40%
1997	14.48%		27.64%	23.62%	14.87%	21.36%	12.04%	18.18%	9.63%	16.09%	4.48%
1998	14.42%		27.12%	23.63%	14.79%	21.42%	11.63%	18.16%	9.12%	16.00%	4.44%
1999	14.85%		27.53%	24.18%	15.06%	21.98%	11.76%	18.66%	9.12%	16.43%	4.48%
2000	15.26%		27.45%	24.42%	15.48%	22.34%	12.04%	19.09%	9.28%	16.86%	4.60%
The IRS changed methodology, so data above and below this line are not strictly comparable.											
2001	14.47%	28.17%	27.60%	23.91%	15.20%	21.68%	11.87%	18.35%	9.20%	16.08%	4.92%
2002	13.28%	28.48%	27.37%	23.17%	14.15%	20.76%	10.70%	17.23%	8.00%	14.87%	3.86%
2003	12.11%	24.60%	24.38%	20.92%	12.46%	18.70%	9.69%	15.57%	7.41%	13.53%	3.49%
2004	12.31%	23.06%	23.52%	20.83%	12.53%	18.80%	9.41%	15.71%	7.27%	13.68%	3.53%
2005	12.65%	22.48%	23.15%	20.93%	12.61%	19.03%	9.45%	16.04%	7.18%	14.01%	3.51%
2006	12.80%	21.94%	22.80%	20.80%	12.84%	19.02%	9.52%	16.12%	7.22%	14.12%	3.51%
2007	12.90%	21.42%	22.46%	20.66%	12.92%	18.96%	9.61%	16.16%	7.27%	14.19%	3.56%
2008	12.54%	22.67%	23.29%	20.83%	12.66%	18.87%	9.45%	15.85%	6.97%	13.79%	3.26%
2009	11.39%	24.28%	24.05%	20.59%	11.53%	18.19%	8.36%	14.81%	5.76%	12.61%	2.35%
2010	11.81%	22.84%	23.39%	20.64%	11.98%	18.46%	8.70%	15.22%	6.01%	13.06%	2.37%
2011	12.54%	22.82%	23.50%	20.89%	12.83%	18.85%	9.70%	15.82%	6.98%	13.76%	3.13%
2012	13.11%	21.67%	22.83%	20.97%	13.33%	19.21%	9.96%	16.35%	7.21%	14.33%	3.28%
2013	13.64%	27.91%	27.08%	23.20%	13.40%	20.75%	10.11%	17.28%	7.31%	14.98%	3.30%

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

(1) For data prior to 2001, all tax returns that have a positive AGI are included, even those that do not have a positive income tax liability. For data from 2001 forward, returns with negative AGI are also included, but dependent returns are excluded.

(2) Income tax after credits (the measure of “income taxes paid” above) does not account for the refundable portion of EITC. If it were included, the tax share of the top income groups would be higher. The refundable portion is classified as a spending program by the Office of Management and Budget and therefore is not included by the IRS in these figures.

(3) The only tax analyzed here is the federal individual income tax, which is responsible for about 25 percent of the nation’s taxes paid (at all levels of government). Federal income taxes are much more progressive than payroll taxes, which are responsible for about 20 percent of all taxes paid (at all levels of government), and are more progressive than most state and local taxes.

(4) AGI is a fairly narrow income concept and does not include income items like government transfers (except for the portion of Social Security benefits that is taxed), the value of employer-provided health insurance, underreported or unreported income (most notably that of sole proprietors), income derived from municipal bond interest, net imputed rental income, and others.

(5) The unit of analysis here is that of the tax return. In the figures prior to 2001, some dependent returns are included. Under other units of analysis (like the Treasury Department’s Family Economic Unit), these returns would likely be paired with parents’ returns.

(6) These figures represent the legal incidence of the income tax. Most distributional tables (such as those from CBO, Tax Policy Center, Citizens for Tax Justice, the Treasury Department, and JCT) assume that the entire economic incidence of personal income taxes falls on the income earner.
