

Table T17-0072
Effective Marginal Tax Rates on Wages, Salaries, and Capital Income
By Expanded Cash Income Percentile, 2020¹

Expanded Cash Income Percentiles ²	Tax Units (thousands)	Individual Income Tax ³				Individual Income Tax plus Payroll Tax ⁴
		Wages and Salaries	Long-term Capital Gains	Qualified Dividends	Interest Income	Wages and Salaries
Lowest Quintile	49,140	3.5	1.7	0.4	2.2	17.4
Second Quintile	39,750	16.4	1.5	1.1	7.9	30.2
Third Quintile	34,590	19.2	7.5	9.8	18.9	32.8
Fourth Quintile	29,050	20.4	10.6	11.1	23.0	34.0
Top Quintile	24,700	31.1	22.8	22.1	34.2	38.6
All	178,370	24.9	20.7	19.5	27.5	35.3
Addendum						
80-90	12,670	25.5	14.3	14.5	24.6	36.9
90-95	6,140	27.8	17.2	16.9	29.1	35.8
95-99	4,730	33.3	23.0	22.6	35.2	39.0
Top 1 Percent	1,160	38.8	23.9	23.9	36.8	42.7
Top 0.1 Percent	120	39.2	23.9	23.9	36.0	43.0

Source: Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center Microsimulation Model (version 0217-1).

(1) Calendar year. Current Law. Effective marginal tax rates are weighted by the appropriate income source.

(2) Includes both filing and non-filing units but excludes those that are dependents of other tax units. Tax units with negative adjusted gross income are excluded from their respective income class but are included in the totals. For a description of expanded cash income, see <http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/TaxModel/income.cfm>. The income percentile classes used in this table are based on the income distribution for the entire population and contain an equal number of people, not tax units. The breaks are (in 2017 dollars): 20% \$25,700; 40% \$50,300; 60% \$87,900; 80% \$151,100; 90% \$220,300; 95% \$311,900; 99% \$752,700; 99.9% \$3,684,000.

(3) We calculate each tax unit's effective marginal individual income tax rate by adding \$1,000 to the income source and dividing the resulting tax change by that \$1,000. We then calculate the averages by weighting by the initial value of the appropriate income source.

(4) We calculate each tax unit's effective marginal individual plus payroll tax rate by adding \$1,000 to wages and salaries. We then divide the resulting change in individual income tax plus the resulting change in the employer and employee portions of payroll taxes for Social Security and Medicare by that \$1,000. We then calculate the averages by weighting by the initial value of wages and salaries. For married couples filing jointly, we assign a portion of the \$1,000 increase to each spouse based on their initial shares of the household's total wages and salaries.