

10-May-24

**Earned Income Tax Credit: Number of Recipients and Amount of Credit,  
Tax Years 1975 to 2021**

Year	Number of returns with earned income credit	Total amount of credit (\$ millions)	Refundable portion of credit (\$ millions)	Average amount of credit claimed per recipient (\$)
1975	6,215,000	\$1,250	\$900	\$201
1976	6,473,000	\$1,295	\$890	\$200
1977	5,627,000	\$1,127	\$880	\$200
1978	5,192,000	\$1,048	\$801	\$202
1979	7,135,000	\$2,052	\$1,395	\$288
1980	6,954,000	\$1,986	\$1,370	\$286
1981	6,717,000	\$1,912	\$1,278	\$285
1982	6,395,000	\$1,775	\$1,222	\$278
1983	7,368,000	\$1,795	\$1,289	\$244
1984	6,376,000	\$1,638	\$1,162	\$257
1985	7,432,000	\$2,088	\$1,499	\$281
1986	7,156,000	\$2,009	\$1,479	\$281
1987	8,738,000	\$3,391	\$2,930	\$388
1988	11,148,000	\$5,896	\$4,257	\$529
1989	11,696,000	\$6,595	\$4,636	\$564
1990	12,554,681	\$7,512	\$5,266	\$598
1991	13,664,555	\$11,105	\$8,183	\$813
1992	14,096,575	\$13,028	\$9,959	\$924
1993	15,117,389	\$15,537	\$12,028	\$1,028
1994	19,017,357	\$21,105	\$16,598	\$1,110
1995	19,334,397	\$25,956	\$20,829	\$1,342
1996	19,463,836	\$28,825	\$23,157	\$1,481
1997	19,391,179	\$30,389	\$24,396	\$1,567
1998	19,704,707	\$31,592	\$27,175	\$1,603
1999	19,260,339	\$31,903	\$27,604	\$1,656
2000	19,277,225	\$32,296	\$27,803	\$1,675
2001	19,593,121	\$33,376	\$29,043	\$1,703
2002	21,703,187	\$38,199	\$33,737	\$1,760
2003	22,024,227	\$38,657	\$34,012	\$1,755
2004	22,270,550	\$40,024	\$35,300	\$1,797
2005	22,751,904	\$42,410	\$37,465	\$1,864
2006	23,042,200	\$44,388	\$39,072	\$1,926
2007	24,583,940	\$48,540	\$42,508	\$1,974
2008	24,756,744	\$50,669	\$44,260	\$2,047
2009	27,041,498	\$59,239	\$53,985	\$2,191
2010	27,367,757	\$59,562	\$54,256	\$2,176
2011	27,911,726	\$62,906	\$55,350	\$2,254
2012	27,848,264	\$64,129	\$56,190	\$2,303
2013	28,821,785	\$68,082	\$59,145	\$2,362
2014	28,537,908	\$68,339	\$58,889	\$2,395
2015	28,081,708	\$68,525	\$58,795	\$2,440
2016	27,382,904	\$66,723	\$57,054	\$2,437
2017	27,030,382	\$66,443	\$56,751	\$2,458
2018	26,492,486	\$64,924	\$56,161	\$2,451
2019	26,738,391	\$64,478	\$55,672	\$2,411
2020	26,025,709	\$59,240	\$51,739	\$2,276
2021	32,216,183	\$65,684	\$48,508	\$2,039

**Source:** Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Division, Table 2.5: Returns with Earned Income Credit and Table A: Selected Income and Tax Items for Selected Years (in Current and Constant Dollars), January 2024.