

**Tax Rates and Maximum Taxable Earnings Under Social Security,  
Railroad Retirement and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Programs**

Period	Maximum annual taxable earnings		Tax rate (percent)								
			Employer and employee, each				Self-employed person				
			OASDI	HI	Total	OASI	DI	HI	Total	OASI	DI
1937-1949 .....	\$3,000	...	1.0	1.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1950 .....	3,000	...	1.5	1.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1951-1953 .....	3,600	...	1.5	1.5	...	...	2.25	2.25	...	...	...
1954 .....	3,600	...	2.0	2.0	...	...	3.0	3.0	...	...	...
1955-1956 .....	4,200	...	2.0	2.0	...	...	3.0	3.0	...	...	...
1957-1958 .....	4,200	...	2.25	2.0	0.25	...	3.375	3.0	0.375	...	...
1959 .....	4,800	...	2.5	2.25	0.25	...	3.75	3.375	0.375	...	...
1960-1961 .....	4,800	...	3.0	2.75	0.25	...	4.5	4.125	0.375	...	...
1962 .....	4,800	...	3.125	2.875	0.25	...	4.7	4.325	0.375	...	...
1963-1965 .....	4,800	...	3.625	3.375	0.25	...	5.4	5.025	0.375	...	...
1966 .....	6,600	\$6,600	4.2	3.5	0.35	0.35	6.15	5.275	0.525	0.35	...
1967 .....	6,600	6,600	4.4	3.55	0.35	0.5	6.4	5.375	0.525	0.5	...
1968 .....	7,800	7,800	4.4	3.325	0.475	0.6	6.4	5.0875	0.7125	0.6	...
1969 .....	7,800	7,800	4.8	3.725	0.475	0.6	6.9	5.5875	0.7125	0.6	...
1970 .....	7,800	7,800	4.8	3.65	0.55	0.6	6.9	5.475	0.825	0.6	...
1971 .....	7,800	7,800	5.2	4.05	0.55	0.6	7.5	6.075	0.825	0.6	...
1972 .....	9,000	9,000	5.2	4.05	0.55	0.6	7.5	6.075	0.825	0.6	...
1973 .....	10,800	10,800	5.85	4.3	0.55	1.0	8.0	6.205	0.795	1.0	...
1974 .....	13,200	13,200	5.85	4.375	0.575	0.9	7.9	6.185	0.815	0.9	...
1975 .....	14,100	14,100	5.85	4.375	0.575	0.9	7.9	6.185	0.815	0.9	...
1976 .....	15,300	15,300	5.85	4.375	0.575	0.9	7.9	6.185	0.815	0.9	...
1977 .....	16,500	16,500	5.85	4.375	0.575	0.9	7.9	6.185	0.815	0.9	...
1978 .....	17,700	17,700	6.05	4.275	0.775	1.0	8.1	6.01	1.09	1.0	...
1979 .....	22,900	22,900	6.13	4.33	0.75	1.05	8.1	6.01	1.04	1.05	...
1980 .....	25,900	25,900	6.13	4.52	0.56	1.05	8.1	6.2725	0.7775	1.05	...
1981 .....	29,700	29,700	6.65	4.7	0.65	1.3	9.3	7.025	0.975	1.3	...
1982 .....	32,400	32,400	6.7	4.575	0.825	1.3	9.35	6.8125	1.2375	1.3	...
1983 .....	35,700	35,700	6.7	4.775	0.625	1.3	9.35	7.1125	0.9375	1.3	...
1984 .....	37,800	37,800	<sup>1</sup> 7.0	5.2	0.5	1.3	<sup>1</sup> 14.0	10.4	1.0	2.6	...
1985 .....	39,600	39,600	7.05	5.2	0.5	1.35	<sup>1</sup> 14.1	10.4	1.0	2.7	...
1986 .....	42,000	42,000	7.15	5.2	0.5	1.45	<sup>1</sup> 14.3	10.4	1.0	2.9	...
1987 .....	43,800	43,800	7.15	5.2	0.5	1.45	<sup>1</sup> 14.3	10.4	1.0	2.9	...
1988 .....	45,000	45,000	7.51	5.53	0.53	1.45	<sup>1</sup> 15.02	11.06	1.06	2.9	...
1989 .....	48,000	48,000	7.51	5.53	0.53	1.45	<sup>1</sup> 15.02	11.06	1.06	2.9	...
1990 .....	51,300	51,300	7.65	5.6	0.6	1.45	15.3	11.2	1.2	2.9	...
1991 .....	53,400	125,000	7.65	5.6	0.6	1.45	15.3	11.2	1.2	2.9	...
1992 .....	55,500	130,200	7.65	5.6	0.6	1.45	15.3	11.2	1.2	2.9	...
1993 .....	57,600	135,000	7.65	5.6	0.6	1.45	15.3	11.2	1.2	2.9	...
1994 .....	60,600	No Limit	7.65	5.26	0.94	1.45	15.3	10.52	1.88	2.9	...
1995 .....	61,200	No Limit	7.65	5.26	0.94	1.45	15.3	10.52	1.88	2.9	...
1996 .....	62,700	No Limit	7.65	5.26	0.94	1.45	15.3	10.52	1.88	2.9	...
1997 .....	65,400	No Limit	7.65	5.35	0.85	1.45	15.3	10.7	1.7	2.9	...
1998 .....	68,400	No Limit	7.65	5.35	0.85	1.45	15.3	10.7	1.7	2.9	...
1999 .....	72,600	No Limit	7.65	5.35	0.85	1.45	15.3	10.7	1.7	2.9	...
2000 .....	76,200	No Limit	7.65	5.3	0.9	1.45	15.3	10.6	1.8	2.9	...
2001 .....	80,400	No Limit	7.65	5.3	0.9	1.45	15.3	10.6	1.8	2.9	...
2002 .....	84,900	No Limit	7.65	5.3	0.9	1.45	15.3	10.6	1.8	2.9	...
2003 .....	87,000	No Limit	7.65	5.3	0.9	1.45	15.3	10.6	1.8	2.9	...
2004 .....	87,900	No Limit	7.65	5.3	0.9	1.45	15.3	10.6	1.8	2.9	...
2005 and thereafter .....	<sup>(2)</sup>	No Limit	7.65	5.3	0.9	1.45	15.3	10.6	1.8	2.9	...

See footnotes at end of table.

**Tax Rates and Maximum Taxable Earnings Under Social Security,  
Railroad Retirement and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Programs, Continued**

Period	Railroad Retirement					Railroad Unemployment Insurance		Unemployment Repayment Tax [4]		Supplemental Annuities	
	Maximum earnings base [3]		Tax rate (percent) [3]			Maximum monthly taxable earnings	Employer tax rate [5] (percent)	Maximum taxable earnings	Employer tax rate (percent)	Period	Employer tax rate [6] (cents/hr.)
	Tier 1 [7]	Tier 2	Tier 1	Tier 2							
			Employer & employee each	Employer	Employee						
1937-6/39	\$ 300	...	2.75	...	...	...	...	...	...	11/1966-3/70	2
7/39-12/39	300	...	2.75	...	...	\$ 300	3.0	...	...	4/70-6/70	6
1940-1942	300	...	3.0	...	...	300	3.0	...	...	7/70-12/70	7
1943-1945	300	...	3.25	...	...	300	3.0	...	...	1/71-6/72	6
1946	300	...	3.5	...	...	300	3.0	...	...	7/72-12/74	7½
1947	300	...	5.75	...	...	300	3.0	...	...	1/75-12/75	8½
1948	300	...	5.75	...	...	300	0.5	...	...	1/76-12/76	12
1949-1951	300	...	6.0	...	...	300	0.5	...	...	1/77-12/77	12½
1952-6/54	300	...	6.25	...	...	300	0.5	...	...	1/78-12/78	12
7/54-12/54	350	...	6.25	...	...	350	0.5	...	...	1/79-12/80	12½
1955	350	...	6.25	...	...	350	0.5	...	...	1/81-12/81	14½
1956	350	...	6.25	...	...	350	1.5	...	...	1/82-12/82	17
1957	350	...	6.25	...	...	350	2.0	...	...	1/83-12/83	18½
1958	350	...	6.25	...	...	350	2.5	...	...	1/84-12/85	20
1/59-5/59	350	...	6.25	...	...	350	3.0	...	...	1/86-12/86	22½
6/59-12/59	400	...	6.75	...	...	400	3.75	...	...	1/87-12/87	24
1960-1961	400	...	6.75	...	...	400	3.75	...	...	1/88-6/91	26
1962	400	...	7.25	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	7/91-3/92	28½
1/63-10/63	400	...	7.25	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	4/92-12/93	31
11/63-12/64	450	...	7.25	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	1/94-12/94	30
1/65-9/65	450	...	8.125	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	1/95-12/95	33
10/65-12/65	450	...	7.125	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	1/96-12/96	34
1966	550	...	7.95	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	1/97-12/98	35
1967	550	...	8.65	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	1/99-12/99	27
1968	650	...	8.9	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	1/00-12/00	26½
1969-1970	650	...	9.55	...	...	400	4.0	...	...	1/01-12/01	26
1971	650	...	9.95	...	...	400	4.0	...	...		
1972	750	...	9.95	...	...	400	4.0	...	...		
1/1973-9/73	900	\$ 900	10.6	...	...	400	4.0	...	...		
10/73-12/73	900	900	5.85	9.5	...	400	4.0	...	...		
1974	1,100	1,100	5.85	9.5	...	400	4.0	...	...		
1975	1,175	1,175	5.85	9.5	...	400	4.0	...	...		
1976	1,275	1,275	5.85	9.5	...	400	5.5	...	...		
1977	1,375	1,375	5.85	9.5	...	400	8.0	...	...		
1978	1,475	1,475	6.05	9.5	...	400	8.0	...	...		
1979	1,908.33	1,575	6.13	9.5	...	400	7.0	...	...		
1980	2,158.33	1,700	6.13	9.5	...	400	5.5	...	...		
1/81-9/81	2,475	1,850	6.65	9.5	...	400	8.0	...	...		
10/81-12/81	2,475	1,850	6.65	11.75	2.0	400	8.0	...	...		
1982	2,700	2,025	6.7	11.75	2.0	400	8.0	...	...		
1983	2,975	2,225	6.7	11.75	2.0	400	8.0	...	...		
1984	3,150	2,350	[1] 7.0	12.75	2.75	600	8.0	...	...		
1985	39,600	29,700	7.05	13.75	3.5	600	8.0	...	...		
1/86-6/86	42,000	31,500	7.15	14.75	4.25	600	8.0	...	...		
7/86-12/86	42,000	31,500	7.15	14.75	4.25	600	8.0	\$3,500	4.3		
1987	43,800	32,700	7.15	14.75	4.25	600	8.0	7,000	4.7		
1988	45,000	33,600	7.51	16.1	4.9	600	8.0	7,000	6.0		
1989	48,000	35,700	7.51	16.1	4.9	710	8.0	710	4.0		
1990	51,300	38,100	7.65	16.1	4.9	745	8.0	745	4.0		

See footnotes at end of table.

**Tax Rates and Maximum Taxable Earnings Under Social Security,  
Railroad Retirement and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Programs, Continued**

Period	Railroad Retirement					Railroad Unemployment Insurance				Unemployment Repayment Tax [4]	
	Maximum earnings base [3]		Tax rate (percent) [3]			Maximum monthly taxable earnings	Employer tax rate [5] (percent)	Surcharge or (pooled credit)	New employer tax rate (percent)	Maximum taxable earnings	Employer tax rate (percent)
	Tier 1 [7]	Tier 2	Employer & employee each	Tier 2							
				Employer	Employee						
1991	53,400	39,600	7.65	16.1	4.9	765	5.55 - 12.0	...	8.00	765	4.0
1992	55,500	41,400	7.65	16.1	4.9	785	3.10 - 12.0	(3.12)	8.00	785	4.0
1993	57,600	42,900	7.65	16.1	4.9	810	0.65 - 12.0	(5.31)	7.30	810	4.0
1994	60,600	45,000	7.65	16.1	4.9	840	0.65 - 12.0	(0.22)	6.06		
1995	61,200	45,300	7.65	16.1	4.9	850	0.65 - 12.0	...	4.15		
1996	62,700	46,500	7.65	16.1	4.9	865	0.65 - 12.0	...	2.31		
1997	65,400	48,600	7.65	16.1	4.9	890	0.65 - 12.0	...	1.16		
1998	68,400	50,700	7.65	16.1	4.9	925	2.15 - 12.0	1.5	0.85		
1999	72,600	53,700	7.65	16.1	4.9	970	2.15 - 12.0	1.5	0.92		
2000	76,200	56,700	7.65	16.1	4.9	1,005	0.65 - 12.0	...	1.67		
2001	80,400	59,700	7.65	16.1	4.9	1,050	2.15 - 12.0	1.5	2.59		
2002	84,900	63,000	7.65	15.6	4.9	1,100	3.15 - 12.0	2.5	2.71		
2003	87,000	64,500	7.65	14.2	4.9	1,120	3.15 - 12.0	2.5	2.36		
2004	87,900	65,100	7.65	13.1	4.9	1,130	2.15 - 12.0	1.5	2.38		
2005 and later	[2]	[2]	7.65	[8]	[8]	[2]	[5]	[5]	[5]		

- 1 Before tax credit. Employees received a credit of 0.3 percent in 1984. The self-employed received a credit of 2.7 percent in 1984, 2.3 percent in 1985 and 2.0 percent in 1986-89.
- 2 Based on automatic adjustments in proportion to increases in average earnings levels.
- 3 Earnings bases are monthly through 1984 and annual for 1985 and later. October 1, 1973 was the effective date for the allocation of railroad retirement taxes by tiers, subject to a moratorium for certain railroad labor organizations. The tier 1 tax rate was set equal to the current social security tax rate.
- 4 This temporary tax applied to employers until all pre-October 1985 loans from the Railroad Retirement Account were fully repaid with interest on June 29, 1993. Earnings bases are annual through 1988 and monthly for 1989-1993.
- 5 Taxes are paid only by employer. From 1948 through 1988, the rate for a calendar year was based on a graduated schedule depending on the preceding September 30 account balance (including administration fund). Except for certain commuter railroads, the rate for 1989-1990 was fixed at 8.0 percent. Beginning in 1991, each employer's rate is experienced-based, with a minimum of 0.65 percent and a maximum of 12 percent, or 12.5 percent if a 3.5 percent surcharge applies due to a low account balance.
- 6 Taxes are paid only by employers. The supplemental annuity tax was repealed for calendar years after 2001.
- 7 Beginning in 1991, the portion of the tier 1 tax rate which does not exceed the social security HI tax rate is applied to earnings up to the HI maximum taxable amount. In 1993, a 1.45 percent tax applied to earnings up to \$135,000 and a 6.2 percent tax applied to earnings up to \$57,600.
- 8 Beginning in 2004, the tier 2 tax rate will be determined annually from a tax rate schedule based on the average account benefits ratio. The average account benefits ratio is the average for the 10 fiscal years preceding the calendar year of the ratio of the fair market value of the assets in the Railroad Retirement Account and the National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust as of the close of each fiscal year to the total benefits and administrative expenses paid from those accounts during the fiscal year. Employer tax rates can range from 8.2 percent to 22.1 percent. Employee tax rates can range from 0 percent to 4.9 percent.