

2025-2026 TAX SEASON AT A GLANCE

Tax Rates, Contribution Limits, and Other Important Data



Tax Year (TY) Deductions

	TY 2025	TY 2026
Married filing jointly	\$30,000	\$32,200
Head of household	\$22,500	\$24,150
Single	\$15,000	\$16,100
Married filing separately	\$15,000	\$16,100
Standard deduction for dependent	Greater of \$1,350 or \$450 + earned income	Greater of \$1,350 or \$450 + earned income

Top Income Tax Bracket (37%)

	TY 2025	TY 2026
Married filing jointly	\$751,600	\$768,700
Head of household	\$626,350	\$640,600
Single	\$626,350	\$640,600
Married filing separately	\$375,800	\$384,350

Long-Term Capital Gains and Qualified Dividends Rates at 20%

	TY 2025	TY 2026
Married filing jointly	\$600,050+	\$613,700+
Head of household	\$566,700+	\$579,600+
Single	\$533,400+	\$545,500+
Married filing separately	\$300,000+	\$306,850+

Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT)

Taxpayers who have incomes that exceed the AMT may be subject to the alternative minimum tax which in 2026 is 26%.

Maximum AMT exemption amount

	TY 2025	TY 2026
Married filing jointly	\$137,000	\$140,200
Single/Head of household	\$88,100	\$90,100

Exemption phaseout threshold

Married filing jointly	\$1,252,700	\$1,000,000
Single/Head of household	\$626,350	\$500,000

Kiddie Tax: Child's Unearned Income

In 2026, a child must pay taxes on their unearned income, however, if that amount is greater than \$2,700, it may be included as income on the parent's return. The first \$1,350 of unearned income is tax-free.

To calculate the kiddie tax, follow this formula:
Child's Net Earned Income (plus) Child's Net Unearned Income (minus) Child's Standard Deduction = Child's Taxable Income

Retirement Plans

	TY 2025	TY 2026
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Contribution limits

Traditional and Roth IRAs	\$7,000 (\$8,000 if you're aged 50 or older)	\$7,500 (\$8,600 if you're aged 50 or older)
401(k)	\$23,500	\$24,500
SIMPLE 401(k) and IRA	\$16,500 (age 49 or younger)	\$17,000 (age 49 or younger)
SIMPLE 401(k) and IRA	\$19,500 (age 50 or older)	\$21,000 (age 50 or older)

Roth IRA income phase out range (contributions)

Single/Head of household	\$150,000 - \$165,000	\$153,000 - \$168,000
Married filing jointly	\$236,000 - \$246,000	\$242,000 - \$252,000
Married filing separately (if lived with spouse at any time of the year)	\$0 - \$10,000	\$0 - \$10,000
Married filing separately (if did not live with spouse at all during year)	\$150,000 - \$165,000	\$153,000 - \$168,000

Traditional IRA income phase out range (deductibility)

1. Covered by an employer-sponsored plan and filing as:		
Single/Head of household	\$79,000 - \$89,000	\$81,000 - \$91,000
Married filing jointly	\$126,000 - \$146,000	\$129,000 - \$149,000
Married filing separately	\$0 - \$10,000	\$0 - \$10,000
2. Not covered by plan but filing joint return with covered spouse		
	\$236,000 - \$246,000	\$242,000 - \$252,000

Estate Planning

	TY 2025	TY 2026
Annual gift tax exclusion	\$19,000 per recipient	\$19,000 per recipient
Basic exclusion amount	\$13,990,000	\$15,000,000

401(k) Contribution Limit

Annual threshold	\$23,500	\$24,500
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Key Upcoming Dates 2026 Important Dates and Deadlines

Date	Description
Estimated January 24, 2026	IRS begins accepting tax returns
February 2, 2026	Due date for employers to send W-2 forms (this is the last day they send forms, not when you, the taxpayer, receive them.)
February 2, 2026	Forms 1099-K, 1099-C, 1099-DIV, 1099-INT, 1099-R, 1098, and 1098-T (Paper filing 3/2/2026, E-file deadline 3/31/2026)
February 2, 2026	1099-MISC (Nothing in Boxes 8 or 10) (Paper filing 3/2/2026, E-file deadline 3/31/2026)
February 2, 2026	1099-NEC (Paper filing and E-filing)
February 17, 2026	1099-MISC (With information in Boxes 8 or 10) (Paper filing deadline 3/2/2026, e-filing deadline 3/31/2026)
February 17, 2026	1099-B, 1099-S (Paper filing 3/2/2026, E-file deadline 3/31/2026)
March 2, 2026	ACA Forms 1095-C, 1095-B, 1094-C (Paper filing 3/2/2026, E-file deadline 3/31/2026)
March 16, 2026	The Form 1042-S filing deadline. This date applies for both filing with the IRS and furnishing copies to recipients.
April 15, 2026	Deadline to file your 2025 personal tax return (or an extension) If you file an extension you have until 10/15/2026 to submit your return.
April 15, 2026	Last day to make 2025 retirement contributions
April 15, 2026	First quarter estimated tax payment is due
June 15, 2026	Second quarter estimated tax payment is due
September 15, 2026	Third quarter estimated tax payment is due
October 15, 2026	Deadline to file your extended 2025 personal tax return (Remember, an extension of time to file your return does not give you an extension to pay your taxes)
January 15, 2027	Fourth quarter estimated tax payment is due

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