

Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data, Tax Year 2020

by Michael Parisi

This article presents selected income and tax items from individual income tax returns using preliminary data for Tax Year 2020 and comparable data for Tax Year 2019. The preliminary statistics in this data release are based on a stratified random sample of *U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns* (Forms 1040 and 1040-SR). These preliminary estimates are intended to represent a full year of taxpayer reporting based on returns processed for tax administration purposes from January to late September of 2020. To release more complete and accurate statistics that are closer to final ones, a new methodology was introduced modifying the preliminary data by applying a rolling 3-year average for the table in this release. For each AGI class cell, the rates of change from preliminary to final data for each of the prior 3 years were calculated and then averaged. This average was then applied to the current year preliminary data to calculate the estimated preliminary data. The totals were then created from the various cell parts. For Tax Year 2020, taxpayers filed 164.2 million U.S. individual income tax returns, which were filed primarily in 2021 (see Data Sources and Limitations), an increase of 2.8 percent from the 159.7 million returns filed for Tax Year 2019 (Table 1). For 2020, adjusted gross income (AGI) increased 3.0 percent to \$12.5 trillion. This increase in AGI was reflected by increases in some components of income, including increases in net capital gains (24.7 percent), taxable income from pensions and annuities (6.1 percent), taxable Social Security income (4.0 percent), and salaries and wages (0.3 percent). Taxable income also increased by 3.7 percent to \$9.7 trillion for 2020. Similarly, total income tax increased by 4.4 percent to \$1.7 trillion, and total tax liability increased by 4.0 percent to \$1.8 trillion.

Adjusted Gross Income

Some components contributed to the growth in total AGI in 2020 (Table 1). The largest component of AGI, salaries and wages, increased 0.3 percent to \$8,390.7 billion. The second largest component, net capital gains, increased 24.7 percent to \$1,198.5 billion. Taxable pensions and annuities increased 6.1 percent to \$816.1 billion. Another item related to retirement, taxable Social Security benefits, rose 4.0 percent to \$367.3 billion. Partnership and S corporation net income less loss rose to \$699.8 billion (1.9 percent). Alternatively, there were components of AGI that decreased in 2020. Taxable interest decreased appreciably by 21.4 percent to \$125.0 billion. Sole proprietorship net income decreased 13.7 percent to \$304.6 billion.

Unemployment compensation increased 1,825.2 percent to \$413.5 billion, as the number of tax returns reporting taxable unemployment compensation drastically increased 590.6 percent to 30.5 million returns. These major increases were results of the world-wide coronavirus pandemic.

Adjustments

Statutory adjustments to total income decreased 9.8 percent to \$134.6 billion for Tax Year 2020. The largest statutory adjustment was the deduction for the self-employment tax, which decreased 1.3 percent from \$33.3 billion to \$32.9 billion. The self-employment health insurance deduction fell to \$29.5 billion, a 6.3-percent decrease. Contributions to self-employed retirement (Keogh) plans decreased 1.5 percent to \$25.8 billion. Other adjustments that fell from 2019 levels were moving expenses (56.7 percent), student loan interest deduction (46.7 percent), alimony paid (31.8 percent), educator expenses (5.0 percent), and certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and fee-basis government officials (15.7 percent).

Deductions

In 2020, most tax returns (87.5 percent) claimed a standard deduction, and the total standard deduction increased 4.3 percent to \$2,495.2 billion. In 2019, standard deductions were taken on 88.1 percent of returns and totaled \$2,391.6 billion. The average standard deduction claimed increased from \$17,007 for 2019 to \$17,375 for 2020. Itemized deductions were claimed on only 9.3 percent of all returns for 2020.¹ The total amount of itemized deductions claimed decreased 6.4 percent to \$596.0 billion, while the average amount claimed increased 3.6 percent to \$38,911.

Interest paid, the largest itemized deduction, decreased 13.4 percent from the previous year to \$178.8 billion. Mortgage interest accounted for 87.8 percent (\$157.1 billion) of the total interest paid deduction. In previous years, the total taxes paid, which includes State and local income and sales taxes, was the largest itemized deduction. However, a tax law revision in 2018 limiting the deductions for State and local income and sales and property taxes to a combined, total deduction of \$10,000 (\$5,000 if married filing separately) made this no longer the case. For 2020, total taxes paid deduction decreased 11.0 percent to \$121.2 billion. Other itemized deductions included the medical and dental expenses deduction, down 0.6 percent to \$76.4 billion, and the charitable contributions deduction, up 3.0 percent to \$201.6 billion. For 2020, a taxpayer was able

¹ The remaining 3.2 percent of the returns did not need to claim either a standard deduction or itemized deductions because no AGI was reported, or the return was filed as married filing separately and the spouse itemized.



to elect a temporary suspension of certain limitations that applied to cash contributions made during the tax year. New for 2020, a taxpayer who didn't itemize deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A, may have qualified to take a deduction for charitable contributions on Form 1040. The maximum amount for the contributions was \$300 for single, head of household, qualifying widow(er), or married filing jointly (\$150 for married filing separately). This new deduction, a nonitemized, charitable contribution, was taken on 42.2 million (29.4 percent) of individual returns that opted to take the standard deduction for a total of \$10.9 billion.

The qualified business income deduction, which could have been taken in addition to the standard deduction or itemized deductions, was taken on 22.7 million returns (for an average of \$7,092 per return), totaling \$160.7 billion for 2020.

Taxable Income and Total Income Tax

Taxable income increased 3.7 percent to \$9.7 trillion for 2020, and total income tax increased 4.4 percent to \$1.7 trillion. The alternative minimum tax (AMT) increased 15.2 percent to \$3.0 billion. The number of returns with AMT liability fell, declining 5.7 percent from 2019.

Average AGI reported on all 2020 individual income tax returns was \$76,279, an increase from the 2019 amount of \$76,152 (0.2 percent). Average taxable income (for those returns with taxable income) was \$75,900 in 2020, a 2.1-percent increase from the 2019 amount of \$74,335. Average income tax for taxable returns rose 6.2 percent for 2020 to \$16,330.

Tax Credits

Tax credits offset tax liabilities, and when the amount of the credit is greater than the tax liability, the excess, depending on the credit, is often refundable. Examples of credits where the excess is refundable include the earned income tax credit (EIC) and the additional child tax credit. For 2020, the total amount of EIC claimed (\$60.0 billion) decreased 11.8 percent from 2019. Total child tax credits claimed (the sum of the child tax credit and additional child tax credit) for 2020 showed a decrease of 3.6 percent to \$113.0 billion. A new refundable credit for 2020 was the recovery rebate credit. If a taxpayer didn't receive the full amount of the recovery rebate credit as Economic Impact Payments (EIPs), they were able to claim the recovery rebate credit on their 2020 Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR. The total recovery rebate was taken on 31.1 million returns for 2020 and totaled \$45.3 billion. (See Changes in Law and Inflationary Adjustments below.) Including the refundable portion of the recovery rebate credit, total refundable credits totaled \$145.9 billion, an increase of 28.1 percent from 2019 levels. Total tax credits used against income tax totaled \$148.0 billion, a 5.7-percent increase from 2019.

Changes in Law and Inflationary Adjustments

In general, the definitions used in this article are the same as those in Publication 1304, *Individual Income Tax Returns Complete Report, 2019*. The following is a partial list of tax law

changes and inflationary adjustments that had an impact on the data presented in this article.

Alternative minimum tax (AMT)—The maximum AMT exemption increased from \$111,700 to \$113,400 for a married couple filing a joint return, from \$71,700 to \$72,900 for single filers and heads of household, and from \$55,850 to \$56,700 for a married person filing separately. The income levels at which the AMT exemption began to phase out increased to \$518,400 from \$510,300 (\$1,036,800 from \$1,020,600 if married filing jointly or a qualifying widow(er)). Also, for 2020, the 26-percent tax rate applied to the first \$197,900 (\$98,950 if married filing separately) of alternative minimum taxable income. Previously it applied to the first \$194,800 (\$97,400) of such income.

Charitable contributions—A taxpayer who didn't itemize deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A, may have qualified to take a deduction for charitable contributions on Form 1040, line 10b. The maximum amount for the contributions was \$300 for single, head of household, qualifying widow(er), or married filing jointly (\$150 for married filing separately). Also, for 2020 a taxpayer was able to elect a temporary suspension of certain limitations that applied to cash contributions made during the tax year. Thus, cash contributions to qualified organizations were not subject to any AGI limitation, while previously, they were limited to 60 percent of AGI.

Earned income credit—The maximum amount of the earned income credit increased, as did the amounts of earned income and investment income an individual could receive and still claim the credit. The maximum credit for taxpayers with no qualifying children rose slightly from \$529 to \$538. For these taxpayers, earned income and AGI had to be less than \$15,820 (\$21,710 if married filing jointly) to be eligible for the EIC. For taxpayers with one qualifying child, the maximum credit increased from \$3,526 to \$3,584, and, for taxpayers with two qualifying children, the maximum credit increased from \$5,828 to \$5,920. To be eligible for the credit, a taxpayer's earned income and AGI had to be less than \$41,756 (\$47,646 for married filing jointly) for one qualifying child, or less than \$47,440 (\$53,330 for married filing jointly) for two qualifying children. The maximum credit for taxpayers with three or more qualifying children increased from \$6,557 to \$6,660. For these taxpayers, earned income and AGI had to be less than \$50,954 (\$56,844 if married filing jointly) to be eligible for the EIC. The maximum amount of investment income (interest, dividends, and capital gain income) a taxpayer could have and still claim the credit was \$3,650 for the year. If two taxpayers could claim the same qualifying child, the taxpayer who did not claim the child was able to claim the EIC without a qualifying child.

Economic impact payments (EIP) and recovery rebate credit—The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) provided an eligible individual for their first taxable year beginning in 2020 a refundable tax credit referred to as the recovery rebate credit. The IRS refers to the advance refund of this credit as an economic impact payment (EIP). There were two rounds of EIPs paid out to individuals. The first round of EIP was up to \$1,200 (\$2,400 for eligible individuals

filing a joint tax return), plus \$500 per qualifying child of the eligible individual. The second round of EIP was up to \$600 (\$1,200 for eligible individuals filing a joint tax return), plus \$600 per qualifying child of the eligible individual. Any EIPs received by the taxpayer were not taxable for the federal income tax purposes, but they did reduce the amount of a taxpayer's recovery rebate credit. The EIPs were based on a taxpayer's 2018 or 2019 tax year information. The credit phased out at a rate of 5 percent of the taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI) in excess of a threshold. The threshold was \$150,000 in the case of a joint return, \$112,500 in the case of a head of household, and \$75,000 otherwise. Those ineligible for the credit were (1) non-resident alien individuals, (2) individuals who can be claimed as a dependent by another taxpayer, and (3) an estate or trust. When spouses filed jointly, both spouses must have had a valid social security number (SSN) to receive the credit, unless either spouse was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the taxable year. In that case, only one spouse needed to have a valid SSN. The recovery rebate credit was figured like the EIPs except the credit eligibility and credit amount were based on 2020 tax year information. If a taxpayer didn't receive the full amount of the recovery rebate credit as EIPs, they were able to claim the recovery rebate credit on their 2020 Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR.

Excess advance premium tax credit (APTC) repayment—The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, passed on March 11, 2021, suspended the repayment of excess APTC amounts for 2020. When filling out Form 8962, *Premium Tax Credit*, taxpayers who owed this repayment were instructed to delete the form. Taxpayers who had already filed their returns had this amount reimbursed but are included in the data in this report.

Qualified sick and family leave credit—The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) helped self-employed individuals affected by coronavirus. The FFCRA provided paid sick leave and paid family leave credits equivalent to those that employers were required to provide their employees for qualified sick leave wages and qualified family leave wages paid during the period beginning April 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2020.

Standard deduction amount—The standard deduction for people who did not itemize deductions on Schedule A of Form 1040 was increased in 2020 for all filers. This amount depended on the taxpayer's filing status, whether the taxpayer was age 65 or older, or whether the taxpayer was a dependent of another person. For 2020, the standard deduction increased to \$24,800 for joint filers, up from \$24,400 for 2019. For single filers and married filers filing separately, the deduction amount increased

to \$12,400, up from \$12,200. For heads of households, the deduction was \$18,650, up from \$18,350.

Unemployment compensation exclusion—The American Rescue Plan of 2021, allowed a taxpayer to exclude up to \$10,200 of unemployment compensation from income. The \$10,200 of unemployment compensation could have been excluded if the taxpayer's modified adjusted gross income was less than \$150,000. The \$150,000 threshold applied to all filing statuses, including married filing jointly. For taxpayers who filed a joint return, up to \$10,200 of unemployment compensation could have been excluded for each spouse. The American Rescue Plan of 2021 was passed on March 11, 2021, and therefore these data will not include any unemployment income exclusion from returns filed previous to this date. Taxpayer(s) had to file an amended return to receive the exclusion. For some deductions and exclusions from income, the taxpayer figured their adjusted gross income unreduced by the amount of unemployment compensation exclusion. These included taxable Social Security benefits, student loan interest deduction, and tuition and fees deduction.

Data Sources and Limitations

The preliminary statistics in this data release are based on a sample of *U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns* (Forms 1040 and Form 1040-SR) filed during Calendar Year 2021. Returns in the sample were stratified based on: (1) the larger of positive income or negative income; (2) the size of business and farm receipts; and (3) the presence or absence of specific forms or schedules.² Returns were then selected at rates ranging from 0.1 percent to 100 percent. The preliminary Tax Year 2020 data are based on a sample of 270,572 returns and an estimated final population of 166,127,472 returns.

Since the data presented here are estimates based on a sample of returns filed, they are subject to sampling error. To use the statistical data provided properly, the magnitude of the potential sampling error must be known; coefficients of variation (CVs) are used to measure that magnitude. [The reliability of estimates based on samples, and the use of coefficients of variation for evaluating the precision of estimates based on samples, are discussed in "SOI Sampling Methodology and Data Limitations," located at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-soi/sampling.pdf>.]

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² Returns in the sample were stratified based on the presence or absence of one or more of the following forms or schedules: Form 2555, *Foreign Earned Income*; Form 1116, *Foreign Tax Credit (Individual, Fiduciary, or Nonresident Alien Individual)*; Schedule C, *Profit or Loss from Business (Sole Proprietorship)*; and Schedule F, *Profit or Loss from Farming*.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income

[All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	All returns			Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income	
	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020	Percent difference	Under \$15,000 [1]	\$15,000 under \$30,000
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Number of returns, total	159,708,062	164,187,262	2.8	35,834,267	29,569,022
Adjusted gross income (less deficit)	12,162,088,518	12,524,081,586	3.0	-1,474,424	662,153,779
Salaries and wages:					
Number of returns	132,614,038	130,600,582	-1.5	21,427,296	23,725,009
Amount	8,362,462,946	8,390,686,567	0.3	186,854,536	468,328,553
Taxable interest:					
Number of returns	48,583,228	48,007,435	-1.2	5,551,614	4,415,344
Amount	159,012,870	125,048,893	-21.4	8,792,210	3,838,959
Tax-exempt interest [2]:					
Number of returns	6,237,845	6,434,215	3.1	467,260	330,330
Amount	60,094,048	78,653,929	30.9	8,635,003	7,509,551
Ordinary dividends:					
Number of returns	28,917,971	30,906,564	6.9	3,312,624	2,448,650
Amount	331,669,428	328,354,410	-1.0	10,811,352	5,677,537
Qualified dividends:					
Number of returns	26,797,566	28,873,920	7.7	3,000,831	2,237,039
Amount	248,004,934	258,943,208	4.4	6,959,195	3,691,075
State income tax refunds:					
Number of returns	4,166,575	3,695,635	-11.3	116,516	140,155
Amount	10,735,450	4,191,565	-61.0	124,720	149,178
Alimony received:					
Number of returns	332,906	316,887	-4.8	36,795	52,489
Amount	10,884,494	9,988,557	-8.2	330,691	691,826
Business or profession net income less loss (Schedule C):					
Number of returns	27,028,133	27,455,060	1.6	6,740,309	5,060,673
Amount	353,012,362	304,598,033	-13.7	-22,876,429	33,258,558
Net capital gain [3]:					
Number of returns	18,038,740	19,337,347	7.2	1,671,725	1,415,120
Amount	961,360,974	1,198,537,628	24.7	13,678,176	5,325,826
Capital gain distributions [3]:					
Number of returns	13,905,039	14,772,459	6.2	1,431,855	1,075,381
Amount	68,950,725	64,777,609	-6.1	2,263,642	1,819,784
Net capital loss:					
Number of returns	7,857,235	9,192,630	17.0	1,446,816	783,304
Amount	16,239,133	19,343,761	19.1	3,114,032	1,487,488
Sales of property other than capital assets, net gain:					
Number of returns	1,021,401	989,881	-3.1	101,522	59,031
Amount	47,619,238	46,580,921	-2.2	3,540,811	559,434
Sales of property other than capital assets, net loss:					
Number of returns	1,005,801	916,713	-8.9	146,781	61,907
Amount	18,504,807	17,853,190	-3.5	9,138,457	398,143
Taxable income from individual retirement arrangement (IRA) distributions:					
Number of returns	15,572,863	13,019,775	-16.4	1,646,965	1,564,366
Amount	324,592,798	286,146,123	-11.8	11,080,926	13,907,729
Taxable pensions and annuities:					
Number of returns	28,079,366	30,237,093	7.7	3,597,943	3,966,684
Amount	769,164,444	816,108,529	6.1	25,355,486	50,114,393
Rent and royalty net income less loss:					
Number of returns	9,772,103	9,477,092	-3.0	1,227,979	823,133
Amount	58,560,681	43,289,967	-26.1	-6,439,546	478,795

Footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income—Continued
 [All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	All returns			Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income	
	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020	Percent difference	Under \$15,000 [1]	\$15,000 under \$30,000
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Partnership and S corporation net income less loss:					
Number of returns	8,925,048	8,884,681	-0.5	891,865	567,732
Amount	686,577,116	699,782,827	1.9	-81,009,060	1,200,657
Estate and trust net income less loss:					
Number of returns	662,036	643,877	-2.7	42,501	43,387
Amount	35,937,196	30,390,540	-15.4	-2,053,246	296,886
Farm net income (Schedule F):					
Number of returns	443,072	463,321	4.6	79,813	38,868
Amount	10,504,527	12,203,109	16.2	1,202,947	521,838
Farm net loss (Schedule F):					
Number of returns	1,301,005	1,254,828	-3.5	218,145	121,675
Amount	35,652,857	35,179,960	-1.3	10,227,372	2,367,700
Unemployment compensation [4]:					
Number of returns	4,409,091	30,450,880	590.6	4,955,021	8,253,930
Amount	21,476,073	413,462,280	1,825.2	59,485,622	113,602,595
Unemployment compensation exclusion [4]:					
Number of returns	N/A	14,128,294	[9]	3,525,847	3,399,653
Amount	N/A	125,650,477	[9]	31,677,057	30,720,136
Taxable Social Security benefits:					
Number of returns	22,104,203	22,764,997	3.0	497,224	3,759,659
Amount	353,191,663	367,328,550	4.0	935,711	10,993,720
Nonitemized charitable contributions:					
Number of returns	N/A	42,178,737	[9]	4,653,735	5,397,485
Amount	N/A	10,889,467	[9]	1,101,030	1,332,662
Total statutory adjustments:					
Number of returns	39,387,983	36,667,242	-6.9	6,088,031	5,317,908
Amount	149,165,805	134,552,587	-9.8	7,215,395	10,605,851
Educator expenses:					
Number of returns	3,683,119	3,438,199	-6.6	60,299	187,464
Amount	951,765	904,103	-5.0	14,135	43,029
Certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and fee-basis government officials:					
Number of returns	340,170	311,049	-8.6	17,111	57,190
Amount	2,762,999	2,329,303	-15.7	181,057	517,564
Payments to an Individual Retirement Arrangement:					
Number of returns	2,450,008	2,448,381	-0.1	112,923	260,023
Amount	12,575,760	13,431,087	6.8	483,138	1,030,551
Student loan interest deduction:					
Number of returns	13,156,396	10,204,642	-22.4	543,598	1,090,260
Amount	14,597,938	7,784,507	-46.7	435,957	760,176
Tuition and fees deduction:					
Number of returns	1,341,000	1,407,265	4.9	489,913	209,006
Amount	3,160,388	3,454,513	9.3	1,565,021	513,461
Health savings account deduction:					
Number of returns	2,041,815	2,013,473	-1.4	40,578	115,564
Amount	5,763,998	5,890,930	2.2	117,732	210,532
Moving expenses adjustment:					
Number of returns	107,753	82,804	-23.2	* 6,784	14,302
Amount	400,605	173,324	-56.7	* 14,648	17,271
Self-employment tax deduction:					
Number of returns	20,222,921	20,071,238	-0.8	4,941,949	3,758,613
Amount	33,310,351	32,886,721	-1.3	2,606,914	3,501,088

Footnotes at end of table.

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	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020	Percent difference	Under \$15,000 [1]	\$15,000 under \$30,000
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Self-employed health insurance deduction:					
Number of returns	3,801,653	3,586,172	-5.7	373,863	335,087
Amount	31,463,376	29,485,701	-6.3	1,519,905	1,182,331
Payments to a self-employed retirement (Keogh) plan:					
Number of returns	964,477	937,228	-2.8	14,354	16,790
Amount	26,146,987	25,763,784	-1.5	182,644	159,858
Penalty on early withdrawal of savings:					
Number of returns	496,200	382,364	-22.9	57,818	46,561
Amount	316,034	337,269	6.7	22,569	165,838
Alimony paid:					
Number of returns	490,824	404,967	-17.5	39,300	16,010
Amount	14,695,213	10,023,352	-31.8	517,536	117,724
Total standard deduction:					
Number of returns	140,623,723	143,605,871	2.1	30,398,527	28,912,198
Amount	2,391,573,952	2,495,179,737	4.3	402,015,682	455,111,475
Total itemized deductions (after limitation):					
Number of returns	16,957,524	15,317,687	-9.7	328,479	627,867
Amount	637,018,782	596,026,916	-6.4	8,687,277	16,742,789
Medical and dental expenses deduction:					
Number of returns	4,256,746	3,886,536	-8.7	251,623	433,973
Amount	76,871,103	76,406,887	-0.6	5,262,624	8,660,037
Taxes paid deduction [5]:					
Number of returns	16,840,333	15,198,581	-9.7	322,623	608,043
Amount	136,125,429	121,217,785	-11.0	1,342,888	2,729,777
Income taxes [6]:					
Number of returns	12,420,103	11,054,722	-11.0	109,059	245,177
Amount	207,621,336	205,865,955	-0.8	234,744	529,102
General sales taxes [6]:					
Number of returns	3,999,634	3,743,071	-6.4	184,882	322,167
Amount	8,951,203	9,164,513	2.4	130,231	327,892
Interest paid deduction:					
Number of returns	13,969,357	12,398,715	-11.2	173,362	331,488
Amount	206,460,852	178,795,299	-13.4	1,692,541	3,351,792
Total mortgage interest paid deduction:					
Number of returns	13,687,701	12,157,952	-11.2	164,445	323,253
Amount	181,727,575	157,053,165	-13.6	1,598,779	3,018,126
Charitable contributions deduction:					
Number of returns	14,155,423	12,448,778	-12.1	175,062	403,160
Amount	195,858,830	201,639,287	3.0	355,273	1,480,287
Qualified business income deduction:					
Number of returns	22,774,877	22,658,245	-0.5	490,258	2,779,116
Amount	165,938,928	160,696,029	-3.2	112,641	2,426,697
Taxable income:					
Number of returns	125,720,612	127,723,634	1.6	4,152,017	25,038,328
Amount	9,345,426,106	9,694,281,789	3.7	6,916,472	209,411,529
Alternative minimum tax:					
Number of returns	150,514	141,956	-5.7	3,971	* 1,400
Amount	2,615,458	3,013,088	15.2	200,243	* 6,721
Excess advance premium tax credit repayment [7]:					
Number of returns	2,886,156	1,865,432	-35.4	177,522	575,917
Amount	4,225,809	1,819,405	-56.9	53,611	233,142

Footnotes at end of table.

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	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020	Percent difference	Under \$15,000 [1]	\$15,000 under \$30,000
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Income tax before credits:					
Number of returns	125,218,637	127,081,774	1.5	4,091,549	24,785,675
Amount	1,723,905,856	1,797,921,435	4.3	964,019	21,546,542
Total tax credits [8]:					
Number of returns	61,291,235	69,261,903	13.0	2,294,544	14,374,840
Amount	140,009,526	147,975,810	5.7	278,071	8,325,412
Child care credit:					
Number of returns	6,594,704	5,088,208	-22.8	11,287	397,690
Amount	3,900,134	2,841,865	-27.1	1,427	179,326
Credit for the elderly or disabled:					
Number of returns	40,750	44,389	8.9	9,872	34,517
Amount	4,145	3,859	-6.9	1,115	2,744
Child and other dependent tax credit:					
Number of returns	38,796,534	37,615,063	-3.0	205,637	5,648,001
Amount	79,619,957	78,965,342	-0.8	32,356	3,098,320
Education tax credits:					
Number of returns	8,090,346	7,484,754	-7.5	249,515	1,959,155
Amount	8,758,629	7,919,700	-9.6	34,587	1,376,020
Retirement savings contributions credit:					
Number of returns	10,097,107	9,567,953	-5.2	231,243	3,878,172
Amount	1,920,761	1,785,015	-7.1	25,306	721,131
Adoption credit:					
Number of returns	55,097	57,021	3.5	0	0
Amount	311,188	321,242	3.2	0	0
Residential energy credits:					
Number of returns	1,949,399	2,293,297	17.6	7,377	125,662
Amount	3,516,252	3,894,398	10.8	1,815	70,899
Foreign tax credit:					
Number of returns	9,485,170	9,155,934	-3.5	78,221	359,971
Amount	23,471,413	19,075,942	-18.7	3,424	49,819
General business credit:					
Number of returns	438,818	419,651	-4.4	1,017	* 5,914
Amount	5,508,350	4,478,091	-18.7	18,779	* 3,264
Prior year minimum tax credit:					
Number of returns	236,445	136,218	-42.4	* 23	* 1,322
Amount	1,601,797	1,392,309	-13.1	* 3	* 1,234
Qualified sick and family leave credit:					
Number of returns	N/A	987,812	[9]	281,660	285,759
Amount	N/A	1,840,557	[9]	259,452	502,062
Total refundable credits:					
Number of returns	38,044,681	58,516,827	53.8	19,997,218	13,987,502
Amount	113,862,699	145,862,406	28.1	39,746,834	54,352,526
Total earned income credit (EIC):					
Number of returns	27,916,013	26,251,292	-6.0	11,008,176	8,260,733
Amount	68,099,946	60,035,574	-11.8	16,484,803	30,585,942
Total additional child tax credit:					
Number of returns	20,869,007	19,295,141	-7.5	3,728,004	7,142,365
Amount	37,564,327	33,991,201	-9.5	4,771,400	13,052,101
Total American opportunity credit:					
Number of returns	7,126,648	6,511,365	-8.6	1,305,776	1,501,351
Amount	6,236,974	5,667,491	-9.1	1,119,379	1,250,899
Total recovery rebate credit:					
Number of returns	N/A	31,058,505	[9]	11,098,443	5,994,879
Amount	N/A	45,315,829	[9]	17,233,277	9,187,667

Footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income—Continued

[All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	All returns			Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income	
	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020	Percent difference	Under \$15,000 [1]	\$15,000 under \$30,000
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Total net premium tax credit:					
Number of returns	2,104,993	2,277,307	8.2	903,028	778,764
Amount	1,922,472	2,129,615	10.8	707,846	630,506
Total premium tax credit:					
Number of returns	5,037,474	4,311,926	-14.4	1,262,220	1,487,948
Amount	39,634,642	33,030,180	-16.7	10,254,382	10,928,619
Advance payment of premium tax credit:					
Number of returns	5,569,661	4,567,117	-18.0	1,296,803	1,495,731
Amount	43,503,529	33,878,109	-22.1	9,950,346	10,824,753
Self-employment tax:					
Number of returns	20,222,921	20,071,238	-0.8	4,941,949	3,758,613
Amount	66,609,003	65,762,892	-1.3	5,211,027	7,000,109
Total additional Medicare tax:					
Number of returns	4,840,253	5,129,682	6.0	18,859	1,270
Amount	10,495,016	11,290,042	7.6	37,251	1,040
Net investment income tax:					
Number of returns	5,460,297	5,635,964	3.2	0	0
Amount	29,734,884	34,613,614	16.4	0	0
Total income tax:					
Number of returns	104,729,660	102,995,456	-1.7	2,089,648	14,141,296
Amount	1,610,402,128	1,681,950,997	4.4	645,457	12,976,045
Total tax liability:					
Number of returns	109,430,892	107,341,949	-1.9	4,657,987	14,991,541
Amount	1,688,432,923	1,756,632,400	4.0	3,085,504	16,445,754

Footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income—Continued

[All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income				
	\$30,000 under \$50,000	\$50,000 under \$100,000	\$100,000 under \$200,000	\$200,000 under \$250,000	\$250,000 or more
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Number of returns, total	30,326,255	36,843,914	22,276,344	3,162,978	6,174,481
Adjusted gross income (less deficit)	1,188,013,378	2,623,258,858	3,039,848,982	703,500,542	4,308,780,471
Salaries and wages:					
Number of returns	26,364,534	31,431,956	19,392,376	2,807,304	5,452,106
Amount	929,660,002	1,970,016,354	2,244,002,694	508,799,742	2,083,024,685
Taxable interest:					
Number of returns	5,800,942	12,786,903	12,170,740	2,204,448	5,077,443
Amount	4,890,035	14,091,552	17,790,603	5,090,214	70,555,321
Tax-exempt interest [2]:					
Number of returns	494,762	1,461,858	1,742,127	403,324	1,534,552
Amount	6,991,662	7,468,353	7,427,988	4,805,693	35,815,679
Ordinary dividends:					
Number of returns	3,172,890	7,709,393	8,137,454	1,704,682	4,420,873
Amount	8,510,432	30,495,516	48,543,308	15,502,409	208,813,856
Qualified dividends:					
Number of returns	2,930,979	7,182,004	7,645,698	1,625,501	4,251,869
Amount	5,759,185	21,680,874	36,434,481	12,218,050	172,200,348
State income tax refunds:					
Number of returns	445,891	1,539,406	1,190,628	114,253	148,786
Amount	361,509	1,446,528	1,437,933	193,379	478,319
Alimony received:					
Number of returns	68,639	98,210	44,156	6,748	9,849
Amount	1,047,433	2,270,923	2,863,242	870,198	1,914,245
Business or profession net income less loss (Schedule C):					
Number of returns	4,030,330	5,427,824	4,083,880	658,842	1,453,202
Amount	27,849,282	58,343,768	72,168,357	21,526,716	114,327,781
Net capital gain [3]:					
Number of returns	1,950,365	4,776,086	5,083,489	1,157,007	3,283,554
Amount	9,211,529	34,848,488	76,971,663	35,545,530	1,022,956,416
Capital gain distributions [3]:					
Number of returns	1,394,628	3,629,064	3,919,354	840,545	2,481,633
Amount	2,558,915	9,714,284	16,325,024	4,565,711	27,530,248
Net capital loss:					
Number of returns	938,488	2,102,321	2,230,393	466,380	1,224,927
Amount	1,835,079	4,275,775	4,659,155	1,017,117	2,955,114
Sales of property other than capital assets, net gain:					
Number of returns	71,954	199,120	222,120	54,316	281,817
Amount	637,926	2,413,165	4,376,160	1,825,797	33,227,629
Sales of property other than capital assets, net loss:					
Number of returns	70,336	163,125	187,856	53,045	233,663
Amount	713,020	1,138,264	1,245,470	583,098	4,636,737
Taxable income from individual retirement arrangement (IRA) distributions:					
Number of returns	1,727,376	3,741,768	3,064,206	452,707	822,387
Amount	19,879,096	63,810,580	92,643,346	20,228,888	64,595,558
Taxable pensions and annuities:					
Number of returns	4,773,562	9,212,455	6,575,820	843,601	1,267,028
Amount	83,372,125	251,538,733	280,233,756	47,381,044	78,112,993
Rent and royalty net income less loss:					
Number of returns	1,053,124	2,482,371	2,383,291	362,347	1,144,848
Amount	473,558	2,605,664	11,291,020	4,080,988	30,799,488

Footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income—Continued

[All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income				
	\$30,000 under \$50,000	\$50,000 under \$100,000	\$100,000 under \$200,000	\$200,000 under \$250,000	\$250,000 or more
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Partnership and S corporation net income less loss:					
Number of returns	732,211	1,699,705	2,255,231	554,134	2,183,803
Amount	3,900,510	17,876,289	55,073,575	27,665,405	675,075,453
Estate and trust net income less loss:					
Number of returns	46,188	129,953	188,845	35,680	157,323
Amount	336,550	1,679,291	4,631,912	1,380,316	24,118,831
Farm net income (Schedule F):					
Number of returns	58,767	113,785	116,872	13,318	41,899
Amount	1,031,475	2,404,581	3,164,946	714,715	3,162,607
Farm net loss (Schedule F):					
Number of returns	147,573	352,914	296,497	35,324	82,700
Amount	2,750,978	6,658,450	6,211,991	1,143,133	5,820,338
Unemployment compensation [4]:					
Number of returns	6,853,982	6,316,820	3,259,853	352,049	459,225
Amount	100,107,812	86,934,727	42,649,809	4,648,629	6,033,087
Unemployment compensation exclusion [4]:					
Number of returns	2,726,743	3,029,041	1,445,420	735	855
Amount	24,221,359	26,547,447	12,473,817	3,598	7,063
Taxable Social Security benefits:					
Number of returns	4,350,745	7,718,354	4,828,058	585,195	1,025,761
Amount	38,115,011	143,084,925	125,933,519	16,423,863	31,841,802
Nonitemized charitable contributions:					
Number of returns	6,962,158	12,154,429	9,564,191	1,334,053	2,112,688
Amount	1,738,177	3,171,865	2,585,172	369,943	590,618
Total statutory adjustments:					
Number of returns	5,910,124	9,319,545	6,992,044	873,739	2,165,851
Amount	11,016,471	23,965,343	29,010,426	7,848,367	44,890,733
Educator expenses:					
Number of returns	542,691	1,127,848	1,206,487	152,867	160,541
Amount	130,946	292,993	340,690	41,624	40,685
Certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and fee-basis government officials:					
Number of returns	70,307	98,998	58,570	5,328	3,545
Amount	602,686	701,803	269,096	34,440	22,658
Payments to an Individual Retirement Arrangement:					
Number of returns	458,248	762,805	685,071	59,078	110,234
Amount	1,969,893	4,053,541	4,232,995	505,715	1,155,255
Student loan interest deduction:					
Number of returns	2,347,822	3,947,127	2,275,834	0	0
Amount	1,714,131	2,988,567	1,885,676	0	0
Tuition and fees deduction:					
Number of returns	83,682	259,614	365,049	0	0
Amount	224,659	450,664	700,709	0	0
Health savings account deduction:					
Number of returns	280,807	544,256	552,985	121,433	357,850
Amount	508,206	1,287,738	1,621,916	435,264	1,709,541
Moving expenses adjustment:					
Number of returns	22,776	26,969	8,917	* 1,714	* 1,342
Amount	34,943	77,340	19,721	* 7,063	* 2,338
Self-employment tax deduction:					
Number of returns	2,670,066	3,747,830	2,933,647	535,740	1,483,392
Amount	3,309,091	6,079,180	6,670,736	1,790,754	8,928,959

Footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income—Continued
 [All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income—continued				
	\$30,000 under \$50,000	\$50,000 under \$100,000	\$100,000 under \$200,000	\$200,000 under \$250,000	\$250,000 or more
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Self-employed health insurance deduction:					
Number of returns	366,597	790,963	793,783	193,717	732,163
Amount	1,536,705	4,905,590	7,238,106	2,207,292	10,895,771
Payments to a self-employed retirement (Keogh) plan:					
Number of returns	34,070	116,265	233,409	83,987	438,354
Amount	479,317	1,286,008	4,320,338	1,898,280	17,437,338
Penalty on early withdrawal of savings:					
Number of returns	60,161	102,635	80,421	10,146	24,621
Amount	15,404	74,128	31,444	4,137	23,750
Alimony paid:					
Number of returns	33,659	100,814	114,355	29,479	71,350
Amount	292,235	1,435,160	2,119,512	903,958	4,637,225
Total standard deduction:					
Number of returns	28,992,598	32,685,973	17,475,637	2,084,552	3,056,387
Amount	480,358,032	631,816,283	403,565,558	49,557,728	72,754,979
Total itemized deductions (after limitation):					
Number of returns	1,296,607	4,124,268	4,754,608	1,092,061	3,093,796
Amount	32,476,513	107,293,300	147,878,863	38,274,615	244,673,559
Medical and dental expenses deduction:					
Number of returns	683,161	1,390,630	930,166	95,410	101,574
Amount	10,927,587	25,524,604	18,880,879	2,372,842	4,778,314
Taxes paid deduction [5]:					
Number of returns	1,259,286	4,089,905	4,737,827	1,089,789	3,091,108
Amount	6,780,306	28,263,599	42,295,317	10,488,202	29,317,696
Income taxes [6]:					
Number of returns	727,103	2,896,642	3,777,351	870,141	2,429,250
Amount	1,693,849	11,333,673	29,314,126	11,237,735	151,522,725
General sales taxes [6]:					
Number of returns	479,177	1,062,397	870,297	201,980	622,171
Amount	753,407	1,884,371	2,038,336	484,425	3,545,851
Interest paid deduction:					
Number of returns	829,960	3,236,976	4,093,542	969,060	2,764,327
Amount	8,728,376	33,325,585	50,804,962	14,947,624	65,944,419
Total mortgage interest paid deduction:					
Number of returns	812,880	3,207,183	4,058,051	954,716	2,637,423
Amount	7,855,871	30,929,880	49,438,855	14,554,255	49,657,400
Charitable contributions deduction:					
Number of returns	928,912	3,130,954	4,045,658	970,902	2,794,129
Amount	4,684,442	17,981,534	31,609,755	9,431,638	136,096,359
Qualified business income deduction:					
Number of returns	3,237,486	5,969,610	5,762,039	1,173,320	3,246,416
Amount	5,514,494	15,525,381	26,909,979	8,902,556	101,304,280
Taxable income:					
Number of returns	30,181,540	36,758,368	22,261,424	3,161,578	6,170,380
Amount	670,971,600	1,869,278,420	2,460,001,957	606,746,893	3,870,954,918
Alternative minimum tax:					
Number of returns	* 111	3,955	11,632	6,279	114,608
Amount	* 470	10,190	72,746	40,399	2,682,319
Excess advance premium tax credit repayment [7]:					
Number of returns	665,223	380,911	52,854	4,941	8,064
Amount	485,370	736,074	228,340	21,565	61,303

Footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income—Continued
 [All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income—continued				
	\$30,000 under \$50,000	\$50,000 under \$100,000	\$100,000 under \$200,000	\$200,000 under \$250,000	\$250,000 or more
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Income tax before credits:					
Number of returns	29,985,572	36,646,579	22,241,914	3,160,238	6,170,249
Amount	73,078,626	234,746,633	373,521,814	109,572,084	984,491,717
Total tax credits [8]:					
Number of returns	14,930,808	18,550,378	13,188,800	1,960,818	3,961,716
Amount	21,550,535	42,838,871	41,202,704	6,008,055	27,772,161
Child care credit:					
Number of returns	910,341	1,400,511	1,560,736	297,509	510,134
Amount	522,410	787,457	902,579	170,537	278,129
Credit for the elderly or disabled:					
Number of returns	0	0	0	0	0
Amount	0	0	0	0	0
Child and other dependent tax credit:					
Number of returns	9,224,032	11,897,513	9,253,925	1,385,956	0
Amount	13,602,277	30,581,644	27,422,620	4,228,124	0
Education tax credits:					
Number of returns	1,796,927	2,103,329	1,375,828	0	0
Amount	2,020,435	2,607,950	1,880,707	0	0
Retirement savings contributions credit:					
Number of returns	3,958,273	1,500,265	0	0	0
Amount	784,068	254,511	0	0	0
Adoption credit:					
Number of returns	0	33,909	21,246	1,246	620
Amount	0	120,726	182,506	17,079	931
Residential energy credits:					
Number of returns	317,923	859,446	688,500	116,182	178,207
Amount	260,816	1,213,102	1,532,306	266,758	548,701
Foreign tax credit:					
Number of returns	764,644	2,252,748	2,726,564	674,264	2,299,523
Amount	136,270	659,385	1,633,045	692,775	15,901,225
General business credit:					
Number of returns	21,052	67,425	82,780	30,588	210,874
Amount	34,848	150,467	342,668	149,833	3,778,230
Prior year minimum tax credit:					
Number of returns	4,772	17,054	19,011	15,039	78,997
Amount	9,677	37,152	85,257	72,372	1,186,613
Qualified sick and family leave credit:					
Number of returns	164,748	134,760	77,973	16,628	26,285
Amount	375,148	323,857	190,576	73,014	116,448
Total refundable credits:					
Number of returns	11,000,997	8,466,193	4,972,478	87,975	4,464
Amount	31,945,195	12,528,509	7,227,779	49,620	11,943
Total earned income credit (EIC):					
Number of returns	6,631,963	350,420	0	0	0
Amount	12,776,507	188,322	0	0	0
Total additional child tax credit:					
Number of returns	6,117,796	2,210,336	94,041	2,598	0
Amount	11,830,134	4,114,704	216,515	6,347	0
Total American opportunity credit:					
Number of returns	1,128,543	1,422,004	1,153,690	0	0
Amount	965,623	1,252,842	1,078,748	0	0
Total recovery rebate credit:					
Number of returns	4,210,206	5,624,010	4,038,840	92,127	0
Amount	6,056,802	6,801,162	5,992,699	44,222	0

Footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data for Tax Years 2019 and 2020: Selected Income and Tax Items, by Size of Adjusted Gross Income—Continued

[All figures are estimates based on samples—money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

Item	Tax Year 2020, by size of adjusted gross income—continued				
	\$30,000 under \$50,000	\$50,000 under \$100,000	\$100,000 under \$200,000	\$200,000 under \$250,000	\$250,000 or more
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Total net premium tax credit:					
Number of returns	435,543	158,988	* 983	0	0
Amount	516,417	265,358	* 9,488	0	0
Total premium tax credit:					
Number of returns	1,136,320	414,496	10,942	0	0
Amount	7,928,292	3,774,186	144,701	0	0
Advance payment of premium tax credit:					
Number of returns	1,153,375	554,056	54,147	4,941	8,064
Amount	8,217,212	4,440,003	362,918	21,565	61,312
Self-employment tax:					
Number of returns	2,670,066	3,747,830	2,933,647	535,740	1,483,392
Amount	6,616,792	12,156,587	13,340,031	3,581,225	17,857,121
Total additional Medicare tax:					
Number of returns	4,996	16,003	315,551	653,068	4,119,936
Amount	6,161	15,356	76,455	158,292	10,995,486
Net investment income tax:					
Number of returns	0	* 4,622	110,136	411,209	5,109,997
Amount	0	* 371	34,359	183,586	34,395,298
Total income tax:					
Number of returns	21,835,754	33,560,075	22,047,099	3,154,715	6,166,869
Amount	51,024,137	191,116,167	332,246,378	103,858,764	990,084,049
Total tax liability:					
Number of returns	22,301,658	33,986,566	22,080,739	3,156,411	6,167,047
Amount	56,242,134	204,193,559	347,322,581	108,040,280	1,021,302,588

N/A—Not applicable.

* Estimate should be used with caution because of the small number of sample returns on which it is based.

[1] Includes returns with adjusted gross deficit.

[2] Not included in adjusted gross income (less deficit).

[3] Includes capital gain distributions reported on Form 1040 and Schedule D.

[4] The American Rescue Plan of 2021, which was passed on March 11, 2021 allowed for the exclusion of up to \$10,200 of unemployment compensation. Therefore the data will not include any unemployment income exclusion from returns filed previous to this date. The taxpayer would have filed an amended return to receive the exclusion.

[5] The taxes paid deduction is the sum of State and local taxes deduction after limitation plus other taxes deduction.

[6] Data are prior to application of the \$10,000 limit (\$5,000 in the case of married individuals filing separate returns).

[7] The American Rescue Plan of 2021, which was passed on March 11, 2021, suspended the repayment of excess APTC amounts for 2020. Taxpayers who owed this repayment were instructed to delete the Form 8962. Taxpayers who had already filed their returns had this amount reimbursed but are included in the data in this table.

[8] Includes EIC, additional child tax credit, American opportunity credit, recovery rebate credit, and net premium tax credit, which are used to offset income tax before credits. Also includes other credits that are not shown separately in this table.

[9] Percentage not computed.

NOTES:

Detail may not add to totals because of rounding.

Definitions for items in the table can be found at: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-soi/18inexplanationofterms.pdf>

These data represent estimates of income and tax items based on a sample of individual income tax returns filed between January and late September of a given processing year. These returns are then weighted to represent a full year of taxpayer reporting. In general, some of the returns processed during the remainder of the year may have somewhat different characteristics compared to these earlier ones. When available, the estimates from the "complete year data" should be used in place of the preliminary data.

SOURCE: IRS, Statistics of Income Division, Individual Income Tax Returns, Preliminary Data, March 2022.