

31-May-17

**Estate Tax Exemption and Highest Estate Tax
Rate for Selected Years of Death: 1916-2017**

Year of death	Exemption		Tax Rates		
	Current Dollars	2016 Dollars ¹	Lowest applicable rate (percent)	Highest rate (percent)	Top Bracket (dollars)
1916.....	50,000	1,100,950	1	10	5,000,000
1917.....	50,000	937,527	2	25	10,000,000
1918.....	50,000	794,725	1	25	10,000,000
1919.....	50,000	693,662	1	25	10,000,000
1920.....	50,000	600,018	1	25	10,000,000
1921.....	50,000	670,411	1	25	10,000,000
1922.....	50,000	714,307	1	25	10,000,000
1923.....	50,000	701,775	1	25	10,000,000
1924.....	50,000	701,775	1	40	10,000,000
1925.....	50,000	685,734	1	40	10,000,000
1926.....	100,000	1,355,972	1	20	10,000,000
1927.....	100,000	1,379,351	1	20	10,000,000
1928.....	100,000	1,403,550	1	20	10,000,000
1929.....	100,000	1,403,550	1	20	10,000,000
1930.....	100,000	1,437,168	1	20	10,000,000
1931.....	100,000	1,578,993	1	20	10,000,000
1932.....	50,000	875,938	1	45	10,000,000
1933.....	50,000	923,104	1	45	10,000,000
1934.....	50,000	895,549	1	60	10,000,000
1935.....	40,000	700,750	2	70	50,000,000
1936.....	40,000	690,668	2	70	50,000,000
1937.....	40,000	666,686	2	70	50,000,000
1938.....	40,000	680,871	2	70	50,000,000
1939.....	40,000	690,668	2	70	50,000,000
1940.....	40,000	685,734	2	70	50,000,000
1941.....	40,000	653,080	3	77	10,000,000
1942.....	60,000	883,461	3	77	10,000,000
1943.....	60,000	832,394	3	77	10,000,000
1944.....	60,000	818,206	3	77	10,000,000
1945.....	60,000	800,023	3	77	10,000,000
1946.....	60,000	738,483	3	77	10,000,000
1947.....	60,000	645,759	3	77	10,000,000
1948.....	60,000	597,528	3	77	10,000,000
1949.....	60,000	605,060	3	77	10,000,000
1950.....	60,000	597,528	3	77	10,000,000
1951.....	60,000	553,862	3	77	10,000,000
1952.....	60,000	543,412	3	77	10,000,000
1953.....	60,000	539,342	3	77	10,000,000
1954.....	60,000	535,332	3	77	10,000,000
1955.....	60,000	537,329	3	77	10,000,000
1956.....	60,000	529,427	3	77	10,000,000
1957.....	60,000	512,470	3	77	10,000,000
1958.....	60,000	498,284	3	77	10,000,000
1959.....	60,000	494,860	3	77	10,000,000
1960.....	60,000	486,501	3	77	10,000,000
1961.....	60,000	481,619	3	77	10,000,000
1962.....	60,000	476,835	3	77	10,000,000
1963.....	60,000	470,602	3	77	10,000,000
1964.....	60,000	464,530	3	77	10,000,000
1965.....	60,000	457,156	3	77	10,000,000
1966.....	60,000	444,457	3	77	10,000,000
1967.....	60,000	431,150	3	77	10,000,000
1968.....	60,000	413,805	3	77	10,000,000
1969.....	60,000	392,382	3	77	10,000,000
1970.....	60,000	371,145	3	77	10,000,000
1971.....	60,000	355,566	3	77	10,000,000
1972.....	60,000	344,508	3	77	10,000,000
1973.....	60,000	324,334	3	77	10,000,000
1974.....	60,000	292,098	3	77	10,000,000
1975.....	60,000	267,666	3	77	10,000,000
1976.....	60,000	253,083	3	77	10,000,000
1977.....	120,000	475,261	30	70	5,000,000
1978.....	134,000	493,266	30	70	5,000,000
1979.....	147,000	485,965	30	70	5,000,000
1980.....	161,000	468,946	32	70	5,000,000
1981.....	175,000	462,060	32	70	5,000,000
1982.....	225,000	559,602	32	65	4,000,000
1983.....	275,000	662,670	32	60	3,500,000
1984.....	325,000	750,744	34	55	3,000,000
1985.....	400,000	892,219	34	55	3,000,000
1986.....	500,000	1,094,922	37	55	3,000,000
1987.....	600,000	1,267,643	37	55	3,000,000
1988.....	600,000	1,217,280	37	55	3,000,000
1989.....	600,000	1,161,324	37	55	3,000,000
1990.....	600,000	1,101,792	37	55	3,000,000
1991.....	600,000	1,057,300	37	55	3,000,000
1992.....	600,000	1,026,402	37	55	3,000,000
1993.....	600,000	996,569	37	55	3,000,000
1994.....	600,000	971,688	37	55	3,000,000
1995.....	600,000	944,909	37	55	3,000,000
1996.....	600,000	917,809	37	55	3,000,000
1997.....	600,000	897,222	37	55	3,000,000
1998.....	625,000	920,272	37	55	3,000,000
1999.....	650,000	936,402	37	55	3,000,000
2000.....	675,000	940,794	37	55	3,000,000
2001.....	675,000	914,764	37	55	3,000,000
2002.....	1,000,000	1,334,113	41	50	2,500,000
2003.....	1,000,000	1,304,386	41	49	2,000,000
2004.....	1,500,000	1,905,826	45	48	2,000,000
2005.....	1,500,000	1,843,372	45	47	2,000,000
2006.....	2,000,000	2,381,022	46	46	2,000,000
2007.....	2,000,000	2,315,083	45	45	1,500,000
2008.....	2,000,000	2,229,481	45	45	1,500,000
2009.....	3,500,000	3,915,523	45	45	1,500,000
2010.....	*	*	*	*	*
2011.....	5,000,000	5,334,935	35	35	500,000
2012.....	5,120,000	5,352,212	35	35	500,000
2013.....	5,250,000	5,408,881	40	40	1,000,000
2014.....	5,340,000	5,413,763	40	40	1,000,000
2015.....	5,430,000	5,498,500	40	40	1,000,000
2016.....	5,450,000	5,450,000	40	40	1,000,000
2017.....	5,490,000	**	40	40	1,000,000

¹ Exemption adjusted for inflation using CPI(U).

* The estate tax was repealed for one year in 2010 by the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.

** 2017 inflation adjustments not available at time of publication.

Sources:

Darien B. Jacobson, Brian G. Raub, and Barry W. Johnson, "The Estate Tax: Ninety Years and Counting," IRS, Statistics of Income Bulletin, Summer 2007 at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-soi/ninetystate.pdf>

Joint Committee on Taxation, *History, Present Law, and Analysis of the Federal Wealth Transfer Tax System* (JCT-52-15), March 16, 2016.

Tax Policy Center, "Exemption Level, 1999-2015" at <http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/statistics/exemption-level-1999-2015>

IRS, "Form 706 Changes" at <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/whats-new-estate-and-gift-tax>.