

Table T21-0211
Individual Income Tax on Long-Term Capital Gains and Qualified Dividends
Baseline: Current Law
Distribution of Federal Tax Change by Cash Income Percentile, 2026 ¹
Summary Table

Expanded Cash Income Percentile ^{2,3}	All Tax Units (thousands)	Tax Units Reporting Gains or Qualified Dividends ⁴		Tax Units Paying Positive Individual Income Tax On Gains or Qualified Dividends				
		Percent Within Class	Average Gains and Dividends (\$)	Percent Within Class	Average Tax Paid on Gains and Dividends (\$)	Share of Positive Individual Income Tax on Gains and Dividends	Average Individual Income Tax Rate On Gains and Dividends ⁵	On All Other Income ⁶
Lowest Quintile	48,270	3.7	2,720	0.2	**	*	**	**
Second Quintile	40,270	10.3	4,380	2.4	260	0.1	6.0	6.8
Middle Quintile	38,410	18.3	7,400	10.3	680	1.1	7.7	13.9
Fourth Quintile	31,330	27.3	10,810	17.9	1,290	3.0	9.5	16.0
Top Quintile	25,460	49.4	90,030	45.4	19,530	94.3	20.1	29.1
All	185,260	18.7	38,710	12.0	10,780	100.0	19.1	27.4
Addendum								
80-90	13,040	38.0	15,570	32.7	1,950	3.5	11.9	18.0
90-95	6,400	51.3	23,370	47.8	3,880	5.0	15.7	21.3
95-99	4,840	68.9	44,720	66.6	8,960	12.1	19.5	26.9
Top 1 Percent	1,180	85.6	819,010	84.8	175,790	73.8	21.3	35.9
Top 0.1 Percent	120	93.8	5,335,710	93.6	1,142,940	54.1	21.4	38.0

Source: Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center Microsimulation Model (version 0721-1).

* Non-zero value rounded to zero; ** Insufficient data

(1) Calendar year. Baseline is current law for 2026 as of July 19, 2021. Individual income tax on long-term capital gains and qualified dividends is calculated by comparing liability under current law to liability when qualified dividends and net long term gains in excess of net short-term losses are excluded from income and excluded from the base of the 3.8 percent net investment surtax enacted by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). For a description of TPC's current law and current policy baselines, see

<http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/taxtopics/Baseline-Definitions.cfm>

(2) Includes both filing and non-filing units but excludes those that are dependents of other tax units. Tax units with negative adjusted gross income are excluded from their respective income class but are included in the totals. For a description of expanded cash income, see

<http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/TaxModel/income.cfm>

(3) The income percentile classes used in this table are based on the income distribution for the entire population and contain an equal number of people, not tax units. The breaks are (in 2020 dollars): 20% \$28,000; 40% \$55,200; 60% \$99,300; 80% \$182,400; 90% \$265,600; 95% \$384,800; 99% \$890,600; 99.9% \$4,095,600.

(4) Tax units reporting long-term positive gains and qualified dividends.

(5) Average individual income tax on long-term positive capital gains and qualified dividends as a percentage of gains and qualified dividends.

(6) Average individual income tax as a percentage of nongain taxable income.