Tax Gap Projections for Tax Years 2020 and 2021

Tax Gap Estimates for Tax Years 2014–2016 and Projections for Tax Years 2017–2019, 2020 and 2021

[Money amounts are in billions of dollars]

Tax Gap Component	TY 2014–2016 [2]	Projections [1]					
		TY 2017–2019 [2]	TY 2017–2019 [2] Revised	TY 2020	TY 2021		
Estimated Total True Tax	\$3,307	\$3,621	\$3,645	\$3,902	\$4,565		
Gross Tax Gap	\$496	\$540	\$550	\$601	\$688		
Nonfiling Gap	\$39	\$41	\$41	\$52	\$77		
Underreporting Gap	\$398	\$433	\$445	\$480	\$542		
Underpayment Gap	\$59	\$66	\$64	\$69	\$68		
Voluntary Compliance Rate	85.0%	85.1%	84.9%	84.6%	84.9%		
Enforced and Other Late Payments	\$68	\$70	\$70	\$63	\$63		
Net Tax Gap [4]	\$428	\$470	\$481	\$539	\$625		
Net Compliance Rate	87.0%	87.0%	86.8%	86.2%	86.3%		

<sup>[1]</sup> These figures will be updated as more complete compliance data become available.

Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

**Source:** Internal Revenue Service, "Federal Tax Compliance Research: Tax Gap Projections for Tax Years 2020 and 2021 [Table 1]," Publication 5869 (10-2023).

<sup>[2]</sup> The estimates are the annual averages for the covered timeframe.

<sup>[3]</sup> The net tax gap is the gross tax gap reduced by the amount of enforced and other late payments that will eventually be paid.

17-May-23

## Tax Gap Estimates for Tax Years 2014–2016: Table 1

## Decomposition of Differences in TY 2011–2013 and TY 2014–2016 Tax Gap Estimates

[Money amounts are in billions of dollars]

Tax Gap Component	TY 2011–2013		TY 2014–2016 [1]	Decomposition of Difference Between TY 2014–2016 Estimates and Prior Published TY 2011–2013 Estimates		
	Prior Published [1]	Revised [1]	- 11 2014-2010[1]	Total	Due to Updated Methods [2]	Due to Other Factors [3]
Estimated Total True Tax	\$2,683	\$2,688	\$3,307	\$625	\$5	\$620
Gross Tax Gap	\$441	\$438	\$496	\$55	-\$3	\$58
Nonfiling Gap	\$39	\$37	\$39	\$0	-\$2	\$2
Underreporting Gap	\$352	\$349	\$398	\$46	-\$3	\$49
Underpayment Gap	\$50	\$52	\$59	\$9	\$2	\$7
Voluntary Compliance Rate	83.6%	83.7%	85.0%	1.4%	0.1%	1.3%
Enforced and Other Late Payments	\$60	\$58	\$68	\$8	-\$1	\$9
Net Tax Gap [4]	\$381	\$380	\$428	\$47	-\$1	\$48
Net Compliance Rate	85.8%	85.9%	87.0%	1.3%	0.1%	1.2%

<sup>[1]</sup> The estimates are the annual averages for the covered timeframe.

Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

Source: Internal Revenue Service, "Federal Tax Compliance Research: Tax Gap Estimates for Tax Years 2014–2016," Publication 1415 (Rev. 10-2022).

<sup>[2]</sup> Difference between the prior published TY 2011–2013 and TY 2014–2016 tax gap estimates accounted for by updated methods (includes updated data).

<sup>[3]</sup> Difference between the prior published TY 2011–2013 and TY 2014–2016 tax gap estimates accounted for by changes in economic activity, changes in compliance behavior and statistical variability.

<sup>[4]</sup> The net tax gap is the gross tax gap reduced by the amount of enforced and other late payments that will eventually be paid.

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Tax Gap Estimates for Tax Years 2011–2013: Table 1

Decomposition of Differences in TY 2008–2010 and TY 2011–2013 Tax Gap Estimates

[Money amounts are in billions of dollars]

Tax Gap Component	TY 2008–2010		- TY 2011–2013 [1]	Decomposition of Difference Between TY 2011–2013 Estimates and Prior Published TY 2008–2010 Estimates		
	Prior Published [1]	Revised [1]	11 2011–2010 [1]	Total	Due to Updated Methods [2]	Due to Other Factors [3]
Estimated Total True Tax	\$2,496	\$2,431	\$2,683	\$187	-\$65	\$252
Gross Tax Gap	\$458	\$394	\$441	-\$17	-\$64	\$47
Nonfiling Gap	\$32	\$31	\$39	\$7	-\$1	\$8
Underreporting Gap	\$387	\$325	\$352	-\$35	-\$62	\$27
Underpayment Gap	\$39	\$39	\$50	\$11	\$0	\$11
Voluntary Compliance Rate	81.7%	83.8%	83.6%	1.9%	2.1%	-0.2%
Enforced and Other Late Payments	\$52	\$50	\$60	\$8	-\$2	\$10
Net Tax Gap [4]	\$387	\$344	\$381	-\$25	-\$62	\$37
Net Compliance Rate	83.7%	85.8%	85.8%	2.1%	2.1%	[5]

<sup>[1]</sup> The estimates are the annual averages for the covered timeframe.

Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

Source: Internal Revenue Service, "Federal Tax Compliance Research: Tax Gap Estimates for Tax Years 2011–2013," Publication 1415 (Rev. 9-2019).

<sup>[2]</sup> Difference between the prior published TY 2008–2010 and TY 2011–2013 tax gap estimates accounted for by updated methods (includes updated data).

<sup>[3]</sup> Difference between the prior published TY 2008–2010 and TY 2011–2013 tax gap estimates accounted for by changes in economic activity, changes in compliance behavior and statistical variability.

<sup>[4]</sup> The net tax gap is the gross tax gap reduced by the amount of enforced and other late payments that will eventually be paid.

<sup>[5]</sup> Greater than 0.05 percent but less than 0.1 percent.