2026 Tax Quick Reference

For advisor use only · Tax Year 2026 (filed 2027) · Federal & Ohio

2026 FEDERAL INCOME TAX BRACKETS (TAXABLE INCOME — AFTER DEDUCTIONS)

RATE	SINGLE	MARRIED FILING JOINTLY	RATE	HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD
10%	$0 – $12,400	$0 – $24,800	10%	$0 – $17,700
12%	$12,401 – $50,400	$24,801 – $100,800	12%	$17,701 – $67,350
22%	$50,401 – $105,700	$100,801 – $211,400	22%	$67,351 – $105,700
24%	$105,701 – $201,775	$211,401 – $403,550	24%	$105,701 – $201,775
32%	$201,776 – $256,225	$403,551 – $512,450	32%	$201,776 – $256,225
35%	$256,226 – $640,600	$512,451 – $768,700	35%	$256,226 – $640,600
37%	Over $640,600	Over $768,700	37%	Over $640,600

Brackets are marginal. Only dollars within each range are taxed at that rate. OBBBA made these 7 brackets permanent — no more sunset risk.

LONG-TERM CAPITAL GAINS & QUALIFIED DIVIDENDS

RATE	SINGLE TAXABLE INCOME	MFJ TAXABLE INCOME
0%	≤ $49,450	≤ $98,900
15%	$49,451 – $545,500	$98,901 – ~$614,000
20%	Over $545,500	Over ~$614,000

+3.8% NIIT on investment income for MAGI over $200K (single) / $250K (MFJ). Short-term gains taxed as ordinary income. 0% bracket = powerful rebalancing/harvesting window.

STANDARD DEDUCTIONS & KEY AMOUNTS

Single	**$16,100**
Married Filing Jointly	**$32,200**
Head of Household	**$24,150**
Add'l deduction, age 65+ (single)	**+$2,050**
Add'l deduction, age 65+ (MFJ, per spouse)	**+$1,650**
OBBBA Senior Deduction (65+, 2025–2028)	**+$6,000 / $12,000**

Senior deduction phases out 6¢/$ above $75K (single) / $150K (MFJ) MAGI. Personal exemption: $0 (permanent).

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT TAXATION

Provisional Income = AGI + Tax-Exempt Interest + 50% of SS Benefits

% OF BENEFITS TAXABLE	SINGLE PI	MFJ PI
0% taxable	Below $25,000	Below $32,000
Up to 50% taxable	$25,000 – $34,000	$32,000 – $44,000
Up to 85% taxable	Over $34,000	Over $44,000

Maximum 85% of SS benefits ever taxable federally. Thresholds **not adjusted for inflation**. Most retirees with pensions/RMDs hit 85%. Ohio exempts SS entirely.

GIFT, ESTATE & CHARITABLE GIVING

Annual gift exclusion (per recipient)	**$19,000**
Annual gift to non-citizen spouse	**$194,000**
Federal estate/lifetime gift exemption	**$15,000,000**
Married couple (combined)	**$30,000,000**
QCD limit (age 70½+, per person)	**$111,000**
QCD one-time split-interest gift	**$55,500**

QCDs count toward RMD, bypass AGI, and reduce provisional income for SS & IRMAA. Estate exemption now permanent under OBBBA.

💰 2026 RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

401(K) / 403(B) / 457

Employee deferral	**$24,500**
Catch-up (age 50–59, 64+)	**+$8,000**
Super catch-up (age 60–63)	**+$11,250**
Total (age 50–59, 64+)	**$32,500**
Total (age 60–63)	**$35,750**
Overall limit (§415, all sources)	**$72,000**
Compensation limit	**$360,000**

TRADITIONAL & ROTH IRA

Annual contribution limit	**$7,500**
Catch-up (age 50+)	**+$1,100**
Total (age 50+)	**$8,600**

Traditional IRA deduct. phaseout

Single (active participant)	**$81K–$91K**
MFJ (contributor active)	**$129K–$149K**
MFJ (spouse active, contributor not)	**$242K–$252K**

ROTH IRA & SELF-EMPLOYED

Roth IRA phaseout

Single / HOH	**$153K–$168K**
Married Filing Jointly	**$242K–$252K**

Self-Employed Plans

SEP-IRA (25% comp or)	**$72,000**
SIMPLE IRA (employee)	**$17,000**
SIMPLE catch-up (50+)	**+$3,500**
SS Wage Base	**$184,500**

SECURE 2.0 Roth Catch-Up Rule (2026): Employees with FICA wages over $150,000 in the prior year **must** make all catch-up contributions as Roth (after-tax). Verify payroll systems are compliant.

HSA, FSA & HDHP LIMITS

ACCOUNT / ITEM	2026 LIMIT
HSA — individual coverage	$4,400
HSA — family coverage	$8,750
HSA catch-up (age 55+)	+$1,000
HDHP minimum deductible (individual)	$1,700
HDHP minimum deductible (family)	$3,400
Health FSA (employer plan)	$3,400
FSA carryover maximum	$680
Dependent care FSA	$5,000

HSA triple tax advantage: pre-tax in, tax-free growth, tax-free out for medical. After 65, withdrawals for any purpose at ordinary income rates (like IRA).

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION (RMD) AGES

BIRTH YEAR	RMD BEGINS AT AGE
Before July 1, 1949	70½ (already in RMDs)
July 1, 1949 – Dec 31, 1950	72
Jan 1, 1951 – Dec 31, 1959	**73**
Jan 1, 1960 and later	**75**

First RMD deadline (Year 1)	**April 1 following RMD age year**
Subsequent RMDs	**Dec 31 each year**
Inherited IRA (non-EDB)	**10-year rule applies**
Roth 401(k) RMDs	**Eliminated (2024+)**

QCDs can satisfy RMDs and reduce AGI. Age 70½+ can QCD up to $111,000 even if RMD age hasn't been reached.

2026 IRMAA — MEDICARE INCOME-RELATED MONTHLY ADJUSTMENT (BASED ON 2024 MAGI)

TIER	SINGLE 2024 MAGI	MARRIED FILING JOINTLY 2024 MAGI	PART B TOTAL/MONTH	PART B SURCHARGE	PART D SURCHARGE/MO
Standard	≤ $109,000	≤ $218,000	**$202.90**	—	—
Tier 1	$109,001 – $137,000	$218,001 – $274,000	**$284.10**	+$81.20	+$14.50
Tier 2	$137,001 – $165,000	$274,001 – $330,000	**$390.90**	+$188.00	+$37.60
Tier 3	$165,001 – $193,000	$330,001 – $386,000	**$497.70**	+$294.80	+$60.70
Tier 4	$193,001 – $500,000	$386,001 – $750,000	**$604.50**	+$401.60	+$83.80
Tier 5	Over $500,000	Over $750,000	**$689.90**	+$487.00	+$91.00

⚠ **Cliff Effect:** $1 over a tier threshold triggers the full surcharge. A couple at Tier 1 vs. Standard pays ~$2,300/yr extra per person. Watch Roth conversions, capital gains realizations, RMDs.

Key planning levers: Roth conversions in pre-Medicare years (63–64 window), QCDs, tax-exempt bond interest counts toward MAGI. Appeal via SSA-44 for qualifying life events (retirement, divorce, death of spouse).

🏛 OHIO STATE INCOME TAX — TAX YEAR 2026

2026 OHIO TAX STRUCTURE

Income up to $26,050	**0% (exempt)**
Income over $26,050	**Flat 2.75%**
2026: Ohio simplified to flat 2.75% (from prior 3-bracket system)	
Business income (after $250K deduction)	**3.0% flat**
Business income deduction (pass-through)	**$250,000**
Local / municipal tax (Toledo area)	**~2.25%**

OHIO TAX BENEFITS

Social Security benefits	**Fully exempt**
529 deduction (single, per beneficiary)	**$4,000/yr**
529 deduction (MFJ, per beneficiary)	**$8,000/yr**
529 excess contributions	**Carry forward**
Retirement income credit (age 65+)	**Up to $200**
Personal exemption credit	**$2,400/filer**

OHIO 529 & PLANNING NOTES

Ohio 529 plan	**CollegeAdvantage**
Earnings growth	**Federal & OH tax-free**
Deduction limit indexed for inflation	**Starting 2026**
5-year gift tax election (superfunding)	**$95,000 single**
OH reciprocity states	**IN, KY, MI, PA, WV**
Pensions / IRA distributions	**Taxable (OH)**

Ohio 529 key advantage: MFJ couples now get $8,000 deduction *per beneficiary* — a family with 2 children can deduct $16,000. Excess contributions carry forward indefinitely. No Ohio tax on 529 earnings or qualifying withdrawals.

⚖ KEY 2026 LAW CHANGES (OBBBA / SECURE 2.0)

- **TCJA brackets permanent.** Seven federal brackets (10–37%) with no expiration. No sunset risk.
- **Senior deduction.** Extra $6K (single) / $12K (MFJ) for taxpayers 65+, 2025–2028. Phases out above $75K/$150K MAGI.
- **Estate exemption permanent.** $15M/person (OBBBA); indexed for inflation going forward. Portability still available.
- **QBI deduction permanent.** 20% pass-through deduction continues for qualified business income; new phase-in thresholds.
- **Roth catch-up mandate.** High earners (FICA wages >$150K) must make 401(k) catch-ups as Roth starting 2026.
- **Tips & overtime deduction.** New above-the-line deduction available for tip and overtime income under OBBBA.
- **Super catch-up (60–63).** SECURE 2.0 allows $11,250 catch-up vs. standard $8,000 for this age band.
- **Roth RMD elimination.** Roth 401(k) accounts no longer subject to RMDs during the owner's lifetime (started 2024).

⚡ AMT EXEMPTIONS 2026

AMT exemption — single	**$90,100**
AMT exemption — MFJ	**$140,200**
Phaseout begins — single	**$500,000**
Phaseout begins — MFJ	**$1,000,000**
AMT rate (excess AMTI)	**26% / 28%**

▫ OTHER KEY 2026 NUMBERS

Charitable deduction non-itemizers	**$1K / $2K MFJ**
Qualified transportation / parking (mo)	**$340**
Kiddie tax threshold	**$2,700 unearned inc.**
SALT deduction cap (2026)	**See OBBBA update**
Social Security COLA 2026	**+2.5%**
Medicare Part A deductible (2026)	**$1,676/benefit period**

▫ ADVISOR PLANNING TRIGGERS

IRMAA cliff approaching?	QCD, Roth pullback, MAGI manage
Client in 0% LTCG window?	Harvest gains / rebalance now
Age 60–63 with catch-up room?	Max $35,750 into 401(k)
Pre-Medicare Roth conversion?	Watch age 63–64 window
Ohio client with 529 plan?	$8K/beneficiary deduction (MFJ)