

Answering Question #5

5. What percentage of the average American's income is taken as taxes?
- a. 3%
 - b. 10%
 - c. 27%
 - d. 59%

On the subject of taxes, most of us immediately think of our system of graduated income tax, which did not even exist in America until 1916. But there are many other forms of taxation that government uses to extract money from us on the local, state, and federal level (see the list below). One study estimated that, in 2005, the average U.S. citizen paid 54.2% of their income in taxes in one form or another.⁹ At the time, it was estimated that the 2013 amount would be 59.5%. These numbers have only gone up.

Below is a partial list of the various ways in which citizens of the U.S. are taxed. Though these things are not often thought of as taxes, they are taxes nonetheless.

Accounts Receivable Tax	Medicare Tax
Building Permit Tax	Property Tax
Capital Gains Tax	Real Estate Tax
CDL License Tax	Septic Permit Tax
Cigarette Tax	Service Charge Taxes
Corporate Income Tax	Social Security Tax
Court Fines (indirect taxes)	Road Usage Taxes (Truckers)
Deficit Spending	Sales Taxes
Dog License Tax	Road Toll Booth Taxes
Federal Income Tax	Recreational Vehicle Tax
Federal Unemployment Tax (FUTA)	School Tax
Fishing License Tax	State Income Tax
Food License Tax	State Unemployment Tax (SUTA)
Fuel Permit tax	Telephone Federal Excise Tax
Gasoline Tax	Telephone Federal Universal Service Fee Tax
Hunting License Tax	Telephone federal, state and local surcharge taxes
Inflation	Telephone minimum usage surcharge tax
Inheritance Tax Interest Expense (tax on the money)	Telephone recurring and non-recurring charges tax
Inventory Tax	Telephone state and local tax
IRS Interest Charges (tax on top of tax)	Telephone usage charge tax
IRS Penalties (tax on top of tax)	Toll Bridge Taxes
Liquor Tax	Etc.
Local Income Tax	
Luxury Taxes	
Marriage License Tax	