



## See how your income taxes stack up

Income taxes and social security contributions take a big bite out of your salary. This chart shows how much the average worker pays in 18 different countries, based on data from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

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Taxes and social security on the average salary

Belgium	42.4%
Germany	39.2%
Denmark	38.4%
Italy	31.4%
France	28.3%
United States	24.6%
United Kingdom	23.8%
Australia	23.4%
Canada	22.8%
Japan	21.6%
Switzerland	17.2%
South Korea	13.3%
South Africa	12.6%
China	10.6%
Mexico	10%
Brazil	9%
Indonesia	2%
India	0%

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; Updated: April 20th, 2015

Alanna Petroff and Tal Yellin / CNNMoney

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Notes:

This data is based on the wages of a single, childless worker making the average salary in their country in 2014. Data for South Africa, China, Brazil, Indonesia and India comes from 2013. The U.S. local tax data is based on combined local and state taxes paid by individuals in Detroit, Michigan. Local and state taxes in this area tend to be lower than average. The U.S. data does not include Medicare contributions. The Chinese data is calculated based on the average urban worker, who pays more than the average rural worker. Due to rounding, some numbers differ by one tenth of a percentage point.



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In addition to state cigarette taxes, smokers must pay the \$1.0066 federal cigarette tax. Local taxes, which can be substantial, are not included in this map.



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Gene Sanner 10 days ago

I'm afraid your numbers are incorrect, at least for Brasil, where personal income tax (wages) averages above 20% with cap being 27%. Errors like this are inexcusable for CNN and lead me to doubt all CNN info.

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booboot1947 11 days ago

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There is something aberrantly wrong with those numbers. Well over 50% of France GNP is made up of government spending. The 28.8% in reference to France is ridiculously low.

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**Dgusmao** 12 days ago

In Brazil we pay up to 32% on income taxes (not 9% as shown here)

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**jacob jo** 12 days ago

how beautiful India is

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**Seattle11** 12 days ago

[@jacob jo](#) Buy a ticket and go live there.

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**Vipangujral** 12 days ago

This is not correct data for India. India have federal taxes and variety of other taxes. There are no taxes on Farm Income in India but there are individual, business and corporate taxes after a certain threshold which is same here. I am not sure why the author have not done the research before publishing this article on a reputed site like CNN Money!!!

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**Axel19** 13 days ago

Our tax liability should be like India or Indonesia...

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**Seattle11** 12 days ago

[@Axel19](#) Maybe you should live in these countries and then make a statement.

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**Axel19** 9 days ago

[@Seattle11](#) [@Axel19](#) I like America, but I just don't want to pay taxes...

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**Ken Morgan** 13 days ago

Granted... the difficulty to compare data from one country to another, I'm puzzled why Social Security is included in the top 5. Frankly, since citizens ultimately receive benefit for their contribution. Is this a fair apples-to-apples comparison?

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**John48Z** 13 days ago

[@Ken Morgan](#) You make a very good point. In recent years, social security has been "reclassified" as a tax, in order to justify the fact that half the citizenry, plus legal illegals, pays no income tax. In truth, the average person ultimately takes more from the FICA program than they put in. With disability fraud rampant and means testing on the horizon, it is becoming another welfare program anyway. To call FICA a tax is ridiculous.

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**Jack Davis** 11 days ago

[@John48Z](#) [@Ken Morgan](#) It's not a good point. It is clearly a tax. FICA payments are money that involuntarily comes out of my paycheck; that is the definition of a tax. If it wasn't a tax, millions of us would decline to pay it.

Illegal immigrants aren't eligible to receive Social Security benefit, so it's not surprising they don't pay FICA taxes.

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**Jack Davis** 11 days ago

[@Ken Morgan](#) Social Security taxes are, well, taxes. It's money that involuntarily comes out of my paycheck. The possibility that I may (not will) collect the money back at some future point, assuming I don't die before 65 or the benefits are cut, etc. doesn't change that fact. If the money was put into a savings account in my name and I was given control over its financing it would be different.

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**Dave Munnell** Apr 23, 2015

Why don't they list the average workers salaries in each of those countries.

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**Raj Anaparthi** Apr 22, 2015

This data does not look right. India has Income tax. People pay taxes usually TDS. Most of the Govt entities have Pension/PF etc(just like SS benefits).

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**blursd** Apr 22, 2015

Norway and Sweden are up there too, right along with Denmark ... guess they didn't want the top 5 to include 3 Nordic countries ...

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