

# Blunt Force Truth - List of Hidden Taxes

## PAYROLL / INCOME TAXES

**Medicare Tax:** FICA, FUTA: deductions that come right out of your paycheck. 6.2% for social security and 1.4% for Medicare. That is on wages up to \$110,000. The employer pays half and employee pays half.

**Self-Employment Tax:** 12.4% for social security and 2.9% for Medicare.

**AMT (Alternative Minimum Tax):** A flat tax with two brackets, 26% and 28%. It was originally created to tax less than 50 families, but now it hits 5 million taxpayers with annual incomes between \$200,000 to \$1,000,000. It will escalate to 31 million taxpayers this year.

## FUEL / TRAVEL TAXES

**Fuel Taxes:** Excise tax on fuel raised \$47.4 billion, 18.4 cents on gas, and 24.4 cents on diesel. That does not count state taxes (37.5 cents for MI State Tax, for instance).

**Ethanol Mandate** – \$255 per year, per driver.

**Gas Guzzler Tax** – \$7,700 per vehicle.

**Airport / Runway Taxes:** federal taxes, not including state and local taxes, raised \$14.3 billion by charging passengers 7.5% tax on domestic tickets, and \$4 per flight segment.

**Hotel and rental car taxes:** vary by state but they can total 40% of the total bill.

## OBAMACARE & INSURANCE TAXES

**Insurance:** 11% tax on insurance premiums.

**ObamaCare Taxes:** \$16.3 billion last year.

- \$11.3 billion was an excise tax on health insurance companies.
- \$3 billion were taxes levied on importers and manufacturers of prescription drugs.

- 2.3% tax on medical devices
- 10% tax on tanning beds
- \$50,000 tax per hospital if they fail to meet community health assessments.
- \$4.5 billion surcharge, used to contest completely legal tax reductions from the IRS.
- \$2.3 billion tax on drug companies trying to develop innovative new drugs.
- 3.8% tax on investment income earned in households making at least \$250,000 (raised \$150 billion in taxes).
- \$20 billion in tax revenue from raising the medical deduction tax from 7.5% to 10% (Making it harder for people with higher levels of illness to deduct medical costs.)

## **VARIOUS OTHER TAXES:**

**Cigarette / Sin Tax:** the federal tax on cigarettes is \$1 per pack, which last year raised \$4.5 billion. Additional state and city taxes (ex: NY is \$5.85 tax). Alcohol taxes raised \$9.6 billion federally. (Washington, \$35.22 per gallon of spirits.)

### **Arrows / Guns / Fishing / Other Various Excise Taxes**

- \$0.40 tax on arrows
- 11% tax on archery equipment
- 11% federal tax on hunting guns / ammunition
- 10% tax on handguns
- 10% tax on all fishing equipment
- 11% tax on bicycles
- 12% tax on Brussels sprouts
- 15% tax on hammocks
- 18% tax on baby formula
- 18% tax on flashlights
- 143% tax on peanut butter
- 24% tax on girdles and Spanx
- 32% tax on brooms
- 5% tax on plastic school supplies

## **TAXES, TAXES, TAXES!:**

building permits  
business registrations  
capital gains tax  
court fines  
disposal fees  
dog licenses  
drivers' licenses  
environmental disposal fees  
estate and death taxes  
fishing license tax  
toilet flushing tax (Maryland charges \$60 per year)  
food and beverage license tax  
franchise business tax  
garbage tax  
gift tax  
gun ownership permit  
highway access fees (tolls)  
hunting licenses  
insect control  
inspection fees  
inventory tax  
401k early withdrawal tax  
IRS penalty and interest  
library tax  
license plate tax  
local property tax  
local school tax  
luxury taxes (high end watches, furs, high end jewelry, cars, boats [10% tax on boats over \$100,000, cars over \$30,000, aircraft over \$250,000, furs and jewelry over \$10,000])  
marriage license  
parking meters  
passport fees  
professional license  
real estate taxes  
recreational vehicle tax  
sales tax  
sewer and water tax  
septic permit tax

road assessment tax  
sports stadium tax  
state park tax  
tax on telephones (average cell phone is taxed 17%)  
cable television bills (about 40%, covers franchise fee, internet access fee, and a variety of other fees)  
tire recycling  
tire tax  
water craft permits  
well permit

### **Bizarre Taxes:**

- \$0.08 per bagel tax, if you have your bagel sliced in New York.
- North Carolina charges a \$10 tax on neutered pets, and \$75 on non-neutered.
- Illinois charges a candy tax.
- Connecticut has a diaper tax.
- Colorado has a napkin tax.
- Alabama 10-cent tax per deck of cards.
- Texas taxes tattoos.
- Arkansas has a 6% tax on tattoos.
- Maine has a 1.5% tax on blueberries.
- Kansas taxes hot air balloon rides.
- California has a 33% tax on fruit, if you buy it from a vending machine.
- Professional athlete tax: 40 states charge taxes on traveling athletes if they make money in their state.

Lowest taxes in America are in Florida, while the highest taxes are in California.