# DC ORA's Annual "Tax Rate and Tax Burdens" Study 

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## District of Columbia

## Overview and Context

## What is it? A two-part study:

- Comparison of tax burdens in largest city in each state and DC;
- Comparison of select tax rates, 50 states and DC.

Why do we do it, and when?

- Congressional requirement - Public Law 93-407 (9/3/1974)
- Annually

Who is the audience?

- Congress; DC City Council; media; researchers; states; and cities

How do we produce it?

- Data collection:
- Survey to states w/ follow up calls \& emails;
- Online research of state web sites;
- Third-party sources (FTA, CCH, Tax Foundation, etc.)
- In-house calculations
- Various data sources and methodologies for each type of tax

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## Sample of Results

ESTIMATED BURDEN OF MAJOR TAXES FOR A HYPOTHETICAL FAMILY OF THREE, 2012
$\$ 25,000$

| RANK | CITY | ST | TAXES |  |  |  | BURDEN |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | INCOME 2/ | PROPERTY 3/ | SALES 4/ | AUTO | AMOUNT | PERCENT |
| 1 | Honolulu | HI | 89 | 2,820 | 1,052 | 272 | 4,232 | 16.9\% |
| 2 | Chicago | IL | 745 | 2,021 | 1,065 | 297 | 4,128 | 16.5\% |
| 3 | Atlanta | GA | 565 | 2,098 | 1,228 | 197 | 4,087 | 16.3\% |
| 4 | Bridgeport | CT | 8 | 2,667 | 905 | 422 | 4,001 | 16.0\% |
| 5 | Phoenix | AZ | 135 | 1,918 | 1,701 | 224 | 3,978 | 15.9\% |

ESTIMATED BURDEN OF MAJOR TAXES FOR A HYPOTHETICAL FAMILY OF THREE, 2012

|  |  |  | $\$ 50,000$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | TAXES |  | BURDEN |  |
| :---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| RANK | CITY | ST | INCOME | PROPERTY | SALES $2 /$ | AUTO | AMOUNT | PERCENT |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Bridgeport | CT | 904 | 7,003 | 1,179 | 554 | 9,641 | $19.3 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Philadelphia | PA | 1,550 | 5,903 | 1,045 | 282 | 8,781 | $17.6 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Milwaukee | WI | 1,007 | 5,272 | 1,009 | 339 | 8,226 | $16.5 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | Baltimore | MD | 1,209 | 4,591 | 718 | 519 | 7,037 | $14.1 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Columbus | OH | 1,199 | 4,562 | 880 | 255 | 6,897 | $13.8 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |

ESTIMATED BURDEN OF MAJOR TAXES FOR A HYPOTHETICAL FAMILY OF THREE, 2012
$\$ 75,000$

|  |  |  | TAXES |  |  | BURDEN |  |
| :---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | RANK | CITY | ST | INCOME | PROPERTY | SALES 2/ | AUTO |
| 1 | Bridgeport | CT | 3,014 | 10,504 | 1,807 | 1,007 | 16,333 |
| 2 | Philadelphia | PA | 2,347 | 8,854 | 1,612 | 431 | 13,244 |
| 3 | Milwaukee | WI | 3,105 | 7,907 | 1,479 | 546 | 13,037 |
| 4 | Baltimore | MD | 2,672 | 6,886 | 1,122 | 943 | 11,622 |
| 5 | Columbus | OH | 2,248 | 6,844 | 1,327 | 391 | 10,811 |

## Auto Tax Calculation

$>$ Applicable personal property taxes, registration and title fees, and auto excises taxes for each city + state;
$>$ Assumptions of gasoline usage and applicable taxes for each jurisdiction
$>$ Assumptions of car ownership at each level of income

- Type of car(s)
- Number of cars owned



# 2013 Auto Tax Burden amounts, \$75,000 / year 

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## Sales Tax Calculation

Compile applicable sales tax rates
Download Consumer Expenditure Survey data of average amount spent on various consumer goods (by income level).
> Apply all state and local sales taxes to those amounts.

- All variation w/in an income level comes from sales tax rates and sales tax bases.



## 2013 Sales Tax Burden, \$50,000/year



## Property Tax Calculation

Compile data on general property tax structure in each location:

- Nominal property tax rates;
- Assessment levels;
- Homestead exemptions available to all homeowners (note: not included in chart below)

|  |  | NOMINAL |  | EFFECTIVE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| RATE |  |  |  |  |
| CITY | ST | PATE | ASSESSMENT | LEVEL |

$>$ Collect data from Census (ACS) on median house values and median incomes

- Calculate house values for each income level in each city, multiplier created by ACS data.
> Calculate property tax on house value at each income in each city.
- Taking into account assessment level, and homestead exemptions.


## Income Tax Calculation

Use tax preparation software to calculate income tax burdens for all 50 states and DC.

- Itemized deduction information is from IRS Statistics of Income data for DC, and is based on average deduction amounts at each income level for joint filers.
- Separate calculation is made of the mortgage interest deduction, based on 5th year of interest of home purchase, value of which calculated from ACS data just like for property tax.
- Deductions allowed for sales taxes paid, state income taxes paid, or property taxes paid are taken from actual burdens calculated in prior year.

After calculating state income tax, add any local income tax that is applicable.

## New Features and Future Goals

$>$ New graphics: bar charts, maps, etc.;
$>$ Sensitivity analyses of various assumptions;
$>$ Add case studies of major metro areas or various aspects of major tax types;
$>$ Study what is driving the variability.

2012 Tax Burden \%, All Taxes Combined, \$50,000/year
District of Columbia


## 2012 Burden Amount, All Taxes Combined, \$50,000/year

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| state | city |
| :---: | :---: |
| ст | Bridgeport |
| PA | Philadelphia |
| wr | Milwaukee |
| mD | Batimore |
| он | Columbus |
| RI | Providence |
| кY | Louisville |
| m | Detroit |
| ME | Portland |
| 12 | Chicago |
| DE | Wilmington |
| IA | Des Moines |
| ms | Jackson |
| nc | Chariotte |
| nY | New York City |
| in | Indianapolis |
| CA | Los Angeles |
| NM | Albuquerque |
| NE | Omaha |
| LA | New Orleans |
| ma | Boston |
| GA | Atlanta |
| мо | Kansas City |
| AR | Little Rock |
| NJ | Newark |
| m | Minneapolis |
| кs | Wichita |
| or | Portland |
| $1{ }^{1}$ | Boise |
| ок | Oklahoma Cit |
| Az | Phoenix |
| wv | Charleston |
| va | Virginia Beac |
| TN | Memphis |
| UT | Salt Lake City |
| NH | Manchester |
| nD | Fargo |
| TX | Houston |
| co | Denver |
| DC | WASHINGTO |
| vt | Burlington |
| AL | Birmingham |
| sc | Columbia |
| HI | Honolutu |
| wa | Seatle |
| sD | Sioux Falls |
| FL | Jacksonville |
| AK | Anchorage |
| NV | Las Vegas |
| mT | Billings |
| wr | Cheyenne |



## Thank you!

## Questions/Comments?

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## Extra Slides

## Property Tax

## 2013 Median Income and Median House Value

700,000 工

600,000

- HI



## 2012 Burden Amount, All Taxes Combined, \$50,000/year

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## 2012 House value assumptions

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| CITY | ST | HOUSING VALUE ASSUAPTIONS AT INDICATED INCOME LEVELS: |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | TAX ON RENT \$25,000 | \$50,000 | 575,000 | \$100,000 | \$150,000 |
| Anchorage | AK | 2,144 | 186,519 | 279,779 | 373,038 | 559,557 |
| Birmingham | AL | 1.780 | 152,471 | 228,706 | 304,942 | 457,413 |
| Little Rock | AR | 1,743 | 141,708 | 212,561 | 283,415 | 425,123 |
| Phoenix | AZ | 1,918 | 151,969 | 227,954 | 303,939 | 455,908 |
| Los Angeles | CA | 2,327 | 374,099 | 561,148 | 748,197 | 1,122,296 |
| Denver | co | 1.829 | 200,885 | 301,328 | 401,770 | 602,656 |
| Bridgeport | CT | 2,667 | 252,627 | 378,941 | 505,254 | 757,881 |
| washivgion | DC | 2,095 | 208,312 | 312,468 | 416,624 | 624,936 |
| Wilmington | DE | 2,137 | 277,261 | 415,892 | 554,522 | 831,784 |
| Jacksonville | FL | 2,006 | 153,165 | 229,748 | 306,330 | 459,495 |
| Atlanta | GA | 2,098 | 147,177 | 220,766 | 294,355 | 441,532 |
| Honolulu | HI | 2,820 | 394,656 | 591,984 | 789,312 | 1,183,967 |
| Des Moines | IA | 1,693 | 134,304 | 201,455 | 268,607 | 402,911 |
| Boise | D | 1,826 | 156,633 | 234,949 | 313,266 | 469,899 |
| Chicago | II | 2,021 | 174,735 | 262,103 | 349,471 | 524,206 |
| Indianapolis | IN | 1,708 | 140,615 | 210,923 | 281,231 | 421,846 |
| Wichita | Ks | 1,496 | 126,781 | 190,171 | 253,561 | 380,342 |
| Louisville | KY | 1,612 | 150,629 | 225,943 | 301,258 | 451,887 |
| New Orleans | LA | 2,107 | 194,236 | 291,354 | 388,472 | 582,708 |
| Boston | MA | 2,544 | 249,798 | 374,697 | 499,596 | 749,394 |
| Baltimore | MD | 2,004 | 202,404 | 303,606 | 404,808 | 607,212 |
| Portland | ME | 1.900 | 216,011 | 324,016 | 432,022 | 648,033 |
| Detroit | MII | 1,881 | 115,484 | 173,226 | 230,968 | 346,452 |
| Minneapolis | MN | 1,826 | 153,662 | 230,492 | 307,323 | 460,985 |
| Kansas City | MO | 1,713 | 143,069 | 214,604 | 286,139 | 429,208 |
| Jackson | MS | 1,831 | 157,145 | 235,717 | 314,290 | 471,435 |
| Billings | MT | 1,792 | 189,118 | 283,677 | 378,236 | 567,354 |
| Charlotte | NC | 1,846 | 156,947 | 235,420 | 313,894 | 470,840 |
| Fargo | ND | 1,432 | 155,459 | 233,188 | 310,917 | 466,376 |
| Omaha | NE | 1.661 | 133,591 | 200,386 | 267,181 | 400,772 |
| Manchester | NH | 2,204 | 175,354 | 263,030 | 350,707 | 526,061 |
| Newark | NJ | 2,290 | 121,703 | 182,555 | 243,407 | 365,110 |
| Albuquerque | NM | 1,681 | 187,908 | 281.862 | 375,816 | 563,724 |
| Las Vegas | NV | 2,221 | 146,530 | 219,796 | 293,061 | 439,591 |
| New York City | NY | 2,334 | 312,588 | 468,882 | 625,176 | 937,764 |
| Columbus | OH | 1,767 | 146,465 | 219,697 | 292,929 | 439,394 |
| Oklahoma City | OK | 1.585 | 135,202 | 202,803 | 270,404 | 405,606 |
| Portland | OR | 2,051 | 218,769 | 328,153 | 437,537 | 656,306 |
| Philadelphia | PA | 1.974 | 195,574 | 293,362 | 391,149 | 586,723 |
| Providence | RI | 2,066 | 227,218 | 340,827 | 454,437 | 681,655 |
| Columbia | SC | ${ }^{1,802}$ | 143,346 | 215,020 | 286,693 | 430,039 |
| Sioux Falls | SD | ${ }_{1}$,565 | 149,290 | 223,935 | 298,580 | 447,869 |
| Memphis | TN | 1,807 | ${ }^{143,476}$ | 215,214 | 286,953 | 430,429 |
| Houston | TX | 1,807 | 126,453 | 189,680 | 252,906 | 379,360 |
| Salt Lake City | UT | 1,895 | 184,063 | 276,094 | 368,126 | 552,189 |
| Virginia Beach | VA | 2,428 | 208.315 | 312,472 | 416,629 | 624,944 |
| Burlington | VT | 2,226 | 205,045 | 307,568 | 410,090 | ${ }^{615,136}$ |
| Seartle | WA | 2,048 | 223,594 | 335,391 | 447,189 | 670,783 |
| Millwaukee | wI | 1,804 | 183,348 | 275,021 | 366,695 | 550,043 |
| Charleston | wv | 1,513 | 108,906 | 163,359 | 217,811 | 326,717 |
| Cheyenne | WY | 1.528 | 167,737 | 251,605 | 335,474 | 503,211 |
| AVERAGE |  | \$1,942 | \$182,399 | \$273,599 | \$364,798 | 5547,197 |
| median |  | \$1,881 | \$157,145 | \$235,717 | \$314,290 | S471,435 |

## Comparison of selected taxes, 2012

District of Columbia

| TAX | NUMBER OF JURISDICTIONS |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { LOWER } \\ \text { THAN DC }\end{array}$ |  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { SAME } \\ \text { AS DC }\end{array}$ |
| Individual Income |  | 37 |  |  |
| THAN DC |  |  |  |$]$| 5 |
| :---: |
| Corporate Income |

## 2012 Income Assumptions

District of Columbia

| Gross <br> Income |  | Wages and Salaries | Interest | Long-Term Capital Gains 1/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$25,000 | Spouse 1 <br> Spouse 2 | $\begin{gathered} \$ 17,159 \\ 7,354 \end{gathered}$ | \$615 | (\$128) |
| \$50,000 | Spouse 1 <br> Spouse 2 | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 33,833 \\ 14,500 \end{array}$ | \$1,071 | \$597 |
| \$75,000 | Spouse 1 <br> Spouse 2 | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 51,760 \\ 22,183 \end{array}$ | \$831 | \$226 |
| \$100,000 | Spouse 1 <br> Spouse 2 | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 69,010 \\ 29,576 \end{array}$ | \$792 | \$623 |
| \$150,000 | Spouse 1 Spouse 2 | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 103,417 \\ 44,321 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | \$1,102 | \$1,161 |

1/ Assumes a three-year holding period

## 2012 Income Tax Deduction Assumptions

District of Columbia

| Deduction | Gross Income Level |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \$ 25,000 | \$ 50,000 | \$ 75,000 | \$100,000 | \$150,000 |
| Medical (Gross) | 6,073 | 7,464 | 9,087 | 9,703 | 12,228 |
| Nondeductible Medical 1/ | $\underline{-1,875}$ | $\underline{-3,750}$ | -5,625 | -7,500 | -11,250 |
| Net Medical Deduction | 4,198 | 3,714 | 3,462 | 2,203 | 978 |
| Deductible Taxes | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ |
| Mortgage Interest | $3 /$ | $3 /$ | $3 /$ | 3/ | $3 /$ |
| Contribution Deduction | 2,456 | 3,140 | 4,033 | 4,196 | 4,292 |
| Gross Miscellaneous | 2,879 | 4,619 | 3,910 | 3,973 | 4,576 |
| Nondeductible 4/ | -500 | $\underline{-1,000}$ | -1,500 | -2,000 | -3,000 |
| Net Miscellaneous Deduction | 2,379 | 3,619 | 2,410 | 1,973 | 1,576 |
| Other Miscellaneous Deductions | 153 | 163 | 206 | 184 | 134 |
| Total Deductions-without taxes |  |  |  |  |  |
| And mortgage interest | 9,186 | 10,636 | 10,110 | 8,555 | 6,980 |

1/ Nondeductible medical equal 7.5 percent of federal A.G.I. All or part of medical deductions may be allowed in some states.
2/ The tax deduction varies from city to city and is based on real and personal property taxes computed in the 2012 study and individual income taxes computed in the 2011 study.
3/ Mortgage interest is based on 5th year interest paid on a home purchased in 2007 at an interest rate of $4.0 \%$.
4/ Nondeductible miscellaneous deductions equal 2 percent of A.G.I.

