

The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP) is a research-driven policy organization whose analysts generate accurate, timely information on the fiscal and socioeconomic effects of current and proposed tax policies. Producing its briefs, reports and press materials in plain English, ITEP provides an indispensable product to elected officials, the news media and the public: reliable, accessible explanations of local, state and federal tax issues. ITEP is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit located in Washington, DC.

OUR WORK:

On a day-to-day basis, ITEP works directly with legislators, policy makers and nonprofits, responding to requests for analyses of tax reform projects and proposals. As lawmakers propose changes to tax systems, ITEP conducts analyses of the distributional impact of these plans as compared with current tax policies. ITEP staff regularly provide expert testimony for federal and state legislative hearings.

OUR EXPERTISE:

ITEP created and maintains its own “microsimulation tax model” which is capable of analyzing the tax systems of all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the federal government. This computer-generated model can analyze all major tax categories: income, consumption, property, corporate.

A microsimulation model uses a large sample of tax returns and other data to estimate the impact of tax systems and tax proposals on actual taxpayers at different income levels. It is the same type of tax model used by the U.S. Treasury Department, the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, the Congressional Budget Office and many state revenue departments.

ITEP staff update the model daily with the most current economic projections and the latest changes to state and federal tax laws.

OUR MISSION:

ITEP is committed to fair and sustainable tax laws that protect lower income Americans from regressive policies while generating revenues adequate to serve the public interest. ITEP’s timely, accessible and accurate analyses support advocacy groups and public servants who share that commitment.

OUR PUBLICATIONS:

In addition to responding to requests from individuals and organizations for state level analyses, ITEP frequently publishes reports and briefs on tax issues affecting some or all the states, e.g.:

Policy Briefs

ITEP maintains an up-to-date online library with dozens of two-page introductions to basic tax policy ideas important to understanding current tax and budget debates in the areas of: **Tax Basics, Personal Income Taxes, Corporate Income Taxes, Sales and Excise Taxes, Other Taxes and Revenues Sources.**

Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of The Tax Systems in All 50 States

Describes the impact by income level of all major state and local taxes in each state and the District of Columbia, and finds that, on average, the poorest taxpayers pay the highest effective state and local tax rates.

The ITEP Guide to Fair State and Local Taxes

A primer on the context and consequences of each major tax and revenue source utilized at the state and local levels.

Other major ITEP reports include: **A Capital Idea** (2011), a detailed analysis of state capital gains tax breaks; **A Credit Where Credit is (Over) Due** (2010), which recommends four proven tax reforms for mitigating the effects of poverty; and **Writing off Tax Giveaways**(2010), which examines options for reforming itemized deductions in the thirty-one states and DC that offer them.

OUR INVITATION:

As a 501 (c)3 nonprofit, ITEP’s mandate is public education. We want all interested lawmakers, journalists, advocates, educators, voters and other citizens to browse our website at www.itepnet.org and download any publication to help contribute to a greater understanding of tax and economic issues. We also invite you to e-mail or call us if we can answer any questions for you.