

Reimagining an Affordable Wisconsin

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Joining us:

- Eli Byerly-Duke, Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy
- Sachin Shivaram, Wisconsin Aluminum Foundry
- Cristhabel Martinez, Leaders Igniting Transformation

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- We are recording today's webinar.
- We will share slides & recording with all registrants after the event.
- Put your questions in the Q/A. We will do our best to answer them today.
- Please take 3 minutes after the event to share your feedback.

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**Affordability =
Household Income + Public Supports – Essential Costs**

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When we come together, reject division, and demand a system that works for all of us, communities can have the things they need, like:

Care that works...

- Health care at a price all Wisconsin residents can afford
- Child care at no more than 5% of a family's income

Work that pays...

- A living wage starting at \$20/hr that goes up as cost of living increases
- Expanding tax credits that help working families make ends meet

Communities that care...

- Age appropriate support for youth, instead of new youth prisons
- Healthy school meals for all kids and nutritious food families can afford

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Wisconsin has a huge opportunity

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Presentation Outline

- What's happening in tax policy
- How Wisconsin raises money now
- Options for tax policy

About the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy

The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP)

- Non-profit, non-partisan research organization founded in 1980
- Federal, state, and local tax policy issues

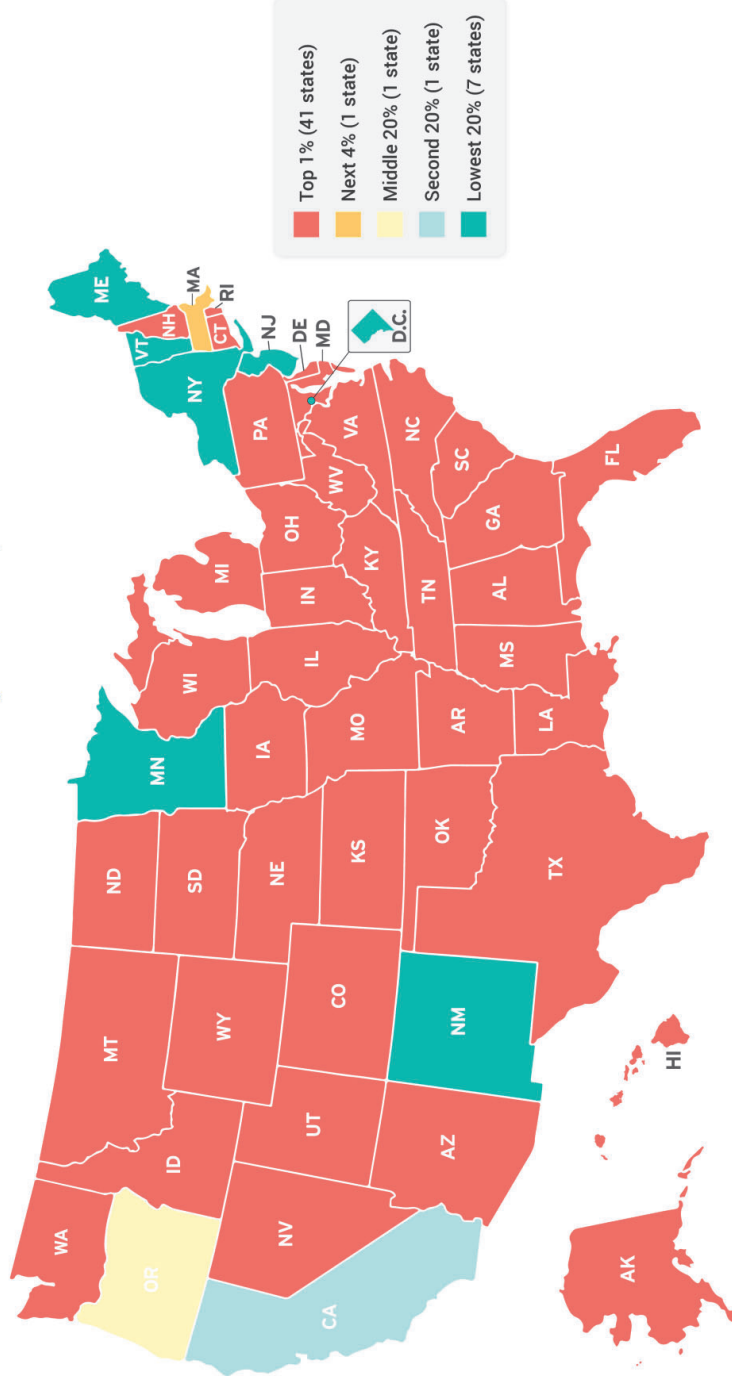
Mission:

- Ensure elected officials, media, and general public have access to accurate, timely, and straightforward information that allows them to understand the effects of current and proposed tax policies with an emphasis on tax incidence analysis.



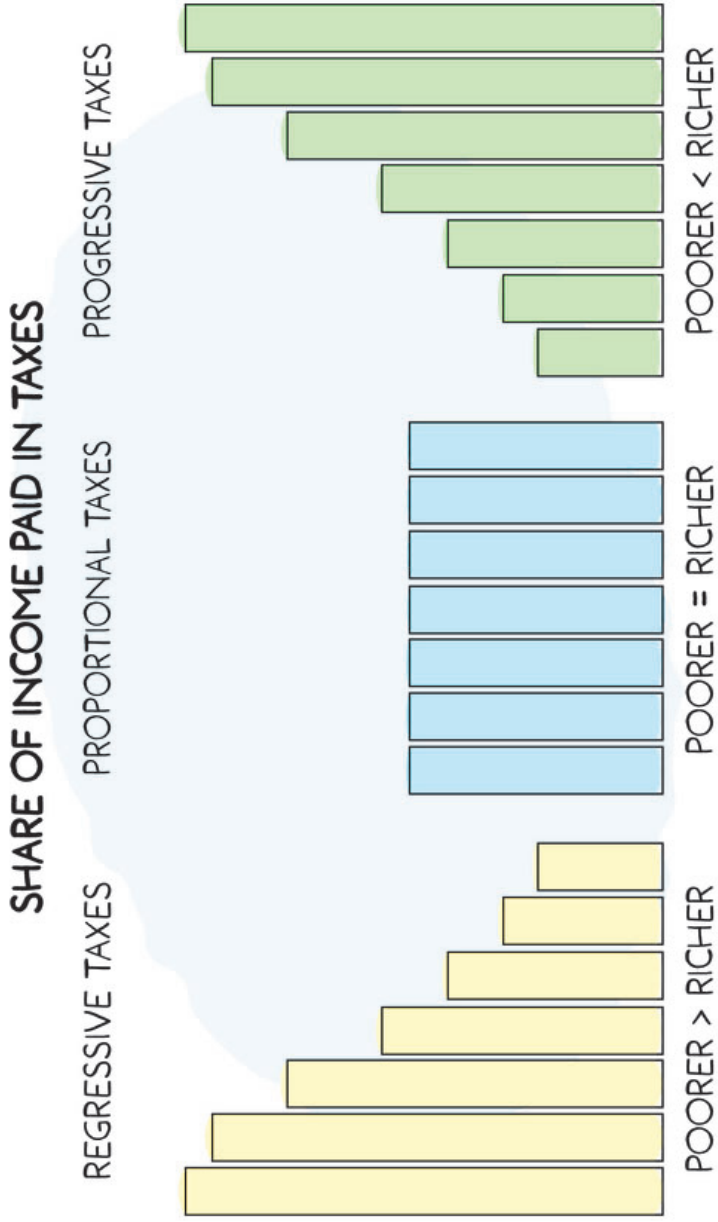
The rich are the lowest-taxed group in most states.

The income group for whom state and local taxes, as a share of family income, are lowest



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP)

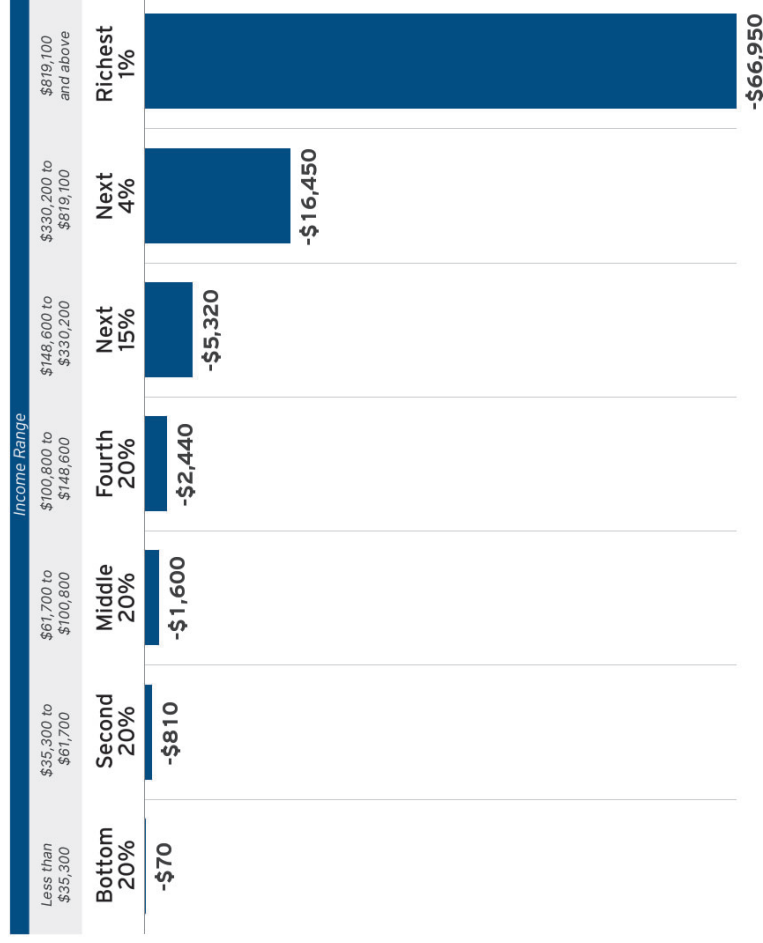
What is Progressive Taxation?



The Trump megabill was a handout to the wealthiest families in Wisconsin

Impact of Trump Megabill in Wisconsin

Average tax change by income group in 2026



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy Tax Microsimulation Model, July 2025

Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy | ITEP.org

ONLY 12% of Americans
think the rich are paying *too much*.

And **ONLY 7% of Americans**
think corporations are paying *too much*.

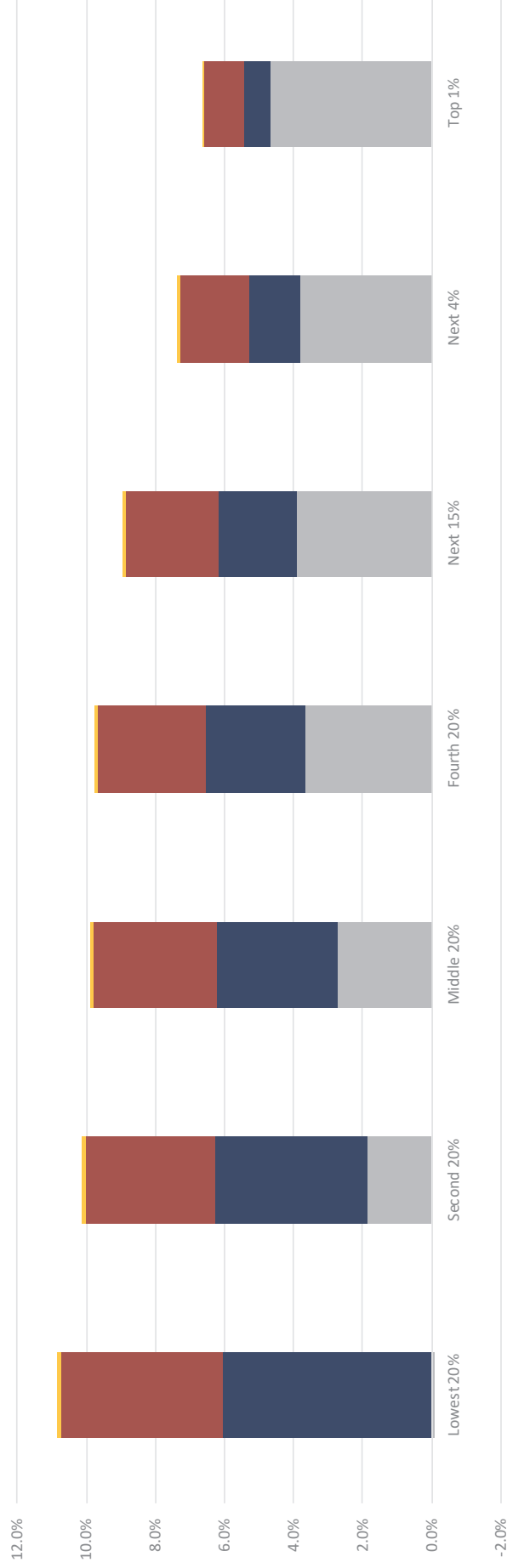
Source: 2025 Gallup Poll

In Wisconsin, the rich pay lower tax rates than either middle- or lower-income families



Income tax is the engine of progressive revenue.

Total state and local taxes as a share of income, Wisconsin non-seniors



Recent State Tax Action

States made major shifts leading up to the last *Who Pays?* report (i.e. Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, Washington)

This year alone we've seen:

Washington, Maine, Hawai'i, and Rhode Island* pass higher taxes on high-income individuals.

New Mexico and Vermont pass robust corporate tax reforms.

Wisconsin can raise billions with shovel ready solutions

- The critical features already exist—they just need reform.
- There are two many strategies:
 - Raise rates
 - Close loopholes

How to create a shell company

Choose a
tax haven



Create a
corporation



or other entity
(trust, foundation)

Hire a **nominee**
to run your affairs



Wealth should be taxed like work

- Eliminate the preferential rate for capital gains: at least \$246M
- Eliminate the most common loopholes: about \$426M
- Treat multimillion dollar inheritances fully as income: \$375



Corporations should be taxed like people

- Repeal special exemptions that don't benefit the state: at least \$200M
- Close the water's edge loophole: \$325M

Contact at:
eli@itep.org

States across the nation now face serious budget problems sustaining Medicaid, SNAP, funding for climate disasters, etc.

A trillion-dollar tax cut for the rich

Trump's megabill pays for tax cuts for the top 1% with Medicaid cuts for millions of families

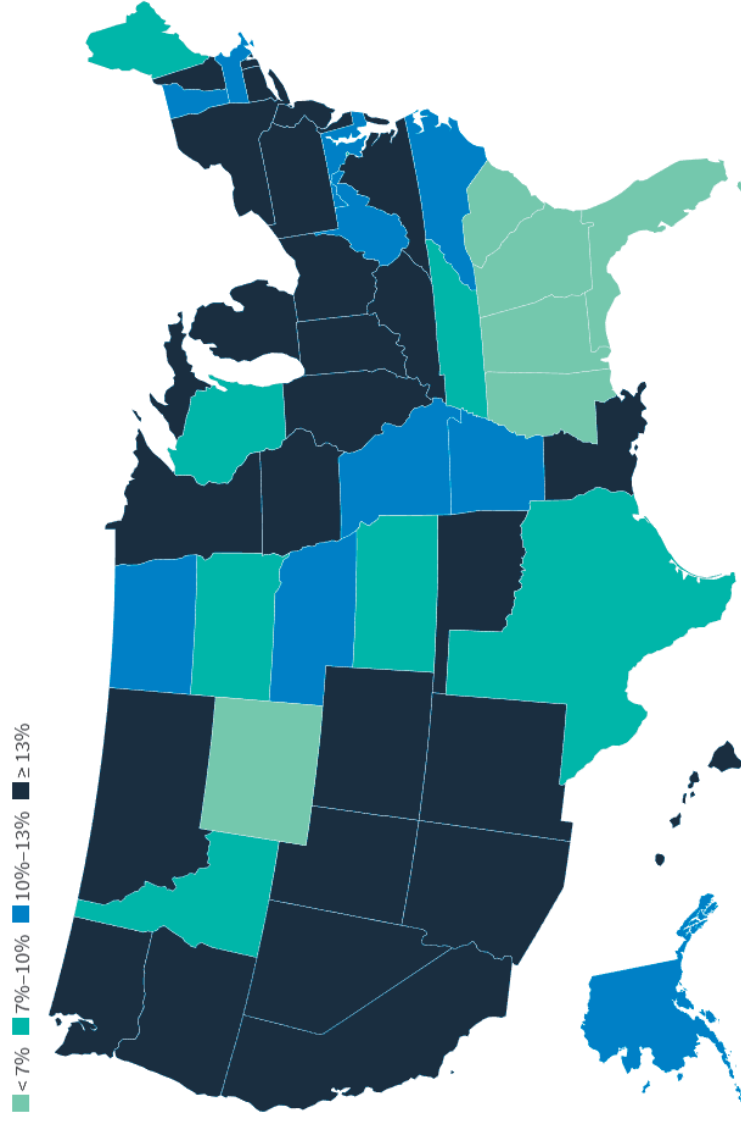


Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy analysis of data from the Joint Committee on Taxation, Congressional Budget Office, and various other sources, July 2025



Federal Medicaid Cuts in the Enacted Reconciliation Package, By State

As a percentage of 10-year baseline federal spending (2025-2034)



Note: \$911 billion in federal Medicaid spending cuts over the 10-year period is allocated across states, including \$79B in estimated Medicaid spending interactions. See Methods in "Allocating CBO's Estimates of Federal Medicaid Spending Reductions Across the States: Enacted Reconciliation Package" for more details.

Source: KFF analysis of CBO estimates of the enacted reconciliation package • [Get the data](#) • [Download PNG](#)

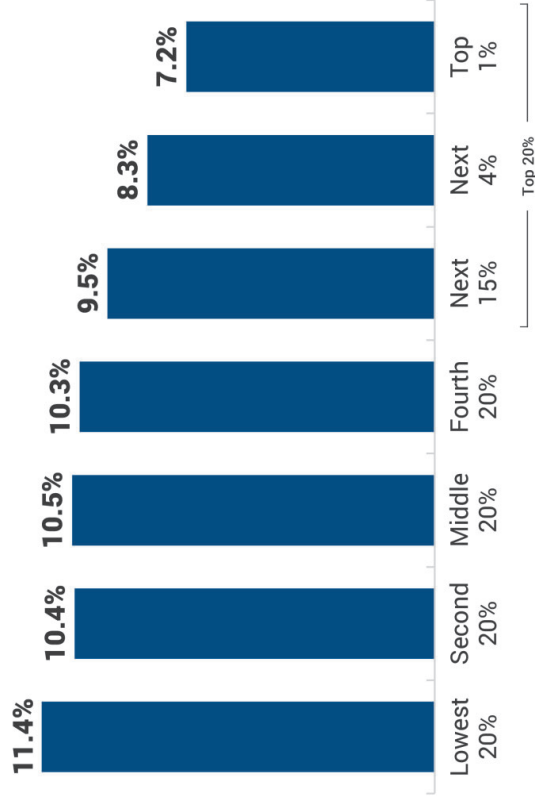
KFF

State tax codes
have long been
upside down and
out of step with
public thinking

State and local tax systems as a whole are upside-down, levying the lowest effective tax rates on the highest-income households.

Distribution of state & local taxes, national average

Shares of family income paid by income group



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP)

What's next?

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Getting Real on

Affordability *in Wisconsin*

Candidate Forum for Wisconsin Governor

Mon, July 20, 6-7:30pm

Center for Black Excellence 671 W Badger Rd, Madison

This is a family friendly event - children are invited and encouraged to attend! Register at bit.ly/AffordabilityForum

Confirmed



David Crowley



Sara Rodriguez



Kelda Roys

Invited

- Mandela Barnes
- Joel Brennan
- Francesca Hong
- Missy Hughes
- Tom Tiffany



ROOTS4CHANGE
Raíces para el Cambio CO-OP



Helping Communities Help Children



TENANT RESOURCE CENTER