## 3 . Learn about "Income Tax"

## 1 Income Tax

Income tax is imposed on wages, business profits, gains on land sale and other types of incomes. The income tax on an employee's wage is calculated by
(1) subtracting the employment income exemption from wage income (annual income) to determine the wage income amount,
(2) subtracting basic, spouse and other exemptions from the wage income amount to give consideration to the employee's taxpaying capacity and
(3) applying the progressive tax rate system (where higher tax rates are applied to higher income) to the remaining amount.

In this way, income tax can require contribution according to income size and can be fine-tuned according to family structure and other personal circumstances.

Flow Chart Image for Calculation of Income Tax on Wage Earners


## 2 Major Types of Income

There are various types of income, which can be divided into the following ten types of income depending on the nature of the income. In addition, the method of calculating income and the taxation method are determined according to the nature of each income.

| Category of income | Description | Taxation method |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interest income | Income from interest on bonds and savings accounts | Separate withholding taxation at source |
| Dividend income | Income from dividends, etc. by corporations | Comprehensive taxation (filing of return not required), Separate self-assessment taxation |
| Real property income | Income from loans of real estate, ships, aircraft, etc. | Comprehensive taxation |
| Business income | Income arising from business, such as agricultural business, fishing business, manufacturing business, wholesale business, retail business, or service business | Comprehensive taxation |
| Employment income | Income from salaries, bonuses, etc. | Comprehensive taxation |
| Retirement income | Income from retirement and other benefits | Separate taxation |
| Timber income | Income from the transfer of mountains and/or forests | Separate taxation |
| Capital gains income | Income arising from the transfer of assets | Comprehensive taxation (Note) |
| Occasional income | Income arising occasionally which is not income arising from a continuous act carried out for the purpose of profit, and which does not have a nature of compensation for any service such as labor or transfer of assets | Comprehensive taxation |
| Miscellaneous income | Income from public pensions and other sources Income that does not fall into any of the above categories | Comprehensive taxation (Note) |

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## 3 Major Personal Exemptions

There are exemptions such as basic exemption which applies to all people and exemptions which take into account individual circumstances such as family structure.
$\left.\begin{array}{l|l|l|l|}\hline & & \begin{array}{c}\text { Income requirement } \\ \text { for taxpayers }\end{array} \\ \text { (Total income) }\end{array}\right]$

## 4 Changes in Income Tax Contributions

In the past, the highest income tax rate was 70\% (for taxable income exceeding 80 million yen), but the rate has been lowered to reduce tax burdens on wage earners. For income from 2015, a new tax rate of $45 \%$ was created for taxable income exceeding 40 million yen to revive income redistribution function of the tax system.

Changes in individual income tax rates (Image)

Intemational Comparison of Effective Tax Rates for Personal Income Taxation (Working Household of a Couple with 2 children (living on a single income))
(As of January 2023)

(Note 1) The model case is calculated as having 16 -year old and 19-year old children in school.
(Note 2) The percentages in the figure are the effective tax rates for each country. The fractions are rounded off.
(Note 3) Income Tax, Individual Resident Tax (income-based levy) and Special Income Tax for Reconstruction are included for Japan. For the United States, Federal Income Tax and New York State Income Tax are included. Income taxes may be levied by the local governments (county, city, etc.), however, this is not taken into account in this figure.
Income Tax and Solidarity Surcharge ( $0-5.5 \%$ of the income tax) are included for Germany. For France, Income Tax and Social Security-related Contributions ( $9.7 \%$ ) are included. When calculating the rate of the burden in each country, only the generally applicable deductions and tax credits are taken into account, so the Earned Income Tax Credit of the US, Working Tax Credit (full benefit) of the UK and similar measures are not considered.
(Remarks) Japanese Currency Exchange Rate: 1 USD $=142 \mathrm{JPY}, 1 \mathrm{GBP}=168 \mathrm{JPY}$, and $1 \mathrm{EUR}=145 \mathrm{JPY}$ (basic exchange rate and arbitrated exchange rate by Bank of Japan: applied in January 2023).


[^0]:    (Note) Some items are treated as separate taxation (income from transfer of stocks, transfer of land, futures trading, etc.).

