



# Philadelphia's Residential Tax Burden

## Glossary of terms

**Tax burden %:** The percentage of a four-person family's gross household income that is owed on property taxes, sales taxes, and income taxes in a given year.\*

**Tax burden \$:** The dollar amount of property taxes, sales taxes, and income taxes that a family of four would owe in a given year.\*

**Tax burden \$ gap with Philadelphia:** The dollar amount of taxes that a family of four would save or owe additionally by living in the suburbs instead of Philadelphia. Put another way:

$$\text{Tax burden gap} = \text{tax burden \$ for selected municipality} - \text{tax burden \$ for Philadelphia}$$

**Rank:** Where a selected municipality ranks among 355 municipalities in the region in terms of tax burden. A selected county is ranked among nine counties in the region. The lower the ranking, the higher the tax burden for the selected municipality.

**Noncommuter:** A family that lives and works in the selected suburban municipality, paying all income, property, and sales taxes in that municipality or county.

**Commutes to city:** A family that lives in the selected suburban municipality and works in Philadelphia, paying property and some sales taxes where they live, and income and some sales taxes in the city.

\* Property taxes are local; sales and income taxes are state and local.

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## For further information, please visit:

[pewtrusts.org/compare-philly-suburban-tax-burden](http://pewtrusts.org/compare-philly-suburban-tax-burden)

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