What is the FICA tax rate (Social Security & Medicare)?

Tell Me

The Social Security and Medicare taxes are collectively known as FICA (the Federal Insurance Contributions Act). Different rates apply for each of these taxes.

1. The current FICA tax rate is 7.65% broken down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Security</th>
<th>Medicare</th>
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| • Withheld at a flat 6.2% each for the employee and employer.  
  • The wage base limit is $127,200 in 2017 & $128,400 in 2018 (this is the maximum wage that is subject to the tax for that calendar year). | • Withheld at a flat 1.45% each for the employee and employer.  
  • There is no wage base limit for Medicare tax. All covered wages are subject to Medicare tax.  
  • .9% applied on wages in excess of $200,000 based on the taxpayer's filing status. There is no employer match for Additional Medicare Tax. |

2. View this [FAQ](#) to learn about exemptions from FICA withholding.

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