

[Are US taxpayers realizing that the middle class tax cut was an illusion, and upon doing their 2018 tax return, they owe an unexpected amount that exceeds their withholding?](#)



[Craig Fechter](#), CPA with Masters degree in taxation. Small business owner.

[Updated Sep 5](#)

Your question is trollish in nature - I'm a practicing tax CPA who prepares 500 individual and business tax returns per year. I have spent hundreds of hours this past year analyzing the changes in the bill and its net impact on my clients (primarily upper middle class taxpayers). The realities are:

- People whose incomes are between 75-150k will likely pay just a bit more if they are in high-tax states and own a home (figure a couple hundred dollars per year), unless they have kids.
- People whose incomes are between 150k-500k or so will likely pay a few thousand less in taxes.
- High wage earners or consultants/professionals with high income (over 750k) will pay a lot more in federal income taxes. A lot more. I disagree with this as well because you are already overly reliant on this demographic.
- Highest income earners with business income (unless a professional) will probably pay a bit less. I would estimate 2-5% less than what they pay right now.

I would estimate that overall 95% of taxpayers will pay less year over year. Anyone who says this is an illusion is selling you fake outrage.