



This article discusses Australia's taxation laws in regards to residency and outlines the recent tax rates for both resident and non-resident taxpayers.

These principles are utilised in Division 6-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 ("ITAA 1997") which is outlined below.



A. RESIDENT VS NON-RESIDENT TAXPAYERS

Division 6-5 of the ITAA 1997 provides that:

The assessable income of a taxpayer shall include:

- (a) for resident taxpayers - the gross income derived directly or indirectly from all sources whether in or out of Australia; and
- (b) for non-resident taxpayers - the gross income derived directly or indirectly from all sources in Australia.

The effect of the law is to bring into the assessable income of resident taxpayers their worldwide income, and for non-resident taxpayers their Australian sourced income only.

It is therefore important when determining tax liability to make decisions regarding residence.

B. How do you determine residency for tax purposes?

'Australian resident' is defined in section 6(1) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 ("ITAA 1936"), as referred to in section 995-1 of the ITAA 1997. This outlines the tests used to determine residency of individuals. These tests are particularly important for migrants determining whether they are residents for tax purposes.

The four relevant tests of residence for individuals are:

- 1) an individual is regarded as a resident if he/she has been in Australia for more than one half of the year of income (ie. more than 183 days).
- 2) an individual is a resident of Australia if the person's usual place of residence is in Australia and he/she maintains a home in Australia during the absence.
- 3) a person is treated as a resident if he/she has an Australian domicile, unless it is held that the person's permanent place of abode is outside Australia.
- 4) the establishment of a proper 'superannuation fund' in Australia.

Similarly, Section 6 of ITAA 1936 provides three rules for determining whether a company is an Australian resident for taxation purposes. These rules are based on:

- 1) The place of incorporation of the company—If the company is incorporated in Australia, it will be treated as an Australian resident.
- 2) The place of management and control of the company—If the company carries on business and has its central management and control in Australia, it will be treated as a resident.
- 3) Shareholders—A company will be treated as a resident of Australia if it carries on business in Australia and has its voting power controlled by Australian resident shareholders.



C. TAX RATES 2019-2020

C.1. RESIDENT TAX RATES 2019-2020

Taxable Income \$	Tax Rate %
0–18,200	0
18,201–37,000	19c per \$1 over \$18,200
37,001–90,000	\$3,572 + 32.5c per \$1 over \$37,000
90,001–180,000	\$20,797 + 37c per \$1 over \$90,000
180,001 +	\$54,097 + 45c per \$1 over \$180,000

C.2. NON-RESIDENT TAX RATES 2019-2020

Taxable Income \$	Tax Rate %
0–90,00	32.5%
90,001–180,000	\$29,250 + 37c per \$1 over \$90,000
180,001 +	\$62,550 + 45c per \$1 over \$180,000

D. TAX RATES 2018-2019

D.1. RESIDENT TAX RATES 2018-2019

Taxable Income \$	Tax Rate %
0–18,200	0
18,201–37,000	19c per \$1 over \$18,200
37,001–90,000	\$3,572 + 32.5c per \$1 over \$37,000
90,001–180,000	\$20,797 + 37c per \$1 over \$90,000
180,001 +	\$54,097 + 45c per \$1 over \$180,000

D.2. NON-RESIDENT TAX RATES 2018-2019

Taxable Income \$	Tax Rate %
0–90,00	32.5%
90,001–180,000	\$29,250 + 37c per \$1 over \$90,000
180,001 +	\$62,550 + 45c per \$1 over \$180,000

E. TAX RATES 2017-2018

E.1. RESIDENT TAX RATES 2017-2018

Taxable Income \$	Tax Rate %
0–18,200	0
18,201–37,000	19c per \$1 over \$18,200
37,001–87,000	\$3,572 + 32.5c per \$1 over \$37,000
87,001–180,000	\$19,822 + 37c per \$1 over \$87,000
180,001 +	\$54,232 + 45c per \$1 over \$180,000

E.2. NON-RESIDENT TAX RATES 2017-2018

Taxable Income \$	Tax Rate %
0–87,00	32.5%
87,001–180,000	\$28,275 + 37c per \$1 over \$87,000
180,001 +	\$62,685 + 45c per \$1 over \$180,000

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CONTACT US

Jeffrey T Lee Principal Lawyer
Gina Bae Senior Paralegal
Alice Huang Senior Paralegal
Alizeh Ahmad Paralegal
Eleni Carydis Paralegal

Comasters Law Firm and Notary Public
Suite 101, Level 1, Capitol Terrace
743-755 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

T +612 9288 0300
F +612 9288 0399
E comasters@comasters.com.au
www.comasters.com.au