

Estimated costs of principal tax reliefs*

| | £m | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------|-------------------|---------|
| Tax Expenditures | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | Table Note | No of claimants** | Year** |
| Income tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Relief for: | | | | | | | | | |
| Registered pension schemes | 19,700 | 18,300 | 21,500 | 23,500 | 24,300 | 25,600 | 1 | - | |
| Individual Savings Accounts | 2,550 | 2,350 | 2,600 | 2,700 | 2,900 | 3,150 | 2 | 22,148,000 | 2015-16 |
| Share Incentive Plan | 300 | 220 | 270 | 240 | 240 | 240 | 3.5 | - | |
| Save As You Earn | 180 | 180 | 210 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 4.5 | 140,000 | 2016-17 |
| Enterprise Management Incentives | 70 | 70 | 110 | 190 | 190 | 190 | 5 | 7,000 | 2016-17 |
| Approved Company Share Option Plans | 70 | 70 | 50 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 6 | 10,000 | 2016-17 |
| Venture Capital Trusts | 130 | 130 | 135 | 170 | 225 | 175 | 7 | 13,000 | 2015-16 |
| Enterprise Investment Scheme | 450 | 540 | 545 | 590 | 650 | 600 | 7 | 35,000 | 2015-16 |
| Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme | 85 | 85 | 85 | 95 | 105 | 105 | 7 | 9,600 | 2015-16 |
| Professional subscriptions | 120 | 130 | 135 | 140 | 140 | 145 | 8 | 1,300,000 | 2016-17 |
| Employer Supported Childcare including workplace nurseries | 440 | 460 | 480 | 490 | 520 | 430 | 9 | 820,000 | 2018-19 |
| Seafarers' Earnings Deduction | 280 | 280 | 250 | 240 | 230 | 230 | 9 | 20,000 | 2017-18 |
| Rent a room | 110 | 80 | 110 | 130 | 140 | 150 | 10 | 150,000 | 2016-17 |
| Wear and tear allowance | 195 | 220 | 220 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 800,000 | 2015-16 |
| Exemption of: | | | | | | | | | |
| First £30,000 of payments on termination of employment | 900 | 700 | 1,000 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 900 | | 300,000 | 2018-19 |
| Interest on National Savings Certificates including index-linked certificates | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 11 | - | |
| Premium Bond prizes | 130 | 130 | 130 | 130 | 130 | 130 | 11 | - | |
| Income of charities | 1,570 | 1,790 | 1,920 | 1,880 | 1,870 | 1,990 | 12 | - | |
| Foreign service allowance paid to Crown servants abroad | 60 | 50 | 45 | 50 | 60 | 55 | | - | |
| Dividends from Venture Capital Trusts | 60 | 60 | 55 | 30 | 35 | 60 | 13 | - | |
| Corporation tax | | | | | | | | | |
| R&D tax relief: SME scheme | 705 | 1,320 | 1,755 | 1,835 | 1,915 | 1,840 | 14.15 | 34,000 | 2016-17 |
| R&D tax relief: Large company & RDEC schemes | 930 | 1,625 | 1,925 | 1,610 | 1,680 | 1,735 | 14.15 | 5,900 | 2016-17 |
| Film Tax Relief | 265 | 305 | 405 | 510 | 530 | 545 | 16 | 600 | 2016-17 |
| High-end TV Relief | 60 | 120 | 170 | 155 | 160 | 165 | 16.17 | 150 | 2016-17 |
| Video Games Relief | - | 70 | 85 | 65 | 65 | 70 | 16.17 | 260 | 2016-17 |
| Theatre Tax Relief | - | 15 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 60 | | 570 | 2016-17 |
| Patent Box | 365 | 650 | 755 | 1,085 | 1,085 | 1,085 | 18 | 1,200 | 2015-16 |
| National insurance contributions | | | | | | | | | |
| Relief for: | | | | | | | | | |
| Share Incentive Plan | 220 | 165 | 200 | 170 | 170 | 170 | 3.5 | - | |
| Save As You Earn | 140 | 140 | 150 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 5 | 140,000 | 2016-17 |
| Enterprise Management Incentives | 40 | 40 | 50 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 5 | 7,000 | 2016-17 |
| Employer Supported Childcare including workplace nurseries | 350 | 380 | 400 | 410 | 420 | 370 | 9 | 820,000 | 2018-19 |
| Foreign service allowance paid to Crown servants abroad | 50 | 40 | 35 | 40 | 45 | 45 | | - | |
| Employer contributions to registered pension schemes | 13,800 | 13,700 | 15,800 | 16,200 | 17,400 | 18,100 | 21 | - | |
| Employment Allowance | - | 1,400 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 22 | 1,178,000 | 2017-18 |
| Abolition of employer National Insurance Contributions for under 21s | - | - | 500 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 23 | 300,000 | 2017-18 |
| Abolition of employer National Insurance Contributions for apprentices under 25 | - | - | - | 100 | 100 | 100 | 24 | 60,000 | 2017-18 |
| Capital gains tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Exemption of gains arising on disposal of only or main residence | 20,500 | 23,300 | 26,100 | 25,700 | 26,900 | 27,200 | 25 | - | |
| Relief for entrepreneurs' qualifying business disposals | 2,700 | 3,500 | 4,200 | 2,100 | 2,300 | 2,400 | 26 | 41,000 | 2016-17 |
| Relief on investments in Enterprise Investment Schemes | 115 | 135 | 120 | 125 | 145 | 120 | 27 | - | |
| Inheritance tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Relief for estates left on death for: | | | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural property | 395 | 435 | 335 | 360 | 355 | 365 | | 1,300 | 2015-16 |
| Business reliefs including unlisted shares | 580 | 575 | 595 | 660 | 690 | 710 | 28 | 2,190 | 2015-16 |
| Exemption of transfers to charities on death | 600 | 640 | 840 | 960 | 835 | 840 | | 9,970 | 2015-16 |
| Reduced rate for leaving 10 per cent of an estate to charity | 25 | 35 | 35 | 45 | 50 | 50 | 29 | 2,020 | 2015-16 |
| Value added tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Zero-rating of: | | | | | | | | | |
| Food | 16,550 | 16,550 | 16,650 | 16,950 | 17,900 | 18,600 | 30 | - | |
| Construction of new dwellings (includes refunds to DIY builders) | 7,200 | 9,550 | 10,800 | 12,750 | 13,050 | 13,550 | 30.31 | - | |
| Domestic passenger transport | 4,200 | 4,600 | 4,800 | 4,800 | 4,900 | 5,100 | 30 | - | |
| International passenger transport (UK portion) | 300 | 350 | 350 | 350 | 350 | 350 | 30 | - | |
| Books, newspapers and magazines | 1,400 | 1,400 | 1,400 | 1,450 | 1,450 | 1,500 | 30 | - | |
| Children's clothing | 1,550 | 1,650 | 1,750 | 1,800 | 1,950 | 2,000 | 30 | - | |
| Water and sewerage services | 2,100 | 2,200 | 2,150 | 2,250 | 2,350 | 2,450 | 30 | - | |
| Drugs and supplies on prescription | 3,150 | 3,300 | 3,200 | 3,350 | 3,200 | 3,350 | 30 | - | |
| Vehicles supplied to disabled people | 750 | 800 | 850 | 950 | 900 | 900 | 30.32 | - | |
| Reduced rate for: | | | | | | | | | |
| Domestic fuel and power | 4,750 | 4,600 | 4,400 | 4,350 | 4,700 | 4,850 | 30.33 | - | |
| Reduced rate of VAT on energy saving materials | 100 | 130 | 130 | 80 | 70 | 75 | 30.33 | - | |
| Excise taxes | | | | | | | | | |
| Small Brewers Relief | 50 | 55 | 55 | 65 | 55 | 60 | | 2,400 | 2017-18 |
| Small Lottery Exemptions (Licensed) | 45 | 55 | 60 | 65 | 70 | 80 | | - | |
| Air Passenger Duty | | | | | | | | | |
| Exemption for children aged between two and sixteen | - | - | 70 | 165 | 210 | 265 | 34 | - | |
| Structural Reliefs | | | | | | | | | |
| Income tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Personal allowance | 83,500 | 88,900 | 95,400 | 99,000 | 103,000 | 107,000 | 35 | 47,300,000 | 2018-19 |
| Personal savings allowance | - | - | - | 405 | 375 | 455 | 36 | 18,300,000 | 2018-19 |
| Personal dividend allowance | - | - | - | 1,270 | 1,320 | 695 | 37 | 5,090,000 | 2018-19 |
| Income tax and Capital Gains Tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Foreign Tax Credits and reliefs under Double Taxation Agreement | 1,500 | 1,600 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,900 | 38 | - | |
| Corporation tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Tonnage tax | 100 | 95 | 100 | 110 | 110 | 125 | 39 | 280 | 2016-17 |
| Double Taxation Relief | 4,495 | 3,570 | 2,535 | 2,425 | 2,910 | 3,425 | 40 | 8,000 | 2018-19 |
| National insurance contributions | | | | | | | | | |
| Primary Threshold | 22,100 | 23,200 | 24,300 | 24,500 | 25,200 | 26,400 | | 31,400,000 | 2018-19 |
| Secondary Threshold | 26,200 | 27,700 | 28,100 | 28,500 | 29,100 | 30,400 | | - | |
| Lower Profits Limit | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,220 | 2,260 | 2,290 | 2,370 | | 3,850,000 | 2018-19 |
| Contracted-out rebate occupational schemes: Rebates deducted at source by employers | 6,000 | 5,840 | 5,800 | - | - | - | 41 | - | |
| Exemption for individuals over State Pension Age | 975 | 1,040 | 970 | 1,250 | 1,210 | 1,110 | | 805,000 | 2018-19 |
| Value added tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Refunds to: | | | | | | | | | |
| Northern Ireland Government bodies of VAT incurred on non-business purchases under the Section 99 refund scheme | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 30 | - | |
| Local Authority-type bodies of VAT incurred on non-business purchases under the Section 33 refund scheme (includes academies, museums and galleries under the Section 33A refund scheme) | 10,550 | 10,500 | 11,000 | 10,900 | 10,800 | 10,900 | 30 | - | |
| Central Government, Health Authorities and NHS Trusts of VAT incurred on contracted-out services under the Section 41(3) refund scheme | 6,100 | 6,150 | 6,300 | 6,100 | 6,050 | 6,100 | 30 | - | |
| Hydrocarbon oils duty | | | | | | | | | |
| Tied oils scheme (Industrial Relief Scheme) | 1,230 | 1,140 | 1,335 | 1,400 | 1,445 | 1,505 | 42 | - | |
| Rebated rate for gas oil ("red diesel") | 2,415 | 2,510 | 2,440 | 2,430 | 2,450 | 2,460 | | - | |
| Air Passenger Duty | | | | | | | | | |
| Exemption for Cabin Crew | 155 | 165 | 160 | 170 | 170 | 175 | | - | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Climate change levy | | | | | | | | | |
| Supply of taxable commodities not for burning or consuming in the UK | 255 | 250 | 290 | 285 | 250 | 260 | | - | |
| Exemption of electricity generated from certain renewable resources | 235 | 310 | 320 | 165 | 10 | - | 43 | - | |
| Exemptions for supplies used in metallurgical and mineralogical processes | 10 | 65 | 140 | 140 | 130 | 135 | 44 | - | |
| Exemption for supplies to good quality CHP stations | 120 | 110 | 115 | 115 | 120 | 120 | 45 | - | |
| Reduced rate for participants in Climate Change agreements | 205 | 185 | 155 | 175 | 200 | 215 | 44 | - | |
| Carbon price floor | | | | | | | | | |
| Exclusion from CPS rates for supplies to good quality CHP stations | - | - | 45 | 55 | 60 | 45 | 46 | - | |
| Exclusion for fuels used in CHP stations to produce non-electrical outputs | 35 | 60 | 90 | 100 | 100 | 90 | | - | |
| Exclusion for fuels used in electricity generation in Northern Ireland | 10 | 20 | 35 | 50 | 45 | 40 | | - | |
| Reliefs with Tax Expenditure and Structural Components | | | | | | | | | |
| Income tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Age-related Personal allowances | 1,030 | 495 | 20 | - | - | - | 35.47 | 1,630,000 | 2015-16 |
| Married Couple's Allowance | 345 | 330 | 290 | 240 | 195 | 165 | 35.48 | 270,000 | 2018-19 |
| Marriage Allowance | - | - | 680 | 735 | 835 | 910 | 49 | 3,500,000 | 2018-19 |
| Exemption of: | | | | | | | | | |
| British Government securities where owner not resident in UK | 3,000 | 2,750 | 2,400 | 2,750 | 3,200 | 3,450 | | - | |
| Attendance allowance | 465 | 490 | 430 | 515 | 520 | 535 | | 1,400,000 | 2018-19 |
| Disability living allowance | 785 | 940 | 870 | 1,010 | 1,090 | 1,100 | | 3,700,000 | 2018-19 |
| War disablement benefits | 65 | 45 | 50 | 60 | 60 | 60 | | 100,000 | 2018-19 |
| Corporation tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Small companies' reduced corporation tax rate | 1,585 | 635 | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | |
| Ring-fence oil and gas trades: Investment Allowance used against Supplementary Charge | 45 | 60 | 130 | 95 | 140 | 320 | 51 | <50 | 2016-17 |
| Ring-fenced oil and gas trades: tax relief for decommissioning expenditure | 450 | 500 | 550 | 360 | 520 | 815 | 52 | 100 | 2018-19 |
| Petroleum Revenue Tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Tax relief for decommissioning expenditure | 185 | 250 | 415 | 310 | 165 | 225 | 53 | 100 | 2018-19 |
| Income tax and corporation tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Capital allowances | 20,150 | 18,800 | 16,070 | 15,715 | 16,790 | 18,095 | 54 | 2,240,000 | 2016-17 |
| Of which: | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual Investment Allowance | 2,700 | 3,225 | 3,610 | 2,990 | 2,885 | 2,920 | 55 | 1,260,000 | 2016-17 |
| Ring-fence oil and gas trade, first-year capital allowances for plant and machinery | 7,910 | 5,915 | 3,580 | 2,395 | 1,745 | 2,155 | 56 | 140 | 2016-17 |
| National insurance contributions | | | | | | | | | |
| Reduced contributions for self-employed not attributable to reduced pensions eligibility | 3,050 | 3,000 | 3,150 | 5,000 | 5,200 | 5,200 | 57 | 2,600,000 | 2018-19 |
| Inheritance tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Nil rate band for chargeable transfers not exceeding the threshold for estates left on death | 19,750 | 19,800 | 19,900 | 21,600 | 17,400 | 17,000 | 28.58 | 280,000 | 2015-16 |
| Exemption of transfers on death to surviving spouses | 2,900 | 2,900 | 2,530 | 2,940 | 2,530 | 2,530 | 59 | 19,600 | 2015-16 |
| £1m couples allowance through main residence nil-rate band by 2021 | - | - | - | - | 535 | 680 | | - | |
| Stamp Duty Land Tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Transfers to Charities | 175 | 190 | 280 | 220 | 245 | 205 | 60 | 9,800 | 2017-18 |
| Group Relief | 825 | 1,175 | 2,015 | 1,070 | 1,010 | 850 | 60 | 7,500 | 2017-18 |
| Transfers to Registered Social Landlords | 70 | 80 | 80 | 50 | 60 | 55 | 60 | 2,300 | 2017-18 |
| Transfers Involving Multiple Dwellings | 25 | 35 | 50 | 60 | 60 | 35 | 61 | 5,700 | 2017-18 |
| Pre-completion transaction | 70 | 105 | 105 | 140 | 130 | 90 | | 2,200 | 2017-18 |
| First Time Buyers (as per 23/11/2017) | - | - | - | - | 160 | 525 | 62 | 69,100 | 2017-18 |
| Value added tax | | | | | | | | | |
| Exemption of: | | | | | | | | | |
| Rent on domestic dwellings | 4,950 | 4,950 | 5,300 | 5,550 | 5,750 | 6,000 | 30.63.64 | - | |
| Education | 3,600 | 3,850 | 3,850 | 3,700 | 3,900 | 4,100 | 30.63 | - | |
| Health Services | 2,800 | 3,100 | 3,000 | 3,550 | 3,500 | 3,600 | 30.63 | - | |
| Burial and cremation | 250 | 250 | 300 | 250 | 300 | 350 | 30.63 | - | |
| Finance and insurance | 11,500 | 11,600 | 10,500 | 11,400 | 11,000 | 11,400 | 30.63.65 | - | |
| Betting and gaming and lottery duties | 1,300 | 1,450 | 1,500 | 1,400 | 1,500 | 1,550 | 30.63.66 | - | |
| Small traders below the turnover limit for VAT registration | 1,400 | 1,650 | 1,850 | 2,000 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 30.63 | - | |
| Vehicle Excise Duty | | | | | | | | | |
| Exemption for disabled motorists | 210 | 205 | 190 | 175 | 170 | 165 | 67 | 1,100,000 | 2018-19 |
| Exemption for Historic Cars | 70 | 75 | 80 | 90 | 90 | 100 | 68 | 400,000 | 2018-19 |

Reliefs no longer included in this table

Value Added Tax

Zero-rating of:

- Supplies to charities
- Certain ships and aircraft
- Vehicles and other supplies to disabled people

Reduced rate for:

- Certain residential conversions and renovations

Exemption of:

- Supplies of commercial property
- Postal services

Income tax

- Exemption of Child benefit
- Personal tax credits

Capital gains tax

- Exemption of: Annual exempt amount (half of the individual's exemption for trustees) *

Inheritance tax

- Conditional exemption for Heritage Property

Corporation tax

- R&D tax credits

Petroleum revenue tax

- Oil allowance

Updated January 2019

* These estimates are particularly tentative and subject to a wide margin of error. These estimates do not represent the actual gain if the relief were to be removed as they do not take account behavioural effects. Any changes over either £500 million or 30 per cent since the last publication will include an explanation in the published bulletin.

**The number of claimants are based upon the latest year for which we have data available: 2018-19 is a forecast. We are unable to produce for estimates of claimants for all reliefs as the data required is not