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Social Security Administration publishes wage base projections for 2018 through 2026

For those responsible for employment tax budgets, or just curious what the future may hold, following are the estimated Social Security wage base limits for employers and employees for calendar years 2018-2026 as recently published by the Social Security Administration (SSA). ([The 2017 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds, July 13, 2017, Table V.C.I, pg. 116](#))

In reviewing the chart shown on the following page, keep in mind that the SSA provides three estimates– high, intermediate and low. For 2017, the actual wage base is \$127,200, higher than the intermediate and low-cost estimate of \$126,000. The July 2017 projections reflect an increase to \$130,500 in 2018 under the intermediate, low and high-cost estimates.

Projections concerning length of trust funds' solvency

The Trustees Report states that the will have dedicated resources sufficient to cover benefits until 2034. The Disability Insurance (DI) Trust Fund is projected to remain solvent through 2028. The Medicare Hospital Insurance (HI) Trust Fund will have sufficient funds to cover its obligations until 2029. ([Board of Trustees Report Summary, July 13, 2017.](#))

The wage base projections are provided on the next page.

Projected Social Security wage base information as provided by the SSA in July 2017

Calendar year	Intermediate estimated wage base \$	Low-cost estimated wage Base \$	High-cost estimated wage base \$
2017 (actual)	127,200	127,200	127,200
2018	130,500	130,500	130,500
2019	135,600	136,800	133,800
2020	142,200	145,800	136,200
2021	148,500	155,100	140,100
2022	155,100	164,100	144,900
2023	161,700	172,800	149,400
2024	168,000	181,200	153,900
2025	174,300	189,900	158,400
2026	180,900	199,500	162,900

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