



An Introduction to Truth-In-Taxation



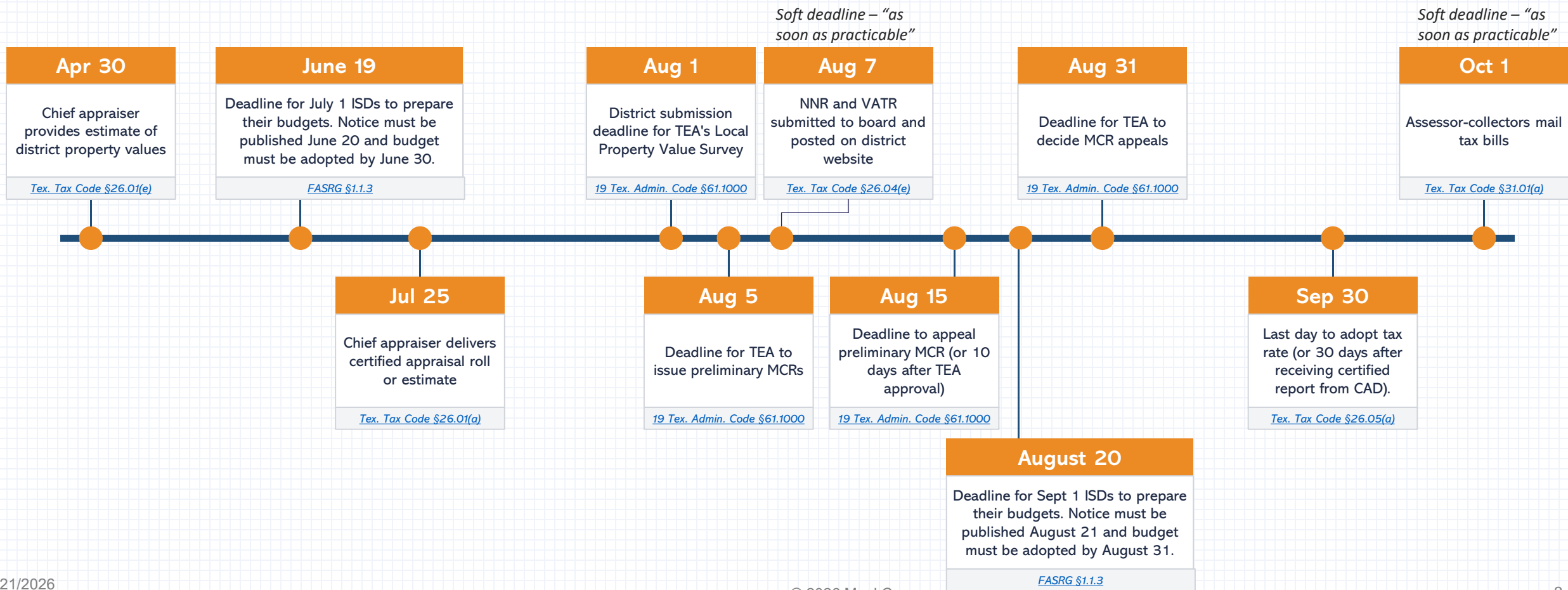
Prepared for





Tax Rate Adoption Timeline

Key Dates Applicable to All Districts





Tax Rate Adoption Timeline

Key Dates for VATRE (TRE) Districts

Jul 3

Board selects efficiency auditor
(≥4 months before election;
disaster-county exemption may
apply)

[Tex. Educ. Code §11.184\(b\)](#)

Aug 17

Last day to order VATRE election
and adopt rate above VATR (78
days before election).

Sept 1 districts also must adopt
budget before tax rate

[Tex. Elec. Code §3.005\(c\)](#)

Nov 3

Election day

[Tex. Elec. Code §41.001\(a\)](#)

Aug 7

Last day for Sept 1 VATRE districts
to publish Form 50-280 notice (10–
30 days before meeting).

July 1 ISDs must republish the notice.

[Tex. Educ. Code §44.004\(b\)](#)

Oct 3

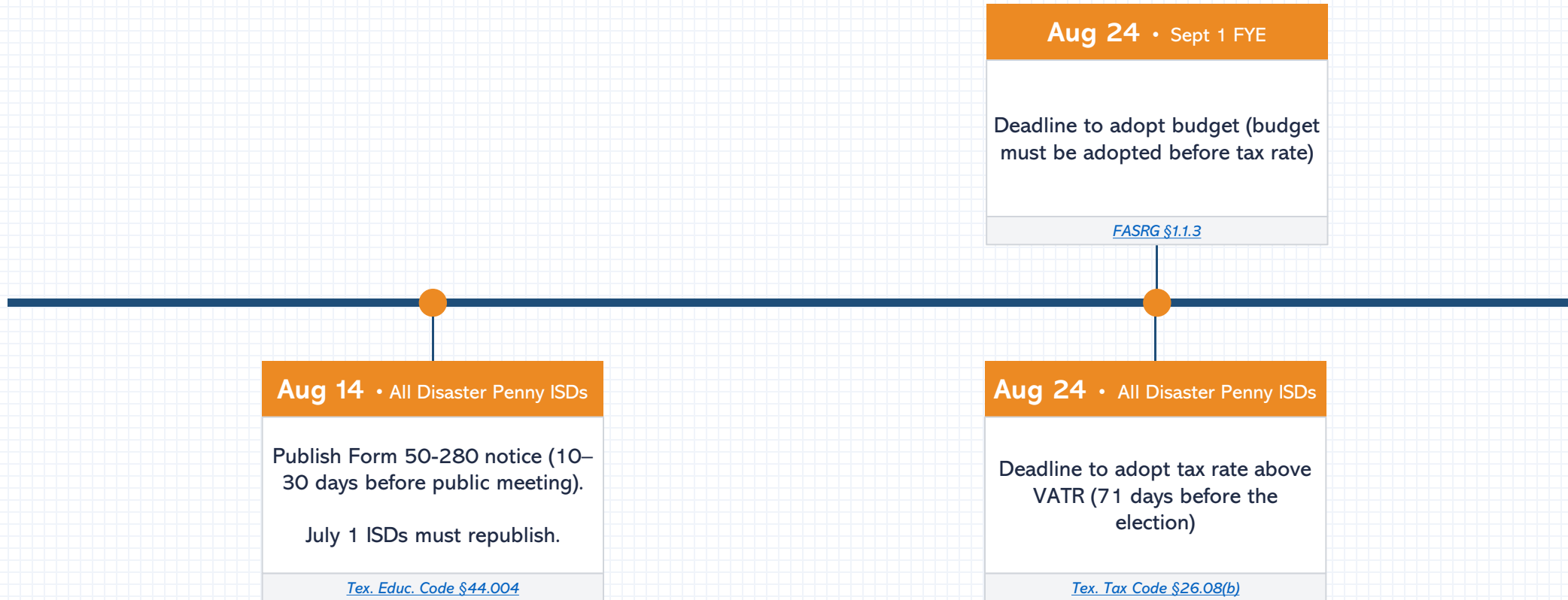
Deadline to post efficiency audit
results on district website
(disaster-county exemption may
apply)

[Tex. Educ. Code §11.184\(h\)](#)



Tax Rate Adoption Timeline

Key Dates for Disaster Penny Districts





Tax Rate Adoption Calcs.

Districts must calculate **four tax rates** as part of the tax rate adoption process:

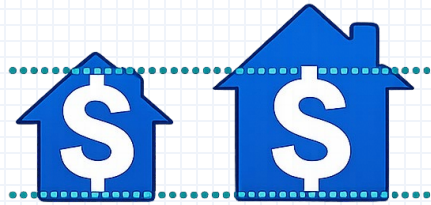
Proposed Tax Rate



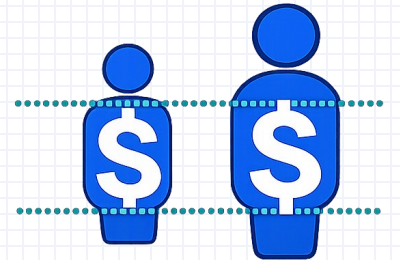
VS.



Voter-Approval Tax Rate
(formerly rollback tax rate)



No-New-Revenue Tax Rate
(formerly effective tax rate)



Rate to Maintain



**Tax Rate
Adoption**

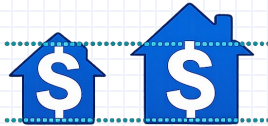


Truth-in-
Taxation



Proposed Tax Rate: The rate ISDs adopt and use for levying taxes on property owners within your school district. For September 1 districts, you will likely adopt the proposed rate on your notice. For July 1 districts, it is a placeholder at time of budget adoption. For I&S, initially set at minimum debt service rate.

(SB 1453 impact)

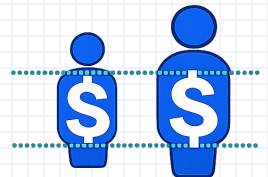


No-New-Revenue Rate: The rate that would maintain the same tax levy (not overall revenues) on the same properties as last year. Calculated using Comptroller worksheet.



Voter-Approval Tax Rate: Highest rate that can be adopted without voter approval. For I&S, initially set at minimum debt service rate.

(SB 1453 impact)



Rate to Maintain: For M&O, rate to maintain per student funding under Chapter 48/49. For I&S, rate needed for required debt service.

(SB 1453 impact)



Proposed Tax Rate

July 1 Districts: Ignore the impact of local compression when calculating the proposed M&O tax rate for purposes of your notice. This is because July certified values & MCR from TEA are not available.



Tax Rate
Adoption

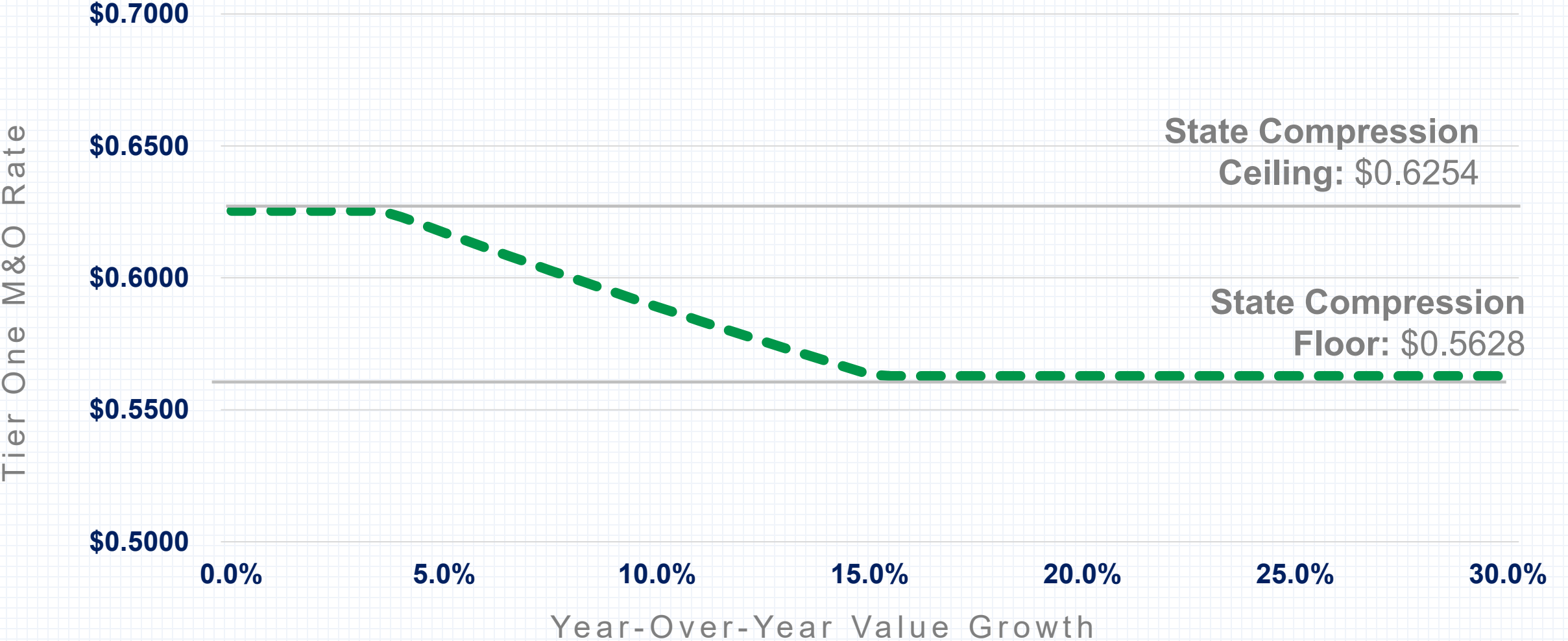
Tier One = Lesser of: 1) PY MCR or
2) State Compression Ceiling

September 1 Districts: Since your MCR will likely be available from TEA at time of adoption, use this to calculate your proposed M&O tax rate.



TY 2026

M&O Tier One Compression





Proposed Tax Rate

How many Tier Two pennies do I have?

1. Start with the number of Tier Two pennies you had in the prior year (usually this would equal Total M&O Tax Rate – MCR)
2. Is the district looking to increase the number of pennies through an election (VATRE) or use of disaster pennies?

Did the district utilize disaster pennies in the previous year?
Those pennies need to expire after one year.



**Tax Rate
Adoption**



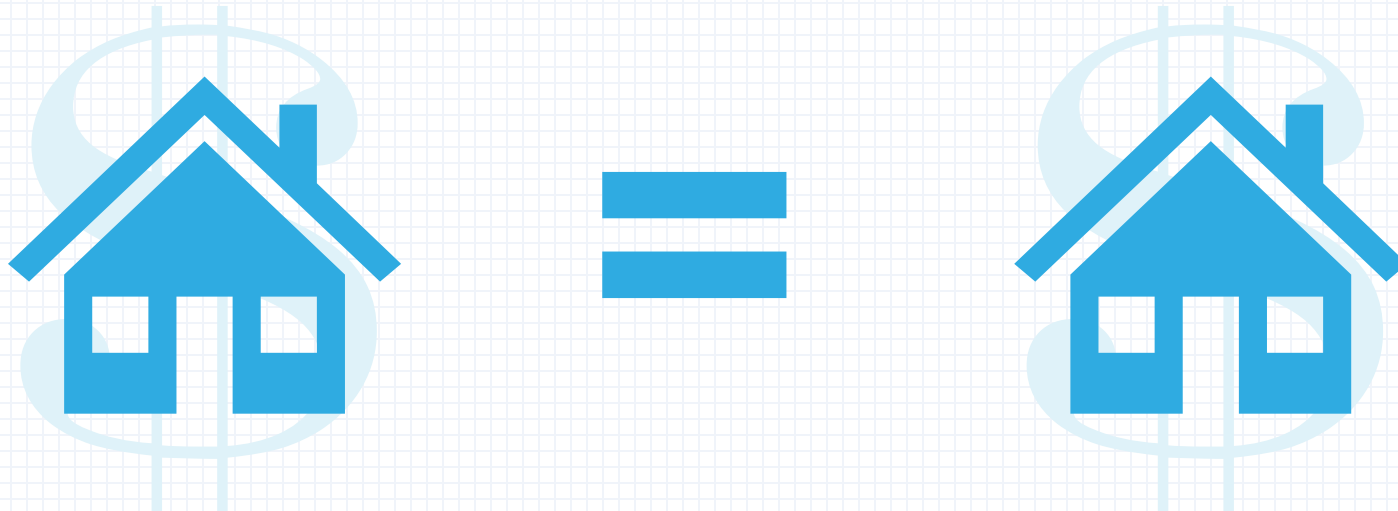
No-New-Revenue Rate

NNR (formerly known as the effective tax rate) is intended to answer this question:

What would the tax rate need to be to raise **the same tax levy** as last year on the **same properties** as last year?



Tax Rate
Adoption





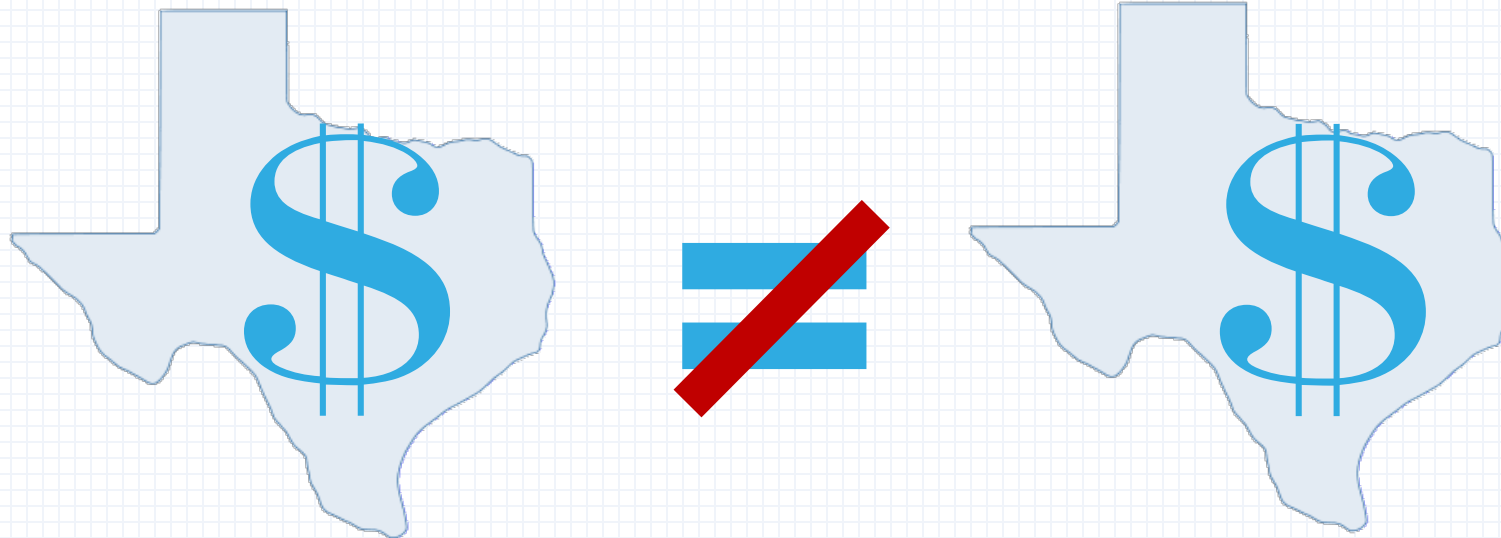
No-New-Revenue Rate

NNR **does not** answer this question:

What would happen to a **school district's state aid** if the NNR were adopted?



Tax Rate
Adoption





No-New-Revenue Rate

NNR is calculated in accordance with methodology outlined by the Texas Comptroller on the **tax rate calculation worksheet**.

50-859: Without 313 Agreements

50-884: With 313 Agreements



2025 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet
School Districts without Chapter 313 and JETI Agreements

Form 50-859

School District Name: Phone (area code and number):
School District Address, City, State, ZIP Code: School District Website Address:

GENERAL INFORMATION: Tax Code Section 25.04(c) requires an officer or employee designated by the governing body to calculate the no-new-revenue tax rate and voter-approved tax rate for the taxing unit. These tax rates are expressed in dollars per \$100 of taxable value calculated. The calculation process starts after the chief appraiser delivers to the taxing unit the certified appraisal roll or certified estimate of value and the estimated value of properties under protest. The designated officer or employee shall submit the rates to the governing body by August 7 or as soon thereafter as practicable. Tax Code Section 25.04(c-1) does not require school districts to certify tax rate calculations or comply with certain Tax Code notice requirements. School districts are required to provide notice regarding tax rate calculations pursuant to Education Code Chapter 44.

This worksheet is for school districts without Tax Code Chapter 313 or Government Code Chapter 402, Subchapter C, Texas Jobs, Energy, Technology, and Innovation Act (JETI) agreements only. School districts that have a Chapter 313 or JETI agreement should use Comptroller Form 50-884 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet, School Districts with Chapter 313 or JETI Agreements.

Water districts as defined under Water Code Section 49.001(1) do not use this form. Use Comptroller Form 50-858 Water District Voter-Approved Tax Rate Worksheet for Low Tax Rate and Developing Districts or Comptroller Form 50-860 Developed Water District Voter-Approved Tax Rate Worksheet.

All other taxing units should use Comptroller Form 50-856 Tax Rate Calculations, Taxing Units Other Than School Districts or Water Districts.

The Comptroller's office provides this worksheet to assist taxing units in determining tax rates. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) provides detailed information on and guidance to school districts in calculating their tax rates. Please review and rely on information provided by TEA when completing this worksheet. Additionally, the information provided in this worksheet is offered as technical assistance and not legal advice. Taxing units should consult legal counsel for interpretations of law regarding tax rate preparation and adoption.

SECTION 1: No-New-Revenue Tax Rate

The no-new-revenue (NNR) tax rate enables the public to evaluate the relationship between taxes for the prior year and for the current year based on a tax rate that would produce the same amount of revenue if applied to the same properties that are taxed in both years (no new taxes). When appraisal values increase, the NNR tax rate should decrease.

Line	No-New-Revenue Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
1.	Prior year total taxable value. Enter the amount of the prior year taxable value on the prior year tax roll today. Include any adjustments since last year's certification; exclude one-fourth and one-third over-appraisal corrections made under Tax Code Section 25.25(b) from these adjustments. Exclude any property value subject to an appeal under Chapter 42 as of July 25 (will add undigested value in Line 6). This total includes the taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings (will deduct in Line 2).	\$
2.	Prior year tax ceilings. Enter the prior year total taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings. These include the homesteads of homeowners age 65 or older or disabled. ¹	\$
3.	Preliminary prior year adjusted taxable value. Subtract Line 2 from Line 1.	\$
4.	Prior year total adopted tax rate.	\$ / \$100
5.	Prior year taxable value less because court appeals of ARB decisions reduced prior year appraised value. A. Original prior year ARB values: \$ B. Prior year values resulting from final court decisions: -\$ C. Prior year value less. Subtract B from A. ¹	\$
6.	Prior year taxable value subject to an appeal under Chapter 42, as of July 25. A. Prior year ARB certified value: \$ B. Prior year disputed value: -\$ C. Prior year undisputed value. Subtract B from A. ¹	\$
7.	Prior year Chapter 42-related adjusted values. Add Line 5 and 6.	\$
8.	Prior year taxable value, adjusted for actual and potential court-ordered adjustments. Add Line 3 and Line 7.	\$

¹ See Tax Code §25.02(b)(1).
² See Tax Code §25.02(b)(1).
³ See Tax Code §25.02(b)(1).
⁴ See Tax Code §25.02(b)(1).

Form developed by: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Property Tax Assistance Division For additional copies, visit: comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax
50-859 • 4-25/22

2025 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet
School Districts with Chapter 313 and JETI Agreements

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School District Address, City, State, ZIP Code: School District Website Address:

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SECTION 1: No-New-Revenue Tax Rate

The no-new-revenue (NNR) tax rate enables the public to evaluate the relationship between taxes for the prior year and for the current year based on a tax rate that would produce the same amount of revenue if applied to the same properties that are taxed in both years (no new taxes). When appraisal values increase, the NNR tax rate should decrease.

Chapter 313 and JETI agreements allow a school district to limit the value of certain qualified property subject to the agreement for the purposes of maintenance and operations (M&O) taxation. The value of the same property is not limited for the purposes of debt service, or interest and sinking (S&I) taxation. School districts that have entered into a Chapter 313 or JETI agreement must calculate the NNR tax rate for M&O and S&I purposes separately and then add together to determine the current year total NNR tax rate.

Line	No-New-Revenue Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
1.	Prior year total M&S taxable value. Enter the amount of the prior year taxable value on the prior year tax roll today. Include any adjustments since last year's certification; exclude one-fourth and one-third over-appraisal corrections made under Tax Code Section 25.25(b) from these adjustments. Exclude any property value subject to an appeal under Chapter 42 as of July 25 (will add undigested value in Line 6). This total includes the taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings (will deduct in Line 2). This also includes the taxable value of property subject to a Chapter 313 or JETI agreement prior to the limitation.	\$
2.	Prior year tax ceilings. Enter the prior year total taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings. These include the homesteads of homeowners age 65 or older or disabled. ¹	\$
3.	Preliminary prior year adjusted M&S taxable value. Subtract Line 2 from Line 1.	\$
4(a).	Prior year taxable value not subject to M&O taxation, due to limitation under Tax Code Chapter 313. A. Prior year M&S value of property subject to Chapter 313 agreement. Enter the total prior year appraised value of property subject to a Chapter 313 agreement: \$ B. Prior year M&O value of property subject to Chapter 313 agreement. Enter the total prior year limited value of property subject to a Chapter 313 agreement: -\$ C. Subtract B from A.	\$
4(b).	Prior year taxable value not subject to M&O taxation, due to limitation under the JETI agreement. A. Prior year M&S value of property subject to the JETI agreement. Enter the total prior year appraised value of property subject to a JETI agreement: \$ B. Prior year M&O value of property subject to the JETI agreement. Enter the total prior year limited value of property subject to the JETI agreement: -\$ C. Subtract B from A.	\$
5.	Preliminary prior year adjusted M&O taxable value. Add Line 4(a)C to Line 4(b)C and subtract from Line 3.	\$

¹ See Tax Code §25.02(b)(1).
² See Tax Code §25.02(b)(1).
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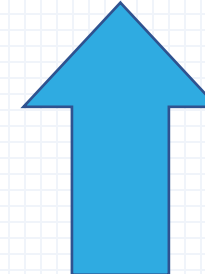


No-New-Revenue Rate



Tax Rate
Adoption

Line	No-New-Revenue Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
19.	Current year tax ceilings. Enter current year total taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings. These include the homesteads of homeowners age 65 or older or disabled. ¹⁵	\$ _____
20.	Current year total taxable value. Add Lines 17C and 18C. Subtract Line 19.	\$ _____
21.	Total current year taxable value of properties in territory annexed after Jan. 1, of the prior year. Include both real and personal property. Enter the current year value of property in territory annexed by the school district.	\$ _____
22.	Total current year taxable value of new improvements and new personal property located in new improvements. New means the item was not on the appraisal roll in the prior year. An improvement is a building, structure, fixture or fence erected on or affixed to land. New additions to existing improvements may be included if the appraised value can be determined. New personal property in a new improvement must have been brought into the school district after Jan. 1, of the prior year, and be located in a new improvement.	\$ _____
23.	Total adjustments to the current year taxable value. Add lines 21 and 22.	\$ _____
24.	Adjusted current year taxable value. Subtract line 23 from line 20.	\$ _____
25.	Current year NNR tax rate. Divide line 16 by line 24 and multiply by \$100.	\$ _____ /\$100



So, what do I do with this?



No-New-Revenue Rate

If total proposed rate > total NNR rate per Comptroller, then **specific language must be used for motion.**



Tax Rate Adoption

Language Required in the Motion Setting This Year's Tax Rate:

This year's proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate. The vote on the ordinance, resolution, or order setting the tax rate must be a record vote. A motion to adopt the ordinance, resolution, or order must be made in the following form:

I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$X.XXX which is effectively a X.XX percent increase in the tax rate.

Remember, “effectively” means levy is going up on properties taxed in both years. Your tax rate could be going down nominally.

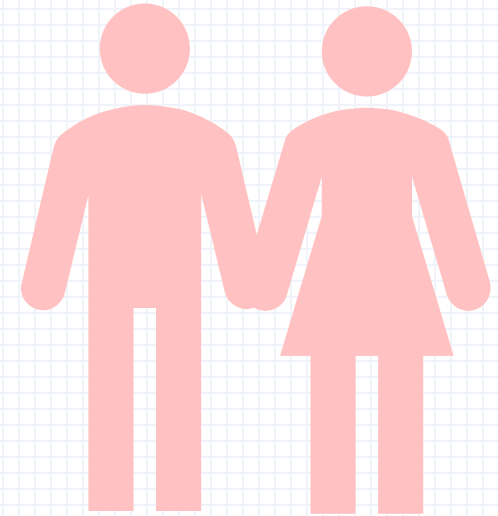
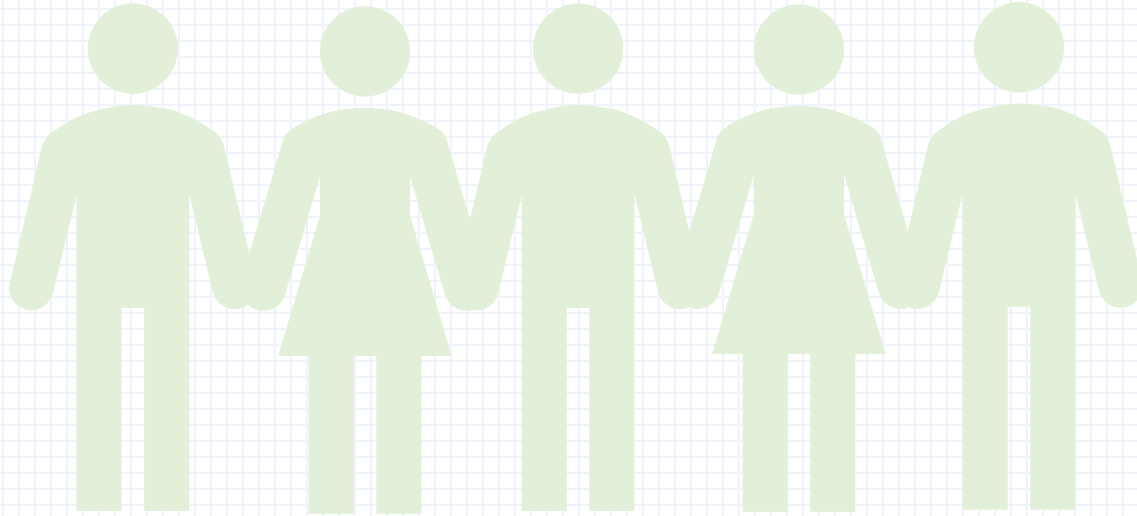


Rate to Maintain Contingencies

If proposed tax rate > M&O Rate to Maintain & Rate to Pay Debt Service,
then **supermajority approval required.**



Tax Rate
Adoption

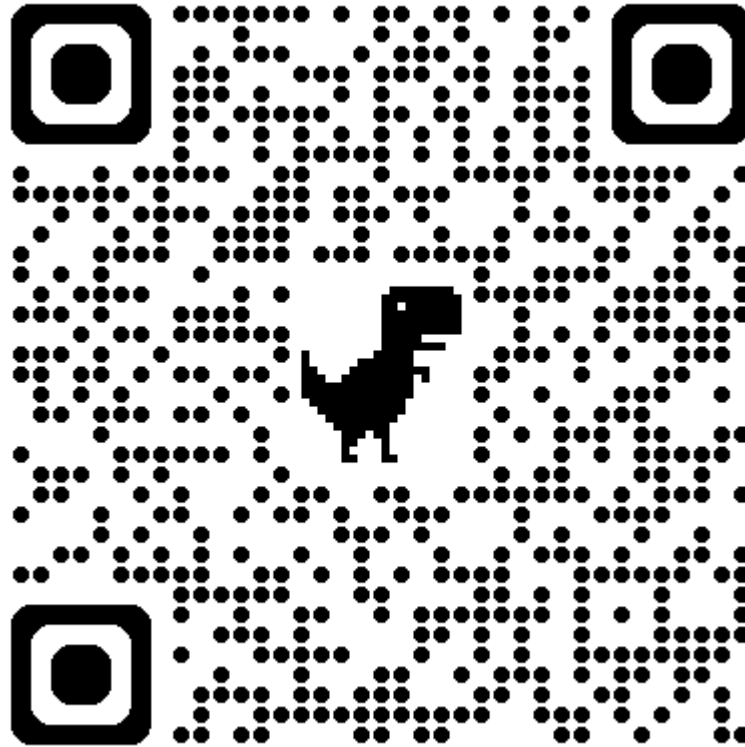




Download MoakCasey Template



Tax Rate
Adoption





Other Contingent Actions

If the M&O tax levy is increasing over prior year, **specific language must be used for resolution and website.**



Tax Rate Adoption

Statement Required in the Ordinance, Resolution, or Order Setting This Year's Tax Rate:

This year's levy to fund maintenance and operations expenditures exceeds last year's maintenance and operations tax levy. The following statements must be included in the ordinance, resolution, or order setting this year's tax rate. The statements must be in larger type than the type used in any other portion of the document.

THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

Statement That Must be Posted on the Home Page of Any Internet Website Operated by the Taxing Unit:

This year's levy to fund maintenance and operations expenditures exceeds last year's maintenance and operations tax levy. The following statements must be included in the ordinance, resolution, or order setting this year's tax rate. The statements must be in larger type than the type used in any other portion of the document.

EXAMPLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ADOPTED A TAX RATE THAT WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.



Tax Rate Adoption

Other Contingent Actions

If M&O levy is increasing *and* proposed M&O rate > M&O Rate to Maintain then **additional language is required for resolution and site.**

Statement Required in the Ordinance, Resolution, or Order Setting This Year's Tax Rate:

This year's levy to fund maintenance and operations expenditures exceeds last year's maintenance and operations tax levy. The following statements must be included in the ordinance, resolution, or order setting this year's tax rate. The statements must be in larger type than the type used in any other portion of the document.

THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 6.24 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$-37.00.

Statement That Must be Posted on the Home Page of Any Internet Website Operated by the Taxing Unit:

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Voter-Approval Tax Rate

The VATR is the highest tax rate a district can adopt **before it must go to the voters for approval.**



Tax Rate
Adoption





Voter-Approval Tax Rate

VATR is calculated in accordance with methodology outlined by the Texas Comptroller on the **tax rate calculation worksheet**.

50-859: Without 313 Agreements

50-884: With 313 Agreements



**Tax Rate
Adoption**

2025 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet Form 50-859
School Districts without Chapter 313 and JETI Agreements

School District Name _____ Phone (area code and number) _____
School District Address, City, State, ZIP Code _____ School District Website Address _____

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2.	Prior year tax ceilings. Enter the prior year total taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings. These include the homesteads of homeowners age 65 or older or disabled. ¹	\$ _____
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¹ See Tax Code §25.25(b).
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1.	Prior year total IS taxable value. Enter the amount of the prior year taxable value on the prior year tax roll today. Include any adjustments since last year's certification; exclude one-fourth and one-third over-appraisal corrections made under Tax Code Section 25.25(b) from these adjustments. Exclude any property value subject to an appeal under Chapter 42 as of July 25 (will add undigested value in Line 6). This total includes the taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings (will deduct in Line 2). This also includes the taxable value of property subject to a Chapter 313 or JETI agreement prior to the limitation.	\$ _____
2.	Prior year tax ceilings. Enter the prior year total taxable value of homesteads with tax ceilings. These include the homesteads of homeowners age 65 or older or disabled. ¹	\$ _____
3.	Preliminary prior year adjusted IS taxable value. Subtract Line 2 from Line 1.	\$ _____
4(a).	Prior year taxable value not subject to M&O taxation, due to limitation under Tax Code Chapter 313. A. Prior year IS value of property subject to Chapter 313 agreement. Enter the total prior year appraised value of property subject to a Chapter 313 agreement: \$ _____ B. Prior year M&O value of property subject to Chapter 313 agreement. Enter the total prior year limited value of property subject to a Chapter 313 agreement: -\$ _____ C. Subtract B from A.	\$ _____
4(b).	Prior year taxable value not subject to M&O taxation, due to limitation under the JETI agreement. A. Prior year IS value of property subject to the JETI agreement. Enter the total prior year appraised value of property subject to a JETI agreement: \$ _____ B. Prior year M&O value of property subject to the JETI agreement. Enter the total prior year limited value of property subject to the JETI agreement: -\$ _____ C. Subtract B from A.	\$ _____
5.	Preliminary prior year adjusted M&O taxable value. Add Line 4(a)C to Line 4(b)C and subtract from Line 3.	\$ _____

¹ See Tax Code §25.25(b).
² See Tax Code §25.02(1).
³ See Tax Code §25.02(1).
⁴ See Tax Code §25.02(1).

Form developed by: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Property Tax Assistance Division For additional copies, visit: comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax
50-884 • 4-25/22



Voter-Approval Tax Rate



Tax Rate Adoption

Line	Voter-Approval Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
26.	Current year maximum compressed tax rate (MCR). TEA will publish compression rates based on district and statewide property value growth. Enter the school districts' maximum compressed rate based on guidance from TEA. ²⁵	\$ /\$100
27.	Current year enrichment tax rate. Enter the greater of A and B. ²⁶ A. Enter the district's prior year enrichment tax rate, minus any required reduction under Education Code Section 48.202(f) \$ /\$100 B. \$0.05 per \$100 of taxable value \$ /\$100	\$ /\$100
28.	Current year maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate. Add Lines 26 and 27. Note: M&O tax rate may not exceed the sum of \$0.17 and the district's maximum compressed rate. ²⁷	\$ /\$100
29.	Total current year debt to be paid with property tax revenue. Debt means the interest and principal that will be paid on debts that: (1) Are paid by property taxes; (2) Are secured by property taxes; (3) Are scheduled for payment over a period longer than one year; and (4) Are not classified in the school district's budget as M&O expenses. A. Debt includes contractual payments to other school districts that have incurred debt on behalf of this school district, if those debts meet the four conditions above. Include only amounts that will be paid from property tax revenue. Do not include appraisal district budget payments. If the governing body of a taxing unit authorized or agreed to authorize a bond, warrant, certificate of obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness on or after Sept. 1, 2021, verify if it meets the amended definition of debt before including it here. ²⁸ Enter debt amount: \$ B. Subtract unencumbered fund amount used to reduce total debt. - \$ C. Subtract state aid received for paying principal and interest on debt for facilities through the existing debt allotment program and/or instructional facilities allotment program. - \$ D. Adjust debt: Subtract B and C from A.	\$

*This comes from
Local Property
Value Survey.*



Voter-Approval Tax Rate



Tax Rate Adoption

Line	Voter-Approval Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
26.	Current year maximum compressed tax rate (MCR). TEA will publish compression rates based on district and statewide property value growth. Enter the school districts' maximum compressed rate based on guidance from TEA. ²⁵	\$ _____ /\$100
27.	Current year enrichment tax rate. Enter the greater of A and B. ²⁶ A. Enter the district's prior year enrichment tax rate, minus any required reduction under Education Code Section 48.202(f) \$ _____ /\$100 B. \$0.05 per \$100 of taxable value \$ _____ /\$100	\$ _____ /\$100
28.	Current year maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate. Add Lines 26 and 27. Note: M&O tax rate may not exceed the sum of \$0.17 and the district's maximum compressed rate. ²⁷	\$ _____ /\$100
29.	Total current year debt to be paid with property tax revenue. Debt means the interest and principal that will be paid on debts that: (1) Are paid by property taxes; (2) Are secured by property taxes; (3) Are scheduled for payment over a period longer than one year; and (4) Are not classified in the school district's budget as M&O expenses. A. Debt includes contractual payments to other school districts that have incurred debt on behalf of this school district, if those debts meet the four conditions above. Include only amounts that will be paid from property tax revenue. Do not include appraisal district budget payments. If the governing body of a taxing unit authorized or agreed to authorize a bond, warrant, certificate of obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness on or after Sept. 1, 2021, verify if it meets the amended definition of debt before including it here. ²⁸ Enter debt amount: \$ _____ B. Subtract unencumbered fund amount used to reduce total debt. - \$ _____ C. Subtract state aid received for paying principal and interest on debt for facilities through the existing debt allotment program and/or instructional facilities allotment program. - \$ _____ D. Adjust debt: Subtract B and C from A.	\$ _____

This is the number of tier two pennies you had adopted in the prior year, including disaster pennies.

Prior disaster pennies will be removed in section 4.



Voter-Approval Tax Rate



Tax Rate Adoption

Line	Voter-Approval Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
28.	Current year maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate. Add Lines 26 and 27. Note: M&O tax rate may not exceed the sum of \$0.17 and the district's maximum compressed rate.²⁷	\$ _____ / \$100
29.	Total current year debt to be paid with property tax revenue. Debt means the interest and principal that will be paid on debts that: (1) Are paid by property taxes; (2) Are secured by property taxes; (3) Are scheduled for payment over a period longer than one year; and (4) Are not classified in the school district's budget as M&O expenses. A. Debt includes contractual payments to other school districts that have incurred debt on behalf of this school district, if those debts meet the four conditions above. Include only amounts that will be paid from property tax revenue. Do not include appraisal district budget payments. If the governing body of a taxing unit authorized or agreed to authorize a bond, warrant, certificate of obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness on or after Sept. 1, 2021, verify if it meets the amended definition of debt before including it here. ²⁸ Enter debt amount: \$ _____ B. Subtract unencumbered fund amount used to reduce total debt. - \$ _____ C. Subtract state aid received for paying principal and interest on debt for facilities through the existing debt allotment program and/or instructional facilities allotment program. - \$ _____ D. Adjust debt: Subtract B and C from A. \$ _____	
30.	Certified prior year excess debt collections. Enter the amount certified by the collector. ²⁹	\$ _____
31.	Adjusted current year debt. Subtract line 30 from line 29D.	\$ _____
32.	Current year anticipated collection rate. If the anticipated rate in A is lower than actual rates in B, C and D, enter the lowest rate from B, C and D. If the anticipated rate in A is higher than at least one of the rates in the prior three years, enter the rate from A. Note that the rate can be greater than 100%. ³⁰ A. Enter the current year anticipated collection rate certified by the collector. ³¹ _____ % B. Enter the 2023 actual collection rate _____ % C. Enter the 2022 actual collection rate _____ % D. Enter the 2021 actual collection rate _____ %	_____%

Default calc should only include minimum required debt service.

You may need to have an alternative version of this form with this number increased if 60% supermajority of your board authorizes higher I&S rate.



Voter-Approval Tax Rate



Tax Rate Adoption

Line	Voter-Approval Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
28.	Current year maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate. Add Lines 26 and 27. Note: M&O tax rate may not exceed the sum of \$0.17 and the district's maximum compressed rate.²⁷	\$ _____ /\$100
29.	Total current year debt to be paid with property tax revenue. Debt means the interest and principal that will be paid on debts that: (1) Are paid by property taxes; (2) Are secured by property taxes; (3) Are scheduled for payment over a period longer than one year; and (4) Are not classified in the school district's budget as M&O expenses. A. Debt includes contractual payments to other school districts that have incurred debt on behalf of this school district, if those debts meet the four conditions above. Include only amounts that will be paid from property tax revenue. Do not include appraisal district budget payments. If the governing body of a taxing unit authorized or agreed to authorize a bond, warrant, certificate of obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness on or after Sept. 1, 2021, verify if it meets the amended definition of debt before including it here. ²⁸ Enter debt amount: \$ _____ B. Subtract unencumbered fund amount used to reduce total debt. - \$ _____ C. Subtract state aid received for paying principal and interest on debt for facilities through the existing debt allotment program and/or instructional facilities allotment program. - \$ _____ D. Adjust debt: Subtract B and C from A. \$ _____	
30.	Certified prior year excess debt collections. Enter the amount certified by the collector. ²⁹	\$ _____
31.	Adjusted current year debt. Subtract line 30 from line 29D.	\$ _____
32.	Current year anticipated collection rate. If the anticipated rate in A is lower than actual rates in B, C and D, enter the lowest rate from B, C and D. If the anticipated rate in A is higher than at least one of the rates in the prior three years, enter the rate from A. Note that the rate can be greater than 100%. ³⁰ A. Enter the current year anticipated collection rate certified by the collector. ³¹ _____ % B. Enter the 2023 actual collection rate _____ % C. Enter the 2022 actual collection rate _____ % D. Enter the 2021 actual collection rate _____ %	 _____ %

This comes from your completed state aid template.

Include EDA, IFA and ASAHE.



Voter-Approval Tax Rate



Tax Rate Adoption

Line	Voter-Approval Tax Rate Worksheet	Amount/Rate
28.	Current year maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate. Add Lines 26 and 27. Note: M&O tax rate may not exceed the sum of \$0.17 and the district's maximum compressed rate.²⁷	\$ _____ /\$100
29.	Total current year debt to be paid with property tax revenue. Debt means the interest and principal that will be paid on debts that: (1) Are paid by property taxes; (2) Are secured by property taxes; (3) Are scheduled for payment over a period longer than one year; and (4) Are not classified in the school district's budget as M&O expenses. A. Debt includes contractual payments to other school districts that have incurred debt on behalf of this school district, if those debts meet the four conditions above. Include only amounts that will be paid from property tax revenue. Do not include appraisal district budget payments. If the governing body of a taxing unit authorized or agreed to authorize a bond, warrant, certificate of obligation, or other evidence of indebtedness on or after Sept. 1, 2021, verify if it meets the amended definition of debt before including it here. ²⁸ Enter debt amount: \$ _____ B. Subtract unencumbered fund amount used to reduce total debt. - \$ _____ C. Subtract state aid received for paying principal and interest on debt for facilities through the existing debt allotment program and/or instructional facilities allotment program. - \$ _____ D. Adjust debt: Subtract B and C from A. \$ _____	
30.	Certified prior year excess debt collections. Enter the amount certified by the collector. ²⁹	\$ _____
31.	Adjusted current year debt. Subtract line 30 from line 29D.	\$ _____
32.	Current year anticipated collection rate. If the anticipated rate in A is lower than actual rates in B, C and D, enter the lowest rate from B, C and D. If the anticipated rate in A is higher than at least one of the rates in the prior three years, enter the rate from A. Note that the rate can be greater than 100%. ³⁰ A. Enter the current year anticipated collection rate certified by the collector. ³¹ _____ % B. Enter the 2023 actual collection rate _____ % C. Enter the 2022 actual collection rate _____ % D. Enter the 2021 actual collection rate _____ %	 _____ %

*These come from
assessor-collector.*



Voter-Approval Tax Rate

When a district is proposing a rate higher than its VATR, it is looking to **access additional tier two pennies**.

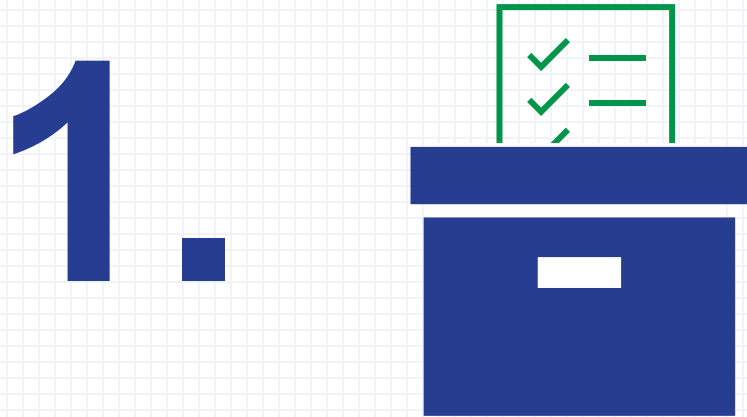




M&O Tax Rate

To access new Tier Two pennies (above the 5th penny),
districts **have two possible options:**

**Hold a Voter-Approval Tax
Rate Election (VATRE)**



Adopt Disaster Pennies
(if governor declared disaster in your county)





VATRE Timeline

No later than 7/3/26: Board selects auditor to conduct efficiency audit.

May not be required due to disaster declaration, but still recommended.

8/17/26: Districts going for a TRE must adopt their tax rate by this date (78 days before the election). Will be based on preliminary tax compression calculations.

9/30/26: Districts not going for TRE must adopt their rate no later 9/30/26 or 60 days after receiving certified appraisal roll.

No later than 10/3/26: Efficiency audit must be completed, posted to district web site. Results must be discussed at open meeting before election date.

May not be required due to disaster declaration, but still recommended.

11/3/26: November uniform election date



Voter-Approval
Tax Rate
Elections



Disaster Pennies



- This provision is intended to help districts access additional funding **to offset costs of a natural disaster.**
- District must have an **increased expenditure** and governor must have **requested federal assistance for a county within your boundaries.**
- Must be adopted **in the year following the year in which the disaster occurred.** Different lawyers will have different opinions on definition of “year” (school year vs. tax year).
- Disaster pennies adopted under this provision **only last one year.**
- Get your legal counsel involved ASAP if you think you are eligible to pursue this option.



Tax Rate Adoption Changes

- Beginning in **Jan. 1, 2026**, SB 1453 will require a 60 percent approval for adopting I&S rates that generate funding in excess of the minimum debt service amount.
- The motion must include:
 - The rate required to service the minimum debt service amount;
 - The proposed tax rate;
 - A description of what the purpose for which the excess revenue collected from the proposed rate will be used.
- I&S rate to maintain cannot include defeasance.



Tax Rate Adoption Changes

Under HB 1522, the OMA notice of a meeting at which the board will **discuss or adopt** a budget must include:

- A physical copy of the **proposed budget** unless it is clearly accessible on the home page of the website.
- A **taxpayer impact statement** comparing:
 - Tax bill on a *median-value* homestead in current year vs.
 - Tax bill on a *median-value* homestead in upcoming year if proposed budget is adopted.

Notice must be posted at least 3 business days ~~72 hours~~ before the meeting



Tax Rate Adoption Changes

- SB 1023 requires hyperlinking to show source for non-calculated fields on Comptrollers tax rate calculation worksheet.



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/8)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The _____ (name of school district) will hold a public meeting at _____ (time, date, year) in _____ (name of room, building, physical location) _____ (city, state). The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ _____ /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax \$ _____ /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Debt service	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Total expenditures	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ _____	\$ _____

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).

** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ _____

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/8) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ _____	\$ _____ *	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ _____	\$ _____ *	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Proposed Rate	\$ _____	\$ _____ *	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ _____	\$ _____
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ _____	\$ _____
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ _____	\$ _____
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ _____	\$ _____
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ _____

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is _____ (school voter-approval rate). This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of _____ (school voter-approval rate).

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ _____
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ _____

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The _____ (name of school district) will hold a public meeting at _____ (time, date, year) in _____ (name of room, building, physical location) _____ (city, state). **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ _____ /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ _____ /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Debt service	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Total expenditures	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

All districts must post this notice.

Districts must re-publish if proposed rate ultimately exceeds what is included on notice.

July 1 districts going for TRE/disaster pennies must republish regardless.

As a result, we advise July 1 districts to included a proposed M&O rate that is built starting with the lesser of:

- **Last year's MCR**
- **Current State MCR**



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The _____ (name of school district) will hold a public meeting at _____ (time, date, year) in _____ (name of room, building, physical location) _____ (city, state). **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ _____ /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ _____ /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Debt service	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Total expenditures	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

M&O (199+101) and debt service (599) budget comparisons.

Preceding year should be as of most recent board approved amendment.

Does not include recapture payments.



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Debt service	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Total expenditures	_____ % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ _____	\$ _____

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).

** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ _____

* Outstanding principal.

Can be found on most standard certified total reports.

Preceding tax year should reference most recent supplement.



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations		% increase	or		% (decrease)
Debt service		% increase	or		% (decrease)
Total expenditures		% increase	or		% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$	\$
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$	\$
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$	\$
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$	\$

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).

** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$

* Outstanding principal.

Can be found in your debt book.



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$	\$ *	\$	\$	\$
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$	\$ *	\$	\$	\$
Proposed Rate	\$	\$ *	\$	\$	\$

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$	\$
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$	\$
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$	\$
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$	\$
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is (school voter-approval rate). This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of (school voter-approval rate).

Must come from ISD.

Calculation comes from MoakCasey template.



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

90-280 (Rev. 4-22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$	\$ *	\$	\$	\$
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$	\$ *	\$	\$	\$
Proposed Rate	\$	\$ *	\$	\$	\$

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$	\$
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$	\$
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$	\$
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$	\$
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is (school voter-approval rate). This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of (school voter-approval rate).

This information can be found on your certified totals report, but you should have your CAD or consultant verify figures and calculations.



Public Meeting Notice



Tax Rate Adoption

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>
Average Market Value of Residences	\$	\$
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$	\$
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$	\$
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$	\$
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is (school voter-approval rate) . This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of (school voter-approval rate) .

*This comes from
Comptroller Worksheet
as discussed earlier*



Questions & Comments

