

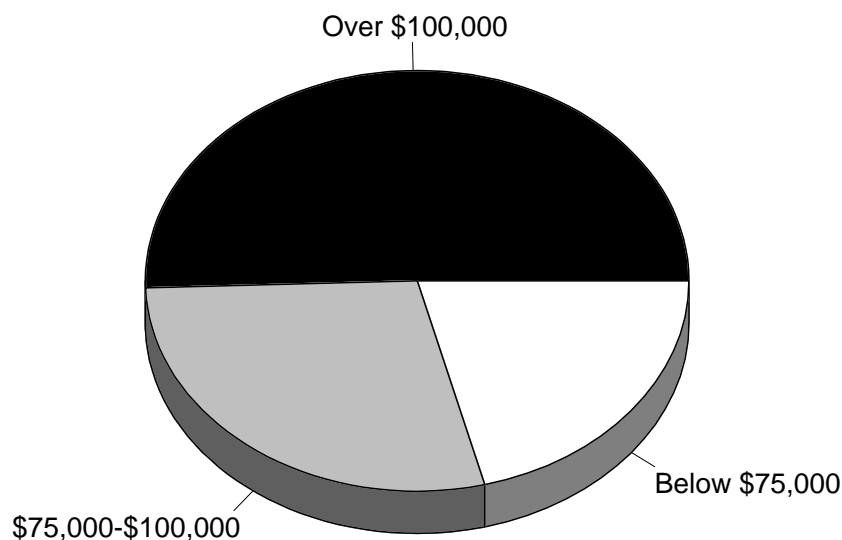
MARRIAGE PENALTY CONFERENCE AGREEMENT: BENEFITS GO PRIMARILY TO HIGH-INCOME TAXPAYERS

On July 20, the House passed a conference agreement version of marriage penalty tax relief that would cost \$292 billion over the next 10 years. The Senate is expected to take up the conference agreement soon.

An analysis prepared by the Joint Committee on Taxation shows that higher-income taxpayers would be the primary beneficiaries of that tax relief. According to the JCT analysis:

- Over half the benefits of the marriage penalty relief bill when fully in effect would go to taxpayers with incomes over \$100,000.
- Some 79 percent of the benefits of the conference version would go to taxpayers with incomes exceeding \$75,000 — approximately the top quarter of all taxpayers.
- The lower-income three-quarters of all taxpayers, those with incomes below \$75,000, would share just 21 percent of the marriage penalty relief provided by the conference agreement.

Distribution of Benefits Conference Marriage Penalty Relief



Source: Joint Committee on Taxation, JCX-80-00