

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

estimated \$1.1 million every day for the past 16 years, totaling over \$6.5 billion, in dividend ...

Oct. 22, 2018



An analysis by the tax reform group Making Change at Walmart (MCAW) has found that the Walton family, the majority owners of Walmart, Inc., have netted an estimated \$1.1 million every day for the past 16 years, totaling over \$6.5 billion, in dividend income tax savings just on their Walmart share holdings.

This billion-dollar savings is a result of a series of “tax reforms” passed by Congress during the Bush, Obama, and Trump administrations. The level of tax savings reflects

not only a broken tax system that has been exploited by the Walton family, but

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

few benefits. It is time for our political leaders to wake up to the reality that our broken tax system is helping the least deserving and hurting the most deserving.”

The MCAW analysis shows that the 16-year time period studied began with the implementation of the George W. Bush “Jobs Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003,” which, MCAW estimates along with President Obama’s two-year extension, resulted in the Walton family paying an average dividend income tax rate of approximately 18.3% from 2003 to 2018 just on their Walmart share holdings. This rate has resulted in an estimated tax break of more than \$6.5 billion to date, or \$1.1 million per day over the last 16 years. Prior to this time period, at the end of the Clinton Administration, the dividend income tax rate for the Walton family and others was 39.6%, the highest ordinary income tax rate at that time.

The MCAW analysis also finds that the Walton family’s dividend windfall is not only the result of a dramatically lower tax rate but is also due to a dramatic increase in the dividend payout ratio at Walmart during this period. Walmart’s annual dividend payouts grew approximately 600% during this period—from \$0.36 per share in 2003 (16.7% of earnings) to \$2.08 per share in 2018 (62.1% of earnings)—while wages for Walmart employees have languished.

The MCAW analysis is conservative, only calculating the Walton family ownership of Walmart stock through two entities – Walton Enterprises LP/LLC and the Walton Family Holdings Trust. The savings for individual family members, who own millions of additional Walmart shares on which dividends are also paid, was not included in this analysis.

The total tax savings from 2003 to 2018, on dividend income received from Walmart shares held by the two aforementioned business entities is estimated to be \$6,510,847,623 in total or \$1,031,574 a day.

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us