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Article I, Section 9: Can anyone explain what this means as far as taxation?

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In article 1, section 9, in the fourth paragraph it states: "No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken."

Now with a Constitution founded with slavery, and with the "three fifths" representational clause this paragraph befuddles me. Any of you Constitutional brains out there help me out? I mean it seems an important statement as far as Federal Taxation authority, but in the context of Northern and Southern distinction revolving around slavery ... what was that Constitutional compromise all about?

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[Anthony Watkins](#) · 9 minutes ago 🔗

: a direct uniform tax imposed on each head or person : [poll tax](#)

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: a uniform per [capita](#) payment or fee





so no per capita tax unless it is apportioned evenly to a census, no graduated or regressive tax, and of course slaves were to be calculated at .6 of whatever the tax. if it was a dollar per head, then each slave would cost the owner 60 cents.

at least that is how i read it.

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