Major Categories of Retirement Income

Taxable Accounts	ROTH IRAs	Social Security	Pensions	Annuities
Investments - stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate. Retirement savings account distributions. Taxable. Long-term capital gains are taxed at lower rates.	Tax free withdrawls if account open for 5 years and age 59.5 or older. Tax is paid on the income deposited.	Exempt or partially taxable: At least 15 percent of benefits are always exempt and up to 100 percent may be exempt depending on the taxpayer's "combined income" and filing status.	Private or government Taxable at ordinary income rates with some exceptions. <i>Military retirement</i> is taxable for federal income tax purposes.	Partly taxable: The portion of the payment that represents the principal is tax-free, the rest is taxable. Not if the annuity is purchased with pre-tax funds (such as an IRA) then it is taxed as ordinary income.
		Railroad retirement and disability program is similar to Social Security. Railroad benefits are divided into two tiers. Tier 1 is more like traditonal Social Security, wheras Tier 2 is more like a private pension plan. Tax exempt.		

Prepared by JFO/st