Publication 6187-A

Calendar Year Projections of Individual Returns by Major Processing Categories

Publication 6187 contains multiyear projections of the number of individual income tax returns to be filed with the IRS by major processing categories important for IRS planning operations. This includes details by form type, medium of filing, and other characteristics. Selected portions of the forecasts are also shown by campus and State.

Significant Trends Found in This Update of Publication 6187

- Taxpayers filed 159.0 million individual income tax returns for Calendar Year (CY) 2023. This number is projected to increase by 1.1 percent to 160.8 million in CY 2024 and grow at an average annual rate of 0.9 percent to 164.8 million by CY 2027.
- The total number of individual income tax returns filed electronically was 147.7 million in CY 2023. This number is projected to increase at an average annual rate of 1.6 percent to 157.6 million by CY 2027, representing 95.6 percent of the total number of individual returns filed.
- In CY 2023, taxpayers filed 63.8 million individual income tax returns online, representing 43.2 percent of the total number of individual tax returns filed electronically.
- The number of individual income tax returns filed electronically with the IRS by paid preparers was 83.9 million in CY 2023, this number is projected to increase at an average annual rate of 0.7 percent to reach 86.2 million returns by CY 2027.
- The total number of individual income tax returns filed on paper was 11.4 million in CY 2023, representing 7.2 percent of the total number of individual income tax returns.



Projections of the Number of Electronic Individual Returns To Be Filed, Calendar Years 2024–2027



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