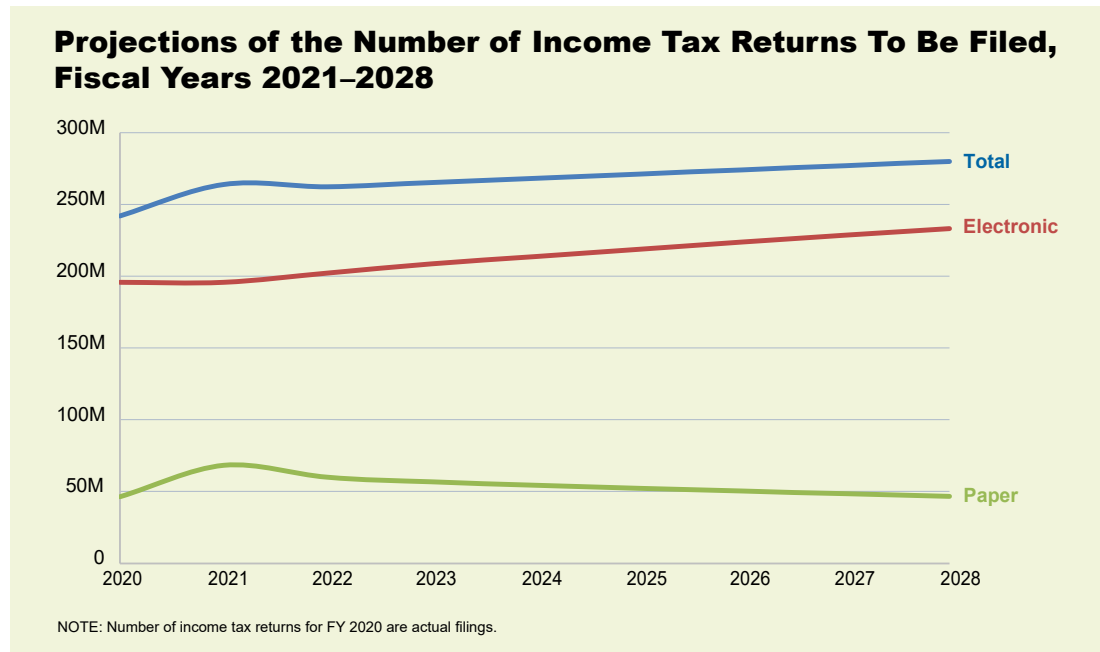


# Publication 6292-A

## Fiscal Year Return Projections for the United States: 2021–2028

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) *Publication 6292* includes U.S.-level Fiscal Year (FY) projections of individual and business income tax returns to be filed by the major return categories, including selected detail by the IRS business operating divisions. *Publication 6292* also includes breakouts by filing methods and is updated semiannually.

*Publication 6292-A* highlights actual filings for FY 2020 and summarizes significant future filing trends.



### Significant Trends Found in This Update of *Publication 6292*

- The grand total income tax return filings were 242.1 million in FY 2020, a decrease of 5.2 percent over FY 2019. This is largely due to the backlog of paper income tax returns that were not processed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. With the 2020 backlog currently being processed in 2021, the volume of grand total total returns is expected to be high in FY 2021 and return to its normal trend in FY 2022.
- The paper grand total income tax return filings were 46.4 million in FY 2020, a decrease of 33.9 percent from the FY 2019 total due to the paper backlog. While there will be a significant bump in the FY 2021 volume as the IRS processes the 2020 paper backlog, the paper grand total return volume is projected to return to its normal declining trend in FY 2022.
- The electronic grand total income tax return filings were 195.7 million in FY 2020, which is a 5.7-percent increase over FY 2019. Electronic grand total returns are projected to grow at an average annual rate of 2.5 percent between FY 2022 and FY 2028, reaching 233.3 million by FY 2028.

### Actual Income Tax Return Filings for FY 2020

**195.7 million**  
electronic filings

**46.4 million**  
paper filings

**242.1 million**  
grand total filings

