Publication 6187-A

Calendar Year Projections of Individual Returns by Major Processing Categories

IRS *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 160.1 million individual income tax returns for Calendar Year (CY) 2020. This number is projected to increase by 2.7 percent to 164.3 million in CY 2021 and grow at an average annual rate of 0.8% percent to 165.4 million by CY 2024.
- The total number of individual income tax returns filed electronically was 149.5 million in CY 2020. This
 number is projected to increase at an average annual rate of 0.8 percent to 153.9 million by CY 2024,
 representing 93.4 percent of the total number of individual returns filed.
- In CY 2020, taxpayers filed 70.5 million individual income tax returns online, representing 47.2 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 79.0 million in CY 2020, this number is projected to increase at an average annual rate of 1.3 percent to reach 83.0 million returns by CY 2024.
- The total number of individual income tax returns filed on paper was 10.6 million in CY 2020, representing 6.6 percent of the total number of individual income tax returns.







