Publication 6187-A

Calendar Year Projections of Individual Returns by Major Processing Categories

IRS *Publication 6187* contains multi-year projections of the number of individual returns to be filed with the IRS by major processing categories important to IRS planning operations. This includes detail by form type, by medium of filing, and by other characteristics such as refund returns and Schedule A returns. Selected portions of the forecasts are also shown by IRS processing campus location and by State.

Significant Trends Found in This Update of *Publication 6187*

- The total individual tax returns filed was 152.5 million in Calendar Year 2018. The total individual return filings are projected to increase by 0.8 percent, reaching 153.6 million in CY 2019 and then they are projected to grow at an average annual rate of 0.9 percent, reaching 158.0 million returns by CY 2022.
- The total number of electronically filed individual returns were 134.7 million in Calendar Year 2018.
 The electronically filed returns are projected to increase at an average annual rate of 1.8 percent, reaching 144.6 million by CY 2022 which will be 91.5 percent of total individual returns.
- The total number of paper filed individual returns were 17.8 million in Calendar Year 2018. The paper filed returns are projected to be around 16.4 million in CY 2019 and they are projected to be 13.5 million by CY 2022.
- Since the enactment of the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, the total number of individual returns filed electronically has increased in volume from 24.6 million in Calendar Year 1998 to 134.7 million in CY 2018. This represents 88.4 percent of the total number of individual returns. In CY 2018, on-line filed individual returns were 54.9 million which represents 40.8 percent of the total electronically filed individual returns. The on-line filed individual returns are projected to increase at an average annual rate of 3.2 percent reaching 62.3 million by CY 2022. Electronically filed paid prepared individual returns were 79.8 million in CY 2018 and is expected to reach 82.3 million by CY 2022.







