



Rhode Island Division of Taxation

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Department of Revenue

March 22, 2013

ADV 2013-07

Advisory:

Filing season update

This update includes information about the following:

- One month to go for filing season
- Refunds averaging \$536, up 3.7%

Less than one month to April 15 filing deadline

There's less than one month to go for tax-filing season – which means there's less than a month left to file your Rhode Island personal income tax return (due date: April 15, 2013).

Nearly 300,000 returns have been filed so far this season. That's essentially the same number filed by about the same point last year. But it also means that about 300,000 returns have yet to be filed – and most will end up coming in over the next three weeks or so.

“There’s always a last-minute rush every year. It’s human nature,” said Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan. “But you can beat the rush by filing early – and by filing electronically.” E-filing saves time and money, and results in fewer errors and faster processing, said Peter McVay, associate director of revenue services. And only by e-filing can you have your refund deposited directly into your bank or credit union account; you cannot have direct deposit if you file your return on paper, said Susan M. Galvin, chief of Tax Processing Services.

	Filing season 2012	Filing season 2013	Difference
E-filed returns	261,268	271,777	+ 4.02 %
Paper returns	27,089	17,553	- 35.20 %
2-D barcode returns	11,156	9,150	- 17.98 %
Total returns:	299,513	298,480	- 0.34 %

Cumulative figures for tax year 2011 returns filed through March 14, 2012, and tax year 2012 returns filed through March 20, 2013. The start of federal and state filing seasons was delayed this year due to federal legislation.

Refunds average \$536, up 3.7%

Rhode Island personal income tax refunds are averaging \$536 apiece so far this season, up 3.7 percent from approximately the same point a year ago.

The total dollar amount of refunds issued so far this year is \$124.76 million, up slightly from about the same point a year ago.

	Filing season 2012	Filing season 2013	Difference
Number of refunds	239,339	232,577	- 2.83 %
Total amount refunded	\$123,749,130	\$124,763,474	+ 0.82 %
Average refund	\$517	\$536	+ 3.68 %

Cumulative figures for tax year 2011 refunds through March 16, 2012, and for tax year 2012 refunds through March 15, 2013. Figures for each filing season are before interest and offset, and do not include refunds for tax years other than those stated.

Reminders

FreeFile: The Tax Division's website includes links to [five online tax-preparation programs](#) that allow eligible taxpayers to prepare and file their federal and Rhode Island personal income tax returns at no charge.

RI-8453: The Division of Taxation has discontinued Form RI-8453, "R.I. Individual Income Tax Declaration for Electronic Filing." The Division of Taxation will recognize the federal [Form 8879](#), "IRS e-file Signature Authorization," or its equivalent, as a substitute.

Updates: Keep up with the latest Tax Division developments by viewing our [Facebook](#) page or our [blog](#). You may also follow us on [Twitter](#). In addition, you may receive our e-mails automatically in your inbox by subscribing to our listserv -- just send an [e-mail](#) and include the word SUBSCRIBE in capital letters in the subject block.

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