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simple chart. (See below.)

Dec. 21, 2018

Wondering when you will get your 2019 income tax refund? We have the answer in a simple chart. (See below.)

The tax reform law officially kicked in on January 1, 2018, but the taxes you file from January through April 15, 2019 will be the first time most Americans see the actual impact of the tax reform law. See the chart below for an estimated date.

Will You Get a Bigger Income Tax Refund in 2019?

Maybe, maybe not. For many, there may be no effect on their refund, particularly if they adjusted their tax withholding throughout the year. **The average worker was forecast to see \$1,000-\$2,000 per year in tax savings** (the higher amount for those with children). If you did not adjust the amount of taxes you have withheld from your paycheck, it could result in a larger refund. But for those who did make the adjustment, the result should have been about \$20-\$40 more per week in their paycheck. Many factors affect your tax rate and refund, so not all working taxpayers will realize the same results.

When Will You Get Your 2019 Income Tax Refund?

This is the question you probably came here for. First, with all of the major changes to the tax law, **the IRS is likely to delay the start of tax season.** In recent years, even comparably minor changes have resulted in about a week delay, so it would not be surprising to see tax season start in February instead of late January.

Those with the **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) or Child Tax Credit (CTC)** are also likely to have their forms delayed, since the IRS pays special attention to these

credits, which have been abused in past years.

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1/21/19 – 1/25/19	Friday 2/1/19	
1/28/19 – 2/1/19	Friday 2/8/19	
2/4/19 – 2/8/19	Friday 2/15/19	**
2/11/19 – 2/15/19	Friday 2/22/19	**
2/18/19 – 2/22/19	Friday 3/1/19	
2/25/19 – 3/1/19	Friday 3/8/19	
3/4/19 – 3/8/19	Friday 3/23/19	***
3/11/19 – 3/15/19	Friday 3/30/19	
3/18/19 – 3/22/19	Friday 4/5/19	
3/25/19 – 3/29/19	Friday 4/12/19	

* = IRS may delay tax filing season by one week or more due to changes in tax law.

** = Returns with EITC or CTC may have refunds delayed until late February to verify credits.

*** = Filing during peak season can result in slightly longer waits.

4/1/19 – 4/5/19	====	Friday 4/19/19
4/8/19 – 4/12/19		Friday 4/26/19
4/15/19 – 4/19/19		Friday 5/3/19
4/22/19 – 4/26/19		Friday 5/10/19
4/29/19 – 5/3/19		Friday 5/17/19
5/6/19 – 5/10/19		Friday 5/24/19

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IRS will notify you of the actual date they "accepted" your return. This is often 1-3 days from the time you actually hit the "file" button, and it is this date that you need to use for the above chart.

Taxpayers who mail their income tax return can expect at least a 3-4 week delay at the front-end of the process, as the return has to be digitized before it can be processed.

Be Safe – Hire a Professional

Taxpayers who use a professional, such as a CPA or EA, can ask that professional for the estimated date of their tax refund, and they can be more confident that their taxes have been properly (and legally) filed.

There are also [apps for Apple, Android and other devices](#) that help track refund status.

Note: The IRS will start processing most returns on January 29, but will not start processing returns with the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) or Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC) until mid-February 2018.

Important Notes:

In general, the IRS says that returns with refunds are processed and payments issued within 21 days. For paper filers, this can take much longer, however. The IRS and tax professionals strongly encourage electronic filing.

How quickly a taxpayer receives a refund also depends on when they file and

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Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.” – This will give you until October 15 to file your tax return. You don't need any reason or excuse to receive this extension, and as the title states, it is automatically granted.

However, if you owe taxes, it is still your obligation to pay those taxes by April 15, even if you request an extension. A professional can assist with this. If you are due a refund, all you need to do is file the extension request by April 15. Any tax professional and most do-it-yourself tax program can perform this task.

Income Tax • IRS

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