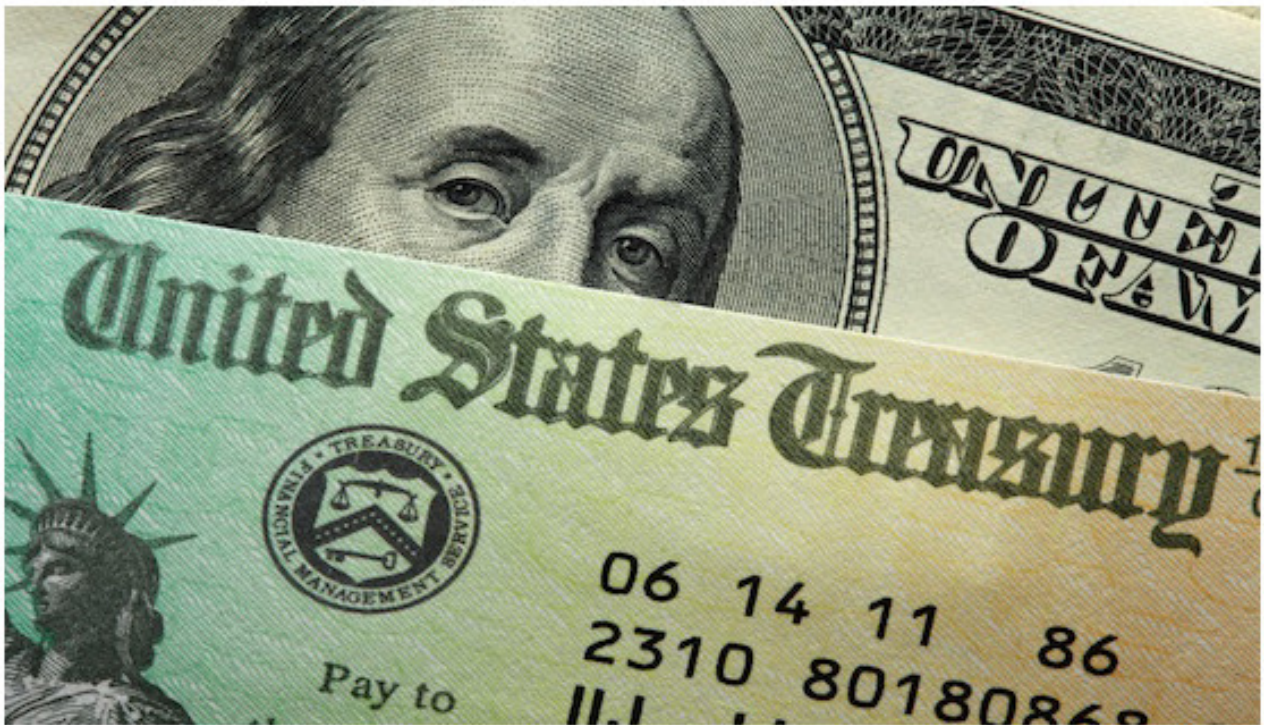


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11.2%, or \$396, from last year.

Mar. 01, 2023



By Leada Gore, *al.com* (TNS)

The end of pandemic-era stimulus programs is having an impact on tax refunds.

IRS statistics for the week ending Feb. 17 show the average tax refund is \$3,140, down 11.2%, or \$396, from last year. The decline is in keeping with previous IRS alerts that said people could see “significantly smaller refunds,” this year.

“Refunds may be smaller in 2023. Taxpayers will not receive an additional stimulus payment with a 2023 tax refund because there were no Economic Impact Payments

for 2022. In addition, taxpayers who don't itemize and take the standard deduction,

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What's more, taxpayers that don't itemize and take the standard deduction cannot deduct their charitable contributions this year.

There is some good news on the tax front. IRS efforts to speed up the process appear to be successful. So far this year, the IRS has received 36.9 million returns, 36.8 million of which have been processed, an increase of almost 10% in from last year's figures.

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