

Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release
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Ranking Puts Alabama in Top Percentage of National E-filing Results

Montgomery—State individual income tax filing statistics released by the Federation of Tax Administrators (FTA)—a national association comprised of state tax and revenue agencies, the District of Columbia, and New York City—show the number of Alabamians who opted to file their 1999 Alabama income tax return electronically produced the third highest increase in e-filing statistics nationwide.

During the 2000 filing season, 367,165 Alabamians chose to file their 1999 state tax returns electronically, compared to 211,233 for the 1999 filing season—a 74 percent increase over last year's total. FTA statistics report that electronically-filed returns comprised 20 percent of the total 1999 Alabama returns filed through Aug. 15, 2000.

The District of Columbia and Delaware led Alabama's increase by some 104 percent and 86 percent, respectively, but with significantly fewer returns. The number of District of Columbia e-filers totaled 21,757; Delaware, 83,395, comprising nine percent and 20 percent, respectively, of the total filings for those tax jurisdictions.

“Since first offered as a filing option in 1998, Alabama's individual income tax e-filing program has indeed produced some impressive numbers, and if trends hold true, we hope for even more impressive numbers for the 2001 filing season,” said State Revenue Commissioner Michael L. Patterson.

“Electronic filing nets benefits for both the taxpayer and the Revenue Department. E-filing provides a faster turnaround time on getting the refund check into the hands of the taxpayer, greater accuracy in returns, taxpayers with peace of mind in knowing their Alabama returns were received by the department, and last, but equally important, savings in state processing costs that are shared by all Alabama taxpayers,” added Patterson.

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“Gov. Siegelman has mandated that all state agencies use technology to the highest degree possible to improve operating efficiencies and taxpayer services. The benefits of electronic filing provide exciting opportunities in all tax return filing and tax payment areas,” said Patterson.

During August, the department announced its sales tax online Internet filing service. For the first time, business taxpayers could electronically file their state sales tax return and all county and city sales, consumer’s use, seller’s use, lodgings, and rental taxes administered by the department. Additional local tax-filing options are also available through approved electronic return originators, whose online filing programs have met specifications set by the department.

“We are diligently working to provide our business taxpayers with the same proven advantages and conveniences of electronic filing that individual taxpayers have enjoyed for the past three years,” said Patterson.

For more information concerning Alabama’s electronic filing options, contact the department’s Individual and Corporate Tax Division at (334) 242-1000 or the Sales, Use, and Business Tax Division at (334) 242-1491. Individuals having Internet access may log onto the department’s Web site at www.ador.state.al.us.

Contact for more information:

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