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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **The 2018 filing season is done!** Congratulations, you have made it through another tax filing season – of course some taxpayers may be on [extension](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D8dcf2c43ed-26e-3D9521af11b2&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=d89QJLLxuwMMW8H2cPHM1rQMwL_8z2jmLRr1OQdopJA&m=JGDZrxLV4WcPIa4D1XO-BySlWS7rgr0LMYrCWpzI9-4&s=_AauXWHnDX0FkxSchP4xDeiyoj_wBFGFao-vFH_uxS4&e=) but that is an automatic process for many now. Now for some filing season stats. So far, we have received just over 3.5 million returns with approximately 900,000 of them coming in after April 10. We have issued 2.2 million refunds, totaling just over $1.1 billion. The Contact Center has taken 288,000 calls since January 1. Returns on paper are down slightly, and that’s always good news as they take more time to process and can delay refunds for those taxpayers.  **Marijuana is the new tax type** As of July 1, 2018, marijuana will be available as a tax type in MassTaxConnect. Currently, applicants for a cannabis license are applying for a Certificate of Good Standing with DOR to start the licensing process. Once they are licensed by the Cannabis Control Commission, the next course of action is to register with MassTaxConnect to file and pay marijuana taxes. Take a look at the [marijuana tax page](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D46e2d2d463-26e-3D9521af11b2&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=d89QJLLxuwMMW8H2cPHM1rQMwL_8z2jmLRr1OQdopJA&m=JGDZrxLV4WcPIa4D1XO-BySlWS7rgr0LMYrCWpzI9-4&s=hHef-_hBTenFFT-HL6cIQw4TBBm_Yzuifbkmabc3ZnQ&e=) for more information.   **Electronic filing edged out paper** The Notice of Intent to Assess-Request for Information and Request for Taxpayer ID Verification are currently being tested with an electronic response option for taxpayers. Just over half of the respondents to the two notices chose the electronic option. We think that’s a pretty good response rate for a new process. There are some advantages to choosing to respond electronically, including a more secure avenue for sending personal documents. It also means faster processing and that is very good news if you are waiting for a refund.    **Voluntary donations can do a lot of good** Just a reminder that taxpayers can choose to make a voluntary fund contribution on an extension filing. There are some worthwhile fund choices on Line 33, including MA Military Family Relief, Endangered Wildlife Conservation, Organ Transplant, Massachusetts AIDS, Massachusetts U. S. Olympic and Homeless Animal Prevention and Care. | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **DOR News - April 2018** | | | | |
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