



TAX REFUND TIPS & TIMING

As your members continue to navigate the high cost of living, tax refunds offer an opportunity to save or ease debt.

69% of U.S. households are either “coping” or “vulnerable.” *

23.6% increase in food prices from 2020 to 2024**

Americans look to apply tax refunds to debt & living expenses more than savings.***

49% Save Refund **VS** **61%** Pay Debt/Expenses

Below are some tips to share with your members on what to expect regarding the timing of their tax refunds and what they can do to prevent delays and more easily manage their tax refunds.

TAX REFUND TIMING TIPS †

IRS advises not to count on a specific refund issue date when planning budgets. Delays may occur.

21 Days or Less

avg # of days it takes to receive refund after filing

FACTORS THAT MAY DELAY REFUND PROCESSING:

- Error detected
- Missing information on tax return
- Potential identity theft/fraud
- Refunds including EITC and ACTC claims won't be issued until at least mid Feb.

IRS IS PHASING OUT PAPER TAX REFUND CHECKS†

Began Sept. 2025 with individual taxpayers.

1. Electronic Payments Are:

- 16 times less likely to be misplaced, stolen, delayed, or compromised
- Typically issued much faster
- Less costly to issue

2. What Individuals Should Know:

- Filing options haven't changed.
- Can receive refunds via direct deposit or another secure electronic method.
- Alternatives: prepaid debit cards and digital wallets (some limited exceptions also available)

TIPS TO MANAGE TAX REFUND

Prepaid cards are the quick, easy way to access, manage, and save tax refunds.

As the IRS moves away from paper checks, reloadable prepaid cards are a convenient alternative. Members can store them for saving or easily access their funds in case of needed expenses.

- Easily load with direct deposit.
- Online/app fund management tools make these cards great for budgeting.
- Add to mobile wallet for convenient shopping.

To learn how Envisant can help with your prepaid strategy, contact **1-800-942-7124**.