

Electronic filing continues to be the popular choice for Canadians

Ottawa, Ontario, June 13, 2011... The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) announced today that preliminary tax-filing season numbers show that Canadians are increasingly choosing electronic filing as their preferred method for filing their income tax and benefit returns.

In fact, the number of people filing electronically has increased compared to the same time last year. Of the 24.5 million returns received as of May 31, 15.9 million were filed using EFILE, NETFILE, or TELEFILE, compared to 15.2 million last year. Paper filing continues to decrease in popularity—just over 8.5 million returns were filed on paper so far, compared to 9.1 million at the same time last year. Electronic services are the quick, easy and secure way to prepare and file income tax and benefit returns.

The CRA's electronic services, such as My Account and Quick Access, are useful year-round to track your refund, check your benefit and credit payments and your registered retirement savings plan limit, set up direct deposit, and much more. For more information about these and other electronic services, go to www.cra.gc.ca/eservices.

The CRA would like to remind self-employed individuals, and their spouses or common-law partners, that they have until midnight on Wednesday, June 15, 2011, to file their income tax and benefit returns. However, their balances owing or instalments due for 2010 had to be paid on or before May 2, 2011, to avoid interest charges. A late-filing penalty on amounts owing will apply to returns received or postmarked after Wednesday, June 15, 2011.

During the postal strike, individuals can go to www.cra.gc.ca/postalstrike for the latest updates. To pay balances owing, or any required instalment payments, the CRA encourages Canadians to use one of its electronic payment options. For more information on electronic payments, go to www.cra.gc.ca/electronicpayments.

2011 filing season statistics as of May 31, 2011

	2010	2011	Change
Returns received	24,365,078	24,512,273	0.60%
Paper	9,132,581	8,569,627	-6.16%
NETFILE	4,741,021	5,025,772	6.01%
TELEFILE	387,694	353,482	-8.82%
EFILE	10,103,782	10,563,392	4.55%



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