



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

CHAIRMAN RICHARD E. NEAL

Economic Impact Payments Issued to Date

June 5, 2020

The Committee on Ways and Means (Committee) requested information from the Department of the Treasury (Treasury) regarding the economic impact payments (EIPs) authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, including the number of payments issued and scheduled to be issued. To date, Treasury has provided only limited information on categories of payments without specific numbers for each.

Estimated Total EIPs

Treasury and the IRS initially estimated that there would be 171 million EIPs under the CARES Act, which seems low given the following populations:

- 145-150 million taxpayers who file returns below the CARES Act income thresholds;
- 25-30 million Social Security beneficiaries (who may be dually eligible for SSI) who do not file returns;
- 15 million non-filers who are below the filing threshold;
- 5.3 million SSI-only recipients (undetermined number of non-filers);
- 6 million veterans (undetermined number of non-filers); and
- 500,000-600,000 RRB recipients (undetermined number of non-filers).

In May, the IRS told the Committee that 25.1 million non-filers who are Social Security and RRB recipients and receive IRS Forms 1099 would be paid automatically.

Number of EIPs Issued

Treasury Announcement/Report

On June 3, Treasury announced that it had delivered 159 million EIPs. Treasury further stated that payments had been sent to all eligible Americans “for whom the IRS has the necessary information to make a payment.”

On June 4, Treasury reported to the Committee the following on Economic Impact Payments issued by the Department of the Treasury with payment dates through June 5, 2020:

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)*	120,040,780
Paper Check	34,996,367
EIP Debit Card	3,690,949
Total	158,728,096

*EFTs generally occur via direct deposit. Of this total, 2,074,774 payments were made to Direct Express Cards.

Treasury reported that it has issued payments to the following categories of eligible individuals:
 ♦ 2018 and 2019 tax filers ♦ Non-filers who submitted information through the “Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here” web portal by May 26, 2020 ♦ Social Security and Railroad Retirement Benefits recipients who received a 2019 Form SSA-1099 or Form RRB-1099 who did not file taxes in 2018 or 2019 ♦ Supplemental Security Income recipients who did not file taxes in 2018 or 2019 ♦ Veterans Affairs beneficiaries who did not file taxes in 2018 or 2019.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)

On June 1, GAO provided the following information to the Committee showing that 157 million EIPs were issued through May 22:

	Eligible Recipients	Total
Total Volume of EIPs sent to eligible recipient	Filers ¹	131,935,895
	Non-Filers ² : SS Recipients (1099 Form)	17,540,071
	Non-Filers ² : RRB Recipients (1099 Form)	60,137
	Non-Filers ² : SSI Recipients	2,948,010
	Non-Filers ² : VA Recipients	408,873
	Non-Filers ³ : Non-Govt Benefits Recipients	4,275,423
	TOTAL	157,168,409

Since May 22, Treasury issued an additional 1.5 million payments and did not break down the recipients into the above categories.

¹ Some individuals are identified as both a Non-Filer with government benefits and as a Filer based on a Tax Year 2019 (or 2018) return and have been counted as a Non-Filer are not included in the Filer stratification.

² Non-Filers with government benefits (i.e, SS, RRB, SSI & VA) are not mutually exclusive categories. An individual can be classified as a recipient of more than one government benefits. Identified individuals received only one Economic Impact Payment, but are accounted for in all relevant categories.

³ Non-Filers: Non-Govt benefit recipients are identified as individuals using the NonFiler Portal. Returns submitted on or after April 17,2020, with AGI of \$1, Total Income of \$1 and Total Taxable Income of \$1 are identified as Non-Filers through the portal.

Estimated Number of Payments Yet to be Made

- Based on the above, it appears that about 30-35 million payments (net of the 1.5 million unspecified payments above) are still yet to be issued. This includes EIPs for:
 - 13-18 million taxpayers who file returns below the CARES Act income thresholds;*
 - 7.5 million Social Security and RRB recipients who do not file tax returns;*
 - 10.7 million taxpayers who are not required to file tax returns and who do not receive Federal government benefits; and
 - Unknown millions of SSI-only or VA recipients who do not file tax returns.*

** Treasury should have the necessary information for most of these individuals to make these payments.*

- The IRS also has an estimated 10 million pieces of mail to open and process, including 4.7 million tax returns. Some of these returns may be from first-time filers who would qualify for EIPs.