

## Press Release



# AAF Research Finds Americans Spend 2.6 Billion Hours Complying with IRS Regulations

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On tax day, the American Action Forum (@AAF) analyzed the burden of the nation's broken tax code for individuals. The AAF research finds the individual income tax generates 199 forms, requires Americans spending 2.6 billion hours filling out these forms, and spending \$33.6 billion to comply. These figures are staggering for the 150 million Americans that file taxes.

The AAF analysis also found that:

- The individual tax code is the largest paperwork burden by the IRS; and
- The increased burden has corresponded with a declining response rate to inquiries from taxpayers by the IRS. In 2012, the IRS only responded to 68 percent of calls received and 48 percent of letters received.

“The tax code is riddled with inefficiency and complexity that confronts taxpayers and the economy as a whole,” conclude Sam Batkins, AAF’s Director of Regulatory Policy and Gordon Gray, AAF’s Director of Fiscal Policy.

[Click here](#) to read the research.

NOTE: AAF also released an insight on how government spending far exceeds revenues, which can be read [here](#)

150 MILLION AMERICANS  
FILE INDIVIDUAL TAXES

199 FORMS REQUIRED

2.6 BILLION HOURS SPENT  
FILLING OUT IRS FORMS

\$33.6 BILLION SPENT TO COMPLY

# INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX BURDEN

AMERICAN ACTION  
FORUM