

Working Families Tax Credit

Business Advisory Council June 26, 2023



WFTC division operations

A separate division within the agency:



Administrative reviews worked by ARHD.



Applications (through 6/20/23)

Submissions

Applications received	181,043
Modernized e-File (MeF)	101,096 (56%)
MyDOR	73,400 (40%)
Paper	6,547 (4%)
% of eligible population (400,000)	45%
% ITIN filers	9%

Refunds

No. applications refunded	130,544
Dollars refunded	\$94,160,764
Avg. refund per application	\$721

MeF Vendors		
Drake Software	OnLine Taxes	
ezTaxReturn	TaxACT	
FileYourTaxes	TaxHawk	
HRB Development	TaxSlayer	
Intuit	Thomson Reuters	
Jackson Hewitt		

Looking to add new MeF vendors for the 2024 filing season.



Demographics

Hispanic / Latino / Spanish origin (primary applicant respondents):

60% do NOT identify as Hispanic / Latino / Spanish origin

27% DO identify as Hispanic / Latino / Spanish origin

13% prefer not to say

Race (primary applicant respondents):

1% American Indian or Alaska Native

7% Asian

9% Black or African American

3% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

56% White

5% other

19% prefer not to say



Call center results (through 6/20/23)

- Nearly 30,000 calls received!
- Average calls per day: ~150-200.
- About 20% of callers request interpretation services.
- Survey results show 84% satisfied with customer service experience.
- Vast majority of calls about refund status and processing times.
- Calls tend to be more emotional and personal.



Outreach results (for FY23)

- More than 400 outreach engagements in 36 counties.
- More than 75 application help events around the state.
- FY23 outreach grants w/ 37 grantees coming to an end.
 - Received additional funding to continue into next biennium.
- Received funding to continue marketing campaign.
- Great engagement from Advisory Committee.









Observations & lessons learned

- Minimal fraud detected (~2%).
- Most application errors through MyDOR and paper:
 - Extends processing times.
 - Common errors:
 - ✓ Goofs / typos / incorrect information.
 - ✓ Missing / incomplete attachments.
 - ✓ Duplicate applications.
 - ✓ Multiple applicants claiming same child.
- Changing external messaging of processing times.
- More special income scenarios than anticipated.
- Check cashing issues.
- High volumes of returned mail.
- Few visits to field offices.



Preparations for 2024

- Hire and onboard new staff.
- Conduct listening sessions with external stakeholders.
- Revise and improve application.
- Recalibrate business rules and streamline processes.
- Onboard new MeF vendors.
- Initiate new round of outreach grants.
- Continue marketing campaign and outreach strategies.
- Implement 2023 legislative changes:
 - HB 1477: expands refund period to <u>3</u> years.
- Implement prepaid debit cards.
- Provide additional multilingual support.



Questions?