



September 7, 2023

Mr. Yves Giroux  
Parliamentary Budget Officer  
Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer  
99 Bank Street, 9th Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A9

Information Request: IR0704

Dear Mr. Giroux,

This is in response to your letter dated August 8, 2023 in which you requested the following information:

- For each tax-filing season since the File My Return (FMR) service was introduced (which is the 2018 tax-filing season for the 2017 tax year), the number of letters that were sent to invite eligible taxpayers to use FMR. Given the Budget 2023 announcement to increase the number of eligible Canadians, please also provide the number of letters that are expected to be sent in future years (for all tax years where this information is available).
- For those that received an invitation letter to use FMR and did not use that method, the number of individuals who filed a return using another method (with a breakdown by method if possible) and the number who did not file a return (for each tax year).
- For each tax-filing season since the FMR service was introduced, the total cost incurred to administer the service, including the cost of the invitation letters sent to eligible taxpayers, the cost of operating the phone service allowing eligible taxpayers to auto-file their tax return and the cost of processing the tax returns received from the eligible taxpayers who used the service.

Please note that the data are subject to change as more information becomes available and further analysis is performed.

Section 241 of the *Income Tax Act* prohibits the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) from providing taxpayer information to the Parliamentary Budget Officer. The current provision of data is based on the premise that no taxpayer can be identified and that the Parliamentary Budget Officer and his team will not use the data to attempt to identify a taxpayer.

If desirable, CRA officials would be pleased to offer you or your officials a more detailed briefing on the table to facilitate an accurate interpretation of the statistics and to communicate any data limitations.

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Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr. Maxime Guénette, Assistant Commissioner, Chief Service Officer, and Chief Data Officer, Service, Innovation and Integration Branch, at 613-286-4869.

Sincerely,



Bob Hamilton