

TAXATION INSIDE-OUT

READER POLL RESULTS:

TO E-FILE OR NOT TO E-FILE - THAT IS THE QUESTION

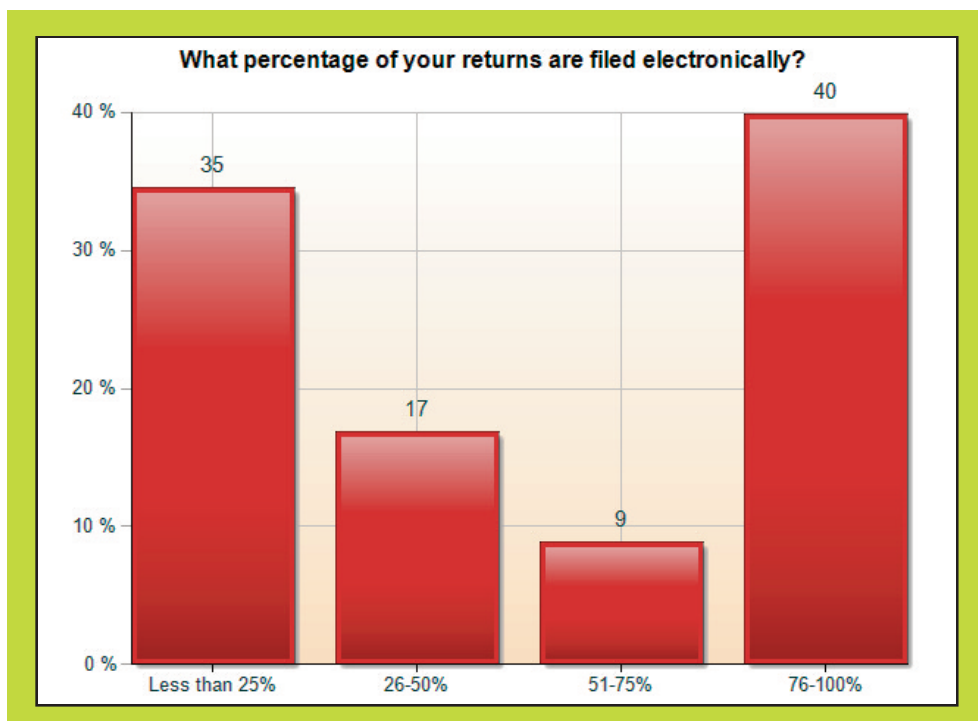
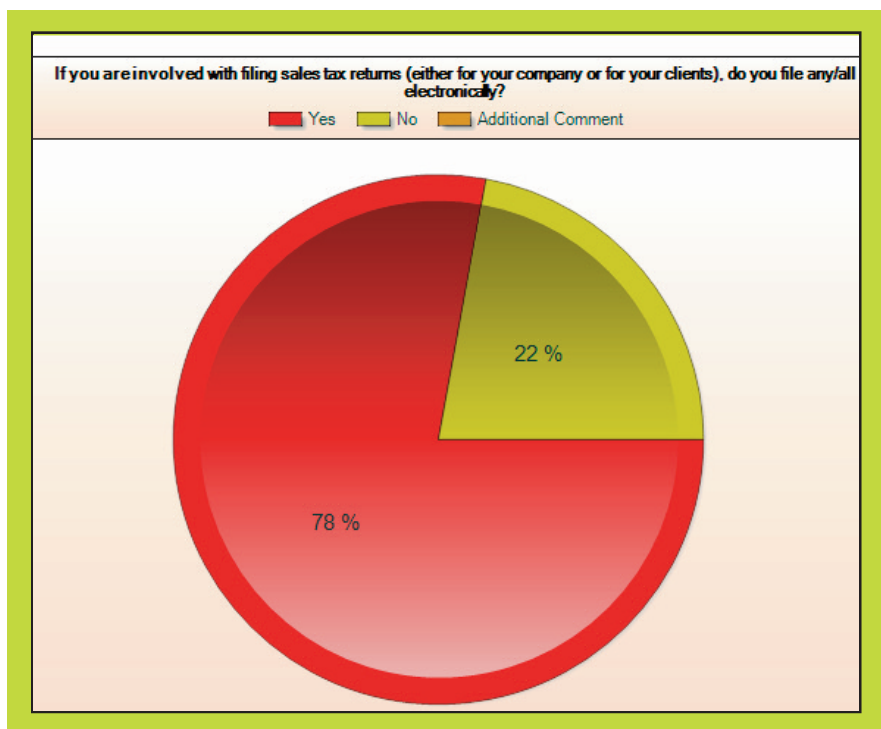
In the December 2009 edition of AICPA Corporate Taxation Insider, Vertex and the AICPA surveyed more than 100,000 corporate tax and accounting professionals about their organization in relation to their business process filing tax returns. Respondents were asked to select the best answer for each question and provide additional feedback regarding each topic question.

Seventy-eight percent of survey responders indicated that they electronically file returns, while 22 percent stated that they do not participate in any form of e-Filing. Several responders provided additional feedback stating that they file in states that do not offer e-Filing, they file in states that mandate e-Filing, and some states are charging fees to e-File so some companies are choosing to return to paper filing.

On average, respondents indicated that they file approximately 80 sales tax returns on a monthly basis. However, recorded answers to this question ranged anywhere from 1 to 700 monthly returns filed.

When asked what percentage of returns are filed electronically versus paper filing, 40 percent chose 76-100 percent, 35 percent file less than 25 percent, 17 percent indicated between 26 and 50 percent, and 9 percent stated 51-75 percent of their filings are completed electronically.

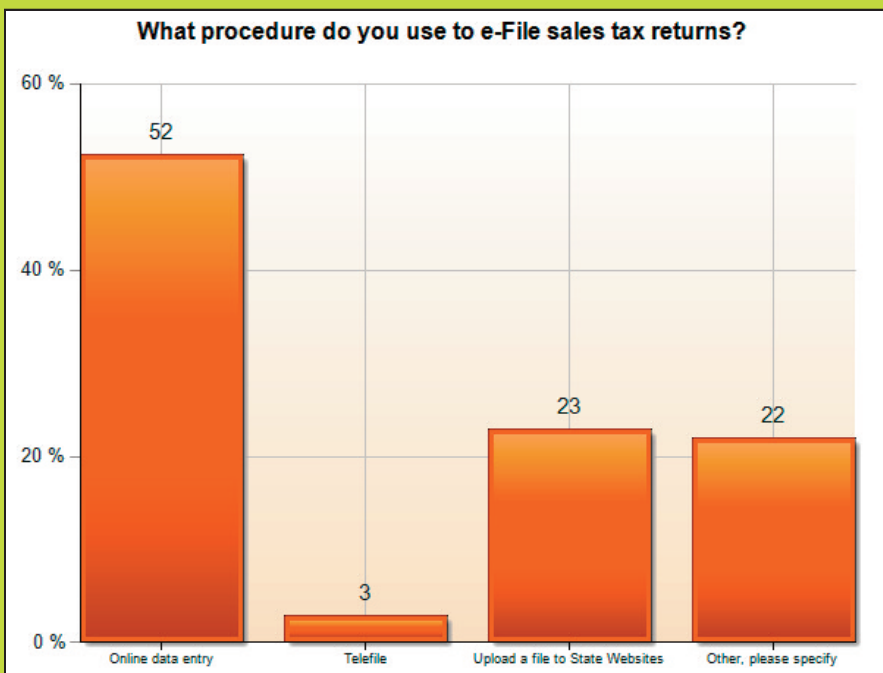
In discussing the procedures used to e-File sales tax returns, slightly more than half (52 percent) utilize online data entry, 23 percent upload a file to a state website, and 3 percent telefile. Half of the remaining 22 percent of responders stated that



they use a combination of methods for e-filing and the other half reiterated that they do not e-File returns.

The final survey question requested resource information asking how many full-time employees assist with sales tax return filing. The average response was two employees with answers ranging anywhere from 1 to 100 and several indicating that returns filing is outsourced.

Vertex Inc. is dedicated to providing accounting and corporate tax professionals with valuable industry information. We invite you to provide feedback on this survey, and also suggest topics for discussion. If you or someone you know is interested in participating as a guest writer to provide commentary on the subjects addressed in these surveys, please contact Brigitte Geiss, Vertex Inc., at brigitte.geiss@vertexinc.com.



**Please participate in this month's survey where we ask your thoughts on software as a service:
[Sound Off: Putting Some SaaS in Your Tax Processes?](#)**

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