

## Indiana Department of Revenue

# Stop ID Theft

More Americans' identities were stolen in tax refund crimes in the first six months of 2013 than in all of 2012.

About 1.6 million Americans were victims of ID theft and tax refund crimes through June 2013, compared to 1.2 million in all of 2012, according to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

Identity theft occurs when someone obtains your personal information – such as your Social Security number, credit card or bank account numbers, passwords, among others – to defraud or commit crimes.

## Signs You Might Be a Victim

- Someone else has filed a tax return in your name
- Have an overdue balance or collection actions from a year you did not file a tax return
- Confirmed IRS records of wages from an employer you never worked for

If you think you might be a victim or are a victim of identity theft, visit [www.in.gov/dor/5034.htm](http://www.in.gov/dor/5034.htm).

## Protect Yourself

There are many easy ways to protect yourself from ID theft. To learn about 10 simple tips to protect your identity, [watch a video here](#).

To learn more about how you can protect yourself from becoming an identity theft victim, visit [www.in.gov/dor/5033.htm](http://www.in.gov/dor/5033.htm)

## Protect Your Family

Children can also be victims of identity theft. Children whose identities have been stolen may not find out until they apply for a student loan or credit card and learn that a thief has been using their identities for years.

Parents or guardians of children should pay extra attention to safeguard their children's information. Here are some ways to protect your child's identity:

- Check your child's credit report annually. This can be done by contacting the credit reporting companies and provide proof of your identity and other documents.
- Never carry your child's Social Security cards with you.
- Before you share your child's SSN or other personal information, ask why it's needed and how it will be protected.

## Additional Resources

- [Identity Protection FAQs](#)
- [Tax-Related Identity Theft](#)
- [IRS Identity Protection Tips](#)
- [Identity Theft Prevention Toolkit](#)
- [Tax Preparation Fraud](#)
- [Report Tax Fraud](#)

