

# Tax Return in India

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The interesting thing nonetheless was that **only 1.25 crore individuals paid the income tax**. Data collected from the **World Bank** shows that in the year **2011**, the population of India was **124.7 crore**. This simply means that *in the assessment year 2012-2013, only around one percent of India's population paid the income tax.*

**Data shows only 1% of population pays income tax, over 5000 pay more than 1 crore**

**A total of 2.87 crore individuals filed income tax returns for 2012-13, but 1.62 crore of them did not pay any tax.**

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Taxpayers account for just about *one per cent* of India's population; however, tax outgo was over Rs. 1 crore for as many as **5,430** individuals, as per the latest data disclosed by the government for assessment year 2012-13.

The government has made public direct tax data for last 15 years. Data for individuals has been published only for 2012-13 assessment year, which shows taxes for income in financial year ended March 31, 2012. A total of 2.87 crore individuals filed income tax returns for that year, but 1.62 crore of them did not pay any tax — leaving the number of taxpayers at just about 1.25 crore which was close to one per cent of the country's total population of about 123 crore at that time.

The tax outgo was less than Rs. 1.5 lakh for a vast majority of nearly 89 per cent taxpayers (over 1.11 crore). Their average tax payable was just about Rs. 21,000, while the collective amount stood at over Rs. 23,000 crore. The three individuals in the top-bracket of Rs. 100-500 crore paid a total tax of Rs. 437 crore — resulting in an average tax outgo of Rs. 145.80 crore. As many as 5,430 individuals paid income tax of over Rs. 1 crore. Out of this, the tax range was Rs. 1-5 crore for more than 5,000 individuals, resulting in a total outgo of Rs. 8,907 crore.

As per the overall data, total income tax collections rose nine-fold to **Rs 2.86 lakh crore in 2015-16**, from Rs. 31,764 crore in 2000-01. The data further said that the bulk of individuals who filed returns for the assessment year 2012-13 earned an annual salary between Rs 5.5 lakh and Rs. 9.5 lakh.

**Nearly 2.87 crore salary earners** filed their I-T returns in *assessment year 2012-13*.