



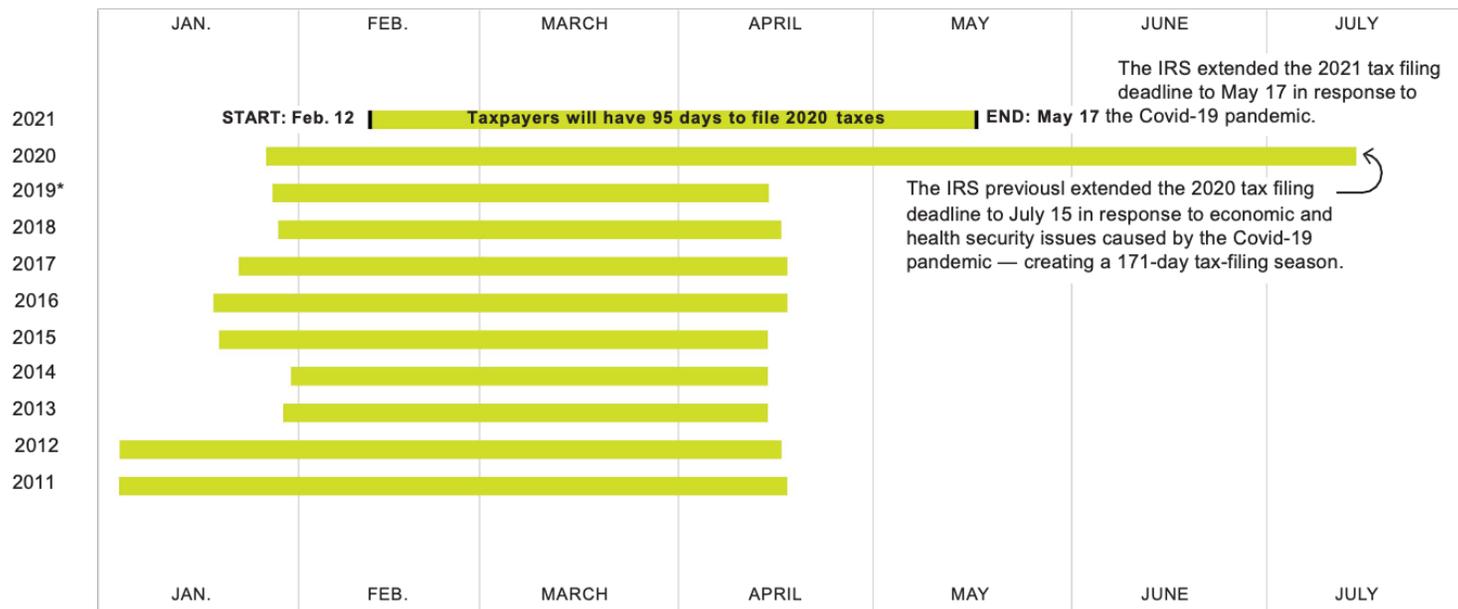
March 17, 2021

2021 tax filing season extended during the Covid-19 pandemic

The IRS has extended the 2021 tax filing season, which started Feb. 12, from April 15 to May 17 in response to continued U.S. economic disruptions from the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2020, the traditional April 15 tax return due date was extended to July 15, along with other filing and penalty extensions.

With the exception of 2020 and 2021, taxpayers have had an average of 88 days to file taxes during tax filing seasons. Start dates have sometimes been delayed so that the IRS could include extensions of sunseting tax laws in the tax processing system.

Tax filing season start and end dates for taxpayers



Sources: IRS, Politico staff reports

Note: 2012, 2016 and 2020 tax filing seasons included an additional day, Feb. 29.

*Because of the Patriot's Day holiday on April 15 in Maine and Massachusetts and the Emancipation Day holiday on April 16 in the District of Columbia, taxpayers who live in Maine or Massachusetts had until April 17 to file their returns.