

# QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW FINDINGS REPORT NO.: 2023 - SP-01 W-2 Scorecard Report for CY 2023

### **SUMMARY**

The Department of Financial Services (DFS) Post Audit Subsection has provided a limited scope review of the option to elect to receive electronic notification of an employee's W-2 readiness within the Employee Information Center (EIC) website. The EIC provides current as well as former employees access to up to four years of their earning statements, and up to five years of their federal W-2 tax forms.

The purpose of this summary is to bring awareness to the process and encourage agencies to educate their employees to further streamline the process and move away from printing and mailing tens of thousands of forms via mail couriers. The scope of this summary is from data recorded throughout the calendar year from RDS reports (Q4B1) All 34 state agencies are included.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Statewide in February, the percentage of all state employees enrolled in electronic notifications for their W-2 through the EIC was 77.5%. Six months later in late August, this number has fallen significantly to 74.4%, a 3.1% decline. By the January Withholding Adjustment Date (last day to make elections), this number had fallen again another 0.8% to 73.2%.

Per the **February** RDS report, there are 107,113 W-2 records to be created. With 77.5% opting to receive it online, that left 24,106 PAPER W-2's for staff to potentially print and distribute.

Per the **August** RDS report, there are 122,973 W-2 records to be created. 74.4% opted to receive them online, leaving 31,553 PAPER W-2's for staff to print and distribute.

The final **January** RDS report on the WAD (Jan 2024), there are 137,602 W-2 records to be created. 73.2% opted to receive them online, leaving 36,810 PAPER W-2's for staff to print and distribute. When factoring in cover pages and envelopes we **added** over 38,000 pieces since February, to bring the total pieces to <u>over</u> 110,000 pieces of paper for staff to print, quality control, and distribute.

With the three highest employee participation rates, and all maintaining a rate over 80% for the calendar year 2023, BOSP would like to thank and recognize the following agencies for their consistent efforts to help this process remain efficient:

- DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
- FLORIDA DEPT. OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
- DEPT. OF REVENUE

The following page contains the data for all agencies for the calendar year 2023.

| STATE AGENCY                                     | 2/3/2023 | 1/5/2024 | DIFFERENCE |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| FLORIDA LEGISLATURE                              | 62.75%   | 59.52%   | -3.23%     |
| JUSTICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION                | 73.41%   | 71.30%   | -2.11%     |
| STATE COURT SYSTEM                               | 80.46%   | 80.91%   | 0.45%      |
| EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR                 | 75.32%   | 74.14%   | -1.18%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF LOTTERY                            | 82.68%   | 76.46%   | -6.22%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION           | 75.00%   | 68.50%   | -6.50%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE                           | 76.66%   | 73.98%   | -2.68%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS                      | 78.91%   | 78.03%   | -0.88%     |
| FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION                | 78.26%   | 77.99%   | -0.27%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER AFFAIRS     | 74.35%   | 72.49%   | -1.87%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES                 | 74.03%   | 72.81%   | -1.22%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF STATE                              | 68.27%   | 65.22%   | -3.05%     |
| FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION                  | 82.02%   | 78.83%   | -3.19%     |
| FLORIDA SCHOOL OF THE DEAF & BLIND               | 58.49%   | 56.96%   | -1.53%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS                    | 61.21%   | 55.76%   | -5.44%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION                     | 87.54%   | 87.46%   | -0.08%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF CITRUS                             | 66.67%   | 78.38%   | 11.71%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES                | 80.89%   | 74.73%   | -6.17%     |
| PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION                        | 68.97%   | 69.20%   | 0.24%      |
| DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS                   | 58.54%   | 45.68%   | -12.86%    |
| DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH                             | 78.47%   | 75.90%   | -2.57%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS                      | 80.05%   | 82.44%   | 2.39%      |
| AGENCY FOR PERSON WITH DISABILITIES              | 69.50%   | 65.10%   | -4.40%     |
| AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION            | 81.69%   | 80.48%   | -1.21%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS                        | 77.63%   | 72.70%   | -4.92%     |
| FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT            | 83.16%   | 83.88%   | 0.72%      |
| DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES                | 75.17%   | 67.11%   | -8.05%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS            | 77.95%   | 75.46%   | -2.49%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE                            | 85.45%   | 85.39%   | -0.06%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY & MOTOR VEHICLES    | 73.67%   | 74.95%   | 1.28%      |
| FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION          | 78.09%   | 74.37%   | -3.71%     |
| FLORIDA COMMISSION ON OFFENDER REVIEW            | 85.53%   | 83.85%   | -1.67%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL REGULATION | 76.40%   | 75.68%   | -0.72%     |
| DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE                   | 77.66%   | 75.41%   | -2.25%     |
| STATEWIDE TOTALS:                                | 77.49%   | 73.25%   | -4.25%     |

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

With 2024 Tax season approaching us quickly the Bureau of State Payrolls (BOSP) wanted to reach out with some very important reminders. Also attached is a flyer as a reminder to encourage ALL employees to register for the <a href="Employees">Employees</a>' Information Center (EIC) and elect to receive electronic notification of their W-2 Tax Forms.

Employees have the opportunity to choose to receive their W-2 electronically up to the deadline on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, after which the ability to change this designation will then be locked until February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

All employees should create an EIC account as part of the onboarding process by registering at the EIC Website.

- Please advise employees to verify their email address within the EIC, as well as the physical address they
  have on file within People First to ensure proper delivery of these important tax forms. These must be
  updated no later than January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Increasing electronic W-2 participation will result in cost savings for agencies. Areas of cost savings include:
  - The cost of purchasing paper stock and envelopes.
  - The cost of postage to mail paper forms.
  - o The employees' time across multiple agencies spent preparing, sorting, and mailing paper forms.
- Electronic W-2's are <u>available 3-4 weeks earlier than paper forms</u>, can be accessed within a matter
  of minutes online via the EIC, and are <u>more secure</u> than sending important tax forms through the
  mail. There is also a reduced risk of W-2's getting lost or damaged if only available online.
  - What percentage of mail is lost by the US post office? Wikipedia says 3%, but measuring is difficult. Even the Government Accountability Office (GAO) says some post office assessment criteria are "unsuitable as benchmarks." In addition, the post office "does not measure and report its delivery performance for most types of mail." Knowing this, how can employees be sure sensitive information, such as W-2 statements, arrive in a protected, confidential fashion?
  - There is a small risk of package loss during transit, but damage is more common. One study found that up to 11 percent of packages are damaged during transit. Damage results by carrier vary, but the study found the USPS shows ten percent of packages are damaged during transit.

#### Please distribute the following flyer within your agency.

We would like 80+% participation at each agency in the future and we need your help to get there.



The Employee Information Center portal provides current and former state employees the ability to view their payroll information.



EIC gives current & former employees the ability to view 5 years of earnings statements, Form W-2's, & reimbursements (i.e., travel & flexible benefits).



EIC allows employees to register for electronic delivery, allowing access to Form W-2's up to three weeks earlier than standard paper form delivery.



EIC registration is instant and is a more secure way to access your tax information.



Agency expenses are lower as printing and mailing costs of Form W-2's are significantly reduced.



EIC provides verification of current employee's W-4 information as well as the employee's eligibility for the State of Florida's tuition waiver program.



Electronic Form W-2's cannot be lost. Paper Form W-2's go through a 2+ week mail process. There is a higher risk of a tax form being lost in the mail.

## **REGISTER TODAY ENROLLMENT ENDS** JANUARY 6th, 2025

Learn more at apps.fldfs.com/EIC/EmployeeInfoCenter