

Philippine Experience in Digital Tax Administration and the Role of Artificial Intelligence

14th IMF Japan High Level Tax Conference For Asian Countries in Tokyo 24-25 September 2025

PH Digital Tax Administration Journey

Global Shift

Digitalization is a global trend, moving tax administrations from paperbased systems to digital platforms.

Digitalization Roadmap

The Bureau of Internal Revenue is undergoing a multi-year digital transformation roadmap (2022-2028)

Early Digitalization Initiatives

The BIR has long utilized systems like the Electronic Filing and Payment System (eFPS) to allow for online tax filing and payments.

Development of Systems through Partnerships

Key Initiatives:

- a. Internal Revenue Integrated System (IRIS)
- b. Online Registration and Update System (ORUS)
- c. VAT on Digital Services Portal (VDS Portal)
- d. e-Services Expansion
- e. Data Analytics Office



Digitalization: Achievements

1 Increased Efficiency & Convenience

Period	Number of ePayers	Total Number of Payers	% Share of Number of ePayers to Total Number of Payers
2016	91,847	1,381,844	7%
(July - December)	91,047	1,301,044	176
2017	346,852	2,894,265	12%
2018	224,972	3,053,122	7%
2019	231,293	2,940,704	8%
2020	447,188	2,637,875	17%
2021	726,700	3,168,960	23%
2022	931,736	3,281,899	28%
2023	1,190,037	4,239,760	28%
2024	853,195	3,093,227	28%
2025 (January - July)	973,977	2,693,832	36%

Increased Collection

	Collection in Billions USD		% Share of e-Payment
Period	e-Payment	Total BIR	Collection to Total BIR Collection
2016	22.898	24.477	83%
2017	22.398	31.147	72%
2018	28.697	34.307	84%
2019	32.022	38.322	84%
2020	29.047	34.123	85%
2021	30.624	36.399	84%
2022	34.123	40.95	83%
2023	37.1	41.125	90%
2024	42.529	50.229	85%
2025 Jan to July	23.104	27.305	85%





Digitalization: Challenges

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Data Integrity and Governance

The vast amount of data collected requires a strong data governance framework.

ICT Infrastructure and Expenditure

Upgrading the systems and investing in new ICT infrastructure is a significant and costly undertaking.

Cybersecurity and Information Security

Digital systems are vulnerable to threats, requiring continuous investment in robust security measures.

Navigating Competing Priorities

The Government must balance its modernization efforts with its core mandate of tax collection and enforcement.



New Opportunities: Role of Artificial Intelligence

Fraud Detection & Risk Assessment

All analyzed vast datasets to detect anomalies & patterns of non-compliance under the Run Against Fake Transactions Program

Period	Accomplishment	Estimated Tax Liabilities
as of April 2025	The tax fraud detection model is currently being enhanced	\$ 99.7 Million

Improved Taxpayer Services

Al chatbots & virtual assistants provide 24/7 guidance & support.



Emerging Implications of AI in PH

Automation to Intelligence

Transition from simple automation (e.g., e-filing) to more intelligent, Alpowered systems is the next phase of the Philippines' digital journey.

Ethics and Explainability

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In order to counter the problematic 'black box' nature of some AI systems in legal and administrative decision-making, it is crucial to implement transparent, explainable AI models paired with continuous human oversight."

Human-Machine Collaboration

Al should be positioned as a tool to empower revenue officers, freeing them from routine tasks to focus on complex, high-value work

Interoperability

Integrating new AI systems with existing core systems



Future of PH Digital Tax Administration

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Digitalization is a continuous journey for the DOF and the BIR with significant progress made in improving efficiency and taxpayer experience.

All is not just a tool but a strategic enabler that can address the most pressing challenges of tax administration, from fraud detection to improving service quality.

The Philippines is taking important first steps with initiatives like the "Revie" chatbot and the Data Analytics Office. The future will involve a deeper integration of AI for more sophisticated, data-driven applications.

The goal is a more efficient, fair, and transparent tax ecosystem for both the government and the taxpayer.





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