



THE STATE OF FOIA



HOW SUCCESSFUL ARE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUESTS?

Only 26.07 percent of FOIA requests are successful, meaning they get a response and result in new information being released to the public.

HOW EXPENSIVE IS FOIA?

Only 1.57 percent of FOIA requests have a fee, but the average fee is a shocking \$3,466,965.35.



Top Requests

While people are requesting records everywhere and from every agency, there are a few who have gotten more than their share of requests.



Massachusetts (1,981)

New York (2,308) California (1,585)

Texas (998)

Florida (1,025)

Agency

FBI (7,995) CIA (1,899)

Dept. of State (921)

NSA (830)

Homeland Security (922)

How Long Is Too Long?

The allowed FOIA request response time is 20 days, but the actual response time is often much, much longer.



Allowed response time

20 days

Average response time

251 days

How Many Requests Are There?

There are currently more than 36,000 requests submitted through MuckRock. Of those, more than 7,000 have no responsive documents. And while more requests have been completed than are overdue, it's not by much.

Total requests filed	36,425
Completed requests	10,152
Rejected requests	4,209
Overdue requests	6,873
No responsive documents	7,394

REFERENCES MuckRock https://www.muckrock.com/place/united-states-of-america/







