



U.S. Department of Homeland Security

# Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

This page will teach you how to submit a request for Department of Homeland Security (DHS) records. DHS receives and responds to more FOIA requests each year than any other U.S. Federal Agency.

As the DHS Chief FOIA Officer, the Chief Privacy Officer oversees the FOIA program and reports on performance. Learn more about the law that gives the public access to DHS records on our [Policy and Compliance page \(/foia-statutes-resources\)](#).

## Changes to OBIM FOIA Requests

**“Effective 3/5/2025, DHS is no longer accepting hard copy (mail) or emailed requests for Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) records within Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM). To ensure timely processing of your request, you must submit your request for OBIM IDENT records through our portal. Submit a request to OBIM by creating a login here: [SecureRelease™ Portal \(https://www.dhs.gov/now-leaving?external\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.securerelease.us%2Faccount-page%2Fsignin%2F&back\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dhs.gov%2Ffoia\)](#).”**

The below is an updated monthly snapshot of DHS' received FOIA requests:

### Received FOIA Requests - as of February 2025

Total Received in FY	Total Received Current Month	Average Month Received Since Start of FY
25		
398,165	85,532	79,633

**\*\*NOTE:** The numbers shown above are only a snapshot in time and do not reflect live data. Thus, numbers are subject to change in aggregate data formats such as the annual report.

Learn more about FOIA data on our [Reports page \(/foia-reports\)](#).



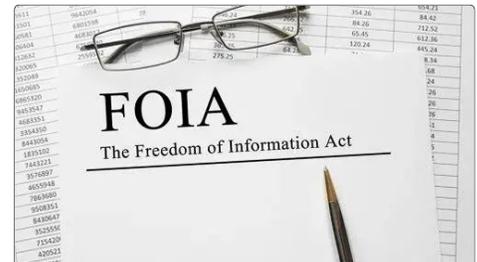
[\(/available-records\)](#)

**Search Available Records**



[\(/dhs-foia-handbook\)](#)

**How to Make FOIA Requests**



[\(/foia-contact-information\)](#)

**Submit a FOIA Request**

Search previously released records before submitting a request.

**Search Available Records**

[\(/available-records\)](#)

Learn how to submit a FOIA request or a Privacy Act request. Failure to submit all required information will result in delay or rejection of requests.

**How to Make FOIA Requests**

[\(/dhs-foia-handbook\)](#)

Submit a FOIA request to the DHS Privacy Office or a Component online.

**Submit a FOIA Request**

[\(/foia-contact-information\)](#)



[\(/foia-contact-information\)](#)

**Check Status of Request**

See how to check the status of your FOIA request.

**Check Status of Request**

[\(/foia-contact-information\)](#)



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**FOIA Policy & Compliance**

The DHS Privacy Office issues the Department's FOIA regulations and policies.

**FOIA Policy & Compliance**

[\(/foia-statutes-resources\)](#)



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**FOIA Reports**

The DHS Privacy Office published the Annual FOIA Report and the Chief FOIA Officer Report.

**FOIA Reports**

[\(/foia-reports\)](#)



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**Radical Transparency**

Grants and Terminated Contracts across DHS

**Radical Transparency**

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