

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 1998

Department/Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$6,292,615	88,204	\$71	150	587	\$577,650
Commerce	\$923,904	2,283	\$405	19	121	\$223,840
Defense	\$39,086,265	106,191	\$368	806	132	\$499,424
Education	\$576,613	1,679	\$343	10	170	\$3,022
Energy	\$4,369,353	2,314	\$1,888	42	55	0
HUD	\$451,688	2,827	\$160	16	177	\$395,617
Interior	\$4,030,094	5,002	\$806	132	38	\$118,862
Justice	\$49,314,198	195,105	\$253	954	204	\$3,448,090
Labor	\$4,350,000	17,540	\$248	113	155	\$500,000
State	\$12,600,000	2,317	\$5,438	126	18	\$110,000
Transportation	\$10,682,433	17,406	\$614	218	80	\$61,135
Treasury	\$19,934,736	56,184	\$355	211	266	\$1,400,962
AID	\$393,200	263	\$1,495	8	35	0
CIA	\$7,100,000	7,169	\$990	118	61	\$1,700,000
CPSC	\$1,626,500	13,467	\$121	17	792	\$46,700
EEOC	\$1,602,254	17,551	\$91	46	382	0
EPA *	\$4,500,000	18,848	\$239	1002	19	*
GSA	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
NARA	\$970,540	5,930	\$164	22	267	\$5,909
NASA	\$578,088	2114	\$273	16	130	\$3,000
NLRB	\$112,072	6133	\$18	10	601	\$45,178
NRC	\$1,115,402	448	\$2,490	16	28	\$11,500
NSF	\$137,620	213	\$646	2	125	0
SEC*	\$1,700,621	3,190	\$533	20	156	*
SBA	\$259,922	2,293	\$113	165	14	\$15,000
Subtotal	\$172,708,118	574,671	\$301	4239	136	\$9,165,889
HHS	\$10,770,399	67,367	\$160	194.0	347	\$206,663
OPM	\$195,562	1,796	\$109	13.1	137	\$697
SSA	\$3,443,310	208,740	\$16	95.5	2,186	\$17,723
VA	\$6,326,172	55,886	\$113	199.5	280	\$4,996
Subtotal	\$20,735,443	333,789	\$62	502.1	665	\$230,079
Total	\$193,443,561	908,460	\$213	4,741.2	192	\$9,395,968

KEY: Above Average NR=Not Reported

*The EPA and SEC listed all FOIA related expenses, including litigation costs, as processing costs.

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 1999

Department/ Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$6,626,448	80,002	\$83	263	304	\$313,138
Commerce	\$1,166,872	1,899	\$614	19	101	\$1,032,410
Defense	\$32,277,433	97,171	\$332	776	125	\$340,746
Education	\$541,989	1,711	\$317	10	176	0
Energy	\$3,641,888	2,387	\$1,526	56	43	0
HUD	\$586,627	3,513	\$167	16	220	\$480,804
Interior	\$4,630,260	5,609	\$826	128	44	\$148,428
Justice	\$23,018,806	223,644	\$103	1047	214	\$1,013,219
Labor	\$4,450,000	20,187	\$220	201	100	\$500,000
State	\$9,943,435	3,824	\$2,600	124	31	\$60,000
Transportation	\$7,003,081	20,247	\$346	182	111	\$406,612
Treasury	\$10,804,419	57,325	\$188	181	317	\$1,096,543
AID	\$423,400	256	\$1,654	7	37	0
CIA	\$7,900,000	6,225	\$1,269	65	96	\$1,700,000
CPSC	\$1,443,892	13,603	\$106	18	777	0
EEOC	\$1,555,180	15,751	\$99	36	434	0
EPA	\$6,203,195	16,698	\$371	623	27	0
GSA	NR	1,533	NR	19	81	NR
NARA	\$1,642,970	5,479	\$300	40	139	0
NASA	\$547,545	1670	\$328	19	89	\$3,000
NLRB	\$120,540	6013	\$20	13	452	\$28,488
NRC	\$1,350,659	382	\$3,536	15	25	\$11,500
NSF	\$139,465	169	\$825	2	94	0
SEC	\$1,859,700	2,990	\$622	24	125	0
SBA	\$281,428	2,496	\$113	183	14	0
Subtotal	\$128,159,232	590,784	\$217	4066	145	\$7,134,888
HHS	\$10,653,785	59,847	\$178	175	342	\$384,205
OPM	\$191,243	2,386	\$80	5	500	0
SSA	\$4,402,221	134,609	\$33	497	271	\$18,933
VA	\$45,993,047	1,139,214	\$40	17	68627	\$39,531
Subtotal	\$61,240,296	1,336,056	\$46	693	1928	\$442,669
Total	\$189,399,528	1,926,840	\$98	4758	405	\$7,577,557

KEY:

Above Average

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 2000

Department/Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$7,823,328	139,503	\$56	533	262	\$342,584
Commerce	\$1,240,553	2,026	\$612	27	75	\$1,039,109
Defense	\$35,243,410	96,479	\$365	890	108	\$1,283,261
Education	\$454,379	1,695	\$268	9	186	0
Energy	\$2,442,974	2,649	\$922	72	37	0
HUD	\$1,645,000	2,878	\$572	40	72	\$546,000
Interior	\$5,044,570	4,966	\$1,016	131	38	\$146,356
Justice	\$65,661,649	235,090	\$279	1,069	220	\$36,077,472
Labor	\$5,200,000	22,505	\$231	229	98	\$500,000
State	\$11,616,361	3,070	\$3,784	136	23	\$76,011
Transportation	\$7,778,682	19,280	\$403	111	174	\$164,000
Treasury	\$12,795,289	45,111	\$284	201	224	\$930,434
AID	\$307,400	228	\$1,348	6	40	0
CIA	\$8,100,000	4,490	\$1,804	78	58	\$1,700,000
CPSC	\$1,407,044	13,157	\$107	17	779	0
EEOC	\$1,674,183	16,060	\$104	44	367	0
EPA	\$7,582,116	14,837	511	630	24	\$45,960
GSA	\$805,000	1,407	\$572	14	101	\$32,000
NARA	\$1,336,087	9,311	\$143	33	286	\$3,249
NASA	\$671,027	1652	\$406	18	92	\$1,210
NLRB	\$128,859	5418	\$24	11	516	\$103,594
NRC	\$1,381,965	377	\$3,666	14	27	\$11,500
NSF	\$146,710	184	\$797	2	102	0
SEC	\$3,052,213	2,854	\$1,069	26	109	\$6,080
SBA	\$338,812	3,088	\$110	31	99	0
Subtotal	\$183,877,611	648,315	\$284	4,371	148	\$43,008,820
HHS	\$10,399,562	60,060	\$173	244	246	\$412,705
OPM	\$326,126	2,716	\$120	5	555	0
SSA	\$16,144,739	258,342	\$62	143	1,813	\$73,774
VA	\$24,687,049	1,230,544	\$20	492	2,501	\$48,498
Subtotal	\$51,557,476	1,551,662	\$33	883	1,756	\$534,977
All	\$235,435,087	\$2,199,977	\$107	5,254	419	\$43,543,797
KEY:	Above Average					

FOIA Processing Costs and Workforce, 2001

Department/ Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$21,192,010	83,194	\$255	275.2	302	\$159,381
Commerce	\$1,266,595	2,232	\$567	27.0	83	\$603,370
Defense	\$39,497,106	80,357	\$492	870.8	92	\$215,211
Education	\$389,658	1,555	\$251	6.4	243	0
Energy	\$2,478,599	2,673	\$927	69.7	38	\$701,000
HUD	\$2,664,635	3,251	\$820	39.8	82	\$27,636
Interior	\$5,475,634	4,961	\$1,104	167.0	30	\$209,513
Justice	\$70,599,889	194,612	\$363	1056.0	184	\$3,736,455
Labor	\$4,950,000	19,840	\$249	183.0	108	\$500,000
State	\$12,347,045	3,329	\$3,709	152.0	22	\$80,869
Transportation	\$8,968,024	19,547	\$459	117.7	166	\$72,203
Treasury	\$12,360,213	54,469	\$227	202.0	270	\$1,056,810
AID	\$327,400	207	\$1,582	5.3	39	0
CIA	\$7,600,000	3,684	\$2,063	74.8	49	\$1,200,000
CPSC	\$1,580,413	11,261	\$140	16.5	682	0
EEOC	\$1,802,423	16,067	\$112	42.9	374	0
EPA	\$12,005,482	14,292	\$840	191.5	75	\$292,013
GSA	\$800,000	1,519	\$527	14.0	109	\$30,000
NARA	\$1,924,522	7,735	\$249	46.7	166	0
NASA	\$696,088	1745	\$399	18.5	94	0
NLRB	\$191,110	5299	\$36	9.7	548	\$77,120
NRC	\$1,235,303	384	\$3,217	12.5	31	\$11,500
NSF	\$171,753	242	\$710	1.8	134	0
SEC	\$2,443,098	2,527	\$967	59.0	43	\$10,556
SBA	\$341,902	2,648	\$129	33.5	79	0
Subtotal	\$213,308,903	537,630	\$397	3693.2	146	\$8,983,637
HHS	\$12,983,533	62,599	\$207	234.4	267	\$230,134
OPM	\$600,275	7,449	\$81	7.4	1008	0
SSA	\$14,658,998	264,055	\$56	147.0	1796	\$17,124
VA	\$29,106,404	1,350,663	\$22	790.8	1708	\$110,694
Subtotal	\$57,349,210	1,684,766	\$34	1179.6	1428	\$ 357,952
All	\$270,658,112	2,222,396	\$122	4,872.8	456	\$9,341,589
KEY:	Above Average					

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 2002

Department/Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$16,515,516	78,062	\$211.57	476	164	\$281,436
Commerce	\$1,380,586	2,063	\$669.21	21	98	\$525,808
Defense	\$39,528,693	76,943	\$513.74	719	107	\$521,523
Education	\$321,159	1,718	\$186.94	8	205	0
Energy	\$2,874,379	3,319	\$866.04	38	87	\$270,211
HUD	\$2,322,395	4,171	\$556.80	41	102	\$76,529
Interior	\$6,233,400	4,378	\$1,423.80	127	34	\$255,589
Justice	\$77,448,577	184,928	\$418.80	1,067	173	\$4,305,061
Labor	\$11,865,900	18,201	\$651.94	201	91	\$250,000
State	\$13,904,439	4,636	\$2,999.23	158	29	\$91,396
Transportation	\$ 9,331,748	17,540	\$532.03	134	131	\$161,202
Treasury	\$10,296,453	47,812	\$215.35	337	142	\$423,269
AID	\$452,600	222	\$2,038.74	6	40	0
CIA	\$7,100,000	3,046	\$2,330.93	70	43	\$700,000
CPSC	\$1,611,755	9,636	\$167.26	16	614	0
EEOC	\$2,158,160	16,735	\$128.96	53	316	0
EPA	\$9,657,646	19,259	\$501.46	159	121	\$261,023
GSA	\$805,000	1,407	\$572.14	14	101	\$32,000
NARA	\$1,544,160	8,826	\$174.96	27	327	0
NASA	\$703,986	1723	\$408.58	25	69	0
NLRB	\$759,923	5550	\$136.92	11	503	\$29,097
NRC	\$1,273,026	426	\$2,988.32	12	36	0
NSF	\$17,396	254	\$68.49	1	181	0
SEC	\$2,933,058	2,888	\$1,015.60	61	47	\$35,058
SBA	\$356,578	2,117	\$168.44	38	56	\$2,300
Subtotal	\$ 221,396,534	515,860	\$429.18	3,819	135	\$8,221,502
HHS	\$14,606,788	144,143	\$101.34	241	597	\$206,677
OPM	\$615,000	10,101	\$60.89	7	1365	0
SSA	\$13,786,298	704,941	\$19.56	152	4638	\$16,364
VA	\$3,247,386	1,851,756	\$1.75	861	2151	\$65,752
Subtotal	\$32,255,472	2,710,941	\$11.90	1,262	2148	\$288,793
Total	\$253,652,005	3,226,801	\$78.61	5,081	635	\$8,510,295

KEY: Above Average

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 2003

Department/Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$8,833,920	68,163	\$130	608	112	\$286,107
Commerce	\$1,253,641	1,981	\$633	18	111	\$283,362
Defense	\$42,536,165	73,814	\$576	704	105	\$354,461
Education	\$498,339	1,840	\$271	7	267	0
Energy	\$3,086,455	2,371	\$1,302	75	32	\$259,277
Homeland Sec.	\$21,514,060	160,902	\$134	410	392	\$410,791
HUD	\$2,322,395	2,788	\$833	41	68	\$76,529
Interior	\$7,406,231	4,679	\$1,583	122	38	\$266,799
Justice	\$64,039,375	54,583	\$1,173	716	76	\$4,098,259
Labor	\$15,242,160	21,185	\$719	199	107	\$160,500
State	\$12,107,000	5,773	\$2,097	148	39	\$123,156
Transportation	\$6,413,295	10,527	\$609	55	191	\$101,420
Treasury	\$12,586,700	59,814	\$210	144	416	\$165,132
AID	\$456,200	240	\$1,901	6	40	\$14,108
CIA	\$7,600,000	3,252	\$2,337	272	12	\$650,000
CPSC	\$1,513,924	8,391	\$180	15	552	0
EEOC	\$1,910,866	17,550	\$109	41	424	0
EPA	\$8,773,710	14,454	\$607	155	93	\$258,418
GSA	\$825,000	1,363	\$605	18	76	\$34,000
NARA	\$1,354,911	4,830	\$281	26	186	0
NASA	\$993,669	1,878	\$529	19	98	\$104,336
NLRB	\$824,963	5,256	\$157	11	484	\$21,113
NRC	\$1,275,998	434	\$2,940	10	43	0
NSF	\$172,137	231	\$745	1	165	0
SEC	\$12,237,000	3,481	\$3,515	62	57	\$25,000
SBA	\$499,774	1,908	\$262	20	98	0
Subtotal	\$236,277,888	531,688	\$444	3,903	136	\$7,692,768
HHS	\$15,263,798	144,143	\$106	259	556	\$91,233
OPM	\$728,223	10,101	\$72	8	1,226	0
SSA	\$13,542,739	704,941	\$19	742	950	\$36,508
VA	\$39,515,239	1,851,756	\$21	167	11,088	\$53,051
Subtotal	\$69,049,999	2,710,941	\$25	1177	2304	\$380,792
Total	\$305,327,887	3,242,629	\$94	5,079	638	\$8,073,560

KEY: Above Average

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 2004

Department/Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$11,324,192	61,209	\$185	585	105	\$266,025
Commerce	\$1,373,355	2,035	\$675	18	115	\$396,280
Defense	\$46,783,592	77,256	\$606	721	107	\$428,202
Education	\$809,158	2,082	\$389	11	195	0
Energy	\$3,297,469	2,440	\$1,351	71	34	\$189,035
Homeland Sec.	\$20,585,515	152,027	\$135	469	324	\$562,803
HUD	\$1,998,632	3,978	\$502	41	97	\$18,968
Interior	\$7,252,721	4,219	\$1,719	114	37	\$358,718
Justice	\$54,531,828	56,865	\$959	563	101	\$12,394,368
Labor	\$14,645,397	21,860	\$670	191	115	\$160,000
State	\$12,656,689	4,963	\$2,550	182	27	\$123,156
Transportation	\$7,629,310	10,905	\$700	57	193	\$90,381
Treasury	\$13,577,037	64,570	\$210	146	443	\$408,575
AID	\$437,000	212	\$2,061	6	35	0
CIA	\$8,150,000	3,336	\$2,443	76	44	\$730,000
CPSC	\$1,627,309	6,397	\$254	15	421	\$2,000
EEOC	\$2,162,500	17,485	\$124	52	337	\$26,759
EPA	\$11,215,170	13,352	\$840	1765	76	\$290,309
GSA	\$875,000	1,182	\$740	18	66	\$41,000
NARA	\$1,425,774	5,219	\$273	26	201	0
NASA	\$1,541,496	1567	\$983	20	80	\$118,344
NLRB	\$706,148	5295	\$133	9	596	\$46,860
NRC	\$1,127,003	389	\$2,897	9	43	0
NSF	\$179,567	309	\$581	1.4	221	0
SEC	\$2,564,726	3,830	\$670	64	60	\$663
SBA	\$753,750	1,927	\$391	13	154	\$1,800
Subtotal	\$ 229,230,338	524,909	\$440	3,650	144	\$16,654,246
HHS	\$17,797,355	222,408	\$80	251	885	\$1,427,345
OPM	\$705,391	9,310	\$76	13	746	—
SSA	\$14,531,090	1,450,493	\$10	209	6,940	\$20,489
VA	\$44,696,330	1,851,756	\$24	796	2,325	\$210,461
Subtotal	\$77,730,166	3,533,967	\$22	1269	2,784	\$1,658,295
Total	\$306,960,504	4,058,876	\$76	4,919	825	\$18,312,541

KEY: Above Average

The Social Security Administration outsources the handling of FOIA requests to its 1,400 field offices. The FTE total relates only to government employees handling FOIA.

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 2005

Department/Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$9,862,348	51,922	\$190	219	237	\$365,872
Commerce	\$1,227,066	1,834	\$669	17	106	\$310,006
Defense	\$47,876,973	78,775	\$608	752	105	\$2,180,360
Education	\$1,063,860	2,219	\$479	10	220	0
Energy	\$4,020,094	3,831	\$1,049	71	54	\$207,000
Homeland Sec.	\$28,343,072	126,126	\$225	622	203	\$481,784
HUD	\$1,998,632	2,923	\$684	41	71	\$9,350
Interior	\$7,666,403	6,420	\$1,194	121	53	\$362,111
Justice	\$56,610,612	51,435	\$1,101	525	98	\$7,110,971
Labor	\$16,027,360	23,284	\$688	190	122	\$175,000
State	\$9,926,300	3,870	\$2,565	143	27	\$176,800
Transportation	\$7,334,051	9,384	\$782	87	108	\$83,470
Treasury	\$12,920,599	53,987	\$239	104	517	\$732,883
AID	\$460,000	197	\$2,335	5	38	0
CIA	\$8,350,000	3,110	\$2,685	74	42	\$750,000
CPSC	\$1,142,756	5,387	\$212	11	481	\$20,000
EEOC	\$1,976,105	16,232	\$122	49	331	\$16,796
EPA	\$9,449,572	11,108	\$851	181	61	\$356,685
GSA	\$1,311,000	1,561	\$840	19	82	\$72,000
NARA	\$1,741,987	8,878	\$196	25	355	0
NASA	\$1,128,410	1,351	\$835	19	72	0
NLRB	\$779,187	4,702	\$166	8	613	\$17,575
NRC	\$1,016,677	345	\$2,947	9	38	0
NSF	\$214,166	266	\$805	1.5	177	0
SEC	\$3,835,658	7,422	\$517	36	206	\$118,522
SBA	\$812,729	3,737	\$217	11	349	0
Subtotal	\$237,095,617	480,306	\$494	3350	143	\$13,547,185
HHS	\$18,137,650	221,402	\$82	247	898	\$739,929
OPM	\$805,286	10,900	\$74	19	572	—
SSA	\$22,794,463	17,262,315	\$1.32	405	42,623	\$55,181
VA	\$43,968,967	1,915,013	\$23	720	2,658	\$125,000
Subtotal	\$85,706,366	19,409,630	\$4.42	1,391	13,954	\$920,110
Total	\$322,801,983	19,889,936	\$16.23	4,741	4,195	\$14,467,295

KEY: Above Average

The Social Security Administration outsources the handling of FOIA requests to its 1,400 field offices. The FTE total relates only to government employees handling FOIA.

FOIA Processing Costs, Workforce, Efficiency, Litigation Costs, 2006

Department/ Agency	Processing Costs	Requests Processed	Cost per Request	FTEs	Requests per FTE	Litigation Costs
Agriculture	\$10,990,198	59,065	\$186	206	287	\$335,371
Commerce	\$1,742,222	1,987	\$877	19	105	\$269,824
Defense	\$64,181,003	72,266	\$888	824	88	\$2,695,976
Education	\$2,502,689	1,904	\$1,314	27	71	0
Energy	\$3,992,699	3,861	\$1,034	67	58	\$139,543
Homeland Sec.	\$27,384,371	111,943	\$245	1,031	109	\$627,704
HUD	\$2,408,504	2,631	\$915.43	41	64	\$9,350
Interior	\$7,895,813	5,086	\$1,552.46	125	41	\$121,580
Justice	\$43,529,174	54,925	\$793	459	120	\$6,916,623
Labor	\$15,787,200	23,608	\$669	179	132	\$168,000
State	\$5,471,349	3,866	\$1,415	108	36	\$171,177
Transportation	\$7,500,350	8,758	\$856	72	122	\$109,848
Treasury	\$12,231,174	39,518	\$310	116	341	\$508,009
AID	\$740,000	458	\$1,616	7	65	0
CIA	\$8,870,000	2,579	\$3,439	75	34	\$1,190,000
CPSC	\$1,011,376	4,728	\$214	10	473	\$23,437
EEOC	\$2,499,564	16,936	\$148	46	368	\$25,973
EPA	\$10,075,991	12,685	\$794	277	46	\$4,206,070
GSA	\$1,334,000	1,454	\$917	18	81	\$6,000
NARA	\$2,622,615	8,884	\$295	32	278	NR
NASA	\$1,473,386	1,132	\$1,302	22	51	\$13,403
NLRB	\$734,538	5,553	\$132	7	761	\$18,630
NRC	\$1,060,923	364	\$2,915	5	73	0
NSF	\$241,816	340	\$711	2	227	0
SEC	\$4,283,262	8,268	\$518	40	207	\$195,671
SBA	\$1,050,777	6,245	\$168	15	414	\$4,964
Subtotal	\$241,614,994	459,044	\$526	3,830	120	\$17,757,153
HHS	\$18,560,804	257,573	\$72.06	255	1,006	\$1,015,390
OPM	\$2,005,292	16,267	\$123.27	21	794	\$24,514
SSA	\$29,105,523	18,691,303	\$1.56	404	NA	\$48,307
VA	\$47,691,463	1,937,088	\$24.62	752	2,576	\$24,375
Subtotal	\$338,978,076	20,902,231	\$16.22	1,432	14,601	\$1,112,586
Total	\$436,341,158	21,361,275	\$20.43	5,343	23,718	\$18,869,739

KEY: Average and Above Average and Below NR=Not reported