



**Statutes Used by Federal Departments and Agencies in Conjunction with
Exemption 3 of the FOIA as Reported in Fiscal Year 2025 Annual FOIA Reports**

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy

Statute	Type of Information Protected by Statute	Agency (Agencies) and No. of Times Cited	Total No. of Citations in FY 2025
*5 U.S.C. § 407 (formerly at 5 U.S.C. app. 3 § 7(b))	Names of employees who provide information or complaints to the Inspector General	DOD (27); DOJ (1); STATE (6); EPA (1); FCA (1); FDIC (3); GSA (4); HHS (99); SEC (3); VA (6)	151
5 U.S.C. § 420(b)(2)(B)	The disclosure of the identity of any individual making a complaint of fraud, waste, or abuse to an Office of Inspector General	EPA (4)	4
5 U.S.C. § 574(j)	Dispute resolution communications	CFPB (1); DOD (2); DOT (1); NARA (1); USDA (2)	7
*5 U.S.C. §§ 7114(b)(4), 7132	Certain labor relations training and guidance materials	DOD (2); DOI (1); USDA (2)	5
5 U.S.C. § 13107 (formerly at 5 U.S.C. app § 105)	Financial disclosure reports and applications to inspect financial disclosure reports	ASC (1); CFPB (1); DOD (2); DOJ (2); FRS (2); HUD (1); IAF (1); MSPB (1); OGE (21); PBGC (1); PRC (1); Treasury (1); USAID (2); USIBWC (1)	38
*5 U.S.C. § 13109(a)(2) (formerly at 5 U.S.C. app. 4 § 107(a)(2))	Confidential financial disclosure report pertaining to certain government employees	CFPB (1); DOD (7); DOE (3); DOI (1); DOJ (1); DOT (2); EPA (2); EXIM (1); FDIC (1); FMSHRC (1); HHS (2); NARA (2); NLRB (1); OPM (1); PC (1); PCLOB (2); USAB (2); VA (1)	31
6 U.S.C. § 673(a)(1) (formerly at 6 U.S.C. § 133(a)(1))	Protection of voluntarily shared critical infrastructure information	DHS (2); STATE (1); USAID (16)	19
6 U.S.C. § 1504(d)(3)(B)	A cyber threat indicator or defensive measure shared with the Federal Government under the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015	DOJ (8)	8
*7 U.S.C. § 12(a)(1)	"[D]ata and information that would separately disclose the business transactions or market positions of any person and trade secrets or names of customers," as well as certain other information concerning, or obtained in, the course of the Commission's investigation under the Commodity Exchange Act"	CFTC (1); DOC (2)	3
7 U.S.C. § 26(h)(2)(A)	"[A]ny information, including information provided by a whistleblower to the Commission, which could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower, . . . unless and until required to be disclosed to a defendant or respondent in connection with a public proceeding instituted by the Commission or any entity described in subparagraph (C)"	CFTC (4)	4
*7 U.S.C. § 136i-1(b)	"[D]ata, including the location from which the data was derived, that would directly or indirectly reveal the identity of individual producers [of certain pesticides]"	EPA (17)	17
*7 U.S.C. § 1502(c)(1)	Certain information furnished by a producer under the Federal Crop Insurance Act	DOL (1); USDA (10); VA (1)	12
7 U.S.C. § 1636(b)	Information acquired through the Livestock Mandatory Reporting requirement	USDA (1)	1
*7 U.S.C. § 2018(c)	Information obtained pursuant to chapter 51 of title 7 of the United States Code, which concerns the handling of information submitted by applicants to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	VA (1)	1
7 U.S.C. § 2706(c)	Information obtained from reports filed by persons engaged in the production of commercial eggs and persons who receive or otherwise acquire eggs from such persons and who process, prepare for market, or market such eggs, including eggs of their own production	USDA (1)	1



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7 U.S.C. § 8401(h)(1)(C)	Registration and transfer documentation for listed biological agents and toxins, and information derived therefrom	HHS (2)	2
*7 U.S.C. § 8791(b)(2)	"[I]nformation provided by an agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land concerning the agricultural operation, farming or conservation practices, or the land itself, in order to participate in programs of the Department" or "geospatial information . . . maintained by the Secretary about agricultural land or operations"	USDA (427)	427
*8 U.S.C. § 1202(f)	Certain records pertaining to the issuance or refusal of visas to enter the United States	DHS (48,891); DOJ (4); STATE (7,289)	56,184
*8 U.S.C. § 1367(a)(2)	Information that relates to an alien who is the beneficiary of certain applications for relief under the Immigration and Nationality Act	DHS (66); EEOC (3)	69
10 U.S.C. § 128	Unclassified special nuclear weapons information	DOD (6)	6
*10 U.S.C. § 130(a)	Certain "technical data with military or space application in the possession of, or under the control of, the Department of Defense"	DOD (221); DOJ (3); FRTIB (1); NARA (1); VA (1)	227
*10 U.S.C. § 130b	Personally identifiable information pertaining to "any member of the armed forces assigned to an overseas unit, a sensitive unit, or a routinely deployable unit" and "any employee of the Department of Defense or of the Coast Guard whose duty station is with any such unit"	DOD (1,704); DOI (1); DOJ (3); STATE (3); VA (1)	1,712
*10 U.S.C. § 130c	Certain "sensitive information of foreign governments" and certain international organizations	DOD (62); DOJ (5); STATE (6)	73
10 U.S.C. § 130d	Confidential information shared with State and local personnel	DOD (5)	5
10 U.S.C. § 130e	DOD Critical Infrastructure Security information	DOD (263); DOT (41)	304
*10 U.S.C. § 424	Organization or any function of an organization, and certain information pertaining to, employees of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, and the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency	DOD (281); DOI (6); DOJ (8); STATE (1); NARA (8); ODNI (2)	306
10 U.S.C. § 455	Maps, charts, and geomatic data	DOD (11)	11
*10 U.S.C. § 1102(f)	Medical quality assurance records created by or for the Department of Defense as part of a medical quality assurance program	DOD (23)	23
10 U.S.C. § 2485(h)	Limitations on release of Commissary Commercially Valuable Information	DOD (2)	2
10 U.S.C. § 2640(h)	Safety-related information voluntarily provided by an air carrier	DOD (1)	1
*10 U.S.C. § 3309(b) (formerly at 10 U.S.C. § 2305(g))	Certain contractor proposals	DOD (158); DOI (10); DOJ (2); NASA (1); SBA (1)	172
10 U.S.C. § 4021 (formerly at 10 U.S.C. § 2371(i))	Research projects: transactions other than contracts and grants	DOD (8)	8
10 U.S.C. § 14104(a)	Proceedings from selection and special selection boards for reserve officers	DOD (1)	1
*13 U.S.C. §§ 8(b), 9(a)	Certain census data	DOC (82)	82
*13 U.S.C. § 301(g)	Certain shippers' export declarations or successor documents	DOJ (1)	1
*15 U.S.C. § 18a(h)	Information submitted in connection with the premerger notification provisions of the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976	DOJ (24); FTC (22)	46
*15 U.S.C. § 46(f)	"[A]ny trade secret or any commercial or financial information which is obtained from any person and which is privileged or confidential"	DOD (3); FTC (49)	52
*15 U.S.C. § 57b-2(f)	Certain investigative materials received by the FTC and "provided pursuant to any compulsory process under this subchapter or which is provided voluntarily in place of such compulsory process"	FTC (116)	116
15 U.S.C. § 77f(e)(2)	Certain information contained in or filed with a securities registration statement	SEC (39)	39
15 U.S.C. § 78q(h)(5)	Associated persons of broker-dealers, government securities brokers or dealers, or municipal securities dealers	SEC (3)	3



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15 U.S.C. § 78u-6	Information that could identify a whistleblower	SEC (9)	9
15 U.S.C. § 78x(d)	Foreign securities authorities	SEC (4)	4
15 U.S.C. § 638(k)(4)	Information contained within a Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program evaluation databases	DOD (1); DOE (2)	3
*15 U.S.C. § 1314(g)	"Any documentary material, answers to written interrogatories, or transcripts of oral testimony" provided pursuant to certain civil investigative demands pertaining to antitrust investigations	DOJ (4)	4
*15 U.S.C. §§ 2055(a)(2), 2055(b)(1), 2055(b)(5)	Certain information reported to, or otherwise obtained by, the Consumer Product Safety Commission which either contains or relates to a trade secret or is "subject to section 552(b)(4) of Title 5"	CPSC (81)	81
15 U.S.C. § 2074(c)	Information that identifies persons or those treating injured persons, absent consent	CPSC (3)	3
*15 U.S.C. § 3710a(c)	"[T]rade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential, under the meaning of section 552(b)(4) of Title 5, which is obtained in the conduct of research or as a result of activities under this chapter," which pertains to cooperative research and development agreements for the purpose of technological and industrial innovation	DOI (2); HHS (1); NASA (5); VA (4)	12
15 U.S.C. § 4652(a)(6)(G)	Information provided by covered entities for the fabrication, assembly, testing, advanced packaging, production, or research and development of semiconductors, materials used to manufacture semiconductors, or semiconductor manufacturing equipment	DOC (28)	28
15 U.S.C. § 7215(b)(5)	Certain information prepared or received by or specifically for the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB)	SEC (1)	1
*15 U.S.C. § 7306(d)	"[A]ny information . . . receive[d] in the course of an investigation under this chapter if the Director finds that the disclosure of that information might jeopardize public safety"	DOC (2)	2
16 U.S.C. § 470aaa-8	Information concerning the nature and specific location of a paleontological resource	DOI (7)	7
*16 U.S.C. § 470hh	Information pertaining to the nature and location of certain archaeological resources	DHS (3); DOD (46); DOE (1); DOI (58); TVA (1); USDA (36)	145
16 U.S.C. § 824o-1(d)	Information pertaining to Critical Energy Infrastructure	DOE (3); DOI (4); FERC (7); NRC (5)	19
16 U.S.C. § 1881a(b)(1)	Certain information submitted to the Secretary, a State fishery management agency, or a marine fisheries commission by any person in compliance with the requirements of this chapter	DOC (4)	4
*16 U.S.C. § 4304	"Information concerning the specific location of any significant cave . . . [that] create[s] a substantial risk of harm, theft, or destruction of such cave"	DOI (4)	4
17 U.S.C. § 1506(t)(4)	Certain information relating to proceedings of the Copyright Claims Board	USCO (1)	1
*18 U.S.C. § 208(d)(1)	Providing that "a copy of any determination granting an exemption under subsection (b)(1) or (b)(3) [from application of penalties for acts affecting personal financial interests determined to constitute bribery, graft, or conflicts of interest] shall be made available to the public," but exempting from this disclosure requirement "any information contained in the determination that would be exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5"	DOJ (1); EPA (1); HHS (1); FLRA (8); SEC (1); Treasury (5); VA (4)	21
*18 U.S.C. § 701	Likeness of any badge, identification card, or other insignia, of the design prescribed by the head of any department or agency of the United States for use by any officer or employee thereof, or any colorable imitation thereof	Treasury (1)	1
*18 U.S.C. § 798	Certain classified information pertaining to the communication intelligence and cryptographic devices of the United States or any foreign government	DOD (655); DOJ (1)	656
*18 U.S.C. §§ 2510, et seq.	Wiretap requests and the contents of any wire, oral, or electronic communication obtained through wiretaps	DHS (2); DOD (44); DOJ (81); NARA (3)	130



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*18 U.S.C. § 3123(d)	Certain court “order[s] authorizing or approving the installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device”; information pertaining to “the existence of the pen register or trap and trace device or the existence of the investigation”	DOJ (55)	55
*18 U.S.C. § 3509(d)	Certain records containing identifying information pertaining to children involved in criminal proceedings	DHS (4); DOD (319); DOJ (79); USPS (1)	403
*18 U.S.C. § 3521(b)(1)(G)	“[T]he identity or location of the person relocated or protected, or any other matter concerning the person or the program after weighing [various factors],” subject to certain exceptions	DOJ (23)	23
*18 U.S.C. § 4208(c)	Certain records pertaining to parole determination proceedings	DOJ (2)	2
*18 U.S.C. § 5038(a)	Records of juvenile delinquency proceedings	DOJ (17)	17
19 U.S.C. § 1333(h)	Any correspondence, private letters of reprimand, and other documents and files relating to violations or possible violations of administrative protective orders issued by the Commission in connection with investigations or other proceedings	USITC (1)	1
*19 U.S.C. § 1677f	Certain “information submitted to the administering authority or the [United States International Trade] Commission which is designated as proprietary by the person submitting the information”	USITC (3)	3
*19 U.S.C. § 2155(g)	Certain information in connection with trade negotiations that is “submitted in confidence”	DOD (1); DOT (1); NASA (1); USTR (3); VA (1)	7
*20 U.S.C. § 1099c-1	Certain program review reports and institutional responses until the Department of Education issues a final program review determination	OMB (1); VA (1)	2
*21 U.S.C. § 331(j)	Certain information “concerning any method or process which as a trade secret is entitled to protection”	HHS (20)	20
21 U.S.C. § 350d(a)(4)	Food Registration Documents	HHS (3)	3
21 U.S.C. § 355	Any information or documentary material that may have been filed pursuant to a pharmaceutical agreement notification	FTC (1)	1
*21 U.S.C. § 387f(c)	Certain information reported to or obtained by the Secretary which is exempt from disclosure under Exemption 4 of the FOIA	VA (2)	2
21 U.S.C. § 1904(e)(3)	Information related to foreign narcotics traffickers	Treasury (1)	1
22 U.S.C. § 288a(c)	Information regarding international programs records	USIBWC (1)	1
*22 U.S.C. § 2778(e)	Certain information pertaining to export license applications	DOD (14); DOE (3); STATE (4); NASA (19)	40
*25 U.S.C. § 1675(g)	Medical quality assurance records	HHS (9)	9
*26 U.S.C. §§ 6103, 6105	Certain tax return information, to include Taxpayer Identification Numbers of third parties, and certain tax convention information	DHS (11); DOD (8); DOE (1); DOI (1); DOJ (237); EPA (1); HHS (5); NARA (9); SSA (1); Treasury (2,593); VA (17)	2,884
*28 U.S.C. § 652(d)	“[C]onfidential dispute resolution communications”	CSOSA (1); DHS (1); DOI (3); DOL (4); EPA (2); NASA (1); STB (1); VA (1)	14
29 U.S.C. § 1343(f)	Any information or documentary material submitted to the [agency] pursuant to . . . section [1343 of title 29 of the United States Code]	PBGC (2)	2
31 U.S.C. § 310(i)	Information obtained by foreign law enforcement and financial intelligence units	Treasury (1)	1
31 U.S.C. § 3730(b)(2)	Records pertaining to civil actions for false claims against the United States Government	DOJ (1); GSA (1); VA (2)	4
*31 U.S.C. § 5319	Reports pertaining to monetary instruments transactions filed under subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31 and records of those reports	DHS (9); DOJ (43); FRS (1); Treasury (291)	344



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31 U.S.C. § 5323(g)(4)	Information which could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower	Treasury (1)	1
31 U.S.C. § 5336(c)(2)	Beneficial ownership information reported under this section shall be confidential and may not be disclosed	Treasury (1)	1
*34 U.S.C. § 10231(a)	"Any research or statistical information furnished under this title by any person and identifiable to any specific private person for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was obtained in accordance with this title"	DOJ (1)	1
*34 U.S.C. § 12592 (formerly at 42 U.S.C. § 14132)	Certain "stored DNA samples and DNA analyses"	DOJ (2)	2
*35 U.S.C. § 122	Applications for patents; certain information pertaining to applications for patents	DOC (40); NSF (1)	41
35 U.S.C. § 205	Information relating to government invention information	VA (2)	2
35 U.S.C. § 209(f)	Plans for development or marketing of a federally owned invention	HHS (2)	2
*38 U.S.C. § 5701	"All files, records, reports, and other papers and documents pertaining to any claim under any of the laws administered by the Secretary and the names and addresses of present or former members of the Armed Forces, and their dependents, in the possession of [VA]"	VA (15910)	15910
*38 U.S.C. § 5705	Records created by VA as part of its medical quality-assurance program; certain other information pertaining to VA's medical quality-assurance program	VA (66)	66
*38 U.S.C. § 7332	Records of patients being treated for certain conditions	VA (1203)	1203
38 U.S.C. § 7451	Information collected in VA nurse and other health-care personnel wage surveys	VA (5)	5
39 U.S.C. § 410(c)(1)	Records relating to names and addresses of postal customers	USPS (559)	559
*39 U.S.C. § 410(c)(2)	Commercial information which would not be disclosed under good business practice	DOJ (2); USPS (491)	493
39 U.S.C. § 410(c)(3)	Information prepared for use in the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements under 39 U.S.C. Chapter 12 and minutes or notes kept during the negotiating sessions	USPS (2)	2
39 U.S.C. § 410(c)(4)	Information prepared for proceedings under 39 U.S.C. Chapter 36, relating to rates, classification, and service changes	USPS (1)	1
39 U.S.C. § 410(c)(6)	Investigatory files, whether or not considered closed, compiled for law enforcement purposes, except to the extent available by law to a party other than the Postal Service	USPS (6)	6
39 U.S.C. § 412	Records containing lists with postal customers	USPS (22)	22
*39 U.S.C. § 3016(d)	Documentary material provided pursuant to any subpoena issued under Deceptive Mail Prevention Enforcement Act	NASA (1); VA (1)	2
*41 U.S.C. § 2102 (amending 41 U.S.C. § 423(a)(1))	Contractor bid or proposal information; source selection information	CFPB (1); DOC (4); DOD (56); DOE (8); DOI (15); DOJ (11); DOT (7); ED (3); FRTIB (1); GSA (5); HHS (1); HUD (1); NASA (8); NRPC (30); SEC (3); USAID (2); VA (29)	185
*41 U.S.C. § 4702 (formerly at 41 U.S.C. § 253b(m)(1))	Contractor proposals that are in the possession or control of an executive agency and that have not been set forth or incorporated by reference into contracts	DHS (18); DOC (42); DOD (36); DOE (1); DOI (57); DOJ (58); DOT (5); ED (3); EPA (2); FCC (1); FRTIB (1); HHS (74); HUD (5); LSC (1); NASA (10); NRC (2); NRPC (5); PBGC (1); SBA (2); State (1); Treasury (3); TVA (3); USAID (3); USDA (24); USITC (2); VA (36)	396



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*42 U.S.C. § 262a(h)(1)	Certain categories of information relating to biological agents and toxins	DOD (2); DOI (1); HHS (5)	8
42 U.S.C. § 282(j)(6)	Information submitted for publication on clinicaltrials.gov that is not otherwise publicly available	HHS (30)	30
42 U.S.C. § 290dd-2	Confidentiality of patient records maintained in connection with substance abuse education, prevention, training, treatment, rehabilitation, or research	HHS (1)	1
*42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(A)	"information submitted to a special master or the court in a proceeding on a petition [for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program]"	DOJ (9)	9
42 U.S.C. § 1395bb(b)	Certain information related to Accreditation Surveys	HHS (2)	2
42 U.S.C. § 1396r-8(b)(3)(D)	Information disclosed by manufacturers or wholesalers which discloses the identity of a specific manufacturer or wholesaler, or prices charged for drugs by such manufacturer or wholesaler	HHS (2)	2
*42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e-5(b), 2000e-8(e)	Information pertaining to charges of unlawful employment practices; information obtained by the EEOC in investigating charges of unlawful employment practices	EEOC (2160)	2160
42 U.S.C. § 2000ff-6	Information pertaining to charges of unlawful employment discrimination practices	EEOC (1748)	1748
42 U.S.C. § 2000g-2b	Conciliation assistance data received by the Community Relations Service	DOJ (14)	14
*42 U.S.C. §§ 2162, 2167, 2168(a)(1)	"Restricted Data" pertaining to atomic weapons and special nuclear material and certain safeguards information for nuclear material	DOD (24); DOE (15); FRTIB (1); NARA (21)	61
42 U.S.C. § 2122	Atomic Energy Act (AEA) of 1954, as amended, sections 91 (Authority) and 92 (Prohibition), and is considered Tier 2 AEA-controlled information as implemented by NNSA Policy Letter Atomic Energy Act Control of Import and Export Activities (NAP-23)	DOE (1)	1
*42 U.S.C. § 3610(d)	Records pertaining to conciliation of disputes regarding allegations of unfair housing practices; information derived from housing discrimination investigations and any final investigative reports pertaining to such investigations	HUD (9)	9
42 U.S.C. § 7256(g)(5)	Contracts, leases, etc., with public agencies and private organizations and persons	DOE (1)	1
42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7)(H)(iii)	Certain off-site consequence analysis information and any ranking of stationary sources derived from the information.	EPA (2)	2
42 U.S.C. § 12117	Americans with Disabilities Act charges, conciliation materials, required reports, and case file information	EEOC (1805)	1805
44 U.S.C. § 3501 note	Data or information acquired under a pledge of confidentiality for exclusively statistical purposes	DOE (1); DOL (2); USDA (7)	10
*45 U.S.C. § 362(d)	Information obtained by the Railroad Retirement Board that reveals, in any manner, an employee's identity	RRB (62)	62
*49 U.S.C. § 114(r) (formerly at 49 U.S.C. § 114(s))	Information obtained or developed in carrying out security under the authority of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act or under chapter 449 of this title	DHS (20,639); DOT (271)	20,910
*49 U.S.C. § 1114(c)	Certain "cockpit voice or video recorder recording[s] or transcript[s] of communications by and between flight crew members and ground stations pertaining to [] incident[s] investigated by the [National Transportation Safety] Board"	NTSB (2)	2
49 U.S.C. § 1114(d)(1)	Certain surface vehicle recordings and transcripts related to an accident investigated by the Board	NTSB (4)	4
49 U.S.C. § 1114(f)	Any information relating to Board participation in foreign aircraft accidents, where the country conducting the investigation has not issued its report or two years have not elapsed from the date of the accident	NTSB (2)	2
49 U.S.C. § 20109(i)	Information identifying railroad employee whistleblowers	DOT (1)	1
49 U.S.C. § 20118(c)	Railroad system safety analysis records	DOT (2)	2
49 U.S.C. § 30305(c)	National Driver Register information on certain individuals	DOT (10)	10
49 U.S.C. § 31143 (b)	Identities of motor carrier safety complaints	DOT (667)	667
49 U.S.C. § 40110(e)	Contractor proposal not incorporated into the contract	DOT (19)	19



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49 U.S.C. § 40119	Certain information obtained or developed in ensuring transportation security if disclosure of that information would: constitute an invasion of personal privacy, reveal a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information, or be detrimental to transportation safety	DOT (19)	19
49 U.S.C. § 40123(a)	Aviation Safety Action Program voluntarily submitted information	DOT (22)	22
49 U.S.C. § 44114(a)	Registration numbers and other similar identifiable data or information of private aircraft owners or operators	DOT (106)	106
49 U.S.C. § 44735	Certain report, data, or other safety information submitted to the FAA	DOT (4)	4
49 U.S.C. § 60138	Certain information contained in pipeline facility response plans	DOT (7)	7
*50 U.S.C. § 1702(a)(1)	Authorizes the President to “regulate . . . prevent or prohibit . . . importation or exportation of . . . any property in which any foreign country or a national thereof has any interest . . . by any person, or with respect to any property, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States”	DOJ (4)	4
**50 U.S.C. § 3024(h)(1) (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 403-1(i)(1))	Intelligence sources and methods	CIA (932); DHS (69); DOD (991); DOE (1); DOJ (1,130); STATE (7); NARA (46); ODNI (148)	3,324
50 U.S.C. § 3033(g)(3)(A)	Identities of employees who make certain complaints to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community	ODNI (4)	4
*50 U.S.C. § 3141(a) (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 431)	“[O]perational files of the Central Intelligence Agency”	DOJ (1)	1
*50 U.S.C. § 3143 (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 432a)	Operational files of the National Reconnaissance Office	DOD (4)	4
*50 U.S.C. § 3507 (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 403g)	Intelligence sources and methods; certain information pertaining to Agency functions or employees, specifically: “the organization or functions of the Agency, or of the names, official titles, salaries, or numbers of personnel employed by the Agency”	CIA (974); DOD (44); DOJ (5); STATE (3); NARA (32); ODNI (178)	1,236
*50 U.S.C. § 3605 (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 402 note)	Information pertaining to the functions or organization of NSA; certain information pertaining to NSA employees	DOD (1,020); DOJ (5); NARA (1); ODNI (3); PCLOB (1); Treasury (1)	1031
50 U.S.C. § 4555(d) (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 2155(d))	Information obtained under the Defense Production Act of 1950 that the President deems confidential or that the person furnishing such information requests confidential treatment for	DOC (4)	4
*50 U.S.C. § 4565(c)(1)	Information or documentary material filed with the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States	DOD (3)	3
*50 U.S.C. § 4820(h)(1) (formerly at 50 U.S.C. § 4614(c)(1))	Information pertaining to license applications under the Export Administration Act	DOC (64); DOJ (1); NASA (9)	74
51 U.S.C. § 50916 (formerly at 49 U.S.C. § 70114)	Commercial space launch activity information exempted under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4) or designated as confidential by the submitter or head of the executive agency providing the information	DOT (5)	5
*52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(12)(A) (formerly at 2 U.S.C. § 437(a)(12)(A))	Any notification or investigation made under this section of the Federal Election Campaign Act pertaining to federal campaign funds	FEC (20); VA (1)	21
*54 U.S.C. § 100707 (formerly at 16 U.S.C. § 5937)	Information pertaining to: “endangered, threatened, rare, or commercially valuable” National Park System resources; “mineral or paleontological objects within units of the National Park System”; or “objects of cultural patrimony within units of the National Park System”	DOI (8); DOJ (1)	9
54 U.S.C. § 307103 (formerly at 16 U.S.C. § 470w-3)	Information about the location, character, or ownership of a historic property	DOC (4); DOD (31); DOI (8)	43



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*Fed. R. Crim. P. 6(e), enacted by Act of July 30, 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-78, § 2, 91 Stat. 319	Certain records that would reveal some secret aspect pertaining to grand jury proceedings	DHS (27); DOD (1); DOI (2); DOJ (467); DOL (2); DOT (5); NARA (24); Treasury (16); USPS (1)	545
Pub. L. No. 95-452, 92 Stat. 1101	Identities of employees that have submitted complaints and or provided information during the course of an OIG investigation	DOD (2); USPS (1)	3
Pub. L. No. 102-190, 105 Stat. 1290, 1480-81	Information concerning U.S. personnel classified as POW/MIA during the Vietnam and Korean Conflicts (McCain Bill)	DOD (5)	5
Pub. L. No. 103-236, § 533(a), 108 Stat. 382, 480	Certain Open Skies Treaty data	DOD (3)	3
Pub. L. No. 104-134, 110 Stat. 1321	Reports pertaining to monetary instruments transaction	LSC (1)	1
*Pub. L. No. 108-447, 118 Stat. 2809, 2859-60; Pub. L. No. 110-161, 121 Stat. 1844, 1903-04; Pub. L. No. 112-55, 125 Stat. 552, 609-10	Certain firearms database information	DOD (1); DOJ (173)	174
*Pub. L. No. 111-83, 123 Stat. 2142	Certain photographs related to the treatment of individuals engaged, captured, or detained after September 11, 2001	VA (1)	1
*Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Republic of Korea on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, S. Kor.-U.S., Nov. 23, 1993, S. TREATY DOC. NO. 104-1 (1995)	Evidence obtained by way of a treaty with a confidentiality clause	DOJ (1)	1
Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, U.S.-Russ., June 17, 1999, S. TREATY DOC. NO. 106-22 (2000)	Evidence obtained by way of a treaty with a confidentiality clause	DOJ (1)	1

* An asterisk indicates that this statute has been found to qualify under Exemption 3 of the FOIA by a federal court of law.

** Please note that on December 18, 2025, the relevant withholding provision of 50 U.S.C. § 3024, which pertains to the portion of the National Security Act of 1947 concerning intelligence sources and methods, was amended from 50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1) to 50 U.S.C. § 3024(h)(1).

+ OIP has compiled this chart using information reported by agencies in their Annual FOIA Reports for Fiscal Year 2025. OIP consolidated information from those reports to provide an overall summary of the statutes used by agencies in connection with Exemption 3 of the FOIA, along with the number of times those statutes were used. In some instances, human error resulted in an agency including an outdated citation in their report; in such cases, OIP lists the agency's usage under the current citation. All agency Annual FOIA Reports are available on OIP's website under the "Reports" page. Additionally, data from all agency 2025 Annual FOIA Reports is available on FOIA.gov.



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Acronym	Agency Name
<i>ASC</i>	Appraisal Subcommittee
<i>CIA</i>	Central Intelligence Agency
<i>CFTC</i>	Commodity Futures Trading Commission
<i>CFPB</i>	Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
<i>CPSC</i>	Consumer Product Safety Commission
<i>CSOSA</i>	Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency
<i>USDA</i>	Dept. of Agriculture
<i>DOC</i>	Dept. of Commerce
<i>DOD</i>	Dept. of Defense
<i>ED</i>	Dept. of Education
<i>DOE</i>	Dept. of Energy
<i>HHS</i>	Dept. of Health and Human Services
<i>DHS</i>	Dept. of Homeland Security
<i>HUD</i>	Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
<i>DOJ</i>	Dept. of Justice
<i>DOL</i>	Dept. of Labor
<i>State</i>	Dept. of State
<i>DOI</i>	Dept. of the Interior
<i>Treasury</i>	Dept. of the Treasury
<i>DOT</i>	Dept. of Transportation
<i>VA</i>	Dept. of Veterans Affairs
<i>EPA</i>	Environmental Protection Agency
<i>EEOC</i>	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
<i>EXIM</i>	Export-Import Bank of the U.S.
<i>FCA</i>	Farm Credit Administration
<i>FCC</i>	Federal Communications Commission
<i>FDIC</i>	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
<i>FEC</i>	Federal Election Commission
<i>FERC</i>	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
<i>FLRA</i>	Federal Labor Relations Authority
<i>FMSHRC</i>	Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission
<i>FRS</i>	Federal Reserve System
<i>FRTIB</i>	Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board
<i>FTC</i>	Federal Trade Commission



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Acronym	Agency Name
<i>GSA</i>	General Services Administration
<i>IAF</i>	Inter-American Foundation
<i>LSC</i>	Legal Services Corporation
<i>MSPB</i>	Merit Systems Protection Board
<i>NASA</i>	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
<i>NARA</i>	National Archives and Records Administration
<i>NLRB</i>	National Labor Relations Board
<i>NRPC</i>	National Railroad Passenger Corporation
<i>NSF</i>	National Science Foundation
<i>NTSB</i>	National Transportation Safety Board
<i>NRC</i>	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
<i>OGE</i>	Office of Government Ethics
<i>OMB</i>	Office of Management and Budget
<i>OPM</i>	Office of Personnel Management
<i>ODNI</i>	Office of the Director of National Intelligence
<i>PC</i>	Peace Corps
<i>PBGC</i>	Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
<i>PRC</i>	Postal Regulatory Commission
<i>PCLOB</i>	Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board
<i>RRB</i>	U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
<i>SBA</i>	Small Business Administration
<i>SEC</i>	Securities and Exchange Commission
<i>SSA</i>	Social Security Administration
<i>STB</i>	Surface Transportation Board
<i>TVA</i>	Tennessee Valley Authority
<i>USAB</i>	U.S. Access Board
<i>USAID</i>	U.S. Agency for International Development
<i>USCO</i>	U.S. Copyright Office
<i>USIBWC</i>	U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission
<i>USITC</i>	U.S. International Trade Commission
<i>USPS</i>	U.S. Postal Service
<i>USTR</i>	Office of the U.S. Trade Representative