

Combined Agency Performance 1998 to 2008

	Requests				Grants				
	Received	Processed	Backlog	%	Full	Partial	%	Denials	Other
1998	573,478	574,935	71,977	13%	323,800	71,854	69%	24,059	184,555
1999	601,885	589,387	81,126	14%	327,817	76,373	69%	20,407	204,847
2000	653,473	648,087	84,229	13%	353,062	78,558	67%	21,989	202,238
2001	545,466	537,423	95,122	18%	302,480	81,013	71%	14,192	141,876
2002	505,178	515,638	80,933	16%	272,688	86,308	70%	13,934	142,708
2003	532,246	531,448	83,132	16%	253,014	108,320	68%	13,139	156,944
2004	546,933	524,697	104,775	20%	234,387	116,482	67%	15,366	166,145
2005	524,878	480,109	148,793	31%	198,565	106,126	63%	11,421	156,388
2006	494,270	458,586	178,570	39%	187,881	106,119	64%	12,542	145,078
2007	431,170	460,665	149,890	33%	164,147	113,042	60%	14,365	163,442
2008	389,780	398,607	130,359	33%	111,268	109,848	55%	13,339	164,152
Change									
1998-2007	-183,698	-176,328	58,382	164%	-212,532	37,994	-20%	-10,720	-20,403

It's unclear how much of the dropoff in requests processed is a continuation of the slippage that began in 2004 and how much it reflects the new 2008 reporting guidelines that exclude the inclusion of joint Privacy Act-FOIA requests in these reports.

The backlog rate held even at 33% of requests processed despite the numerical decline.

Agencies appear to have gotten stingier in granting information requests. Full grants hit a record low, both in raw numbers and as a percent of the requests processed. Only 28% of the requesters received full grants in 2008 vs. 36% in 2007, 41% in 2006, and 56% in 1998. However the 2008 numbers may have been affected somewhat by the elimination of Privacy Act filings from the report.