# U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2012 Annual Report

#### I. Basic Information Regarding Report

**A.** *Person to be contacted with questions about the report* 

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## II. MAKING A FOIA REQUEST - agency components that receive FOIA requests

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**Note:** Up-to-date information can be found on each component's FOIA page via <a href="https://www.dot.gov/foia">www.dot.gov/foia</a>.

II. 2. A brief description of why some requests are not granted and an overview of certain general categories of the agency's records to which the FOIA exemptions apply

Some requested records, or portions of records, were withheld pursuant to the FOIA's exemptions. The most frequently used exemption in DOT for FY 2012 was Exemption 6, which protects against a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Other reasons for not granting requests included: (a) DOT did not have the records sought; (b) the requester did not seek records; rather, he or she was seeking answers to questions; or (c) the information from the records sought was publicly available. For a detailed breakdown, see Section V. B of this report, <u>Disposition of FOIA Requests</u>.

#### III. ACRONYMS, DEFINITIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS

1. Agency-specific acronyms or terms used in this Report

DOT	Department of Transportation
OST	Office of the Secretary of Transportation
OIG	Office of Inspector General
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FMCSA	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
MARAD	Maritime Administration
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
PHMSA	Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
RITA	Research and Innovative Technology Administration
SLSDC	Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation

#### III. 2. Definitions of terms used in this Report

- a. **Administrative Appeal** a request to a federal agency asking that it review at a higher administrative level a FOIA determination made by the agency at the initial request level.
- b. **Average Number** the number obtained by dividing the sum of a group of numbers by the quantity of numbers in the group. For example, of 3, 7, and 14, the average number is 8.
- c. **Backlog** the number of requests or administrative appeals that are pending at an agency at the end of the fiscal year that are beyond the statutory time period for a response.
- d. Component for agencies that process requests on a decentralized basis, a "component" is an entity, also sometimes referred to as an Office, Division, Bureau, Center, or Directorate, within the agency that processes FOIA requests. The FOIA requires that agencies include in their Annual FOIA Report data for both the agency overall and for each principal component of the agency.
- e. **Consultation** the procedure whereby the agency responding to a FOIA request first forwards a record to another agency for its review because that other agency has an interest in the document. Once the agency in receipt of the consultation finishes its review of the record, it responds back to the agency that forwarded it. That agency, in turn, will then respond to the FOIA requester.
- f. **Exemption 3 Statute** a federal statute that exempts information from disclosure and which the agency relies on to withhold information under subsection (b)(3) of the FOIA.

g. **FOIA Request** – a FOIA request is generally a request to a federal agency for access to records concerning another person (i.e., a "third-party" request), or concerning an organization, or a particular topic of interest. FOIA requests also include requests made by requesters seeking records concerning themselves (i.e., "first-party" requests) when those requesters are not subject to the Privacy Act, such as non-U.S. citizens. Moreover, because all first-party requesters should be afforded the benefit of both the access provisions of the FOIA as well as those of the Privacy Act, FOIA requests also include any first-party requests where an agency determines that it must search beyond its Privacy Act "systems of records" or where a Privacy Act exemption applies, and the agency looks to FOIA to afford the greatest possible access. All requests which require the agency to utilize the FOIA in responding to the requester are included in this Report.

Additionally, a FOIA request includes records referred to the agency for processing and direct response to the requester. It does not, however, include records for which the agency has received a consultation from another agency. (Consultations are reported separately in Section XII of this Report.)

- h. **Full Grant** an agency decision to disclose all records in full in response to a FOIA request.
- i. **Full Denial** an agency decision not to release any records in response to a FOIA request because the records are exempt in their entireties under one or more of the FOIA exemptions, or because of another reason, such as when no records could be located.
- j. **Median Number** the middle, not average, number. For example, of 3, 7, and 14, the median number is 7.
- k. **Multi-Track Processing** a system in which simple requests requiring relatively minimal review are placed in one processing track and more voluminous and complex requests are placed in one or more other tracks. Requests granted expedited processing are placed in yet another track. Requests in each track are processed on a first in/first out basis.
  - i. **Expedited Processing** an agency will process a FOIA request on an expedited basis when a requester satisfies the requirements for expedited processing as set forth in the statute and in agency regulations.
  - ii. **Simple Request** a FOIA request that an agency using multi-track processing places in its fastest (non-expedited) track based on the low volume and/or simplicity of the records requested.
  - iii. **Complex Request** a FOIA request that an agency using multitrack processing places in a slower track based on the high volume and/or complexity of the records requested.
- 1. **Partial Grant/Partial Denial** in response to a FOIA request, an agency decision to disclose portions of the records and to withhold other portions that are exempt under the FOIA, or to otherwise deny a portion of the request for a procedural reason.

- m. **Pending Request or Pending Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has not taken final action in all respects.
- n. **Perfected Request** a request for records which reasonably describes such records and is made in accordance with published rules stating the time, place, fees (if any) and procedures to be followed.
- o. **Processed Request or Processed Administrative Appeal** a request or administrative appeal for which an agency has taken final action in all respects.
- p. **Range in Number of Days** the lowest and highest number of days to process requests or administrative appeals.
- q. **Remanded Appeal** An appeal request, particularly a "no records" appeal, sent back to the original action office or forwarded to another office when the requester provides additional information either clarifying the documents sought or providing additional search parameters. The action office considers the request as if it were a new request, responding directly to the requester. Remanded appeal responses may again be appealed; appeal rights are provided if the remanded appeal response is a denial, partial denial, or "no records" determination.
- r. **Time Limits** the time period in the statute for an agency to respond to a FOIA request (ordinarily twenty working days from receipt of a perfected FOIA request).

#### III. 3. Descriptions of the nine FOIA exemptions

Exemption 1	classified national defense and foreign relations information		
Exemption 2	information that is related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency		
Exemption 3	information that is prohibited from disclosure by another Federal law		
Exemption 4 trade secrets and other confidential business information			
Exemption 5	inter-agency or intra-agency communications that are protected by legal privileges		
Exemption 6	information involving matters of personal privacy		
Exemption 7	records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, to the extent that the production of those records (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual		

Exemption 8	information relating to the supervision of financial institutions
Exemption 9	geological information on wells

#### IV. EXEMPTION 3 STATUTES

Statute	Type of Information Withheld	Case Citation	Number of Times Relied upon per Component	Total Number of Times Relied upon by Agency
5 U.S.C. app. § 107(a) (Ethics in Government Act of 1978)	Financial disclosure information pertaining to certain government employees	Meyerhoff v. EPA, 958 F.2d 1498, 1500-02 (9 <sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992); Concepcion v. FBI, 606 F. Supp. 2d 14, 33 (D.D.C. 2009), renewed motion for summary judgment granted in part on other grounds, 699 F. Supp. 2d 106 (D.D.C. 2010).	FHWA – 1	1
16 U.S.C. § 470w-3	National historic preservation information	N/A	FHWA – 1	1
23 U.S.C. § 403 note	Identities of subjects of traffic accident investigations	N/A	NHTSA – 3	3
41 U.S.C. § 2102(a)	Contractor bid or proposal information; source selection information	Legal & Safety Employer Research, Inc. v. U.S. Dep't of the Army, No. Civ. S001748, 2001 WL 34098652, at *3-4 (E.D. Cal. May 4, 2001) (dictum).	FAA -1 FHWA – 2	3
41 U.S.C. § 4702(b)	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.	Sinkfield v. HUD, No. 10-885, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 35233, at #13-15 (S.D. Ohio Mar. 15, 2012); Hornbostel v. Dep't of the Interior, 305 F. Supp. 2d 21, 30 (D.D.C. 2003), summary affirmance granted, No. 03-5257, 2004 WL 1900562 (D.C. Cir. Aug. 25, 2004).	FHWA – 2 FMCSA - 1 FTA – 1 OST - 1 RITA - 1	6
49 U.S.C. § 31105(h)(1)	Names of certain motor carrier employees	N/A	FMCSA – 99	99
49 U.S.C. § 40110(e)	Contract proposal not incorporated into contract	N/A	FAA – 4	4
49 U.S.C. § 40115(a)	Information harmful to U.S. position in	N/A	FAA – 1	1

	international aviation negotiations, or harmful to any U.S. international air carrier			
49 U.S.C. § 40119(b) (Federal Aviation Act)	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	Pub. Citizen, Inc. v. FAA, 988 F.2d 186, 194 (D.C. Cir. 1993); Gordon v. FBI, 390 F. Supp. 2d 897, 900 (N.D. Cal. 2004)	FAA – 25 FMCSA – 63 PHMSA – 2 FHWA – 1 FRA - 1	92
49 U.S.C. § 40123(a)	Aviation Safety Action Program voluntarily submitted information	N/A	FAA – 6	6

#### V. FOIA REQUESTS

#### A. FOIA Requests -- Received, Processed and Pending Requests

	Number of Requests Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Received in Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Processed in Fiscal Year	Number of Requests Pending as of End of Fiscal Year
FAA	*800	6,834	6,899	735
FHWA	**74	517	531	60
FMCSA	**355	1,945	1,921	379
FRA	63	337	342	58
FTA	18	323	324	17
MARAD	**91	102	126	67
NHTSA	29	231	200	60
OIG	15	99	98	16
OST	37	340	326	51
PHMSA	***38	148	153	33
RITA	1	48	46	3
SLSDC	0	22	22	0
AGENCY OVERALL	****1,521	10,946	10,988	1,479

<sup>\*</sup> This number is 82 lower than reported in last year's annual report as pending at the end of FY 2011. The adjustment primarily reflects requests where final action was taken by all appropriate FAA offices in FY 2011, but not all database closures were entered into the database until 2012. (Note: FOIA requests assigned to multiple FAA offices are not closed until the last FAA office responds to the requester.)

<sup>\*\*</sup> These numbers are 4 lower (FHWA), 1 lower (FMCSA), and 5 lower (MARAD), than reported in last year's annual report as pending at the end of FY 2011. The adjustment primarily reflects requests where final action was taken in FY 2011, but the close-outs were not captured in the database until 2012.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> This number is 1 higher than reported in last year's annual report as pending at the end of FY 2011. This adjustment reflects an additional request that was received in FY 2011, but not logged in until FY 2012.

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> For the reasons stated above, this number is 91 lower than reported in last year's annual report as pending at the end of FY 2011.

## V. B. (1) Disposition of FOIA Requests – All Processed Requests

	Number of Full Grants	Number of Partial Grants/ Partial Denials	Number of Full Denials Based on Exemptions		Number of Full Denials Based on Reasons Other than Exemptions								
				No Records	All Records Referred to Another Component or Agency	Request Withdrawn	Fee- Related Reason	Records not Reasonably Described	Improper FOIA Request for Other Reason	Not Agency Record	Duplicate Request	Other *Explain in chart below	TOTAL
FAA	3,625	1,375	66	1,165	15	348	211	28	48	18	0	0	6,899
FHWA	246	98	1	87	6	20	2	4	5	7	49	6	531
FMCSA	718	783	3	315	0	63	7	6	1	0	25	0	1,921
FRA	151	86	3	60	5	20	0	0	0	0	17	0	342
FTA	115	130	3	71	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	324
MARAD	79	15	0	10	0	7	5	6	3	1	0	0	126
NHTSA	69	60	4	21	2	12	17	0	8	0	4	3	200
OIG	4	45	8	23	1	2	0	2	6	1	0	6	98
OST	96	70	3	61	0	4	1	0	1	2	2	86	326
PHMSA	86	14	2	15	0	17	7	6	2	0	4	0	153
RITA	16	14	2	9	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	46
SLSDC	6	9	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
AGENCY OVERALL	5,211	2,699	95	1,844	29	497	252	53	74	30	101	103	10,988

V. B. (2) Disposition of FOIA Requests – "Other" Reasons for "Full Denials Based on Reasons Other than Exemptions" from Section V. B (1) Chart

Component	Component  Description of "Other" Reasons for Denials from Chart B (1) & Number of Times Those Reasons Were Relied upon					
FHWA	Transferred within DOT	6				
FTA	Transferred within DOT	2				
NHTSA	Transferred with DOT	3				
OIG	Transferred within DOT	6				
OST	Transferred within DOT	86				
Agency Overall		103				

V. B. (3) Disposition of FOIA Requests – *Number of Times Exemptions Applied* 

	Ex.1	Ex.2	Ex. 3	Ex. 4	Ex. 5	Ex. 6	Ex. 7(A)	Ex. 7(B)	Ex. 7(C)	Ex. <b>7</b> (D)	Ex. 7(E)	Ex. 7(F)	Ex.8	Ex.9
FAA	2	23	37	137	414	870	77	1	26	3	11	5	0	0
FHWA	0	2	7	23	40	16	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
FMCSA	0	1	163	12	4	760	1	5	469	91	0	0	0	0
FRA	0	0	1	13	5	78	3	0	70	0	0	0	0	0
FTA	0	0	1	32	40	80	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MARAD	1	0	0	4	11	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NHTSA	0	0	3	13	14	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	1	0	2	22	43	7	0	45	1	10	0	0	0
OST	0	0	1	8	20	55	1	0	10	0	2	1	0	0
PHMSA	0	0	2	4	7	8	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
RITA	0	0	1	6	1	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
SLSDC	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	3	27	216	254	578	1,974	91	6	624	95	23	10	0	0

# VI. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OF INITIAL DETERMINATIONS OF FOIA REQUESTS

A. Received, Processed and Pending Administrative Appeals

	Number of Appeals Pending as of Start of Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Received in Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Processed in Fiscal Year	Number of Appeals Pending as of End of Fiscal Year
FAA	47	110	128	29
FHWA	14	8	9	13
FMCSA	5	2	5	2
FRA	0	2	2	0
FTA	5	8	12	1
MARAD	0	1	0	1
NHTSA	1	6	7	0
OIG	0	2	0	2
OST	2	7	9	0
PHMSA	0	0	0	0
RITA	0	1	1	0
SLSDC	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	74	147	173	48

# VI. B. Disposition of Administrative Appeals – *All Processed Appeals*

	Number Affirmed on Appeal	Number Partially Affirmed & Partially Reversed/ Remanded on Appeal	Number Completely Reversed/Remanded on Appeal	Number of Appeals Closed for Other Reasons	TOTAL
FAA	30	17	47	34	128
FHWA	1	5	0	3	9
FMCSA	0	3	2	0	5
FRA	1	1	0	0	2
FTA	3	4	2	3	12
MARAD	0	0	0	0	0
NHTSA	2	0	1	4	7
OIG	0	0	0	0	0
OST	3	2	1	3	9
PHMSA	0	0	0	0	0
RITA	0	1	0	0	1
SLSDC	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	40	33	53	47	173

VI. C. (1) Reasons for Denial on Appeal – *Number of Times Exemptions Applied* 

	Ex.	Ex.	Ex. 3	Ex. 4	Ex. 5	Ex. 6	Ex. 7(A)	Ex. 7(B)	Ex. 7(C)	Ex. 7(D)	Ex. 7(E)	Ex. 7(F)	Ex. 8	Ex. 9
FAA	0	0	1	1	7	20	0	0	9	2	0	0	0	0
FHWA	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FMCSA	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
FRA	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FTA	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MARAD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NHTSA	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OST	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PHMSA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RITA	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SLSDC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	0	0	2	5	19	31	0	0	10	3	0	0	0	0

# VI. C. (2) Reasons for Denial on Appeal – Reasons Other than Exemptions

	No Records	Records Referred at Initial Request Level	Request Withdrawn	Fee- Related Reason	Records not Reasonably Described	Improper Request for Other Reasons	Not Agency Record	Duplicate Request or Appeal	Request in Litigation	Appeal Based Solely on Denial of Request for Expedited Processing	Other  *Explain in chart below
FAA	16	0	9	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	42
FHWA	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FMCSA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FRA	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FTA	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
MARAD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NHTSA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
OIG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OST	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PHMSA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RITA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SLSDC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Overall	22	0	12	2	0	25	0	1	1	0	44

#### VI. C. (3) Reasons for Denial on Appeal – "Other" Reasons from Section VI. C (2) Chart

Descriptions of the "other" reasons and the number of times each reason was relied upon

Description of "Other" Reasons for Denial on Appeal from Chart C(2)	Number of Times Those Reasons Were Relied Upon	TOTAL
Remanded to Region/Center/Org	FAA – 42	42
Appeal not received by deadline	NHTSA – 2	2

VI. C. (4) Response Time for Administrative Appeals

Median, average, and range in number of days to respond to administrative appeals

	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days
FAA	23.00	114.00	<1	914.00
FHWA	425.00	425.00	185.00	674.00
FMCSA	156.00	131.00	32.00	212.00
FRA	35.50	36.00	20.00	51.00
FTA	74.00	85.00	19.00	176.00
MARAD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NHTSA	36.00	42.00	22.00	72.00
OIG	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
OST	17.00	23.00	5.00	65.00
PHMSA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RITA	106.00	106.00	106.00	106.00
SLSDC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Agency Overall	18.00	124.03	<1	914.00

VI. C. (5) Ten Oldest Pending Administrative Appeals

Dates of receipt of the ten oldest pending administrative appeals, and the number of days pending

	10 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oldest
	Oldest									Appeal
	<b>Appeal</b> 9-8-2011	7-28-2011	7-24-2011	6-28-2011	5-24-2011	5-16-2011	3-10-2011	2-28-2011	1-25-2011	12-22-2010
FAA	267 days	296 days	306 days	317 days	341 days	347 days	394	402 days	425 days	466 days
	3-16-2012	3-1-2012	12-14-2011	11-22-2011	7-20-2011	7-12-2011	7-7-2011	5-25-2011	6-8-2010	10-13-2009
FHWA	137 days	148 days	200 days	215 days	301 days	307 days	310 days	340 days	581 days	738 days
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8-21-2012	10-18-2010
FMCSA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	27 days	490 days
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FRA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9-29-2012
FTA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	1 day
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4-27-2012
MARAD	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	107 days
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NHTSA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
		,	,	,	·	·	,	,	,	,
OIG	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1-17-2012	11-7-2011
	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	179 days	222 days
OST	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
PHMSA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1 111/12/11	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
RITA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
KII2I	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
SLSDC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SLSDC	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Agency	5-25-2011	5-24-2011	5-16-2011	3-10-2011	2-28-2011	1-25-2011	12-22-2010	10-18-2010	6-8-2010	10-13-2009
Overall	340 days	341 days	347 days	394 days	402 days	425 days	466 days	490 days	581 days	738 days

#### VII. FOIA REQUESTS: RESPONSE TIME FOR PROCESSED AND PENDING REQUESTS

A. Processed Requests – Response Time for All Processed Perfected Requests

		SIM	PLE			COMI	PLEX			EXPEDITED	PROCESSING	
	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days
FAA	10	15	<1	1,323	30	61	<1	1,472	17	25	<1	164
FHWA	13	27	<1	531	23	52	<1	575	12	17	<1	51
FMCSA	42	41	<1	108	50	53	1	307	9	16	<1	81
FRA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	39	76	1	656	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FTA	17	19	1	193	50	61	1	145	28	28	27	28
MARAD	160	242	<1	878	49	149	38	360	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NHTSA	17	19	<1	170	30	51	2	296	10	10	10	10
OIG	20	46	<1	178	122	143	1	305	4	4	3	4
OST	2	8	<1	135	23	56	<1	582	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHMSA	4	11	<1	107	13	93	<1	569	7	44	<1	252
RITA	6	12	1	111	17	21	4	46	5	6	1	16
SLSDC	12	11	2	20	113	113	113	113	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
AGENCY OVERALL	13	20.714	<1	1,323	37	61.912	<1	1,472	10	23.69	<1	252

VII. B. Processed Requests – Response Time for Perfected Requests in Which Information Was Granted

		SIM	PLE			COMI	PLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING				
	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Lowest Number of Days	Highest Number of Days	
FAA	12	14	<1	248	30	61	<1	1,472	18.5	31	1	164	
FHWA	18	33	<1	421	27	43	<1	167	18.5	17	<1	51	
FMCSA	43	43	<1	95	50	53	4	307	6	17	<1	81	
FRA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	42	74	2	565	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
FTA	18	20	1	143	145	145	145	145	28	28	27	28	
MARAD	162	236	<1	878	360	360	360	360	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
NHTSA	18	17	2	51	31	53	4	296	10	10	10	10	
OIG	84	88	2	178	117	148	39	305	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
OST	7	15	<1	93	31	64	<1	582	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
PHMSA	5	10	<1	107	16	50	<1	438	17	48	<1	252	
RITA	6	14	1	111	17	18	17	19	5	7	1	16	
SLSDC	11	11	4	17	113	113	113	113	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
AGENCY OVERALL	15	21.11	<1	878	38	59.047	<1	1,472	1	4.813	<1	252	

## $\label{eq:VII.C.Processed} \ \ \text{Requests} - \textit{Response Time in Day Increments}$

## Simple Requests

	1-20 Days	21-40 Days	41-60 Days	61-80 Days	81-100 Days	101-120 Days	121-140 Days	141-160 Days	161-180 Days	181-200 Days	201-300 Days	301-400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
FAA	4,983	376	59	25	14	13	7	6	3	3	13	3	16	5,521
FHWA	331	71	22	14	12	6	4	1	0	1	3	2	4	471
FMCSA	99	507	746	43	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,399
FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FTA	208	88	15	4	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	318
MARAD	20	12	11	6	1	4	2	6	7	2	6	9	37	123
NHTSA	98	22	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	124
OIG	42	5	6	5	14	3	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	83
OST	127	5	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	138
PHMSA	41	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46
RITA	27	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
SLSDC	21	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	21
AGENCY OVERALL	5,997	1,094	863	99	46	30	18	15	15	7	22	14	57	8,277

## $\label{eq:VII.C.Processed} \ \ \text{Requests} - \textit{Response Time in Day Increments}$

## Complex Requests

	1-20 Days	21-40 Days	41-60 Days	61-80 Days	81-100 Days	101-120 Days	121-140 Days	141-160 Days	161-180 Days	181-200 Days	201-300 Days	301-400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
FAA	428	456	201	74	34	21	13	27	13	14	31	16	25	1,353
FHWA	21	8	9	1	3	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	48
FMCSA	16	68	338	63	17	6	1	2	1	0	2	1	0	515
FRA	93	80	58	32	9	9	8	9	5	7	13	10	9	342
FTA	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
MARAD	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
NHTSA	23	31	9	2	0	3	0	0	1	0	6	0	0	75
OIG	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	3	1	0	13
OST	87	40	17	10	7	2	4	4	4	1	6	2	4	188
PHMSA	46	18	3	3	1	2	3	0	1	0	1	4	11	93
RITA	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
SLSDC	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
AGENCY OVERALL	720	703	639	186	72	48	30	44	28	22	63	35	50	2,640

## VII. C. Processed Requests – Response Time in Day Increments

## Requests Granted Expedited Processing

	1-20 Days	21-40 Days	41-60 Days	61-80 Days	81-100 Days	101-120 Days	121-140 Days	141-160 Days	161-180 Days	181-200 Days	201-300 Days	301-400 Days	401+ Days	TOTAL
FAA	16	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	25
FHWA	9	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
FMCSA	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FTA	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
MARAD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NHTSA	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
OIG	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
OST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PHMSA	7	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	14
RITA	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
SLSDC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	47	10	8	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	71

VII. D. Pending Requests – All Pending Perfected Requests

		SIMPLE			COMPLEX		EXPEDITED PROCESSING			
	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Number Pending	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	
FAA	558	12	96	127	33	93	3	212	210	
FHWA	43	71	99	17	44	53	0	N/A	N/A	
FMCSA	247	17	21	131	29	36	1	2	2	
FRA	0	N/A	N/A	58	56	81	0	N/A	N/A	
FTA	17	5	10	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	
MARAD	64	203	258	3	46	40	0	N/A	N/A	
NHTSA	24	13	27	36	50	58	0	N/A	N/A	
OIG	13	39	45	3	95	95	0	N/A	N/A	
OST	0	N/A	N/A	51	81	161	0	N/A	N/A	
PHMSA	1	11	11	23	121	161	9	239	217	
RITA	1	182	182	0	N/A	N/A	2	1	1	
SLSDC	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	
AGENCY OVERALL	968	47	97.317	449	52	118.057	15	38	11.478	

VII. E. Pending Requests – Ten Oldest Pending Perfected Requests

Dates of receipt of the ten oldest perfected requests pending as of end of the fiscal year, and the number of days those requests had been pending

	10 <sup>th</sup> Oldest Request and Number of Days Pending	9 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oldest Request and Number of Days Pending
	4-3-2009	3-30-2009	3-3-2009	1-5-2009	10-17-2008	8-11-2008	9-17-2007	8-13-2007	10-26-2006	10-26-2006
FAA	916 days	920 days	939 days	978 days	1,010 days	1,077 days	1,302 days	1,326 days	1,525 days	1,525 days
FHWA	11-1-2011	10-26-2011	10-19-2011	9-23-2011	9-21-2011	9-21-2011	9-20-2011	6-20-2011	6-11-2011	2-18-2011
	229 days	233 days	238 days	255 days	257 days	257 days	258 days	322 days	328 days	406 days
FMCSA	6-11-2012	6-8-2012	6-7-2012	6-4-2012	6-1-2012	5-14-2012	5-14-2012	5-14-2012	1-31-2012	1-26-2012
	77 day	78 days	79 days	81 days	83 days	96 days	96 days	96 days	169 days	172 days
FRA	2-28-2012	2-28-2012	2-14-2012	2-14-2012	1-26-2012	12-16-2011	11-9-2011	9-12-2011	12-22-2010	12-7-2010
	151 days	151 days	160 days	160 days	173 days	199 days	224 days	265 days	446 days	457 days
FTA	9-25-2012	9-21-2012	9-14-2012	9-10-2012	9-10-2012	9-10-2012	9-4-2012	9-4-2012	8-23-2012	8-13-2012
	3 days	5 days	10 days	14 days	14 days	14 days	18 days	18 days	25 days	33 days
MARAD	6-16-2010	6-10-2010	6-5-2010	5-11-2010	3-19-2010	1-13-2010	12-31-2009	11-5-2009	11-2-2009	10-21-2009
	575 days	580 days	584 days	600 days	637 days	683 days	690 days	727 days	730 days	738 days
NHTSA	6-12-2012	5-10-2012	5-7-2012	5-7-2012	4-10-2012	4-6-2012	3-23-2012	2-15-2012	2-2-2012	2-1-2012
	76 days	98 days	101 days	101 days	120 days	124 days	132 days	158 days	167 days	168 days
OIG	8-3-2012	7-25-2012	6-25-2012	6-20-2012	6-15-2012	6-11-2012	5-25-2012	5-16-2012	5-15-2012	4-23-2012
	39 days	46 days	67 days	70 days	74 days	77 days	87 days	94 days	95 days	111 days
OST	4-4-2011	3-23-2011	3-17-2011	2-28-2011	12-30-2010	11-24-2010	11-11-2010	5-10-2010	4-9-2010	4-10-2009
	376 days	383 days	388 days	401 days	440 days	464 days	473 days	601 days	622 days	868 days
PHMSA	8-15-2011	8-3-2011	7-28-2011	7-12-2011	7-6-2011	6-22-2011	5-5-2011	4-25-2011	4-7-2011	3-16-2011
	283 days	291 days	295 days	307 days	311 days	320 days	353 days	361 days	373 days	389 days
RITA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9-28-2012	9-27-2012	1-11-2012
	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	1 day	129 days
SLSDC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Agency	4-3-2009	3-30-2009	3-3-2009	1-5-2009	10-17-2008	8-11-2008	9-17-2007	8-13-2007	10-26-2006	10-26-2006
Overall	916 days	920 days	939 days	978 days	1,010 days	1,077 days	1,302 days	1,326 days	1,525 days	1,525 days

## VIII. REQUESTS FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING AND REQUESTS FOR FEE WAIVER

#### A. Requests for Expedited Processing

	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Average Number of Days to Adjudicate	Number Adjudicated Within Ten Calendar Days
FAA	27	200	1	2	218
FHWA	9	2	1	10	10
FMCSA	6	2	1	1	8
FRA	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
FTA	2	0	2	2	2
MARAD	0	5	1	2	5
NHTSA	1	4	6	11	3
OIG	2	10	1	2	12
OST	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
PHMSA	24	20	1	2	22
RITA	10	0	1	1	10
SLSDC	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
AGENCY OVERALL	81	243	1	1.816	290

VIII. B. Requests for Fee Waiver

	Number Granted	Number Denied	Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	Average Number of Days to Adjudicate
FAA	52	99	1	1
FHWA	34	7	2	11
FMCSA	0	0	N/A	N/A
FRA	0	0	N/A	N/A
FTA	0	1	1	1
MARAD	6	3	1	6
NHTSA	0	2	9	9
OIG	7	1	1	1
OST	1	2	1	1
PHMSA	15	0	1	1
RITA	10	1	1	1
SLSDC	0	0	N/A	N/A
AGENCY OVERALL	125	116	1	4.813

#### IX. FOIA PERSONNEL AND COSTS

		PERSONNEL			COSTS	
	Number of "Full-Time FOIA Employees"	Number of "Equivalent Full-Time FOIA Employees"	Total Number of "Full-Time FOIA Staff"	Processing Costs  (At initial request and appeal levels)	Litigation- Related Costs	Total Costs
FAA	18	53	71	\$6,739,821	\$99,190	\$6,839,011
FHWA	1	3.89	4.89	\$977,474	0	\$977,474
FMCSA	6	1	7	\$643,899	\$77,552	\$721,451
FRA	1	1.5	2.5	\$275,600	0	\$275,600
FTA	0	2.6	2.6	\$277,590	0	\$277,590
MARAD	1	3	4	\$403,728	0	\$403,728
NHTSA	2	2.88	4.88	\$569,626	\$23,623	\$593,249
OIG	2	0.518	2.518	\$247,851	0	\$247,851
OST	4	1	5	\$565,061	0	\$565,061
PHMSA	1	.75	1.75	\$231,827	0	\$231,827
RITA	1	2	3	\$458,178	0	\$458,178
SLSDC	0	0.125	0.125	\$13,372	0	\$13,372
AGENCY OVERALL	37	72.263	109.263	\$11,404,027	\$200,365	\$11,604,392

## X. FEES COLLECTED FOR PROCESSING REQUESTS

	Total Amount of Fees Collected	Percentage of Total Costs
FAA	\$188,192.71	2.79%
FHWA	\$34,175.52	3.50%
FMCSA	\$13,763.80	2.14%
FRA	\$238.50	0.09%
FTA	0	0.00%
MARAD	\$3,148.40	0.78%
NHTSA	\$5,840.23	1.03%
OIG	0	0.00%
OST	\$3,399.60	0.60%
PHMSA	\$5,225.87	2.25%
RITA	\$14,848.82	3.24%
SLSDC	0	0.00%
AGENCY OVERALL	\$268,833.45	2.36%

#### XI. FOIA REGULATIONS

 $\frac{http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-}{idx?c=ecfr\&sid=62afd1be927ed203cc284F3204bc919\&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title49/49cfr7\_main\_02.tpl}$ 

#### XII. BACKLOGS, CONSULTATIONS, AND COMPARISONS

A. Backlogs of FOIA Requests and Administrative Appeals

	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of Fiscal Year	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of Fiscal Year
FAA	307	29
FHWA	19	13
FMCSA	190	2
FRA	38	0
FTA	2	0
MARAD	61	1
NHTSA	37	0
OIG	13	2
OST	40	0
PHMSA	29	0
RITA	1	0
SLSDC	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	737	47

XII. B. Consultations on FOIA Requests

	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that Were Pending at DOT as of Start of the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies During the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that Were Processed by DOT During the Fiscal Year	Number of Consultations Received from Other Agencies that Were Pending at DOT as of End of the Fiscal Year
FAA	0	0	0	0
FHWA	0	0	0	0
FMCSA	0	0	0	0
FRA	0	0	0	0
FTA	0	0	0	0
MARAD	0	0	0	0
NHTSA	0	0	0	0
OIG	2	9	10	1
OST	0	2	2	0
PHMSA	0	6	5	1
RITA	0	0	0	0
SLSDC	0	0	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	2	17	17	2

XII. C. Consultations on FOIA Requests – Ten Oldest Consultations Received from Other Agencies and Pending at DOT

	10 <sup>th</sup> Oldest Consultation and Number of Days Pending	9 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	$3^{\mathrm{rd}}$	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oldest Consultati on and Number of Days Pending
FAA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FAA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
FHWA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FNWA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
EMCCA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FMCSA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
FRA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
rka	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
TE/E A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FTA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
MADAD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MARAD	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
NHTSA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NHISA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
OIG	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9-27-2012
OIG	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	1 day
OST	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
051	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
PHMSA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4-20-2012
PHMSA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	112 days
RITA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
KIIA	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
SI SDC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SLSDC	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days
Agency	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9-27-2012	4-20-2012
Overall	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	0 days	1 day	112 days

XII. D. (1) Comparison of Numbers of Requests from Previous and Current Annual Report – Requests Received, Processed, and Backlogged

	NUMBER OF REQ	UESTS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF REQUESTS PROCESSED		
	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	
FAA	8,367	6,834	8,483	6,899	
FHWA	429	517	410	531	
FMCSA	1,774	1,945	1,586	1,921	
FRA	316	337	362	342	
FTA	281	323	272	324	
MARAD	119	102	180	126	
NHTSA	216	231	239	200	
OIG	85	99	89	98	
OST	257	340	244	326	
PHMSA	161	148	167	153	
RITA	41	48	42	46	
SLSDC	18	22	18	22	
AGENCY OVERALL	12,064	10,946	12,092	10,988	

XII. D. (2) Number of backlogged requests as of the end of the fiscal year from the previous Annual Report and the number of backlogged requests as of the end of the fiscal year from the current Annual Report

	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of the Fiscal Year from Previous Annual Report	Number of Backlogged Requests as of End of the Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
FAA	251	307
FHWA	28	19
FMCSA	214	190
FRA	51	38
FTA	4	2
MARAD	87	61
NHTSA	10	37
OIG	17	13
OST	33	40
PHMSA	29	29
RITA	0	1
SLSDC	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	724	737

XII. E. (1) Comparison of Numbers of Administrative Appeals from Previous and Current Annual Report – Appeals Received, Processed, and Backlogged

	NUMBER OF APP	EALS <u>RECEIVED</u>	NUMBER OF APPEALS <u>PROCESSED</u>		
	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Received During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Last Year's Annual Report	Number Processed During Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report	
FAA	106	110	128	128	
FHWA	8	8	6	9	
FMCSA	7	2	6	5	
FRA	2	2	2	2	
FTA	7	8	2	12	
MARAD	1	1	4	0	
NHTSA	11	6	10	7	
OIG	4	2	4	0	
OST	5	7	4	9	
PHMSA	2	0	2	0	
RITA	0	1	1	1	
SLSDC	0	0	0	0	
AGENCY OVERALL	153	147	169	173	

XII. E. (2) Number of backlogged administrative appeals

	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of the Fiscal Year from Previous Annual Report	Number of Backlogged Appeals as of End of the Fiscal Year from Current Annual Report
FAA	42	29
FHWA	14	13
FMCSA	5	2
FRA	0	0
FTA	4	0
MARAD	0	1
NHTSA	0	0
OIG	0	2
OST	0	0
PHMSA	0	0
RITA	0	0
SLSDC	0	0
AGENCY OVERALL	65	47

#### F. Discussion of Other FOIA Activities (Optional)

Information regarding the Department of Transportation's efforts to improve FOIA administration will be included in the upcoming (March 2013) Chief FOIA Officer's report.