



# FY26 Fairfax Countywide VFOIA Report

“...balance the County’s **commitment to transparency and openness** while ensuring the protection of the County’s **privacy and security interests**. . .”

– Countywide FOIA Policy

The Virginia Freedom of Information Act (VFOIA) is the state law governing access by citizens of Virginia, and representatives of the media, to public records and to meetings of public bodies.

## 2 DAYS

Average Response Time

VFOIA requires public bodies to respond to FOIA requests within 5 business days.

## 21,172

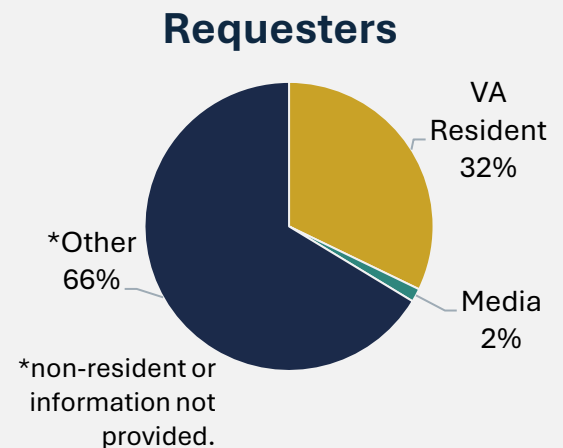
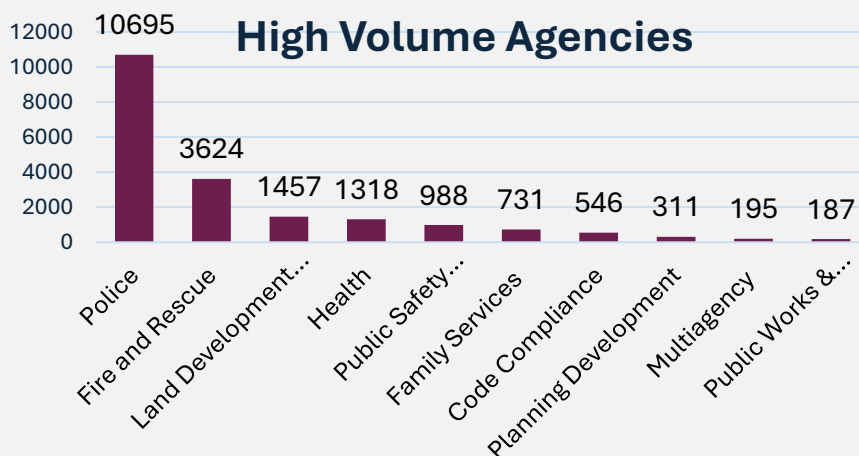
Total Requests

Fairfax County tracks VFOIA requests received with the VFOIA Tracker application.

## 15,727

Fee Waivers Granted

Per County policy, fee waivers may be considered if the estimated costs are \$50 or less.



## Commonly Requested Records

911 Calls and Police Reports

Fire/EMS Incident Reports

Contractor Bids and Proposals

Building and Land Records

County Employee Salary Information

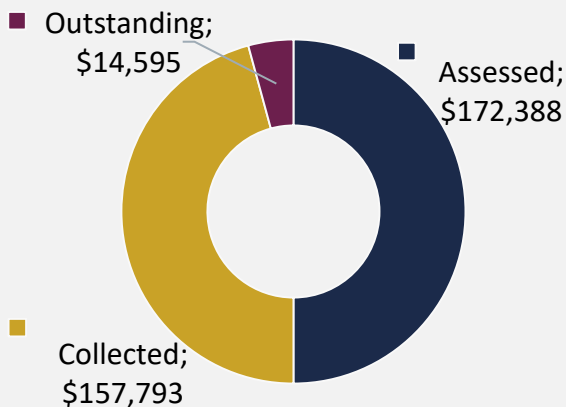
Emails and Text Messages

# FY26 Fairfax Countywide VFOIA Report



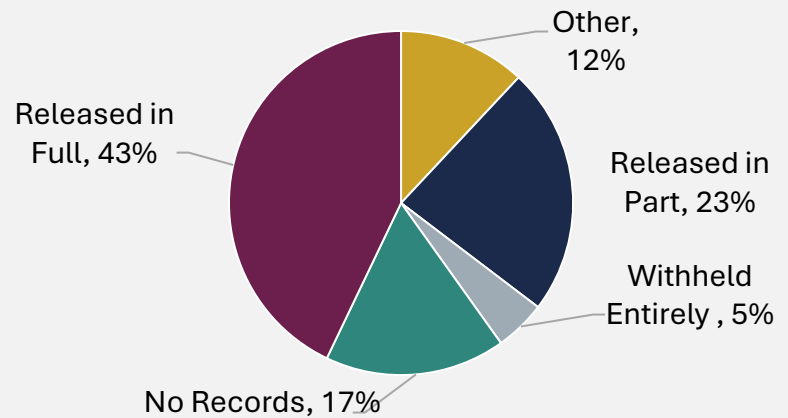
## VFOIA Costs

VFOIA allows Fairfax County to assess reasonable, actual costs for processing VFOIA requests.



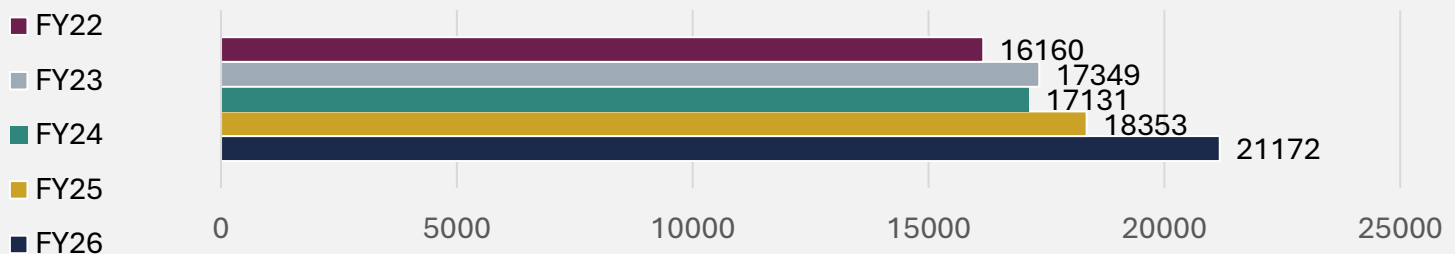
## Response Status

VFOIA contains exemptions that allow agencies to withhold exempt sensitive information.



## Five-Year VFOIA Volume Trend

Fairfax County has experienced overall growth in VFOIA volume since it started tracking VFOIA requests countywide in 2018.



## Data Highlights

- On average, Fairfax County received **87** requests per working day.
- Fairfax County saw a **35%** increase in requests that included email searches compared to the previous FY.
- The Office of Public Affairs FOIA Program managed or consulted on **1,893** VFOIA requests.
- More FOIA requests were received in **March (2,040)** than in any other month.
- Fairfax County saw a **15%** percent increase in requests compared to the previous FY.
- The FOIA Office conducted **31** FOIA trainings and outreach events with an estimated **1,159** attendees.



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. To request this information in an alternate format call 703-324-7329, TTY 711.