

# 2024 Public Records Reporting

Briefing report | December 2025

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## Key points

- Agencies report data each year to Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) staff reflecting metrics in [RCW 40.14.026](#).
- JLARC staff compile the data but do not independently verify the information submitted.
- Questions about an agency's data should be directed to that agency.

## 2024 public records data dashboards

Click the links below to view the public records data in interactive dashboards.

- Dashboards include summaries and agency-level detail for each reporting metric from 2018 through 2024.
- Different agencies report each year, so overall annual results may not be comparable.
- View [instructions](#) for navigating the dashboards.
- Download the [full dataset](#) (Excel).

[Overview](#)[Requests received and closed](#)[Clarified, denied, abandoned](#)[Time and cost](#)[Reporting compliance](#)[Response time](#)[Response format](#)[Court cases](#)

## Executive summary

**Statute requires agencies to report data about public records activities**

**RCW 40.14.026** requires state, local, and other government agencies that are subject to the Public Records Act to report information about their public records activities.

- Agencies that spent \$100,000 or more on public records requests in the prior year must submit data for 15 statutory performance metrics.
- Agencies that spent less can report data voluntarily.
- Each agency is responsible for determining if they met the \$100,000 expenditure threshold.

**JLARC staff directed to collect and report data from agencies**

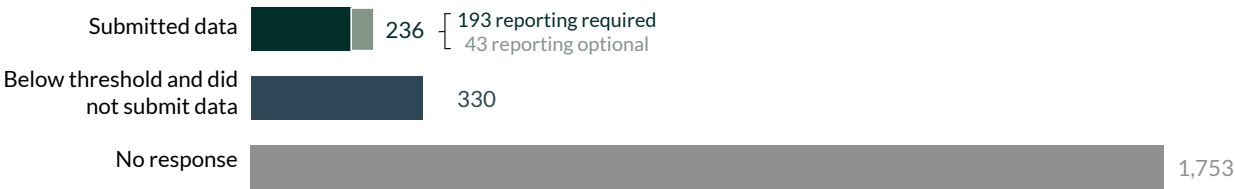
Statute directs JLARC staff to standardize definitions for the statutory performance metrics and collect information from agencies. JLARC staff provide guidance, definitions, and an online reporting system, but do not verify the accuracy of the data reported by agencies.

**In 2024, 236 agencies submitted data about their public records activities**

JLARC staff identified and reached out to 2,319 Washington agencies that were subject to the Public Records Act in 2024.

- It is unknown how many of these agencies are required to report.
- A total of 566 agencies (24%) responded to JLARC. Of these, 236 reported data related to performance metrics. Another 330 indicated that they were below the \$100,000 expenditure threshold and did not submit data.
- The response rate varied from 56% to 82% for state, local, and higher education agencies. School districts and special districts had lower response rates. Both chambers of the Legislature responded (100%).

**Figure 1: Of the 566 agencies that responded to JLARC, 236 reported data**



Source: JLARC staff analysis of reporting agencies.

**Agencies reported receiving 483,861 public records requests**

The 236 agencies that submitted data to JLARC staff received 483,861 public records requests between January 1 and December 31, 2024. Agencies reported:

- Closing 274,230 (57%) requests within five days.
- Averaging 24 days from request receipt to closure.

- Spending \$128 million responding to requests.

Additional metrics include the number of requests that were denied, the format of records provided, time spent, and public records litigation.