



OFFICE *of* GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION SERVICES

OGIS Annual Open Meeting

August 4, 2026



Executive for Agency Services Welcome

William P. Fischer

Executive for Agency Services





OGIS Director Welcome



Alina M. Semo

Director, Office of Government
Information Services

Housekeeping



Use Zoom for Government chat for housekeeping/procedural matters only. Submit substantive comments to: www.archives.gov/ogis/public-comments



NARA YouTube chat is not on.



Oral public comments at the end of the meeting will be limited to 3 minutes each.



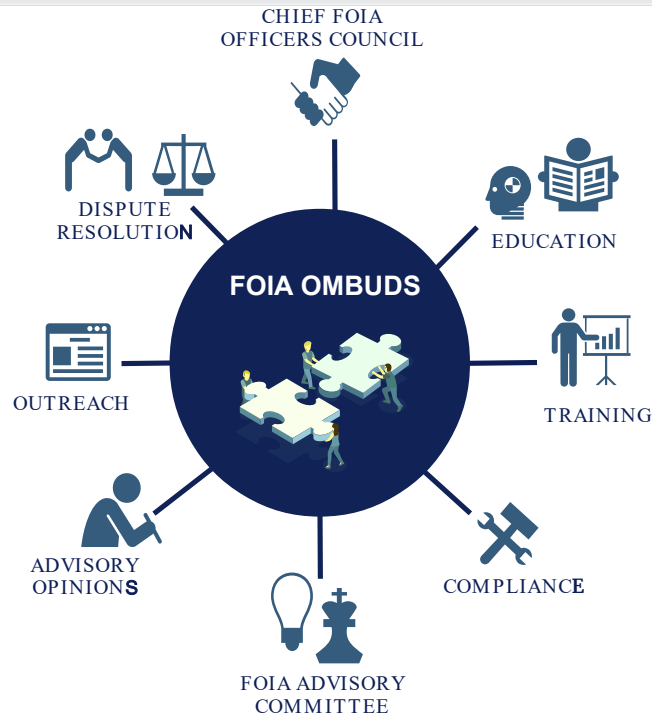
Transcript will be posted on the OGIS website along with meeting materials.



The meeting is scheduled to start at 10:00 a.m. ET.; we may end sooner than noon.

The FOIA Ombuds

Improving the FOIA Process





NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



FOIA OMBUDS
FISCAL YEAR
2025



The Freedom of Information Act Ombudsman
2026 REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

IDENTIFYING ISSUES

1 Agency Assessment

1 Memo on updating
FOIA.gov

10 Regulations Reviewed

166 Agency Compliance
Communications

*Published Assessing FOIA
Compliance through the
National Archives and
Records Administration's
2024 Records
Management Self-
Assessment*

COMMUNICATING WITH STAKEHOLDERS

2 Ombuds Observers
published

28 blog posts

137 X posts

ASSISTING CUSTOMERS

6,061 requests for
assistance opened

6,088 requests for
assistance closed

90% of cases initiated
or acknowledged within
10 days

99% of cases closed within
90 days

SUPPORTING FOIA'S LEADERS

1 Chief FOIA Officers Council
Meeting

1 Open Annual Meeting

4 FOIA Advisory
Committee meetings

6 FOIA Compliance &
Customer Service Trainings

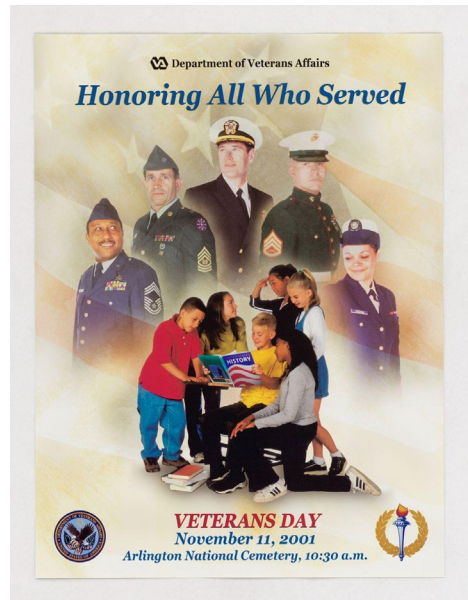
The full report can be found at: archives.gov/ogis/about-ogis/annual-reports

OGIS Requests for Assistance - FY 2017 - FY 2025





Assessment of VA FOIA Program

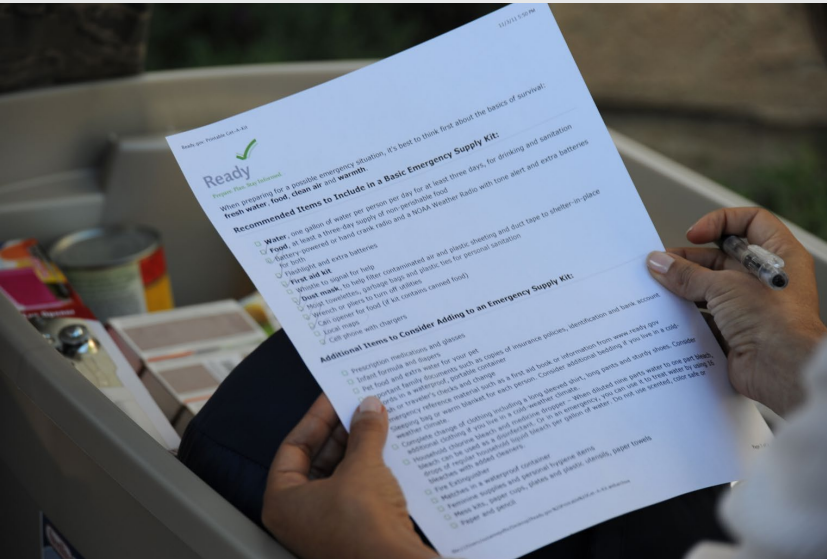


archives.gov/files/ogis/documents/ogis-va-compliance-report-25-sept.-2025-final.pdf

- Published September 26, 2025

National Archives Identifier 38548127

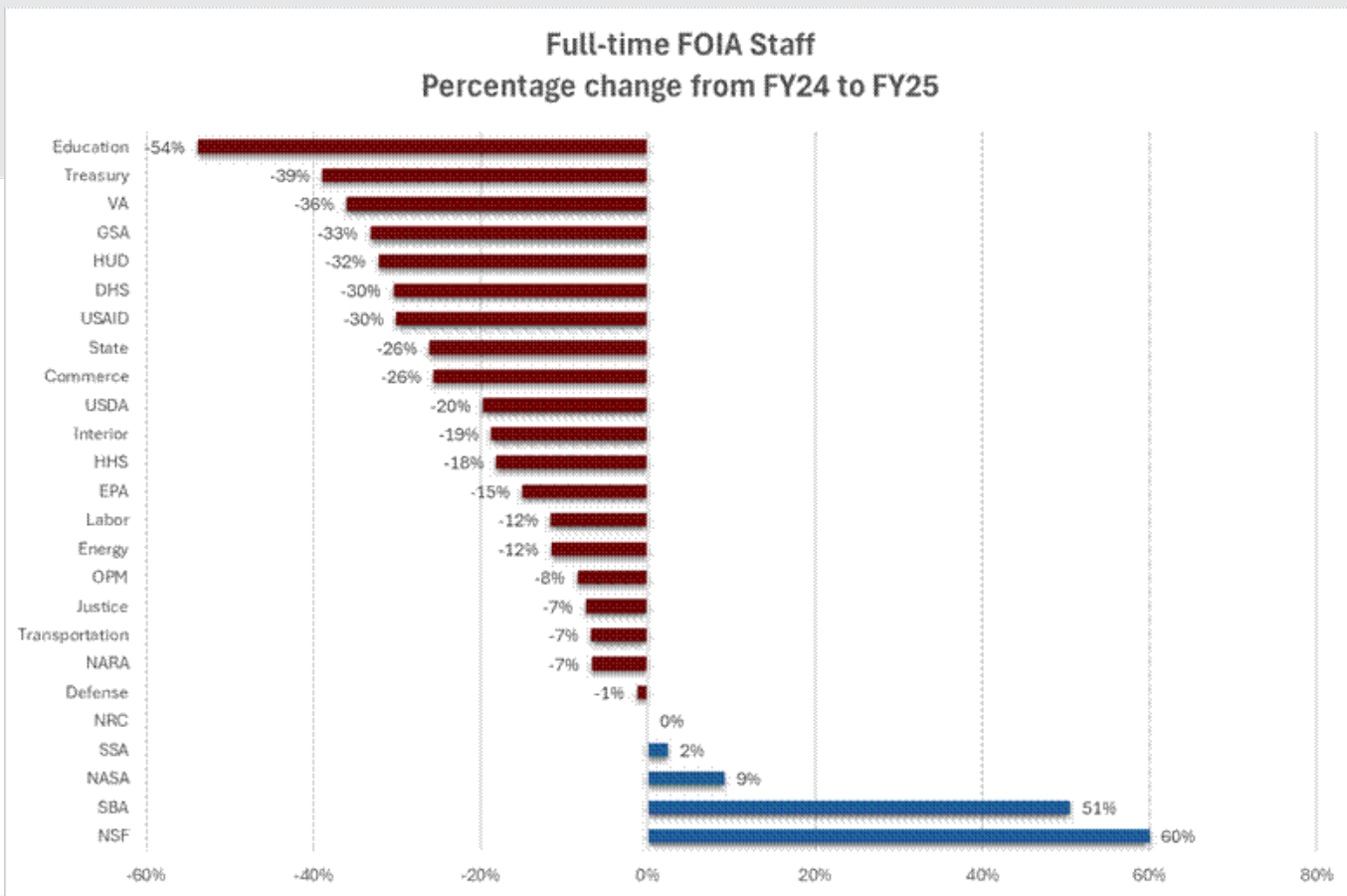
Records Management Self-Assessment



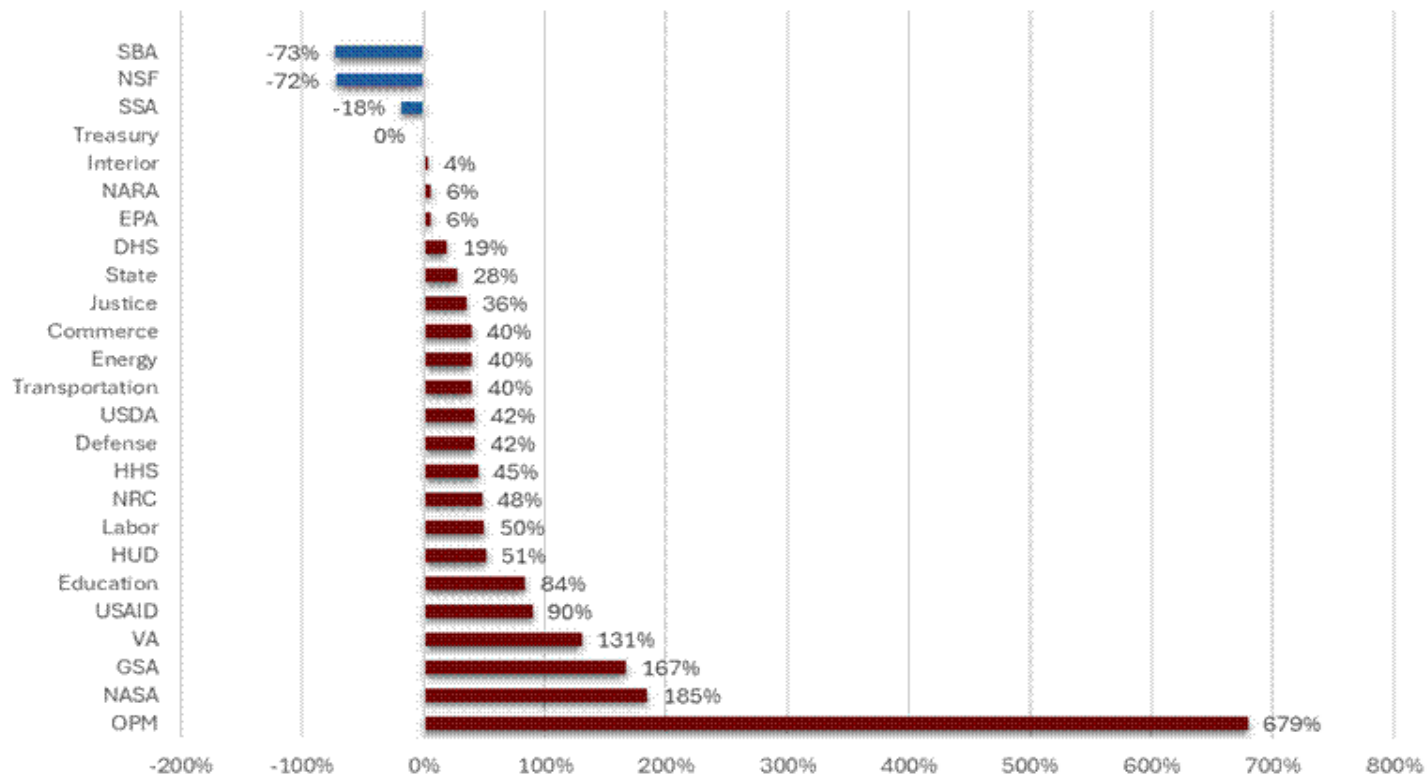
archives.gov/ogis/foia-compliance-program/agency-self-assessments/2024-rmsa

- Published September 25, 2025

National Archives Identifier 24485143



Backlog at End of Year Change as percentage of 2024 Level





F o m b u d s A O B S E R V E R



Estimated Dates of Completion Challenges Symptom of Larger Delay
Issue (October 30, 2024) No. 2025-01

archives.gov/ogis/resources/foia-ombuds-observer/2025-01

Using FOIA to Access Intelligence Community Records
(December 9, 2024) No. 2025-02

archives.gov/ogis/resources/foia-ombuds-observer/2025-02

What is Ahead for OGIS?



National Archives Identifier 516109

THANK YOU OGIS Team



National Archives Identifier 44267813



A Conversation about the 2024-2026 FOIA Advisory Committee



Frank LoMonte, CNN



**Dr. Shelley Kimball,
Johns Hopkins
University**



**Kirsten Mitchell,
OGIS (Moderator)**



The full 2024–2026 FOIA Advisory Committee report can be found at: archives.gov/files/ogis/documents/foia-advisory-committee-report-recommendations-2024-2026-final-16-july-2026.pdf

REPORT TO THE ACTING ARCHIVIST
OF THE UNITED STATES

Freedom of Information Act Federal Advisory Committee



2024-2026 Committee Term
Final Report and Recommendations

Alina M. Semo
Chair

July 16, 2026



FOIA Advisory Committee

FOIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS DASHBOARD

**[archives.gov/ogis/foia-advisory-
committee/dashboard](https://archives.gov/ogis/foia-advisory-committee/dashboard)**

Public Comments



National Archives Identifier 205590147



KEEP IN TOUCH!

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foia.blogs.archives.gov

And on X: @FOIA_Ombuds