

Table 1**Requests for information disclosure made by the Government to information and communications technology (ICT) companies in 2018**

		(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)	(viii)	(ix)	(x)
Department	Period (2018)	Total number of ICT companies involved	Names and types of ICT companies involved (e.g. Internet service providers, device producers, social media and search engines) (Note 1)	Total number of requests made	Total number of user accounts involved	Types of information requested for disclosure (e.g. user names, Internet Protocol addresses and contact methods) and the respective numbers of the requests concerned	Nature of information requested for disclosure (i.e. metadata (Note 2) and/or content of communication) and the respective numbers of the requests concerned	Reasons for making the requests concerned (e.g. investigation of cases, law enforcement and other reasons) and the respective numbers of the requests concerned	Number of requests made under court orders	Number of requests acceded to	Reasons why some requests were not acceded to (e.g. the request not made under a court order, failure to provide appropriate legal documents, insufficient justifications, not in compliance with the policies of the ICT companies, and other reasons) and the respective numbers of the requests concerned
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	Jan-Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Jul-Dec	1	Online platform	1	14	User names	User names	Investigation under the Pesticides Ordinance	0	1	N/A
Customs and Excise Department	Jan-Jun	15	ISP/ Online Platform/ Web Site	90	98	User account details or IP address	User account details or IP address	Crime prevention and detection	0	81	The registered user or Internet Protocol address not in Hong Kong; not in compliance with the policies of the service provider; the account was transferred to another company; or the information was deleted, etc.
	Jul-Dec	14	ISP/ Online Platform/ Web Site	60	64	User account details or IP address	User account details or IP address	Crime prevention and detection	0	60	N/A
Inland Revenue Department (Note 3)	Jan-Jun	2	Cannot be provided	6	6	Cannot be provided	Cannot be provided	To enforce the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112)	Cannot be provided	5	Cannot be provided

								by requiring persons carrying on business through the Internet to register their businesses and pay profits tax			
	Jul-Dec	6	Cannot be provided	13	13	Cannot be provided	Cannot be provided	To enforce the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) by requiring persons carrying on business through the Internet to register their businesses and pay profits tax (12 requests) Investigation of case (1 request)	Cannot be provided	12	Cannot be provided
Office of the Communications Authority	Jan-Jun	2	Internet service providers	10	9	Registrant information of the senders of commercial electronic messages, including user names, user addresses, telephone numbers and any other relevant information (10 requests)	See (v) for nature of information requested	Investigation under the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance (10 requests)	0	2	The ICT company had not replied. Since the information requested was no longer relevant to the investigation in light of the changing circumstances, OFCA had not taken further action to request for the information. (8 requests)

	Jul-Dec	2	Internet service providers	2	2	Registrant information of the senders of commercial electronic messages, including user names, user addresses, telephone numbers and any other relevant information (2 requests)	See (v) for nature of information requested	Investigation under the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance (2 requests)	0	2	N/A
Hong Kong Police Force	Jan-Jun	Relevant statistics are not available	Local and foreign service providers	1668	1668	Users' information	Metadata	Crime prevention and detection (primarily involving technology crimes or crimes relating to the use of the Internet)	Relevant statistics are not available	Partially	In some cases, user accounts or records that do not exist are involved, or the registered user or Internet Protocol address is not in Hong Kong. Under these circumstances, the service providers cannot provide the information.
	Jul-Dec	Relevant statistics are not available	Local and foreign service providers	1772	1772	Users' information	Metadata	Crime prevention and detection (primarily involving technology crimes or crimes relating to the use of the Internet)	Relevant statistics are not available	Partially	In some cases, user accounts or records that do not exist are involved, or the registered user or Internet Protocol address is not in Hong Kong. Under these circumstances, the service providers cannot provide the information.

Note 1: Since the question involves commercial information of a large number of service providers, the names of individual service providers cannot be made public.

Note 2: Metadata includes IP addresses, user information and/or login records.

Note 3: Except for the information provided herein, other information cannot be provided due to the secrecy provisions under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap.112).