

Table 1**Requests for information disclosure made by the Government to information and communications technology (ICT) companies in 2019**

		(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)	(viii)	(ix)	(x)
Department	Period (2019)	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
Customs and Excise Department	Jan-Jun	16	Internet Service Provider (ISP)/ online platform/ website	67	72	User account or Internet Protocol (IP) address	User account or IP address	Crime prevention and detection / apprehension, prosecution and detention of offenders	25	64	In some cases, the registered user or IP address is not in Hong Kong. Under these circumstances, the service providers cannot provide the information.
	Jul-Dec	10	ISP/ online platform/ website	109	114	User account or IP address	User account or IP address	Crime prevention and detection / apprehension, prosecution and detention of offenders	51	86	In some cases, the registered user or IP address is not in Hong Kong. Under these circumstances, the service providers cannot provide the information. In some cases, information requested does not exist.
Inland Revenue Department	Jan-Jun	3	Cannot be provided	4	4	Cannot be provided	Cannot be provided	To enforce the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310)	Cannot be provided	2	Cannot be provided

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(Note 3)								and the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) by requiring persons conducting business through the Internet to register their businesses and pay profits tax			
	Jul-Dec	7	Cannot be provided	12	12	Cannot be provided	Cannot be provided	To enforce the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) by requiring persons conducting business through the Internet to register their businesses and pay profits tax	Cannot be provided	9	Cannot be provided
Hong Kong Police Force	Jan-Jun	Relevant statistics are not available	Local and foreign service providers	2181	2181	User's information	Metadata	Crime prevention and detection (primarily involving technology crimes or crimes relating to the use of the Internet)	Relevant statistics are not available	Requests in some of the cases acceded to	Relevant records do not exist

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	Jul-Dec	Relevant statistics are not available	Local and foreign service providers	3144	3144	User's information	Metadata	Crime prevention and detection (primarily involving technology crimes or crimes relating to the use of the Internet)	Relevant statistics are not available	Requests in some of the cases acceded to	Relevant records do not exist

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).