

# Factsheet

ECHA-13-FS-01-EN

## Access to documents at ECHA - 2012 Key figures

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is committed to meeting its obligations under the Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001

### ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS

ECHA grants access to documents according to the principles of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 on public access to documents. ECHA will provide an answer within 15 (working) days of the access to documents request, and has the possibility to extend this by a further 15 days in the case of a complex request.

To help people to submit requests, there is a web form on ECHA's website:  
<http://echa.europa.eu/access-to-documents-web-form>

So far, most requests are submitted either by industry, in relation to information contained in registration dossiers, or by animal welfare organisations that are following the progress of dossier evaluation.



## Number of received applications and requested documents in 2012\*

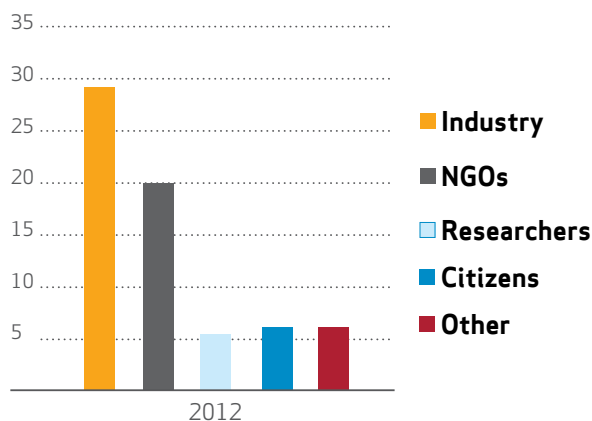
**2012**

No. of applications	70
No. of requested documents	646

\* The number of requested documents is an approximate estimate.

ECHA staff make a constant effort to maintain high standards when processing requests. Tight deadlines for replying are respected, and in cases where requests involve large amounts of documents, ECHA will explain and negotiate longer timeframes with the requester.

## Profile of the applicants in 2012

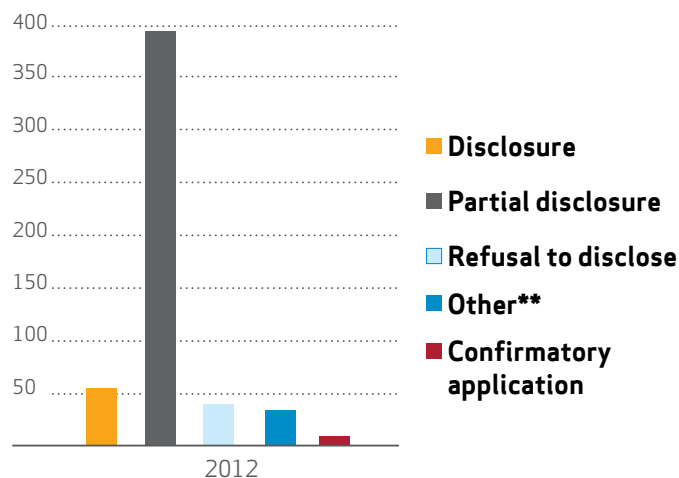


\*\*Other\* refers to applications submitted e.g by the media.

Much of the information in ECHA's possession is actually owned by industry and therefore access to documents requests have to be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

ECHA will often consult registrants to clarify what information can be disclosed, and what falls under exceptions provided in the Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 on public access to documents. In some cases, documents are partially disclosed or not disclosed either due to the exception of the protection of commercial interests (Article 4 (2) first indent) or the exception of the protection of privacy and integrity of the individual (Article 4 (1) b).

## Outcome of the applications per document\*



\* As of 23 December 2012. Some applications will be processed in 2013.

\*\* Cases where the application was withdrawn or no reply was received following request for clarifications on behalf of ECHA.

## Timing of the provided replies

**2012**

Applications answered within deadline	62
Extension of deadline	4
Applications answered within longer deadline following negotiations	4

