



## Uber's first transparency report details regulatory data requests

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Of those requests, Uber's report shows it "*fully*" *complied* with 31.8 percent of the requests and produced some data for 84.8 percent of the cases.

*Uber* said a large number of the 415 law enforcement requests were related to investigations of fraud and stolen credit cards. *Uber* said it had not received any national security requests.

*Uber* said it has provided information about 11,644,000 riders, and 583,000 drivers to federal, state, and local regulatory agencies in the United States. An *Uber* spokesperson said the company hopes to prepare transparency reports on Canada in the future, but has no concrete plans at the moment to do so.

Releasing transparency reports has become a common practice among technology companies ever since Google put out its first report in 2010.

The company said it typically tries to narrow the amount of information given to regulators, but that its "efforts are typically rebuffed". In many cases, *Uber* says they've tried to narrow the scope of what data they're being asked for.

How is this report different from other transparency reports? *Uber* provided at least some data in 85% of these requests (although it provided 100% data in *allemergency* requests).

"*Of course regulators will always need some amount of data to be effective, just like law enforcement*", the company says in a blog post accompanying the report.

The recent dustup between Apple and the Federal Bureau of Investigation over access to the San Bernardino shooter's iPhone shone a spotlight on interactions between government agencies and the consumer tech industry. The report does not specify how many of these cases may have been related to rape or sexual assault.

But before you start freaking out about the government monitoring your every *Uber* ride, know that the vast majority of those requests came from regulatory agencies that are more interested in *Uber*'s rapid growth than where its riders are actually going.

"There seems to be much more sharing of personal data for a less important goal, which raises privacy flags for me", Jim Harper, senior fellow at the libertarian think tank Cato Institute, tells [the Verge](#).