

Reference:

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

19 June 2026

Dear,

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning the number of phone numbers in use in the UK.

We received this request on 15 June 2026 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the FOI Act”).

Your request

“Is there any data year on year for net (ie increase or decreases) in the number of phone numbers in use within the U.K. “

Our response

We do not hold information in scope of your request.

You may find following information useful.

Ofcom allocates number ranges to Communications Providers (CPs) to enable them to deliver services to both business and residential customers. In some cases, CPs may also sub-allocate numbers to other providers, allowing those providers to offer services independently of the original range holder. CPs are responsible for ensuring that their allocated numbering resources are used effectively and efficiently. Each CP operates its own internal processes and procedures for managing and distributing these number ranges. Ofcom does not have visibility of how individual CPs distribute or sub-allocate their numbering resources.

Yours sincerely,

Information Requests

Request an internal review

If you are unhappy with the response you have received to your request for information, or think that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law, you may ask for an internal review. If you do, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom. We will either uphold the original decision, or reverse or modify it.

If you would like to ask us to carry out an internal review, you should get in touch within two months of the date of this letter. There is no statutory deadline for us to complete our internal review, and the time it takes will depend on the complexity of the request. But we will try to complete the review within 20 working days (or no more than 40 working days in exceptional cases) and keep you informed of our progress.

Please email the Information Requests team (information.requests@ofcom.org.uk) to request an internal review.

Taking it further

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our internal review, then you have the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner's Office](#).