



**Freedom of Information Team** 

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Web www.gov.uk

Date: 12 August 2021 Our ref: FOI2021/16271

Dear

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your request, which was received on 15 July, for the following information:

"Since September 2017, the UK has received reporting under the OECD Common Reporting Standard of financial accounts which UK residents hold in other countries.

For each year for which reporting is available, please provide the total number of foreign accounts reported to the UK under CRS, and the total balance on those accounts.

The UK has also received reporting under FATCA where UK residents hold certain financial accounts in the United States.

For each year for which reporting is available, please provide the total number of US accounts reported to the UK under FATCA, and the total balance on those accounts."

## Our response

We can confirm we hold the information requested. Data for accounts reported to us under the CRS is provided in the table below.

Reporting Period	Total Accounts	Total Balances (GBP)
2016	1,688,992	521,307,015,413.73
2017	6,055,249	940,640,946,572.64
2018	7,654,444	1,073,796,765,272.58
2019	6,414,034	849,265,315,840.61

Please note that the figures are a snapshot in time and are subject to change.

For the second part of your request, we consider FATCA data to be exempt from release under section 27(1)(a) of the FOIA.

A UK government department is not obliged to provide information requested if its release would, or would be likely to, prejudice international relations. Information about exchanges under international tax instruments is confidential both under the terms of relevant instruments and because other states have an expectation that this information will remain confidential.



Disclosure of information about exchanges made with another state under a tax treaty would be considered by many to be a breach of the terms of the treaty and would be likely to prejudice the UK's relations internationally. Breaching the terms of a treaty would damage the UK's reputation as a trusted treaty partner that is respectful of its international legal obligations. If a state breaches the terms of a treaty it would be a legitimate response for the other state whose confidentiality has been breached to cease to share information, and this would impact on the UK's ability to collect and manage tax.

It is essential that we maintain good, cooperative relations so that we continue to receive information from other jurisdictions. We will therefore not disclose confidential tax treaty information under the FOIA, as we do not consider that it is in the public interest to do so.

If you are not satisfied with this reply you may request a review within two months by emailing <a href="mailto:foi.review@hmrc.gov.uk">foi.review@hmrc.gov.uk</a>, or by writing to the address at the top right-hand side of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review you can <u>complain to the</u> <u>Information Commissioner's Office.</u>

Yours sincerely,

**HM Revenue and Customs**