

The Data Behind TikTok

- TikTok's parent company, ByteDance, is 100% Chinese owned and headquartered in Beijing¹.
- By law, Chinese companies must disclose user data to the Chinese Government, if requested.²
- TikTok's app design makes it fun, easy, and accessible for kids to create and share videos.3
- On the back-end, TikTok has an extensive AI system designed to collect its user's data.4
- In 2019, TikTok was fined \$5.7 million for violating The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act.5
- In 2020, TikTok settled a \$92 million class action lawsuit involving multiple US privacy laws.6
- TikTok is banned for all employees of the US State Department and Department of Defense.⁷
- TikTok is banned for all active US Service men and women.8
- In 2020 the US Senate unanimously passed a bill banning TikTok for all Federal Employees.9
- TikTok has 130 million users in the USA, 32% are children and teenagers. 10
- 69% of all US teenagers are regular TikTok users.11
- TikTok collects and stores its user's IP address and geo-location. 12
- TikTok collects and stores its user's Internet browsing history, cookies, and shares. 13
- TikTok collects and stores its user's face-print (facial recognition/biometric data).14
- TikTok collects and stores its user's voice-print (vocal biometric data).15
- Who Tiktok shares it's data with is becoming increasingly challenging to determine. 16
- Is your child's data safe in the hands of TikTok?





Footnotes

- ¹ United States District Court, Northern District of Illinoise, Class Action Lawsuit. https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722.114.0.pdf
- ² Kharpal, Arjun (04 March 2019) CNBC, "Huawei says it would never hand data to China's government. Experts say it wouldn't have a choice". https://www.cnbc.com/2019/03/05/huawei-would-have-to-give-data-to-china-government-if-asked-experts.html
- ³ United States District Court, Northern District of Illinoise, Class Action Lawsuit. https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722.114.0.pdf
- ⁴ United States District Court, Northern District of Illinoise, Class Action Lawsuit. https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722.114.0.pdf
- ⁵ **Grigonis, Hillary K (28 February 2019) Digital Trends,** "Lip-syncing app TikTok faces record FTC fine for illegally collecting kids' data". https://www.digitaltrends.com/social-media/tiktok-ftc-fine/
- ⁶ United States District Court, Northern District of Illinoise, Class Action Lawsuit. https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722/gov.uscourts.ilnd.378722.114.0.pdf
- ⁷ Evans, Zachary (24 October 2019) National Review, "Cotton, Schumer Call for Probe into Chinese App TikTok". https://www.nationalreview.com/news/cotton-schumer-call-for-probe-into-chinese-app-tiktok/
- ⁸ Kesling, Ben and Wells, Georgia (03 January 2020) The Wall Street Journal, "U.S. Military Bans TikTok Over Ties to China". https://www.wsi.com/articles/u-s-military-bans-tiktok-over-ties-to-china-11578090613
- ⁹ Evans, Zachary (24 October 2019) National Review, "Cotton, Schumer Call for Probe into Chinese App TikTok". https://www.nationalreview.com/news/cotton-schumer-call-for-probe-into-chinese-app-tiktok/
- ¹⁰ US Senator Amy Klobuchar and US Senator John Thune (09 August 2021) Letter to Shou Zi Chew, CEO, TikTok. https://www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/4/8/486ee9ed-05c1-4642-9ecd-fb8316b1ba27/5FD4D62F-0C2E8E1B78345100F24F4717.tiktok-biometric-letter-final-v2.pdf
- ¹¹ Influence Marketing Hub, (Pulled 30 August 2021) https://influencermarketinghub.com/tiktok-stats
- ¹² TikTok (June 2021) "Privacy Policy". https://www.tiktok.com/legal/privacy-policy?lang=en
- ¹³ TikTok (June 2021) "Privacy Policy". https://www.tiktok.com/legal/privacy-policy?lang=en
- ¹⁴ McCulskey, Megan (14 June 2021) TIME "TikTok Has Started Collecting Your 'Faceprints' and 'Voiceprints.' Here's What It Could Do With Them". https://time.com/6071773/tiktok-faceprints-voiceprints-privacy/
- ¹⁵ McCulskey, Megan (14 June 2021) TIME "TikTok Has Started Collecting Your 'Faceprints' and 'Voiceprints.' Here's What It Could Do With Them". https://time.com/6071773/tiktok-faceprints-voiceprints-privacy/
- ¹⁶ US Senator Amy Klobuchar and US Senator John Thune (09 August 2021) Letter to Shou Zi Chew, CEO, TikTok. https://www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/4/8/486ee9ed-05c1-4642-9ecd-fb8316b1ba27/5FD4D62F-0C2E8E1B78345100F24F4717.tiktok-biometric-letter-final-v2.pdf

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