



29 SEP 2020

Ryan Potts

fyi-request-12751-21e25ebf@requests.fyi.org.nz

File No: DOIA 1920 – 1545

Dear Ryan

Thank you for your email on 1 May 2020, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

The number of successful Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) applicants who were awarded 'bonus points' for skilled employment in an "Area of absolute skill shortage" during the 2018/19 financial year; and The total number of successful Skilled Migrant Category applicants employed in an occupation listed on any of the skill shortage lists in 2018/19 regardless of whether 'bonus points' were awarded or not.

Our response

The number of successful SMC applicants who were awarded 'bonus points' for skilled employment in an "Area of absolute skill shortage" during the 2018/19 financial year.

Number of Applications	Number of Applicants (including secondary applicants)
392	975

The total number of successful SMC applicants employed in an occupation listed on any of the skill shortage lists in 2018/19 regardless of whether 'bonus points' were awarded or not.

SMC applications do not have information that categorises them by skill shortage list type other than ANZSCO occupation codes. This would require Ministry staff to manually review each occupation code against each skill shortage list in order to identify whether the applicant was employed in any of the lists.

Part two of your request has therefore been refused under section 18 (f) of the Official Information Act 1982 because the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation.

Providing this information would remove Ministry staff from their core duties and therefore the greater public interest in the effective and efficient administration of the public service would not be served.

In accordance with s18A of the OIA, I have considered whether fixing a charge under s15 or extending the time limit under s15(a) would enable the request to be granted but it is my view it would not.

In accordance with s18B of the OIA, I have considered whether consulting with you would remove the reason for refusal, however, in my view it would not as to obtain the specific information would involve the manual search of the electronic records of the skilled residence applications decided.

You have the right to contest the decision to withhold information by seeking an investigation and review of that decision by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Adam Jones, Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at adam.jones@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Hogg
General Manager – Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment