



29 January 2021

Grant Johnson

fyi-request-14380-3a109d90@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2021-1251

Dear Grant Johnson,

Thank you for your email of 31 December 2020 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA), the following information:

“How many Expressions of Interest (EOI) are currently in Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) pool? Please supply the information according to the following breakdowns:

- 1. Primary applicant onshore, 160 points and above.*
- 2. Primary applicant onshore, below 160 points.*
- 3. Primary applicant offshore, 160 points and above.*
- 4. Primary applicant offshore, below 160 points.*

For each of the four groups above, please provide how many applications there are and how many people (i.e. including partners and dependants together with the primary applicant) are represented by those applications.”

Our Response

In October 2020 the selection of Expressions of Interest (EOI) for residence under the Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) was deferred for a further 6 months. The deferrals are a temporary measure that allows Immigration New Zealand (INZ) to focus on processing applications from people who are in New Zealand or those eligible to travel here while border restrictions are in place.

The Government will review this decision in March 2021 and INZ will continue to reassess when EOI selections can take place as the COVID-19 situation develops. The best place to find updated information on the EOI selections is the INZ website which is being updated regularly as decisions are made: www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/covid-19.

Please refer to Table 1 below which provides the number of EOIs in the SMC pool as at 11 January 2021, broken down by the following:

- EOIs with less than 160 points
- EOIs with 160 points or more
- The onshore and offshore location of the clients and;
- Number of applicants (primary and secondary) included



Table 1:

Points Breakdown	Location	Number of EOIs in pool	Number of Principal Applicants	Number of Secondary Applicants
Less than 160 points.	Offshore	275	275	712
	Onshore	47	47	80
160 points or More.	Offshore	699	699	2,117
	Onshore	5,000	5,000	10,846

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Lautalie Leusa Vaa, Senior Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at Lautalie.Leusavaa@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,



Nicola Hogg
General Manager - Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand