



20 OCT 2017

Susan Bates
fyi-request-6582-757e83e4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Bates

Thank you for your email dated 2 September 2017, to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

- *the figures relating to teacher turnover in the ECE sector for the period 2014 to 2016.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

On an annual basis the Ministry undertakes an Early Childhood Education (ECE) census, which collects data from all ECE services in New Zealand for one week of the year, usually the last week in June. The data collected is:

- enrolments and attendances at ECE services (attendances at playgroups);
- teaching staff at licensed ECE services;
- waiting times at licensed ECE services;
- languages used at licensed ECE services.

The ECE census provides a snapshot of key aspects of the ECE sector. The census data enable the Ministry to analyse changes within the ECE sector to inform policy advice and expenditure forecasts. ECE census data also provide useful information for ECE services and sector organisations for business planning.

Prior to 2014, all ECE census returns were paper-based, and were labour intensive for ECEs to complete and for the Ministry to process. As a result the Ministry moved to an electronic data collection to improve efficiency and collect a more accurate picture of children's experiences at ECE.

Different data series are continued or discontinued depending on the extent of use within the Ministry and publicly, their applicability to current policy settings. It is always important for the Ministry to balance the burden of data collecting from educational organisations with the likely benefits of the data collected. It was determined during the transition to the electronic system that the Ministry no longer needed to collect the ECE Teacher turnover data series. There are no plans to re-compile this data series at this time.

Your request is therefore refused under section 18(g) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry.

Statistics on staffing in the ECE sector, including tables on numbers and characteristics of ECE teachers is available from the following link:

<http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/early-childhood-education/staffing>

Further, the Annual ECE Data Summary Report 2015, which summarises the results from the June 2015 Annual Census of ECE services provides a sector-wide statistical summary of key

aspects of the early childhood education sector and the trends over the past decade. This is available from the following link:

<http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/early-childhood-education/annual-ece-summary-reports>

Thank you again for your email. If you are dissatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Dr Craig Jones
Deputy Secretary
Evidence, Data and Knowledge