

10 July 2018

Nita

[fyi-request-8038-be42b882@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-8038-be42b882@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: DOIA 1718-1811

Dear Nita,

I refer to your official information request, which was initially received by the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (the Ministry) on 15 June 2018. You requested, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

- *I'm wondering if you can tell me between 2009-2018, what is the average stay of people who are/were on a temporary work visa?*

On 25 and 28 June, we advised we could not provide complete data for the 2018 year, and offered to provide you data for the years 2008 to 2017 instead. However, you did not respond.

**Our response**

The table below shows the average stay of work visa holders by year from 2009 to 2018.

| Year | Average stay (days) |
|------|---------------------|
| 2009 | 337                 |
| 2010 | 324                 |
| 2011 | 307                 |
| 2012 | 313                 |
| 2013 | 320                 |
| 2014 | 319                 |
| 2015 | 315                 |
| 2016 | 320                 |
| 2017 | 314                 |
| 2018 | 189*                |

**\*Please note** the data for 2018 is incomplete, as the year is still in progress. Many people on work visas who arrived in 2018 will still be in New Zealand, causing the average to be greatly reduced, and not representative of actual average stay.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Fraser Stretton at [fraser.stretton@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:fraser.stretton@mbie.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Karen Bishop', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Karen Bishop  
Assistant General Manager – Visa Services  
Immigration New Zealand  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment