



01 SEP 2020

Mehta Saab

[fyi-request-13477-3aa39d41@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13477-3aa39d41@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: DOIA 1920-0301

Dear Mehta Saab

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) received on 7 August 2020 requesting the following:

*Please share the number of applicants that were approved an SMC visa in the last 5 years where they had a job classified in ANZSCO at skill level 1 and didn't have a bachelor's degree.*

**Our response**

The number of Skilled Migrant Category residence applications that have been approved over the last five years (1 August 2015 to 1 August 2020) where the principal applicant had a job with an ANZSCO skill level 1 is 24,512.

To further break this figure down in order to provide the number of people who did not have a bachelor's degree would require manually reviewing the assessment notes for each of these applications. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(f) of the OIA as it would require 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. I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in both cases, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact Matt Burden, Senior Business Advisor, Operations Support at [Matt.Burden@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:Matt.Burden@mbie.govt.nz)

Yours sincerely

Steve McGill  
General Manager - Border & Visa Operations  
Immigration New Zealand  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment