



18 SEP 2020

Grant Johnson

fyi-request-13564-c9bc9be3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2021-0410

Dear Grant Johnson,

I refer to your official information request, which was received by the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (the Ministry) on 21 August 2020. You requested, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

How many Expressions of Interest (EOI) are currently in Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) pool? Can you please supply the information with the following breakdowns: how many are above 160 points vs how many are below, and how many are onshore vs offshore? Also how many people do those EOIs represent?

Response

As a matter of background, the Government has decided to postpone a number of visa programmes, including selections for Expressions of Interest (EOI) in the Skilled Migrant Category. This is a temporary measure in response to COVID-19. We will continue to reassess and determine when EOI selections can take place as the situation develops.

As at 10 Sep 2020, there were 3,990 Expressions of Interest (EOI) in the Skilled Migrant Category selection pool, involving 9,132 people. Of these EOIs:

- 3,745 claimed at least 160 points, and 245 claimed less than 160 points.
- 3,294 had principal applicants residing in New Zealand, and 696 had principal applicants residing overseas.

Please note: because some dependents may be located in a different place to the principal applicant, we have looked at where the principal applicant is located to answer your request regarding onshore versus offshore applications.

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

Yours sincerely

Steve McGill

Acting General Manager Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment