

29 February 2024

File Ref: 240120

Erika Whittome

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Dear Erika

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received on 20 February 2024. You requested:

- 1. Would you please share how many workplaces you were informed of, OR were aware of that have/had Covid-19 as a disease which arose in the workplace as a result of the nature of work taking place?*
- 2. Would you please share the type of workplaces these workplaces are/were and which industry they are in, eg health sector, bioengineering, education, construction etc.*

Information being released

WorkSafe New Zealand has received 23 notifications of COVID-19 under section 199 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 since December 2019 up until the present day.

Of these notifications, 19 were from the education sector and 4 from the health sector.

It is important to note that the Health and Safety at Work Act is aimed at risks and hazards that arise in the workplace or from work, rather than public health issues (that may or may not be attributed to work). This may explain why a relatively small number of COVID-19 notifications were made to WorkSafe.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision, and further information is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you require further assistance, please contact ministerial.services@worksafe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Darren Handforth
Interim Head of Inspectorate