



13 June 2024

Nick Lim

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DOIA 2324-2505

Tēnā koe Nick

Thank you for your email of 13 May 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

I would like to request the following breakdown of interim visas, if available:

- a) By category of previous visas (in particular, work and study visas)*
- b) By number/percentage of visa renewals under a) not granted interim visas after expiry of previous visa.*
- c) Number of visas under a) renewed after granted interim visas*
- d) Breakdown of interim visas issued under a), by issue date (more than 7 days before expiry of previous visa; under 3 days before expiry of previous visa; on or after expiry of previous visa).*

On 20 May 2024, we asked you to clarify the request as follows:

- a) to confirm the timeframe for the data you have requested (question a);
- b) to confirm if you are asking for the number of applicants, who while holding an interim visa, then had their subsequent visa declined (question b);
- c) to confirm if you are asking for the number of applicants, who while holding an interim visa, then had a subsequent visa approved (question c)

On 22 May 2024, we contacted you a second time seeking to clarify your request, noting the timeframe for the response was given as 24 May 2024.

We also noted that if we did not receive the response, we may be closing the request under section 12(2) of the Act as the request shall be specified with due particularity. To date, we have not received a response from you. As a result we have been unable to provide a response for questions b and c, as the request has not been specified with due particularity.

On 11 June 2024, we sent you a letter noting that MBIE assessed and decided to grant parts a and d of your request, and that we would provide you the requested information. However, it will take us some time to process. We will send you the information as soon as it is ready and without undue delay.

We also noted again that in accordance with s12(2) of the Act, parts b and c of your request were not specified with due particularity and as such we were not able to proceed with these parts of your request.



Our Response

Please refer to the attached appendix for the information requested in questions a and d. As we have not received clarification on the timeframe for the data requested, we have provided data in response to these questions covering the period 1 January 2024 to 4 June 2024.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact inzoias@mbie.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeannie Melville".

Jeannie Melville
Deputy Chief Operating Officer Immigration Branch
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

Appendix

The number of applicants who have been granted an interim visa between 1 January 2024 and 4 June 2024, broken down by the previously held temporary visa type, and the length of visa validity remaining on the previously held visa at the time the interim visa was granted.

Previous visa held by applicant	Interim visa granted 8 or more days prior to previous visa expiring	Interim visa granted 4 to 7 days prior to previous visa expiring	Interim visa granted 1 to 3 days prior to previous visa expiring	Interim visa granted on expiry date of the previously held visa	Interim visa granted after previous visa expired**
Visitor	60	6,345	1,068	392	1,161
Work	26	5,286	975	264	834
Student	5	4,746	668	160	337
Other temporary*	0	3	1	0	3

* 'Other temporary' includes diplomatic, consular, limited, and official visas.

** While immigration instructions require an applicant to be the holder of a current temporary visa in order to be granted an interim visa, due to manual processing being required for some interim visa applications, and on occasion system issues being encountered resulting in a decision delay, the interim granted date reflected in our system can present as being after the expiry date of the previous visa.