



10 October 2024

Dee

fyi-request-28387-206eaad0@requests.fyi.org.nz

DOIA 0002918

Tēnā koe Dee

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

The number of nurses and doctors (separate numbers please) that were approved (both work visa and residence visa) to work in NZ for the past 10 years.

For the past 10 years I keep hearing that NZ has a staff shortage of nurses and doctors. But the roles have been on the skills storage list for many years and so many foreign nurses and doctors have been approved to come to NZ, so I'm puzzled as to why?! I would like to know the numbers.

Our Response

Immigration makes a vital contribution to New Zealand's economy and workforce, as it provides employers with access to workers with key skills. This is particularly critical in the health sector, which is why there are several pathways available for health professionals who want to work in New Zealand.

Nursing professionals who want to work in New Zealand can apply for visas to visit and work and must meet the requirements for nursing registration and the Competence Assessment Programme (CAP) and the CAP fund.

Internationally qualified nurses who are required to complete a Competence Assessment Programme (CAP), can apply for a visitor visa to allow them to come to New Zealand to complete the programme. Philippines nurses may apply for a Specific Purpose Work Visa if they are registered as an Internally Qualified Nurse (IQN), have been accepted into the CAP, and have received a job offer from Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand or a District Health Board.

Please refer to the attached Appendix for the information you have requested. Please note that individuals may occasionally be granted multiple visas within the same year. The data provided only includes the count of their first visa granted, not any subsequent visas issued within the same year.

More information is on the Immigration New Zealand website:

[Pathway for health professionals to nursing jobs in New Zealand | Immigration New Zealand](#)



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 black ink, appearing to read 'SC', is positioned above the printed name.

Sarah Clifford
Director Visa
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment