



17 AUG 2016



On 7 June 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, various questions regarding Jobseekers in part time employment and with criminal convictions, job listings on the Ministry's website and Work Brokers.

For the sake of clarity I will address each of your questions in turn.

**Jobseeker:**

- *The total number of Jobseekers registered with Work and Income.*

I can advise you that as at 31 March 2016, there were 117,134 working age clients who were receiving Jobseeker Support. For further information regarding statistics on Jobseeker Support I refer you to the Ministry's website on the following link:

[www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/benefit/latest-quarterly-results/jobseeker-support.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/benefit/latest-quarterly-results/jobseeker-support.html)

- *The period of registration.*
- *Highest level achieved by Jobseekers.*

I am unable to provide you with the period of registration and the highest level qualification a Jobseeker has as this information is held in notes on individual case files. In order to provide you with this information Ministry staff would have to manually review thousands of files. As such I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

**Jobseekers in part-time employment:**

- *The total number of Jobseekers in part-time employment.*

I can advise you that 16,379 clients on Jobseeker Support are in receipt of income.

- *Average hourly wage declared in increments on \$1.50 per hour.*
- *Hours Jobseekers are in paid employment.*

I am unable to provide you with this information as this is not centrally collated and captured in a reporting system. This is found on individual case files and in order to collate this information would require Ministry staff to review thousands of files. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

**Jobseekers with criminal convictions:**

- *The number of Jobseekers with a criminal conviction.*
- *The number who are in part-time employment.*
- *Average hourly wage declared in increments on \$1.50 per hour.*
- *Achieved level of education.*

I am unable to provide you with this information as this is not centrally collated and captured in a central reporting system. This is found on individual case files and in order to collate this information would require Ministry staff to review thousands of files. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

**Job Listings on the Ministry's website:**

- *Total number of jobs listed with the Ministry in the last 12 months.*

I can advise you that 17,607 employment opportunities and 30,064 employment positions were listed on the Work and Income website. Employment opportunities are vacancies lodged with the Ministry by employers and the number of employment positions may vary per opportunity. This is a count of working age clients only (18 to 64 years).

- *Total number of listed jobs that stipulate a clean criminal record.*
- *Total number of jobs filled by the Ministry.*

I am unable to provide you with this information as the Ministry does not record the number of jobs which require or stipulate a clean criminal record in the manner you have requested. When a Work Broker assesses whether or not a client is suitable for a specific job with the criteria of that specific vacancy (clean criminal record or full drivers licence etc.) is noted. The Ministry does not have a reporting system that captures the number of jobs that have been filled information in the manner that you have requested.

**Work brokers:**

- *The total number of Work Brokers employed by the Ministry broken down by full time and part-time.*
- *Total hours dedicated to work broker functions.*

The Ministry employs 198 Work Brokers to assist clients into employment. This is broken down by 193 permanent full time staff and five fixed term staff.

Work brokers employed by the Ministry are dedicated to sourcing vacancies, actively marketing jobseekers with local employers while providing good quality candidates to employers and reduce the time it takes to do this. This is to ensure that the people who are in need of employment assistance by the Ministry are placed into the correct jobs best suited to their level of skill or employment.

- *Quota set for broker: number of vacancies for listing on the Ministry website.*
- *Quota set for broker : Number of successful placements*

The Ministry has not outlined any quota for Work Brokers employed by the Ministry to meet. The Ministry's focus is to get its clients into suitable employment that best aligns with their ability and availability. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) as this information does not exist.

- *Annual staff turnover at Work Broker level – specified by internal placement within the Ministry or leaving the Ministry employment permanently.*

The Work Broker turnover as at 31 May 2016 was 13.1%, this is a count for permanent employees only and employees taking up an internal or external secondment are excluded.

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 either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

I hope you find this information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10-152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely



Ruth Bound  
**Deputy Chief Executive, Service Delivery**