

-5 SEP 2016

Dear

On 3 August 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- Total number of people within New Zealand registered as a job seeker or eligible to work, who have successfully gained employment through support of Work and Income New Zealand for 2015 and 2016.
- Total number of people registered as a job seeker or eligible to work, who have successfully gained employment through support of Work and Income New Zealand for Walkato and Hauraki regions for 2015 and 2016.
- Total number people whom identify as Maori registered as a job seeker or eligible to work, who have successfully gained employment through support of Work and Income New Zealand for 2015 and 2016.
- Total number of people who identify as Maori registered as a job seeker or eligible to work, who have successfully gained employment through support of Work and Income New Zealand for Waikato and Hauraki region for 2015. and 2016.

Work and Income provides a wide range of services and financial support to help people find and stay in work. The level of support and financial assistance a person may receive depends on a variety of factors like income and individual circumstances. Work and Income assists clients to ensure they receive their full entitlement throughout their job search and continuing into employment. For example, in cases where a client commences employment that is temporary, casual or less than 30 hours a week, the client may still qualify for Jobseeker Support. Further information regarding the criteria for receiving Jobseeker Support is available on Work and Income's website at: www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/

Clients are only referred to employers whose job offers are legitimate and suitable to the individual client and where the contract terms and conditions meet current employment legislation. Conditions of suitable employment depend on each client's individual circumstances. Criteria that are considered for each client include appropriate hours of employment, access to childcare facilities, family and religious commitments, required skills, location of the job, and wages. An explanation of suitable employment is available on Work and Income's website at: www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/main-benefits/jobseeker-support/suitable-employment-01.html

Below are two tables that provide you with the number of clients who have been successfully placed into employment through Work and Income held vacancies nationally and in the Waikato Work and Income Region total figures and clients who identify as Māori. Please note that Hauraki is located in the Waikato Work and Income region.

Table One: The total number of clients successfully placed into employment through Work and Income held vacancies broken down by Māori ethnicity as at each financial quarter from March 2015 to February 2016.

Financial Quarter	Mar-15 Quarter	Jun-15 Quarter	Sep-15 Quarter	Dec-15 Quarter	Jan/Feb-16
Maori	1,622	1,681	1,211	1,811	843
National	3,798	3,637	3,115	4,038	2,060

Table Two: The total number of clients successfully placed into employment through Work and Income held vacancies broken down by Māori ethnicity in the Waikato Work and Income region as at each financial quarter from March 2015 to February 2016.

Financial Quarter	Mar-15 Quarter	Jun-15 Quarter	Sep-15 Quarter	Dec-15 Quarter	Jan/Feb-16
Maori	87	80	107	135	64
National	162	176	220	249	133

Notes:

- This report includes all clients placed into employment from Work and Income referrals. This may include clients not on a benefit or on a non work-tested benefit.
- Vacancies are opportunities lodged by employers with Work and Income.
- The introduction of the new single client management system (SCMS) in March 2016 shows that the March 2016 quarter is incomplete and only provides the data for January and February 2016.
- It is not mandatory for a client to identify their ethnicity when registering with Work and Income.

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