



22 January 2026

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 17 November 2025, requesting information held by the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), for:

- *the number of employers in New Zealand, if any, went to Ministry of Social Development and Employment to look for staff from May 2024 to date, that have never used Ministry of Social Development and Employment before?*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

To provide you with the specific information you have asked for, the Ministry would need to create a new dataset. I can, however, provide you with the following information the Ministry does readily hold, which will hopefully be helpful to you.

Please find attached **Appendix** which provides a table with the number of opportunity provider identifications that listed job opportunities with the Ministry for the first time since 1 May 2024 to 31 October 2025, as of 1 December 2025, by month ending. As part of working with employers to list their vacancies and help them find suitable candidates, the Ministry creates an employer file for each employer within our system and allocates each employer its own unique opportunity provider identification number. These numbers allow us to accurately identify and manage current and future vacancies as well as candidate referrals for each employer.

Please note the caveats with this data:

- This data is considered operational and is subject to change over time.
- An opportunity provider ID is counted in the first month a job opportunity is recorded.
- This is count of opportunity provider identification not a count of employers, an employer can have more than one opportunity provider identification.
- First time providers are those whose opportunity provider ID does not appear in the records before 1 May 2024.

- Data records start from March 2016 (migrated to a new IT system). Opportunity providers that appeared before this date cannot be identified and will be counted as first-time providers.
- Only paid employment opportunities are included in this report.
- Data does not include Immigration related vacancies, which are vacancies that the Ministry receives as part of an employer's requirement to engage with the Ministry as part of the Labour Market Test that has been established between the Ministry and NZ Immigration.

I am refusing your specific request under section 18(g) on the basis the Ministry does not hold that specific information without creating a new dataset.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services