

4/03/2024

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OIA: 1321646 – Teacher supply (numbers) for ECE, Primary and Secondary

On 26 January 2024 the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) accepted a transfer from the Teaching Council of New Zealand to respond to question 5 of your below request:

- 1. How many new students register with the teaching council each year?*
- 2. How many practice hours must they complete to be eligible for registration?*
- 3. What are the requirements to complete an ITE qualification?*
- 4. How many overseas teachers register with the teaching council each year (for the last 3 years)?*
- 5. What is the teacher shortage (numbers) for ECE, primary, and secondary?*

On 2 February 2024 we informed you that we do not hold ECE data and also requested clarification around the time period you were looking for. You confirmed that your request can be for teacher shortage numbers for Primary & Secondary Schools from 2016 -2023 (inclusive).

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The Ministry does not currently have an official measure for teacher shortages. Therefore I am refusing your request under 18(g) of the Act as the data is not held and we have no grounds for believing that a comprehensive list of historical teacher shortages is either held by, or more closely related to the functions of another department or organisation subject to the Act.

However, since 2018 the Ministry has released an annual Teacher Demand and Supply Planning Projection on Education Counts. This data refers to forecast supply and demand (for coming years), rather than actual supply and demand for previous years. All the yearly reports are found within publications on the Education Counts website, at the following link:

<https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/series/a-summary-of-the-teacher-demand-and-supply-planning-tool>

This projection is constructed to forecast the number of teachers required by schools in the future (demand) and compare this with an estimate of how many teachers' schools will be able to employ (supply).

This annual demand and supply update provides projections at a national level only and therefore there are a number of caveats that apply, such as the national level projections do not have a subject, medium or regional lens. As such, we anticipate an ongoing supply challenge for teachers in hard-to-staff subjects such as Te Reo Māori and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), the Kaupapa Māori / Māori-medium sectors and in certain parts of the country.

All projection results relate to the state and state-integrated school sector, are based on teacher headcounts, and exclude day-relief teachers. That is, they relate only to 'regular' teachers employed by schools on a permanent or fixed-term basis. The data only relates to the primary and secondary sector and does not include Early Childhood Education.

Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Anna Welanyk
Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Pou Ohumahi Mātauranga | Education Workforce