



16/02/2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

OIA: 1321229 – Teacher vacancies

Thank you for your email of 18 January 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

- 1. The number of teacher vacancies there have been nationwide on the starting day (or closest recorded equivalent – eg. For each end of January of the year) of each school year since 2019.*
- 2. Please include the figure for 2024 from January 29th, which I acknowledge is 11 days' time from receipt of this email so I will accept a extended response time beyond the 20 working day period.*

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

I am refusing your request in full under 18(g) of the Act, as the Ministry does not hold data on teacher vacancies. Vacancies are managed independently by schools, and we have no grounds for believing that a comprehensive list of teacher vacancies is either held by, or more closely related to the functions of another department or organisation subject to the Act.

Schools are required to advertise permanent vacancies in the Education Gazette. The Ministry uses this database to calculate the number of *new* vacancies listed in each fortnightly payroll cycle, but there are known limitations with this data. For example, this data only tells us if a role was advertised. It does not tell us if the role was filled, nor does it provide any data about the teachers applying for the roles, i.e. whether they may be returning to the workforce or moving from one teaching role to another.

The Education Gazette data for the time period 2019 to 2023 can be found in the below Table One. Per our clarification email of 26 January 2024, the data is for teacher positions in the primary and secondary school sector only.

To see the 2024 teaching vacancies currently listed on Education Gazette, please refer to the following link: <https://gazette.education.govt.nz/vacancies/>.



Table One. Teacher data at the start of each school year 2019 - 2023 (inclusive)

School Year	Education Gazette positions advertised
2019	12,130
2020	9,469
2021	11,378
2022	12,031
2023	13,039

Notes:

- Data is for advertised positions in the primary and secondary sectors only.
- Some positions may be double counted in the data as schools may advertise open positions more than once.
- Some positions are likely to be for future vacancies as schools may advertise open positions well ahead of time.
- Data was captured at the start of each school year.

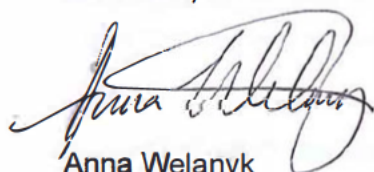
Positions advertised in the Education Gazette expressed as a proportion of regular teacher numbers are 18.9% in 2022 compared to 19.6% in 2019. Although the number of advertisements is similar, there were more teachers in 2022 (63,739) compared to 61,764 in 2019. Teacher numbers for 2023 will be released on Education Counts in mid-2024.

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

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review 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.

Thank you again for your email. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact our media team in the first instance at media.team@education.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Anna Welanyk

Hautū | Deputy Secretary

Te Pou Ohumahi Mātauranga | Education Workforce