



Privacy of natural persons

Ref: DOIA 2122-0333

Dear Privacy of natural persons

Thank you for your email of 12 August 2021 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA), the following information:

*"I am writing to kindly request the most recent information regarding the number of New Zealand companies who have had migrant employees breaching their visa conditions.*

*Could you please provide the breakdown of the above by locations/regions of these companies?*

*Appreciate your assistance in this regard and I look forward to hearing from you soon."*

#### **Our Response**

The information being requested has been interpreted as asking for the number of companies who have employed individuals in breach of their visa (i.e. when they did not hold an appropriate visa with work rights; or when they should have been working for a different company, or in a different location). Immigration New Zealand's system records allegations of companies employing individuals in breach of their visa as "Employer – breach of visa".

There have been 71 investigations created since 1 July 2019 that have an investigation focus of "Employer – breach of visa".

We are partially refusing your request under section 18(e) as it is not possible to provide a breakdown by location or region as businesses can operate in multiple locations. However we can provide the location of where the breach occurred, as follows:




**Estimated Number of Allegations Across Received Year  
Since 1 July 2019 to 23 August 2021  
Relating to Employers and Breach of Visa**

<b>Breach Region</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Auckland	3	13	9	25
Canterbury	1	1	9	11
Otago	0	2	7	9
Wellington	0	1	3	4
(blank)	1	0	3	4
Manawatu-Whanganui	0	2	2	4
Waikato	0	0	3	3
Bay of Plenty	0	1	2	3
Hawke's Bay	0	2	1	3
Unknown Onshore	0	1	1	2
Gisborne	0	0	1	1
Northland	0	0	1	1
Nelson	0	1	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>71</b>

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of the decision to withhold or refuse parts of your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Immigration New Zealand at [INZOIAs@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:INZOIAs@mbie.govt.nz)

Yours sincerely,   
Privacy of natural persons

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Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment