

The immediately preceding table does not include details concerning Hospital Boards. Hospital Board statistics are not tabulated with other local-body statistics by the Census and Statistics Department, but are dealt with by the Health Department and published separately by that Department as an Appendix to its own annual report to Parliament. Further, the method of tabulation is different from that adopted by the Census and Statistics Department, and hence comparisons are not always available. It is desirable, however, to show the total indebtedness of all local authorities, including Hospital Boards. Due to the factors just mentioned, the following table may not be absolutely accurate, but gives an indication of the general trend. The following table shows the gross and net indebtedness of all local authorities in New Zealand, including Hospital Boards :—

Table showing Gross and Net Indebtedness of all Local Authorities (including Hospital Boards) from 1924-25 to 1943-44

Year.				Gross Debt.	Net Debt.	Annual Loan Charge.*
				£	£	£
1924-25	..	..	..	54,192,564	48,064,293	3,331,163†
1925-26	..	..	..	60,515,948	52,549,798†	3,740,647†
1926-27	..	..	..	65,382,220	57,793,740	4,050,895†
1927-28	..	..	..	67,813,131	59,354,534	4,427,129
1928-29	..	..	..	70,674,645	61,271,351	4,660,794
1929-30	..	..	..	72,560,016	62,722,441	4,865,084
1930-31	..	..	..	74,141,188	63,343,017	5,019,142
1931-32	..	..	..	73,849,488	62,694,904	5,082,562
1932-33	..	..	..	73,912,122	62,018,586	5,144,969
1933-34	..	..	..	73,364,342	60,901,991	4,647,248
1934-35	..	..	..	72,470,400	60,575,882	4,535,571
1935-36	..	..	..	71,525,765	60,260,030	4,512,151
1936-37	..	..	..	69,719,359	58,987,239	4,548,938
1937-38	..	..	..	69,916,466	58,171,844	4,581,437
1938-39	..	..	..	70,161,721	59,206,220	4,744,602
1939-40	..	..	..	71,502,170	60,257,829	4,884,323
1940-41	..	..	..	70,172,756	59,971,524	4,979,710
1941-42	..	..	..	69,232,536	59,222,468	5,034,606
1942-43	..	..	..	67,929,697	57,967,853	5,064,312
1943-44	..	..	..	67,025,613	57,205,073	5,121,665

In comparing this table, which includes Hospital Boards, with the previous table, which excludes them, the effect of the increase in hospital indebtedness is very evident. Whereas in all other local authorities the total net debt has fallen by over £8,500,000 since 1930-31, Hospital Boards' net debts have increased by over £2,500,000 over the same period, so that for all local authorities, including Hospital Boards, the net debt is reduced since 1930-31 by only £6,000,000. In fact, over the period Hospital Boards are the only bodies showing an increase in net debt.

\* For separate details of interest and sinking-fund charges respectively, see page 45.  
† Excluding Hospital Board figures, which are not available.