TABLE C1.—CLASSIFICATION BY STANDARDS, DECEMBER, 1903.

*	Star	idard Cla	asses.		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Percentages for Five Years.					
								1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	
Preparatory		19,528	17,284	36,812	27.56	26.87	26.78	26.00	25.09				
S1 ~					8,255	7,532	15,787	11.82	11.68	11.44	11.54	12.06	
S2					8,480	7,951	16,431	12.30	12.05	12.11	12.25	12.44	
83					8,893	8,134	17,027	12.75	12.64	12.98	13.45	14.00	
34			• • •		8,408	7,996	16,404	12.28	12.60	12.73	13.38	13.65	
S5			• •		7,634	7,036	14,670	10.98	11.13	11.37	11.44	11.06	
36]	5,650	5,138	10,788	8.08	8.52	8.35	7.91	7.63	
S7					2,683	2,966	5,649	4.23	4.51	4.24	4.03	4.07	
Totals					69,531	64,037	133,568	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	

When the total number of children under eight years of age in the public schools (39,404) is taken into account the number in the preparatory classes (36,812) certainly seems high, and, as remarked in last year's report, "It should be possible by improved methods, and perhaps also by employing a larger proportion of adult teachers in the infant classes, to lessen this apparent defect without in any way overtaxing the children."

TABLE C2.—Passes in Standards, 1903.

. •		Present at Inspectors' Annual Visits.						Passes in Standards.					
Education District	8.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	v.		I.	II.	III.	IV.	v.	VI.
Auckland		3,315	3,343	3,546	3,174	2,699	1,975	3,234	3,118	3,196	2,793	2,283	1,491
Taranaki		588	644	587	571	367	214	504	543	477	398	261	154
Wanganui		1,398	1,454	1,438	1,402	1,048	747	1,330	1,340	1,262	1,217	921	604
Wellington		1,722	1,880	1,935	1,778	1,519	1,158	1,648	1,705	1,648	1,502	1,240	946
Hawke's Bay		1,008	1,084	1,002	1,015	739	541	887	935	814	823	572	374
Marlborough		258	262	238	231	233	163	250	252	218	212	207	131
Nelson		612	570	698	673	499	431	496	505	568	533	364	278
Grey		163	167	182	167	137	122	146	146	152	134	112	75
Westland		84	124	113	132	96	78	83	105	102	111	75	57
North Canterbury		2,039	2,154	2,344	2,311	2,012	1,401	1,932	1,925	1,885	1,809	1,494	1,103
South Canterbury		529	517	566	601	539	408	491	475	490	491	417	279
Otago		2,147	2,230	2,362	2,331	2,020	1,521	2,019	2,035	1,935	1,874	1,535	1,069
Southland	••	1,074	1,028	1,144	1,084	983	720	1,009	969	1,010	927	833	524
Totals for 1903		14,937	15,457	16,155	15,470	12,891	9,479	14,029	14,053	13,757	12,824	10,314	7,085
Totals for 1902		14,628					9,352			13,920	13,006	10,788	

Table C2 gives the passes in standards. The proportion of the number that passed in standards to the number present at the Inspectors' annual visits was 85.4 per cent. In 1902 the corresponding figures were 94.2 per cent.

The proportion of the number that passed the various standards to the total number on the rolls on the days of the Inspectors' annual visits was 53.4 per cent. In 1902 the corresponding figures were 54.5 per cent.

In Table C3 are given the percentages of passes of those examined (or present) in the standard classes and other examination statistics for the several education districts of the colony.

TABLE C3.—Examination Statistics for 1903.

			Total		Number of	Number	Percentage			
Education I	Districts.		Number on Rolls on Days of Examination.	Absent on Days of Examination.	In Preparatory Classes.	Passed Sixth Standard.	Examined in Standard Classes.	passed in Standard Classes.	of Passes to those examined.	
Auckland .			29,817	1,916	9,527	322	18,052	16,115	89.3	
			4,798	348	1,412	67	2,971	2,337	78.7	
			11,924	848	3,223	366	7,487	6,674	89.1	
			15,787	1,064	4,212	519	9,992	8,689	87.0	
Hawke's Bay .			8,375	626	2,254	106	5,389	4,405	81.7	
Marlborough .			1,970	45	501	39	1,385	1,270	91.7	
			5,581	454	1,499	145	3,483	2,744	78.8	
\Im rey .			1,594	81	520	55	938	7 65	81.6	
			1,050	73	315	35	627	. 533	85.0	
North Canterb			19,607	1,846	5,281	219	12,261	10,148	82.8	
South Canterb	ury		4,995	474	1,221	140	3,160	2,643	83.6	
			19,968	1,109	5,816	432	12,611	10,467	83.0	
Southland .	•	• •	9,588	410	2,945	200	6,033	5,272	87.4	
Totals fo	or 1903		135,054	9,294	38,726	2,645	84,389	72,062	85.4	
Totals fo	r 1902		133,700	7,722	38,750	2,620	84,608	72,830	86.1	