

School Attendance.

The total average attendance for the year was 120,026, being a decrease of 1,932 as compared with the previous year's total. In 1904, 1905, and 1906 there was an increase of 3,459, 3,759, and 1,693 respectively.

Table B1 shows the average attendance for the year in each of the education districts, and also the regularity of attendance of the pupils.

TABLE B1.—SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR 1907.
Including Secondary Departments of District High Schools.)

Education Districts.	Roll-numbers.					Average Attendance for Whole Year (Mean of Average Attendance of Four Quarters).			Percentage of the Mean of Average Weekly Roll of Four Quarters.	
	Pupils at Beginning of Year.	Admitted during the Year.	Left during the Year.	Pupils belonging at End of Year.	Mean of Average Weekly Roll of Four Quarters.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	1907.	1906.
Auckland ..	29,778	15,778	12,382	33,174	33,530	14,927	13,130	28,057	83·7	87·2
Taranaki ..	4,707	2,087	1,713	5,081	5,138	2,256	1,990	4,246	82·6	84·9
Wanganui ..	12,009	6,169	5,132	13,046	13,178	5,854	5,072	10,926	82·9	86·3
Wellington ..	14,828	8,654	7,012	16,470	16,564	7,468	6,539	14,007	84·6	87·5
Hawke's Bay ..	8,697	3,877	3,211	9,363	9,409	4,189	3,689	7,878	83·7	85·3
Marlborough ..	1,856	881	642	2,095	2,083	928	835	1,763	84·6	85·3
Nelson ..	5,268	1,981	1,776	5,473	5,586	2,494	2,188	4,682	83·8	86·2
Grey ..	1,531	648	395	1,784	1,725	724	736	1,460	84·6	85·9
Westland ..	955	380	316	1,019	1,028	463	440	903	87·8	88·8
North Canterbury ..	18,167	7,566	6,451	19,282	19,401	8,509	7,652	16,161	83·5	86·0
South Canterbury ..	4,894	1,625	1,234	5,285	5,244	2,389	2,117	4,506	85·9	88·2
Otago ..	17,829	7,121	5,767	19,183	19,221	8,788	8,170	16,958	88·2	88·6
Southland ..	9,017	3,244	2,445	9,816	9,839	4,434	4,045	8,479	86·2	87·1
Totals for 1907 ..	129,536	60,011	48,476	141,071	141,946	63,423	56,603	120,026	84·6	..
Totals for 1906 ..	128,328	57,254	46,280	139,302	140,320	64,290	57,668	121,958	86·9	..
Difference ..	1,208	2,757	2,196	1,769	1,626	—867	—1,065	—1,932	—2·3	..

In the average of the weekly roll-numbers there is an increase of 1,626 for the year. The figures for 1906 were 140,320, and 141,946 for 1907. At the end of the year the number on the roll was 141,071, as against 139,302 for the previous year, an increase of 1,769.

The high standard of regularity of attendance of the last two years, 86·9, fell in 1907 to 84·6. In the first quarter the average daily attendance was 85·6 per cent. of the average weekly roll-number, in the second quarter 85·0 per cent., in the third quarter 83·0 per cent., and in the fourth 84·6 per cent. Otago, which from 1901 to 1905 stood at the head of the list, again heads the list with a percentage of 88·2, Westland coming second with a percentage of 87·8. Southland, with a percentage of 86·2, and South Canterbury with 85·9, hold third and fourth places. As a whole the South Island shows a greater degree of regularity of attendance than the North, the respective rates being 85·6 per cent. and 83·7 per cent. of the average weekly roll. In 1906 the figures were 87·1 per cent. and 86·7 per cent. respectively.

The decrease in total average attendance for the year 1907 was attributable in the main to epidemics of sickness which prevailed during a part of the year in almost all parts of the Dominion. In the North Island the decrease was 1,035; and in the South Island 897. The figures are given in the following table :—