

It is confidently anticipated that next year, when the section of the Education Amendment Act above referred to becomes more widely known, and parents awake to the fact that by detaining their children from attending school for even a single day they are infringing the provisions of the Act, the standard of attendance will be even higher than it is at present.

The average daily attendance, in actual numbers and as a percentage of the average weekly roll number, for each quarter of the years 1910 and 1911 was as follows :—

			Actual Attendance.		Per Cent. of Roll.	
			1910.	1911.	1910.	1911.
First quarter	...	...	134,636	143,081	87·9	91·1
Second quarter	...	...	134,438	140,787	87·3	89·0
Third quarter	...	...	133,984	140,038	86·7	87·9
Fourth quarter	...	...	139,895	144,837	88·9	89·1
Whole year			135,738	142,186	87·7	89·3

The above figures represent those actually in attendance at all public schools, including district high schools. To obtain the exact attendance of all children at primary schools subject to inspection it will be necessary to add those attending Native village schools, Chatham Islands schools, private primary schools, and the lower departments of secondary schools, and to subtract the secondary pupils attending the district high schools. We then get the following results :—

			1911.	
Public schools	...	...	142,186	
Native village schools	...	...	3,990	
Chatham Islands schools	...	...	80	
Private primary schools	...	...	14,084	
Lower departments of secondary schools	...	...	244	
Total			160,584	
Less secondary departments of district high schools	...	...	1,889	
Total average attendance of primary scholars			158,695	

Age and Sex of Pupils.

Table C shows the age and sex of the pupils on the rolls of the public schools of the Dominion at the end of 1911, and the percentage of the roll for each age.

TABLE C.—AGE AND SEX OF PUPILS, DECEMBER, 1911.

Ages.	1911.			Percentages for Five Years.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	1907.	190 .	1909.	1910.	1911.
5 and under 6 years	7,131	6,408	13,539	8·0	8·2	8·7	8·4	8·4
6 " 7 "	9,307	8,556	17,863	10·5	10·6	10·8	11·2	11·1
7 " 8 "	10,094	9,246	19,340	11·6	11·7	11·6	11·5	12·0
8 " 9 "	9,587	8,977	18,564	11·1	11·3	11·4	11·4	11·5
9 " 10 "	9,300	8,638	17,938	11·4	11·0	11·2	11·3	11·1
10 " 11 "	9,114	8,575	17,689	11·3	11·2	10·7	10·9	10·9
11 " 12 "	8,799	8,101	16,900	11·0	10·9	10·6	10·2	10·5
12 " 13 "	8,346	7,417	15,763	10·5	10·4	10·2	10·0	9·6
13 " 14 "	7,132	6,420	13,552	8·7	8·4	8·5	8·5	8·4
14 " 15 "	3,997	3,270	7,267	4·0	4·2	4·3	4·5	4·5
15 and over	82,807	75,608	158,415	98·1	97·9	98·0	97·9	98·0
	1,755	1,478	3,233	1·9	2·1	2·0	2·1	2·0
Totals	84,562	77,086	161,648	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

It will, however, be found that Table B, on page 4, gives very much fuller information in regard to both age and sex.

Age.—Of the children, 53·8 per cent. are under ten, and 46·2 per cent. are over ten. This proportion has remained constant for the past three years.

Sex.—For every 100 boys on the rolls of the public schools there were 91 girls. This proportion has remained practically stationary for several years past.