

The number of pupils per teacher in the several grades or groups of schools is shown below, two pupil-teachers being counted as equivalent to one adult teacher, and probationers being disregarded :—

Grade of School.	Total Average Attendance.	Average Number of Children per Teacher.	Grade of School.	Total Average Attendance.	Average Number of Children per Teacher.
O. (1-8) ..	1,123	6	VIIA. (481-520) ..	5,331	46
I. (9-20) ..	10,410	14	VII B. (521-560) ..	4,964	
II. (21-35) ..	12,712	25	VII C. (561-600) ..	6,938	
IIIA. (36-80) ..	28,748	26	VII D. (601-640) ..	8,716	
IIIB. (81-120) ..	17,563	32	VII E. (641-680) ..	6,715	
IVA. (121-160) ..	6,378	39	VII F. (681-720) ..	5,623	
IVB. (161-200) ..	7,990		VII G. (721-760) ..	5,074	
IVC. (201-240) ..	6,073		VII H. (761-800) ..	2,179	
VA. (241-280) ..	7,802	43	VII I. (801-840) ..	1,636	
V B. (281-320) ..	7,483		VII J. (841-880) ..	627	
V C. (321-360) ..	7,831		VII K. (881-920) ..	940	
V D. (361-400) ..	4,815				
VIA. (401-440) ..	5,449	44			
VIB. (441-480) ..	6,527				

	Total Average Attendance.	Average Number of Children per Teacher.
Grades III-VII (two or more teachers)	150,402	38
Grades V-VII (six or more teachers)	88,650	45
All schools	174,647	32

The average number of pupils per teacher in all schools (two pupil-teachers being taken as equal to one adult teacher) was thirty-two— one less than the figure for 1918. The comparatively low average figure is, however, dominated to some extent by the large number of small sole-teacher schools, the average number in the larger schools being considerably in excess of this figure. About half of the total number of pupils attend schools where the average number of pupils per teacher ranges from forty-three to forty-six, and in the largest schools many of the classes are much larger than the average figure indicates. Amended regulations came into force in 1919 providing for additional assistance being employed in the larger schools for every additional forty pupils, instead for every additional fifty as had previously been the case. The necessity of still further reducing the size of classes as opportunity offers is well recognized.

With regard to the sex of public-school teachers, the figures below show that the heavy increase in the proportion of female to male teachers which took place during the years of the war has been arrested. In 1918 there were 253 adult women teachers to every 100 men ; the figure has now fallen to 211 women, corresponding closely with the proportion in 1916. The proportion of male teachers in sole-teacher schools shows a large increase and is now greater than it was in 1916. As has been stated in previous reports, women may be regarded as suitable teachers for three-fourths of the school population, so that while a proportion of one male teacher in every four teachers might be regarded as sufficient, the present proportion of nearly one in every three teachers is very satisfactory. Attention must, however, be directed to the entrants to the profession in order to ensure that sufficient men are taking up the work to maintain the requisite proportion of male teachers in the future. It is therefore satisfactory to note in 1919 an increase in the proportion of both male pupil-teachers and male probationers, and an increase of 50 per cent. in the number of men attending the training colleges. The numbers entering the teaching profession at present are approximately in the proportion of one man to five women, but, the average length of service of women teachers being much shorter than that of men, the disparity in these numbers will lessen with the passing of time.

The following figures show in detail the position with regard to the population of men teachers and women teachers in the primary schools :—

Ratio of adult male to adult female teachers—	1915.		1916.		1917.		1918.		1919.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Schools with 1 to 20 scholars ..	100	323	100	386	100	544	100	523	100	362
Schools with more than 20 scholars ..	100	176	100	194	100	213	100	227	100	193
All schools	100	193	100	214	100	240	100	253	100	211
Ratio of male pupil-teachers to female pupil-teachers	100	344	100	379	100	391	100	425	100	409
Ratio of male to female teachers (including pupil-teachers), all schools ..	100	205	100	228	100	254	100	267	100	225