

TABLE D.—CLASSIFICATION BY STANDARDS, DECEMBER, 1898.

Standards.	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Percentages for Five Years.				
				1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.
Preparatory classes	17,375	14,893	32,268	24.52	24.58	24.91	24.94	24.96
Class for Standard I.	8,498	7,721	16,214	12.32	12.30	12.68	13.01	13.34
" " II.	8,677	8,130	16,807	12.77	12.85	13.13	13.41	13.92
" " III.	9,674	8,951	18,625	14.15	14.30	14.46	14.80	15.09
" " IV.	9,189	8,804	17,993	13.67	14.10	14.11	13.90	13.65
" " V.	7,402	7,299	14,701	11.17	10.90	10.53	10.35	9.70
" " VI.	4,881	4,703	9,584	7.28	7.26	6.75	6.27	6.20
Passed Standard VI.	2,586	2,843	5,429	4.12	3.71	3.43	3.32	3.14
Totals.. .. .	68,277	63,344	131,621	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table E shows that there has been for 1898, as compared with 1897, very little change on the whole in the ages at which children pass the various standards; what change there was took the form of a slight lowering of the age.

TABLE E.—AVERAGE AGE OF PUPILS AT STANDARD EXAMINATIONS IN 1898.

Education Districts.	Average Ages for Standards.						Mean of Ages.	
	I. Yrs. mos.	II. Yrs. mos.	III. Yrs. mos.	IV. Yrs. mos.	V. Yrs. mos.	VI. Yrs. mos.	1898. Yrs. mos.	1897. Yrs. mos.
Auckland	8 11	10 1	11 2	12 5	13 2	14 2	11 8	11 8
Taranaki	9 5	10 7	11 10	12 10	13 11	14 8	12 2	12 2
Wanganui	9 1	10 3	11 6	12 7	13 5	14 6	11 11	12 0
Wellington	8 9	9 8	10 9	11 11	12 10	13 11	11 3	11 3
Hawke's Bay	9 0	10 1	11 4	12 6	13 3	14 1	11 8	11 7
Marlborough	8 11	9 11	11 5	12 6	13 4	14 2	11 7	11 8
Nelson	8 5	9 8	10 10	12 0	12 11	14 2	11 4	11 4
Grey	8 11	10 0	11 5	12 4	13 4	14 3	11 8	11 8
Westland	8 11	9 10	11 1	12 1	13 1	14 1	11 6	11 8
North Canterbury	8 6	9 7	10 10	11 11	12 10	13 9	11 3	11 3
South Canterbury	8 6	9 7	10 8	11 11	12 9	13 10	11 2	11 3
Otago	8 8	9 9	10 9	11 11	12 9	13 6	11 3	11 4
Southland	8 10	9 10	10 11	11 11	12 11	13 9	11 4	11 5
Mean	8 10	9 11	11 1	12 3	13 1	14 1	11 6	11 7
Range (difference between highest and lowest)	1 0	1 0	1 2	0 11	1 2	1 2	1 0	0 11
Mean in 1897	8 10	10 0	11 2	12 3	13 2	14 1	11 7	..
Range in 1897	1 1	1 2	0 11	1 1	1 0	0 10	0 11	..

The average of the weekly rolls for 1898 was 133,782. The total number of children on the roll at the time of examination was 132,542, of whom 40,599 were in the preparatory classes; 74,260 passed in the different Standards I. to VI.; 12,203 failed; 2,641 had already passed the Sixth Standard; and 2,839 were absent from examination.

TABLE F.—INSPECTION STATISTICS.

Education Districts.	Rolls on Days of Inspection.	Preparatory Classes.	Pupils above Sixth Standard.	Present in Standard Classes.	Passed.
Auckland	28,125	9,241	381	17,874	15,309
Taranaki	3,953	1,325	20	2,514	1,863
Wanganui	10,176	3,159	114	6,658	5,771
Wellington	14,684	4,529	420	9,533	8,500
Hawke's Bay	7,582	2,633	47	4,818	4,154
Marlborough	2,135	615	52	1,397	1,190
Nelson	5,973	1,650	179	4,008	3,317
Grey	1,619	481	47	1,059	920
Westland	1,401	412	82	888	754
North Canterbury	20,890	5,914	327	14,068	11,691
South Canterbury	5,094	1,394	120	3,467	3,110
Otago	21,416	6,340	665	13,992	12,315
Southland	9,494	2,906	187	6,187	5,366
For the colony.. .. .	132,542	40,599	2,641	86,463	74,260
In 1897	132,318	40,741	2,324	86,660	73,392