

D. THE DECLINE OF RURAL POPULATION IN THE SOUTH ISLAND

The relative decline of population in the South Island is of sufficient importance to warrant further analysis, particularly as to whether that decline affects any particular section of the community or any particular part of the area. The following table shows the urban and rural populations in the various provinces as at the 1936 and 1945 censuses:—

Table No. 61.—Table showing the Urban and Rural Populations in the various Provinces of New Zealand at the 1936 and 1945 Censuses

Provincial District.	1936 Census.				
	Total Population.	Urban Population.	Rural Population.	Urban Population Percentage of Total Population.	Rural Population Percentage of Total Population.
Auckland	546,970	294,041	252,929	53·8	46·2
Hawke's Bay	76,968	42,465	34,503	55·2	44·8
Taranaki	77,652	32,658	44,994	42·1	57·9
Wellington	316,446	230,583	85,863	72·9	27·1
North Island totals ..	1,018,036	599,747	418,289	58·9	41·1
Marlborough	19,149	6,417	12,732	33·5	66·5
Nelson	59,481	22,665	36,816	38·1	61·9
Westland	18,676	9,980	8,696	53·4	46·6
Canterbury	234,399	143,111	91,288	61·1	38·9
Otago (including Southland) ..	224,069	125,021	99,048	55·8	44·2
South Island totals ..	555,774	307,194	248,580	55·3	44·7
Totals	1,573,810	906,941	666,869	57·6	42·4

Provincial District.	1945 Census.				
	Total Population.	Urban Population.	Rural Population.	Urban Population Percentage of Total Population.	Rural Population Percentage of Total Population.
Auckland	640,971	357,447	283,524	55·8	44·2
Hawke's Bay	79,084	46,639	32,445	59·0	41·0
Taranaki	76,833	35,118	41,715	45·7	54·3
Wellington	349,404	260,449	88,955	74·5	25·5
North Island totals ..	1,146,292	699,653	446,639	61·0	39·0
Marlborough	20,737	7,357	13,380	35·5	64·5
Nelson	57,201	26,131	31,070	45·7	54·3
Westland	17,007	9,980	7,027	58·7	41·3
Canterbury	246,848	158,114	88,734	64·1	35·9
Otago (including Southland) ..	214,213	128,591	85,622	60·0	40·0
South Island totals ..	556,006	330,173	225,833	59·4	40·6
Totals	1,702,298	1,029,826	672,472	60·5	39·5

NOTES.—(1) For the purposes of the above table, the term "urban" includes the census population figures of all cities and boroughs of a population of 1,000 or over. The term "rural" includes the balance of population within each Provincial district.

(2) These figures are not exactly comparable with the figures given earlier in this Section as to the populations of counties and boroughs. In that table the population was divided purely in terms of the jurisdictional areas of counties and boroughs. In the present table the population is split up as between those urban areas which have over 1,000 population, and all other areas which are classified as "rural."