

TABLE B.—SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR 1900.

Education Districts.	Roll-numbers.				Average Attendance for Whole Year.				Average for the Year as Percentage of the Mean of Average Weekly Roll of Four Quarters—132,897 for 1900, and 133,540 for 1899.			
	Pupils at Beginning of Year.	Admitted during the Year.	Left during the Year.	Pupils belonging at End of Year.	Strict Average.			Working Average.	Strict Average.		Working Average.	
					Boys.	Girls.	Total.		1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
Auckland ..	25,962	11,391	9,308	28,045	12,485	11,289	23,774	24,095	83.2	79.3	84.4	81.2
Taranaki ..	3,795	1,530	1,264	4,061	1,760	1,530	3,290	3,374	79.4	78.2	81.4	80.3
Wanganui ..	9,572	4,867	3,810	10,629	4,551	4,222	8,773	8,887	81.1	79.6	82.2	80.8
Wellington ..	13,963	7,013	6,318	14,658	6,455	5,874	12,329	12,475	81.9	80.4	82.9	81.6
Hawke's Bay ..	7,459	3,432	2,894	7,997	3,517	3,137	6,654	6,805	83.1	81.7	84.9	83.4
Marlborough ..	1,985	767	606	2,146	885	839	1,724	1,746	80.4	81.2	81.5	82.2
Nelson ..	5,593	1,794	1,696	5,691	2,527	2,221	4,748	4,845	81.2	81.1	82.9	82.9
Grey ..	1,458	465	269	1,654	683	752	1,435	1,461	87.6	87.2	89.1	89.0
Westland ..	1,241	284	247	1,278	566	560	1,126	1,140	86.5	85.7	87.5	86.8
North Canterbury ..	19,182	6,527	5,859	19,850	8,594	7,918	16,512	16,741	81.8	80.4	82.9	81.9
South Canterbury ..	4,901	1,579	1,332	5,148	2,315	2,090	4,405	4,464	85.1	83.7	86.3	84.8
Otago ..	19,369	6,482	5,701	20,150	9,104	8,580	17,684	17,790	86.4	84.3	86.9	85.5
Southland ..	8,936	2,967	2,486	9,417	4,092	3,715	7,807	7,924	81.6	81.8	82.9	83.1
Totals for 1900	123,416	49,098	41,790	130,724	57,534	52,727	110,261	111,747	82.9	82.4	84.1	82.6
Totals for 1899	123,207	49,115	41,007	131,315	56,651	51,754	108,405	110,316	82.4	..	82.6	..
Difference ..	209	—17	783	—591	883	973	1,856	1,431	0.5	..	1.5	..

Taking the several education districts of the colony, an examination of Table B will show that there has been an increase in the average attendance at the schools in 1900 as compared with 1899 in all the districts of the North Island, and in Grey and South Canterbury in the South Island. In all the other districts of the South Island there has been a decrease. The position is shown in tabular form below (Table B1). The increase in the working average for the North Island is 1,806, and the decrease for the South Island is 375, the net increase for the whole colony being thus 1,431. The greatest increase (956) is shown in Auckland, which is more than one-half the gross increase for the colony, the next being Wanganui, with an increase of 342.

TABLE B1.—COMPARISON OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, 1899-1900, NORTH ISLAND AND SOUTH ISLAND.

Districts.	Working Average.			Strict Average.		
	1899.	1900.	Difference.	1899.	1900.	Difference.
Auckland ..	23,139	24,095	956	22,612	23,774	1,162
Taranaki ..	3,297	3,374	77	3,212	3,290	78
Wanganui ..	8,545	8,887	342	8,415	8,773	358
Wellington ..	12,209	12,475	266	11,979	12,329	350
Hawke's Bay ..	6,640	6,805	165	6,499	6,654	155
Totals North Island ..	53,830	55,636	1,806	52,717	54,820	2,103
Marlborough ..	1,773	1,746	[-27]	1,751	1,724	[-27]
Nelson ..	4,990	4,845	[-145]	4,793	4,748	[-45]
Grey ..	1,459	1,461	2	1,430	1,435	5
Westland ..	1,149	1,140	[-9]	1,134	1,127	[-7]
North Canterbury ..	16,882	16,741	[-141]	16,592	16,512	[-80]
South Canterbury ..	4,397	4,464	67	4,338	4,405	67
Otago ..	17,902	17,790	[-112]	17,748	17,683	[-65]
Southland ..	8,024	7,924	[-100]	7,902	7,807	[-95]
Totals South Island ..	56,486	56,111	[-375]	55,688	55,441	[-247]
Totals for Colony ..	110,316	111,747	1,431	108,405	110,261	1,856

In regularity of attendance there has been an improvement in every district of the colony except Nelson, which remains the same as in 1899, and Marlborough and Southland, which show a slight falling-off. In Grey and Westland the high figures which were attained in 1899—89 per cent. and 86.8 per cent. of the average roll-number respectively—have increased to 89.1 and 87.5. Otago, with an attendance of 86.9 per cent. of the number on the roll, stands at the head of the larger education districts.