

The number of Maoris and half-castes attending the public schools is shown in the following table :—

TABLE B2.—MAORIS AND HALF-CASTES ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS, DECEMBER, 1900.

Education Districts.	Maoris.						Half-castes living as Europeans.			Total.			Number of Schools in which there were Children of Maori or Mixed Race.
	Pure Maoris.			Half-castes living as Maoris.									
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
Auckland	270	215	485	38	38	76	307	285	592	615	538	1,153	162
Taranaki	33	14	47	7	3	10	17	12	29	57	29	86	19
Wanganui	107	54	161	5	17	22	17	18	35	129	89	218	32
Wellington	70	49	119	12	9	21	34	34	68	116	92	208	29
Hawke's Bay ..	218	124	342	23	21	44	53	62	115	294	207	501	35
Marlborough ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	16	11	27	16	13	29	5
Nelson	5	5	10	..	..	..	10	8	18	15	13	28	9
Grey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Westland	7	4	11	..	..	..	1	1	2	8	5	13	3
North Canterbury ..	13	7	20	..	1	1	13	13	26	26	21	47	8
South Canterbury ..	3	2	5	..	..	..	2	3	5	5	5	10	4
Otago	18	13	31	2	4	6	46	38	84	66	55	121	16
Southland	..	..	..	8	15	23	40	45	85	48	60	108	16
Totals for 1900 ..	744	489	1,233	95	108	203	556	530	1,086	1,395	1,127	2,522	338
Totals for 1899 ..	775	534	1,309	139	113	252	521	439	960	1,435	1,086	2,521	333
Difference	-31	-45	-76	-44	-5	-49	35	91	126	-40	41	1	5

It will be seen that the total number of Maori and half-caste children attending public schools remains practically the same ; but, whilst in 1899 there was a considerable increase in the number of Maoris and a falling-off in the number of half-castes living as Europeans, as compared with the year before, in the year 1900 there was an increase of 126 in the number of half-castes living as Europeans, and a falling-off of 125 in the number of Maoris. The apparent difference in the numbers may be due merely to a different method of classification.

The proportion of boys to girls remains the same as in 1899—51·9 per cent. to 48·1 per cent. The number of children below the age of ten is to the number above that age as 52·1 to 47·9. This statement expresses in another form the facts already commented upon in the remarks that follow Table A.

TABLE C.—AGE AND SEX OF PUPILS, DECEMBER, 1900.

Ages.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentages for Five Years.				
				1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.
Five and under six years ..	5,163	4,864	10,027	7·8	7·8	7·7	7·6	7·4
Six and under seven years ..	6,933	6,451	13,384	10·2	10·1	10·1	10·0	9·9
Seven and under eight years ..	7,684	7,054	14,738	11·3	11·1	11·2	11·2	11·2
Eight and under nine years ..	7,650	7,299	14,949	11·4	11·3	11·4	11·2	11·6
Nine and under ten years ..	7,769	7,176	14,945	11·4	11·5	11·4	11·6	11·6
Ten and under eleven years ..	7,727	7,249	14,976	11·5	11·4	11·7	11·5	11·5
Eleven and under twelve years ..	7,687	6,978	14,665	11·2	11·6	11·2	11·1	11·3
Twelve and under thirteen years ..	7,337	6,839	14,176	10·8	10·6	10·5	10·7	10·6
Thirteen and under fourteen years ..	5,613	5,028	10,641	8·1	8·0	8·1	8·3	8·1
Fourteen and under fifteen years ..	2,963	2,595	5,558	4·3	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5
Over fifteen years	1,322	1,343	2,665	2·0	2·1	2·2	2·3	2·3
Totals	67,848	62,876	130,724	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

Table No. 2 in the Appendix shows the numbers in the several classes for the various districts, and Table D is a summary of the same figures for the whole colony. The proportion of pupils in the preparatory classes shows an increase for the year ; the proportion in Standard classes V. and VI. has also increased ; the other classes present a slight decrease. The percentages of pupils in the Standard classes I. to VI. for the years 1899 and 1900 were respectively 70·84 and 69·97.

Table D might be expected to afford some evidence as to the effects of the new syllabus that came into force on the 1st January, 1900, upon the passing of children in the various Standards. The task of examining for passes in Standards III. to V. was in general transferred from the Inspectors to the head teachers, who had already since 1894 had the duty of passing children in Standards I. and II. placed in their hands. From the reports of the Inspectors