

In English and arithmetic the numbers returned remain practically identical with the roll-numbers, following them in the upward grade; under the heading "physical instruction" a further increase is shown in the number receiving some definite course of training; and singing also includes a distinctly larger proportion of the whole. A large increase is again shown in the addition to the number reported as receiving instruction in handwork in various forms; the total number receiving instruction under this heading has now reached 74·79 per cent. of the total roll-number. The percentages of the numbers receiving instruction in nature-study and physical instruction were 86·95 and 97·40 respectively of the total roll-number. According to the returns, there is a fall in the numbers taking geography and history; but, as the figures now given correspond very closely with the numbers of pupils in the classes for which those subjects are prescribed, it is probable that previous returns were based upon estimates that were more or less inaccurate.

Public-school Teachers.

In December, 1907, there were employed on the primary staffs in the public schools of the Dominion 3,937 teachers; of these 3,287 were adults and 650 pupil-teachers: the corresponding numbers for December, 1906, were 3,201 adults and 671 pupil-teachers. Of the adult teachers at the end of 1907, 1,332 were men and 1,955 women; of the pupil-teachers, 172 were male pupil-teachers and 478 female pupil-teachers. The number of adult male teachers was 18 more, and of adult female teachers 68 more than in December, 1906. The number of male pupil-teachers increased by 19; but the number of female pupil-teachers decreased by 40.

Taking the schools above Grade 0 having only one teacher, we find that the average number of children per teacher—that is, per school—was 24·5. For all schools with two or more teachers the average number of pupils per adult teacher, if we reckon two pupil-teachers as one adult, was 40·7; and on the same basis the average for all schools of Grade 1 and upwards was 36·7.

TABLE E1.—SCHOOL STAFF, DECEMBER, 1907.*

Education Districts.	Numb r of Schools.†	Heads of School.		Sole Teachers.		Assistant Teachers.		Total Number of Adult Teachers.			Pupil- teachers.		Total.	Total Number of Adult Teachers and Pupil-teachers.	Yearly Average Attendance (Mean of Totals for Four Quarters.)	Average Number of Pupils to One Teacher.
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.				
Auckland ..	489	143	4	172	125	57	257	372	386	758	43	116	159	917	28,057	30·6
Taranaki ..	81	23	5	12	38	6	36	41	79	120	3	20	23	143	4,246	29·7
Wanganui ..	188	72	6	53	52	20	110	145	168	313	16	38	54	367	10,925	29·8
Wellington ..	164	60	6	32	59	40	138	132	203	335	15	70	85	420	14,007	33·4
Hawke's Bay	102	49	4	11	37	19	75	79	116	195	8	45	53	248	7,878	31·8
Marlborough ..	68	10	1	7	50	1	15	18	66	84	1	6	7	91	1,763	19·4
Nelson ..	119	27	4	16	65	6	46	49	115	164	1	25	26	190	4,682	24·6
Grev ..	32	6	3	2	21	1	15	9	39	48	1	5	6	54	1,460	27·0
Westland ..	35	5	..	3	26	1	7	9	33	42	..	3	3	45	903	20·0
North Canterbury ..	205	85	2	34	83	36	155	155	240	395	34	75	109	504	16,161	32·1
South Canterbury ..	77	24	2	17	33	8	40	49	75	124	8	14	22	146	4,506	30·9
Otago ..	232	93	..	36	103	49	177	178	280	458	26	33	59	517	16,958	32·8
Southland ..	171	46	6	35	81	15	68	96	155	251	16	28	44	295	8,479	28·7
Totals for 1907..	1,963	643	43	430	773	279	1139	1,332	1,955	3,287	172	478	650	3,937	120,026	30·5
Totals for 1906..	1,921	637	38	415	753	262	1096	1,314	1,887	3,201	153	518	671	3,872	121,958	31·5
Difference ..	42	6	5	15	20	-3	43	18	68	86	19	-40	-21	65	-1,932	-1·0

* Exclusive of secondary departments of district high schools.

† See also details in Table A.

The ratio of male to female teachers (adults) for 1907 was 100 to 146, or, omitting teachers of schools of Grade 0, 100 to 124. In 1906 the number of female teachers increased by 52, and the number of male teachers by 12; the corresponding numbers for 1907 were 68 and 18 respectively. The figures given in the table show that for 1906 there was (including pupil-teachers) an increase of 42 women, and an increase of 14 men; for 1907 there was an increase of 28 women and 37 men.