

During the year capitation on the attendances of students at group courses was earned by twenty-seven schools in nine of the thirteen education districts. The number of students taking such courses was about 25 per cent. of the total roll.

The number of students who voluntarily attend evening classes, particularly in the larger centres, continues to be well maintained. It is also gratifying to note that so many students show their appreciation of the facilities now placed within their reach by attending on three or more evenings a week. The following schools had roll numbers of 400 or more (exclusive of the day technical schools that are carried on in connexion with some of them):—

School.	Roll Number.
Auckland Technical College	1,006
Wanganui Technical College	675
Palmerston North Technical School	522
Wellington Technical College	1,155
Christchurch Technical College	988
Timaru Technical School	400
Dunedin Technical School	966
Dunedin School of Art	479

Regulations under section 18 of the Education Amendment Act requiring the attendance of young persons between the ages of fourteen and seventeen who are not otherwise receiving a suitable education, or who are not specially exempted from attendance, have been approved for certain school districts in Auckland, Taranaki, Wanganui, and Hawke's Bay. During the year the regulations were put into operation in four school districts in Wanganui. The classes established under the regulations were attended by seventy-three students, of whom forty-six were males. It is probable that the regulations adopted in the Auckland, Taranaki, and Hawke's Bay Districts will be put into operation this year (1913).

The following table gives the number and the sex of pupils holding Junior or Senior Free Places at technical schools during the year:—

		1911.			1912.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Junior free pupils	First year ..	670	341	1,011	655	332	987
	Second year ..	356	200	556	371	227	598
Senior free pupils	First year ..	223	140	363	311	179	490
	Second year ..	130	99	229	154	109	263
	Third year ..	81	68	149	89	50	139
Totals		1,460	848	2,308	1,580	897	2,477

The number of students holding Junior Free Places (tenable for two years) was 1,585, the number holding Senior Free Places (tenable for three years) being 892. About 59 per cent. of the students who entered on Junior Free Places in 1911 continued to attend in 1912. Of the total number of senior free pupils in their first year over 60 per cent. had previously been in attendance as junior free pupils. The remainder were either admitted on transfer from day technical schools, high schools, or district high schools, or had qualified by examination for Senior Free Places. Of the total number (2,477) of students admitted to free places, 2,081, or 84 per cent., qualified for capitation. Capitation payments on account of free places amounted to £4,279 19s. 3d., being at the rate of £2 per free place.

Day Technical Schools.

These schools (eight in number) are of secondary grade and provide fairly full courses in science and technology, domestic economy, agriculture, and commercial instruction. They are carried on in connexion with the technical schools at Auckland (321 pupils), Wanganui (142 pupils), Wellington (256 pupils), Napier (86 pupils), Westport (20 pupils), Christchurch (343 pupils), Dunedin (215 pupils), and Invercargill (143 pupils). The total roll number was 1,526, of whom 684 were males.