

Of the thirty-eight schools, twelve are for boys, twelve for girls, and ten are mixed schools. Four of the schools under (a) are not in operation—namely, Akaroa, Greymouth, Hokitika, and Waimate. At these places secondary education is carried on in the secondary departments of district high schools, to which the High School Boards supply some financial assistance.

The number of district high schools in 1917 was sixty, technical high schools eight, Maori secondary schools ten, and private secondary schools registered under the Education Act, 1914, twenty, making a total of 132 schools affording secondary education.

ROLL AND ATTENDANCE.

(E.-6, Tables K1, K2, K3, L1, and L2.)

The total number of pupils attending the thirty-four secondary schools included under (a), (b), and (c) above at the end of 1916 and 1917 respectively was—

	1916.			1917.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Roll (exclusive of lower departments) ..	4,025	3,027	7,052	4,203	3,387	7,590
Number in lower departments ..	296	170	466	365	215	580
Totals	4,321	3,197	7,518	4,568	3,602	8,170

The roll number, excluding the lower departments, shows an increase in 1917 of 7.6 per cent. over the roll for the previous year, the increase being greater in the case of the girls than of the boys. The number of girls increased by 360, or 11.9 per cent. of the 1916 roll, and the number of boys increased by 178, or 4.4 per cent. The number of first-year boys shows an actual decrease of 77, as compared with the previous year, while the number of first-year girls shows an increase of 59. There is no ready explanation of the disparity in these figures.

The following are some of the figures in connection with the roll and attendance of schools in which secondary education is given :—

(a.) SECONDARY SCHOOLS (Lower Departments excluded).

Number on the roll at the end of 1917	7,590
Average attendance for the year 1917	7,464
Number of new entrants, 1917	3,544
Number of these who left the public primary schools in 1916	2,871
Number who left secondary schools during 1917	943
Number of first-year pupils	2,953
Number of second-year pupils	2,345
Number of third-year pupils	1,304
Number of fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-year pupils	988

(b.) SECONDARY DEPARTMENTS OF DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

Number on roll at end of 1917	2,180
Mean of average weekly roll : Boys, 1,131 ; girls, 1,274 : total	2,405
Average attendance	2,201
Number of new entrants from public primary schools	1,392
Number of first-year pupils	1,152
Number of second-year pupils	638
Number of third-year pupils	390

(c.) TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

Number on roll at end of 1917 : Boys, 1,110 ; girls, 1,237 : total	2,347
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(d.) REGISTERED PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Number on roll at end of 1917 : Boys, 394 ; girls, 812 : total	1,206
Number under twelve years of age	26
Number between twelve and fifteen years of age	343
Number over fifteen years of age	837
Number of teachers	71

(e.) SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR MAORIS.

Number on roll at end of 1917	487
Average attendance, 1917	454

The total number of children, therefore, receiving secondary education at the end of 1917 was 13,810, an increase of 6.2 per cent. over the corresponding figure for the previous year. Of 9,517 children who left the primary schools having passed