

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO COMMENCED POST-PRIMARY COURSES IN 1928 AND WHO DEFINITELY LEFT IN THE SAME YEAR.

Type of School.	During First Month of Course.		During Second Month of Course.		During Third Month of Course.		During Fourth Month of Course.		During Fifth Month of Course.		During Sixth Month of Course.		During Seventh Month of Course.		During Eighth Month of Course.		During Ninth Month of Course.		During Tenth Month of Course.		During Eleventh Month of Course.		Total.	
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.
Secondary schools	8	4	10	7	8	11	17	12	13	14	21	16	42	27	27	16	35	14	38	17	292	319	511	457
Percentage	1		2		2		3		3		4		7		4		5		6		63		100	
Secondary departments of district high schools	13	14	10	6	12	18	23	10	13	16	13	14	26	14	26	11	22	16	43	23	132	127	333	269
Percentage	5		3		5		5		5		4		7		6		6		11		43		100	
Technical high and day school	12	10	8	4	18	24	16	19	28	21	28	19	47	40	43	41	46	31	131	136	277	247	654	592
Percentage	2		1		3		3		4		4		7		7		6		21		42		100	
Totals	33	28	28	17	38	53	56	41	54	51	62	49	115	81	96	68	103	61	212	176	701	693	1,498	1,318
Percentage	2		2		3		3		4		4		7		6		6		14		49		100	

FREE PLACES.

The following table shows the number of free places held in 1928 on the dates shown :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
(i) Secondary schools (at 30th June, 1928)—			
(a) Junior free pupils	5,586	4,893	10,479
(b) Senior free pupils	2,496	1,956	4,452
Totals	8,082	6,849	14,931
(ii) District high schools (at 30th June, 1928)—			
(a) Junior free pupils	1,741	1,569	3,310
(b) Senior free pupils	372	351	723
Totals	2,113	1,920	4,033
(iii) Maori secondary schools (at 31st December, 1928)	67	83	150
(iv) Technical high schools and technical day schools (at 30th June, 1928)—			
(a) Junior free pupils	3,211	2,594	5,805
(b) Senior free pupils	634	553	1,187
Totals	3,845	3,147	6,992
(v) Third-year pupils at Kowhai and Northcote Junior High Schools (at 30th June, 1928) ..	92	115	207
Grand totals	14,199	12,114	26,313

There were on the 30th June, 1928, 27,084 children in attendance at Government schools providing secondary education, as against 25,314 in the previous year. Ninety-seven per cent. of the children in attendance in 1928 at Government schools providing secondary education were holders of free places. This liberality in the provision of free secondary education is a phase of educational policy in New Zealand which can justifiably be regarded with satisfaction. The extent to which New Zealand leads even older countries in this matter becomes apparent when it is noted that in 1928 only 40 per cent. of the pupils in attendance at secondary schools in England and Wales were free-place holders.