

(A) exhibits the progress and fluctuations of public-school attendance from the date of the passing of the Education Act :—

TABLE A.—SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND YEARLY INCREASE FROM 1877 TO 1890.

Year.	School Attendance.					Yearly Increase on			
	Number belonging at Beginning of Year.	Number belonging at End of Year.	Average Attendance.		Average Attendance expressed as Percentage of Roll-Number.	Number belonging at Beginning of Year.	Number belonging at End of Year.	Average Attendance.	
			Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.				Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.
1877	..	55,688	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1878	50,849	65,040	49,435	45,521	73.8	8,353	9,352	7,866	7,546
1879	59,707	75,536	57,301	53,067	74.6	8,417	6,835	5,645	7,558
1880	63,124	82,401	62,946	60,625	74.2	6,235	1,159	63	1,197
1881	74,359	83,560	63,009	61,822	73.6	1,950	3,619	3,417	1,887
1882	76,309	87,179	66,426	63,709	74.0	3,107	5,297	3,651	3,664
1883	79,416	92,476	70,077	67,373	75.1	5,467	4,762	4,573	5,284
1884	84,883	97,238	74,650	72,657	76.6	5,787	5,169	5,533	5,670
1885	90,670	102,407	80,183	78,327	76.1	4,707	3,921	3,178	2,410
1886	95,377	106,328	83,361	80,737	77.0	3,829	4,591	4,025	4,900
1887	99,206	110,919	87,386	85,637	79.3	4,328	1,766	3,463	4,471
1888	103,534	112,685	90,849	90,108	80.3	1,885	2,771	3,459	3,266
1889	104,919	115,456	94,308	93,374	79.9	3,239	2,456	2,362	1,258
1890	108,158	117,912	96,670	94,632					

The principal statistics of attendance for the several education districts are contained in Table B. In Otago there is an actual decline of 230 in the average attendance, on which the capitation grant depends; and there is a decrease of 4 in Nelson, and 38 in Westland. The average attendance for the year has been at the rate of 79.9 out of every hundred on the roll, the mean of the weekly roll-numbers being taken as the basis of computation. The rate has never been higher than this—for the whole of New Zealand—except in the year 1889, when it was 80.3. Otago keeps its place of pre-eminence with respect to regularity of attendance, its percentage being 84.1; Taranaki (72.3) and Wanganui (73.8) standing at the other end of the scale.

TABLE B.—SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR 1890.

Education Districts.	Roll-Numbers.				Average Daily Attendance.				Average for the Year. Percentages of the Mean Attendance Weekly Roll of Four Quarters—118,392.	
	Pupils at Beginning of Year.	Admitted during the Year.	Left during the Year.	Pupils belonging at End of Year.	Fourth Quarter.			Whole Year.		
					Boys.	Girls.	Total.			
	1890.	1889.								
Auckland	20,171	10,103	7,895	22,379	9,515	8,720	18,235	18,035	80.2	80.4
Taranaki	2,275	1,175	821	2,629	1,011	932	1,943	1,925	72.3	72.4
Wanganui	6,654	3,649	2,565	7,738	3,033	2,728	5,761	5,745	73.8	74.3
Wellington	9,583	5,676	4,606	10,653	4,484	4,114	8,598	8,494	79.2	79.6
Hawke's Bay	5,613	3,130	2,731	6,012	2,548	2,295	4,843	4,851	79.9	80.0
Marlborough	1,720	792	565	1,947	815	685	1,500	1,462	77.6	78.5
Nelson	5,354	1,862	1,381	5,835	2,324	2,158	4,482	4,506	77.0	78.3
Grey	1,689	581	500	1,770	719	722	1,441	1,410	77.8	77.2
Westland	1,696	462	493	1,665	698	678	1,376	1,386	81.2	78.9
North Canterbury	19,797	8,437	6,994	21,240	9,313	8,556	17,869	17,044	80.5	80.0
South Canterbury	4,483	1,881	1,434	4,930	2,086	2,027	4,113	3,888	79.2	78.6
Otago	21,300	7,945	6,463	22,732	10,288	9,472	19,760	19,299	84.1	85.7
Southland	7,823	3,175	2,666	8,332	3,502	3,247	6,749	6,587	78.1	78.6
Totals for 1890	108,158	48,868	39,114	117,912	50,336	46,334	96,670	94,632	79.9	80.3
Totals for 1889	104,919	49,096	38,559	115,456	49,140	45,168	94,308	93,374	80.3	..
Increase in year	3,239	..	555	2,456	1,196	1,166	2,362	1,258	..	..
Decrease in year	..	228	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.4	..

The number of Maori and half-caste children in attendance at public schools at the end of the year was 1,165, as shown in the following statement. This statement has nothing to do with the children (2,259) in attendance at the Native schools.