

The only points worthy of note in this table are the large increase in the number of those who are being taught hand-work, to which attention is called elsewhere, and in the number—much larger than has been popularly supposed—of those who are returned as receiving some degree of instruction in drill.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The number of schools open at the end of 1901 was 1,677, or 3 more than were open in December, 1900. The mean average attendance per school was 66·9.

In Table J the schools are classified according to their average attendance for the whole year 1901, instead of, as formerly, according to the average attendance for the December quarter. They are also given in much fuller detail, to accord with the grades provided by Part I. of Schedule I. to the Public-School Teachers' Salaries Act.

TABLE J.—NUMBER OF SCHOOLS, DECEMBER, 1901.

Average Attendance.	Auckland.	Taranaki.	Wanganui.	Wellington.	Hawke's Bay.	Marlborough.	Nelson.	Grey.	Westland.	North Canterbury.	South Canterbury.	Otago.	Southland.	Total Number of Schools.
1 to 8	9	..	3	10	1	27	16	3	10	3	..	1	2	85
9 " 20	91	13	31	26	14	17	43	8	15	47	13	59	24	401
21 " 30	84	18	23	23	9	3	18	5	1	46	21	34	43	338
31 " 40	55	9	24	17	9	6	12	2	1	19	8	32	27	221
41 " 50	27	8	14	10	8	..	11	3	3	24	11	12	8	139
51 " 70	32	5	19	14	7	3	6	2	..	10	5	29	14	146
71 " 90	11	6	5	8	5	..	6	3	2	18	4	10	8	86
91 " 120	15	1	7	5	6	2	2	..	..	9	1	7	5	60
121 " 150	8	2	7	6	4	3	2	..	..	5	..	6	4	47
151 " 200	9	1	2	4	4	..	1	1	..	4	3	1	3	33
201 " 250	7	..	4	3	1	..	2	..	2	5	..	6	3	33
251 " 280	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	7
281 " 330	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	2	3	..	10
331 " 390	3	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	12
391 " 420	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	4
421 " 480	2	..	2	2	..	..	1	1	..	5	1	..	..	14
481 " 510	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	7
511 " 570	6	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	14
571 " 600	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
601 " 660	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	7
661 " 690	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5
691 " 750	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
751 " 780	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
781 " 840	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
841 " 870	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
871 " 930	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
931 " 960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
961 " 1020	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
1021 " 1050	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals, 1901	366*	65†	150‡	143	74‡	62	121	28	34	204‡	70	216	144‡	1,677
Totals, 1900	354	65	143	147	77	65	124	30	36	201	68	222	142	1,674
Difference	12	..	7	-4	-3	-3	-3	-2	-2	3	2	-6	2	3

* Including 58 half-time schools, reckoned as 29. † Including 2 half-time schools, reckoned as 1. ‡ Including 10 half-time schools, reckoned as 5.

During the year 1901, 39 schools were closed—viz., in Auckland, 5; Taranaki, 1; Wanganui, 2; Wellington, 7; Hawke's Bay, 1; Marlborough, 6; Nelson, 6; Grey, 1; Westland, 2; North Canterbury, 1; Otago, 6; and Southland, 1.

In the next table the average attendance in each education district is shown in detail by a statement of the aggregate attendance at each group of schools under the classification in Table J.