

Full details regarding the sex, age, and distribution throughout the colony of pensioners on the roll will be found in the appendix of this report, the following items of interest being taken therefrom :—

10,398 out of the 12,582 on the roll, or 82 per cent. of the whole, are in receipt of the full pension of £26.

Forty-four per cent. of the pensioners who were admitted in the first year of the Act are still on the books.

Of the four chief centres of population, Christchurch has the highest number of pensioners—namely, 1,440, as against 1,210 in Auckland, 1,111 in Dunedin, and 596 in Wellington. The smallness of the pension-roll in Wellington is accounted for by the fact that the population at the pension age in this centre is a comparatively small one, the last available census figures showing the people sixty-five years of age and over in each of the chief centres to be as follows :—

1. Christchurch	...	...	...	...	...	3,408
2. Auckland	...	...	...	...	...	3,002
3. Dunedin	...	...	...	...	...	2,901
4. Wellington	...	...	...	...	...	1,771

The male pensioners exceed the female by 1,930, although in Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin the females are in the ascendant.

The age which claims the highest number of pensioners is 72, 1,168 Europeans being at that age. Age 73 follows next with 1,112. There are seventy-six European pensioners of the age of 90 and over, of which number seven are 96 and over, while three are centenarians.

The following particulars relate to those who are 96 and over, and were still alive on the 1st July :—

No.	District.	Age.	Sex.	Address.	Born.	Conjugal Conditions.
740	Wellington*	96	Male	Te Aro	10th February, 1810	Widower.
797	Dunedin	97	Female	Outram	14th August, 1808	Widow.
1866	Auckland*	97	Male	Onehunga	1809	Widower.
18	Havelock	102	"	Kenepuru	15th February, 1804	Unmarried.
343	Ashburton*	103	"	Ashburton	24th June, 1803	Widower.
149	Masterton	105	"	Waikanae	1801	"

The following statement shows the number of pensions on the roll at the end of each month of the year just ended :—

Number of pensions at 31st March, 1905	..	..	..	11,770
Add new grants during April, 1905	..	..	91	
Deduct deaths during April	..	..	34	
			—	57 increase.
Number of pensions at 30th April, 1905	..	..	..	11,827
Add new grants during May	..	..	135	
Deduct deaths during May	..	..	79	
„ cancellations during May	..	..	34	
			—	113
			—	22 increase.
Number of pensions at 31st May, 1905	..	..	..	11,849
Add new grants during June	..	..	120	
Deduct deaths during June	..	..	101	
„ cancellations during June	..	..	38	
			—	139
			—	19 decrease.
Number of pensions at 30th June, 1905	..	..	..	11,830
Add new grants during July	..	..	116	
Deduct deaths during July	..	..	108	
„ cancellations during July	..	..	22	
			—	130
			—	14 decrease.
Number of pensions at 31st July, 1905	..	..	..	11,816
Add new grants during August	..	..	155	
Deduct deaths during August	..	..	121	
„ cancellations during August	..	..	20	
			—	141
			—	14 increase.

* These pensioners draw their own pensions in person.