

3. Statistics giving the material for a complete comparison do not exist in New Zealand, but those available support the common opinion that there has been a marked rise in the standard of living over the last twenty years. The evidence tendered to the Commission abounds in references to this improved scale of living.

The next table gives the consumption per head of population of certain articles in common use, from material provided by parliamentary paper H.—9, Session II, 1912. These are the only reliable statistics of consumption available.

TABLE 31.—SHOWING CONSUMPTION, PER HEAD OF POPULATION, OF ARTICLES IN COMMON USE, 1891–1911.

A. *Spirits and Tobacco.*

Year.	Adult Male Population (including Maoris).	Spirits.		Tobacco.	
		Per Head.	Duty per Head.	Per Head.	Duty per Head.
1891	182,280	Gal.	£ s. d.	lb.	£ s. d.
1891	182,280	2.43	1 17 3	6.90	1 3 7
1892	185,070	2.47	1 17 11	6.72	1 3 0
1893	193,176	2.40	1 16 11	6.59	1 2 7 $\frac{3}{4}$
1894	196,005	2.24	1 14 5	6.44	1 1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1895	197,521	2.20	1 14 5	6.80	1 3 5
1896	208,518	2.17	1 14 8	6.61	1 2 9
1897	212,551	2.25	1 16 0	6.67	1 2 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
1898	216,431	2.27	1 16 4	6.89	1 4 0
1899	219,858	2.34	1 17 6	6.94	1 4 2
1900	223,454	2.46	1 19 5	7.28	1 4 9 $\frac{3}{4}$
1901	241,078	2.47	1 19 7	7.11	1 4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1902	247,526	2.43	1 18 11	6.86	1 3 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
1903	255,122	2.43	1 18 10	7.26	1 5 1
1904	263,023	2.46	1 19 4	7.43	1 5 10
1905	270,403	2.34	1 17 6	7.39	1 5 8 $\frac{3}{4}$
1906	295,122	2.34	1 17 6	7.06	1 4 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
1907	301,550	2.46	1 19 4	7.15	1 4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
1908	306,717	2.45	1 19 2	7.33	1 5 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
1909	317,774	2.26	1 16 2	7.17	1 4 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
1910	323,340	2.37	1 18 0	7.10	1 4 10
1911	335,853	2.36	1 17 9	6.86	1 3 11 $\frac{3}{4}$

B. *Wine, Ale, and Beer, New-Zealand-brewed Beer.*

Year.	Male and Female Population over Fifteen Years (including Maoris).	Wine.		Ale and Beer.		New-Zealand-brewed Beer.	
		Per Head.	Duty per Head.	Per Head.	Duty per Head.	Per Head.	Excise per Head.
1891	407,590	Gal.	s. d.	Gal.	s. d.	Gal.	s. d.
1891	407,590	0.27	1 7	0.61	0 11	11.2	2 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
1892	417,673	0.27	1 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.62	0 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	11.4	2 10
1893	430,885	0.26	1 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	0.53	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.3	2 10
1894	439,198	0.22	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.48	0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	10.9	2 9
1895	444,298	0.21	1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.45	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	11.1	2 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
1896	479,015	0.21	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.38	0 9	11.2	2 9 $\frac{3}{4}$
1897	488,472	0.21	1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.39	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	11.7	2 11 $\frac{1}{4}$
1898	497,619	0.22	1 3	0.39	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	12.1	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
1899	505,899	0.22	1 3	0.35	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	12.3	3 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
1900	514,900	0.22	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.34	0 8	13.2	3 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1901	552,028	0.22	1 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.34	0 8	12.9	3 2 $\frac{3}{4}$
1902	565,533	0.22	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.36	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.7	3 2
1903	581,906	0.21	1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.35	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.9	3 3
1904	598,583	0.20	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	0.34	0 8	13.0	3 3
1905	615,187	0.18	1 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.35	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.6	3 2
1906	651,559	0.19	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.38	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	12.7	3 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
1907	665,777	0.22	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.42	0 10	13.6	3 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1908	676,447	0.22	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	0.40	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	13.8	3 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
1909	702,379	0.20	1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	0.36	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	13.1	3 3 $\frac{1}{4}$
1910	715,908	0.21	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0.38	0 9	13.1	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
1911	734,236	0.19	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.37	0 9	13.0	3 3

Consumption statistics.