

No account is taken in the above table of a number of schools that have from time to time been transferred to the various Education Boards. Table H2 herein supplies the information for each school in regard to the roll number and average attendance.

In addition to the Maori children in attendance at the schools specially instituted for Natives there were 5,020 Natives attending 531 different public schools at the end of 1919, the number of pupils being 166 more than in 1918, and exceeding the number of Maoris attending Native village schools. The great majority of these pupils are in the North Island, more than half of them being in the Auckland District. Details as to their age and classification are given in Table H5, from which it may be seen that the great majority of the pupils are in the lowest classes, the proportion reaching S5 and S6 being much smaller than in the case of Maori scholars attending the Native village schools.

The total number of Maori children receiving primary education at the end of 1919, including pupils of Native village schools, mission schools, and public schools, was 9,737.

Classification of Pupils.

Tables H6, H6A, H6B, and H7 give full information as to the races and classification of pupils on the rolls of the Native schools. As will be seen, 84·4 per cent. were Maoris speaking Maori in their homes, 3·1 per cent. were Maoris speaking English in their homes, and 12·5 per cent. were Europeans.

In comparing Native schools with public schools in respect to the classification of pupils it will be seen that in Native schools a larger proportion of the pupils are in the lower classes, and also that the average age of the children in the various classes is higher than in public schools. Taking into consideration the irregular and nomadic habits of the Natives, and the fact that the schools are in remote country districts, the difference is not greater than might be expected, and a comparison with small European schools similarly situated would probably show the Native schools at small, if any, disadvantage.

The following table shows in a summary form the classification of pupils in Native schools, the percentages of pupils in the various classes in public schools, and in the case of Natives attending public schools being also shown for comparison :—

Classes.	Maoris attending Native Schools.	Europeans attending Native Schools.	Total attending Native Schools.	Percentage of Roll.		
				Native Schools.	Public Schools.	Natives attending Public Schools.
Preparatory	2,109	202	2,311	44·4	35·05	55·4
Standard 1	599	81	680	13·0	12·50	14·8
„ II	573	68	641	12·3	12·45	11·2
„ III	497	80	577	11·3	12·39	8·4
„ IV	374	69	443	8·5	11·24	5·2
„ V	242	85	327	6·3	9·70	3·2
„ VI	131	49	180	3·5	6·53	1·6
„ VII	25	14	39	0·7	0·14	0·2
Totals	4,550	648	5,198	100·00	100·00	100·0

Efficiency of the Schools.

The inspection of the schools was again carried out by the Inspector of Native Schools with the assistance of Public-school Inspectors who visited the schools of certain districts. This system has been in operation for four years, but in view of a certain amount of disorganization which was taking place it was decided to revert to the previous practice of having all Native schools inspected by special Native School Inspectors, and an additional Native School Inspector was appointed who took up his duties at the commencement of the current year. The experi-