

teachers. Education of children between the ages of 7 and 13 is compulsory for not less than 100 days in the year, but the law is by no means as strictly enforced as is desirable in the educational interests of the Province. The following table gives particulars respecting the Public Schools of Ontario in 1888, Roman Catholic Separate schools being included :—

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ONTARIO, 1888.

Number of Schools open.	School Population between 5 and 21 years of age.	Total Number of Pupils.	Boys.	Girls.	Average Attendance.
5,569	615,353	495,323	259,485	235,838	245,789
TEACHERS.		Receipts.	Expenditure	AVERAGE COST PER PUPIL.	
Male.	Female.			On Total Attendance.	On Average Attendance.
		\$	\$	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
2,824	4,972	4,456,352	3,859,365	7 75	15 70

642. There was an increase of 2,111 in the number of pupils registered in 1888 as compared with 1887, but there was a fractional decrease in the proportion of registered pupils to school population, the figures for 1888 having been 80·49 per cent. as against 80·70 per cent. in 1887. The average attendance for the whole Province was the same as last year, being 50 per cent. In rural districts it was 46 per cent, in towns 59 per cent. and in cities 62 per cent. Though the compulsory education of children between the ages of 7 and 13 is provided for by statute, yet the provision is not enforced with sufficient strictness, as is evident from the fact that 87,674 children between those ages did not attend school for 100 days, the period appointed by the Act. The largest number of

Average  
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dance.