

Subsection 1.—Elementary and Secondary Schools

Control.—Direct control and operation of public schools is by school boards, which operate under school laws and regulations, and the members of which are elected or appointed usually for terms of two or three years. As stated on p. 378, through amalgamations and consolidations, schools are now operated by boards of larger units, local boards within larger units, independent boards for rural schools, towns or cities, and some by official trustees appointed by the province in lieu of a board. As their designations imply, private schools and federal schools are administered by private organizations and federal authorities, respectively.

Table 3 gives the number of active public school boards in each province in 1957 and indicates the type of board, the number of official trustees and the number of board members elected or appointed to these boards.

3.—Active School Boards and School Trustees, by Province, 1957

Province	Boards of Larger Units	Local Boards within Larger Units	Independent Local Boards	Total Boards	Official Trustees ¹	Trustees ²	
						Appointed	Elected
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	—	—	308	308	—	1,850	—
Prince Edward Island.....	1	—	450	451	—	16	1,415
Nova Scotia.....	24	1,685	53	1,762	—	455	5,055
New Brunswick.....	14	735	78	827	2	834	2,143
Quebec—							
Roman Catholic.....	—	—	1,615	1,615	—	18	8,036
Protestant.....	9	52	210	271	—	7	1,119
Ontario.....	775	6	3,148	3,929	*	1,560	13,930
Manitoba.....	17	—	1,615	1,632	25	—	5,578
Saskatchewan.....	109	4,802	465	5,376	234	—	14,399
Alberta.....	59	3,918	138	4,115	—	—	12,622
British Columbia.....	81	—	5	86	16	31	536
Totals.....	1,089	11,198	8,085	20,372	277	4,771	64,833

¹ Usually the school inspector, delegated to act where a board cannot be elected.
² Included with independent local boards.

² Estimated where necessary.

Enrolment.—Enrolment in all publicly controlled day schools increased from 1,092,633 in 1901 to 2,264,106 in 1931, but dropped during the 1930's and the early 1940's, when the birth rate was low, to 2,060,718 in 1944. After 1944 it rose slowly for some years and then at an accelerated rate to reach 3,548,206 in 1957. From 1954 to 1957 enrolment advanced by 228,000 a year for the country as a whole though the increase varied from province to province, ranging from 5 p.c. for Prince Edward Island and 11 p.c. for Saskatchewan to 26 p.c. for Ontario and 32 p.c. for British Columbia.

Enrolment in private elementary and secondary schools accounts for 4 p.c. of the total enrolment in these schools. The number of private school pupils, which was 100,000 in 1950 and 1952, rose rather sharply to a peak of 151,141 in 1956 but dropped slightly to 150,476 in 1957.

Table 4 shows enrolment of all elementary and secondary pupils in the provinces and territories and in Department of National Defence schools overseas, and classifies them by grade. It also shows the numbers attending private and Indian schools in each province and territory.