

North Island, South Island

Approach: One to one

Level: Year 8

Focus: Interpreting a double line graph.

Resources: Graph

Questions/instructions:

Show student the *North Island – South Island* population graph.

This graph compares the population or number of people living in the North Island with the South Island from the year 1858 to 1991.

1. Look at the graph, then explain to me what it tells you.

shows how NZ population has changed

shows North and South Islands separately (differences)

covers years 1859–1991

Other valid comments: 2 or more

2. Look at the North Island population from 1936 to 1991. What does the graph tell you?

population has increased

increased from x to y or increased 2–3 times or increased by 1.4 million

noted lack of difference between 1976 and 1981

3. Look at the South Island population from 1936 to 1991. What does the graph tell you?

population has increased

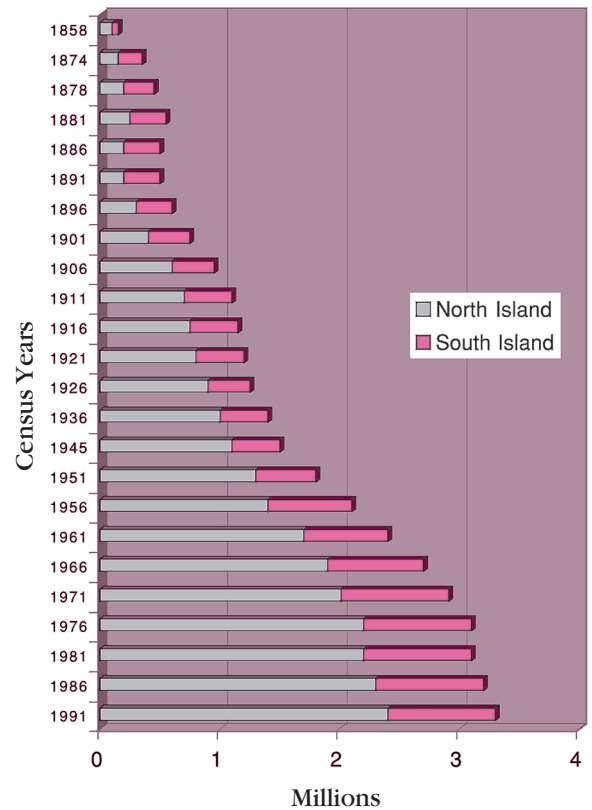
increased from x to y or increased 2–3 times or increased by about x

slower increase than North Island

total less than North Island throughout period

grown very little in last 20 years (cf. 1936–56)

Population of North and South Islands



4. Why do you think the population keeps getting bigger in the North Island, yet it doesn't change so much in the South Island?

Explanations relating to jobs, weather, etc.:

2 or more good ideas

1 good idea

% responses

y8

50

76

28

9

32

82

16

8

% responses

y8

18

54

Commentary:

Most of the year 8 students failed to comment in finer detail on the graphed data.