



## **Nature meets New Zealander's needs**

**28 December 2009**

Almost every man-made solid structure started its life as rock. To turn that rock into the things our society needs to function is the work of quarries. From motorways, airports, drainage systems to major buildings, housing and schools – they are all based on materials obtained from the bounty offered by our country's terrain.

Aggregate is a versatile gift from nature – it is resilient and versatile, and it can have more than one life as it can be re used and recycled.

Last year 41.95 million tonnes of aggregates worth \$536 million were used in New Zealand. Over half was needed for roading and a further 21% went into the construction of commercial and residential buildings.

To keep the raw materials flowing to meet the needs of the country the industry provided some 10,000 jobs and the economic benefit (direct, indirect and induced) was \$2.1 billion.

New Zealander's are hungry for aggregates using 9.7 tonnes per person compared with 7.0 tonnes per person in Australia.

### **For more in formation see the attached Fact Sheet or contact**

James Boyce, President Aggregate and Quarry Association

[president@aqa.org.nz](mailto:president@aqa.org.nz)

021 812 305

04-568 9123



## Aggregate Facts

Aggregates are fundamental to the lives of everyday New Zealanders. Without an ongoing supply of aggregates, the production of concrete and the development of buildings, roads and infrastructure would come to a standstill.

### The facts

- In 2008, New Zealand produced 41.95 million tonnes of aggregates worth \$536 million
- With an estimated population of 4,290,000, each New Zealander consumes a truckload (9.7 tonnes) of aggregates every year
- Over half the aggregate produced is used on roads and a further 21% is used to construct commercial and residential buildings
- The economic benefit to our country (direct, indirect and induced) is \$2.1 billion and approximately 10,000 jobs.

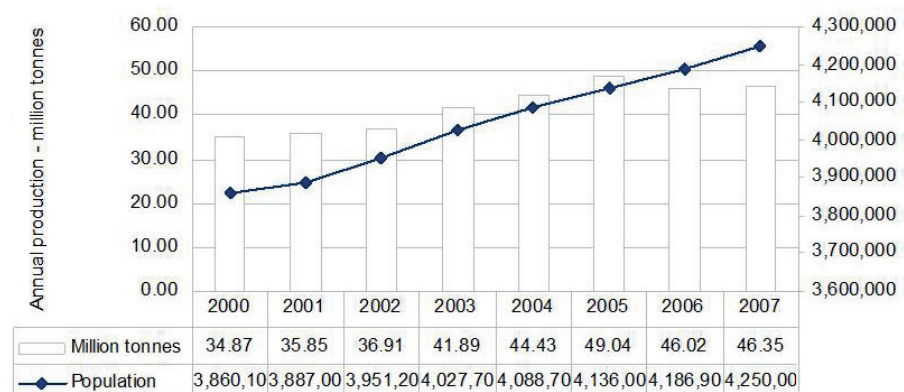
### Location and transport

For each tonne of aggregate produced, every 30 kilometres it has to travel doubles the cost.

### AGGREGATE USE: COMPARISON BY COUNTRY

Country	Tonnes per person
New Zealand	9.7
United States	8.4
Australia	7.0
Europe	6.9
Great Britain	4.7
World (estimate)	3.0

### NEW ZEALAND AGGREGATE PRODUCTION -v- POPULATION



This fact sheet was prepared by the Aggregate & Quarry Association of New Zealand. For more information phone 0-4-568 9123.