

The decline in the annual output was chiefly due to restriction of work by miners at the principal collieries. The output per person employed below ground has declined from 750 tons during 1916 to 648 tons during 1919.

The number of operative collieries was 138, of which the 16 most productive won 1,375,789 tons, being an average of 641 tons per person employed below ground; the 122 smaller collieries, where little or no restriction occurred, produced 472,059 tons, being an average of 671 tons per person employed below ground. As the principal collieries are better developed and equipped for a larger production per miner than are the smaller collieries, the fact that the latter have produced more coal per miner during 1919 appears to be conclusive evidence as to the chief cause of the decline of coal-output for the Dominion.

No new colliery arrived at the output stage during the year.

The production from and the number of persons employed at the collieries of the Dominion are shown in the following table:—

Name of Colliery.	Locality.	Class of Coal.	Output for 1919.	Total Output to 31st December, 1919.	Total Number of Persons ordinarily employed.
<i>Northern District.</i>					
Hikurangi	Hikurangi...	Semi-bituminous	Tons. 77,845	Tons. 1,243,128	123
Taupiri Extended	Huntly ...	Brown ...	172,561	2,557,757	351
Rotowaro	Rotowaro...	" ...	73,990	107,264	120
Pukemiro	Pukemiro...	" ...	89,261	385,685	150
Waipa	Glen Massey	" ...	54,168	442,952	89
<i>West Coast District.</i>					
Westport (2 collieries)	Millerton ...	Bituminous	217,630	5,710,151	345
	Denniston	"	147,766	7,928,984	373
Westport-Stockton	Mangatini	"	129,125	1,486,737	274
State (2 collieries) { Point Elizabeth...	Dunollie ...	Semi-bituminous	45,885	2,396,708	63
	Liverpool ...	Bituminous	121,710	707,194	304
Blackball	Blackball ...	"	94,016	2,803,655	284
<i>Southern District.</i>					
Kaitangata and Castle Hill (3 collieries)	Kaitangata	Brown ...	103,550	3,736,030	297
Nightcaps (2 collieries)	Nightcaps...	" ...	48,282	1,356,231	99
122 other New Zealand collieries ...	All coalfields	Various ...	472,059	19,178,212	1,072
Totals	...	...	1,847,848	50,040,688	3,944

SECTION II.—PERSONS EMPLOYED.

Inspection District.					Average Number of Persons employed during 1919.		
					Above Ground.	Below Ground.	Total.
Northern	...	...	...	...	242	697	939
West Coast	...	...	...	...	498	1,393	1,891
Southern	...	...	...	...	355	759	1,114
Totals, 1919	...	...	...	...	1,095	2,849	3,944
Totals, 1918	...	...	...	...	1,102	2,892	3,994