

Table 3 below shows the extent and types of work carried out on the main highways system by the Board and local authorities each year since the Board commenced active operations in 1924 :—

Year.	Formation and Widening.	Gravelling and Metalling.	Tar and Bituminous Sealing.	Road-and- Plant-mix Bituminous Surfacing.	Bituminous Macadam (Penetra- tion).	Bituminous Concrete.	Portland- cement Concrete.	Bridges.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Ft.
1924-25.. ..	19	63	6	..	6	..	..	2,434
1925-26.. ..	45	88	16	..	45	4	6	5,168
1926-27.. ..	174	151	35	..	38	12	16	6,408
1927-28.. ..	173	133	83	..	34	..	6	7,760
1928-29.. ..	224	185	122	..	51	14	11	9,482
1929-30.. ..	173	179	133	..	39	31	12	7,547
1930-31.. ..	130	128	95	..	41	14	9	11,175
1931-32.. ..	139	69	129	..	32	9	3	4,062
1932-33.. ..	56	45	72	..	8	..	..	3,178
1933-34.. ..	44	28	75	..	7	..	1	4,988
1934-35.. ..	113	69	172	27	3	..	2	6,641
1935-36.. ..	152	98	245	91	2	..	..	8,718
1936-37.. ..	272	131	184	67	3	..	..	9,575
1937-38.. ..	329	241	282	49	..	..	..	11,106
1938-39.. ..	491	188	357	67	2	..	..	25,561
Totals ..	2,534	1,796	2,006	301	311	84	66	123,803

TABLE 4.—LENGTHS OF MAIN HIGHWAYS METALLED AND SURFACED SINCE INCEPTION OF BOARD'S OPERATIONS (9TH JUNE, 1924).

At close of Period ending	Total Main Highways.	Type of Surface.			Dustless Surfacing added during Year.	Percentage of Dustless Surfacing to Total Main Highways.
		Pumice and Clay.	Gravel and Macadam.	Dustless Surfacing.		
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	
9th June, 1924 ..	5,954	1,535	1,171	248	..	4.2
31st March, 1925 ..	5,954	1,472	1,222	260	12	4.4
„ 1926 ..	6,272	1,384	1,557	331	71	5.3
„ 1927 ..	6,391	1,233	1,726	432	101	6.8
„ 1928 ..	6,608	1,100	1,953	555	123	8.4
„ 1929 ..	10,403	915	2,735	753	198	7.2
„ 1930 ..	10,408	736	2,705	967	214	9.3
„ 1931 ..	10,419	608	2,685	1,126	159	10.8
„ 1932 ..	10,846	539	2,009	1,298	172	12.0
„ 1933 ..	10,878	494	2,005	1,379	81	12.7
„ 1934 ..	10,974	466	2,047	1,461	82	13.3
„ 1935 ..	11,557	397	2,494	1,666	205	14.4
„ 1936 ..	12,048	390	2,715	1,943	277	16.1
„ 1937 ..	12,114	353	2,634	2,127	184	17.6
„ 1938 ..	12,136	332	2,389	2,415	288	19.9
„ 1939 ..	12,206	295	2,111	2,800	385	22.9
Percentage at 31st March, 1939	100	2.4	74.7	22.9	..	..

A general description of the more important highway activities in each district is given hereunder :—

Whangarei District.

Since the completion of the metalling of the 1,000 miles of highway some years ago in what was formerly known as “ the roadless north,” the Board has centred its activities principally on two main classes of improvement work—namely, the alleviation of flooding, and the renewal of the large number of obsolete one-way timber bridges in this district.

The flood-embankment and deviation work has now reached a stage practically ensuring that hold-ups from this cause are obviated and the possibility of any township being isolated is very remote, both of which conditions were of frequent occurrence; while the bridge-programme is also well advanced, twenty-five bridges being erected during the year, as well as two overbridges. The latter complete the elimination of all level crossings on the State highway between Auckland and Whangarei.