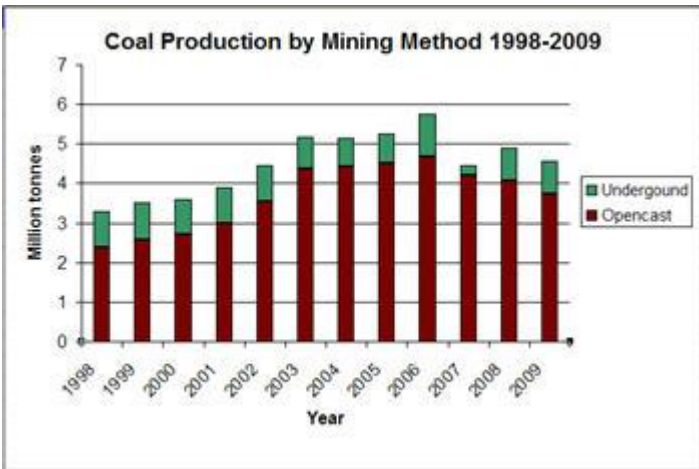
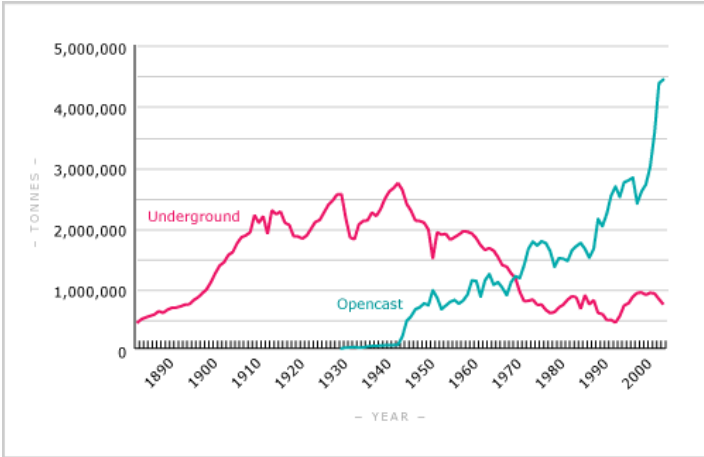




Royal Commission on the Pike River Coal Mine Tragedy
Te Komihana a te Karauna mō te Parekura Ana Waro o te Awa o Pike

Chronology One - New Zealand Mining and Coal Production Profile

Date	Event	Reference /page para
1890 - 2009	<p>New Zealand coal production by mining method:</p>  <p>MEDT2, para 35, MED000001.0001/ 10 http://www.nzpam.govt.nz/cms/coal/facts-and-figures/facts-and-figures/#Mining_method</p>  <p>http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/coal-and-coal-mining/6/5</p>	
1849	First recorded coal mine in New Zealand (Saddle Hill, Dunedin) began production.	MED0000010001/8 8
1864	Mining at Brunner Hill (West Coast) began.	MED0000010001/8 8

Date	Event	Reference /page para
1874	Legislation enacted giving the Governor of New Zealand the power to proclaim mining districts and appoint mining inspectors.	MED0000010001/9 12
1877	Governor possessed power to issue mining licences.	MED0000010001/9 12
1877	Boards established to oversee mining operations at district level.	MED0000010001/9 12
1879	Mines started to be developed on Denniston plateau with creation of a cable railway and branch railway line to Westport.	MED0000010001/9 10
1886	Mines Department established to oversee mineral and coal mining industries.	MED0000010001/10 13
1896	The majority of West Coast coal fields were owned by the Union Steam Ship Company.	MED0000010001/9 10
1896	There were 163 coal mines in New Zealand, of which 20 employed more than 20 men. Denniston employed around 315 workers; Kaitangata employed at least 140; and Huntly employed at least 100.	MED0000010001/9 11
1900	Coal was the principal source of energy in New Zealand with coal production exceeding 1 million tonnes.	MED0000010001/10 14
1900	All coal mines were privately owned and operated.	MED0000010001/10 14
1901	State Coal Mines was established as a government trading enterprise.	MED0000010001/10 14
1910	Coal production reached 2 million tonnes.	MED0000010001/10 15
1939	2% of coal was mined by opencast methods. Opencast recovers approximately 90% of a coal seam.	www.teara.govt.nz MED0000010001/11 23
1940	Coal accounted for half of New Zealand's energy supply. Major users were railways, gasworks, industry, domestic users.	MED0000010001/10 16
1945	16% of coal was mined by opencast methods.	www.teara.govt.nz
1949	Over half of New Zealand coal is produced by state owned coal mines.	MED0000010001/10 17
1950	State Coal Mines is the largest coal producer.	MED0000010001/10 17
1952	State Coal Mines operated 28 underground mines and 13 open pit mines.	MED0000010001/10 17
1953	Number of New Zealand mines is 216. Number of miners is approximately 5000.	MED0000010001/10 18
1960	37% of coal is mined by opencast methods.	www.teara.govt.nz
1967	120 working coal mines.	MED0000010001/11 19
1973	Number of New Zealand mines is 78. Number of miners is approximately 1500.	MED0000010001/10 18
1975	Government starts a comprehensive coal exploration programme which leads to the discovery, by 1989, of 14 billion tonnes of new coal resources.	MED0000010001/ 11 20
1979	69% of coal was mined by opencast methods.	www.teara.govt.nz

Date	Event	Reference /page para
1987	State Coal Mines became Coal Corporation of New Zealand Limited.	MED0000010001/ 11 21
1992	Number of New Zealand mines is 64.	MED0000010001/ 11 19
1996	Coal Corporation of New Zealand changed its name to Solid Energy New Zealand Limited.	MED0000010001/ 11 21
2000	45 working coal mines.	MED0000010001/11 19
2000	Coal mining employees in New Zealand number 630.	Statistics New Zealand http://wdmzpub01.stats.govt.nz/wds/TableViewer/tableView.aspx
2005	Coal mining employees in New Zealand number 840.	Statistics New Zealand http://wdmzpub01.stats.govt.nz/wds/TableViewer/tableView.aspx
2009	5 underground coal mines ¹ (4 in West Coast) 16 opencast mines (13 in South Island)	MED0000010001/ 13 30
2009	Main coal mining areas were Waikato, West Coast, Canterbury, Otago, and Southland.	MED0000010001/12 29
2009	Underground mining represented 18% of New Zealand's total coal production.	MED0000010001/15 34
2010	Coal mining employees in New Zealand number 1030.	Statistics New Zealand http://wdmzpub01.stats.govt.nz/wds/TableViewer/tableView.aspx

¹ Excludes PRC.