

Number of Vehicles in New Zealand

BACKGROUND

Vehicle use has a large impact on the environment, including vehicle emissions caused by the burning of petrol and diesel. This releases greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide), carbon monoxide, particulate matter (PM10), and other gases, which can all lead to health problems (Kjellström 2004). The indicator presents the number of vehicles in New Zealand by year. Five categories of vehicles are used:

- 'light passenger' vehicles include passenger cars and vans
- 'light commercial' vehicles include the following, if under 3500kg: goods vans, trucks, utilities, buses, motor caravans
- 'trucks' include the following, if over 3500kg: goods vans, trucks, utilities, motor caravans
- 'motorcycles' include motorcycles and mopeds
- 'buses' include buses over 3500kg.

The number of light vehicles per 1000 people in New Zealand is also compared with other countries, as reported in the Ministry of Transport's report on The New Zealand Vehicle Fleet (Ministry of Transport 2012).

References

- Kjellström T. (2004). Air Quality and Health. In: Cromar N, Cameron S, Fallowfield H. (eds.). Environmental Health in Australia and New Zealand. Melbourne: Oxford University Press:274-92.
- Ministry of Transport. (2012). The New Zealand Vehicle Fleet. Wellington: Ministry of Transport.

