



ANNUAL MINERAL STATEMENT 2019

The reader is asked to note that the number of returns received by the Department for 2019 was substantially less than anticipated, down by with a 32.5% on the number of returns received in 2018. This issue is dealt with in more detail at the end of this report, please see section titled Underreporting.

TABLE 1
Reported mineral production in Northern Ireland 2019
(Mined under the Mines Act 1969 and Quarries (NI) Order 1983).

| MINERAL | QUANTITY REPORTED (TONNES) | QUANTITY REPORTED (TONNES) | SELLING VALUE (£) | SELLING VALUE (£) |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2019 (77 returns) | 2018 (114 returns) | 2019 | 2018 |
| Basalt and Igneous Rock (excluding Granite) | 3,162,418.00 | 4,163,936.67 | £13,940,528.04 | £18,650,777.07 |
| Sandstone | 4,514,920.00 | 5,338,769.74 | £19,265,789.34 | £20,143,918.77 |
| Limestone | 2,663,688.00 | 3,157,602.00 | £8,884,245.75 | £13,788,223.12 |
| Sand and Gravel | 2,290,495.59 | 3,175,049.88 | £10,012,460.60 | £15,303,850.74 |
| Other | 752,311.00 | 1,565,339.35 | £9,903,128.74 | £22,840,104.03 |
| TOTAL | 13,383,832.59 | 17,400,697.64 | £62,006,152.47 | £90,726,873.73 |

TABLE 2 (See Note 1)
Number of persons reported employed at quarries in Northern Ireland 2019

| MINERAL | INSIDE PIT OR EXCAVATION | OUTSIDE PIT OR EXCAVATION | MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION | TOTALS 2019 |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Basalt and Igneous Rock (excluding Granite) | 98 | 53 | 57 | 208 |
| Sandstone | 96 | 69 | 67 | 232 |
| Limestone | 27 | 18 | 24 | 69 |
| Sand and Gravel | 78 | 24 | 43 | 145 |
| Other | 41 | 39 | 24 | 104 |
| TOTAL¹ | 316 | 191 | 194 | 701 |

¹ The total employee figure is the summation of employees at all operations. It is not possible to separate out these figures against commodity where an operator extracts more than one commodity at the same location.

TABLE 3
Health and Safety Certification Information (Number of quarries)

| CERTIFICATION | ISO 9000 | ISO 14001 | SAFETCERT | BS8555 | OHSAS | OTHER |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|--------|-------|-------|
| | 27 | 44 | 5 | 5 | 17 | 21 |
| NO CERTIFICATION | 30 | | | | | |

TABLE 4
Reported mineral production in Northern Ireland 2019

| BASALT AND IGNEOUS ROCK (OTHER THAN GRANITE) | QUANTITY PRODUCED (TONNES) | VALUE |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH BELFAST | 666,462.00 | £1,483,898.87 |
| FERMANAGH AND OMAGH | 207,745.00 | £1,332,187.10 |
| MID AND EAST ANTRIM | 744,975 | £3,597,250.88 |
| CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS | 810,772.00 | £4,691,240.73 |
| MID-ULSTER | 586,681 | £2,302,601.46 |
| ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON | 145,783.00 | £533,349.00 |

| SANDSTONE | QUANTITY PRODUCED (TONNES) | VALUE |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| DERRY AND STRABANE FERMANAGH AND OMAGH | 129,677.00 | £277,836.38 |
| LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH | 912,802.00 | £4,546,802.96 |
| ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON | 837,120.00 | £3,078,075.26 |
| ARDS AND NORTH DOWN | 2,038,409.00 | £8,585,733.19 |
| NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN | 596,912.00 | £2,777,341.55 |

| LIMESTONE | QUANTITY PRODUCED (TONNES) | VALUE |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|
| FERMANAGH AND OMAGH | 1,808,080.00 | £2,371,163.95 |
| MID AND EAST ANTRIM ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON BELFAST | 224,708.00 | £4,382,460.80 |
| MID-ULSTER | 630,900.00 | £2,130,621.00 |

| SAND AND GRAVEL | QUANTITY PRODUCED (TONNES) | VALUE |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|
| MID-ULSTER | 1,428,750.85 | £7,010,672.97 |
| FERMANAGH AND OMAGH | 442,819.74 | £1,743,684.15 |
| NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN | 10,086.00 | £59,750.00 |
| ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS | 408,839.00 | £1,198,353.48 |

| OTHER | QUANTITY PRODUCED (TONNES) | VALUE |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| MID AND EAST ANTRIM | 751,058.00 | £9,898,742.74 |
| MID-ULSTER | 1,253.00 | £4,386.00 |

UNDERREPORTING

It is clear that there has been a substantial reduction in the number of returns received from quarry owners between 2018 and 2019.

The data collection period for the 2019 returns ran from the start of 2020 to June 2021 and the Department communicated directly with quarry owners and indirectly with them through the trade body, the Mineral Product Association. This focused reminder process resulted in a number of returns being made, however the final total fell well short of what would have been expected.

Although it is difficult to state with certainty what caused this drop in return rates for 2019, it is likely that the significant changes to working practices in all sectors of industry resulting from the Covid 19 pandemic also impacted the quarrying industry and has had a significant knock on effect of return rates.

However, given that one of the main objectives of Annual Mineral Statement is to show year on year changes in the production amounts and values of certain quarried materials, the following table shows the % change in extracted material from the quarries for which the Department holds both 2018 and 2019 information and therefore allows a comparison for activity between the 2 years in terms of extracted materials.

TABLE 5: Comparison between quantities extracted in 2018 and 2019 at quarries that provided returns for both years (number of quarries indicated in each case)

| MINERAL | QUANTITY REPORTED (TONNES) | QUANTITY REPORTED (TONNES) | % change between 2018 to 2019 |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | |
| Basalt and Igneous Rock (excluding Granite) (19 returns) | 3,207,564.00 | 2,603,546.00 | -18.8 |
| Sandstone (12 returns) | 3,699,305.04 | 3,153,061.00 | -14.8 |
| Limestone (6 returns) | 2,208,629.00 | 2,193,354.00 | -0.7 |
| Sand and Gravel (20 returns) | 2,181,678.88 | 2,107,186.58 | -3.4 |
| TOTAL | 11,297,176.92 | 10,057,147.58 | -11 |

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

1. The people employed inside and outside the pit are directly involved in extraction. Lorry drivers and road teams etc are excluded. The number of management and administration staff cannot be broken down further.
2. Production figures for rock salt, chalk, dolomite, fireclay and granite have been combined into 'Other' to avoid disclosure of confidential information.
3. **188** quarries were contacted and **77** responses were received. 69 quarries reported that they were active; 7 reported inactive but with existing reserves and 1 inactive with no reserves remaining.