

The JETS Challenge

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Challenge 73 – The Ice Challenge

Problem:

A typical fast food restaurant uses about 0.4 pounds of ice per customer. A cubic foot of ice weighs 57 pounds. Assume that each of the 250 million Americans visits a fast food restaurant twice each week.

If all of the ice used during one year in fast food restaurants could be stacked into a single solid cube, what would be the height (feet) of that ice cube?

Solution:

0.4 lbs.

$0.4 \times 250 \text{ million} = 100 \text{ million lbs.}$

$52 \times 2 = 104 \text{ trips per year per person}$

#lbs. total = $104 \times 100 \text{ million}$

= 10,400 million lbs.

1 ft³ weight 57 lbs.

$$\frac{1 \text{ ft}^3}{57 \text{ lbs}} = \frac{x \text{ ft}^3}{10,400 \text{ million lbs.}}$$

$$182,456,140.351 \text{ ft}^3 = x = \text{Volume}$$

$$\text{height} = \sqrt[3]{182,456,140.351}$$
$$= 567 \text{ feet}$$