

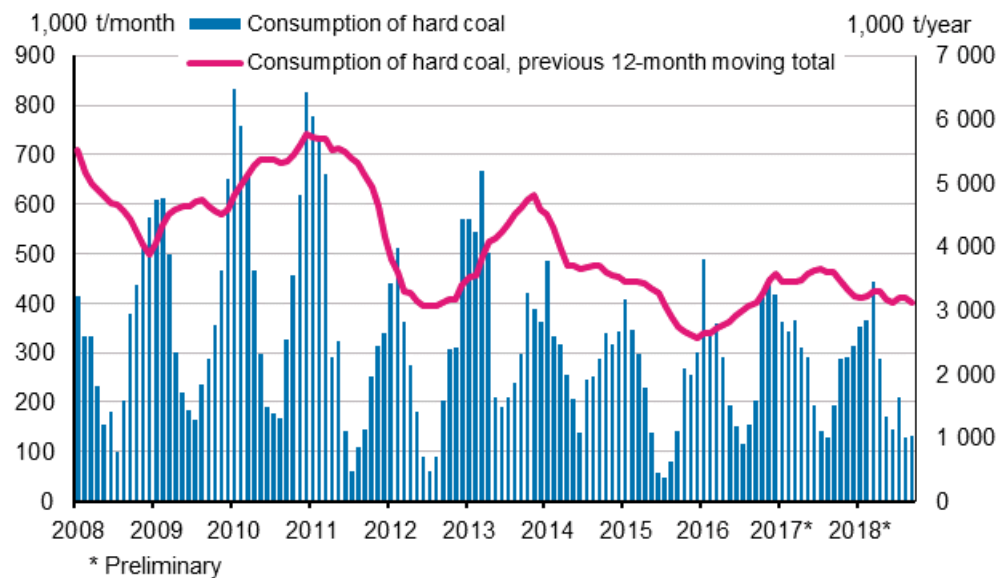
Consumption of hard coal

2018, 3rd quarter

Consumption of hard coal decreased by 4 per cent in January to September

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, consumption of hard coal decreased by four per cent in the January to September period compared with the corresponding period of last year. The consumption of hard coal as a fuel in the generation of electricity and heat amounted to 2.2 million tonnes, corresponding to 57 petajoules in energy content. Compared to the average for January to September in the 2000s, the consumption of hard coal was 28 per cent lower.

Consumption of hard coal, 1,000 tonnes



The warm weather in the second quarter had most effect on the decrease in the consumption of hard coal in January to September. The consumption of hard coal grew by two per cent in the third quarter from one year ago, which was a smaller corresponding change than in the two preceding quarters.

Hard coal consumption in Finland typically fluctuates seasonally. Some of the fluctuation is explained by the natural variation in the need for electricity and heat between the summer and winter seasons. The difference between statistical reference years is explained by variations in the demand for heating energy

and the Nordic water situation, which particularly influences the electricity exchange price and thus the consumption of hard coal in separate production of electricity as well. Therefore, long-term consumption development cannot be deducted from the change in hard coal consumption in successive years.

At the end of September, the stocks of coal amounted to two million tonnes, which represented a growth of 21 per cent relative to the stocks at the end of June. Compared with one year back, the stocks were 11 per cent lower.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Consumption of hard coal

Period	2017*	2018*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1000 t)	Quantity (1000 t)	
January	362	352	-3
February	342	364	7
March	366	444	21
April	310	289	-7
May	290	172	-41
June	194	146	-25
July	142	210	47
August	127	129	1
September	192	133	-31
October	287	.	.
November	290	.	.
December	315	.	.
YEAR TOTAL	3 217	.	.
Q1	1 070	1 161	9
Q2	794	606	-24
Q3	462	472	2
Q4	891	.	.
January-March cum.	1 070	1 161	9
January-June cum.	1 864	1 767	-5
January-September cum.	2 326	2 239	-4
January-December cum.	3 217	.	.

1) *preliminary

Appendix table 2. Hard coal stocks, month-end

Period	2017	2018	Annual change %
	Quantity (1000 t)	Quantity (1000 t)	
January	2 472	1 999	-19
February	2 320	1 813	-22
March	2 068	1 532	-26
April	2 065	1505	-27
May	2 053	1625	-21
June	2 044	1708	-17
July	2 126	1771	-17
August	2 225	1911	-14
September	2 336	2069	-11
October	2 331	.	.
November	2 264	.	.
December	2 189	.	.

Revisions in these statistics

The data of the statistics have become revised according to the table below. For more information about data revisions, see Section 3 of the quality description (only in Finnish).

Revisions to data on annual changes in consumption of hard coal¹⁾

Consumption of hard coal and quarter	Annual change (%)		Revision (%-point)
	1st release (%)	Latest release 30th September 2018 (%)	
I-IV/2017	-10	-11	-1
I/2017	-14	-11	3
II/2017	26	24	-2
III/2017	-1	-3	-2
IV/2017	-29	-31	-2
I/2018	9	9	0
II/2018	-23	-24	-1
III/2018	.	2	.

1) The revisions describe the difference between the annual change percentages of the latest and first releases in percentages. The first release refers to the time when preliminary data for the statistical reference quarter in question were released for the first time.

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Source: Consumption of hard coal, Statistics Finland