

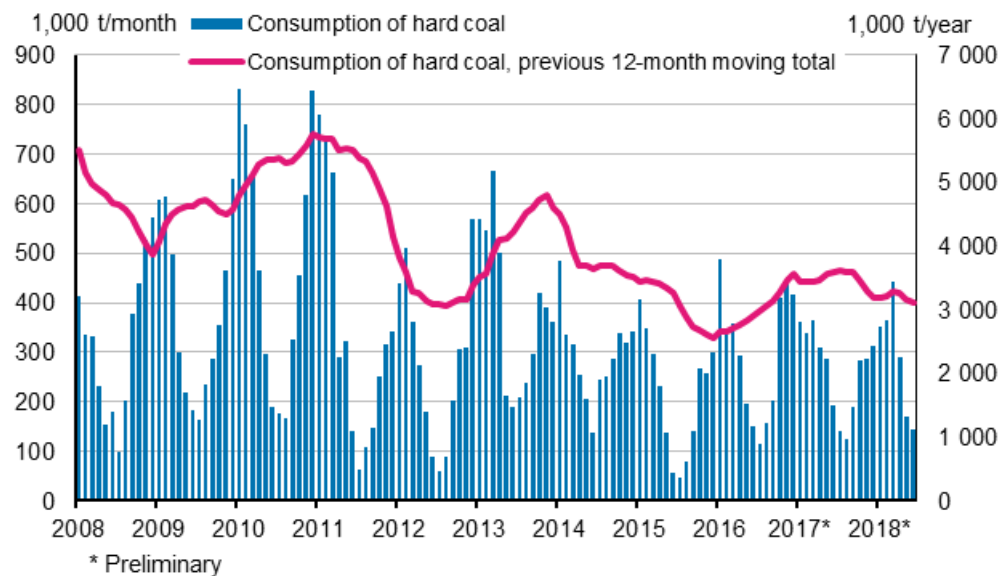
Consumption of hard coal

2018, 2nd quarter

Consumption of hard coal decreased by 5 per cent in January to June

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, the consumption of hard coal decreased by five per cent in January to June 2018 compared with the corresponding period of last year. The consumption of hard coal as a fuel in energy production amounted to around 1.8 million tonnes, corresponding to 45 petajoules in energy content. In January to June, 27 per cent less hard coal was consumed than on average in a corresponding period during this millennium.

Consumption of hard coal, 1,000 tonnes



The data for 2017 and 2018 are preliminary.

The cold weather in the early part of the year raised the consumption of hard coal by nine per cent in the first quarter. However, the hot May was visible as a 41 per cent fall in the consumption of hard coal compared with last year's May. On the whole, the consumption of hard coal fell by 23 per cent in the second quarter from the previous year.

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 June 2018, the stocks of coal amounted to 1.7 million tonnes, which represented a growth of five per cent relative to the stocks at the end of March. Compared with one year back, the stocks were 16 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	360	352	-2
February	340	364	7
March	364	444	22
April	308	291	-5
May	288	170	-41
June	192	145	-25
July	142	.	.
August	126	.	.
September	191	.	.
October	285	.	.
November	288	.	.
December	313	.	.
YEAR TOTAL	3 196	.	.
1st quarter	1 063	1 161	9
2nd quarter	788	606	-23
3rd quarter	459	.	.
4th quarter	885	.	.
January-March cumulative	1 063	1 161	9
January-June cumulative	1 851	1 767	-5
January-September cumulative	2 310	.	.
January-December cumulative	3 196	.	.

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	1635	-20
June	2 044	1719	-16
July	2 126	.	.
August	2 225	.	.
September	2 336	.	.
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 28th August 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	.

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