

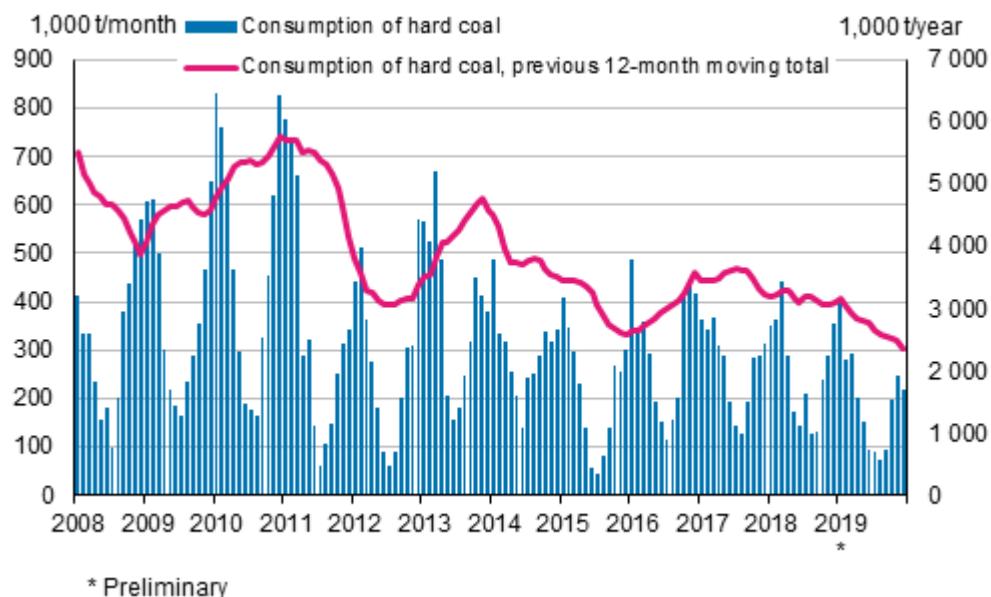
Consumption of hard coal

2019, 4th quarter

Consumption of hard coal decreased by 25 per cent in 2019

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, the consumption of hard coal decreased by 25 per cent last year in comparison to the previous year. The consumption of hard coal as a fuel in the generation of electricity and heat amounted to 2.3 million tonnes, corresponding to 60 petajoules in energy content. Compared to the average for the 2000s, the consumption of hard coal was 47 per cent lower. Compared to the average of the past five years, 21 per cent less hard coal was consumed.

Consumption of hard coal, 1,000 tonnes



The use of hard coal decreased most in the third quarter of the year, when consumption was 45 per cent lower than in the year before. In the fourth quarter, 25 per cent less hard coal was consumed than in the corresponding period of the year before. The consumption of hard coal has decreased in combined heat and power production, separate production of electricity and manufacturing. In addition, the use of hard coal was completely discontinued in some plants' boilers in 2019.

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 demand for 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 December, the stocks of coal amounted to 1.8 million tonnes. 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	2018	2019*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1,000 t)	Quantity (1,000 t)	
January	351	399	14
February	363	281	-23
March	443	291	-34
April	287	202	-30
May	171	152	-11
June	144	95	-34
July	210	90	-57
August	127	73	-42
September	131	95	-28
October	237	199	-16
November	288	248	-14
December	355	217	-39
YEAR TOTAL	3,107	2,343	-25
Q1	1,156	972	-16
Q2	602	449	-26
Q3	468	258	-45
Q4	880	665	-25
January-March cumulative	1,156	972	-16
January-June cumulative	1,759	1,420	-19
January-September cumulative	2,226	1,678	-25
January-December cumulative	3,107	2,343	-25

1) *preliminary

Appendix table 2. Hard coal stocks, month-end

Period	2018	2019	Annual change %
	Quantity (1,000 t)	Quantity (1,000 t)	
January	1,999	1,901	-5
February	1,813	1,746	-4
March	1,532	1,563	2
April	1,505	1,529	2
May	1,625	1,481	-9
June	1,708	1,572	-8
July	1,765	1,696	-4
August	1,910	1,868	-2
September	2,071	1,917	-7
October	2,062	1,876	-9
November	2,027	1,855	-9
December	2,065	1,834	-11

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 January 2020 (%)	
I-IV/2018	-3	-3	0
I/2018	9	8	-1
II/2018	-23	-24	-1
III/2018	2	1	-1
IV/2018	-1	-1	0
I/2019	-14	-16	-2
II/2019	-25	-26	-1
III/2019	-43	-45	-2
IV/2019	.	-25	.

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