

Consumption of hard coal

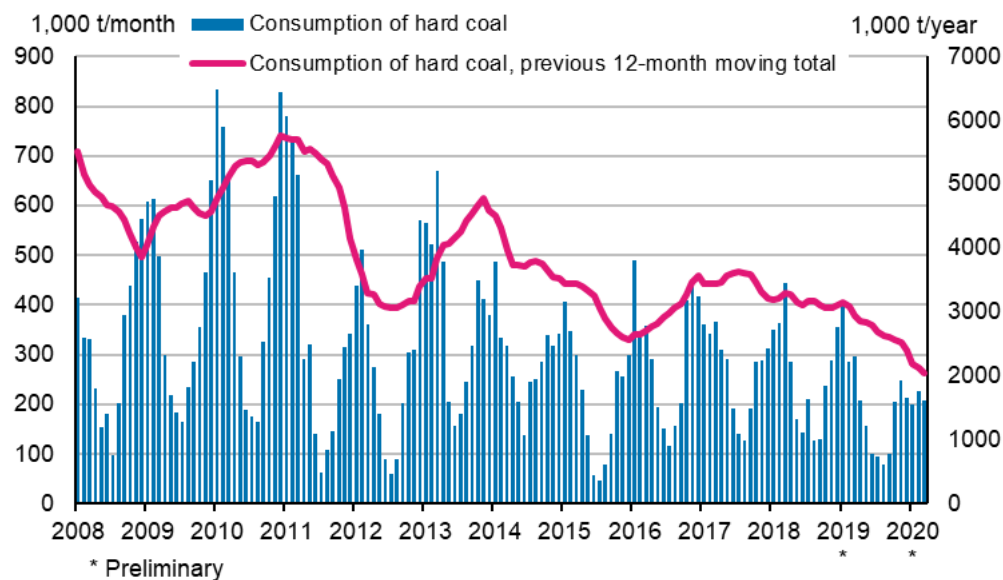
2020, 1st quarter

Consumption of hard coal decreased by 36 per cent in January to March

Corrected on 30 April 2020. The corrections are indicated in red.

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, the consumption of hard coal decreased by 36 per cent in January to March 2020 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 0.64 million tonnes, corresponding to 16 petajoules in energy content. In January to March, 58 per cent less hard coal was consumed than on average during this millennium.

Consumption of hard coal, 1,000 tonnes



Compared with the average for the last five years, 42 per cent less hard coal was consumed in the first quarter of 2020. Compared with one year ago, the consumption of hard coal contracted most in January, by 51 per cent. The decrease in the consumption of hard coal has been caused by the milder early part of the year than last year, the growth in production of wind power and the abundant water situation in Nordic countries. Consumption of hard coal has decreased in plants that principally produce electricity and heat,

and in 2019, the use of hard coal has also been totally discontinued in some plants' boilers. The coronavirus epidemic is not believed to have influenced the consumption of hard coal in this period.

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 March 2020, the stocks of coal amounted to 1.5 million tonnes, which represented a decrease of 17 per cent relative to the stocks at the end of December. Compared with one year back, the stocks were 3 per cent lower.

Contents

Tables

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Consumption of hard coal.....	4
Appendix table 2. Hard coal stocks, month-end (Appendix table was corrected on 30 April 2020).....	4
Revisions in these statistics.....	5

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Consumption of hard coal

Period	2019*	2020*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1,000 t)	Quantity (1,000 t)	
January	405	199	-51
February	286	227	-21
March	297	209	-30
April	207	.	.
May	157	.	.
June	100	.	.
July	95	.	.
August	78	.	.
September	100	.	.
October	205	.	.
November	248	.	.
December	214	.	.
YEAR TOTAL	2,393	.	.
Q1	988	635	-36
Q2	464	.	.
Q3	273	.	.
Q4	668	.	.
January-March cum.	988	635	-36
January-June cum.	1,452	.	.
January-September cum.	1,725	.	.
January-December cum.	2,393	.	.

1) *preliminary

Appendix table 2. Hard coal stocks, month-end (Appendix table was corrected on 30 April 2020)

Period	2019	2020	Annual change %
	Quantity (1,000 t)	Quantity (1,000 t)	
January	1,901	1 774	-7
February	1,746	1 639	-6
March	1,563	1 517	-3
April	1,529	.	.
May	1,481	.	.
June	1,572	.	.
July	1,696	.	.
August	1,868	.	.
September	1,917	.	.
October	1,876	.	.
November	1,855	.	.
December	1,834	.	.

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 29th April 2020 (%)	
I-IV/2019	-25	-23	2
I/2019	-14	-15	-1
II/2019	-25	-23	2
III/2019	-43	-42	1
IV/2019	-25	-24	1
I/2020	.	-36	.

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.

Inquiries

Aira Hast 029 551 3394
Director in charge:
Jan Nokkala

energia@stat.fi
www.stat.fi
Source: Consumption of hard coal, Statistics Finland