

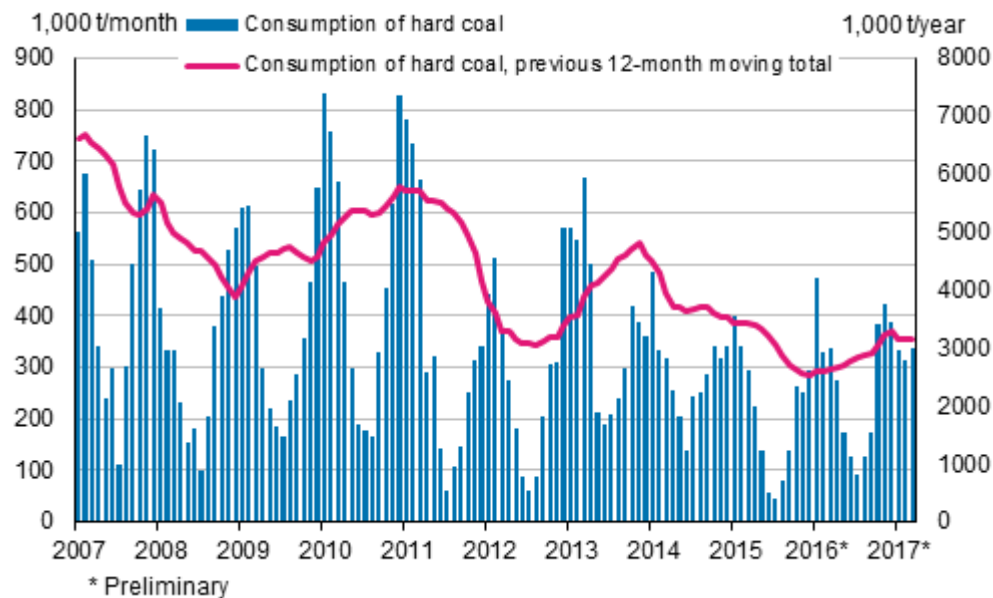
Consumption of hard coal

2017, 1st quarter

Consumption of hard coal decreased by 14 per cent in January to March

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, the consumption of hard coal decreased by 14 per cent in January to March 2017 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 one million tonnes, corresponding to 24 petajoules in energy content. Compared to the average for January to March in the 2000s, the consumption of hard coal was 39 per cent lower.

Consumption of hard coal, 1,000 tonnes



The data for year 2016 and 2017 are preliminary.

Due to milder January than last year, the consumption of hard coal declined by 30 per cent. Four per cent less hard coal was consumed in February and as much as last year in March.

Most of the hard coal consumed in Finland is used in combined heat and power production. The use of hard coal in separate production of electricity has clearly diminished in recent years because condensate power plants have been removed from use.

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 deduced from the change in hard coal consumption in successive years.

Stocks of coal amounted to two million TWh at the end of March 2017, which was 30 per cent less than one year earlier.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Consumption of hard coal

Period	2016*	2017*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1000 t)	Quantity (1000 t)	
January	473	331	-30
February	327	315	-4
March	337	336	0
April	273	.	.
May	173	.	.
June	126	.	.
July	91	.	.
August	128	.	.
September	174	.	.
October	382	.	.
November	426	.	.
December	389	.	.
YEAR TOTAL	3,296	.	.
Q1	1,137	982	-14
Q2	573	.	.
Q3	393	.	.
Q4	1,193	.	.
January-March cum.	1,137	982	-14
January-June cum.	1,710	.	.
January-September cum.	2,103	.	.
January-December cum.	3,296	.	.

1) *preliminary

Appendix table 2. Hard coal stocks, month-end

Period	2017*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1000 t)	
January	2,401	-26
February	2,239	-27
March	1,997	-30
April	.	.
May	.	.
June	.	.
July	.	.
August	.	.
September	.	.
October	.	.
November	.	.
December	.	.

1) *preliminary

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 27th April 2017 (%)	
I-IV/2016	31	31	0
I/2016	4	10	6
II/2016	26	37	11
III/2016	39	50	11
IV/2016	48	48	0
I/2017	.	-14	.

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