

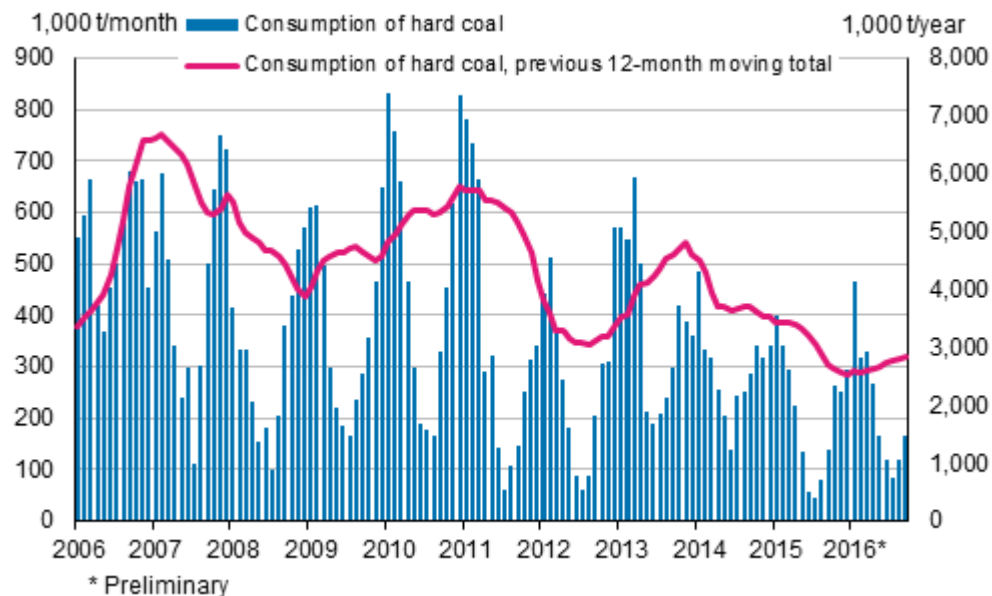
Consumption of hard coal

2016, 3rd quarter

Consumption of hard coal increased by 19 per cent in January to September

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, the consumption of hard coal increased by 19 per cent in January to September 2016 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 two million tonnes, corresponding to 50 petajoules in energy content. Examined in the longer term, the consumption of hard coal has, however, clearly decreased. Compared to the average for January to September in the 2000s, the consumption of hard coal was now 37 per cent lower.

Consumption of hard coal, 1,000 tonnes



The data for year 2016 is preliminary.

In the third quarter, 39 per cent more hard coal was consumed than in the same period last year. The relative growth in the consumption of hard coal has this year been particularly big in the summer months. Last year, a record low amount of hard coal was consumed, due to which the relative growth has been fairly big this year.

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

At the end of September 2016, stocks of hard coal totalled 2.6 million tonnes, or 28 per cent lower than one year earlier.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Consumption of hard coal

Period	2015	2016*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1000 t)	Quantity (1000 t)	
January	398	465	17
February	339	319	-6
March	292	330	13
April	225	265	18
May	136	165	21
June	55	118	113
July	45	82	83
August	79	118	50
September	138	164	19
October	262	.	.
November	250	.	.
December	293	.	.
YEAR TOTAL	2,513	.	.
Q1	1,030	1,113	8
Q2	417	548	32
Q3	261	364	39
Q4	806	.	.
January-March cum.	1,030	1,113	8
January-June cum.	1,446	1,662	15
January-September cum.	1,708	2,025	19
January-December cum.	2,513	.	.

1) *preliminary

Appendix table 2. Hard coal stocks, month-end

Period	2016*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1000 t)	
January	3,223	-16
February	3,063	-14
March	2,870	-18
April	2,350	-30
May	2,390	-29
June	2,401	-30
July	2,529	-28
August	2,636	-27
September	2,646	-28
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 28th October 2016 (%)	
I-IV/2015	-26	-29	-3
I/2015	-17	-9	8
II/2015	-37	-31	6
III/2015	-67	-67	0
IV/2015	-13	-20	-7
I/2016	4	8	4
II/2016	26	32	6
III/2016	.	39	.

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