

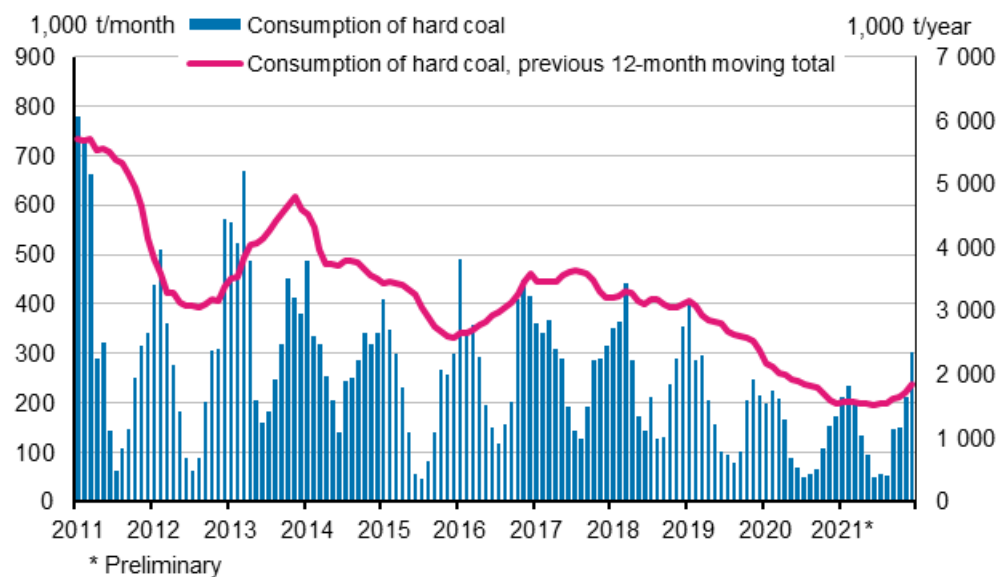
Consumption of hard coal

2021, 4th quarter

Consumption of hard coal increased by 19 per cent in 2021

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, the consumption of hard coal increased by 19 per cent last year compared with the previous year. The consumption of hard coal as fuel in the generation of electricity and heat amounted to 1.8 million tonnes, corresponding to 48 petajoules in energy content. Despite the large annual change, the trend of hard coal consumption is declining in the longer term. In all, 56 per cent less hard coal was consumed in 2021 than on average during this millennium.

Consumption of hard coal, 1,000 tonnes



In 2021, consumption of hard coal increased both in electricity and heat production as main activity and in manufacturing. The consumption of hard coal grew particularly in the latter half of 2021. In the third quarter of the year, 50 per cent more hard coal was consumed than in the previous year and in the last quarter, consumption increased by 54 per cent from the previous year. The year 2021 was colder than the previous year, which increased the consumption of hard coal. The effects of the high price of gas and the growth in demand for electricity were also visible in the demand for hard coal in the second half of the year. The use of hard coal also increased in manufacturing due to the growth in industrial output. The

large growth in the consumption of hard coal compared to the previous year is also explained by low consumption in 2020.

Energy consumption in Finland typically fluctuates seasonally. Some of the fluctuation in the consumption of hard coal is also explained by the natural variation in the need for electricity and heat between the summer and winter seasons and between years. The difference between individual statistical reference years can be explained by variations in the demand for heating energy caused by the weather. However, a declining trend can be detected in the consumption of hard coal for several years. The use of fossil fuels has been replaced by renewable energy. The decrease in the consumption of hard coal is affected by the ban on the use of hard coal for energy, which will enter into force in 2029.

At the end of December, the stocks of hard coal amounted to 1.2 million tonnes. Compared with one year back, the stocks were 39 per cent lower.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Consumption of hard coal

Period	2020	2021*	Annual change %
	Quantity (1,000 t)	Quantity (1,000 t)	
January	198	210	6
February	225	235	4
March	207	205	-1
April	167	133	-20
May	87	93	7
June	69	50	-28
July	48	56	16
August	56	53	-5
September	65	145	123
October	108	150	39
November	153	212	39
December	172	302	76
YEAR TOTAL	1,555	1,844	19
Q1	630	649	3
Q2	323	276	-15
Q3	169	254	50
Q4	433	664	54
January-March cumulative	630	649	3
January-June cumulative	954	925	-3
January-September cumulative	1,122	1,180	5
January-December cumulative	1,555	1,844	19

1) *preliminary

Appendix table 2. Hard coal stocks, month-end

Period	2020	2021	Annual change %
	Quantity (1,000 t)	Quantity (1,000 t)	
January	2,190	1,986	-9
February	2,042	1,798	-12
March	1,903	1,708	-10
April	1,864	1,613	-14
May	1,849	1,551	-16
June	1,879	1,610	-14
July	1,954	1,594	-18
August	2,013	1,620	-20
September	2,026	1,566	-23
October	2,075	1,419	-32
November	2,042	1,411	-31
December	1,984	1,212	-39

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 31th January 2022 (%)	
I-IV/2020	-35	-35	0
I/2020	-36	-36	0
II/2020	-29	-30	-1
III/2020	-35	-38	-3
IV/2020	-35	-35	0
I/2021	2	3	1
II/2021	-15	-15	0
III/2021	44	50	6
IV/2021	.	54	.

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