

Coal Facts 2012

Based on 2011 IEA and BP data published in 2012

Coal provides 30.3% of global primary energy needs and generates 42% of the world's electricity.

In 2011 coal was the fastest growing form of energy outside renewables. Its share in global primary energy consumption increased to 30.3% - the highest since 1969.

Total Global Coal Production (including hard coal and lignite)

- 7678Mt (2011e)
- 7201Mt (2010)
- 4677 (1990)

Top Ten Coal Producers (2011e)

PR China	3471Mt	Russia	334Mt
USA	1004Mt	South Africa	253Mt
India	585Mt	Germany	189Mt
Australia	414Mt	Poland	139Mt
Indonesia	376Mt	Kazakhstan	117Mt

Total world coal production reached a record level of 7,678Mt in 2011, increasing by 6.6% over 2010. The average annual growth rate of coal production since 1999 was 4.4%.

Total Global Hard Coal Production

- 6637Mt (2011e): 967Mt coking coal, 5670Mt steam coal
- 6217Mt (2010): 900Mt coking coal, 5317Mt steam coal
- 3493Mt (1990): 598Mt coking coal, 2894Mt steam coal

Top Ten Steam Coal Producers (2011e)

PR China	2831Mt	Australia	199Mt
USA	849Mt	Russia	178Mt
India	509Mt	Kazakhstan	98Mt
Indonesia	373Mt	Colombia	80Mt
South Africa	250Mt	Poland	65Mt

Top Ten Coking Coal Producers (2011e)

PR China	504Mt	Canada	29Mt
Australia	146Mt	Mongolia	20Mt
USA	82Mt	Ukraine	20Mt
Russia	78Mt	Kazakhstan	13Mt
India	35Mt	Poland	11Mt

Total Global Brown Coal/Lignite Production

- 1041Mt (2011e)
- 983Mt (2010)
- 1184Mt (1990)

Top Ten Brown Coal Producers (2011e)

Germany	176Mt	Australia	69Mt
China	136Mt	Poland	63Mt
Russia	78Mt	Greece	59Mt
Turkey	74Mt	Czech Republic	43Mt
USA	74Mt	India	41Mt

Worldwide, lignite production rose by 5.9% to 1041Mt in 2011, reaching a level not seen since 1990. OECD lignite production rose by 3.5% to 604Mt after three years of decline, led by increases in Germany, Poland and Turkey. Non-OECD lignite production rose even more strongly, increasing by 37.5Mt to a record level of 437Mt in 2011.

Reserves

There are two internationally recognised methods for assessing world coal reserves. The first one is produced by the German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR) and is used by the IEA as the main source of information about coal reserves. The second one is produced by the World Energy Council (WEC) and is used by the BP Statistical Review of World Energy.

According to BGR there are 1004 billion tonnes of coal reserves left, equivalent to 130 years of global coal output in 2011. Coal reserves reported by WEC are much lower - 861 billion tonnes, equivalent to 112 years of coal output.

Coal in Electricity Generation

Coal is the major fuel used for generating electricity worldwide - countries heavily dependent on coal for electricity include (2008, 2009):

South Africa	93%	Kazakhstan	70%	Morocco	55%
Poland	90%	India	69%	Greece	55%
PR China	79%	Israel	63%	USA	45%
Australia	76%	Czech Rep	56%	Germany	44%

Coal & Steel

Approximately 13% (around 717Mt) of total hard coal production is currently used by the steel industry and over 60% of total global steel production is dependent on coal.

World Coal Trade

	Steam	Coking	Lignite
2009	717Mt	211Mt	4Mt
2010	788Mt	284Mt	5Mt
2011	861Mt	276Mt	5Mt

Top Coal Exporters (2011e)

	Total <i>of which</i>	Steam	Coking
Indonesia	309Mt	309Mt	0Mt
Australia	284Mt	144Mt	140Mt
Russia	124Mt	110Mt	14Mt
USA	97Mt	34Mt	63Mt
Colombia	75Mt	75Mt	0Mt
South Africa	72Mt	72Mt	0Mt
Kazakhstan	34Mt	33Mt	1Mt

Top Coal Importers (2011e)

	Total <i>of which</i>	Steam	Coking
PR China	190Mt	146Mt	38Mt
Japan	175Mt	121Mt	54Mt
South Korea	129Mt	97Mt	32Mt
India	105Mt	86Mt	19Mt
Chinese Tapei	66Mt	62Mt	4Mt
Germany	41Mt	32Mt	9Mt
UK	33Mt	27Mt	6Mt

Source: 2012 Edition of the IEA Coal Information, 2012 Edition of the BP Statistical Review of World Energy

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