

WCA INSIGHTS SERIES 2014

# Coal Information 2014

28 August 2014

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The IEA published the 2014 edition of “Coal Information” - an annual statistical review of global coal production, consumption and trade.

According to the IEA report in 2013 global coal production increased by 0.4%, reaching 7 822.8 Mt. World steam coal production was up 1%, coking coal production up 1.6% and lignite production down by 5.5%.

2013 was the 14th year of consecutive growth in coal production, with 1999 being the last year when global production declined on annual basis. Global coal production in 2013 was 74% higher in comparison to then.

Global coal exports grew by 4.2% to reach record levels of 1 333.3 Mt, as steam coal exports grew by 5% and coking coal exports grew by 2.4%.

### Production

Global coal production increased by 0.4% in 2013 (in comparison to 2.2% the year before), reaching 7 822.8 Mt.

China was once again the world’s leading producer, accounting for over 45% of the world’s coal production. The USA remains the second largest producer, followed by India, Indonesia, Australia and Russia.

2013 has seen lower annual coal production in a number of major producing countries, including USA, Russia, South Africa, Germany, Poland and Colombia. The largest increase in production – 45mt (10% increase) has been recorded by Indonesia, followed by Australia – 29mt (6.7%).

Steam coal production increased by 1%, with China, USA, India, Indonesia and South Africa remaining the largest producers. In China, production increased only by 17.2Mt, in comparison to 107.5Mt in 2012.

Coking coal production increased by 1.6% (in comparison to 1.4% last year), with Australia remaining the world's second largest coking coal producer after China, followed by USA, Russia, India, Canada, Mongolia, Ukraine and Poland.

World lignite production decreased by 5.5%, after decreasing by 0.7% in 2012.

### Consumption

In 2013, 78.1% of world coal consumption was accounted for by just five countries: China, USA, India, Russia and Japan. This is an increase from 77.3% in 2012.

China further strengthened its position as the world's largest coal consuming country in 2013. Consumption in China was calculated to increase to 2 959.9 Mtce, or 52% of total world coal consumption.

Consumption also increased in other major coal consuming countries, including Chinese Taipei (7.4%), India (2.4%), Indonesia (10.3%), and Ukraine (4.2%).

Coal consumption in OECD countries increased by 5.6 Mt, driven mainly by cold winter in the USA. In OECD Europe, coal consumption is reported to have declined to 422.2 Mtce (a 4.4% decline) in 2013.

Electricity generated from coal in the OECD countries grew by 2.2%, after two years of decline.

### International Trade

Global coal exports grew by 54 Mt (4%) to record levels of 1333 Mt, as steam coal exports grew by 4% and coking coal exports grew by 2.4%.

### Export

Indonesia continues to be the world's largest coal exporter, with 426 Mt of exports in 2013, in comparison to 387.4 the year before. It is followed by Australia (336.3 Mt), Russia (140.8 Mt), USA (106.7 Mt) and Colombia (74.3 Mt).

## Import

China was the world's largest coal importer (24%), followed by Japan (14%), India (13%), Korea (9%) and Taiwan (5%).

## Coal reserves

The IEA reports that according to the German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources there were 1052 billion tonnes of coal reserves remaining as of 2012, or 14.6 billion tonnes more than in 2011. These proved reserves represent 134.5 years of production at current levels, up from 133.1 years calculated last year and 131.6 years in the preceding year.

However, other publications such as the BP Statistical Review of World Energy often refer to the World Energy Council estimates of global coal reserves. According to this source there are 892 billion tonnes of coal reserves left, or 113 years of coal output.

IEA Coal Information is available for purchase via the OECD bookshop [http://www.iea.org/w/bookshop/646-Coal Information 2014](http://www.iea.org/w/bookshop/646-Coal%20Information%202014)

Please refer to "Coal Facts 2014" and "Coal & Steel Facts 2014" for more detailed production, consumption and trade figures.

**World Coal Association**  
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