

Coal

Note 1. Coal Consumption. Data in this report on the consumption of bituminous coal, subbituminous coal, lignite, anthracite, and waste coal are developed primarily from consumption data reported in surveys. Included are data reported by all electric power companies and coke plant companies. Data on coal consumption by all industrial and manufacturing establishments are based on consumption data obtained quarterly from coal users. Data on coal consumption by the residential and commercial sectors are based on distribution data obtained annually from coal distributors. Included in each sector's data are the following: Residential and Commercial Sectors—retail dealer sales to households and small commercial establishments; Industrial Sector—consumption at manufacturing plants, large commercial establishments, coking plants, and by agriculture, mining (other than coal mining), and construction industries; Transportation Sector—sales to railroads and for vessel bunkering; Electric Power Sector (electric utilities and independent power producers)—consumption for electricity generation and useful thermal output at electricity-only and CHP plants within the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 22 category whose primary business is to sell electricity, or electricity and heat, to the public.

Note 2. Residential and Commercial Coal Consumption Estimates. Coal consumption by the residential and commercial sectors is reported to the Energy Information Administration (EIA) for the two sectors combined; EIA estimates the amount consumed by the sectors individually. Previously, the breakdown was 40 percent residential and 60 percent commercial for each year. The current method results in variation over time. Beginning in 1949, a larger portion of the coal, 45 percent, is assigned to the residential sector; the share falls gradually over time and has been 11 percent since 2000. To create the estimate, it is first assumed that an occupied coal-heated housing unit consumes fuel at the same Btu rate as an oil-heated housing unit. Then, for the years in which data are available on the number of occupied housing units by heating source (1950, 1960, 1970, 1973–1981, and subsequent odd-numbered years (Table 2.7)), residential use of coal is estimated by the following steps: a ratio is created of the number of occupied housing units heated by coal to the number of housing units heated by oil; the ratio is multiplied by the Btu quantity of oil used by the residential sector to estimate the Btu quantity of coal used by the residential sector; and the residential sector's share of residential and commercial use is calculated. The 1950 share is applied to 1949, and the other missing years' shares are interpolated.