Coal

Note 1. Coal Consumption. Data in this report on the consumption of bituminous coal, sub-bituminous 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. Beginning in 2008, data on coal consumption by the residential and commercial sectors are based on data received on Form EIA-3, "Quarterly Coal Consumption and Quality Report-Manufacturing and Transformation/Processing Coal Plants and Commercial and Institutional Users." Prior to 2008, 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-commercial and institutional establishments including military bases, universities, and various State facilities; Industrial Sector—consumption at manufacturing plants, coking plants, and coal preparation plants; Electric Power Sector (electric utilities and independent power producers)—consumption for electric 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. There are no data for the Transportation Sector.

Note 2. Residential and Commercial Coal Consumption Estimates. Through 2007, coal consumption by the residential and commercial sectors was reported to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) for the two sectors combined; EIA estimates the amount consumed by the sectors individually. To create the estimates, 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; see Table 2.7), residential consumption 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; that ratio is then multiplied by the Btu quantity of oil consumed by the residential sector to derive an estimate of the Btu quantity of coal consumed by the residential sector; and, finally, the amount estimated as the residential sector consumption is subtracted from the residential and commercial sectors' combined consumption to derive the commercial sector's estimated consumption. The 1950 share is applied to 1949, and the other missing years' shares are interpolated.

Beginning in 2008, coal consumption is reported to EIA for commercial and institutional users. However, EIA continues to allocate a small portion of that consumption to the residential sector using the above methodology.