

Forecast Comparisons

Table 33. Comparison of coal forecasts, 2015, 2020, and 2025 (million short tons, except where noted)

Projection	2002	AEO2004			Other forecasts	
		Reference	Low economic growth	High economic growth	EVA	Hill & Associates
2015						
Production	1,105	1,285	1,262	1,288	1,114	1,204
Consumption by sector						
Electricity generation	976	1,200	1,180	1,200	1,042	1,144
Coking plants	23	21	21	21	18	18
Industrial/other	67	70	67	73	60	62
Total	1,066	1,291	1,269	1,295	1,120	1,224
Net coal exports	22.7	-6.1	-6.1	-6.1	-6.2	-20.4
Exports	39.6	31.6	31.6	31.6	29.5	28.4
Imports	16.9	37.7	37.7	37.7	35.7	48.8
Minemouth price						
(2002 dollars per short ton)	17.90	16.47	15.84	16.75	17.02 ^a	17.78 ^{b,c}
(2002 dollars per million Btu)	0.87	0.81	0.78	0.82	0.83 ^a	0.81 ^{b,c}
Average delivered price to electricity generators						
(2002 dollars per short ton)	25.96	24.34	23.17	25.10	NA	21.82 ^c
(2002 dollars per million Btu)	1.26	1.22	1.16	1.25	NA	1.08 ^c
2020						
Production	1,105	1,377	1,337	1,382	1,159	1,208
Consumption by sector						
Electricity generation	976	1,301	1,263	1,305	1,095	1,158
Coking plants	23	19	19	19	17	17
Industrial/other	67	71	68	75	57	59
Total	1,066	1,391	1,349	1,399	1,169	1,234
Net coal exports	22.7	-14.4	-12.2	-15.7	-10.4	-25.6
Exports	39.6	27.4	29.5	26.0	29.7	22.6
Imports	16.9	41.7	41.7	41.7	40.1	48.2
Minemouth price						
(2002 dollars per short ton)	17.90	16.32	15.78	16.92	16.91 ^a	16.94 ^{b,c}
(2002 dollars per million Btu)	0.87	0.80	0.78	0.83	0.83 ^a	0.77 ^{b,c}
Average delivered price to electricity generators						
(2002 dollars per short ton)	25.96	24.01	22.87	25.03	NA	21.08 ^c
(2002 dollars per million Btu)	1.26	1.20	1.15	1.24	NA	1.04 ^c
2025						
Production	1,105	1,543	1,420	1,586	1,237	NA
Consumption by sector						
Electricity generation	976	1,477	1,355	1,510	1,184	NA
Coking plants	23	17	17	17	16	NA
Industrial/other	67	72	68	84	55	NA
Total	1,066	1,567	1,441	1,612	1,254	NA
Net coal exports	22.7	-22.7	-19.8	-24.8	-17.8	NA
Exports	39.6	23.0	26.0	21.0	30.0	NA
Imports	16.9	45.7	45.7	45.7	47.8	NA
Minemouth price						
(2002 dollars per short ton)	17.90	16.57	15.67	17.95	16.97 ^a	NA
(2002 dollars per million Btu)	0.87	0.82	0.78	0.88	0.84 ^a	NA
Average delivered price to electricity generators						
(2002 dollars per short ton)	25.96	24.31	22.75	26.29	NA	NA
(2002 dollars per million Btu)	1.26	1.22	1.14	1.30	NA	NA

^aThe average coal price is a weighted average of the projected spot market FOB mine price for all domestic coal.

^bThe minemouth price represents an average for domestic steam coal only. Exports and coking coal are not included in the average.

^cThe prices provided by Hill & Associates were converted from 2003 dollars to 2002 dollars in order to be consistent with AEO2004.

Btu = British thermal unit. NA = Not available.

Sources: **AEO2004:** AEO2004 National Energy Modeling System, runs AEO2004.D101703E (reference case), LM2004.D101703A (low economic growth case), and HM2004.D101703A (high economic growth case). **EVA:** Energy Ventures Analysis, Inc., *FUELCAST: Long-Term Outlook* (July 2003). **Hill & Associates:** Hill & Associates, Inc., *The Outlook for U.S. Steam Coal: Long-Term Forecast to 2022* (August 2003).