

Table 38. Comparison of coal forecasts, 2015, 2020, and 2025 (million short tons, except where noted)

Projection	2003	AEO2005			Other forecasts		
		Reference	Low economic growth	High economic growth	EVA	Hill	GH
2015							
Production	1,083	1,270	1,249	1,294	1,150	1,239 ^a	1,189
Consumption by sector							
Electricity generation	1,004	1,185	1,166	1,208	1,082	1,173	1,100
Coking plants	24	18	17	18	21	23	20
Industrial/other	62	71	69	72	60	62	68
Total	1,095	1,273	1,252	1,297	1,163	1,258	1,188
Net coal exports	18.0	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8	-20.6	-19.0	-1.6
Exports	43.0	34.9	34.9	34.9	24.7	25.0	29.1
Imports	25.0	37.7	37.7	37.7	45.3	44.0	30.7
Minemouth price							
(2003 dollars per short ton)	17.93	16.89	16.62	17.10	19.35 ^b	17.28 ^{c,d}	NA
(2003 dollars per million Btu)	0.86	0.84	0.83	0.85	0.94 ^b	0.84 ^{c,d}	NA
Average delivered price to electricity generators							
(2003 dollars per short ton)	25.86	24.42	24.07	24.76	27.26 ^b	26.89 ^d	24.62 ^e
(2003 dollars per million Btu)	1.28	1.23	1.22	1.25	1.36 ^b	1.31 ^d	1.19
2020							
Production	1,083	1,345	1,295	1,397	1,231	1,285 ^a	1,287
Consumption by sector							
Electricity generation	1,004	1,267	1,219	1,317	1,174	1,233	1,204
Coking plants	24	15	15	15	20	22	18
Industrial/other	62	71	69	73	58	59	68
Total	1,095	1,352	1,303	1,405	1,252	1,314	1,290
Net coal exports	18.0	-6.6	-6.6	-7.2	-28.3	-29.0	-6.0
Exports	43.0	35.2	35.2	34.5	26.0	22.0	25.8
Imports	25.0	41.7	41.7	41.7	54.3	51.0	31.8
Minemouth price							
(2003 dollars per short ton)	17.93	17.25	16.79	17.89	19.38 ^b	17.85 ^{c,d}	NA
(2003 dollars per million Btu)	0.86	0.86	0.83	0.89	0.95 ^b	0.87 ^{c,d}	NA
Average delivered price to electricity generators							
(2003 dollars per short ton)	25.86	24.66	24.00	25.41	27.46 ^b	28.14 ^d	23.70 ^e
(2003 dollars per million Btu)	1.28	1.25	1.21	1.28	1.38 ^b	1.37 ^d	1.15
2025							
Production	1,083	1,488	1,373	1,597	1,328	NA	1,365
Consumption by sector							
Electricity generation	1,004	1,425	1,312	1,531	1,284	NA	1,288
Coking plants	24	13	13	13	18	NA	16
Industrial/other	62	71	68	73	55	NA	68
Total	1,095	1,508	1,393	1,617	1,357	NA	1,372
Net coal exports	18.0	-19.6	-18.8	-19.6	-36.9	NA	-9.2
Exports	43.0	26.1	26.9	26.1	27.4	NA	23.7
Imports	25.0	45.7	45.7	45.7	64.3	NA	32.9
Minemouth price							
(2003 dollars per short ton)	17.93	18.26	17.11	19.78	19.60 ^b	NA	NA
(2003 dollars per million Btu)	0.86	0.91	0.85	0.98	0.97 ^b	NA	NA
Average delivered price to electricity generators							
(2003 dollars per short ton)	25.86	25.95	24.46	27.76	27.75 ^b	NA	22.85 ^e
(2003 dollars per million Btu)	1.28	1.31	1.24	1.39	1.39 ^b	NA	1.10

^aCoal production in the Hill & Associates forecast was estimated as total coal consumption minus imports plus exports.

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

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

^dThe prices provided by Hill & Associates were converted from 2004 dollars to 2003 dollars in order to be consistent with AEO2005.

^eEstimated by multiplying the delivered price of coal in dollars per million Btu by the average heat content of coal delivered to electricity generators in million Btu per short ton.

Btu = British thermal unit. NA = Not available.

Sources: **AEO2005:** AEO2005 National Energy Modeling System, runs AEO2005.D102004A (reference case), LM2005.D102004A (low economic growth case), and HM2005.D102004A (high economic growth case). **EVA:** Energy Ventures Analysis, Inc., *FUELCAST: Long-Term Outlook* (August 2004). **Hill:** Hill & Associates, Inc., *The Outlook for U.S. Steam Coal: Long-Term Forecast to 2022* (August 2004). **GH:** Global Insight, Inc., *U.S. Energy Outlook* (Summer 2004). **PIRA:** PIRA Energy Group (October 2004).