

China Coal Market Report and Forecast 2025-2034

Market Report | 2025-06-29 | 125 pages | EMR Inc.

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Report description:

The China coal market size reached approximately 4619.00 MMT in 2024. The market is projected to grow at a CAGR of 3.20% between 2025 and 2034, reaching a value of around 6329.14 MMT by 2034.

Key Trends in the Market

Coal is a combustible black or brownish-black sedimentary rock formed from organic matter, primarily plant material, that has undergone geological processes over millions of years. It is one of the most abundant fossil fuels and has been a vital energy source for centuries. It has been a major source of electricity generation worldwide due to its abundance and relatively low cost.

- Coal has been a cornerstone of China's energy mix for decades, providing the bulk of the country's energy needs, contributing to approximately 77% of the country's primary energy production and powering around 80% of its electricity needs. The China coal market growth is propelled by the rapid industrialisation and economic growth. Despite efforts to diversify, China remains heavily reliant on coal due to its sheer energy demand, driven by industrialisation, urbanisation, and economic expansion.

- Owing to the reliance on coal for energy generation, government agencies and private organisations are increasingly investing in advanced technologies and are focusing on improving the accountability and transparency of the Chinese coal mining sector. The development of technologies, such as carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS), is one of the key trends in the Chinese coal market. These technologies aim to mitigate environmental impacts by reducing emissions from coal-fired power plants.

- China is both a major importer and producer of coal. Reportedly, the country imported 43.51 million tons of coal in November 2023, registering a growth of 34.7% compared to the last year. The record-high numbers came after the country ended a ban on Australian coal shipments in January 2023. However, increasing emphasis on renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, aiming to diversify the energy mix and reduce reliance on coal, is expected to significantly impact the China coal market demand.

China Coal Market Segmentation

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The EMR's report titled "China Coal Market Report and Forecast 2025-2034" offers a detailed analysis of the market based on the following segments:

Market Breakup by Type

- Bituminous Coal
- Sub-Bituminous Coal
- Anthracite Coal
- Lignite Coal

Market Breakup by Mining Technology

- Surface Mining
- Underground Mining

Market Breakup by End Use

- Power Generation
- Steel and Iron Industry
- Others

Market Share by Type

According to the analysis of coal market in China, bituminous coal is likely to find wide applications across industries compared to its counterparts. It holds a prominent position due to its versatile applications, moderate energy content, and suitability for various industrial and domestic purposes. Bituminous coal accounts for a significant portion of China's overall coal consumption and is primarily used for electricity generation, industrial processes, heating, and manufacturing.

Market Share by Technology

The prominent use of underground mining methods to acquire coal is likely to significantly influence the China's coal market value during the forecast period. Underground mining is the primary technique used to extract coal due to the substantial reserves found beneath the surface. However, surface mining techniques like open-pit mining or strip mining are also employed in specific regions where the coal seams are closer to the surface.

Competitive Landscape

The comprehensive EMR report provides an in-depth assessment of the market based on Porter's five forces model along with giving a SWOT analysis. The report gives a detailed analysis of the following key players in the China coal market, covering their competitive landscape and the latest developments like mergers, acquisitions, investments, and expansion plans.

Huadian Power International Corporation Limited

Huadian Power International Corporation Limited is one of China's major state-owned power generation companies. It specialises in the development, operation, and management of power plants, primarily focusing on coal-fired power generation. Huadian Power International has a considerable presence across China, providing electricity to various regions and contributing to the country's

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energy infrastructure.

China Coal Energy Group Co., Ltd.

China Coal Energy Group Co., Ltd. is a state-owned coal mining enterprise involved in coal production, sales, and distribution of coal chemicals. It is one of the largest coal producers in China. The company's core business revolves around coal production, coal trading, coal chemicals, and coal mining equipment manufacturing.

CHN Energy Investment Group Co., Ltd.

CHN Energy Investment Group Co., Ltd. is another major state-owned enterprise in China's coal sector. It specialises in coal production, power generation, coal-to-chemicals, and coal-related services. CHN Energy Investment Group holds a significant position in China's coal sector, contributing to both coal supply and power generation across various regions in the country.

Other major coal producers in China include Shanxi Coking Coal Group Co., Ltd., State Power Investment Corporation Limited, Yankuang Energy Group Company Limited, Huaibei Mining Holdings Co., Ltd., Shaanxi Coal and Chemical Industry Group Co., Ltd., Huaneng Power International Ltd., and China Resources Power Holdings Co. Ltd.

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