

EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY

HIGH AUTHORITY

DELEGATION IN THE
UNITED KINGDOM
23 Chesham Street
LONDON S. W. 1
Tel. SLOane 0456 & 0457

INFORMATION SERVICE

LUXEMBOURG
Tel: 29241 ext. 447 & 448

INFORMATION OFFICE
IN THE U S A
220 Southern Building
WASHINGTON 5 D. C.
Tel. NAtional 8. 7067

PRESS RELEASE

COMMUNITY COAL STOCKS FALL SHARPLY IN DECEMBER

Luxembourg, January 22, 1960: Pithead coal stocks in the European Coal and Steel Community fell by more than 1 million tons in December - the biggest fall since the start of the coal crisis some two years ago. Provisional figures published by the High Authority placed stocks at the end of 1959 at 31,270,000 metric tons, compared with 32,406,000 a month earlier and 24,538,000 at the end of 1958. Stocks, which fell sharply in all the major coal producing countries of the Community, were thus back at the level of six months ago and have fallen for three successive months.

Stocks of coke at coking plant, however, declined only slightly during the month to 8,573,000 metric tons, from 8,612,000 at the end of November; at the end of 1958 they stood at 7,015,000 tons.

Short-time working in December was again considerably reduced, amounting to the equivalent of a reduction in coal output of 335,000 tons, against 423,000 in November and 868,000 in October. For the whole of 1959, short-time working corresponded to a total of 12,264,000 metric tons of coal not produced. The average number of days lost through short-time working during the year ranged from 2.70 in the Lorraine coal field, France, and Aachen coal field, Germany, to 56.81 in the Campine, Belgium. In the Ruhr, 11.27 days were lost and in the South-Belgian coal field 51.16.

../..

642/60 e

TOTAL COAL STOCKS AT PITHEADS (*)

at end of period

(provisional figures in '000 tons)

	Germany (fed.Rep.)	Saar	Belgium	France	Italy	Nether- lands	Community
December 1959	10,330	1,436	7,499	11,029	112	864	31,270
November 1959	10,711	1,515	7,716	11,345	114	1,005	32,406
December 1958	8,565	898	6,928	7,380	21	746	24,538

*) Excluding coal stocks at coke ovens and at mine-owned briquetting works.

TOTAL COKE STOCKS AT COKE OVENS

at end of period

(provisional figures in '000 tons)

	Germany (Fed.Rep.)	Saar	Belgium	France	Italy	Nether- lands	Community
December 1959	7,062	18	292	702	200*	300	8,573
November 1959	6,985	22	310	762	212	321	8,612
December 1958	5,316	51	276	708	321	342	7,015

*) estimate