

# Spain Coal Industry: Porter's Five Forces Analysis

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## Abstracts

Spain is known to have coal reserves of over 500 million tons, 0.06% of the world total. Coal is Spain's most plentiful indigenous energy source, and with production having fallen in recent years, the decline is expected to continue as Spain works to meet environmental standards. Spain is the European Union's largest coal producer, and the country's coal reserves are abundant but difficult to mine. Consequently, the cost of production is higher, making Spanish coal less competitive than that of many other countries. As a result, coal production could eventually be phased out.

All of the major coal companies in Spain are state-owned. Spain has 15 coal mining companies and half of Spain's 8,000 coal miners work seams in the traditional coal heartland of Asturias, while the rest can be found in Castilla y Leon, Teruel, Ciudad Real and Cordoba. Twenty five years' ago, the industry employed more than 50,000 people.

Sub bituminous brown coal is produced primarily in the northeast of the country for power generation, mostly from Teruel, but with smaller amounts from adjacent provinces. Lignite is produced from one operation in Galicia in the northwest of the country, following the closure in 2003 of Lignite de Meirama.

In order to understand the profitability and the dynamics of competitive structure of the coal industry in Spain, Taiyou Research presents a Porter's Five Forces Analysis of the Spanish Coal Industry.

Michael Porter's Five Forces Model is one of the most effective analytical model for understanding and analyzing the competitive landscape in an industry. The model analyzes the bargaining power of buyers and suppliers; the competitive rivalry in the industry; the threat of new entrants and the threat of substitutes for the particular industry – in this case, coal faces the threat of substitution from the various renewable

energy sources that are fast becoming popular today.

In our report, apart from the Porter's Five Forces Model Analysis of the industry, we also analyze the basics of coal, including the various uses and types of coal, how coal is formed, and many other factors impacting the global coal industry.

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