

U.S. GASOLINE AND DISTILLATE FUELS UPDATE - JANUARY 29, 2020

PRICE TRENDS – Monday, January 27

Gasoline

According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), the average U.S. retail price for regular grade of gasoline fell this week, down by 3.1 cents (1.2 percent) from the previous Monday's price to \$2.506 per gallon. This week's price was above the year-ago price, up by 25.0 cents (11.1 percent) from \$2.256 per gallon. This price was \$1.61 (39.1 percent) below the record price of \$4.114 per gallon set on 7/7/08.

Gasoline prices were above \$3.00 in five of the twenty-seven sub-areas monitored by the EIA, and were above \$4.00 in no sub-areas. There were twenty-six areas that posted week-over-week price declines, while one posted increases. Cleveland posted the largest decrease of 10.3 cents from last week, while Chicago posted the largest increase of 2.9 cents.

The average price for regular-grade gasoline for this week ranged from a low of \$2.168 per gallon in Texas to a high of \$3.445 per gallon in San Francisco.

Gasoline prices generally track crude oil prices; however, historically there has often been a lag before crude oil price changes are reflected in retail gasoline prices. Other factors can also affect this correlation such as seasonal factors, changes in supply or demand for gasoline, refinery outages, and transportation problems.

U.S. Retail Gasoline Prices										
	Jan 27	Jan 20	Year Ago	Change from Last Week	% Change from Last Week	Change from Last Year	% Change from Last Year	Record Price	Record Date	Change from Record
U.S. Average	\$2.506	\$2.537	\$2.256	-3.1 cents	-1.2%	25.0 cents	11.1%	\$4.114	7/7/2008	-\$1.608
REGIONS										
East Coast	\$2.450	\$2.496	\$2.249	-4.6 cents	-1.8%	20.1 cents	8.9%	\$4.079	7/7/2008	-\$1.629
New England	\$2.515	\$2.544	\$2.346	-2.9 cents	-1.1%	16.9 cents	7.2%	\$4.143	7/7/2008	-\$1.628
Central Atlantic	\$2.589	\$2.632	\$2.388	-4.3 cents	-1.6%	20.1 cents	8.4%	\$4.115	7/7/2008	-\$1.526
Lower Atlantic	\$2.344	\$2.398	\$2.138	-5.4 cents	-2.3%	20.6 cents	9.6%	\$4.033	7/7/2008	-\$1.689
Midwest	\$2.371	\$2.390	\$2.052	-1.9 cents	-0.8%	31.9 cents	15.5%	\$4.066	7/14/2008	-\$1.695
Gulf Coast	\$2.195	\$2.230	\$1.959	-3.5 cents	-1.6%	23.6 cents	12.0%	\$3.971	7/14/2008	-\$1.776
Rocky Mountain	\$2.551	\$2.574	\$2.231	-2.3 cents	-0.9%	32.0 cents	14.3%	\$4.105	7/21/2008	-\$1.554
West Coast	\$3.170	\$3.184	\$2.928	-1.4 cents	-0.4%	24.2 cents	8.3%	\$4.460	6/23/2008	-\$1.290
STATES										
California	\$3.388	\$3.408	\$3.130	-2.0 cents	-0.6%	25.8 cents	8.2%	\$4.659	10/8/2012	-\$1.271
Colorado	\$2.528	\$2.572	\$2.017	-4.4 cents	-1.7%	51.1 cents	25.3%	\$4.030	7/14/2008	-\$1.502
Florida	\$2.398	\$2.472	\$2.186	-7.4 cents	-3.0%	21.2 cents	9.7%	\$4.057	7/7/2008	-\$1.659
Massachusetts	\$2.542	\$2.554	\$2.392	-1.2 cents	-0.5%	15.0 cents	6.3%	\$4.066	7/7/2008	-\$1.524
Minnesota	\$2.364	\$2.395	\$2.041	-3.1 cents	-1.3%	32.3 cents	15.8%	\$4.292	5/20/2013	-\$1.928
New York	\$2.599	\$2.630	\$2.414	-3.1 cents	-1.2%	18.5 cents	7.7%	\$4.281	7/7/2008	-\$1.682
Ohio	\$2.401	\$2.419	\$1.988	-1.8 cents	-0.7%	41.3 cents	20.8%	\$4.112	5/2/2011	-\$1.711
Texas	\$2.168	\$2.200	\$1.955	-3.2 cents	-1.5%	21.3 cents	10.9%	\$3.966	7/14/2008	-\$1.798
Washington	\$2.919	\$2.941	\$2.763	-2.2 cents	-0.7%	15.6 cents	5.6%	\$4.370	7/7/2008	-\$1.451
CITIES										
Boston	\$2.519	\$2.536	\$2.413	-1.7 cents	-0.7%	10.6 cents	4.4%	\$4.058	7/7/2008	-\$1.539
Chicago	\$2.634	\$2.605	\$2.139	2.9 cents	1.1%	49.5 cents	23.1%	\$4.470	3/26/2012	-\$1.836
Cleveland	\$2.434	\$2.537	\$2.047	-10.3 cents	-4.1%	38.7 cents	18.9%	\$4.127	5/2/2011	-\$1.693
Denver	\$2.492	\$2.520	\$2.000	-2.8 cents	-1.1%	49.2 cents	24.6%	\$4.013	7/14/2008	-\$1.521
Houston	\$2.174	\$2.192	\$1.958	-1.8 cents	-0.8%	21.6 cents	11.0%	\$3.915	7/21/2008	-\$1.741
Los Angeles	\$3.393	\$3.408	\$3.112	-1.5 cents	-0.4%	28.1 cents	9.0%	\$4.736	10/8/2012	-\$1.343
Miami	\$2.442	\$2.507	\$2.243	-6.5 cents	-2.6%	19.9 cents	8.9%	\$4.178	7/14/2008	-\$1.736
New York City	\$2.526	\$2.568	\$2.358	-4.2 cents	-1.6%	16.8 cents	7.1%	\$4.179	7/7/2008	-\$1.653
San Francisco	\$3.445	\$3.447	\$3.244	-0.2 cents	-0.1%	20.1 cents	6.2%	\$4.675	10/8/2012	-\$1.230
Seattle	\$3.107	\$3.142	\$3.022	-3.5 cents	-1.1%	8.5 cents	2.8%	\$4.355	6/23/2008	-\$1.248

Source: Energy Information Administration

Diesel

According to the EIA, the average U.S. retail diesel price (including taxes) fell this week, down by 2.7 cents (0.9 percent) from last week to \$3.010 per gallon. The national average diesel price was above year-ago levels, up by 4.5 cents (1.5 percent) from last year's price of \$2.965 per gallon. It was \$1.75 (36.8 percent) below the record price of \$4.764 per gallon set on 7/14/08. Diesel prices were down in five

U.S. Retail Diesel Prices										
	Jan 27	Jan 20	Year Ago	Change from Last Week	% Change from Last Week	Change from Last Year	% Change from Last Year	Record Price	Record Date	Change from Record
DIESEL										
U.S. Average	\$3.010	\$3.037	\$2.965	-2.7 cents	-0.9%	4.5 cents	1.5%	\$4.764	7/14/2008	-\$1.754
REGIONS										
East Coast	\$3.047	\$3.075	\$3.050	-2.8 cents	-0.9%	-0.3 cents	-0.1%	\$4.822	7/14/2008	-\$1.775
New England	\$3.119	\$3.132	\$3.188	-1.3 cents	-0.4%	-6.9 cents	-2.2%	\$4.889	7/14/2008	-\$1.770
Central Atlantic	\$3.224	\$3.248	\$3.237	-2.4 cents	-0.7%	-1.3 cents	-0.4%	\$4.913	5/27/2008	-\$1.689
Lower Atlantic	\$2.914	\$2.948	\$2.893	-3.4 cents	-1.2%	2.1 cents	0.7%	\$4.777	7/14/2008	-\$1.863
Midwest	\$2.901	\$2.937	\$2.806	-3.6 cents	-1.2%	9.5 cents	3.4%	\$4.698	7/14/2008	-\$1.797
Gulf Coast	\$2.773	\$2.797	\$2.789	-2.4 cents	-0.9%	-1.6 cents	-0.6%	\$4.737	7/14/2008	-\$1.964
Rocky Mountains	\$2.984	\$3.010	\$2.911	-2.6 cents	-0.9%	7.3 cents	2.5%	\$4.718	7/14/2008	-\$1.734
West Coast	\$3.565	\$3.574	\$3.448	-0.9 cents	-0.3%	11.7 cents	3.4%	\$4.909	7/14/2008	-\$1.344
STATES										
California	\$3.857	\$3.866	\$3.726	-0.9 cents	-0.2%	13.1 cents	3.5%	\$5.027	5/27/2008	-\$1.170

Source: Energy Information Administration

regions of the U.S.: the East Coast (2.8 cents), the Midwest (3.6 cents), the Gulf Coast (2.4 cents), the Rocky Mountains (2.6 cents) and the West Coast (0.9 cents). Diesel prices in California were down from last week by 0.9 cents to \$3.857 per gallon.

Diesel fuel prices generally track those of crude oil. The price of crude oil is the main factor in the price of diesel fuel, and fluctuations in the crude oil market greatly influence changes in diesel prices. Short-run factors that can cause divergences from this correlation include supply shortages resulting from refinery outages, transportation issues, adverse weather conditions, and pipeline problems.

Heating Oil

The national average residential heating oil price fell from last week, down by 6.0 cents (2.0 percent) to \$3.007 per gallon, according to EIA. This was 16.4 cents (5.2 percent) below last year's price of \$3.171 per gallon. This is below the record price of \$4.245 per gallon by \$1.24.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index, the national residential heating oil price rose in November, up by 34.7 cents (11.5 percent) from October's price of \$3.008 per gallon to \$3.355 per gallon. The current price was 6.9 cents (2.1 percent) above last year's price of \$3.286 per gallon, and \$1.29 below the record price of \$4.649 per gallon set in July 2008.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Climate Prediction Center reported that the weather across the nation was colder this past week. The number of heating degree days in the U.S. rose by 25.0 percent from the previous week to 250 heating degree days. Weather was colder in New England and colder in the Mid-Atlantic last week, with heating degree days up by 20.3 percent and up by 27.4 percent from the previous week, respectively. Compared to last year, the weather was milder across the nation, with heating degree days down by 8.8 percent. Last week's heating degree days were below the "normal" heating degree days around this time of the year, lower by 4.9 percent.

U.S. Heating Degree Day Data							
	Week Ending Jan 25	Week Ending Jan 18	% Change from Last Week	Year Ago	% Change from Last Year	Normal	% Change from Normal
U.S.	250	200	25.0%	274	-8.8%	263	-4.9%
New England	278	231	20.3%	294	-5.4%	289	-3.8%
Mid-Atlantic	251	197	27.4%	278	-9.7%	266	-5.6%

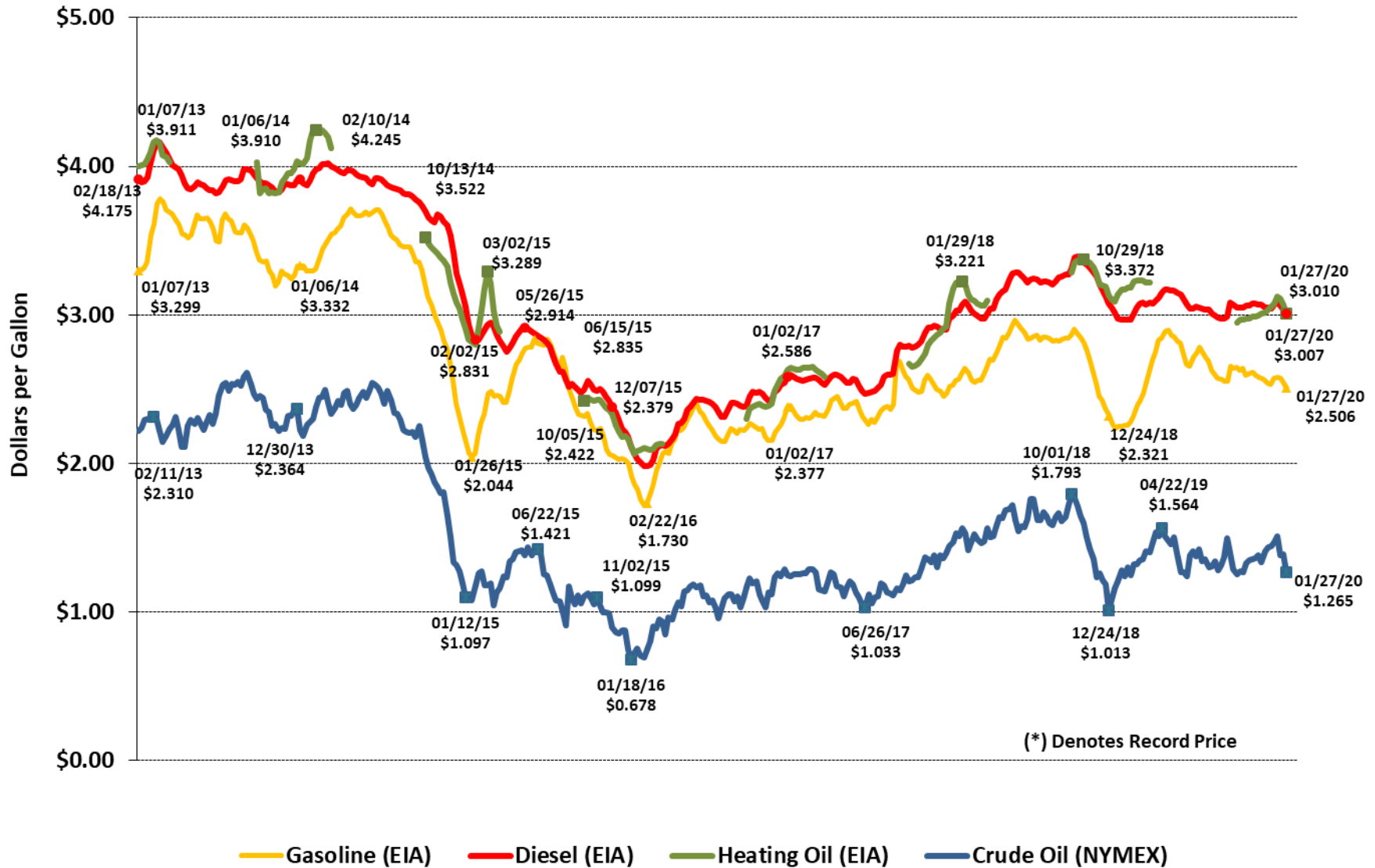
Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Climate Prediction Center

Crude Oil

NYMEX crude prices were down by \$5.20 from last week's price to \$53.14 per barrel (\$1.265 per gallon) on Monday. The current price is \$1.15 per barrel (2.74 cents per gallon) above last year's price of \$51.99 per barrel (\$1.24 per gallon). This week's price was \$92.15 per barrel (\$2.19 per gallon) below the record price of \$145.29 per barrel (\$3.46 per gallon) set on 7/7/08.

Fluctuations in crude oil prices are the most significant cause of gasoline price swings over the long term. However, in the short term, the price of gasoline can also be affected by gasoline-specific supply and demand developments. Another factor affecting U.S. gasoline markets is the varying fuel specifications across the country. These specialized regional and local gasoline formulas reduce the flexibility of refiners and distributors to respond to supply disruptions.

Gasoline, Diesel, Heating Oil and Crude Oil Prices



REFINERY OPERATIONS – WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, January 24

According to the American Petroleum Institute's (API's) Weekly Statistical Bulletin (WSB) data, the average daily input to distillation fell this week by 573,000 barrels from last week to a daily average of 16.6 million barrels. The estimated capacity utilization rate was at 88.1 percent, down by 3.1 percentage points from last week and down by 3.6 percentage points from last year's utilization rate of 91.7 percent.

PRODUCTION LEVELS – WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, January 24

Gasoline

Gasoline production fell by 219,000 barrels per day from last week to 9.5 million barrels per day. This was below last year's production level by 326,000 barrels per day. Production of reformulated gasoline was up from last week by 66,000 barrels per day and production of conventional gasoline was down by 285,000 barrels per day. Production of conventional-type gasoline was above the five-year average by 0.7 percent.

Distillate Fuel Oil

Distillate fuel production fell by 72,000 barrels per day (1.4 percent) from last week to about 5.1 million barrels per day. This was down by 100,000 barrels per day from last year's output of 5.2 million barrels per day. Approximately 97.5 percent of the low sulfur diesel was in the form of ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD). Production of ULSD fell by 59,000 barrels per day (1.2 percent) from last week to 4.8 million barrels per day. ULSD production is down from last year by 0.0 percent. U.S. production of high sulfur distillate (heating oil) was down by 33.2 percent from last year's production level.

U.S. Refinery Operations							
	Week Ending Jan 24	Week Ending Jan 17	% Change from Last Week	Year Ago	% Change from Last Year	Average 2015-2019	% Change from Average
U.S. Industry Operations							
Gross Inputs	16,571	17,144	-3.3%	16,936	-2.2%	16,283	1.8%
Percent Operated	88.1	91.2	-3.4%	91.7	-3.9%	89.1	-1.1%
Total Gasoline Production (Million Barrels per day)							
U.S. Total	9.5	9.7	-2.3%	9.8	-3.3%	9.3	1.2%
Reformulated	3.1	3.0	2.2%	3.1	1.0%	3.0	2.4%
Conventional	6.3	6.6	-4.3%	6.7	-5.3%	6.3	0.7%
Distillate Fuel Oil Production (Million Barrels per day)							
U.S. Total	5.1	5.1	-1.4%	5.2	-1.9%	4.8	5.8%
Low Sulfur	4.9	5.0	-1.2%	4.9	-0.3%	4.6	7.5%
ULSD	4.8	4.8	-1.2%	4.8	0.0%	4.4	8.3%
High Sulfur	0.2	0.2	-7.7%	0.3	-33.2%	0.2	-20.4%

Source: API's Weekly Statistical Bulletin

INVENTORY LEVELS – WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, January 24

Gasoline

According to the API's WSB report, gasoline inventories rose this week from the prior week to 258.3 million barrels, an increase of 1.3 percent. Gasoline inventories were 0.7 percent higher than year ago levels but 4.5 percent higher than the five-year average. Gasoline blendstocks were up this week by 4.2 million (1.9 percent) and up by 3.1 million (1.3 percent) from last year's levels. Stocks of RBOB were down from last year's levels by 50.9 million.

U.S. Gasoline Inventories							
	Week Ending Jan 24	Week Ending Jan 17	% Change from Last Week	Year Ago	% Change from Last Year	Average 2015-2019	% Change from Average
Total Gasoline Inventories (Million Barrels)							
U.S. Total	258.3	255.0	1.3%	256.5	0.7%	247.2	4.5%
East Coast	66.5	64.5	3.1%	68.5	-2.9%	66.5	0.0%
New England	5.2	5.2	-0.1%	5.6	-7.6%	5.9	-11.3%
Central Atlantic	38.0	36.0	5.7%	37.9	0.3%	36.4	4.5%
Lower Atlantic	23.3	23.3	-0.3%	24.9	-6.7%	24.2	-4.0%
Midwest	57.6	57.2	0.8%	61.4	-6.1%	57.5	0.2%
Gulf Coast	93.6	92.7	1.0%	87.2	7.4%	83.3	12.4%
Mountain	8.8	8.5	3.8%	7.3	21.3%	7.7	14.9%
West Coast	31.7	32.1	-1.4%	32.2	-1.5%	32.3	-1.8%
Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) Inventories (Thousand Barrels)							
U.S. Total	41	39	5.1%	42	-2.4%	44	-6.4%
East Coast	16	16	0.0%	16	0.0%	25	-36.5%
Midwest	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Gulf Coast	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Mountain	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
West Coast	25	23	8.7%	26	-3.8%	19	34.4%
Total Gasoline Blendstock Inventories (Million Barrels)							
U.S. Total	231.2	226.9	1.9%	228.1	1.3%	220.0	5.1%
East Coast	62.0	59.6	4.1%	63.2	-1.8%	61.0	1.7%
Midwest	49.9	49.8	0.2%	54.2	-7.9%	50.6	-1.3%
Gulf Coast	83.2	81.6	2.0%	75.7	10.0%	72.8	14.3%
Mountain	6.7	6.4	4.9%	5.4	23.5%	5.5	20.4%
West Coast	29.3	29.6	-1.1%	29.7	-1.3%	30.1	-2.6%
Reformulated Blendstock for Oxygenate Blending (RBOB) Inventories (Million Barrels)							
U.S. Total	0.0	51.7	-100.0%	50.9	-100.0%	51.2	-100.0%
East Coast	0.0	20.5	-100.0%	20.9	-100.0%	20.3	-100.0%
Midwest	0.0	5.6	-100.0%	5.3	-100.0%	6.2	-100.0%
Gulf Coast	0.0	11.5	-100.0%	10.6	-100.0%	11.0	-100.0%
Mountain	0.0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
West Coast	0.0	14.1	-100.0%	14.0	-100.0%	13.7	-100.0%

Source: API's Weekly Statistical Bulletin

INVENTORY LEVELS (CONT'D)

Distillate Fuel Oil

U.S. total distillate inventories fell this week to 145.8 million barrels, down by 141,000 barrels (0.1 percent) from last week, according to API's WSB report. The current level was above the year-ago but below the 5-year average level, up by 2.9 percent and down by 1.4 percent respectively. This was 60.8 million barrels greater than the National Petroleum Council's estimate of lower operational level of 85 million barrels. High sulfur distillate inventories were down by 7.8 percent from last year's level of 11.7 million barrels. ULSD inventories were up this week by 500,000 barrels to 131.8 million barrels.

U.S. Distillate Fuel Oil Data							
	Week Ending Jan 24	Week Ending Jan 17	% Change from Last Week	Year Ago	% Change from Last Year	Average 2015-2019	% Change from Average
Total Distillate Fuel Oil Inventories (Million Barrels)							
U.S. Total	145.8	145.9	-0.1%	141.6	2.9%	147.8	-1.4%
East Coast	44.8	47.3	-5.2%	46.8	-4.3%	51.2	-12.4%
New England	7.6	7.9	-4.2%	8.9	-14.7%	9.3	-18.1%
Central Atlantic	24.5	25.5	-3.9%	25.0	-1.8%	29.7	-17.5%
Lower Atlantic	12.7	13.8	-8.0%	12.9	-1.9%	12.2	4.3%
Midwest	33.6	33.2	1.2%	35.6	-5.7%	32.7	2.6%
Gulf Coast	48.8	47.3	3.1%	40.5	20.3%	45.1	8.1%
Mountain	4.3	4.3	1.7%	4.1	6.4%	4.1	6.5%
West Coast	14.2	13.8	2.6%	14.5	-2.2%	14.7	-3.2%
High Sulfur Distillate Inventories (Million Barrels)							
U.S. Total	10.7	11.4	-5.6%	11.7	-7.8%	13.1	-18.2%
East Coast	3.8	4.3	-10.7%	4.9	-21.8%	6.3	-39.2%
New England	0.4	0.5	-8.9%	1.0	-56.6%	1.8	-76.4%
Central Atlantic	2.7	3.3	-15.7%	3.2	-15.4%	3.7	-26.6%
Lower Atlantic	0.7	0.6	16.1%	0.7	-1.5%	0.7	-11.8%
Midwest	0.5	0.5	-1.5%	0.6	-20.3%	0.5	-15.9%
Gulf Coast	5.6	5.7	-2.5%	4.9	13.0%	5.3	4.3%
Mountain	0.1	0.1	-5.2%	0.1	31.9%	0.1	3.9%
West Coast	0.8	0.8	-2.4%	1.2	-32.7%	0.9	-8.7%
Ultra-low Sulfur Diesel Inventories (Million Barrels)							
U.S. Total	131.8	131.3	0.4%	126.2	4.5%	128.2	2.8%
East Coast	40.4	42.4	-4.7%	40.6	-0.6%	41.4	-2.3%
New England	7.2	7.5	-3.9%	7.5	-4.7%	4.9	45.6%
Central Atlantic	21.2	21.8	-2.5%	21.0	1.3%	25.1	-15.5%
Lower Atlantic	12.0	13.2	-8.9%	12.2	-1.2%	11.3	6.0%
Midwest	32.5	32.1	1.5%	34.5	-5.7%	31.7	2.7%
Gulf Coast	41.6	40.0	4.0%	34.1	22.0%	37.8	10.1%
Mountain	4.1	4.1	1.6%	3.9	6.2%	3.9	7.4%
West Coast	13.1	12.7	3.0%	13.0	0.5%	13.5	-2.9%

Source: API's Weekly Statistical Bulletin

IMPORTS LEVELS– WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, January 24

Gasoline

Imports of finished gasoline were down by 9,000 barrels per day to 182,000 barrels per day this week. Imports of gasoline blending components were up by 28,000 barrels per day to 443,000 barrels per day.

Distillate Fuel Oil

U.S. distillate imports fell by 176,000 barrels per day from last week to 134,000 barrels per day. ULSD imports were down for the week by 174,000 barrels per day (56.9 percent) to 132,000 barrels per day.

U.S. Import Levels (Thousand Barrels per day)							
	Week Ending Jan 24	Week Ending Jan 17	% Change from Last Week	Year Ago	% Change from Last Year	Average 2015-2019	% Change from Average
Total Motor Gasoline							
U.S. Total	625	606	3.1%	589	6.1%	576	8.5%
Finished MoGas	182	191	-4.7%	13	0.0%	38	381.5%
Blending Comp.	443	415	6.7%	576	-23.1%	538	-17.7%
Distillate Fuel Oil							
U.S. Total	134	310	-56.8%	206	-35.0%	269	-50.1%
Low Sulfur	132	306	-56.9%	193	-31.6%	185	-28.6%
ULSD	132	306	-56.9%	193	-31.6%	181	-27.1%
High Sulfur	2	4	-50.0%	13	-84.6%	84	-97.6%

Source: API's Weekly Statistical Bulletin

MONTHLY DATA - December 2019

Gasoline

The latest available API information indicates that gasoline deliveries (a measure of demand) for December 2019 fell by 1.4 percent from the prior year, to average 9.0 million barrels per day. Year to date for 2018, gasoline demand was down by 0.4 percent, to average 9.3 million barrels per day.

Distillate Fuel Oil

Distillate Fuel deliveries for December 2019 fell by 7.7 percent to 3.7 million barrels per day. Year to date for 2019, distillate fuel demand was down by -1.9 percent, to average 4.1 million barrels per day.

API Monthly Data						
	December 2019	December 2018	% Change	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	% Change
Gasoline	9,046	9,179	-1.4%	9,288	9,329	-0.4%
Distillate Fuel	3,710	4,020	-7.7%	4,066	4,146	-1.9%
Production (Thousand Barrels)						
Gasoline	9,936	10,020	-0.8%	10,083	10,061	0.2%
Distillate Fuel	5,255	5,576	-5.8%	5,123	5,168	-0.9%

API Monthly Data					
	December 2019	November 2019	December 2018	% Change (Month Ago)	% Change (Year Ago)
Stocks (Million Barrels)					
Gasoline	245.4	231.6	246.5	6.0%	-0.4%
Distillate Fuel	133.8	118.7	140.2	12.7%	-4.6%

Source: API's Weekly Statistical Bulletin

For more information, contact Manyi Ren, renm@api.org.