



Distillate Watch

August 25, 1999

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

SUPPLY

- A 2.1 million barrel (MMB) increase in total distillate stocks over the week ending August 20 brought inventories to 139.7 MMB. Diesel stock posted a 0.7 MMB gain while heating oil inventory gained 1.5 to reach 69.8 MMB, 6.0 MMB less than last year. Heating oil production is similar to last year, but off 0.1 MMBD from August 1997. Distillate stocks are now just within the upper bounds of an average range based on the past three years after being above the range since the end of 1998.
- This week, U.S. crude oil input was 15.5 MMBD with refiners utilizing 97.2 percent of their 16.0 MMBD operating capacity.

Distillate Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

District	Total Distillate Week Ending					Low Sulfur (0.05% or less Sulfur) Week Ending				
	07/30/99	08/06/99	08/13/99	08/20/99	08/21/98	07/30/99	08/06/99	08/13/99	08/20/99	08/21/98
East Coast (PADD I)	440	343	432	469	558	256	180	237	233	298
Midwest (PADD II)	853	877	862	833	961	647	640	651	615	705
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	1,562	1,653	1,566	1,496	1,584	995	1,099	1,012	945	1,040
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	139	145	161	154	137	112	117	134	121	112
West Coast (PADD V)	490	473	493	513	467	385	375	387	389	395
U.S. Total	3,484	3,491	3,514	3,465	3,707	2,395	2,411	2,421	2,303	2,550

Distillate Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

District	Total Distillate Week Ending					Low Sulfur (0.05% or less Sulfur) Week Ending				
	07/30/99	08/06/99	08/13/99	08/20/99	08/20/98	07/30/99	08/06/99	08/13/99	08/20/99	08/20/98
East Coast (PADD I)	63.0	64.2	65.6	67.7	69.5	18.1	18.8	20.0	20.6	19.9
PADD IX	15.5	16.2	15.3	15.7	NA	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	NA
PADD IY	36.2	36.2	38.6	39.0	NA	9.6	10.0	10.9	11.2	NA
PADD IZ	11.3	11.9	11.7	12.9	NA	6.4	6.7	7.1	7.4	NA
Midwest (PADD II)	31.3	29.2	29.8	29.4	33.7	21.7	19.9	20.2	20.2	23.6
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	29.3	29.5	29.2	29.0	31.7	19.2	18.9	18.7	18.6	18.7
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.4
West Coast (PADD V)	10.6	10.4	10.6	11.2	10.6	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.6	7.9
U.S. Total	136.9	135.9	137.6	139.7	148.2	69.7	68.1	69.3	70.0	72.4

* See the *Weekly Petroleum Status Report* Appendix A for a description of the derivation of average inventory levels.

For information about distillate supply data, contact the National Energy Information Center at (202)586-8800. Internet: Infoctr@eia.doe.gov.
Source: Energy Information Administration, Weekly Petroleum Status Report (WPSR). Year-ago production data taken from comparable week last year; year-ago stock data interpolated from final Petroleum Supply Monthly data.

PRICES

- Continued support of OPEC production cut agreements kept spot prices near two year highs. During the past week, a crude oil pipeline that had ruptured in Texas was repaired and refineries closed only briefly for a hurricane that passed through the Gulf. In the distillate market, the first rumors of stockpiling in advance of Y2K surfaced. The New York Harbor spot price for low sulfur diesel was 58.96 cents per gallon on August 23, 1999, up 2.43 cents per gallon.
- The national average retail on-highway diesel fuel price was up 0.8 cent to 118.6 on August 23, 1999 despite a two-cent decline in California. The average was 18.2 cents per gallon higher than a year ago, mainly due to higher crude oil prices.

No. 2 Distillate Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

City	Low-Sulfur Distillate					High-Sulfur Distillate				
	08/02/99	08/09/99	08/16/99	08/23/99	08/24/98	08/02/99	08/09/99	08/16/99	08/23/99	08/24/98
New York	54.03	56.13	56.53	58.96	36.83	51.73	54.25	54.35	57.33	34.75
Chicago	54.73	58.50	59.73	62.11	38.70	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Houston	52.18	55.65	56.50	58.88	36.55	49.48	52.55	52.80	55.38	33.53
Los Angeles (CARB)	79.00	75.50	67.50	68.75	45.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: Reuters Information Services.

No. 2 Distillate Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes*)

District	On-Highway Diesel Fuel					Residential Heating Oil				
	08/02/99	08/09/99	08/16/99	08/23/99	08/24/98	08/02/99	08/09/99	08/16/99	08/23/99	08/24/98
East Coast (PADD I)	112.6	113.1	114.7	116.0	100.1	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Prices Available During Heating Season Only (October through March) </div>				
PADD Ix	118.0	118.2	118.9	119.9	107.5					
PADD Iy	119.7	120.8	121.5	122.5	108.6					
PADD Iz	109.0	109.4	111.4	112.9	95.7					
Midwest (PADD II)	111.7	112.2	115.3	116.4	98.1					
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	111.1	111.3	113.9	114.2	98.4					
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	122.2	123.6	126.0	127.5	107.2					
West Coast (PADD V)	132.1	136.4	136.4	135.3	109.1					
California	143.9	149.6	149.3	147.3	115.8					
U.S. Average**	114.6	115.6	117.8	118.6	100.4					

Source: Diesel Fuel prices: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-888, On-Highway Diesel Price Survey; Residential Heating Oil prices for PADDs I and II: from data supplied by 21 State Energy Offices (SHOPP prices) from October through mid-March.

* Taxes, if any, are not included in residential heating oil prices.

** Residential heating oil average is for PADDs I and II only.

NA =Not Available.

For information about distillate spot and diesel fuel retail price data, contact the National Energy Information Center: 202-586-8800; Internet: Infoctr@eia.doe.gov.