



Independent Statistics & Analysis

U.S. Energy Information
Administration

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Warmer weather keeps U.S. demand for distillate fuel low in January

U.S. demand for distillate fuels, which includes heating oil, was low in January as warmer-than-normal temperatures for the month caused households to turn down the heat.

In its new monthly forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said distillate consumption averaged 3.8 million barrels per day during January virtually the same as a year earlier and the third lowest demand level for January since 2001.

The lower demand has allowed distillate inventories to build rising in January to a five-year high for the month.

Although heating oil demand is down for January, average household expenditures for heating oil for the entire winter heating season are still expected to be up about 30% compared to last year because of higher crude oil costs.

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