

Paraffinic hydrocarbons: Saturated **hydrocarbon** compounds with the general formula C_nH_{2n+2} containing only single bonds. Sometimes referred to as alkanes or **natural gas liquids**.

Pentanes plus: A mixture of liquid **hydrocarbons**, mostly pentanes and heavier, extracted from **natural gas** in a gas processing plant. Pentanes plus is equivalent to **natural gasoline**.

Petrochemical feedstocks: Chemical feedstocks derived from refined or partially refined **petroleum** fractions, principally for use in the manufacturing of chemicals, synthetic rubber, and a variety of plastics.

Petroleum: A broadly defined class of liquid hydrocarbon mixtures. Included are crude oil, lease condensate, unfinished oils, refined products obtained from the processing of crude oil, and natural gas plant liquids. **Note:** Volumes of finished petroleum products include nonhydrocarbon compounds, such as additives and detergents, after they have been blended into the products.

Petroleum coke: A residue high in carbon content and low in **hydrogen** that is the final product of thermal decomposition in the condensation process in cracking. This product is reported as marketable coke or catalyst coke. The conversion is 5 barrels (of 42 U.S. gallons each) per short ton. See **Petroleum coke, Catalyst** and **Petroleum coke, marketable**.

Petroleum coke, catalyst: The carbonaceous residue that is deposited on the catalyst used in many catalytic operations (e.g., catalytic cracking). Carbon is deposited on the catalyst, thus deactivating the catalyst. The catalyst is reactivated by burning off the carbon producing heat and **carbon dioxide (CO₂)**. The carbonaceous residue is not recoverable as a product. See **Petroleum coke**.

Petroleum coke, marketable: Those grades of coke produced in delayed or fluid cokers that may be recovered as relatively pure carbon. Marketable petroleum coke may be sold as is or further purified by calcining. See **Petroleum coke**.

Petroleum consumption: See **Products supplied (petroleum)**.

Petroleum imports: Imports of petroleum into the 50 states and the District of Columbia from foreign countries and from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and other U.S. territories and possessions. Included are imports for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and withdrawals from bonded warehouses for onshore consumption, offshore bunker use, and military use. Excluded are receipts of foreign petroleum into bonded warehouses and into U.S. territories and U.S. Foreign Trade Zones.

Petroleum products: Products obtained from the processing of crude oil (including lease condensate), natural gas, and other hydrocarbon compounds. Petroleum products include unfinished oils, hydrocarbon gas liquids, aviation gasoline, motor gasoline, naphtha-type jet fuel, kerosene-type jet fuel, kerosene, distillate fuel oil, residual fuel oil, petrochemical feedstocks, special naphthas, lubricants, waxes, petroleum coke, asphalt, road oil, still gas, and miscellaneous products.

Petroleum stocks, primary: For individual products, quantities that are held at refineries, in pipelines, and at bulk terminals that have a capacity of 50,000 barrels or more, or that are in transit thereto. Stocks held by product retailers and resellers, as well as tertiary stocks held at the point of consumption, are excluded. Stocks of individual products held at gas processing plants are excluded from individual product estimates but are included in other oils estimates and total.

Pipeline fuel: Gas consumed in the operation of pipelines, primarily in compressors.

Plant condensate: Liquid **hydrocarbons** recovered at inlet separators or scrubbers in **natural gas** processing plants at atmospheric pressure and ambient temperatures. Mostly pentanes and heavier hydrocarbons.

Plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV): A vehicle that can both (1) plug into an electric power source and store power in a battery pack and (2) use petroleum-based or other liquid- or gas-based fuel to power an internal combustion engine (ICE).

Primary energy: **Energy** in the form that it is first accounted for in a statistical energy balance, before any transformation to secondary or tertiary forms of energy. For example, **coal** can be converted to synthetic gas, which can be converted to **electricity**; in this example, coal is primary energy, synthetic gas is secondary energy, and electricity is tertiary energy. See **Primary energy production** and **Primary energy consumption**.