



Propane Watch

December 29, 1999

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

- U.S. inventories of propane continued sharply lower last week, down 2.2 million barrels (MMB) to an estimated 47.5 MMB as of week ended December 24, 1999. U.S. inventories remain near the lower limit of the normal range for this time of year. Regional declines in inventories were heaviest in the Midwest and Gulf Coast regions, down 1.0 MMB and 0.8 MMB, respectively, while in the East Coast, inventories reported a more modest decline of 0.3 MMB. Regional inventories remain within or above their respective normal ranges except in the Gulf Coast region where inventories continue below the normal range.
- Residential propane prices were up slightly for the December 20, 1999 report period. The 100.7 cents per gallon price reflected a 1.1-cent increase over the last report period two weeks ago. Wholesale propane prices were flat with the 44.4 cents per gallon price, unchanged from its December 6, 1999 level. Contrasted with one year ago, the residential price was up 12.7 cents from December 21, 1998, which stood at 88.0 cents per gallon, while the wholesale price increased 19.3 cents from its year-ago price of 25.1 cents per gallon.

Propane Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I, II, and III (Thousand Barrels)

Districts	November 1998	December 1998	Week Ending				
			12/03/99	12/10/99	12/17/99	12/24/99	12/25/98
East Coast (PADD I)	5,628	5,069	£6,018	£5,834	£5,663	£5,333	5,539
Midwest (PADD II)	32,468	26,995	£26,404	£24,340	£22,840	£21,822	29,119
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	30,908	29,972	£21,315	£19,827	£19,430	£18,623	30,589
Total (PADD I-III)	69,004	62,036	£53,737	£50,001	£47,933	£45,778	65,247
U.S. Total	72,376	64,633	£55,725	£51,851	£49,706	£47,473	67,661

£=Estimated data.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Monthly Petroleum Supply Reporting System and Form EIA-807, "Propane Telephone Survey."

Propane Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I and II (Cents per Gallon)

District	Wholesale					Residential				
	11/01/99	11/15/99	12/06/99	12/20/99	12/21/98	11/01/99	11/15/99	12/06/99	12/20/99	12/21/98
East Coast (PADD I)	53.8	52.4	51.6	52.1	29.6	115.9	116.6	118.1	119.0	106.8
New England (PADD IX)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	118.9	120.0	^R 121.3	122.1	111.9
Central Atlantic (PADD IY)	54.2	53.0	52.4	52.3	30.4	117.7	117.8	119.6	120.5	108.6
Lower Atlantic (PADD IZ)	53.3	51.7	50.7	51.9	28.3	108.7	110.6	111.4	112.5	97.9
Midwest (PADD II)	46.0	44.0	41.9	41.7	23.7	84.3	84.7	85.7	87.0	73.8
Average	48.1	46.2	44.4	44.4	25.1	97.8	98.4	99.6	100.7	88.0

NA=Not Available.

R=Revised.

Source: Wholesale propane prices are based on Oil Price Information Service. Residential propane prices are available from data supplied by 23 State Energy Offices from October through March on a semi-monthly basis.

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