

"Due to the implementation of the new EIA-923 survey form, there was no FLASH Estimate Report for the month of March (January 2008 data). The next FLASH Estimate Report is expected to be issued mid July and contain data for March 2008. Subsequent editions will be published approximately every three weeks until our normal schedule has been reached."

# Monthly Flash Estimates of

Data for:  
**February 2008**

The contiguous United States as a whole experienced near normal temperatures in February 2008, with the East North Central region experiencing below average temperatures and the Southeast experiencing above normal temperatures. Accordingly, heating degree days for the contiguous United States were 4.2-percent above normal, and 10.6-percent below a much colder February 2007.

Retail sales of electricity for the month of February 2008 increased 1.9 percent compared to February 2007. The average U.S. retail price of electricity for February 2008 showed a 2.5-percent increase from February 2007 and a 0.2-percent decrease from January 2008. For the 12-month period ending February 2008, the U.S. average retail price of electricity increased by 2.6 percent over the previous 12-month period ending February 2007.

The total electric power generation in February 2008 increased 0.2 percent when compared to February 2007. Drought conditions across the United States eased slightly in February 2008 as the Northeast experienced record setting rainfall totals. However, much of the Southeast and parts of the West are still experiencing severe drought conditions. Conventional hydroelectric generation was 9.4 percent higher than for February 2007. For the 12-month period ending February 2008, conventional hydroelectric generation decreased by 12.8 percent over the previous 12-month period ending February 2007.

February 2008 natural gas generation was up 0.5 percent, while petroleum liquids generation was down significantly by 69.9 percent when compared to February 2007. For the 12-month period ending February 2008, natural gas generation increased by 7.8 percent and petroleum liquids generation decreased by 12.2 percent over the previous 12-month period ending February 2007. Natural gas consumption increased by 6.5 percent and petroleum liquids consumption decreased 11.2 percent over the previous 12-month period ending February 2007.

Total coal stocks in the electric power sector were down 3.7 percent from the previous month. The January 2008-to-February 2008 change in coal stocks consisted of a 5.0-percent decrease for bituminous and 1.2-percent decrease for subbituminous coal. Petroleum liquids stocks were 9.4 percent higher than February 2007, a direct result of the significant reduction in petroleum liquids generation.

References for weather data:

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/2008/feb/national.html>

## Table of Contents

1. Commentary	Page 1
2. Key Indicators of Generation, Consumption & Stocks	Page 2
3. Month-to-Month Comparisons: Generation, Consumption and Stocks (Total)	Page 3
4. Net Generation Trends	Page 4
5. Fossil Fuel Consumption Trends	Page 5
6. Fossil Fuel Stock Trends	Page 6
7. Month-to-Month Comparisons: Electric Power Retail Sales and Average Prices	Page 7
8. Retail Sales Trends	Page 8
9. Average Retail Price Trends	Page 9
10. Heating and Cooling Degree Days	Page 10
11. Documentation	Page 11

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## Section 2. Key Indicators of Generation, Consumption & Stocks

Data for:  
February 2008

### Table 2.1 Key Generation Indicators

	Total Generation	Nuclear Generation	Hydroelectric Generation
<b>Total Change From:</b>			
January 2008	-10.6%	-10.2%	-8.7%
February 2007	0.2%	-2.7%	9.4%
<b>Year to Date</b>	1.7%	-3.7%	-5.1%
<b>Latest 12 Month Period*</b>	1.6%	1.2%	-12.8%

### Table 2.2 Key Consumption and Stocks Indicators

	Natural Gas Consumption	Coal Consumption	Coal Stocks
<b>Total Change From:</b>			
January 2008	-17.9%	-7.5%	-3.7%
February 2007	-4.4%	3.1%	6.0%
<b>Year to Date</b>	3.6%	2.6%	n/a
<b>Latest 12 Month Period*</b>	6.5%	1.5%	n/a

\* Change in total consumption or generation for the latest 12 month period (March 2007 to February 2008) compared to the prior 12 month period (March 2006 to February 2007).

## Section 3. Month-to-Month Comparisons: Generation, Consumption and Stocks (Total)

Data for:  
February 2008

### Net Generation (Total, All Sectors)

Table 3.1 Total Net Generation (All Sectors)

Net Generation (thousand megawatthours)	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change	Jan-08	% Change
Coal	169,047	163,590	3.3%	182,579	-7.4%
Petroleum Liquids	2,323	7,710	-69.9%	3,136	-25.9%
Natural Gas	58,396	58,087	0.5%	72,090	-19.0%
Nuclear	63,461	65,225	-2.7%	70,686	-10.2%
Hydroelectric Conventional	20,406	18,648	9.4%	22,358	-8.7%
All Other	11,279	11,156	1.1%	12,417	-9.2%
Total (All Energy Sources)	324,912	324,415	0.2%	363,268	-10.6%

### Fossil Fuel Consumption for Electric Generation (Total, All Sectors)

Table 3.2 Total Consumption of Fossil Fuels for Electric Generation (All Sectors)

Consumption of Fossil Fuels	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change	Jan-08	% Change
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	87,093	84,496	3.1%	94,185	-7.5%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	4,117	13,228	-68.9%	5,370	-23.3%
Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)	456,689	477,522	-4.4%	556,336	-17.9%

### Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)

Table 3.3 Total Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)

Fossil Fuel Stocks	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change	Jan-08	% Change
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	143,192	135,096	6.0%	148,707	-3.7%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	45,989	42,048	9.4%	44,023	4.5%

#### Notes:

- Coal consumption and generation includes subbituminous coal, bituminous coal, anthracite, lignite, waste coal and coal synfuel.
- Coal stocks include the coal categories listed immediately above except for waste coal. The bituminous category includes anthracite and coal synfuel.
- Petroleum Liquids consumption and generation includes distillate oil, residual oil, jet fuel, kerosene and waste oil.
- Petroleum Liquids stocks includes the oil categories listed immediately above, except waste oil is excluded from data collected for January 2004 and subsequently. Data prior to 2004 contains small quantities of waste oil.
- The "All Other" generation category includes biomass, solar, wind, geothermal, hydroelectric pumped storage, petroleum coke, other gases, and other miscellaneous energy sources.

# Section 4. Net Generation Trends

Data for:  
February 2008

**Table 4.1 Trends in Total Generation by Fuel (All Sectors)**  
Millions of Kilowatthours

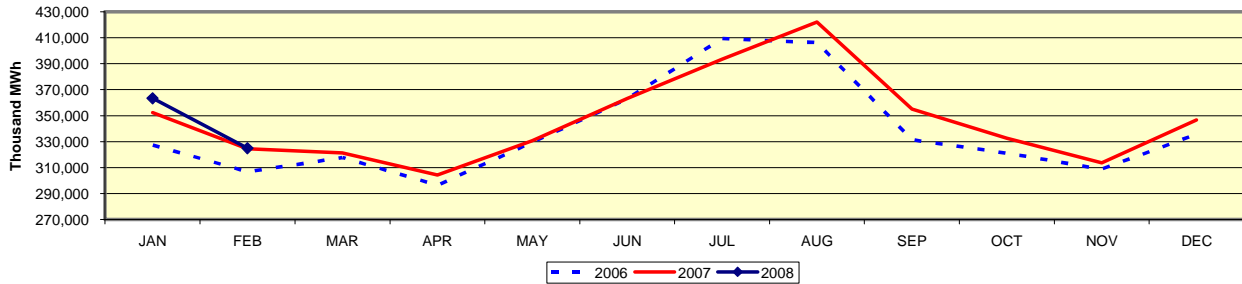
### Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal	Petroleum Liquids	Natural Gas	Nuclear	Hydroelectric Conventional	All Other	Total
<b>Current Period</b>	January 2008	February 2008	351,626	5,459	130,487	134,148	42,765	23,695	688,180
<b>Prior Period</b>	January 2007	February 2007	339,509	12,148	117,741	139,231	45,053	23,102	676,784
<b>Percent Difference</b>			3.6%	-55.1%	10.8%	-3.7%	-5.1%	2.6%	1.7%

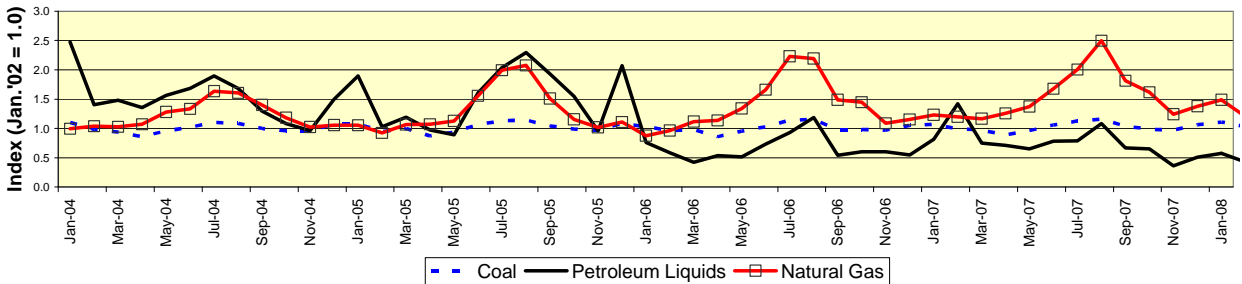
### Comparison to Prior Twelve-Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal	Petroleum Liquids	Natural Gas	Nuclear	Hydroelectric Conventional	All Other	Total
<b>Current Period</b>	March 2007	February 2008	2,032,689	43,268	905,957	801,404	246,024	141,568	4,170,910
<b>Prior Period</b>	March 2006	February 2007	2,002,529	49,282	840,104	791,922	282,101	139,557	4,105,495
<b>Percent Difference</b>			1.5%	-12.2%	7.8%	1.2%	-12.8%	1.4%	1.6%

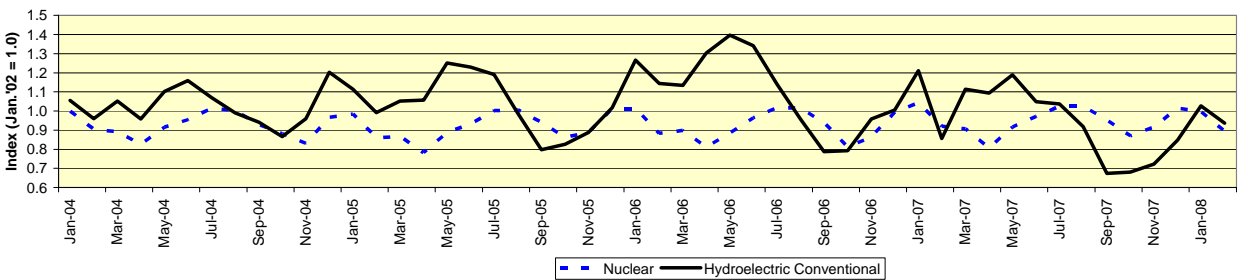
**Figure 4.1 Trends in Total Net Generation (All Sectors): 2006, 2007, and 2008**



**Figure 4.2 Fossil Fuel Generation Trends (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)**



**Figure 4.3 Nuclear and Hydroelectric Generation Trends (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)**



# Section 5. Fossil Fuel Consumption Trends

Data for:  
February 2008

**Table 5.1 Trends in Fossil Fuel Consumption For Electric Generation, Total (All Sectors)**

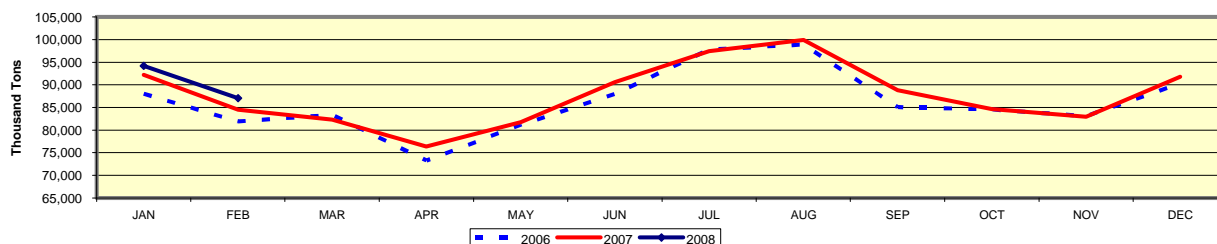
### Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
<b>Current Period</b>	January 2008	February 2008	181,278	9,487	1,013,026
<b>Prior Period</b>	January 2007	February 2007	176,742	20,990	977,634
<b>Percent Difference</b>			2.6%	-54.8%	3.6%

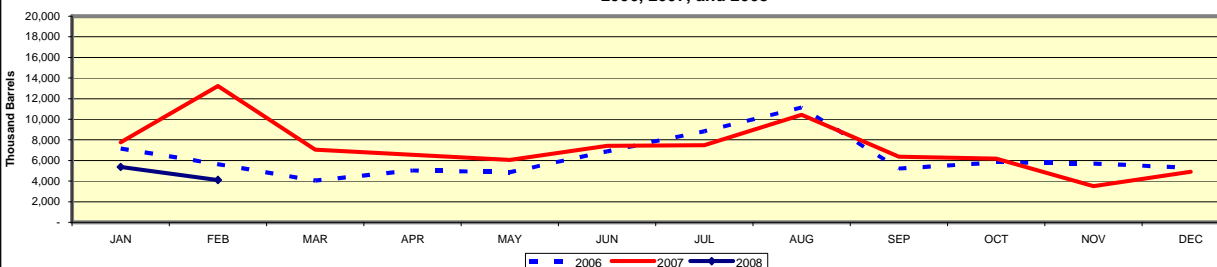
### Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
<b>Current Period</b>	March 2007	February 2008	1,057,882	75,502	7,542,837
<b>Prior Period</b>	March 2006	February 2007	1,042,307	85,046	7,085,477
<b>Percent Difference</b>			1.5%	-11.2%	6.5%

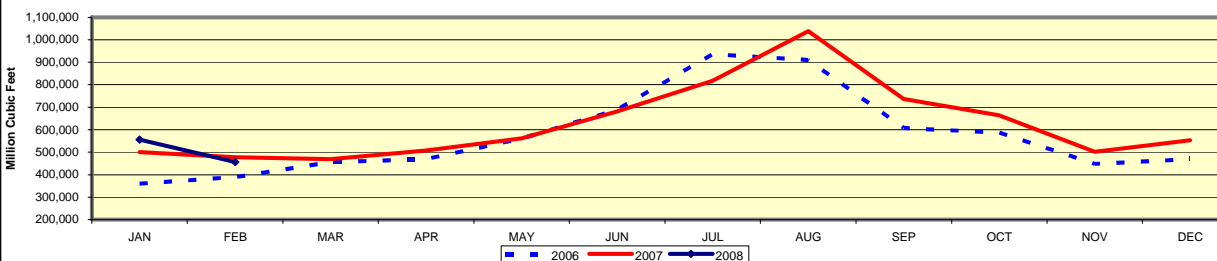
**Figure 5.1 Trend in Total Coal Consumption For Electric Generation (All Sectors): 2006, 2007, and 2008**



**Figure 5.2 Trend in Total Petroleum Liquids Consumption For Electric Generation (All Sectors): 2006, 2007, and 2008**



**Figure 5.3 Trend in Total Natural Gas Consumption For Electric Generation (All Sectors): 2006, 2007, and 2008**

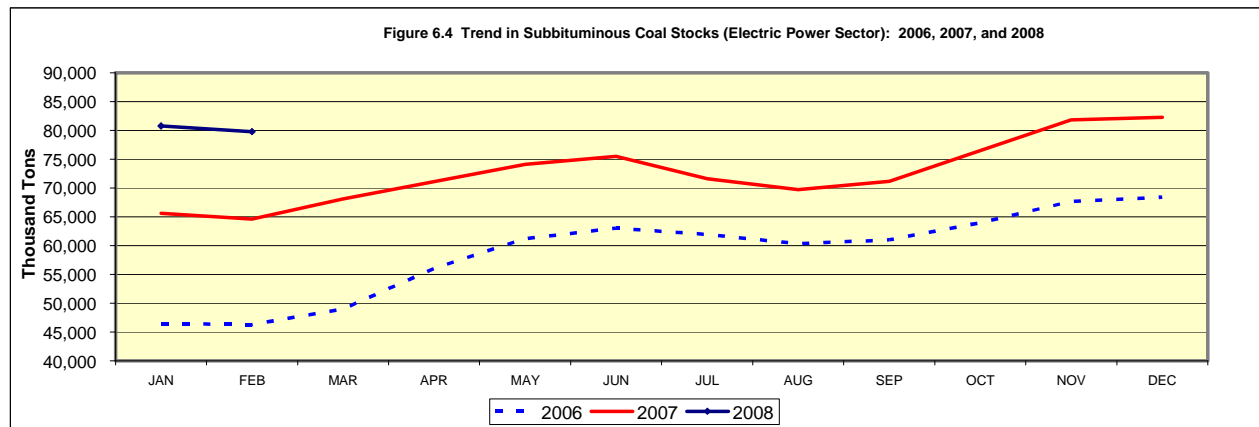
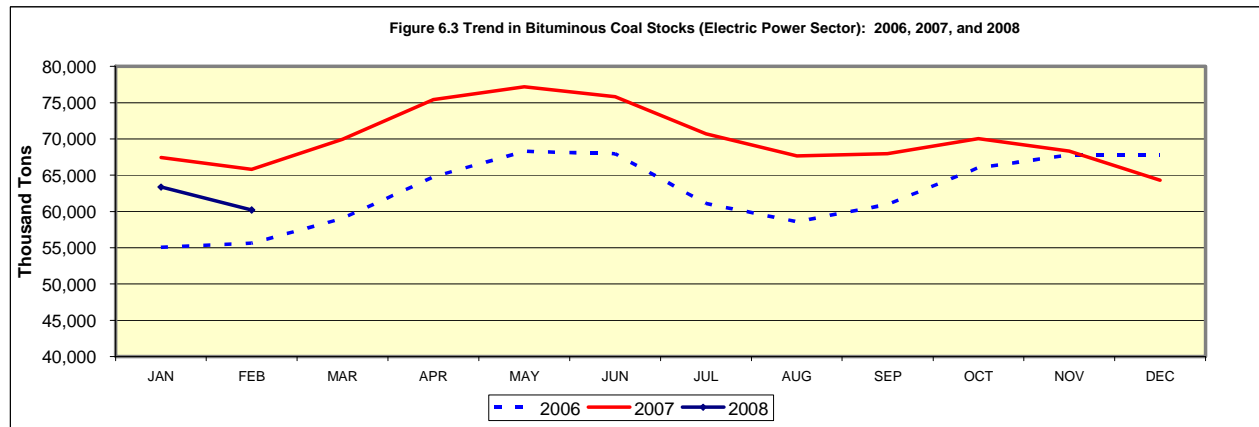
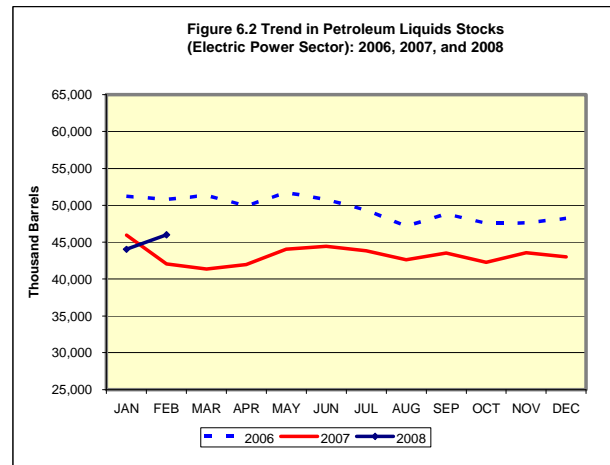
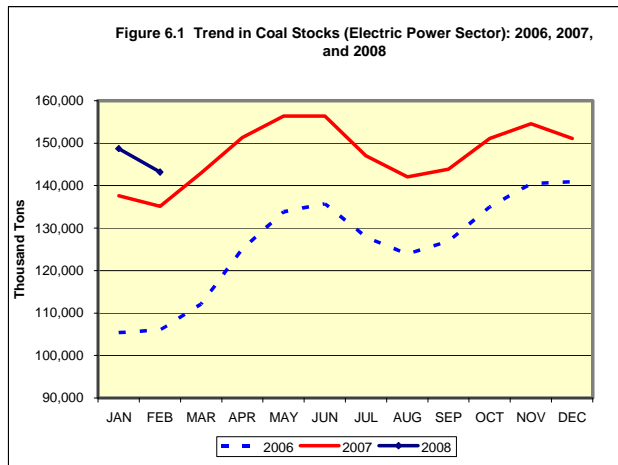


# Section 6. Fossil Fuel Stock Trends

Data for:  
February 2008

**Table 6.1 Trends in Total Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)**

Fossil Fuel Stocks	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change	Jan-08	% Change
<b>Coal, Total (Thousand Short Tons)</b>	143,192	135,096	6.0%	148,707	-3.7%
Bituminous (includes anthracite and coal synfuel)	60,197	65,792	-8.5%	63,368	-5.0%
Subbituminous	79,801	64,624	23.5%	80,766	-1.2%
Lignite	3,193	4,680	-31.8%	4,573	-30.2%
<b>Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)</b>	45,989	42,048	9.4%	44,023	4.5%



## Section 7. Month-to-Month Comparisons: Electric Power Retail Sales and Average Prices

Data for:  
February 2008

### Retail Sales

Table 7.1 Retail Sales (Million kWh)

Ultimate Customer	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change	Jan-08	% Change
Residential	119,093	121,440	-1.9%	133,623	-10.9%
Commercial	104,903	101,435	3.4%	109,646	-4.3%
Industrial	81,594	77,001	6.0%	83,368	-2.1%
Transportation	668	663	0.6%	693	-3.6%
All Sectors	306,258	300,539	1.9%	327,330	-6.4%

### Average Retail Price

Table 7.2 Average Retail Price (Cents/kWh) -- U.S. Total

Ultimate Customer	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change	Jan-08	% Change
Residential	10.24	9.88	3.6%	10.20	0.4%
Commercial	9.51	9.31	2.1%	9.53	-0.2%
Industrial	6.36	6.18	2.9%	6.27	1.4%
Transportation	11.14	10.56	5.5%	10.09	10.4%
All Sectors	8.96	8.74	2.5%	8.98	-0.2%

Table 7.3 Average Retail Price (Cents/kWh) by Census Division

Census Division	Residential			All Sectors		
	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change	Feb-08	Feb-07	% Change
New England	16.52	16.64	-0.7%	14.95	15.40	-2.9%
Middle Atlantic	13.80	12.80	7.8%	12.32	11.68	5.5%
East North Central	9.47	9.11	4.0%	8.03	7.78	3.2%
West North Central	7.49	7.21	3.9%	6.41	6.22	3.1%
South Atlantic	9.82	9.23	6.4%	8.64	8.29	4.2%
East South Central	8.11	7.73	4.9%	6.92	6.74	2.7%
West South Central	10.34	10.70	-3.4%	8.92	9.16	-2.6%
Mountain	8.89	8.51	4.5%	7.51	7.20	4.3%
Pacific Contiguous	11.14	10.87	2.5%	9.98	9.81	1.7%
Pacific Noncontiguous	23.12	18.73	23.4%	21.27	16.68	27.5%
U.S. Total	10.24	9.88	3.6%	8.96	8.74	2.5%

# Section 8. Retail Sales Trends

Data for:  
February 2008

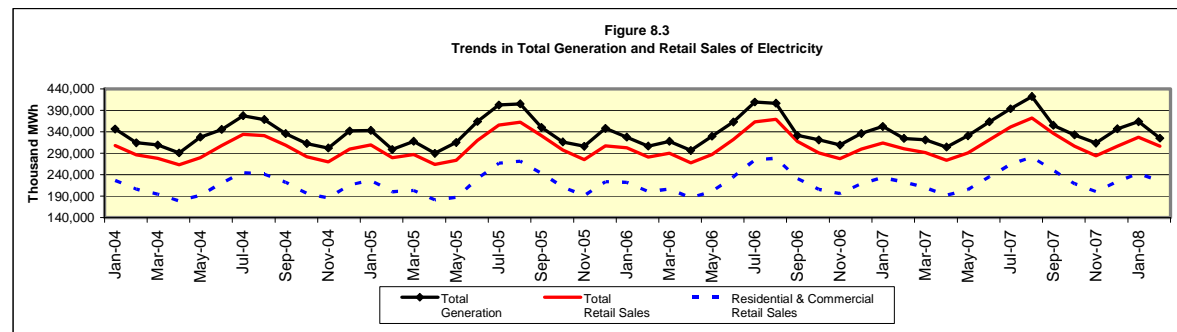
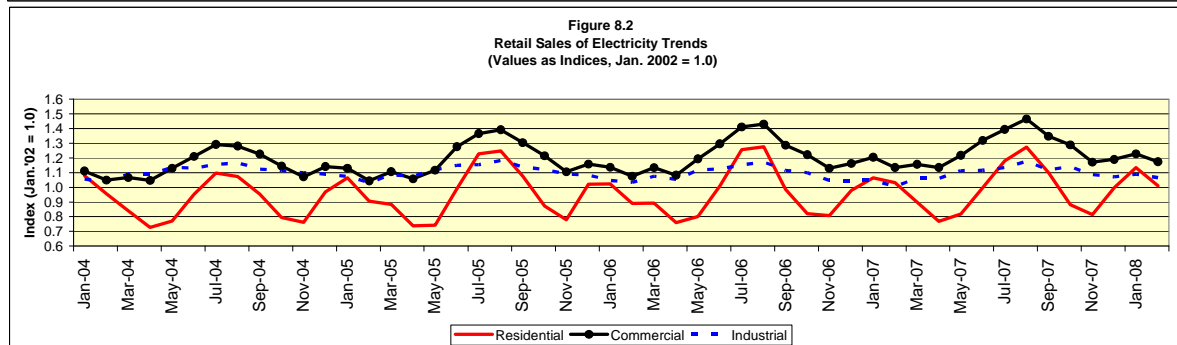
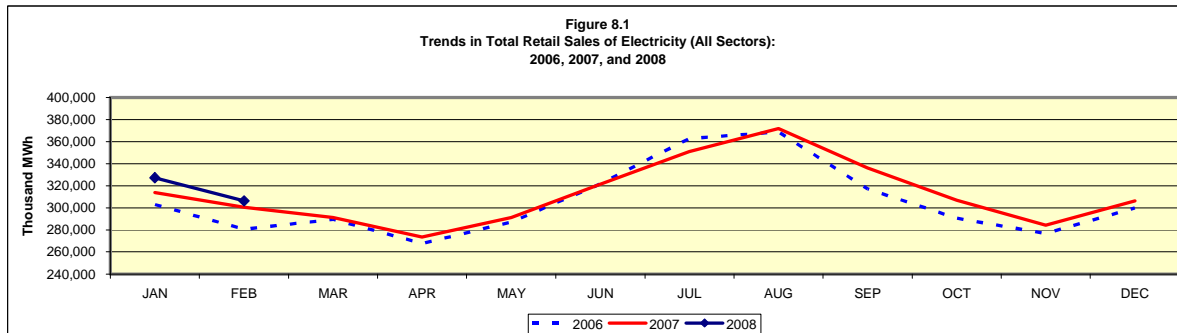
**Table 8.1 Trends in Total Retail Sales of Electricity (All Sectors)**  
Millions of Kilowatthours

### Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
<b>Current Period</b>	January 2008	February 2008	252,717	214,549	164,961	1,361	633,588
<b>Prior Period</b>	January 2007	February 2007	246,613	209,134	157,139	1,388	614,274
<b>Percent Difference</b>			2.5%	2.6%	5.0%	-1.9%	3.1%

### Comparison to Prior Twelve-Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
<b>Current Period</b>	March 2007	February 2008	1,398,015	1,348,088	1,013,650	7,711	3,767,463
<b>Prior Period</b>	March 2006	February 2007	1,373,203	1,311,231	1,006,365	7,481	3,698,280
<b>Percent Difference</b>			1.8%	2.8%	0.7%	3.1%	1.9%





# Section 9. Average Retail Price Trends

Data for:  
February 2008

**Table 9.1 Trends in Average Retail Price of Electricity (All Sectors)  
Cents per Kilowatthour**

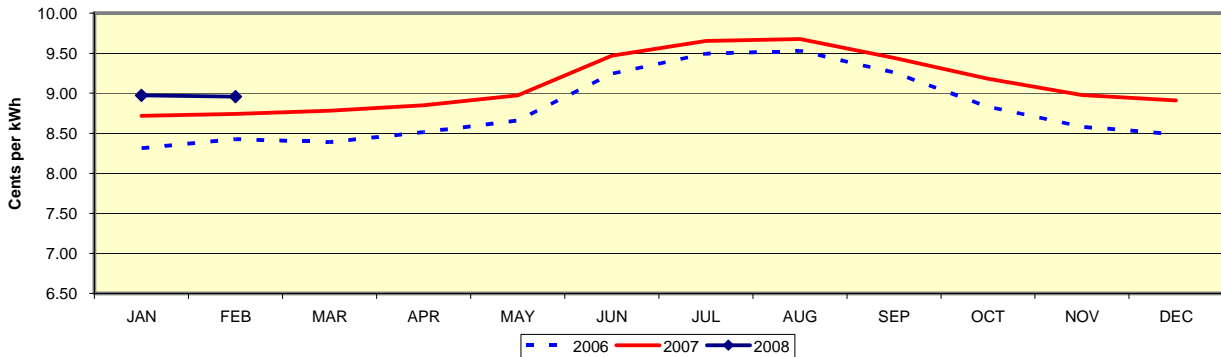
### Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
<b>Current Period</b>	January 2008	February 2008	10.22	9.52	6.32	10.60	8.97
<b>Prior Period</b>	January 2007	February 2007	9.96	9.22	6.13	9.98	8.73
<b>Percent Difference</b>			2.6%	3.3%	3.1%	6.2%	2.7%

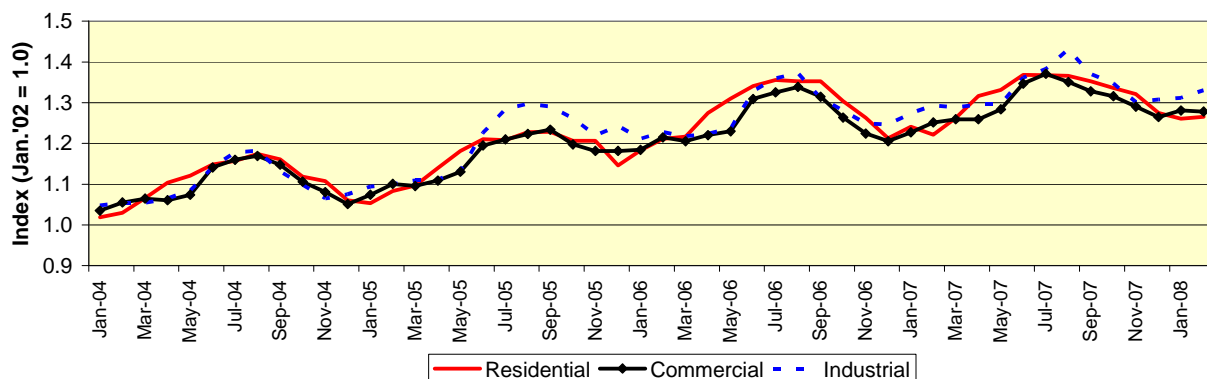
### Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
<b>Current Period</b>	March 2007	February 2008	10.68	9.71	6.39	10.52	9.18
<b>Prior Period</b>	March 2006	February 2007	10.44	9.49	6.20	9.72	8.95
<b>Percent Difference</b>			2.3%	2.3%	3.1%	8.2%	2.6%

**Figure 9.1 Trends in Average Retail Price of Electricity (All Sectors):  
2006, 2007, and 2008**



**Figure 9.2 Average Retail Price of Electricity: Trends by Sector  
(Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)**



# Section 10. Heating and Cooling Degree Days

Data for:  
February 2008

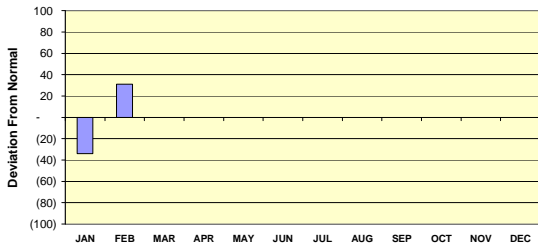
**Table 10.1 Degree Days**

		Heating Degree Days				Cooling Degree Days			
	Month	Heating Degree Days	Normal Heating Degree Days	Deviation From Normal	Percent Difference From Normal	Cooling Degree Days	Normal Cooling Degree Days	Deviation From Normal	Percent Difference From Normal
<b>Current Period</b>	February 2008	763	732	31	4.2%	9	8	1	12.5%
<b>Prior Period</b>	February 2007	853	732	121	16.5%	5	8	-3	-37.5%
<b>Percent Difference</b>				-10.6%		80.0%			

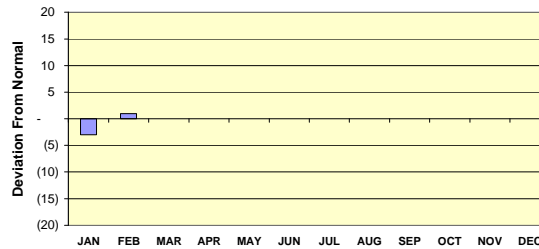
**Table 10.2 Trends in Heating and Cooling Degree Days**

Year-to-Date Comparison					Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period				
	Starting Month	Ending Month	Heating Degree Days	Cooling Degree Days		Starting Month	Ending Month	Heating Degree Days	Cooling Degree Days
<b>Current Period</b>	January 2008	February 2008	1,646	15	<b>Current Period</b>	March 2007	February 2008	4,207	1,395
<b>Prior Period</b>	January 2007	February 2007	1,694	15	<b>Prior Period</b>	March 2006	February 2007	4,272	1,365
<b>Percent Difference</b>			-2.8%	0.0%	<b>Percent Difference</b>			-1.5%	2.2%

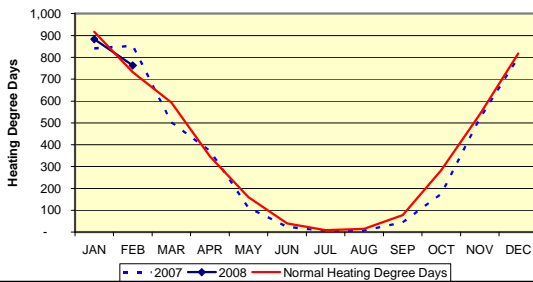
**Figure 10.1 Deviation From Normal: Heating Degree Days, 2008**



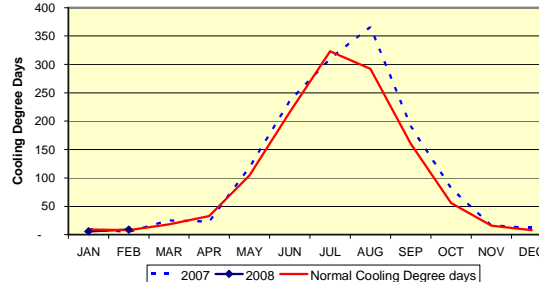
**Figure 10.2 Deviation From Normal Cooling Degree Days, 2008**



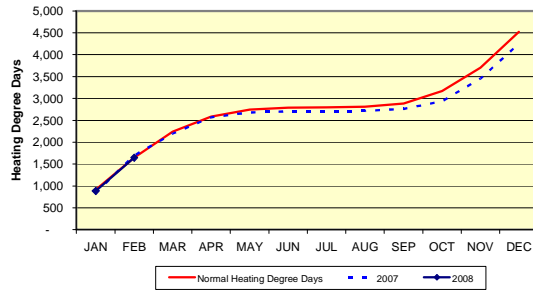
**Figure 10.3 Trend in Heating Degree Days: 2007, 2008, and Normal**



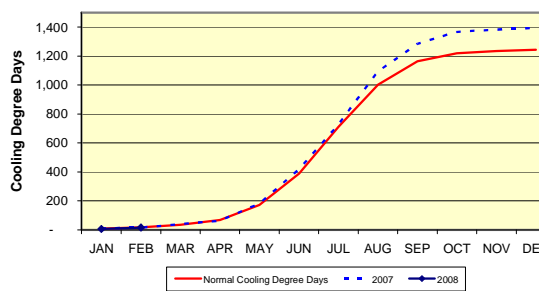
**Figure 10.4 Trend in Cooling Degree Days: 2007, 2008, and Normal**



**Figure 10.5 Trend in Cumulative Heating Degree Days: 2007, 2008, and Normal**



**Figure 10.6 Trend in Cumulative Cooling Degree Days: 2007, 2008, and Normal**



**General:** The *Monthly Flash Estimates of Electric Power Data* ("Flash Estimates") is prepared by the Electric Power Division, Office of Coal, Nuclear, Electric and Alternate Fuels, Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. Department of Energy. Data published in the *Flash Estimates* are compiled from the following sources: Form EIA-826, "Monthly Electric Utility Sales and Revenues with State Distributions Report," and Form EIA-923, "Power Plant Operations Report."

The survey data is collected monthly from a statistically-derived sample of power plants and electricity retailers. The nominal sample sizes are: for the Form EIA-826, approximately 450 electric utilities and other energy service providers; for the Form EIA-923, approximately 1590 plants. With the exception of stocks, a regression-based method is used to estimate totals from the sample. Essentially complete samples are collected for the *Electric Power Monthly*, which includes State-level values. The *Flash Estimates* is based on an incomplete sample and includes only national-level estimates. Stocks data for out-of-sample plants and any monthly non-respondents are estimated by bringing forward the last reported value for a plant.

For complete documentation on EIA monthly electric data collection and estimation, see the Technical Notes to the *Electric Power Monthly*, at: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epm/epm.pdf>. Values displayed in the *Flash Estimates* may differ from values published in the *Electric Power Monthly* due to independent rounding. This report represents the EIA's initial release for national level electricity data. Updated information will be released in the *Electric Power Monthly*.

**Sector definitions:** The Electric Power Sector comprises electricity-only and CHP plants within the North American Industrial Classification System 22 category whose primary business is to sell electricity, or electricity and heat, to the public (i.e., electric utility plants and Independent Power Producers (IPP), including IPP plants that operate as combined heat and power producers). The All Sectors totals include the Electric Power Sector and the Commercial and Industrial sectors (Commercial and Industrial power producers are primarily CHP plants).

**Composition of fuel categories:** See notes on page 3.

**Degree Days:** Notes: Degree-days are relative measurements of outdoor air temperature used as an index for heating and cooling energy requirements. Heating degree-days are the number of degrees that the daily average temperature falls below 65° F. Cooling degree-days are the number of degrees that the daily average temperature rises above 65° F. The daily average temperature is the mean of the maximum and minimum temperatures in a 24-hour period. For example, a weather station recording an average daily temperature of 40° F would report 25 heating degree-days for that day (and 0 cooling degree-days). If a weather station recorded an average daily temperature of 78° F, cooling degree-days for that station would be 13 (and 0 heating degree days).