Monthly Flash Estimates of Electric Power Data

Data for: January 2005

Table 1. Key Indicators

Change From:	Total Generation	Nuclear Generation	Hydroelectric Generation
December 2004	0.6%	0.6%	-6.6%
January 2004	-1.0%	-2.5%	6.2%
Year to Date:	-1.0%	-2.5%	6.2%
Latest 12 Month Period*	1.6%	2.8%	-2.6%

Change From:	Natural Gas Consumption	Coal Consumption	Coal Stocks
December 2004	-0.4%	0.0%	-0.6%
January 2004	4.7%	-1.0%	-6.2%
Year to Date:	4.7%	-1.0%	n/a
Latest 12 Month Period*	7.8%	1.4%	n/a

* Change in total consumption or generation for the latest 12 month period (February 2004 to January 2005) compared to the prior 12 month period (February 2003 to January 2004). For January data reports, year to date and current month are the same time periods.

This report was prepared by the Energy Information Administration, the independent statistical and analytical agency within the U.S. Department of Energy. The information contained herein should be attributed to the Energy Information Administration and should not be construed as advocating or reflecting any policy of the Department of Energy or any other organization. For additional information, contact Stan Kaplan at 202-287-1803, or at stan.kaplan@eia.doe.gov.

Month-to-Month Comparisons: Generation, Consumption & Stocks

Net Generation (Total, All Sectors)

Table 2. Net Generation Total (All Sectors)					
Net Generation (thousand megawatthours)	**Jan-05**	**Jan-04**	**% Change**	**Dec-04**	**% Change**
Coal	175,921	180,624	-2.6%	175,978	0.0%
Petroleum Liquids	10,630	13,097	-18.8%	8,055	32.0%
Natural Gas	50,648	47,485	6.7%	50,168	1.0%
Nuclear	69,059	70,806	-2.5%	68,617	0.6%
Hydroelectric Conventional	24,686	23,248	6.2%	26,429	-6.6%
All Other	10,547	9,833	7.3%	10,302	2.4%
Total (All Energy Sources)	341,491	345,094	-1.0%	339,548	0.6%

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

Table 3. Consumption of Fossil Fuels for Electric Generation Total (All Sectors)					
	Jan-05	**Jan-04**	**% Change**	**Dec-04**	**% Change**
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	92,094	92,995	-1.0%	92,131	0.0%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	18,179	22,853	-20.5%	13,781	31.9%
Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)	431,005	411,795	4.7%	432,882	-0.4%

Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)

Table 4. Fossil Fuel Stocks (Total, Electric Power Sector)					
	Jan-05	**Jan-04**	**% Change**	**Dec-04**	**% Change**
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	106,054	113,029	-6.2%	106,709	-0.6%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	42,549	42,708	-0.4%	45,126	-5.7%

Notes:
- **Coal consumption and generation** includes subbituminous coal, bituminous coal, anthracite, lignite, waste coal and synthetic coal (synfuel).
- **Coal stocks** includes the coal categories listed immediately above except for waste coal.
- **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.

Month-to-Month Comparisons: Electric Power Sales and Prices

Retail Sales

Table 5. Retail Sales (Million Kwh)					
	Jan-05	Jan-04	% Change	Dec-04	% Change
Residential	126,690	126,964	-0.2%	113,737	11.4%
Commercial	100,972	99,211	1.8%	101,255	-0.3%
Industrial	82,344	80,407	2.4%	83,890	-1.8%
Transportation	752	676	11.3%	684	9.9%
All Sectors	310,758	307,257	1.1%	299,565	3.7%

Average Retail Price

Table 6. Average Retail Price (Cents/kWh)					
	Jan-05	Jan-04	% Change	Dec-04	% Change
Residential	8.5	8.2	3.5%	8.6	-0.6%
Commercial	8.0	7.7	3.1%	7.8	1.8%
Industrial	5.1	4.9	3.7%	5.0	1.0%
Transportation	6.6	6.1	7.7%	6.5	1.4%
All Sectors	7.4	7.2	3.2%	7.3	1.2%

Commentary

Generation in January 2005 was an estimated one percent lower than in January 2004. The main reason for this decline appears to be relatively mild weather; heating degree days in January 2005 were 11 percent lower than in January 2004. However, the overall trend points toward continued growth. Generation for the current rolling 12 month period (February 2004 through January 2005) is up 1.6 percent compared to the prior rolling 12 month period (February 2003 through January 2004).

During the rolling 12 month comparison periods, nuclear generation is up 2.8 percent and natural gas generation is up 8.6 percent. It appears that the growth in generation from these energy sources may be impacting the coal sector, where generation declined very slightly (a drop of 0.1 percent). The 8.6 percent growth in gas-fired generation produced a smaller 7.8 percent gain in gas consumed for power generation, likely due to the introduction of new, more efficient plants. In contrast, although coal generation was static, consumption increased during the rolling 12 month periods by 1.4 percent, presumably due to the increased use of lower heat content fuel.

Petroleum stocks at power plants were almost unchanged from January 2004. Coal stocks continued to trend downward; stocks dropped 0.6 percent from December 2004 and were down 6.2 percent compared to January 2005.

Net Generation Trends

Table 7. Trends in Generation by Fuel (Total, All Sectors)
Millions of Kilowatthours

Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal	Petroleum Liquids	Natural Gas	Nuclear	Hydroelectric Conventional	All Other	Total
Current Period	January 2005	January 2005	175,921	10,630	50,648	69,059	24,686	10,547	341,491
Prior Period	January 2004	January 2004	180,624	13,097	47,485	70,806	23,248	9,833	345,094
Percent Change			-2.6%	-18.8%	6.7%	-2.5%	6.2%	7.3%	-1.0%

Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal	Petroleum Liquids	Natural Gas	Nuclear	Hydroelectric Conventional	All Other	Total
Current Period	February 2004	January 2005	1,971,628	96,561	702,774	786,807	271,075	120,957	3,949,802
Prior Period	February 2003	January 2004	1,973,047	104,314	647,217	765,329	278,452	117,930	3,886,289
Percent Change			-0.1%	-7.4%	8.6%	2.8%	-2.6%	2.6%	1.6%

Figure 1. Trend in Total Net Generation (All Sectors): 2003, 2004, and 2005

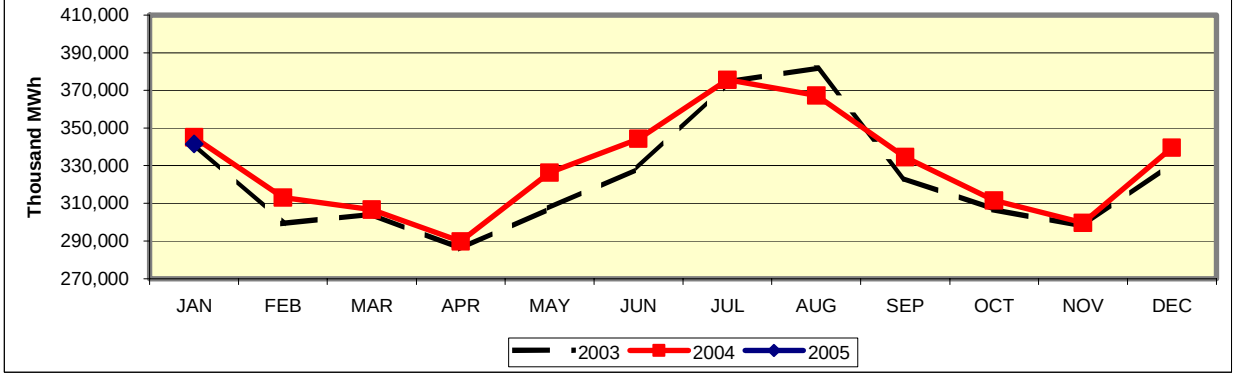


Figure 2. Fossil Fuel Generation Trends
(Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)

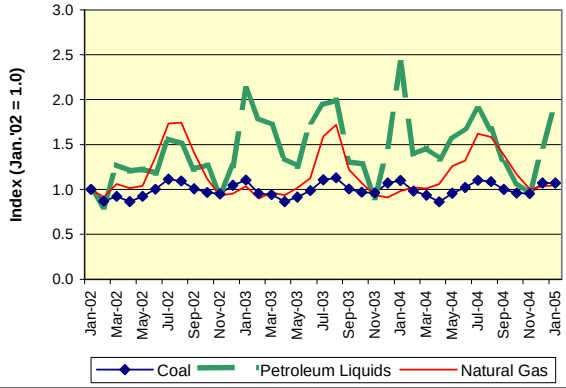
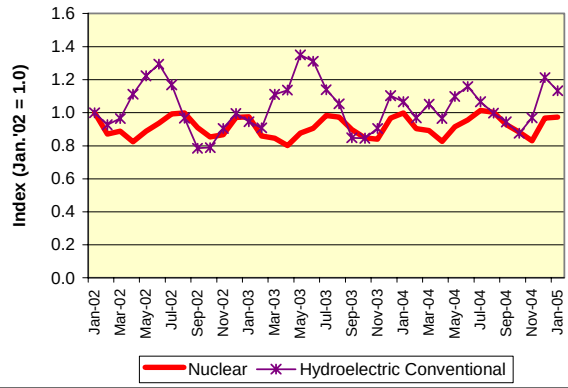


Figure 3. Nuclear and Hydroelectric Generation Trends
(Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)



Fossil Fuel Consumption Trends

Table 8. Trends in Fossil Fuel Consumption (Total, All Sectors)

Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
Current Period	January 2005	January 2005	92,094	18,179	431,005
Prior Period	January 2004	January 2004	92,995	22,853	411,795
Percent Change			-1.0%	-20.5%	4.7%

Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
Current Period	February 2004	January 2005	1,028,662	165,573	6,039,543
Prior Period	February 2003	January 2004	1,014,892	178,252	5,601,209
Percent Change			1.4%	-7.1%	7.8%

Figure 4. Trend in Total Coal Consumption (All Sectors): 2003, 2004, and 2005

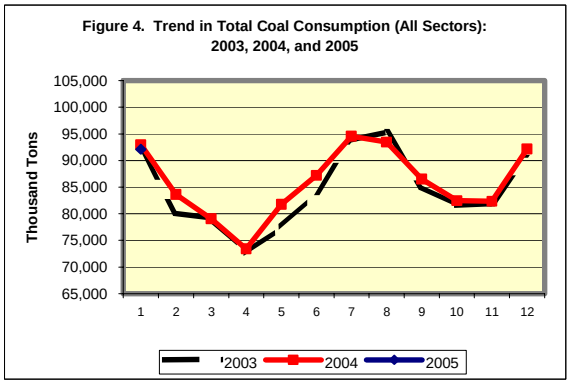


Figure 5. Trend in Total Petroleum Liquids Consumption (All Sectors): 2003, 2004 and 2005

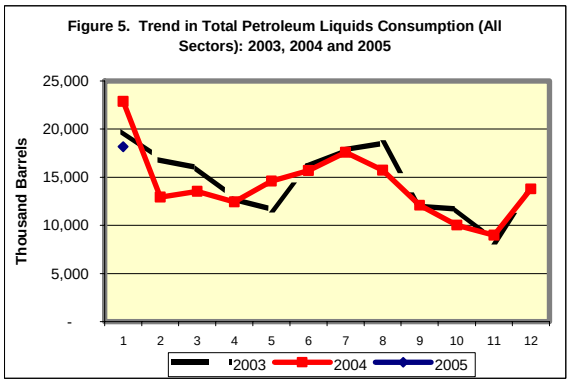
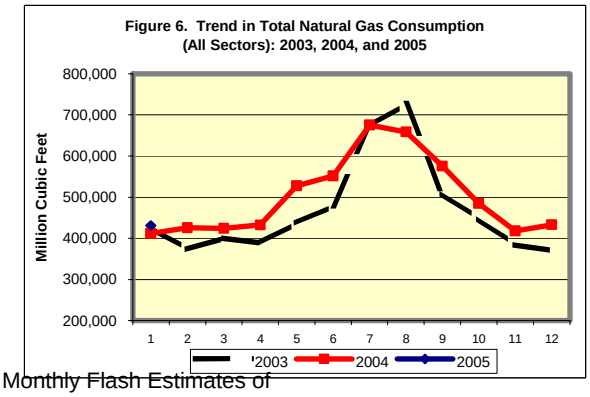


Figure 6. Trend in Total Natural Gas Consumption (All Sectors): 2003, 2004, and 2005



Stocks Trends

Figure 7. Trend in Petroleum Liquids Stocks (Electric Power Sector): 2003, 2004, and 2005

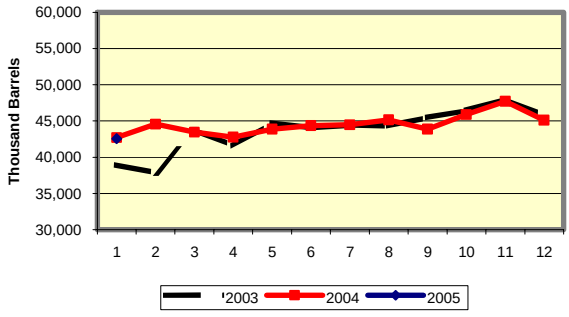
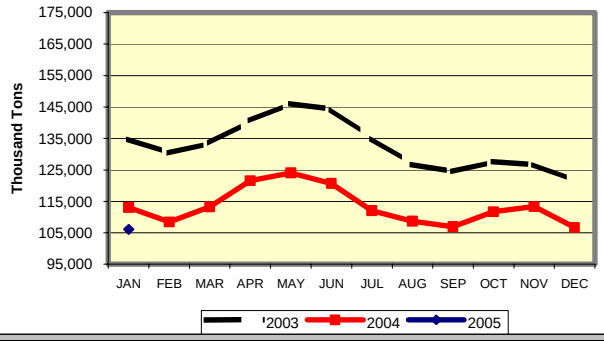


Figure 8. Trend in Coal Stocks (Electric Power Sector): 2003, 2004, and 2005



Note: the Stocks data table is on page 2 of the report.

Degree Days

Figure 9. Trend in Heating Degree Days: 2003, 2004, and 2005

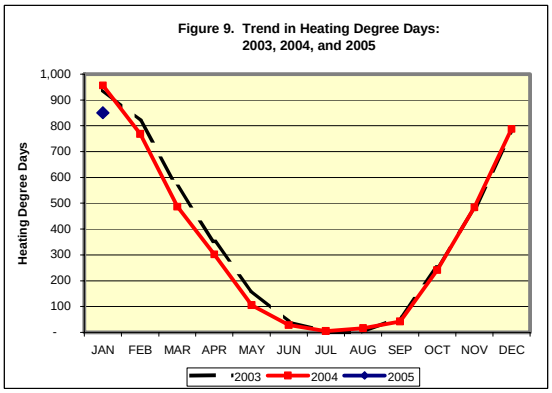


Figure 10. Trend in Cooling Degree Days: 2003, 2004, and 2005

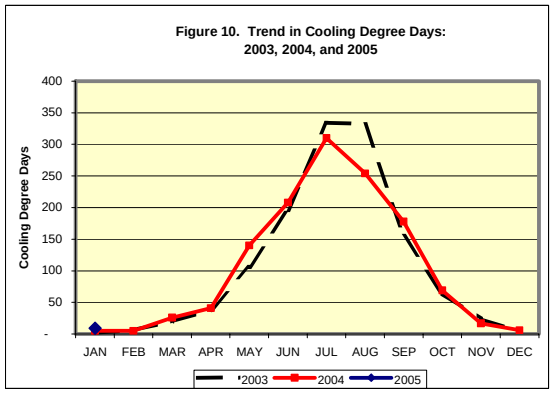


Table 9. Trends in Heating and Cooling Degree Days

Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Heating Degree Days	Cooling Degree Days
Current Period	January 2005	January 2005	851	9
Prior Period	January 2004	January 2004	957	5
Percent Change			-11.1%	80.0%

Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Heating Degree Days	Cooling Degree Days
Current Period	February 2004	January 2005	4,118	1,263
Prior Period	February 2003	January 2004	4,457	1,284
Percent Change			-7.6%	-1.6%

Documentation

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," Form EIA-906, "Power Plant Report," and Form EIA-920, "Combined Heat and Power Plant Report."

The survey data is collected monthly from a statistically-derived sample of power plants and electricity retailers. The nominal sample sizes are: fo the EIA-826, approximately 450 electric utilities and other energy service providers; for the EIA-920, approximately 300 combined heat and power (CHP) plants; and for the EIA-906, approximately 1,440 non-CHP 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 2.

Change in data collection categories for electric sales and revenue data Sales data for periods prior to January 2004 were collected for the Residential, Commercial, Industrial and Other categories. For the period January 2004 and later, the Other category was eliminated, and the data are now collected for the new Transportation category, the Residential category, and slightly redefined Commercial and Industrial categories that contain some elements previously in the Other category.