Monthly Flash Estimates of

Electric Power Data

Data for: February 2010

Section 1. Commentary

The contiguous United States as a whole experienced temperatures that were below average in February 2010. This occurred because arctic air masses dominated much of the Nation during the month, creating temperatures that were significantly below average in the South, Midwest, and Mid-Atlantic. Accordingly, total population-weighted heating degree days for the United States were 10.7 percent above the average for the month of February.

Retail sales of electricity increased 4.2 percent compared to February 2009. Over the same period, the average U.S. retail price of electricity decreased 2.9 percent. For the 12-month period ending February 2010, the U.S. average retail price of electricity decreased by 0.5 percent over the previous 12-month period ending February 2009.

In February 2010, total electric power generation in the United States increased 5.7 percent from February 2009 (the change in electric power generation does not necessarily coincide with the change in retail sales of electricity because utility billing cycles tend to lag electricity production in many areas). Over the same period, coal generation increased 8.1 percent, while natural gas generation increased 5.2 percent. Petroleum liquids generation had the largest percentage decline, 44.3 percent from the previous year, as a result of the increased cost of petroleum liquids as a fuel used in electricity generation. February 2010 electricity generation from conventional hydroelectric sources increased 14.2 percent compared to February 2009. This increase in conventional hydroelectric generation occurred as a result of significantly below average precipitation in February 2009.

Total coal stocks in the Electric Power Sector continued to recede from historically high levels set the previous year, decreasing 3.5 percent from January 2010. The January 2010 to February 2010 change in coal stocks consisted of a 4.5-percent decrease in bituminous coal and a 2.7-percent decrease in subbituminous coal. Petroleum liquid stocks increased 2.2 percent from January 2010.

References for weather data:

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/2010/feb/national.html

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Section 2. Key Indicators of Generation, Consumption & Stocks

Data for: February 2010

Table 2.1 Key Generation Indicators

	Total Generation	Nuclear Generation	Hydroelectric Generation
Total Change From:			
January 2010	**-11.6%**	**-10.0%**	**-7.4%**
February 2009	**5.7%**	**1.6%**	**14.2%**
Year to Date	**3.3%**	**-0.4%**	**1.9%**
Latest 12 Month Period*	**-2.8%**	**-1.3%**	**6.2%**

Table 2.2 Key Consumption and Stocks Indicators

	Natural Gas Consumption	Coal Consumption	Coal Stocks
Total Change From:			
January 2010	**-11.9%**	**-12.0%**	**-3.5%**
February 2009	**6.4%**	**7.3%**	**5.5%**
Year to Date	**9.7%**	**3.2%**	**--**
Latest 12 Month Period*	**5.1%**	**-8.1%**	**--**

* Change in total consumption or generation for the latest 12 month period (March 2009 to February 2010) compared to the prior 12 month period (March 2008 to February 2009).

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

Data for: February 2010

Net Generation (Total, All Sectors)

Table 3.1 Total Net Generation (All Sectors)

Net Generation (thousand megawatthours)	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change	Jan-10	% Change
Coal	153,077	141,574	8.1%	173,965	-12.0%
Petroleum Liquids	1,240	2,226	-44.3%	3,193	-61.2%
Natural Gas	65,322	62,104	5.2%	73,685	-11.3%
Nuclear	65,247	64,227	1.6%	72,534	-10.0%
Hydroelectric Conventional	20,435	17,887	14.2%	22,071	-7.4%
All Other	13,188	13,426	-1.8%	14,855	-11.2%
Total (All Energy Sources)	318,511	301,443	5.7%	360,302	-11.6%

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-10	Feb-09	% Change	Jan-10	% Change
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	80,044	74,577	7.3%	90,914	-12.0%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	2,152	3,829	-43.8%	5,597	-61.6%
Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)	497,103	467,278	6.4%	564,406	-11.9%

Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)

Table 3.3 Total Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)

Fossil Fuel Stocks	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change	Jan-10	% Change
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	169,583	160,741	5.5%	175,815	-3.5%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	37,897	40,325	-6.0%	37,086	2.2%

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 2010

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
Current Period	January 2010	February 2010	327,042	4,433	139,007	137,781	42,506	28,044	678,813
Prior Period	January 2009	February 2009	314,072	7,088	128,095	138,330	41,716	27,521	656,822
Percent Difference			4.1%	-37.5%	8.5%	-0.4%	1.9%	1.9%	3.3%

Comparison to Prior Twelve-Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal	Petroleum Liquids	Natural Gas	Nuclear	Hydroelectric Conventional	All Other	Total
Current Period	March 2009	February 2010	1,777,455	23,137	931,290	798,196	272,921	172,102	3,975,101
Prior Period	February 2008	February 2009	1,950,332	33,436	878,433	808,673	256,979	160,253	4,088,106
Percent Difference			-8.9%	-30.8%	6.0%	-1.3%	6.2%	7.4%	-2.8%

Figure 4.1 Trends in Total Net Generation (All Sectors): 2008, 2009, and 2010

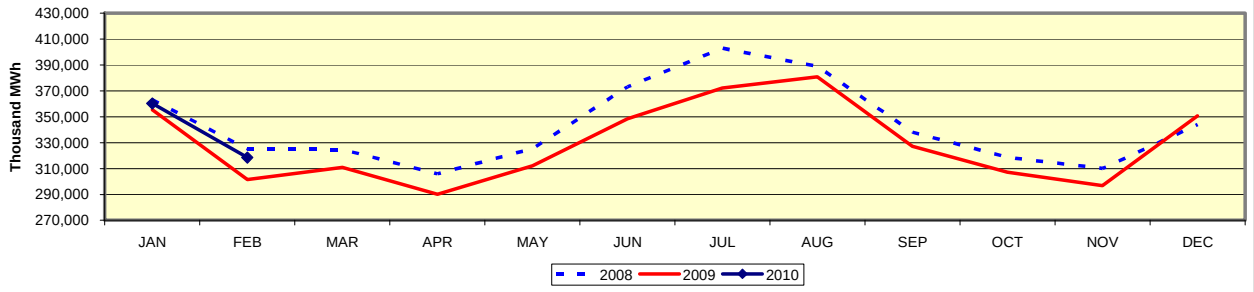


Figure 4.2 Fossil Fuel Generation Trends (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)

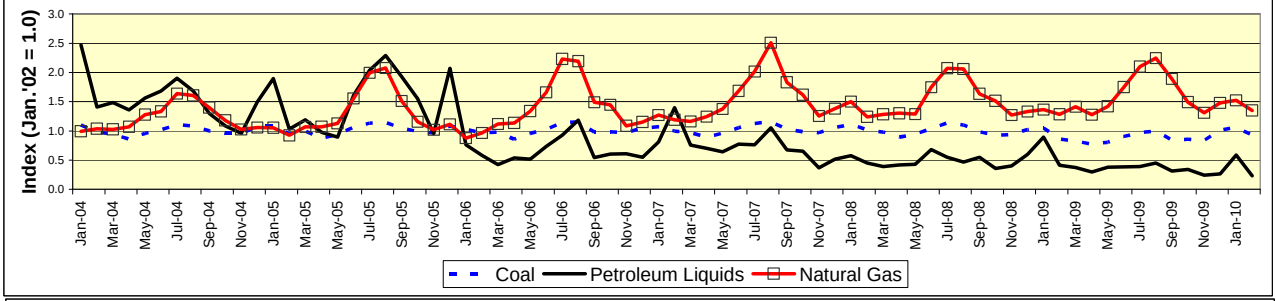
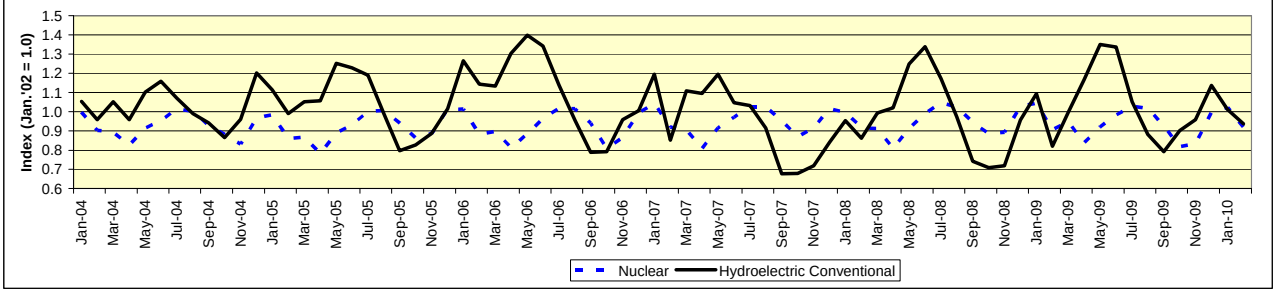


Figure 4.3 Nuclear and Hydroelectric Generation Trends (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)



Section 5. Fossil Fuel Consumption Trends

Data for: February 2010

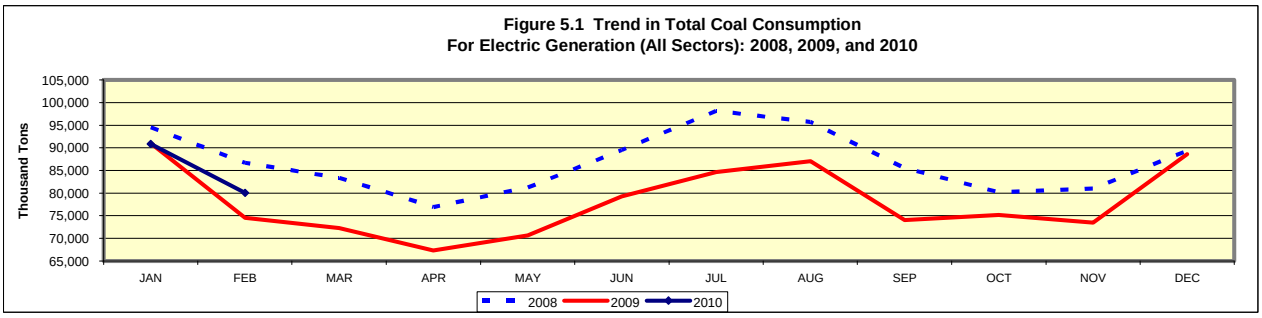
Table 5.1 Trends in Fossil Fuel Consumption For Electric Generation, Total (All Sectors)

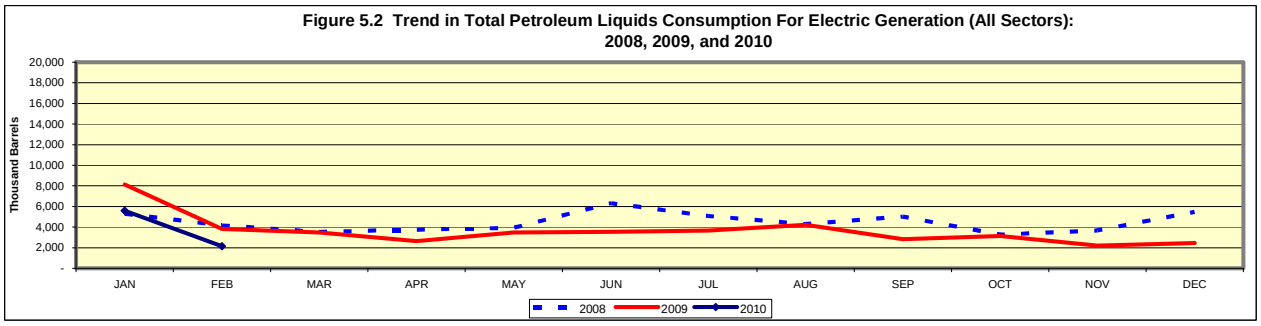
Year-to-Date Comparison

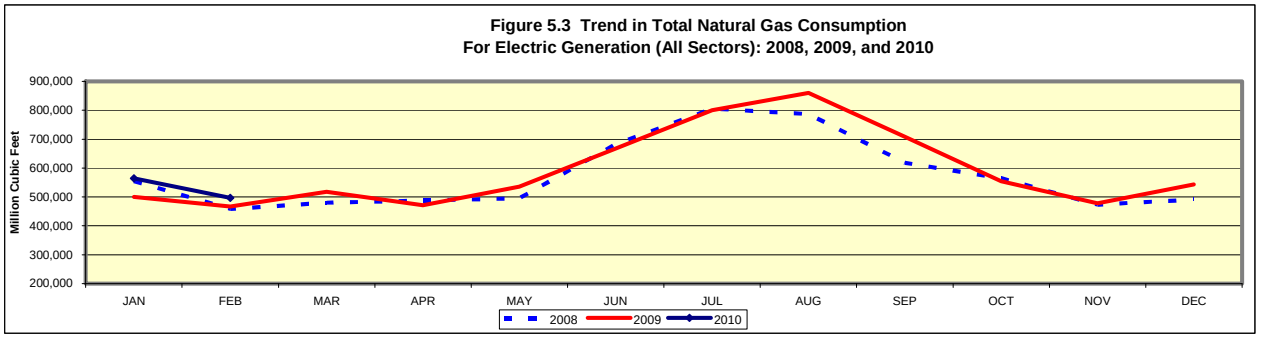
	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
Current Period	January 2010	February 2010	170,958	7,749	1,061,510
Prior Period	January 2009	February 2009	165,595	11,975	967,774
Percent Difference			3.2%	-35.3%	9.7%

Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
Current Period	March 2009	February 2010	943,423	39,445	7,198,335
Prior Period	February 2008	February 2009	1,026,696	56,369	6,851,208
Percent Difference			-8.1%	-30.0%	5.1%







Section 6. Fossil Fuel Stock Trends

Data for: February 2010

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

Fossil Fuel Stocks	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change	Jan-10	% Change
Coal, Total (Thousand Short Tons)	169,583	160,741	5.5%	175,815	-3.5%
Bituminous (includes anthracite and coal synfuel)	79,253	65,547	20.9%	82,974	-4.5%
Subbituminous	85,604	90,126	-5.0%	87,999	-2.7%
Lignite	4,726	5,068	-6.7%	4,842	-2.4%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	37,897	40,325	-6.0%	37,086	2.2%

Figure 6.1 Trend in Coal Stocks (Electric Power Sector): 2008, 2009, and 2010

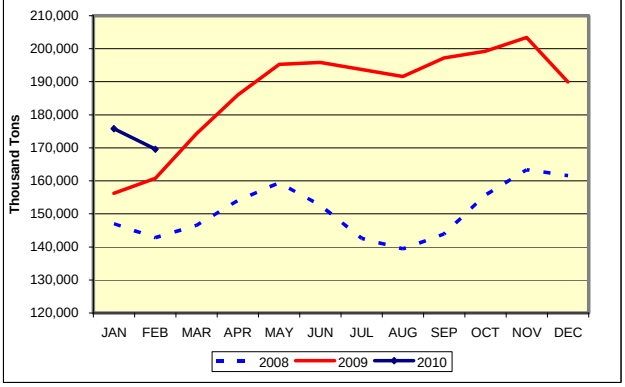


Figure 6.2 Trend in Petroleum Liquids Stocks (Electric Power Sector): 2008, 2009, and 2010

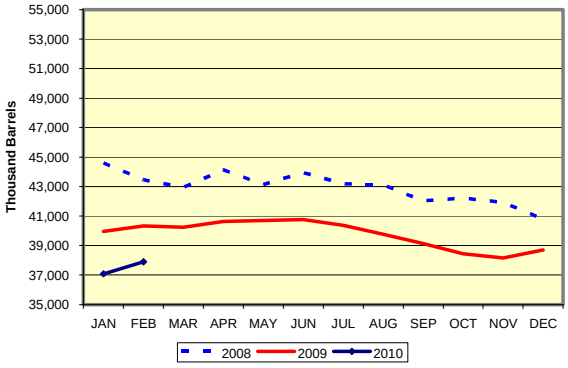


Figure 6.3 Trend in Bituminous Coal Stocks (Electric Power Sector): 2008, 2009, and 2010

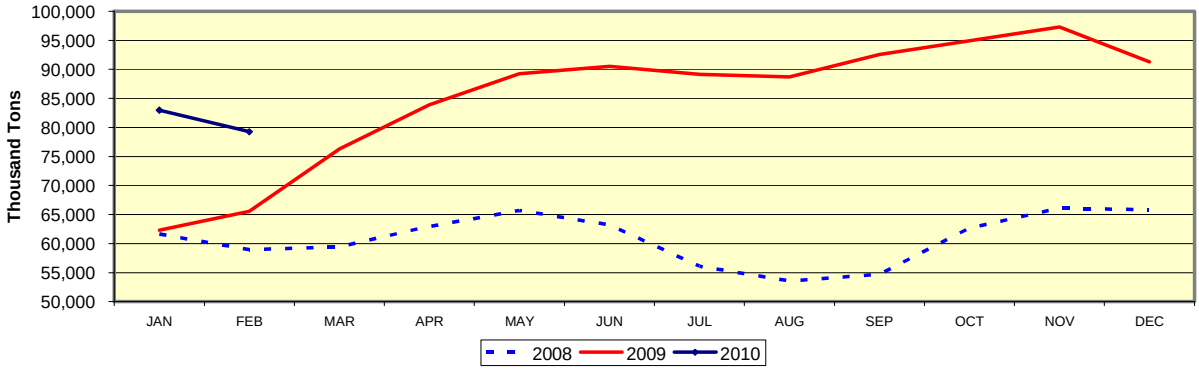
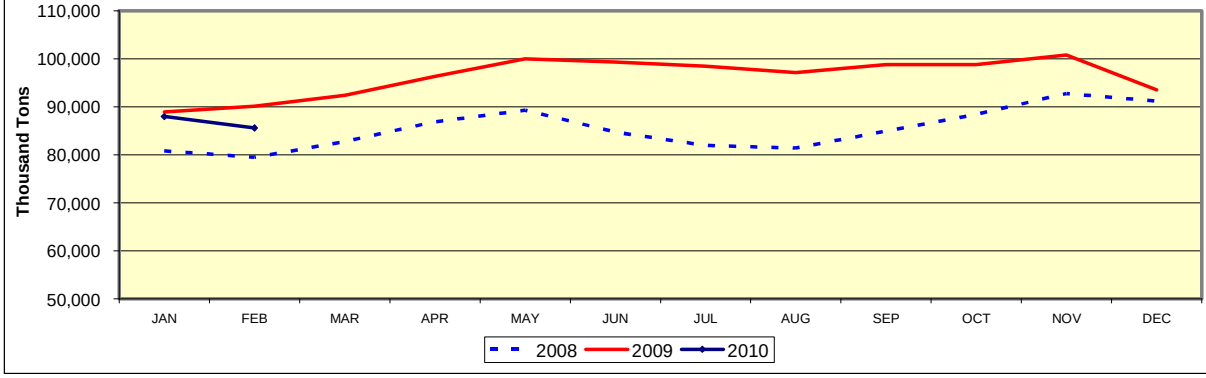


Figure 6.4 Trend in Subbituminous Coal Stocks (Electric Power Sector): 2008, 2009, and 2010



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

Data for: February 2010

Retail Sales

Table 7.1 Retail Sales (Million kWh)

Ultimate Customer	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change	Jan-10	% Change
Residential	123,312	115,432	6.8%	147,849	-16.6%
Commercial	101,881	100,772	1.1%	109,639	-7.1%
Industrial	71,419	68,603	4.1%	72,584	-1.6%
Transportation	757	655	15.6%	732	3.4%
All Sectors	297,369	285,461	4.2%	330,804	-10.1%

Average Retail Price

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

Ultimate Customer	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change	Jan-10	% Change
Residential	10.93	11.18	-2.2%	10.54	3.7%
Commercial	9.89	10.17	-2.8%	9.58	3.2%
Industrial	6.55	6.92	-5.3%	6.54	0.2%
Transportation	10.46	10.95	-4.5%	10.77	-2.9%
All Sectors	9.52	9.80	-2.9%	9.35	1.8%

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

Census Division	Residential			All Sectors		
	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change
New England	16.24	18.06	-10.1%	14.94	16.30	-8.3%
Middle Atlantic	14.92	14.13	5.6%	13.17	12.76	3.2%
East North Central	10.41	10.34	0.7%	8.63	8.78	-1.7%
West North Central	8.19	8.29	-1.2%	7.09	7.11	-0.3%
South Atlantic	10.75	11.03	-2.5%	9.59	9.89	-3.0%
East South Central	8.67	9.49	-8.6%	7.55	8.33	-9.4%
West South Central	10.52	11.60	-9.3%	8.91	9.67	-7.9%
Mountain	9.81	9.39	4.5%	8.07	7.80	3.5%
Pacific Contiguous	11.78	11.35	3.8%	10.39	10.34	0.5%
Pacific Noncontiguous	22.23	20.40	9.0%	20.40	18.07	12.9%
U.S. Total	10.93	11.18	-2.2%	9.52	9.80	-2.9%

Section 8. Retail Sales Trends

Data for: February 2010

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)
Current Period	January 2010	February 2010	271,161	211,520	144,003	1,489	628,173
Prior Period	January 2009	February 2009	251,336	211,898	140,691	1,401	605,327
Percent Difference			7.9%	-0.2%	2.4%	6.3%	3.8%

Comparison to Prior Twelve-Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
Current Period	March 2009	February 2010	1,382,695	1,322,611	885,216	7,776	3,598,297
Prior Period	February 2008	February 2009	1,379,908	1,334,563	984,806	7,728	3,707,005
Percent Difference			0.2%	-0.9%	-10.1%	0.6%	-2.9%

Figure 8.1
Trends in Total Retail Sales of Electricity (All Sectors): 2008, 2009, and 2010

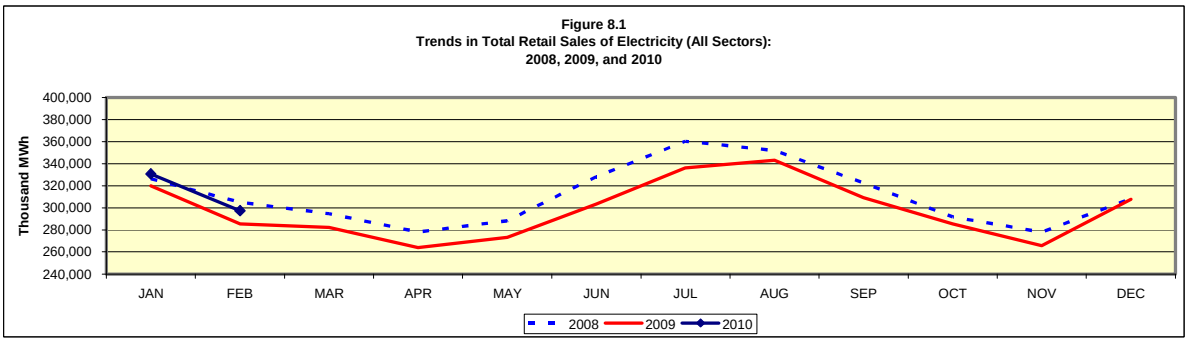


Figure 8.2
Retail Sales of Electricity Trends (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)

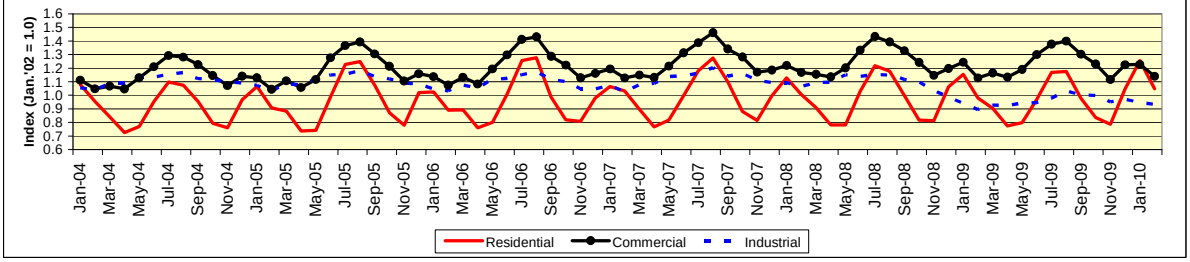
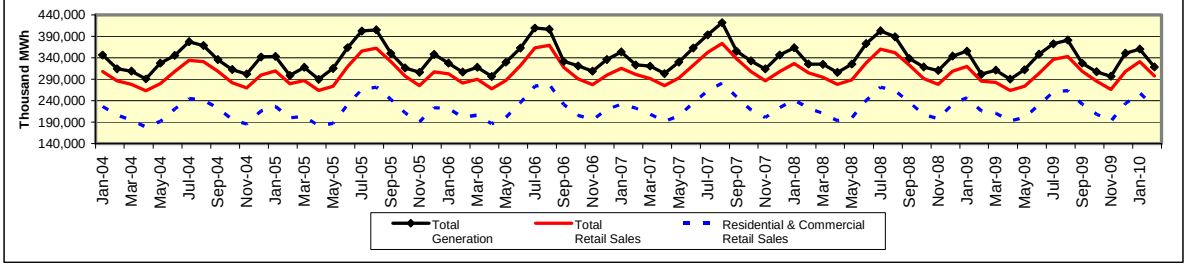


Figure 8.3
Trends in Total Generation and Retail Sales of Electricity



Section 9. Average Retail Price Trends

Data for: February 2010

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)
Current Period	January 2010	February 2010	10.72	9.73	6.55	10.61	9.43
Prior Period	January 2009	February 2009	11.08	10.10	6.87	11.07	9.76
Percent Difference			-3.2%	-3.7%	-4.7%	-4.2%	-3.4%

Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
Current Period	March 2009	February 2010	11.47	10.15	6.79	11.08	9.83
Prior Period	February 2008	February 2009	11.43	10.45	6.94	10.99	9.88
Percent Difference			0.3%	-2.9%	-2.2%	0.8%	-0.5%

Figure 9.1 Trends in Average Retail Price of Electricity (All Sectors): 2008, 2009, and 2010

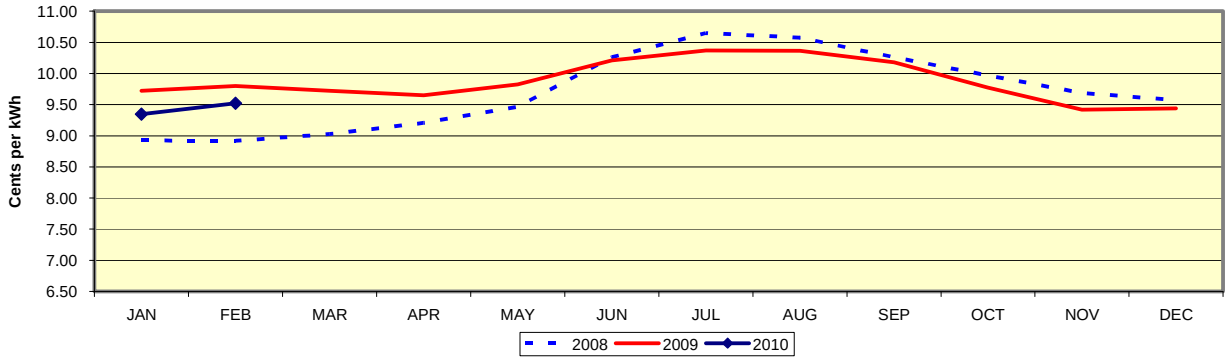
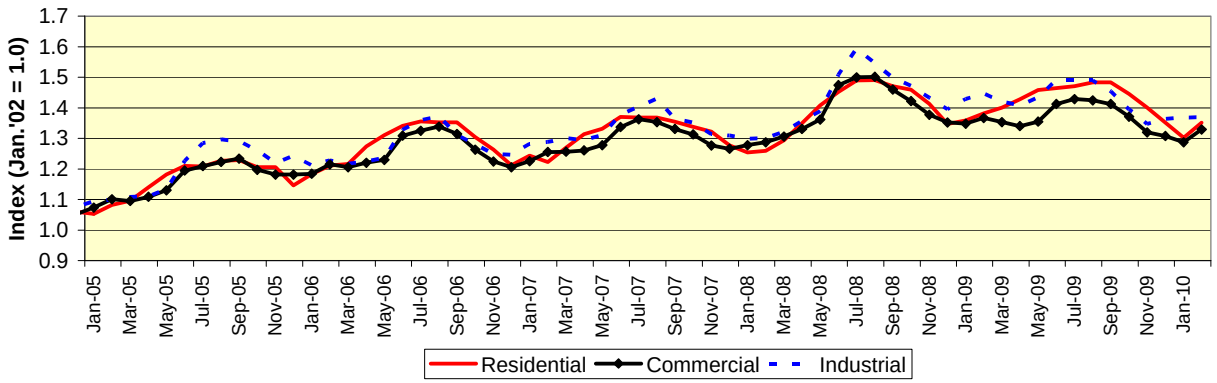


Figure 9.2 Average Retail Price of Electricity: Trends by Sector (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)



Section 10. Heating and Cooling Degree Days

Data for: February 2010

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
Current Period	February 2010	810	732	78	10.7%	1	8	-7	-87.5%
Prior Period	February 2009	705	732	-27	-3.7%	7	8	-1	-12.5%
Percent Difference		14.9%				-85.7%			

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
Current Period	January 2010	February 2010	1,741	4	**Current Period**	March 2009	February 2010	4,560	1,219
Prior Period	January 2009	February 2009	1,674	14	**Prior Period**	February 2008	February 2009	4,535	1,273
Percent Difference			4.0%	-71.4%	**Percent Difference**			0.6%	-4.2%

Figure 10.1 Deviation From Normal: Heating Degree Days, 2010

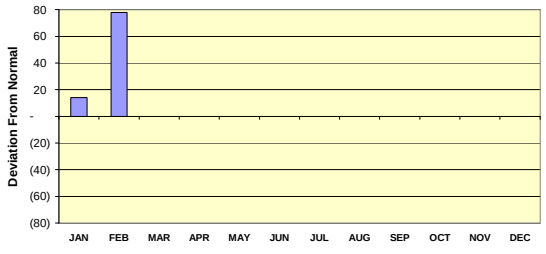


Figure 10.2 Deviation From Normal Cooling Degree Days, 2010

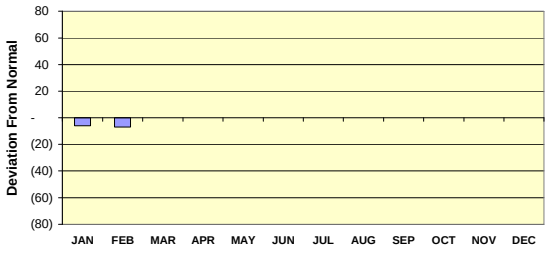


Figure 10.3 Trend in Heating Degree Days: 2009, 2010, and Normal

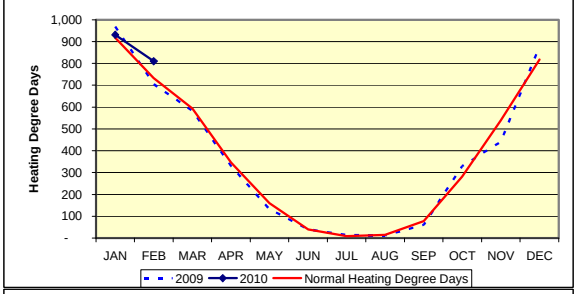


Figure 10.4 Trend in Cooling Degree Days: 2009, 2010, and Normal

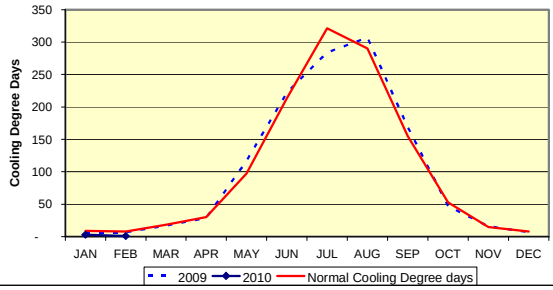


Figure 10.5 Trend in Cumulative Heating Degree Days: 2009, 2010, and Normal

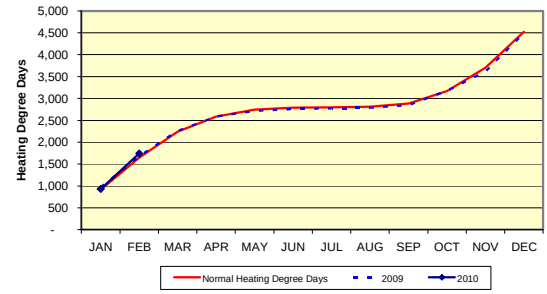
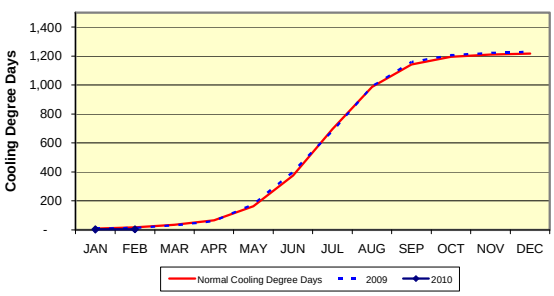


Figure 10.6 Trend in Cumulative Cooling Degree Days: 2009, 2010, and Normal



Section 11. Documentation

Data for: February 2010

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, U.S. 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 are collected monthly using multiple-attribute cutoff sampling of power plants and electric retailers for the purpose of estimation for various data elements (generation, stocks, revenue, etc.), for various categories, such as geographic regions. (The data elements and categories are "attributes.") 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. Regression-based (i.e., "prediction") methodologies are used to estimate totals from the sample. Essentially complete samples are collected for the Electric Power Monthly (EPM), which includes State-level values. The Flash Estimates is based on an incomplete sample and includes only national-level estimates. Using 'prediction,' it is generally possible to make estimates based on the incomplete EPM sample, and still estimate variances.

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 the additional data collection and data revisions that may occur between the release of these two publications. 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).