

Monthly Flash Estimates of Electric Power Data

Data for:
October 2007

Section 1. Commentary

In the contiguous United States, October 2007 was the ninth warmest October on record as reported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Accordingly, heating degree days were 32.3 percent below the average for the month of October, and 37.2 percent lower than what was recorded in October 2006. As a further indicator of the warmer-than-normal temperatures observed across the United States, cooling degree days were 55.4 percent above the average for the month of October, and 89.1 percent higher than October 2006.

In October 2007, electricity generation was 3.4 percent higher than what was observed in October 2006, while retail sales of electricity increased 5.0 percent when compared to October 2006. The higher growth rate for sales of electricity relative to generation is influenced by the fact that the utility billing cycles tend to lag electricity production in many areas. The average U.S. retail price of electricity for October 2007 was 3.5 percent higher than October 2006 and 2.5 percent lower than the previous month.

During the month of October 2007, above normal precipitation observed in the Tennessee River Valley and parts of the mid-Atlantic led to a slight reduction in the drought for these regions. However, severe drought conditions still persist in these regions and in many western states. Accordingly, conventional hydroelectric generation was 13.1 percent lower than October 2006. Natural gas and petroleum liquids generation were both up 11.4 percent and 5.3 percent, respectively, when compared to October 2006. Nuclear generation showed a 7.3-percent increase from October 2006. Generation from coal increased 0.8 percent.

Total coal stocks in the electric power sector were up 4.9 percent from the previous month, as we begin to enter the time of year where the build-up of coal stocks normally occurs. The September 2007-to-October 2007 increase in coal stocks consisted of a 2.7-percent increase for bituminous and 7.5-percent increase for subbituminous coal. Petroleum liquids stocks were 11.3 percent lower than October 2006 as a result of increased generation attributed to petroleum liquids in the first six months of 2007.

References for weather data:

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/2007/oct/oct07.html>

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Section 2. Key Indicators of Generation, Consumption & Stocks

Data for:
October 2007

Table 2.1 Key Generation Indicators

	Total Generation	Nuclear Generation	Hydroelectric Generation
Total Change From:			
September 2007	-6.3%	-8.7%	1.1%
October 2006	3.4%	7.3%	-13.1%
Year to Date	2.3%	1.7%	-13.5%
Latest 12 Month Period*	1.7%	1.1%	-11.4%

Table 2.2 Key Consumption and Stocks Indicators

	Natural Gas Consumption	Coal Consumption	Coal Stocks
Total Change From:			
September 2007	-9.9%	-4.6%	4.9%
October 2006	13.4%	0.2%	11.9%
Year to Date	8.5%	1.9%	n/a
Latest 12 Month Period*	8.2%	1.5%	n/a

* Change in total consumption or generation for the latest 12 month period (November 2006 to October 2007) compared to the prior 12 month period (November 2005 to October 2006).

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

**Data for:
October 2007**

Net Generation (Total, All Sectors)

Table 3.1 Total Net Generation (All Sectors)

Net Generation (thousand megawatthours)	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change	Sep-07	% Change
Coal	162,654	161,434	0.8%	169,839	-4.2%
Petroleum Liquids	3,548	3,370	5.3%	3,648	-2.7%
Natural Gas	78,388	70,351	11.4%	87,741	-10.7%
Nuclear	61,704	57,509	7.3%	67,582	-8.7%
Hydroelectric Conventional	14,826	17,055	-13.1%	14,667	1.1%
All Other	11,529	11,848	-2.7%	11,503	0.2%
Total (All Energy Sources)	332,649	321,567	3.4%	354,981	-6.3%

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	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change	Sep-07	% Change
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	84,686	84,479	0.2%	88,807	-4.6%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	6,170	5,871	5.1%	6,372	-3.2%
Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)	663,701	585,124	13.4%	736,495	-9.9%

Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)

Table 3.3 Total Fossil Fuel Stocks (Electric Power Sector)

Fossil Fuel Stocks	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change	Sep-07	% Change
Coal (Thousand Short Tons)	150,941	134,941	11.9%	143,890	4.9%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	42,192	47,549	-11.3%	43,496	-3.0%

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:
October 2007

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 2007	October 2007	1,686,368	45,219	766,423	666,673	214,087	117,615	3,496,385
Prior Period	January 2006	October 2006	1,657,907	38,172	704,054	655,337	247,379	116,411	3,419,260
Percent Difference			1.7%	18.5%	8.9%	1.7%	-13.5%	1.0%	2.3%

Comparison to Prior Twelve-Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal	Petroleum Liquids	Natural Gas	Nuclear	Hydroelectric Conventional	All Other	Total
Current Period	November 2006	October 2007	2,019,388	51,702	875,413	798,555	255,954	140,816	4,141,828
Prior Period	November 2005	October 2006	1,994,716	54,614	807,112	789,984	288,873	138,177	4,073,476
Percent Difference			1.2%	-5.3%	8.5%	1.1%	-11.4%	1.9%	1.7%

Figure 4.1 Trends in Total Net Generation (All Sectors): 2005, 2006, and 2007

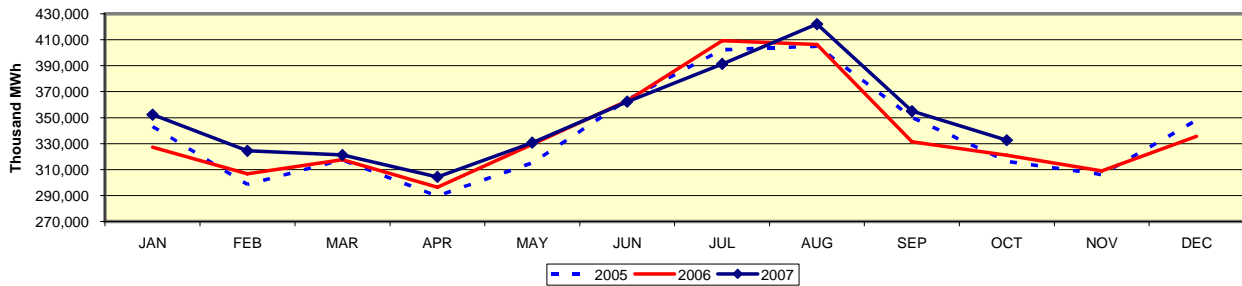


Figure 4.2 Fossil Fuel Generation Trends (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)

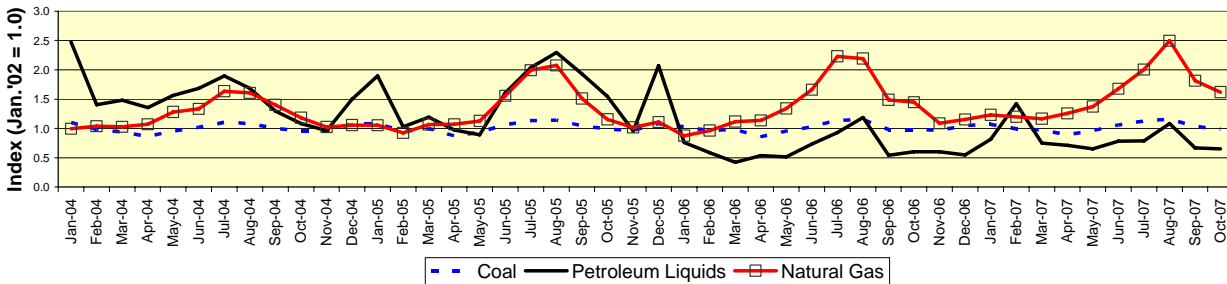
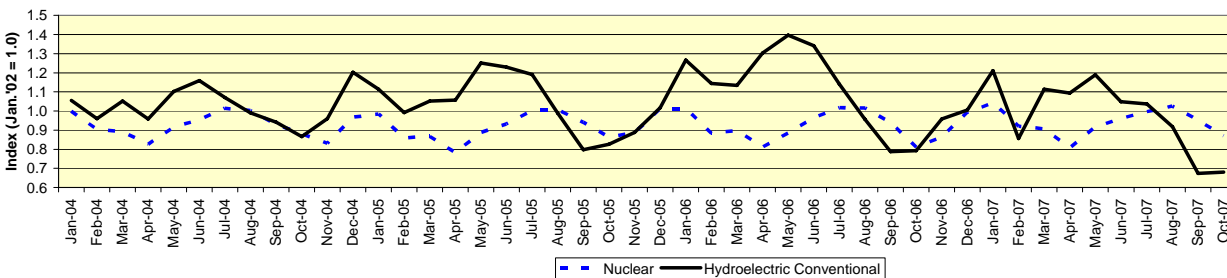


Figure 4.3 Nuclear and Hydroelectric Generation Trends (Values as Indices, Jan. 2002 = 1.0)



Section 5. Fossil Fuel Consumption Trends

Data for:
October 2007

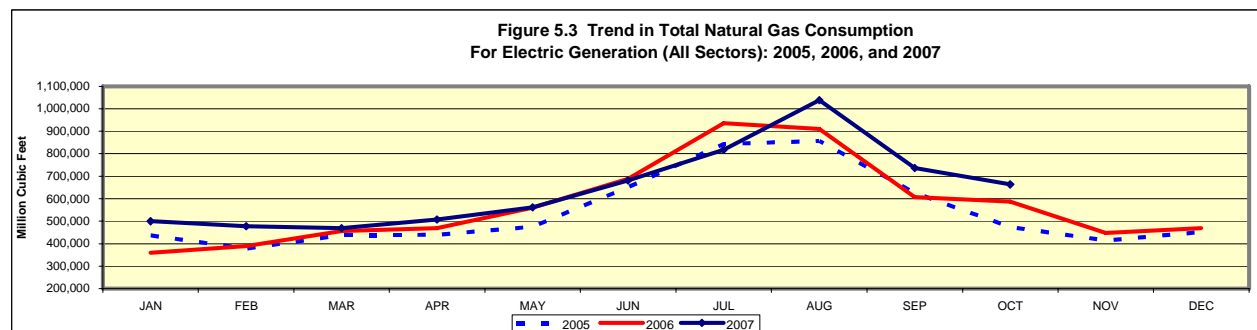
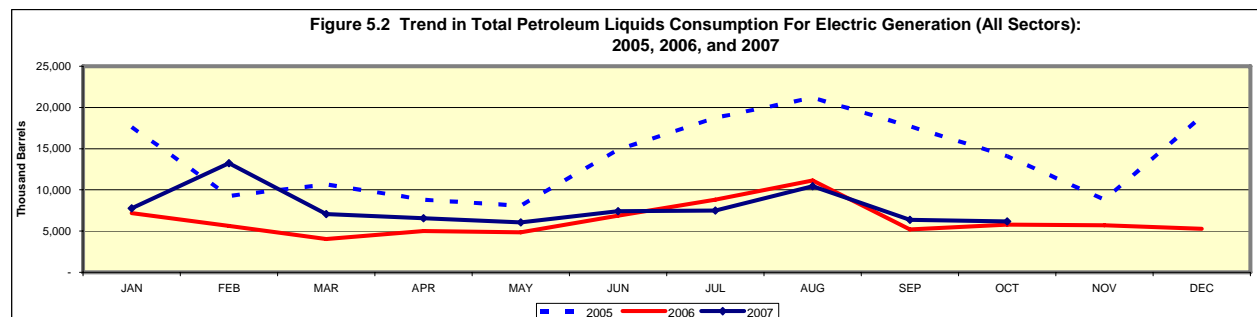
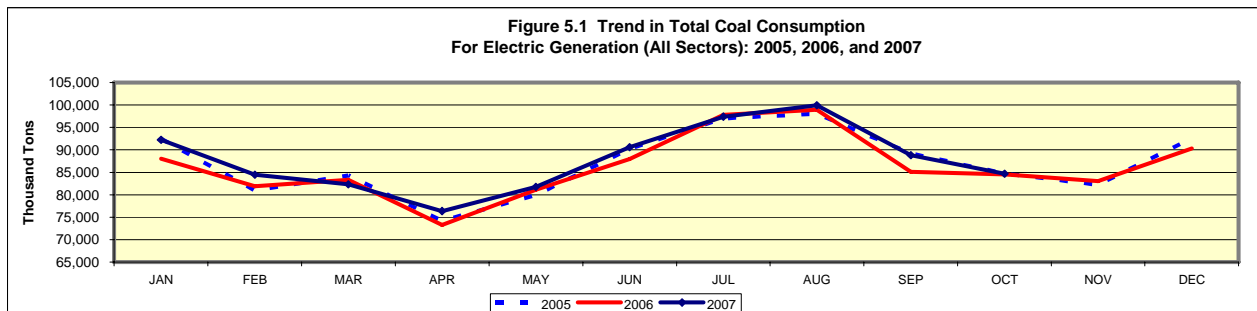
Table 5.1 Trends in Fossil Fuel Consumption For Electric Generation, Total (All Sectors)

Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
Current Period	January 2007	October 2007	878,620	78,570	6,453,762
Prior Period	January 2006	October 2006	861,993	65,811	5,949,600
Percent Difference			1.9%	19.4%	8.5%

Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Coal (Thousand Tons)	Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	Natural Gas (Million Cubic Feet)
Current Period	November 2006	October 2007	1,051,972	89,761	7,373,787
Prior Period	November 2005	October 2006	1,036,791	93,513	6,816,260
Percent Difference			1.5%	-4.0%	8.2%

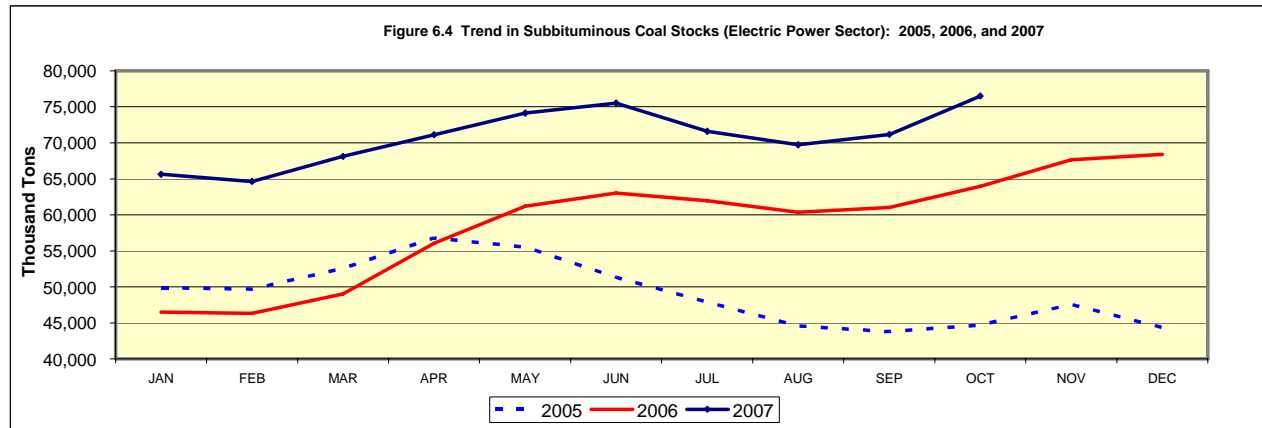
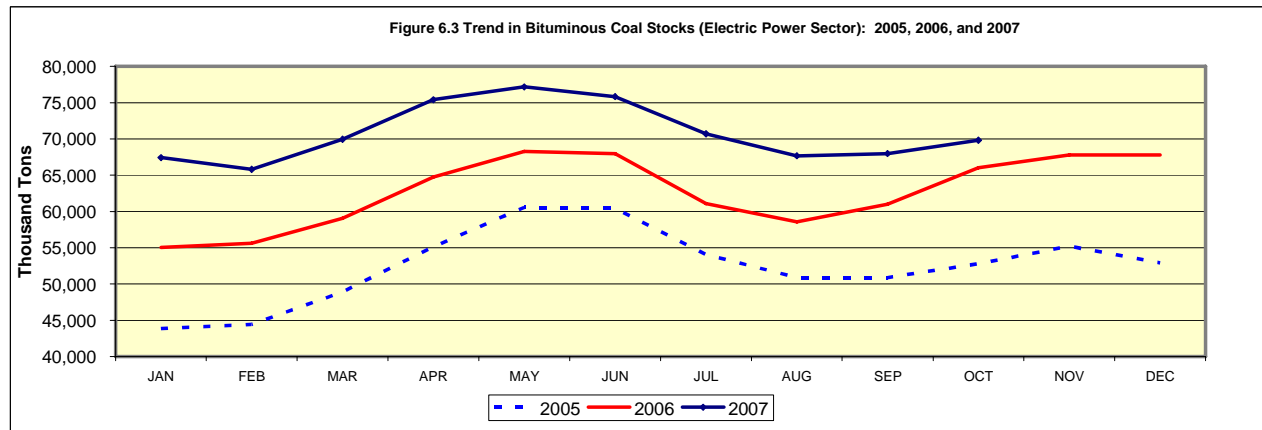
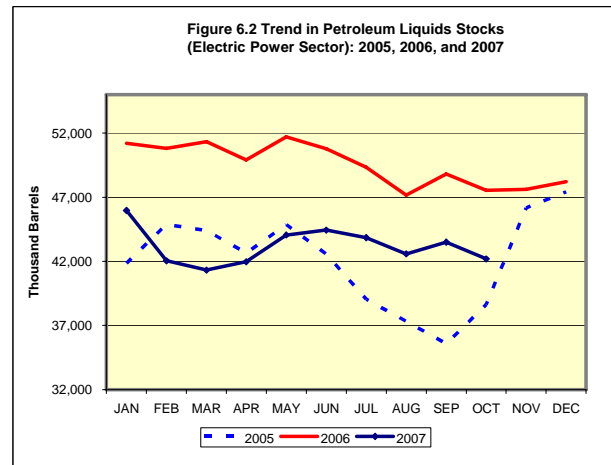
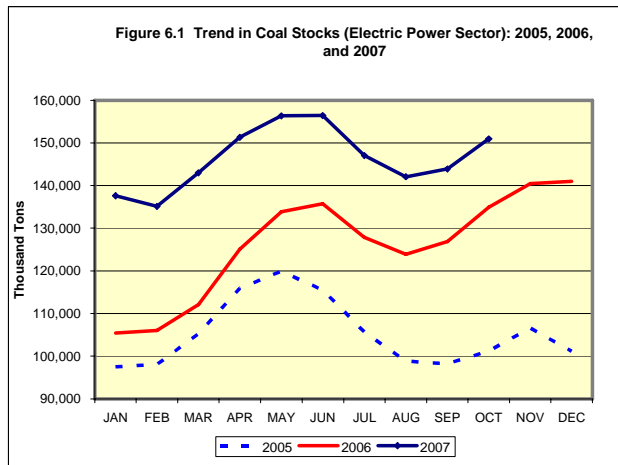


Section 6. Fossil Fuel Stock Trends

Data for:
October 2007

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

Fossil Fuel Stocks	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change	Sep-07	% Change
Coal, Total (Thousand Short Tons)	150,941	134,941	11.9%	143,890	4.9%
Bituminous (includes anthracite and coal synfuel)	69,825	66,030	5.7%	67,970	2.7%
Subbituminous	76,490	63,972	19.6%	71,157	7.5%
Lignite	4,626	4,939	-6.3%	4,763	-2.9%
Petroleum Liquids (Thousand Barrels)	42,192	47,549	-11.3%	43,496	-3.0%



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

Data for:
October 2007

Retail Sales

Table 7.1 Retail Sales (Million kWh)

Ultimate Customer	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change	Sep-07	% Change
Residential	103,782	96,246	7.8%	129,475	-19.8%
Commercial	114,760	109,000	5.3%	120,415	-4.7%
Industrial	86,697	85,337	1.6%	85,675	1.2%
Transportation	617	602	2.4%	648	-4.8%
All Sectors	305,855	291,186	5.0%	336,214	-9.0%

Average Retail Price

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

Ultimate Customer	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change	Sep-07	% Change
Residential	10.81	10.58	2.2%	10.94	-1.2%
Commercial	9.86	9.51	3.7%	9.88	-0.2%
Industrial	6.40	6.16	3.9%	6.55	-2.3%
Transportation	10.50	10.02	4.8%	10.67	-1.6%
All Sectors	9.20	8.89	3.5%	9.44	-2.5%

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

Census Division	Residential			All Sectors		
	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change	Oct-07	Oct-06	% Change
New England	16.43	15.99	2.8%	14.66	14.14	3.7%
Middle Atlantic	14.38	13.68	5.1%	12.46	11.88	4.9%
East North Central	10.00	9.39	6.5%	8.03	7.45	7.8%
West North Central	8.19	8.21	-0.2%	6.48	6.46	0.3%
South Atlantic	10.34	10.18	1.6%	8.76	8.61	1.7%
East South Central	8.58	8.22	4.4%	7.00	6.54	7.0%
West South Central	11.43	11.93	-4.2%	9.49	9.47	0.2%
Mountain	9.57	9.20	4.0%	7.94	7.62	4.2%
Pacific Contiguous	10.87	10.52	3.3%	10.78	10.43	3.4%
Pacific Noncontiguous	22.24	20.18	10.2%	19.95	17.79	12.1%
U.S. Total	10.81	10.58	2.2%	9.20	8.89	3.5%

Section 8. Retail Sales Trends

Data for:
October 2007

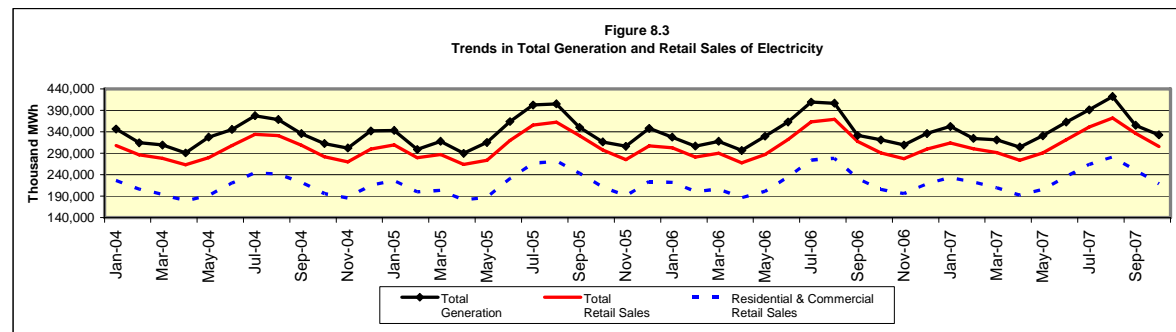
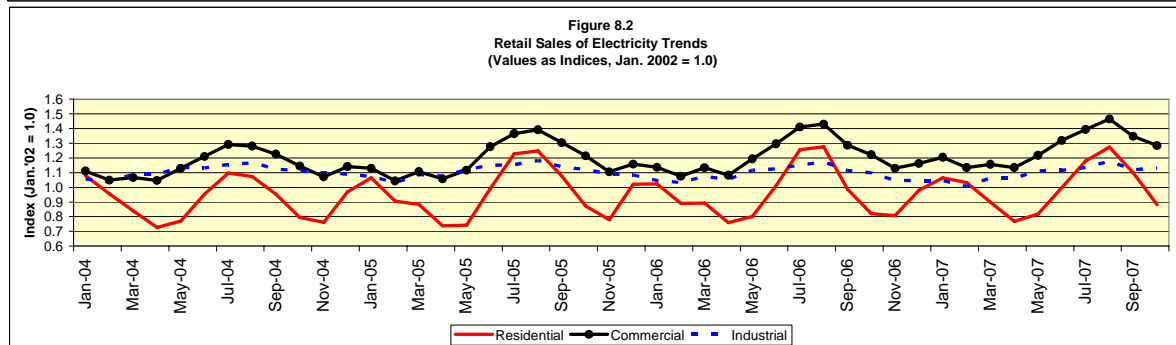
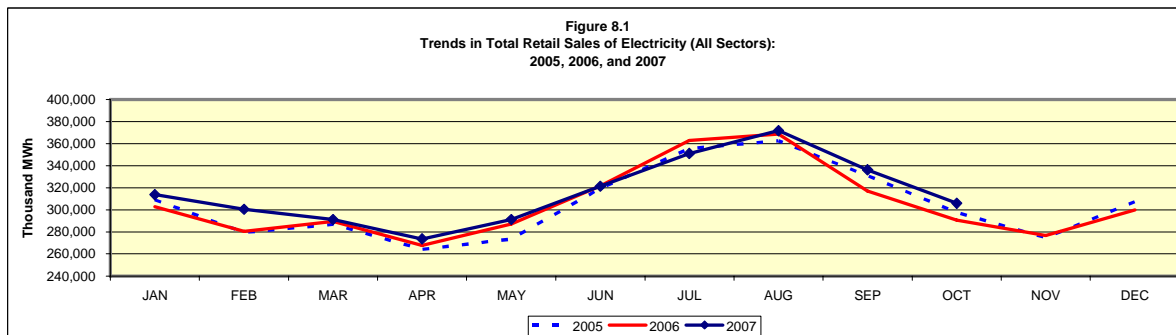
Table 8.1 Trends in Total Retail Sales of Electricity (All Sectors)
Millions of Kilowatthours

Year-to-Date Comparison

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
Current Period	January 2007	October 2007	1,178,663	1,131,362	839,988	6,481	3,156,494
Prior Period	January 2006	October 2006	1,141,796	1,093,967	850,707	6,148	3,092,618
Percent Difference			3.2%	3.4%	-1.3%	5.4%	2.1%

Comparison to Prior Twelve-Month Period

	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
Current Period	November 2006	October 2007	1,388,388	1,337,139	1,000,578	7,691	3,733,795
Prior Period	November 2005	October 2006	1,353,659	1,296,297	1,017,194	7,395	3,674,546
Percent Difference			2.6%	3.2%	-1.6%	4.0%	1.6%



Section 9. Average Retail Price Trends

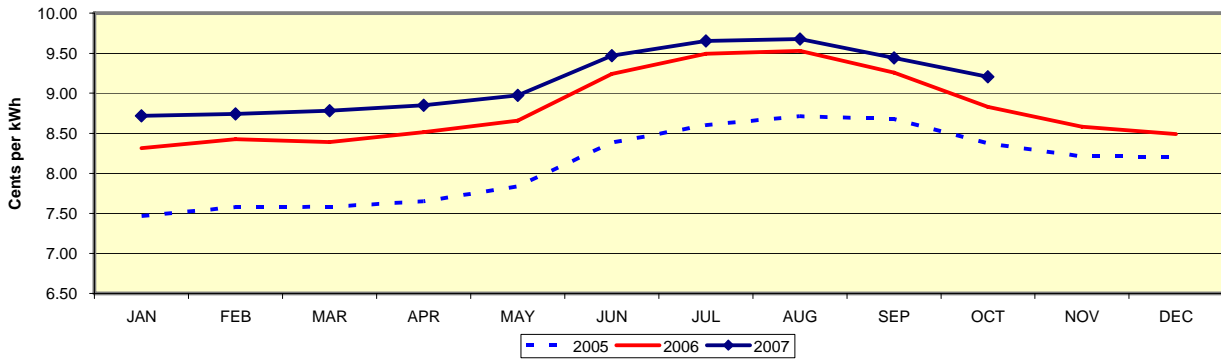
Data for:
October 2007

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

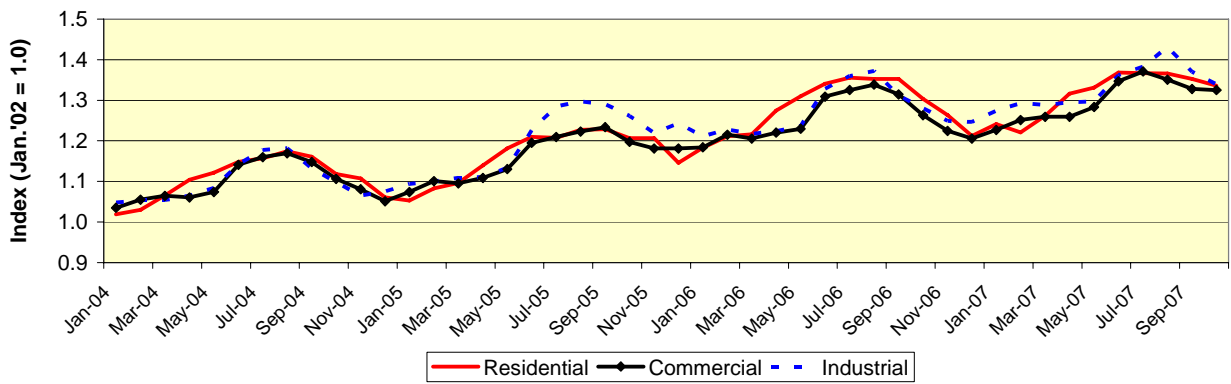
Year-to-Date Comparison							
	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
Current Period	January 2007	October 2007	10.66	9.70	6.38	10.53	9.18
Prior Period	January 2006	October 2006	10.48	9.51	6.19	9.55	8.95
Percent Difference			1.7%	2.0%	3.1%	10.3%	2.6%

Comparison to Prior 12 Month Period							
	Starting Month	Ending Month	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation	Total (All Sectors)
Current Period	November 2006	October 2007	10.56	9.62	6.32	10.37	9.09
Prior Period	November 2005	October 2006	10.32	9.40	6.14	9.32	8.84
Percent Difference			2.3%	2.3%	2.9%	11.3%	2.8%

**Figure 9.1 Trends in Average Retail Price of Electricity (All Sectors):
2005, 2006, and 2007**



**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:
October 2007

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	October 2007	191	282	-91	-32.3%	87	56	31	55.4%
Prior Period	October 2006	304	282	22	7.8%	46	56	-10	-17.9%
Percent Difference				-37.2%				89.1%	

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 2007	October 2007	2,963	1,382	Current Period	November 2006	October 2007	4,120	1,407
Prior Period	January 2006	October 2006	2,839	1,343	Prior Period	November 2005	October 2006	4,171	1,367
Percent Difference			4.4%	2.9%	Percent Difference			-1.2%	2.9%

Figure 10.1 Deviation From Normal: Heating Degree Days, 2007

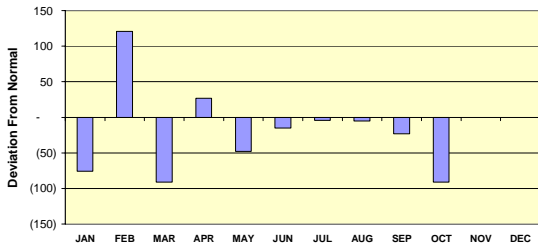


Figure 10.2 Deviation From Normal: Cooling Degree Days, 2007

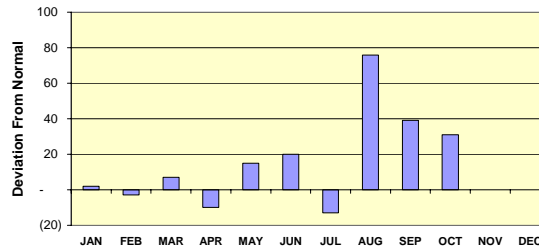


Figure 10.3 Trend in Heating Degree Days: 2006, 2007, and Normal

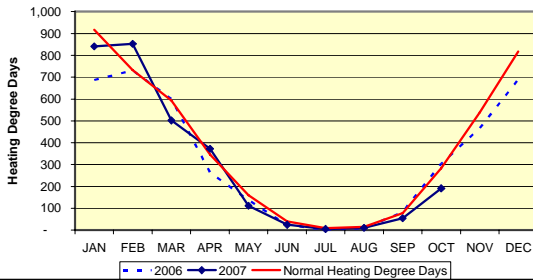


Figure 10.4 Trend in Cooling Degree Days: 2006, 2007, and Normal

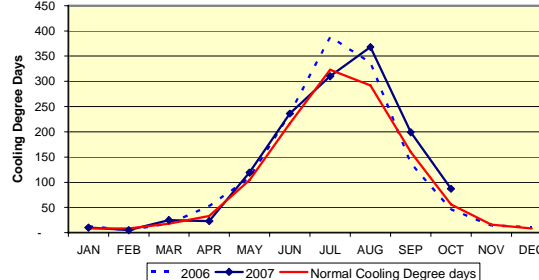


Figure 10.5 Trend in Cumulative Heating Degree Days: 2006, 2007, and Normal

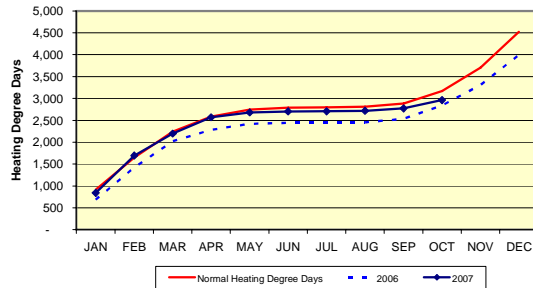
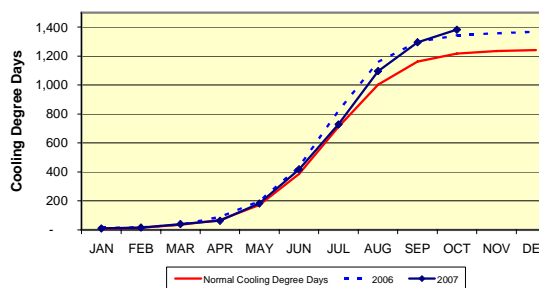


Figure 10.6 Trend in Cumulative Cooling Degree Days: 2006, 2007, and Normal



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," 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: for the Form EIA-826, approximately 450 electric utilities and other energy service providers; for the Form EIA-920, approximately 300 combined heat and power (CHP) plants; and for the Form 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 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).