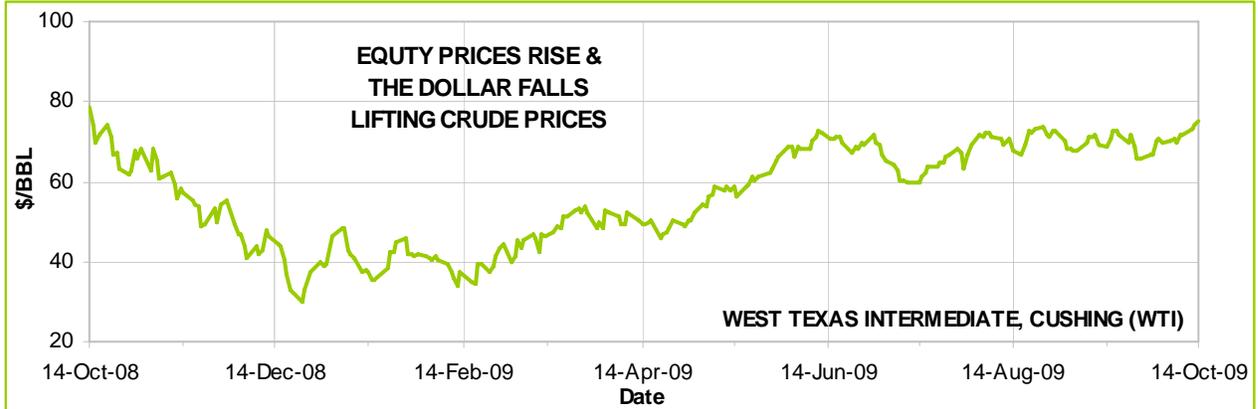


Crude Oil



With crude imports falling by 4.0% and refinery inputs falling by 3.5%, crude oil inventories rose by only 0.3 million barrels, half the expected 0.6 to 0.7 million. Crude oil stocks are still comfortably 9.9% above last year and 9.1% above the five-year average. The current inventory is at its highest level for this date since 1991.

Crude oil prices were up for the past week as the market reacted positively to the decline in the dollar and to favorable economic news. The smaller than expected increase in crude inventories as well as the declines in gasoline and distillate inventories will also boost crude prices. Spot prices rose by \$5.60 this past week to \$75.17, \$3.49 (4.4%) less than a year ago and 48.3% lower than last year's peak price. Futures prices closed yesterday at \$77.64, up \$5.77 for the week. They are \$3.22 (4.0%) lower than last year and 47.0% below 2008's peak price.



Natural gas



Natural gas inventories grew by 58 BCF this past week, slightly less than the five-year average of 64 but more than an expected 52 BCF. Cumulative injections since the end of the heating season are 9.3% above the five-year average. At 3,716 BCF, current inventory levels are already at their highest level ever and there are still 4 to 5 more weeks of potential further additions to natural gas inventories. Stocks are 13.8% higher than a year ago and 14.6% above the five-year average.

Prices have been falling because of record high inventories and warmer weather. The 12-month strip settled at \$5.691 per million BTU, 21.9% lower than a year ago and 57% below the 2008 peak. Futures prices are at March 2004 levels. Although up 10 cents for the week, spot prices have fallen by 44 cents over the past four sessions to \$3.810 per million BTU. Spot prices, which are at November 2002 levels, are 43.6% lower than a year ago and 71% below their 2008 peak price.

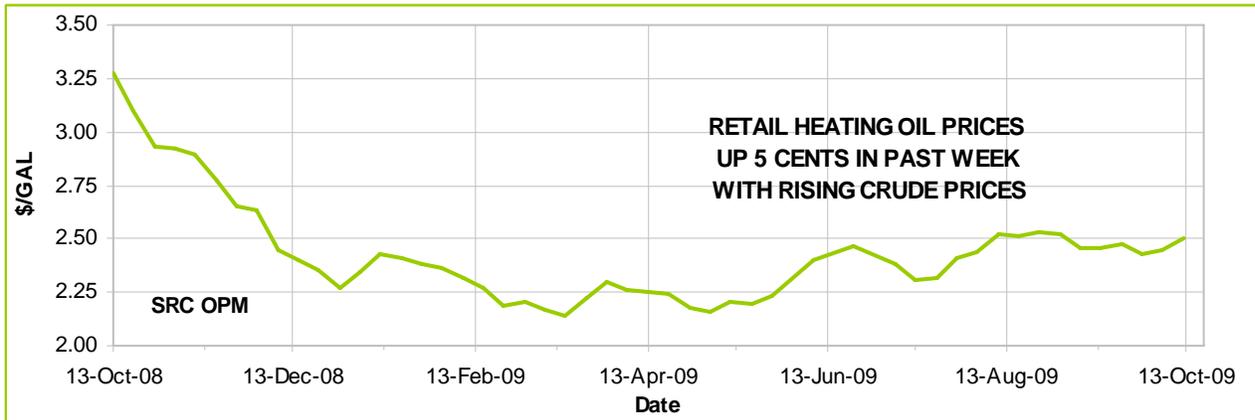


Heating oil



Inventories fell unexpectedly by 1.1 million barrels this week as production fell by 4.1%, imports declined by 23.4%, and demand rose by 0.9%. However, this 1.1 million barrel decline was less than the five-year average weekly decline of 1.7. Inventories are 39.7% above year ago levels and 31.1% above the five-year average. Heating oil futures and spot prices both rose by about 16 cents/gal this past week as they followed the upward path of crude oil. The 12 month strip is now at \$2.060/gal, 31 cents (13.2%) lower than a year ago. The spot price is at \$1.917/gal, 34 cents (15%) below last year.

Average retail heating oil prices rose by 5.0 cents/gal to \$2.500/gal this week. Prices are 77 cents (23.6%) below a year ago and \$2.27 (47.5%) below the 2008 peak price. The highest price in this week's survey was \$2.999 and the lowest was \$2.140. According to census data, 52.4% of dwelling units in Connecticut heat with oil.



Connecticut Regional Heating Oil Prices

	FAIRFIELD			HARTFORD			NEW LONDON		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
13-Oct-08	3.489	3.899	3.199	3.211	3.990	2.799	3.199	3.399	2.979
28-Sep-09	2.585	2.999	2.299	2.417	2.999	2.049	2.391	2.600	2.139
5-Oct-09	2.512	2.999	2.140	2.463	2.999	2.149	2.474	2.699	2.269
12-Oct-09	2.562	2.999	2.140	2.514	2.999	2.199	2.551	2.700	2.379
	LITCHFIELD			MIDDLESEX			TOLLAND-WINDHAM		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
13-Oct-08	3.193	3.399	2.990	3.360	3.749	3.000	3.129	3.299	3.000
28-Sep-09	2.397	2.499	2.289	2.469	2.599	2.299	2.391	2.599	2.250
5-Oct-09	2.463	2.629	2.349	2.506	2.599	2.399	2.394	2.599	2.300
12-Oct-09	2.489	2.599	2.349	2.536	2.599	2.449	2.451	2.599	2.349
	NEW HAVEN								
	AVG	HIGH	LOW						
13-Oct-08	3.247	3.750	2.510						
28-Sep-09	2.362	2.550	2.009						
5-Oct-09	2.376	2.619	2.119						
12-Oct-09	2.429	2.699	2.180						

OPM conducts a weekly survey of retail heating oil prices in Connecticut. These figures reference the most recent results of that survey for the reporting week beginning October 12, 2009. Figures reflect per gallon prices without discount.

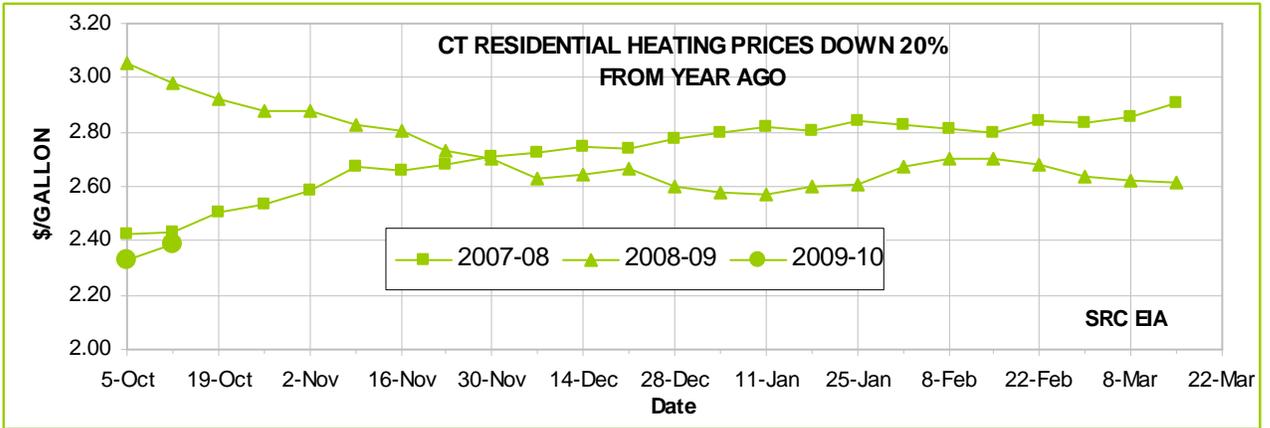
For more information, see www.ct.gov/OPM > Energy Management > Energy Price and Supply Information

Propane



Although production was down 5.6% and imports rose by 61.3% and demand was down 2.1%. This led to a slight 0.1 million barrels increase in inventories this past week. This was slightly less than the normal weekly gain of 0.3 million. Current storage levels exceed last year's levels by 19.4% and they are now 10.9% above the five-year average.

Monday's retail propane heating price survey showed an average price of \$2.384/gal. Although this was 5.5 cents higher than the previous week it is 20.0% (60 cents) less than a year ago and 22% (67 cents) lower than the peak 2008 price. Propane spot prices settled at 97.1 cents per gallon yesterday, 2.2% lower than a year ago and 51% lower than their peak 2008 price. According to census data, 2% of homes in Connecticut are heated by propane.



Gasoline



Although demand slipped by 0.1%, even greater declines in production (10.2%) and imports (31.8%) led to a 5.2 million barrel fall in inventories, the largest decline in more than a year. A gain of about 0.75 million was expected. Inventories levels are 8.5% above last year and 5.1% above the five-year average. Inventories are at their second highest level for this date since 1991.

Wednesday's spot price was \$1.873/gal, 13 cents (6.7%) less than last year. The 12-month strip, at \$2.009/gal, was the same as a year ago. Connecticut retail prices fell another 1.9 cents/gal this past week, reflecting previous declines in crude oil prices and falling refinery margins. At \$2.606/gal, prices are 60 cents (18.6%) lower than a year ago and 40.6% below last year's peak. Retail prices are now at March 2007 levels. Recent increases in crude oil prices and wholesale gasoline prices will probably lead to increases in retail prices as well.

