



RLA Market Insights – Saturday, 3 January 2026

US Gasoline Stocks Rose to Multi-Month Highs as Winter Demand Softens

US gasoline inventories have shown notable variability throughout the year, influenced by demand patterns, refinery activity, and seasonal cycles.

- In December 2025, US gasoline inventories climbed to a several-month high, rising to 227.3 million barrels, up sharply from 209.2 million barrels in November, as gasoline demand softened while refinery output remained strong. Weekly data further show stocks peaking at around 234.3 million barrels in the week ending December 26, exceeding market expectations and moving against the typical seasonal pattern of winter drawdowns.
- These builds reflect a temporary accumulation at the end of the year, tied to a warmer winter and tax-related inventory adjustments.
- At the same time, US gasoline exports eased late in the year, reflecting slower global demand and shifting trade flows toward year-end of the year, which contributed to domestic inventory builds.
- Over the year, stocks have also dipped to multi-year lows at times, particularly during periods of strong consumption and export flows.
- Seasonal trends typically see inventories draw down in the summer driving season and rebuild in the fall/winter.

Monthly gasoline stocks have oscillated between tight levels earlier in the year and recent builds, indicating balancing pressures between US demand, refinery output, and export dynamics.

US Gasoline Inventories





SHORT TERM OUTLOOK – OIL TANKER MARKET

A monthly report covering the next four months and including trends in oil supply, demand and trade, tanker demand and supply, spot, and time charter rates for MRs up to VLCCs, comparisons with FFAs plus the latest news on developments impacting the oil and tanker sectors.

MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK – OIL TANKER MARKET

Concise analyses of topical issues, consistent market data series and views on future trends in tanker charter rates. The report covers Oil Prices; Economic Developments; Oil Demand and Supply; Trade; Tanker Demand, Supply and Rates. Sent to clients around January, April, July and October each year

SHORT TERM OUTLOOK – VLGC MARKET

A monthly report looking four months ahead at likely trends in the VLGC Spot Market with the latest on key LPG carrier trades, benchmark LPG prices, arbitrage developments, a comparison with FFAs and recent news

MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK – LPG CARRIER MARKET

A quarterly series of regular reviews, analyses and forecasts of the LPG Carrier Market. The report covers Economic Developments; LPG production, consumption and pricing; LPG, chemical gases and ammonia trade, LPG Carrier Demand, Supply and Rates for Fully Ref, Semi-Ref and Pressurised Ships. Reports sent to clients around January, April, July and October each year.

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