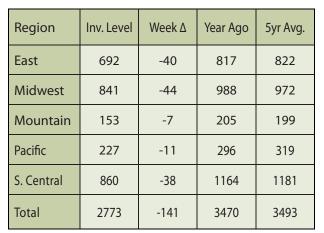


# WEEKLY NATURAL GAS MARKET UPDATE

The Jan-2019 NYMEX natural gas contract closed Friday at \$3.816, down \$0.011 for the week. The 12-month strip average price of natural gas was up by \$0.029 over the same period. The Jan-2019 natural gas contract expires this Thursday, 12/27. The Feb-2019 NYMEX crude oil contract closed Friday at \$47.20, down \$4.27 for the week. Updated forecasts from the NOAA suggest a return to more seasonal temps is in store for much of the US but with no clear pattern indication through the balance of the winter. Baker Hughes reported on Friday that the US natural gas rig count fell by 1 to 197 while total rigs (gas/oil combined) were up by 9 to 1080. In its most recent natural gas storage data, the EIA reported a withdrawal of 141 Bcf from national inventories, a number at the high end of consensus market expectations. Early estimates for this week's report indicate an expected withdrawal in the range of 50 to 60 Bcf vs. a withdrawal of 122 Bcf for the same week last year and a 5-yr avg. withdrawal of 121 Bcf.



#### EIA NATURAL GAS STORAGE REPORT Week Ending December 14, 2018

#### 4,400 4,000 3,600 3 2 0 0 2 800 2400 2 0 0 0 1.600 1.200 800 400 0 Jul-17 Apr-18 Oct-16 Jan-17 Apr-17 Oct-17 Jan-18 Jul-18 Oct-18

-Lower 48 =5-year average

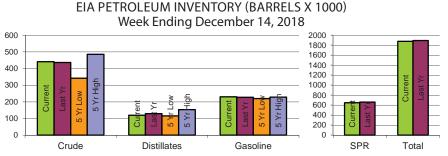
5-year maximum - minimum range

WORKING GAS IN UNDERGROUND STORAGE

**COMPARED WITH 5-YEAR RANGE** 

Storage Highlights: Working gas in storage was 2,773 Bcf as of Friday, December 14, 2018, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net decrease of 141 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 697 Bcf less than last year at this time and 720 Bcf below the five-year average of 3,493 Bcf. At 2,773 Bcf, total working gas is below the five-year historical range.

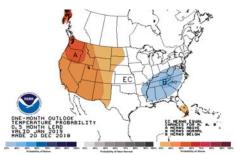
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration



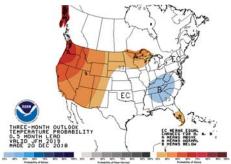
U.S. commercial crude oil inventories (excluding those in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve) decreased by 0.5 million barrels from the previous week. At 441.5 million barrels, U.S. crude oil inventories are about 7% above the five year average for this time of year. Total motor gasoline inventories increased by 1.8 million barrels last week and are about 3% above the five year average for this time of year. Finished gasoline and blending components inventories both increased last week. Distillate fuel inventories decreased by 4.2 million barrels last week and are about 11% below the five year average for this time of year. Propane/propylene inventories decreased by 3.3 million barrels last week and are about 6% below the five year average for this time of year. Total commercial petroleum inventories decreased last week by 10.3 million barrels last week.

BAKER HUGHES US NATURAL GAS RIG COUNT, 12/21/2018					
	This Week	+/-	Last Week	+/-	Year Ago
Gas Rigs	197	-1	198	+13	184

## JAN-2019 TEMP OUTLOOK (NOAA)



### JAN-MAR TEMP OUTLOOK (NOAA)



## DECEMBER 24, 2018

www.reliableenergy.com

(616) 977-1705

© Copyright 2018 • reliable energy, inc. • 5500 cascade road se suite 220 • grand rapids, mi 49546

weekly update, page 1