RBN U.S. Propane Billboard U.S. Propane Market Update & Outlook

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WEEKLY PROPANE MARKET UPDATE

Figure 1

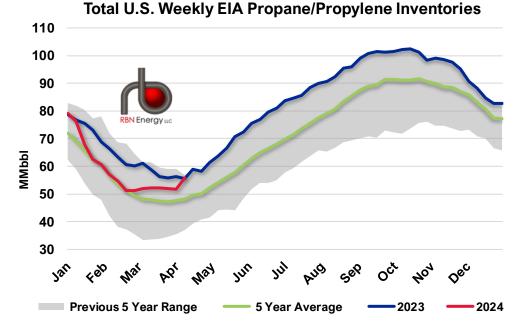
April 17, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- The EIA reported total U.S. propane/propylene inventories recorded a build of 4 MMbbl for the week ended April 12, which was above the average of industry expectations for an increase of 1.4 MMbbl and the 1 MMbbl average build for the week. Total U.S. propane stocks stand at 55.7 MMbbl, which is 7.6 MMbbl, or 15.9%, above the 5-year average.
- » Purity propane stocks reported by the EIA were 29.9 MMbbl, or 53.7% of total U.S. inventories, up 1.7 MMbbl from the prior period.
- » Crude oil prices were essentially unchanged over the last week as the recent rally paused with traders assessing the direction of the conflict in the Middle East. WTI settled at \$85.36/bbl on April 16, up \$0.13/bbl from April 9. U.S. propane prices lagged crude oil, with Mont Belvieu OPIS non-TET falling by 2.8 c/gal, or 3.4%, from last week to 79.3 c/gal on April 16. As a result, the non-TET propane-to-WTI ratio declined by 1 percentage point to 39%.
- » Weekly exports of propane reported by the EIA increased to 1.58 MMb/d, up 84 Mbbl/d from last week's low rate but slightly below the 4-week average of 1.63 MMb/d.
- » Total U.S. production of propane/propylene set a weekly record high, up 62 Mb/d from last week to 2,735 Mb/d, primarily due to higher output in PADD 3.

MARKET OVERVIEW

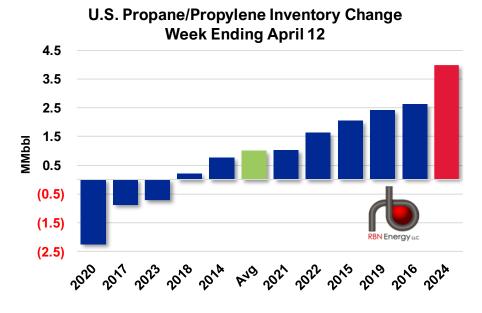
The U.S. propane market was lower last week with prices lagging versus crude oil. Mont Belvieu (non-TET) propane fell by 2.8 c/gal, or 3.4%, settling at 79.3 c/gal on April 16. WTI prices were little changed but stronger than propane, increasing by \$0.13/bbl to



\$85.36/bbl on April 16, which pushed the propane-to-WTI ratio down to 39%. The current ratio remains below the 43% average recorded in April 2023. The forward TET propane-to-WTI ratio for May-June was down 1 percentage point from last week to 40% (red dashed line, Figure 4).

ANALYSIS & INSIGHTS

According to OPIS, the average of industry expectations called for a build of 1.4 MMbbl for the week ended April 12. In today's EIA report, total U.S. propane/propylene inventories built by 4 MMbbl. That brought total U.S. propane stocks to 55.7 MMbbl, which is 238 Mbbl, or 0.4%, above the same week in 2023 and 1 MMbbl, or 1.9%, below the 5-year maximum. Inventories are 7.6 MMbbl, or 15.9%, above the 5-year average.



ANALYSIS & INSIGHTS (continued)

PADD 3 (Gulf Coast) propane inventories built by 3.4 MMbbl and total stocks for the region are now at 35.5 MMbbl, which is 1.5 MMbbl, or 4.1%, below 2023 and 6.1 MMbbl, or 14.6%, below the 5-year maximum. Inventories are 2.9 MMbbl, or 8.8%, above the 5-year average.

PADD 2 (Midwest) propane stocks were essentially unchanged and total inventories remain at 12.5 MMbbl, which is 0.8 MMbbl, or 7%, above 2023 and the 5-year maximum. Stocks are 2.5 MMbbl, or 25%, above the 5-year average.

PADD 1 (East Coast) propane inventories grew by 228 Mbbl and total inventories now stand at 3.8 MMbbl, which is 0.6 MMbbl, or 13.5%, below 2023 and the 5-year maximum. Inventories are now 600 Mbbl, or 18.6%, below the 5-year average.

PADD 4 (Rocky Mountain) plus PADD 5 (West Coast) propane inventories increased by 284 Mbbl for the week. Total stocks for the region are 3.8

MMbbl, which is 1.6 MMbbl, or 69.7%, over 2023. Inventories are 0.98 MMbbl, or 35%, above the 5-year maximum and 1.6 MMbbl, or 75.6%, above the 5-year average.

Total U.S. production grew by 62 Mbbl/d to 2,735 Mbbl/d, primarily due to an increase in PADD 3. Exports rose by 84 Mbbl/d to 1,575 Mbbl/d, which is slightly below the 4-week average of 1,628 Mbbl/d and the 1,851 Mbbl/d reported in the year-ago week. Imports fell by 23 Mbbl/d to 85 Mbbl/d as volumes declined into PADD 2 and PADD 4/5. Product supplied dropped by 630 Mbbl/d to 675 Mbbl/d.

Propane Inventory Change

Total U.S. propane/propylene stocks built by 4 MMbbl for the week ended April 12 (red bar, Figure 2), which is ~3 MMbbl more than the average build for the week of 1 MMbbl (green bar, Figure 2).

MB Non-TET vs Conway Price

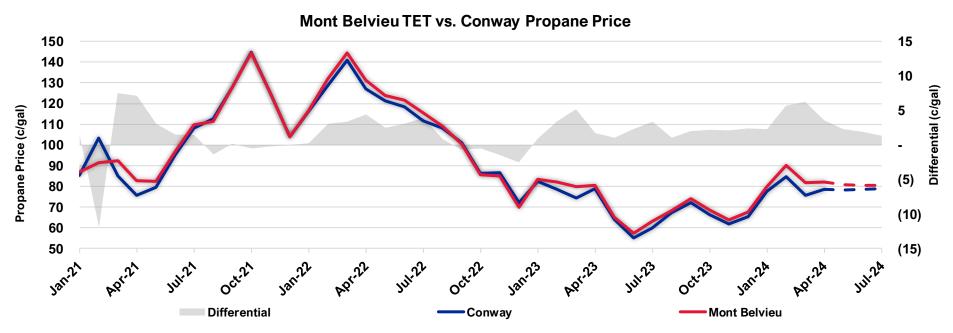
The Conway propane OPIS spot price spread to Mont Belvieu non-TET (Enterprise) narrowed over the week, with Conway trading at a 3 c/gal discount on April 16, compared to a 4 c/gal discount on April 9. The forward-price differential between Mont Belvieu (TET or LST) and Conway also narrowed, with Mont Belvieu trading at a 2.3 c/gal premium to Conway for May 2024 (shaded area, Figure 3)

Days of Supply

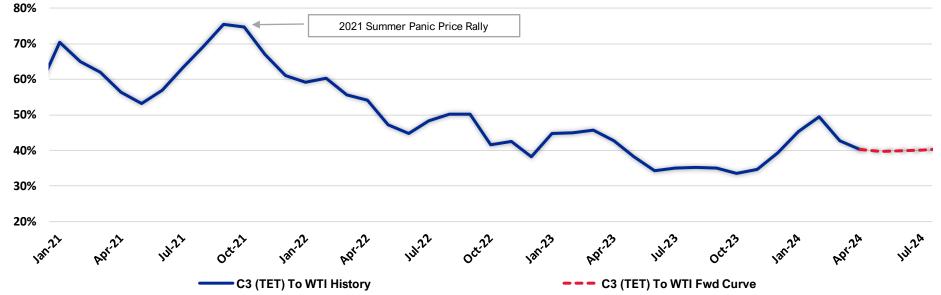
Figure 13 shows days of supply using the EIA's methodology, dividing the level of stocks by the four-week average of "product supplied," a surrogate statistic representing domestic demand. On that basis, supply is at about 54 days, which is one day less than the same week in 2023 and six days below the 5-year maximum.

Figure 14 is an alternative calculation that divides stocks by product supplied plus exports and indicates only 25 days of inventory, which is four days more than 2023 and four days below the 5-year high for this metric. Including exports clearly makes a significant difference in the days-of-supply calculation.

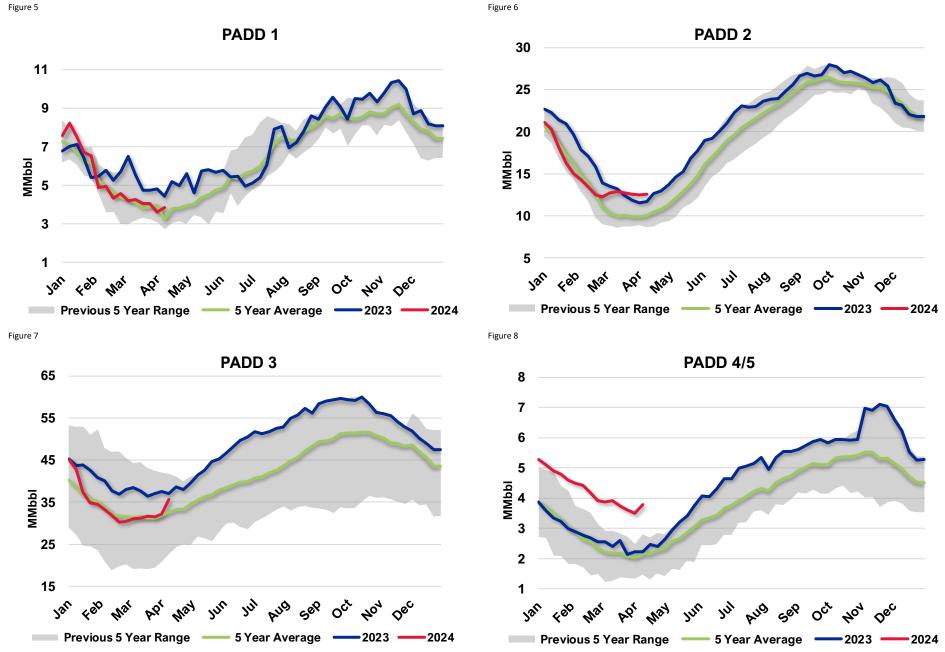


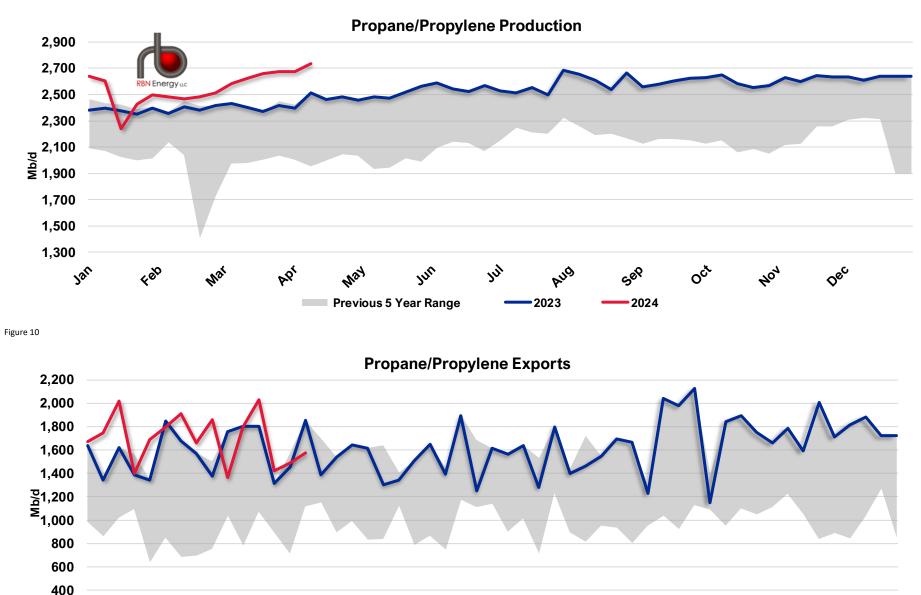






U.S. PROPANE INVENTORIES BY PADD





Jun

Jul

Jan

fed

Mar

POL

May

Previous 5 Year Range

oct

2024

Ser

AUG

2023

404

Dec

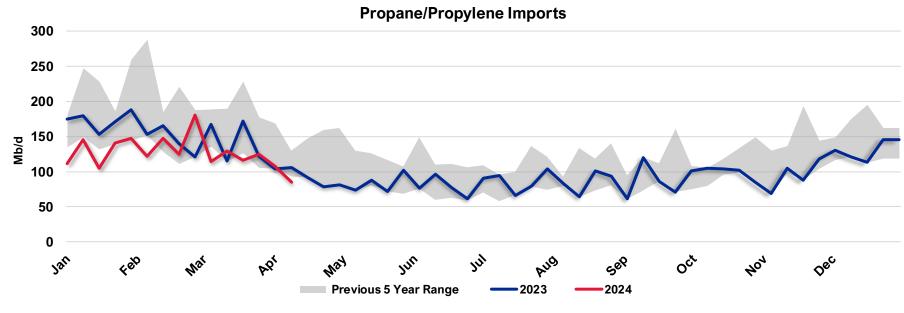
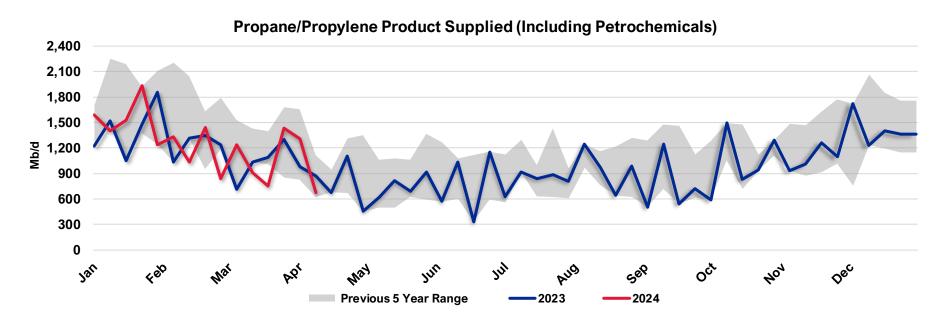
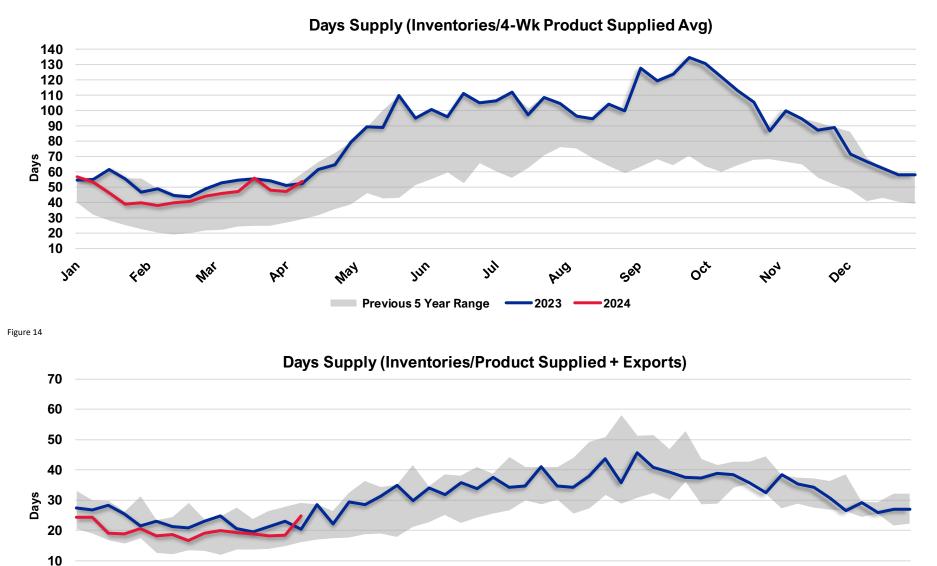


Figure 12







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