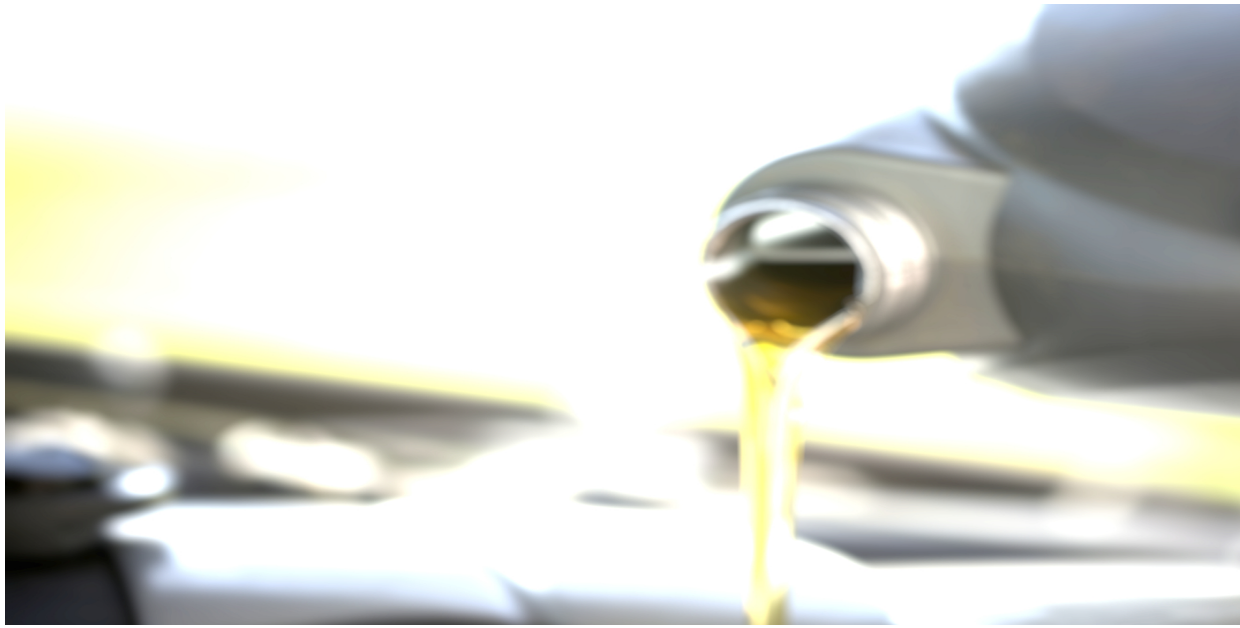
Chart of the Week #2025-45

The U.S. Lubricants Market: Supply & Demand

Max Pyziur

December 3, 2025

Washington DC



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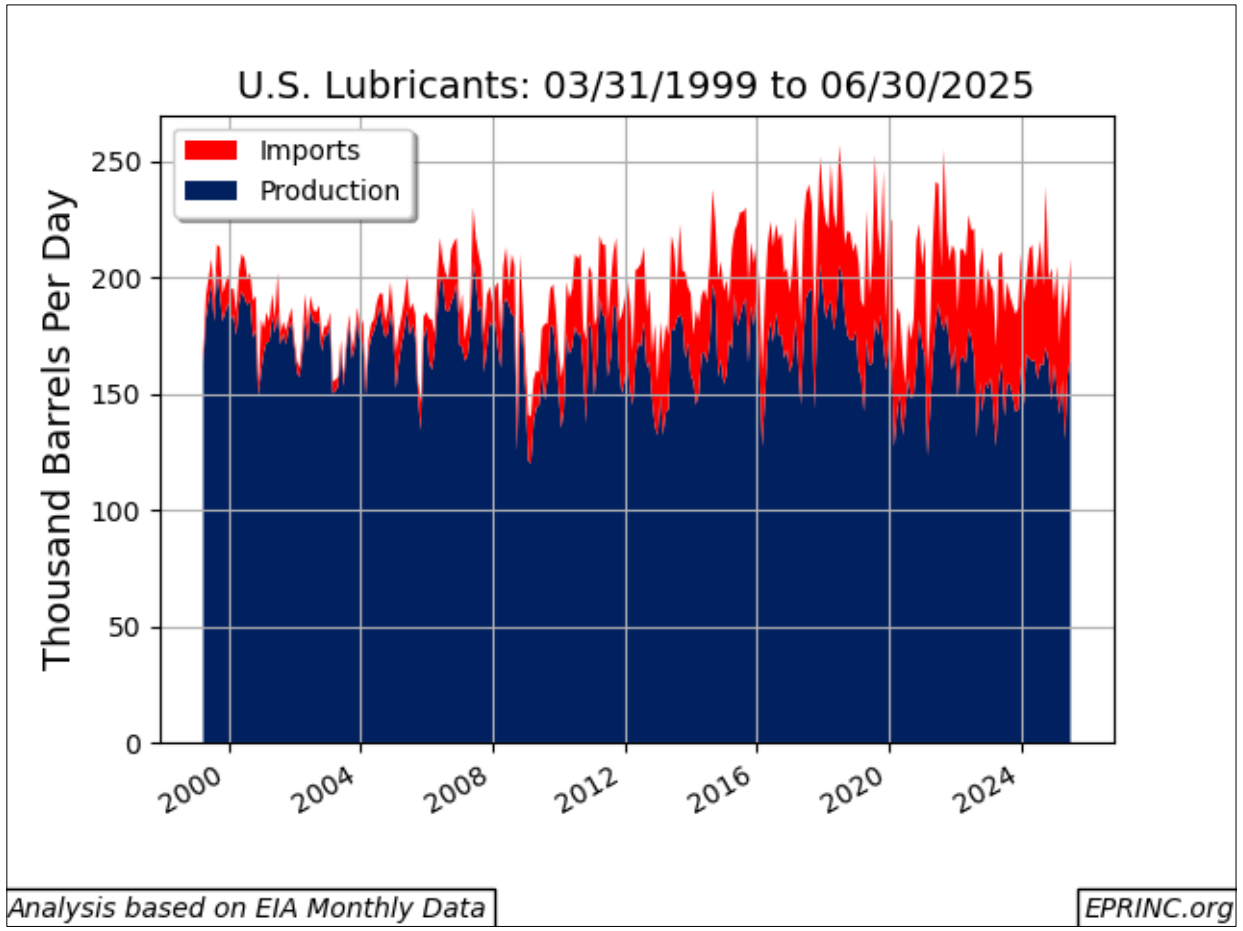
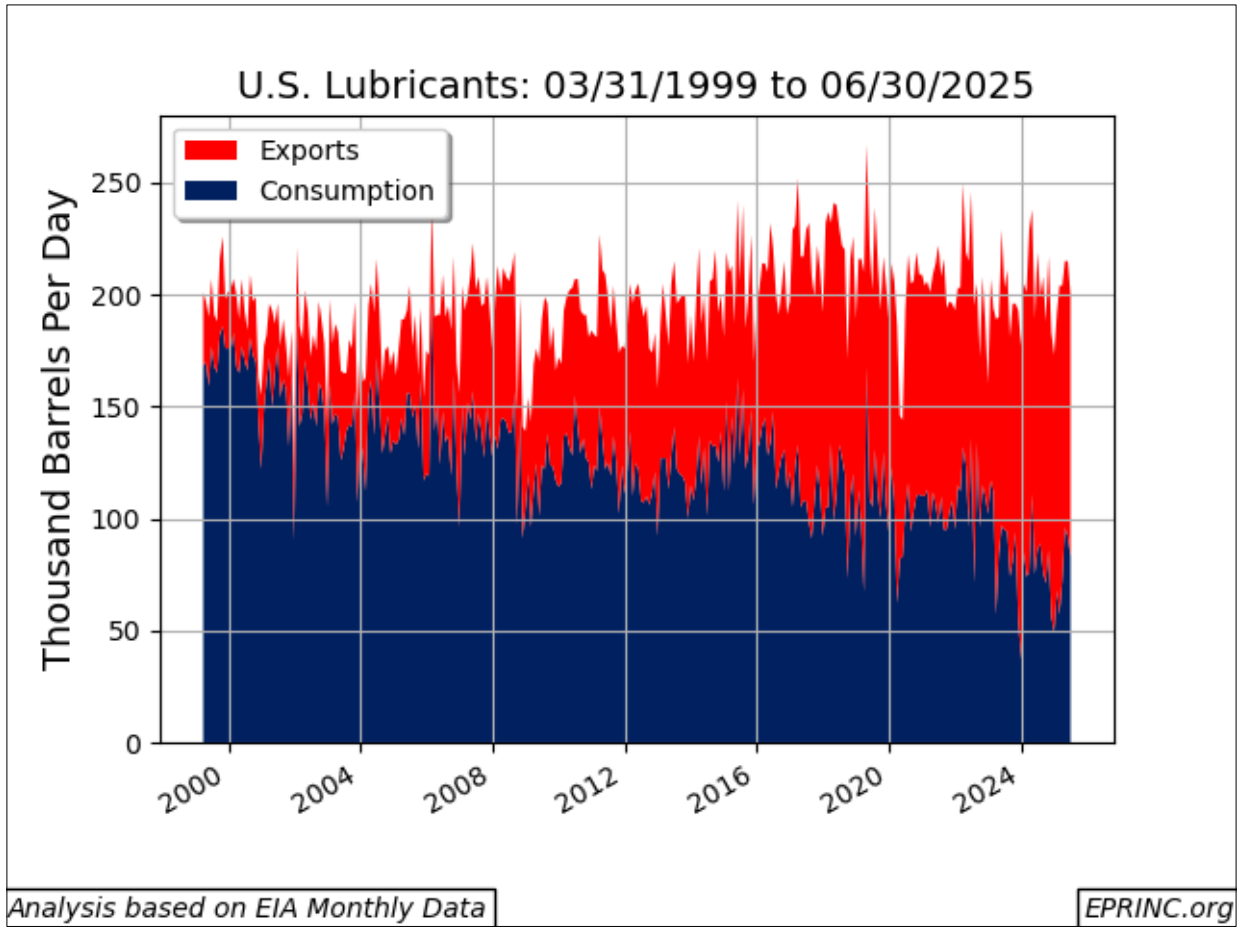
U.S. Lubricants Supply & Demand





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U.S. Lubricants Supply & Demand

- **The function of lubricants is the inverse of that of petroleum products even though both are derived from distillations of crude oil. Where the latter is used to produce heat or steam in order to propel vehicles or spin turbines, the former absorbs heat, reduces friction and wear, facilitates braking, and minimizes corrosion. One is volatile; the other is inert.**
- **At 200 thousand barrels per day (TB/d), the U.S. lubricant market is only a small portion of the overall hydrocarbon one of 18 million barrels per day (MB/d) that includes the array of petroleum products. Nevertheless, in the way that the North American Petroleum Renaissance that has converted the U.S. from a net importer to a net exporter of petroleum products, so too, it has shifted the flow dynamic of U.S. lubricant exports from 30 TB/d in 2000 to almost 130 TB/d currently**

- **For more information on this chart, please contact Max Pyziur (maxp@eprinc.org).**

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