Petroleum Product Price Formation

An analysis of the factors that influence product prices, with chart data updated monthly, quarterly and annually

April 6, 2021 | Washington, DC
Gasoline spot prices

Note: CBOB is conventional blendstock for oxygenate blending. CARBOB is California reformulated gasoline blendstock for oxygenate blending.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
Distillate spot prices

Note: ULSD is ultra-low sulfur diesel. 500 ppm is sulfur content in parts per million.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
RBOB futures price and crack spread

Note: RBOB is reformulated blendstock for oxygenate blending.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
ULSD futures price and crack spread

Note: ULSD is ultra-low sulfur diesel.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
RBOB – Brent Crack Spread Range

Note: RBOB is reformulated blendstock for oxygenate blending.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
Note: Since the spring of 2013, the underlying commodity for the distillate futures contract has been ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD).

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
Petroleum Product Consumption

% change (year over year)

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration
U.S. consumption of gasoline and retail gasoline prices

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration
U.S. consumption of distillate and retail heating oil prices

% change product supplied (year over year)
dollars per gallon, nominal

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration

April 6, 2021
Gasoline refinery output

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration
Distillate refinery output

million barrels per day

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration
Refinery output

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration
Production and futures prices

Note: Since 2006, the underlying commodity for the gasoline futures contract has been reformulated blendstock for oxygenate blending (RBOB). Since the spring of 2013, the underlying commodity for the distillate futures contract has been ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD).

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
U.S. total gasoline net imports

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration
U.S. total gasoline net imports by PADD

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration
U.S. distillate fuel net imports

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration
U.S. distillate fuel oil net imports by PADD

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration
Gasoline Inventories and RBOB 3rd minus 1st month futures contract

Note: Since 2006, the underlying commodity for the gasoline futures contract has been reformulated blendstock for oxygenate blending (RBOB).

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
Distillate Inventories and ULSD 3rd minus 1st month futures contract

Note: Since 2013, the underlying commodity for the distillate futures contract has been ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD).

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Bloomberg L.P.
Average daily open interest of petroleum product futures contracts

Note: Gasoline data prior to 2006 used the unleaded gasoline contract. After 2006 the contract changed to reformulated blendstock for oxygenate blending (RBOB). Since the spring of 2013, the underlying commodity for the distillate futures contract has been ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD).

Sources: Bloomberg L.P.
Average daily volume of petroleum product futures contracts

Note: Gasoline data prior to 2006 used the unleaded gasoline contract. After 2006 the contract changed to reformulated blendstock for oxygenate blending (RBOB). Since the spring of 2013, the underlying commodity for the distillate futures contract has been ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD).

Sources: Bloomberg L.P.
Net: Since the spring of 2013, the underlying commodity for the distillate futures contract has been ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD).

*Sources: CFTC Commitment of Traders.*
For more information


Short-Term Energy Outlook | www.eia.gov/steo

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Monthly Energy Review | www.eia.gov/mer

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