



Independent Statistics & Analysis

U.S. Energy Information  
Administration

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## Highway driving increases this summer

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The U.S. Energy Information Administration forecasts that highway travel this summer will increase from 2018 by 1.3%, as average retail motor gasoline and diesel prices drop from 2018 levels. EIA's April outlook expects Americans to pay an average of \$2.76 per gallon for regular-grade gasoline, which is 9 cents lower than the previous year's average. The average retail price for diesel will be \$3.09 per gallon, down by 13 cents from 2018.

In its April *Short-Term Energy Outlook*, EIA published its *Summer Fuels Outlook*, which forecasts prices for the summer driving season running from April through the end of September. The outlook expects U.S. household spending on motor fuel to decrease for the first time in three years. EIA forecasts that consumption for retail motor gasoline and diesel will increase marginally in 2019, when compared with 2018.

EIA expects inventories for motor gasoline and diesel to track closely with last year's levels, despite increased consumption, as refineries have increased output and met growing demand.

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