



Division of Energy

MISSOURI ENERGY BULLETIN

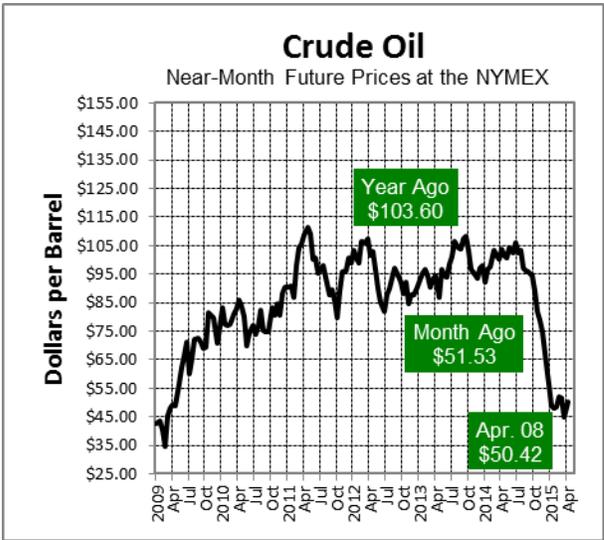
April 13, 2015

(Data is for the week ended April 3, 2015, unless stated otherwise.)

Crude Oil

U.S. crude oil prices decreased \$1.11, to \$50.42 per barrel in the past month and stand 51 percent lower compared to this time last year.

Crude Oil - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per barrel)					
	04-08-15	03-04-15	change	04-09-14	change
NYMEX	\$50.42	\$51.53	down 2%	\$103.60	down 51%



- At the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), May 2015 crude oil futures ended \$3.56, or 6.6 percent, lower on the April 8 trade day to settle at \$50.42 per barrel as U.S. oil inventories increased to the highest level for this time of year in at least the last 80 years.
- Oil prices are struggling to sustain a recovery amid speculation the supply surplus that drove prices lower in 2014 will persist. Saudi Arabia increased oil production to 10.3 million barrels per day (MMB/D) in March, the highest rate in at least 12 years, while the Energy Information Administration (EIA) said that crude oil prices could fall as much as \$15

- per barrel if sanctions are lifted following a final nuclear deal with Iran allowing additional oil supplies to the market.
- Compared to this time last year, the U.S. crude oil futures settlement price of \$50.42 is \$53.18, or about 51 percent, lower.
- According to the April 8 weekly Energy Information Administration (EIA) fuels report, U.S. crude inventories increased 10.9 MMB to 482.4 MMB, a new record. U.S. crude supplies are now 98.3 MMB higher compared to this time last year.

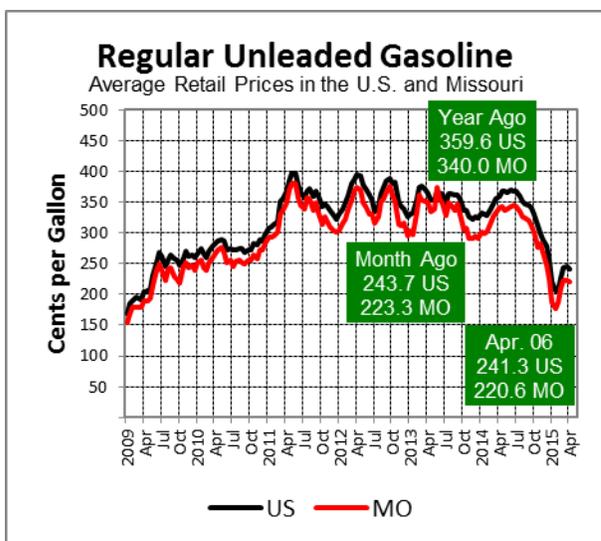
- Crude imports increased from the prior week at 8.2 MMB/D. Imports at this time last year averaged about 7.3 MMB/D. Domestic crude production increased at 9.4 MMB/D on the week. Last year at this time, production stood at about 8.2 MMB/D.
- U.S. refinery crude runs increased from the prior week with refiners processing about 15.9 MMB/D of crude. U.S. refinery capacity use was up on the week at 90.1 percent. Last year at this time, capacity use stood at 87.5 percent.
- Gasoline output was down on the week at 9.6 MMB/D. Production at this time last year averaged 9.8 MMB/D. Distillate output was up from the prior week at nearly 5.0 MMB/D. Last year at this time, production stood at 4.8 MMB/D.
- Total petroleum products supplied to market, a measure of consumption, over the last four-week period stood at 19.2 MMB/D, up by 4.5 percent compared to the same period last year.

Transportation Fuels

On April 6, Missouri's statewide average retail price for gasoline was about \$2.21 per gallon, down 2.7 cents in the past month and down 119.4 cents in the past year.

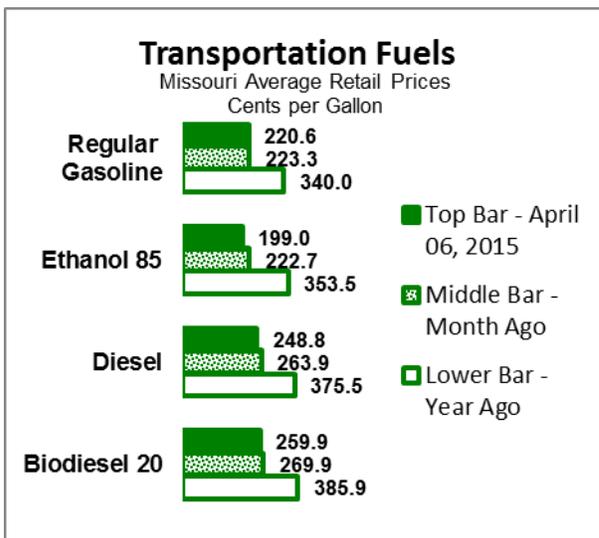
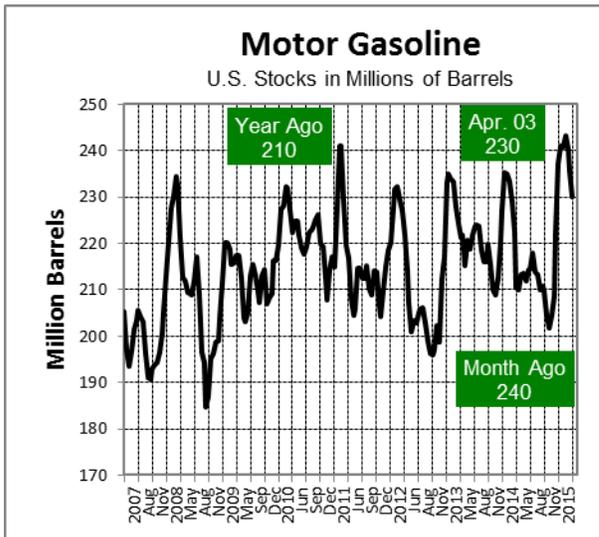
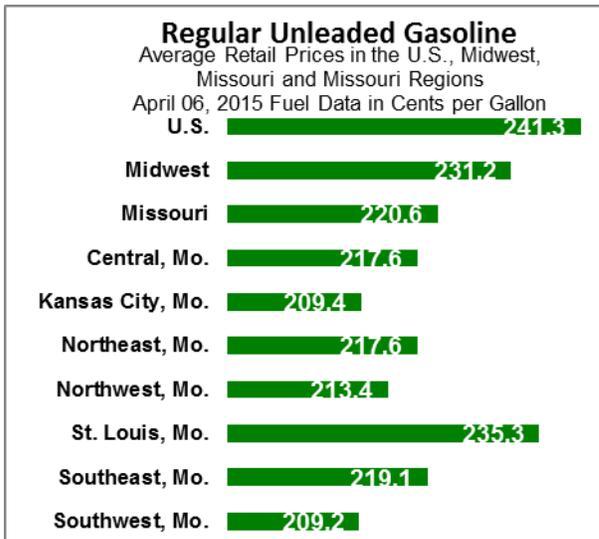
Regular Unleaded Gasoline - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	<u>04-06-15</u>	<u>03-02-15</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>04-08-14</u>	<u>change</u>
US	241.3	243.7	down 1%	359.6	down 33%
Missouri	220.6	223.3	down 1%	340.0	down 35%

Diesel Fuel - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	<u>04-06-15</u>	<u>03-02-15</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>04-08-14</u>	<u>change</u>
US	278.4	293.6	down 5%	395.9	down 30%
Missouri	248.8	263.9	down 6%	375.5	down 34%



- On April 6, Missouri's average retail price for gasoline was about \$2.21 per gallon, down 2.7 cents in the past month.
- Missouri's average price for diesel fuel was down 15.1 cents per gallon, or 6 percent, in the past month.
- Missouri's average retail gasoline price is 119.4 cents, or 35 percent, lower while the average retail diesel fuel price is 126.7 cents or 34 percent, lower for the comparable period in April 2014.
- At \$2.41, the U.S. average price for regular gasoline is 2.4 cents per gallon, or 1 percent, lower compared to last month.

- The U.S. average was down 118.3 cents, or 33 percent, compared to this time last year. In the past week, the U.S. average decreased by 3.5 cents per gallon.



- Gasoline imports decreased from the prior week at 0.5 MMB/D, 0.03 MMB/D higher compared to last year at this time.
- Implied demand for gasoline decreased at 8.6 MMB/D. At this time last year, demand was nearly 9.0 MMB/D.
- In the past four weeks, U.S. gasoline demand has averaged nearly 9.0 MMB/D; nearly 0.2 MMB/D higher compared to the same four-week period last year.
- U.S. gasoline supplies increased 0.8 MMB on the week to 229.9 MMB. U.S. inventories are up 19.5 MMB compared to this time last year and trend above the five-year average for this time of year.
- Distillate stocks decreased at 126.9 MMB and stand 13.7 MMB higher compared to the same period last year.
- Distillate demand was increased on the week at 4.2 MMB/D. Demand stood at 3.9 MMB/D at this time last year. On a four-week average, distillate demand was higher at 3.9 MMB/D.
- On April 6, Missouri's average retail price for E85 motor fuel, conventional motor fuel containing 85 percent ethanol, was about \$1.99 per gallon, 21.6 cents or 9.8 percent lower than the average price for conventional motor gasoline.
- On April 6, Missouri's average retail price for B20, diesel fuel containing 20 percent biofuel, was about \$2.60 per gallon, 11.1 cents or 4.3 percent higher than the average retail price for conventional diesel fuel.
- According to the April 7, 2015, *Short Term Energy Outlook*, during the 2015 April-through-September summer driving season, regular gasoline retail prices are forecast to average \$2.45/gallon compared with \$3.59/gal last summer.

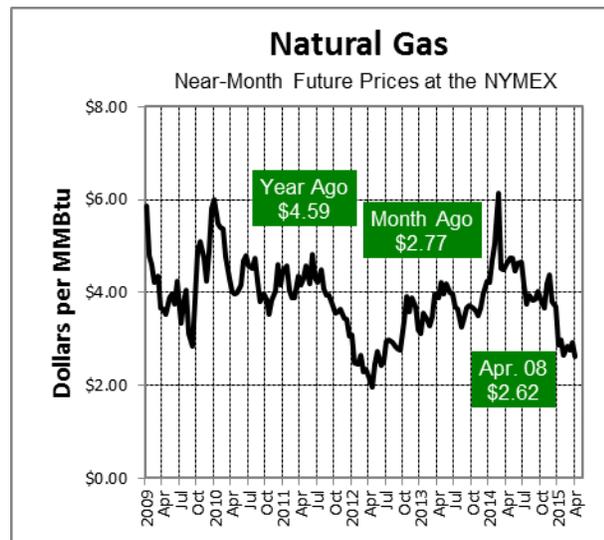
Natural Gas

Approximately 52 percent (1,236,651) of Missouri households use natural gas to heat their homes. Natural gas is also used to produce goods and electricity. (Data updated from the most recent U.S. Census report.)

On April 8, natural gas futures at the NYMEX closed at \$2.62 per million British thermal units (MMBtu), down \$0.15, or 5 percent, in the past month.

Natural Gas - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per MMBtu)					
	04-08-15	03-04-15	change	04-09-14	change
NYMEX	\$2.62	\$2.77	down 5%	\$4.59	down 43%

- At the NYMEX, May 2015 natural gas futures ended 6.1 cents lower on the April 8 trade day to close at \$2.62 per MMBtu. In the past month, natural gas futures have decreased \$0.15 per MMBtu.
- In the past year, natural gas values have decreased by \$1.97 per MMBtu, or 43 percent.
- For the reporting week, April 1 to April 8, the price of the May 2015 contract increased by 2.0 cents, moving from about \$2.60 to \$2.62 per MMBtu.
- The 12-month strip (the average of the 12 contracts between May 2015 and April 2016) rose from \$2.88/MMBtu on April 1 to \$2.89/MMBtu on April 8.
- For the second time in 2015, weekly average consumption fell below 70 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d), averaging 69.7 Bcf/d for the report week, more than 3 Bcf/d (10.5%) less than last week and down by 1.3% compared to the same week last year.
- According to the EIA, natural gas consumption declined in all sectors. Residential and commercial consumption led the sectors with a decline of 23.3 percent over last week, and an 11.9 percent decline compared with a year ago. Consumption of gas for electric power generation (power burn) fell 1.8 percent.
- Working gas in storage totaled 1,476 Bcf, 10.5 percent below the five-year average inventory level for the week, according to EIA's *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report*. U.S. natural gas supplies are 651 Bcf, or 78.9 percent, higher than last year at this time.



Propane

Approximately 10 percent (227,100) of Missouri households use propane to heat their homes. (Data updated from the most recent U.S. Census report.) Propane is also used to support commercial operations, produce goods, dry grain harvests and fuel vehicles.

(Note: Beginning April 2015, Missouri residential retail propane prices will be reported only for the first full week of each month through September 2015.)

On April 6, the average Missouri retail price for residential propane was about \$1.72 per gallon, nearly 8 cents lower in the past month and down 30.6 cents in the past year.

<i>Propane - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)</i>					
	<u>04-06-15</u>	<u>03-02-15</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>04-08-14</u>	<u>change</u>
Missouri	172.0	179.9	down 4%	202.6	down 15%

- According to the Division of Energy's most recent statewide propane price survey conducted April 6, the average Missouri retail residential propane price was about \$1.72 per gallon, nearly 8 cents lower in the past month and down 30.6 cents compared to last year at this time.
- According to the survey, the highest Missouri retail residential price for propane was nearly \$1.96 per gallon. The lowest retail price was about \$1.15 per gallon.
- U.S. propane stocks increased by 0.6 MMB last week to 57.9 MMB, 30.4 MMB (110.1%) higher than a year ago. Midwest inventories increased by 1.0 MMB. At 15.9 MMB, Midwest inventories are 7.8 MMB (96%), higher than a year ago.
- US demand for propane increased at about 1.2 MMB/D on the week. Propane demand is slightly higher compared to this time last year.

For more information on propane, please visit:

<http://energy.mo.gov/energy/services/be-prepared-for-propane>

To access previous issues of the Energy Bulletin, or to subscribe, please visit:

<http://energy.mo.gov/energy/stay-informed/missouri-energy-bulletins>

To learn more about Missouri energy issues, please visit:

<http://energy.mo.gov/energy>

For more information about the Comprehensive State Energy Plan, visit:

<http://energy.mo.gov/energy/about/comprehensive-state-energy-plan>.

The *Missouri Energy Bulletin* is distributed twice a month by the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Division of Energy. The Division of Energy collects transportation and propane heating fuel prices from several retail providers located throughout the state. To preserve confidentiality, price data are averaged and reported by region. The bulletin is a public resource made available to state government decision-makers, other interested individuals upon request and online at the division's Web address. The department thanks each of the following in helping to provide accurate, timely data on fuel supplies and prices: the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration; the National Association of State Energy Officials; the St. Louis AAA Auto Club; and Missouri's energy retailers. For more information, contact: MO Dept. of Economic Development, Division of Energy, P.O. Box 1766, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1766; Phone: 573-751-2254; Fax: 573-751-6860; Email: energy@ded.mo.gov; Web Address: <http://energy.mo.gov/energy/stay-informed/missouri-energy-bulletins>.