



Division of Energy

MISSOURI ENERGY BULLETIN

May 12, 2015

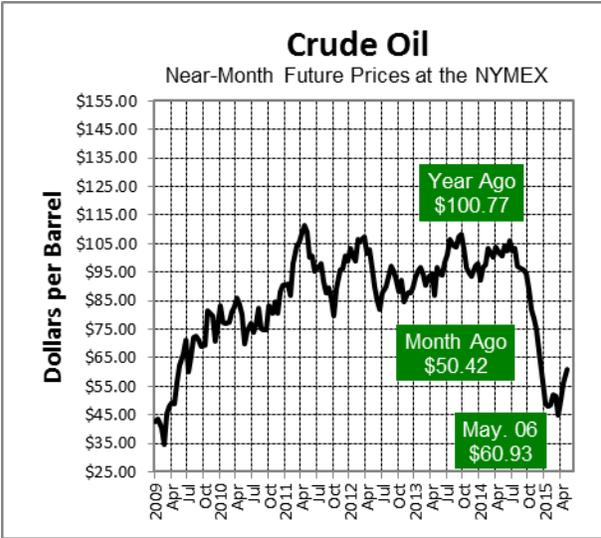
(Data is for the week ended May 1, 2015, unless stated otherwise.)

Crude Oil

U.S. crude oil prices increased \$10.51, to \$60.93 per barrel in the past month and stand 40 percent lower compared to this time last year.

Crude Oil - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per barrel)					
	<u>05-06-15</u>	<u>04-08-15</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>05-07-14</u>	<u>change</u>
NYMEX	\$60.93	\$50.42	up 21%	\$100.77	down 40%

- At the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), June 2015 crude oil futures ended \$0.53, or 0.9 percent, higher on the May 6 trade day to settle at \$60.93 per barrel on a combination of lower crude oil inventories, falling production and higher refinery demand.
- The recent rise in crude values follows an historic drop in prices, which reached as low as about \$45 a barrel less than two months ago.
- Compared to this time last year, the U.S. crude oil futures settlement price of \$60.93 is \$39.84, or 40 percent, lower.



- According to the May 6 weekly Energy Information Administration (EIA) fuels report, U.S. crude inventories decreased 3.9 million barrels (MMB) to 487 MMB. U.S. crude supplies are now 89.5 MMB higher compared to this time last year.
- Crude imports decreased from the prior week at 6.5 MMB/D, 0.3 MMB/D lower compared to imports at this time last year. Domestic crude production decreased at about 9.4 MMB/D on the week. Last year at this time, production stood at about 8.4 MMB/D.

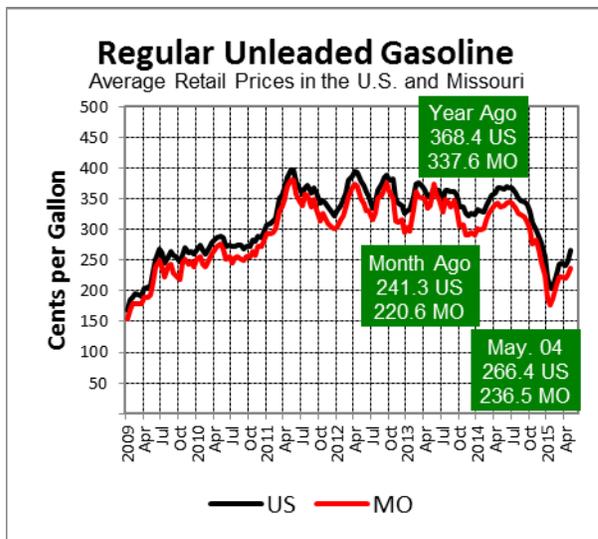
- U.S. refinery crude runs increased from the prior week with refiners processing nearly 16.4 MMB/D of crude. U.S. refinery capacity use was up on the week at 93.0 percent. Last year at this time, capacity use stood at 90.2 percent.
- Gasoline output was down on the week at 9.6 MMB/D. Production at this time last year averaged 10.1 MMB/D. Distillate output was up from the prior week at over 4.9 MMB/D. Last year at this time, production stood at just over 5.0 MMB/D.
- Total petroleum products supplied to market, a measure of consumption, over the last four-week period stood at 19.0 MMB/D, up by 2.8 percent compared to the same period last year.

Transportation Fuels

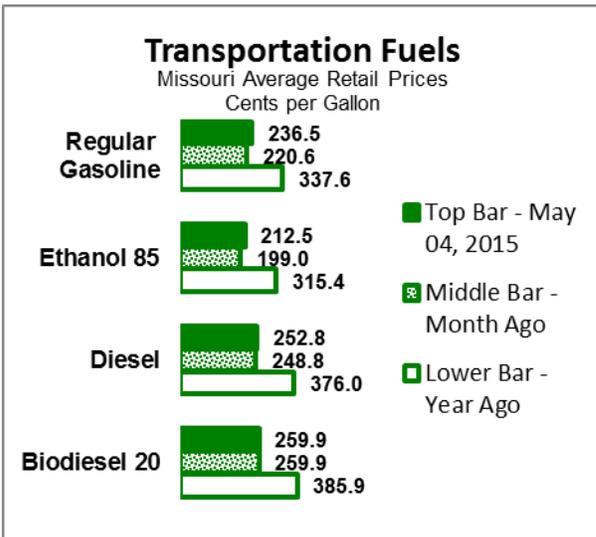
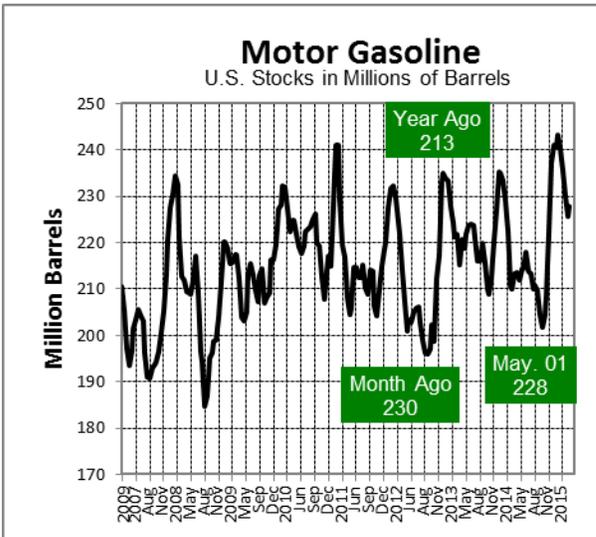
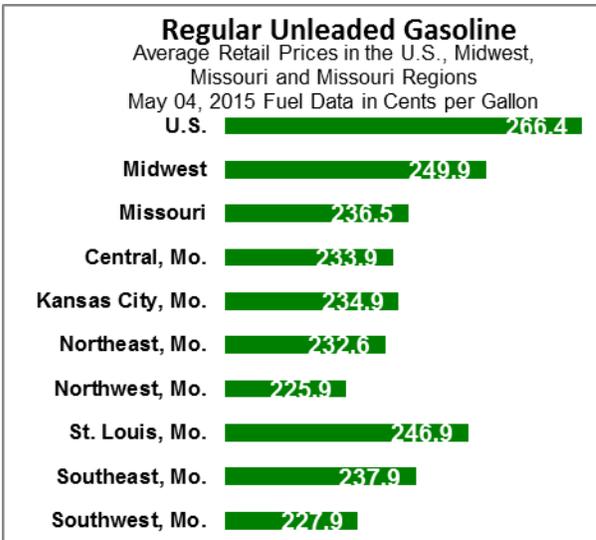
On May 4, Missouri's statewide average retail price for gasoline was about \$2.37 per gallon, up 15.9 cents in the past month and down 101.1 cents in the past year.

Regular Unleaded Gasoline - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	05-04-15	04-06-15	change	05-05-14	change
US	266.4	241.3	up 10%	368.4	down 28%
Missouri	236.5	220.6	up 7%	337.6	down 30%

Diesel Fuel - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	05-04-15	04-06-15	change	05-05-14	change
US	285.4	278.4	up 3%	368.4	down 23%
Missouri	252.8	248.8	up 2%	376.0	down 33%



- On May 4, Missouri's average retail price for gasoline was about \$2.37 per gallon, up 15.9 cents in the past month.
- Missouri's average price for diesel fuel was \$2.53 per gallon, up 4.0 cents per gallon, or 2 percent, in the past month.
- Missouri's average retail gasoline price is 101.1 cents, or 30 percent, lower while the average retail diesel fuel price is 123.2 cents or 33 percent, lower for the comparable period in May 2014.
- At \$2.66, the U.S. average price for regular gasoline is 25.1 cents per gallon, or 10 percent, higher compared to last month.
- The U.S. average was down 120.0 cents, or 28 percent, compared to this time last year. In the past week, the U.S. average increased by 9.4 cents per gallon.



- Gasoline imports decreased from the prior week at 0.6 MMB/D, less than 0.1 MMB/D higher compared to last year at this time.
- Implied demand for gasoline decreased at nearly 8.8 MMB/D. At this time last year, demand was 8.7 MMB/D.
- In the past four weeks, U.S. gasoline demand has averaged nearly 9.0 MMB/D; 0.3 MMB/D higher compared to the same four-week period last year.
- U.S. gasoline supplies increased 0.4 MMB on the week to 227.9 MMB. U.S. inventories are up 14.7 MMB compared to this time last year and trend above the five-year average for this time of year.
- Distillate stocks increased at 130.8 MMB and stand 16.8 MMB higher compared to the same period last year.
- Distillate demand decreased on the week at nearly 3.9 MMB/D. Demand stood at 4.3 MMB/D at this time last year. On a four-week average, distillate demand was lower at 3.9 MMB/D.
- On May 4, Missouri's average retail price for E85 motor fuel, conventional motor fuel containing 85 percent ethanol, was about \$2.13 per gallon, 24.0 cents or 10.2 percent lower than the average price for conventional motor gasoline.
- On May 4, Missouri's average retail price for B20, diesel fuel containing 20 percent biofuel, was about \$2.60 per gallon, 7.1 cents or 2.8 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 per gallon compared with \$3.59 per gallon last summer.

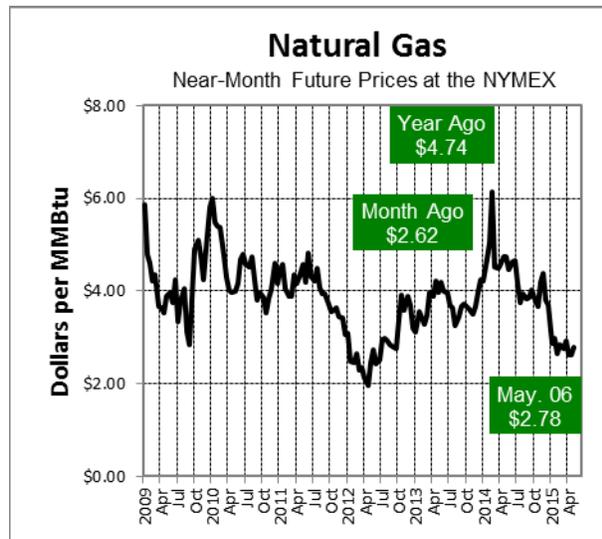
Natural Gas

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 May 6, natural gas futures at the NYMEX closed at \$2.78 per million British thermal units (MMBtu), up \$0.16, or 6 percent, in the past month.

Natural Gas - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per MMBtu)					
	05-06-15	04-08-15	change	05-07-14	change
NYMEX	\$2.78	\$2.62	up 6%	\$4.74	down 41%

- At the NYMEX, June 2015 natural gas futures ended less than 1 cent lower on the May 6 trade day to close at \$2.78 per MMBtu. In the past month, natural gas futures have increased \$0.16 per MMBtu.
- In the past year, natural gas values have decreased by \$1.96 per MMBtu, or 41 percent.
- For the reporting week, April 29 to May 6, the price of the June 2015 contract increased by 17.0 cents, moving from about \$2.61 to \$2.78 per MMBtu.
- The 12-month strip, representing the average of contracts from June 2015 through May 2016, rose over the report week by 14.0 cents, starting April 29 at \$2.89 per MMBtu and closing May 6 at \$3.03 per MMBtu.
- According to the EIA, total natural gas consumption fell by 10.8 percent week over week, with decreased consumption in industrial and residential/commercial sectors, and an increase in both the power sector and exports to Mexico. With many areas experiencing warming temperatures, some above normal, residential/commercial demand fell by more than 30 percent. Industrial consumption fell as well, dropping 3.4 percent. Natural gas consumption for electric generation (power burn) increased 0.6 percent for the week, up by 13.9 percent over the same period in 2014.
- Working gas in storage totaled 1,786 Bcf, 3.6 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 742 Bcf, or 71.1 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 May 4, the average Missouri retail price for residential propane was about \$1.56 per gallon, 16.4 cents lower in the past month and down 42.4 cents in the past year.

<i>Propane - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)</i>					
	<u>05-04-15</u>	<u>04-06-15</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>05-05-14</u>	<u>change</u>
Missouri	155.6	172.0	down 10%	198.0	down 21%

- According to the Division of Energy's most recent statewide propane price survey conducted May 4, the average Missouri retail residential propane price was about \$1.56 per gallon, 16.4 cents lower in the past month and down 42.4 cents compared to last year at this time.
- According to the survey, the highest Missouri retail residential price for propane was \$1.99 per gallon. The lowest retail price was about \$1.16 per gallon.
- U.S. propane stocks increased by 1.8 MMB last week to 66.5 MMB as of May 1, 2015, 31.3 MMB (88.7%) higher than a year ago. Midwest inventories increased by 0.1 MMB. At 18.4 MMB, Midwest inventories are 6.7 MMB (58%), higher than a year ago.
- US demand for propane increased on the week at about 1.0 MMB/D as of May 1, 2015. Propane demand is higher compared to this time last year.

For more information on propane, please visit:

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

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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>.