



Department of Economic Development  
Division of Energy

**MISSOURI ENERGY BULLETIN**

February 9, 2018

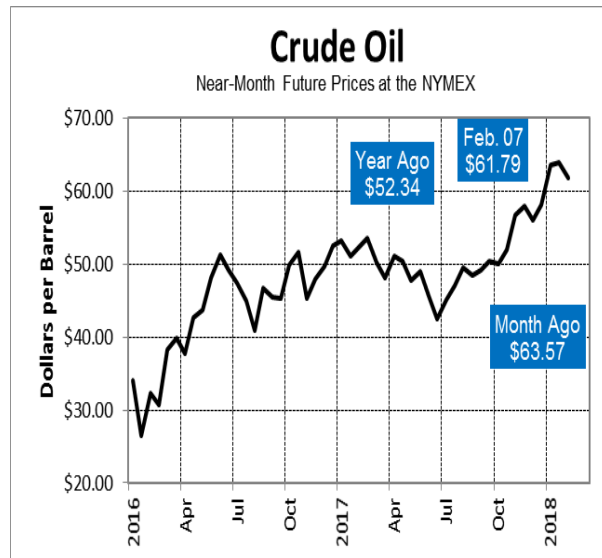
*(Data are for the week ended February 2, 2018, unless stated otherwise.)*

**Crude Oil**

**U.S. crude oil prices decreased by \$1.78 to \$61.79 per barrel in the past month, 18 percent higher compared to this time last year.**

<b>Crude Oil - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per barrel)</b>					
	<u>02-07-18</u>	<u>01-10-18</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>02-08-17</u>	<u>change</u>
<b>NYMEX</b>	<b>\$61.79</b>	<b>\$63.57</b>	<b>down 3%</b>	<b>\$52.34</b>	<b>up 18%</b>

- Crude oil futures for March delivery on the NYMEX ended \$1.60, or 2.5 percent, lower on February 7 to settle at \$61.79 per barrel, settling at a one-month low as a second weekly rise in inventories and record domestic production halted earlier attempts to rebound from a 3-session decline. A monthly report issued February 6 by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed higher forecasts for US oil production this year and next, with 2019’s average output expected to top 11 million barrels per day (MMB/D).
- According to the EIA, domestic crude supplies increased 1.9 MMB for the week ended February 2.
- Compared to this time last year, the U.S. crude oil futures settlement price of \$61.79 is \$9.45, or 18 percent, higher.



- Domestic crude production was slightly higher than in the prior week at nearly 10.3 MMB/D. Last year at this time, production stood at nearly 9.0 MMB/D. Total crude imports were lower from the prior week at nearly 7.9 MMB/D. Imports at this time last year averaged nearly 9.4 MMB/D.
- U.S. crude oil supplies increased 1.9 MMB on the week to 420.3 MMB. U.S. supplies are 88.3 MMB lower compared to this time last year.
- U.S. refinery crude runs were higher from the prior week with refiners processing nearly 16.8 MMB/D. U.S. refinery capacity utilization was higher on the week at 92.5 percent. Last year at this time, capacity use stood at 87.7 percent.
- Gasoline output was higher on the week at nearly 10.1 MMB/D. Output was 9.8 MMB/D at this time last year. Distillate output was higher from the prior week at over 5.1 MMB/D. Last year at this time, production stood at over 4.8 MMB/D.
- Total petroleum products supplied to market, a measure of consumption, over the last four-week period stood at over 20.8 MMB/D, up by 4.8 percent compared to the same period last year.

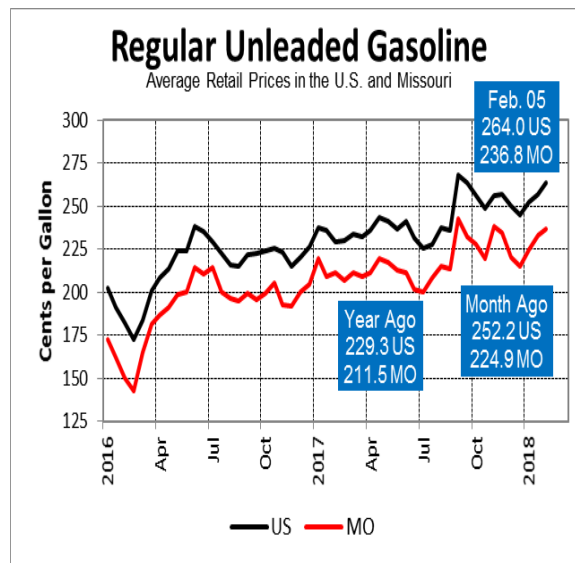
## Transportation Fuels

On February 5, Missouri's statewide average retail price for gasoline was nearly \$2.37 per gallon, up 11.9 cents in the past month and up 25.4 cents in the past year.

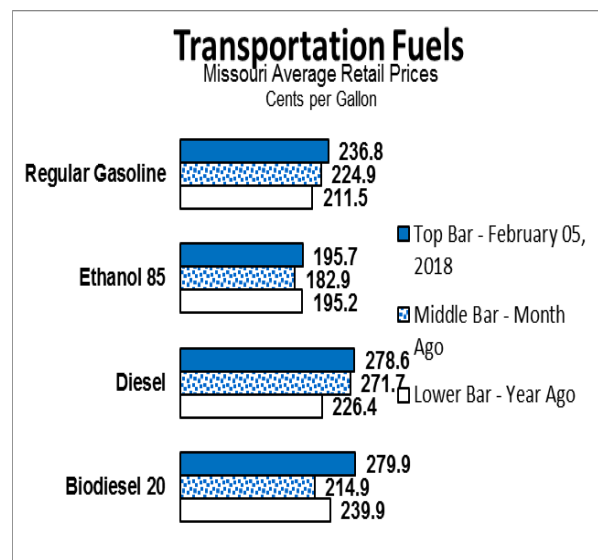
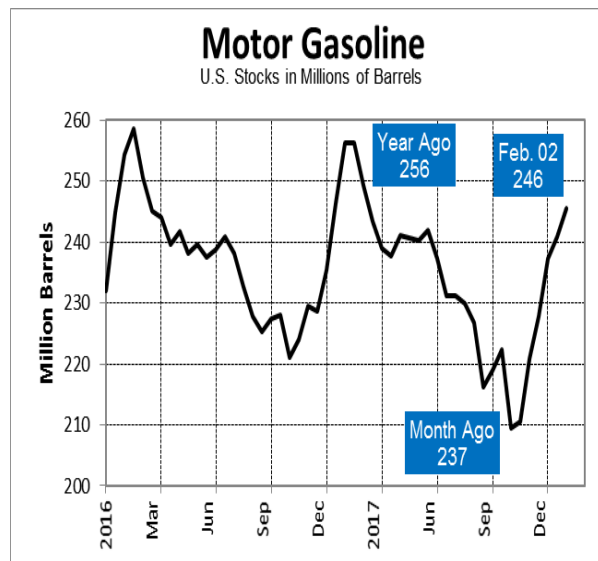
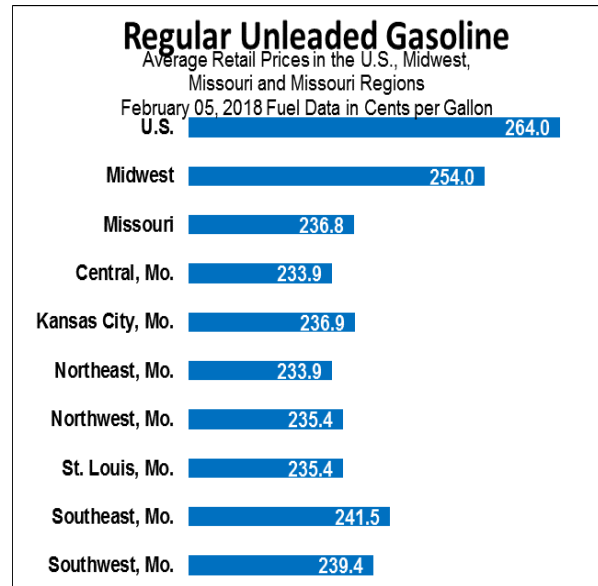
Regular Unleaded Gasoline - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	02-05-18	01-09-18	change	02-06-17	change
US	264.0	252.2	up 5%	229.3	up 15%
Missouri	236.8	224.9	up 5%	211.5	up 12%

Diesel Fuel - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	02-05-18	01-09-18	change	02-06-17	change
US	308.6	299.6	up 3%	255.8	up 21%
Missouri	278.6	271.7	up 3%	226.4	up 23%

- On February 5, Missouri's average retail price for gasoline was nearly \$2.37 per gallon, up 11.9 cents in the past month.
- Missouri's average price for diesel fuel was nearly \$2.79 per gallon, up 6.9 cents in the past month.
- Compared to last year at this time, Missouri's average retail gasoline price is 25.4 cents per gallon, or 12 percent, higher while the average retail diesel fuel price is 52.2 cents per gallon, or 23 percent, higher.
- At nearly \$2.64, the U.S. average price for regular gasoline is 11.8 cents per gallon, or 5 percent, higher compared to last month.



- The U.S. average price for regular gasoline is 34.7 cents per gallon, or 15 percent, higher compared to this time last year. In the past week, the U.S. average increased by 3.0 cents per gallon.
- Gasoline imports increased from the prior week at nearly 0.8 MMB/D. Last year at this time, imports stood at over 0.8 MMB/D.
- Implied demand for gasoline was higher on the week at over 9.1 MMB/D. Demand stood at nearly 9.0 MMB/D at this time last year.
- In the past four weeks, U.S. gasoline demand has averaged nearly 8.9 MMB/D.
- U.S. gasoline supplies were higher on the week at 245.5 MMB. U.S. supplies are 10.7 MMB lower compared to this time last year.
- Distillate stocks increased 3.9 MMB on the week at 141.8 MMB and stand 28.9 MMB lower compared to the same period last year.
- Distillate demand decreased on the week at nearly 3.8 MMB/D. Demand stood at over 3.9 MMB/D at this time last year. On a four-week average, distillate demand was higher at over 4.2 MMB/D.
- On February 5, Missouri's average retail price for E85 motor fuel, conventional motor fuel containing 85 percent ethanol, was over \$1.95 per gallon, 44.1 cents, or 18.7 percent, lower than the average price for conventional motor gasoline.
- On February 5, Missouri's average retail price for B20, diesel fuel containing 20 percent biofuel, was nearly \$2.80 per gallon, 1.3 cents per gallon, or 0.5 percent, higher than the average price for conventional diesel fuel.
- According to EIA's latest *Short Term Energy Outlook* dated February 6, 2018, U.S. regular gasoline retail prices, which averaged \$2.15 per gallon in 2016, and \$2.42 in 2017, are projected to average \$2.62 in 2018.



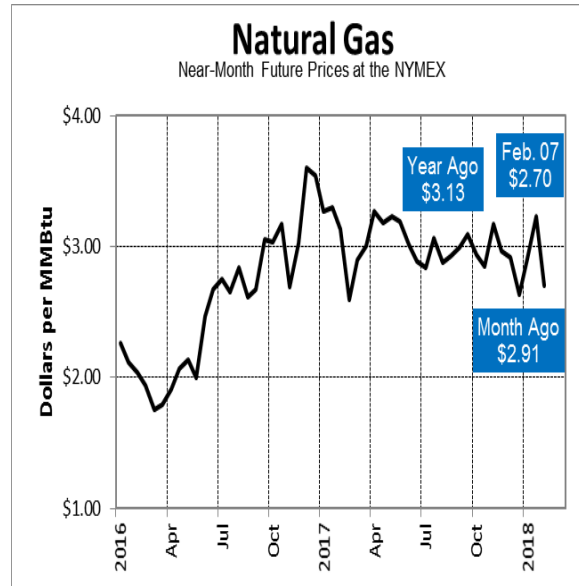
## Natural Gas

Approximately 51.6 percent (1,220,485) of Missouri households use natural gas to heat their homes. (Data updated from the most recent U.S. Census report.) Natural gas is also used to produce goods and electricity.

**On February 7, 2018, natural gas futures on the NYMEX closed at \$2.70 per million British thermal units (MMBtu), down \$0.43, or 14 percent, in the past year.**

Natural Gas - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per MMBtu)					
	<u>02-07-18</u>	<u>01-10-18</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>02-08-17</u>	<u>change</u>
NYMEX	\$2.70	\$2.91	down 7%	\$3.13	down 14%

- The March 2018 NYMEX futures contract settled at \$2.70 per MMBtu on February 7, down 5.7 cents from the prior settlement.
- In the past month, the futures contract has decreased 21.0 cents, or 7 percent.
- Futures are down \$0.43, or 14 percent, in the past year.
- Working gas in storage was 2,078 billion cubic feet (Bcf), 15.9 percent below the five-year average inventory level for the week. According to EIA's February 8, 2018 *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report*, U.S. natural gas supplies are 503 Bcf, or 19.5 percent, lower than last year at this time.



- According to the EIA, net withdrawals from storage totaled 119 Bcf for the week ending February 2, compared with the five-year (2013–17) average net withdrawal of 151 Bcf and last year's net withdrawal of 142 Bcf during the same report week.
- Temperatures in the Lower 48 states averaged 40 degrees Fahrenheit (°F), which was 6°F higher than the normal, 2°F higher than the same week last year, and the same average temperature as the prior storage week
- According to the EIA, total U.S. consumption of natural gas rose by 13 percent compared with the previous report week. Natural gas consumed for power generation climbed by 9 percent week over week, and industrial sector consumption increased by 5 percent. In the residential and commercial sectors, consumption increased by 20 percent. Natural gas exports to Mexico were the same as last week, averaging 4.5 Bcf/d.

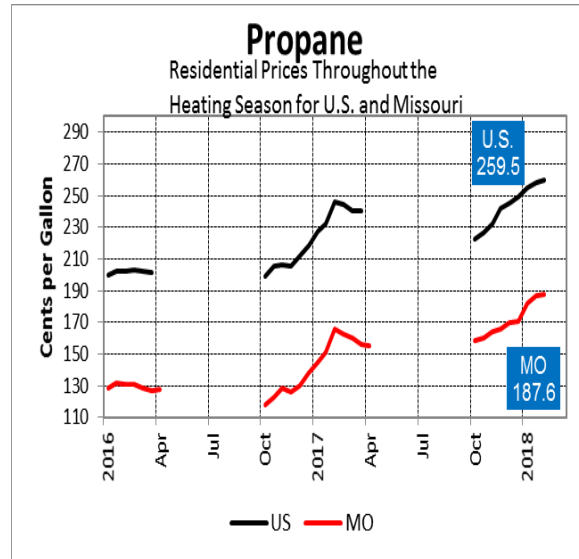
## Propane

Approximately 9.2 percent (216,853) 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.

**On February 5, the average Missouri retail price for residential propane was nearly \$1.88 per gallon, up 21.5 cents, or 13 percent, in the past year.**

Propane - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	02-05-18	01-09-18	change	02-06-17	change
Missouri	187.6	181.8	up 3%	166.1	up 13%

- According to the Division of Energy’s most recent statewide propane price survey conducted February 5, the average Missouri retail residential propane price was nearly \$1.88 per gallon, up 21.5 cents compared to last year at this time.
- According to the survey, the highest Missouri retail residential price for propane was \$2.56 per gallon. The lowest retail price was nearly \$1.50 per gallon.
- U.S. propane/propylene stocks decreased by 4.1 MMB last week to 48.9 MMB as of February 2, 2018, 8.4 MMB or 14.7 percent, lower than the five-year average inventory level for this same time of year. Midwest inventories decreased by over 1.9 MMB to nearly 12.8 MMB last week. Midwest inventories stood at over 15.4 MMB at this time last year.
- U.S. propane consumption increased on the week at over 2.0 MMB/D. Consumption stood at over 1.7 MMB/D last year at this time.



**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](mailto:energy@ded.mo.gov); Web Address: <http://energy.mo.gov/energy/stay-informed/missouri-energy-bulletins>.