



Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of Energy

MISSOURI ENERGY BULLETIN

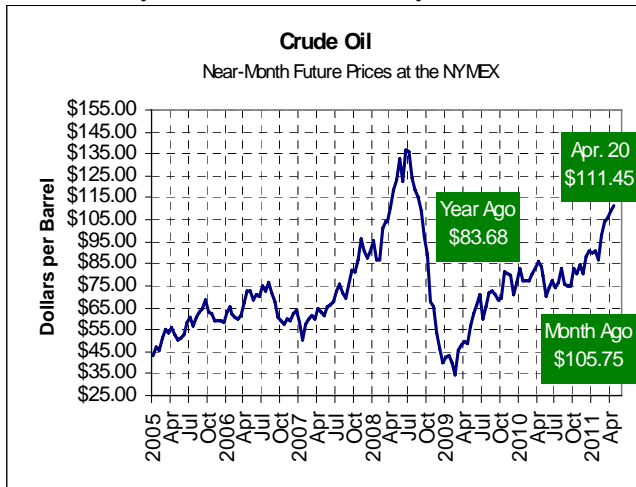
April 25, 2011

Crude Oil

U.S. crude oil prices increased \$5.70 to \$111.45 per barrel in the past month and stand 33 percent higher than at this time last year.

Crude Oil - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per barrel)					
	04-20-11	03-23-11	change	04-21-10	change
NYMEX	\$111.45	\$105.75	up 5%	\$83.68	up 33%

- At the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) crude oil futures for May delivery ended \$3.17 per barrel or 2.9 percent higher Apr. 20, to close at \$111.45 per barrel, on a combination of a stronger stock market and a weaker dollar. Crude oil prices also continue to advance as civil unrest continues in the Middle East and in North Africa, particularly Libya.
- U.S. crude oil futures for June delivery on the NYMEX ended \$0.84, or 0.8 percent, higher on Apr. 21 to settle at \$112.29 per barrel. Trading on the NYMEX was closed on Apr. 22 in observance of Good Friday and the Easter Holiday. Oil has advanced 23 percent in New York this calendar year.



Unrest in the Middle East and North Africa has toppled leaders in Egypt and Tunisia and spread to Libya, Algeria, Bahrain, Iran, Oman, Syria and Yemen. NATO and its allies are being drawn more deeply into an intervention that aims to topple Libya's Qaddafi. Libyan crude output, which averaged 1.6 million barrels per day (MMB/D) last year, fell to 390,000 MMB/D in Mar. OPEC will cut crude-oil loadings because of a seasonal drop in consumption. The group will ship an estimated 22.67 MMB/D in the four weeks to May 7th, down from 23

MMB/D in the period ended Apr. 9th.

- Compared to this time last year, this crude oil futures settlement price was \$27.77, or 33 percent, higher.
- Total petroleum products supplied to market over the last four-week period ending Apr. 1, averaged 19.1 million barrels per day (MMB/D), up 1.2 percent compared to the similar period last year.

- According to the Apr. 20 Energy Information Administration (EIA) weekly fuels report, U.S. oil inventories decreased 2.3 million barrels (MMB) for the week ending Apr. 15, the first drop since February. U.S. crude supplies are now 1.1 MMB higher than at this time last year.
- Crude imports for the week ending Apr. 15 were 8.1 MMB/D, down 0.5 MMB/D from the prior week. Imports at this time last year averaged 9.6 MMB/D. Crude oil inventories represent 25.1 days of forward cover up from the 24.4 days compared to this time last year.
- U.S. refinery crude runs were up 0.19 MMB/D with refiners processing about 14.6 MMB/D of crude for the week ended Apr. 15. U.S. refinery capacity was 82.5 percent, up 1.1 percent from the prior week but 3.4 percent lower than the 85.9 percent figure at this time last year.
- Gasoline output increased at 9.2 MMB/D on the week but is down 240,000 barrels per day compared to last year at this time. Distillate output increased slightly at 4.2 MMB/D for the week ending Apr. 15 and stand 0.1 MMB/D higher compared to the production level at this time last year.

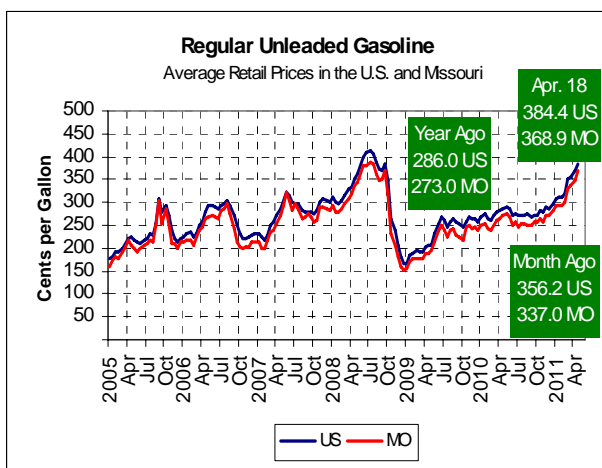
Transportation Fuels

On Apr. 18, Missouri's statewide average retail price for gasoline was \$3.69 per gallon, up 32 cents or 9 percent in the past month and \$0.96 per gallon higher than at this time last year.

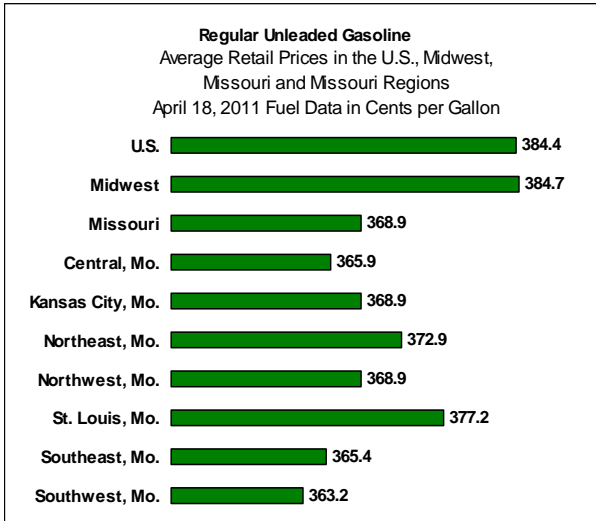
Regular Unleaded Gasoline - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	04-18-11	03-21-11	change	04-19-10	change
US	384.4	356.2	up 8%	286.0	up 34%
Missouri	368.9	337.0	up 9%	273.0	up 35%

Diesel Fuel - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	04-18-11	03-21-11	change	04-19-10	change
US	410.5	390.7	up 5%	307.4	up 34%
Missouri	395.3	376.8	up 5%	293.2	up 35%

- On Apr. 18, Missouri's average retail price for gasoline was \$3.69, an increase of 32 cents in the past month. The average price for diesel fuel was up by nearly 19 cents in the past month. Missouri's average retail gasoline price is \$0.96 or 35 percent higher, while the average diesel fuel price is nearly \$1.02, or 35 percent, higher for the comparable period in Apr. 2010.

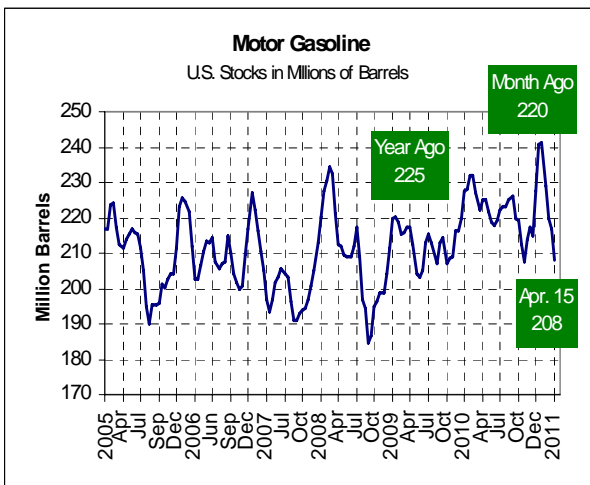


- The U.S. average price for regular gasoline was up 28 cents per gallon or about 8 percent compared to last month at \$3.84 per gallon. The U.S. average was about 98 cents or 34 percent higher compared to this time last year. In the past week, the U.S. average was up by 5 cents per gallon.
- Gasoline imports decreased to 0.9 MMB/D



at 208 MMB for the week ending Apr. 15. Gasoline inventories represent 23.1 days of supply for the U.S. based on implied demand during the past 4-week average. U.S. gasoline inventories are 16.8 MMB lower than at this time last year and trend at the lower range of the five-year average for this time of year.

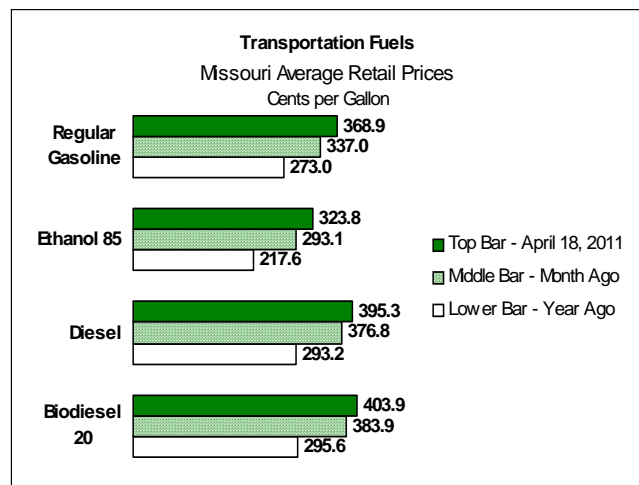
- Distillate stocks decreased at 148 MMB and stand 0.5 MMB lower compared to the same period last year. Distillate demand was up at 4.1 MMB/D and up 0.7 MMB/D compared to the same period last year. On a four-week average, distillate demand is up 0.2 MMB/D compared to the same period last year at 3.8 MMB/D. On the week, distillate demand, which includes diesel fuel, kerosene and home heating oil, was up 300,000 barrels per day at 4.1 MMB/D for the week ending Apr. 15.



According to EIA Apr. 12, 2011 *Short Term Energy Outlook*, EIA projects U.S. gasoline prices to average about \$3.86 per gallon during the peak driving season (Apr. - Sept.) with considerable regional and local variation. Current market prices of

for the week ending Apr. 15, nearly 35,000 barrels per day lower compared to the prior week and about 97,000 barrels per day higher than last year at this time.

- Implied demand for gasoline decreased the week ending Apr. 15 at 9.0 MMB/D, down 119,000 barrels per day from the prior week and down 90,000 barrels per day compared to this same period last year. In the past 4 weeks, U.S. gasoline demand has averaged 8.9 MMB/D, 162,000 barrels per day lower compared to the same 4-week period last year.
- U.S. gasoline supplies decreased 1.6 MMB



- On Apr. 15, Missouri's average retail price for E85 motor fuel, conventional motor fuel containing 85 percent ethanol, was \$3.24 per gallon, 45 cents or about 12 percent lower than the average price for conventional motor gasoline.
- On Apr. 15, the average retail price for B20, diesel fuel containing 20 percent biofuel, was \$4.04 per gallon, 9 cents or about 2 percent, higher than the statewide average retail price for conventional diesel fuel.
- According to EIA Apr. 12, 2011 *Short Term*

futures and options contracts for gasoline suggest a 33-percent probability that the national monthly average retail price for regular gasoline could exceed \$4.00 per gallon during July 2011.

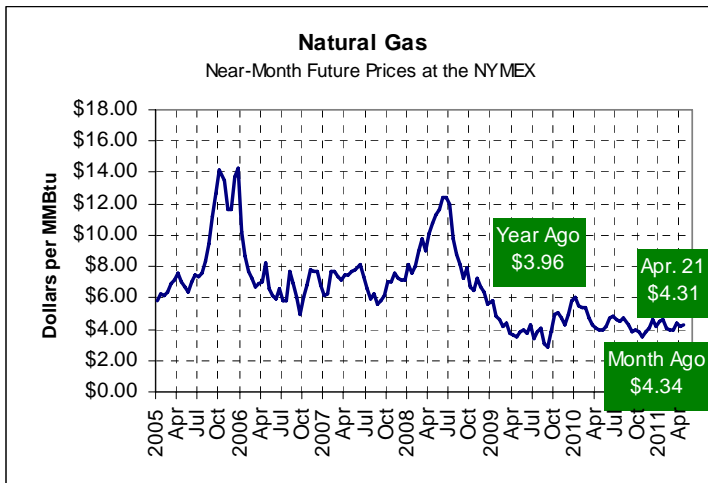
Natural Gas

Approximately 58 percent (1,261,397) of Missouri households use natural gas to heat their homes. Natural gas is also used to produce goods and electricity.

On Apr. 21, natural gas futures closed at \$4.31 per MMBtu, down 3 cents from a month ago and 9 percent higher compared to last year at this time.

Natural Gas - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per MMBtu)					
	04-21-11	03-23-11	change	04-21-10	change
NYMEX	\$4.31	\$4.34	down 1%	\$3.96	up 9%

- Natural gas futures for May delivery decreased \$0.03 in the past month to a final closing price of \$4.31 per MMBtu on Apr. 21.
- At the NYMEX, for the trading week ending Apr. 21, natural gas futures increased 17 cents per MMBtu to \$4.31. Natural gas prices increased at most market locations throughout the U.S.



- U.S. natural gas consumption for the week ending Apr. 15 increased by nearly 6 percent. The bulk of the increase came from the residential and commercial sectors, where consumption rose 14.2 percent attributable to cooler temperatures. Compared to the same week last year, total consumption was up 16.4 percent. Supplies this week were robust, increasing about 1 percent from the previous week and 4 percent from the same week last year. Gas

production rose slightly from the previous week, and is more than 6 percent greater than it was during the comparable week last year.

- Working gas in storage as of Apr. 15 totaled 1,654 Bcf, 1.4 percent above the 5-year average inventory level for the week according to EIA's *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report*. U.S. natural gas supplies are 165 Bcf or 9.1 percent lower than last year at this time.

Propane

Approximately 13 percent (293,603) of Missouri households heat with propane, which is also used to support commercial operations, produce goods, dry grain harvests and fuel vehicles.

(Note: Beginning Apr. 2011, residential retail propane prices will be reported only for the first full week of each month through Sept. 2011)

On Apr. 4, the average Missouri retail price for residential propane was about \$2.04 per gallon, down 5 cents from last month yet 7 percent higher compared to last year at this time.

Propane - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	<u>04-04-11</u>	<u>03-07-11</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>04-05-10</u>	<u>change</u>
Missouri	203.5	208.6	down 2%	190.6	up 7%

- According to the Division of Energy's statewide propane price survey conducted Apr. 4, retail residential propane prices were 5.1 cents per gallon lower in the past month and stand over 13 cents per gallon or 7 percent higher than last year at this time.
- According to the survey conducted Apr. 4, the highest Missouri retail residential price for propane was \$2.50 per gallon while the lowest retail price was \$1.77 per gallon.
- For the week ending Apr. 15, U.S. inventories of propane fell as total stocks were down about 0.4 MMB to end at 26 million barrels. Propane inventories are now 4.4 million barrels lower compared to the same period last year. Implied demand for propane increased 170,000 at 1.1 MMB/D for the week ending Apr. 15 and about 0.12 MMB/D higher compared to the demand level for this time last year.
- For the week ending Apr. 15, Midwest propane inventories decreased 0.6 MMB. At 10 MMB, Midwest inventories are 1.8 MMB or about 15 percent lower than the 11.8 MMB reported at this time last year.

The Missouri Energy Bulletin is distributed twice a month by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' 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 on-line 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 Natural Resources, Division of Energy, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176; Phone: (573) 751-3443 or (800) 361-4827; Fax: (573) 751-6860; E-mail: energy@dnr.mo.gov; Web Address: www.dnr.mo.gov/energy/transportation/fb.htm