



Department of Economic Development  
Division of Energy

**MISSOURI ENERGY BULLETIN**

October 20, 2017

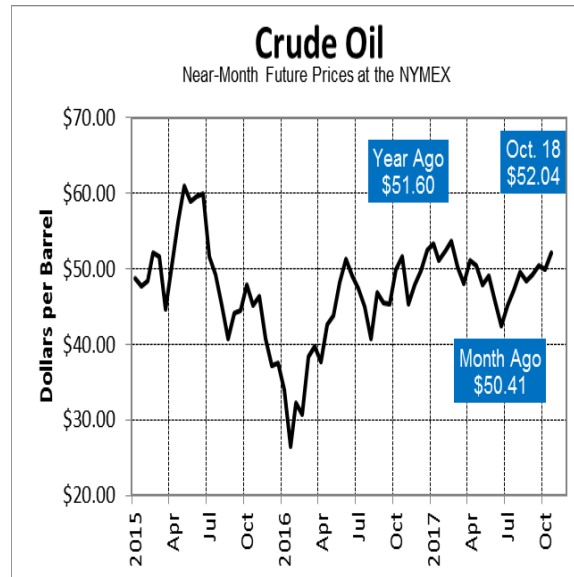
*(Data are for the week ended October 13, 2017, unless stated otherwise.)*

**Crude Oil**

**U.S. crude oil prices increased by \$1.63 to \$52.04 per barrel in the past month, 1 percent higher compared to this time last year.**

<b>Crude Oil - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per barrel)</b>					
	<u>10-18-17</u>	<u>09-20-17</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>10-19-16</u>	<u>change</u>
<b>NYMEX</b>	<b>\$52.04</b>	<b>\$50.41</b>	<b>up 3%</b>	<b>\$51.60</b>	<b>up 1%</b>

- Crude oil futures for November delivery on the NYMEX ended \$0.16, or 0.3 percent, higher on October 18 to settle at \$52.04 per barrel, with Brent futures touching 3-week highs and then retreating after a surprising drop in US refining rates and an unexpected build in fuel stocks signaled slower demand in the U.S.
- According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. refiners throttled down activity as the autumn maintenance season got underway, and refining rates fell to 84.5 percent of total capacity, the seasonally slowest rate of output since 2011. Inventories of gasoline and diesel rose, reviving concerns about elevated stockpiles during a time of slower demand. A setback in refinery utilization rates occurred as refiners underwent seasonal maintenance.



- Compared to this time last year, the U.S. crude oil futures settlement price of \$52.04 is \$0.44, or 1 percent, higher.

- Domestic crude production was lower than in the prior week at over 8.4 MMB/D. Last year at this time, production stood at nearly 8.5 MMB/D. Total crude imports decreased from the prior week at nearly 7.5 MMB/D. Imports at this time last year averaged nearly 7.0 MMB/D.
- U.S. crude oil supplies decreased 5.7 MMB on the week to 456.5 MMB. U.S. supplies are 12.2 MMB lower compared to this time last year.
- U.S. refinery crude runs decreased from the prior week with refiners processing over 15.4 MMB/D. U.S. refinery capacity utilization was lower on the week at 84.5 percent. Last year at this time, capacity use stood at 85.0 percent.
- Gasoline output was higher on the week at over 10.0 MMB/D. Output was nearly 9.5 MMB/D at this time last year. Distillate output was lower from the prior week at over 4.7 MMB/D. Last year at this time, production stood at nearly 4.6 MMB/D.
- Total petroleum products supplied to market, a measure of consumption, over the last four-week period stood at 19.9 MMB/D, down by 0.7 percent compared to the same period last year.

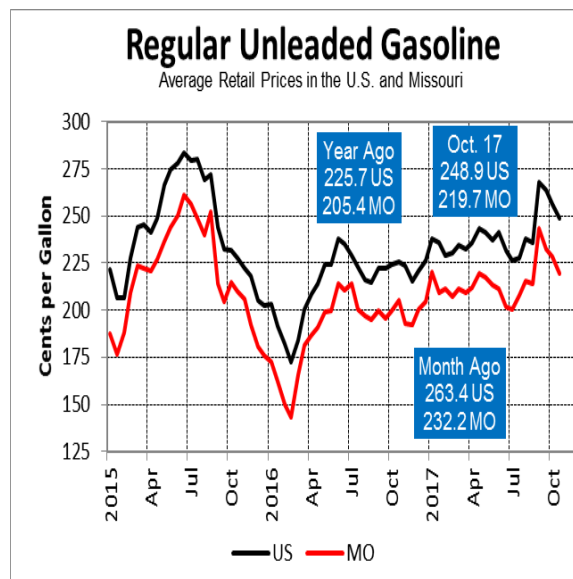
## Transportation Fuels

**On October 17, Missouri's statewide average retail price for gasoline was nearly \$2.20 per gallon, down 12.5 cents in the past month and up 14.3 cents in the past year.**

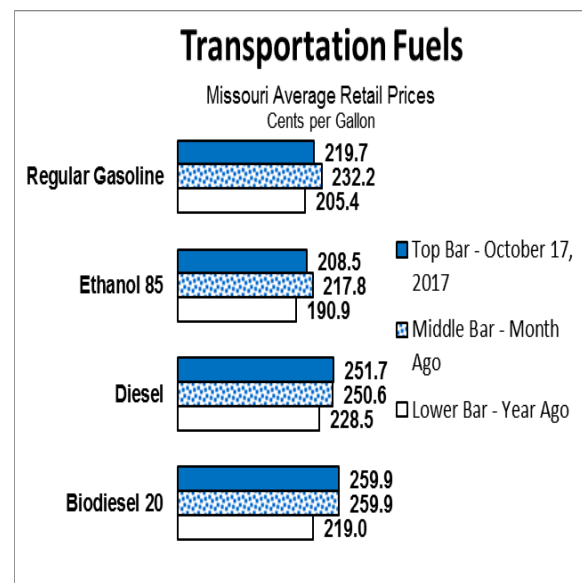
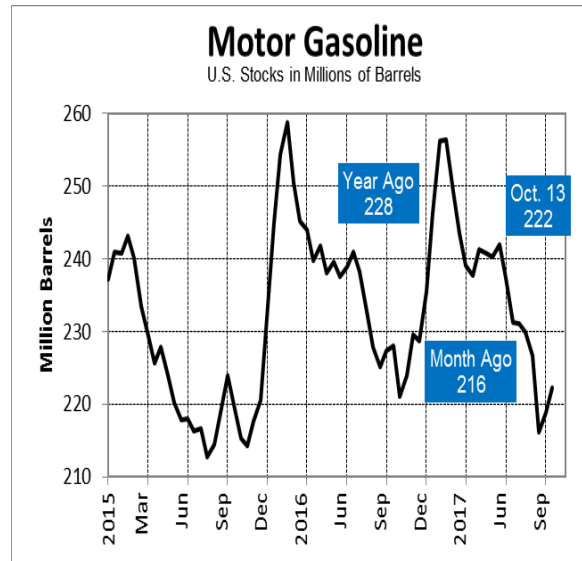
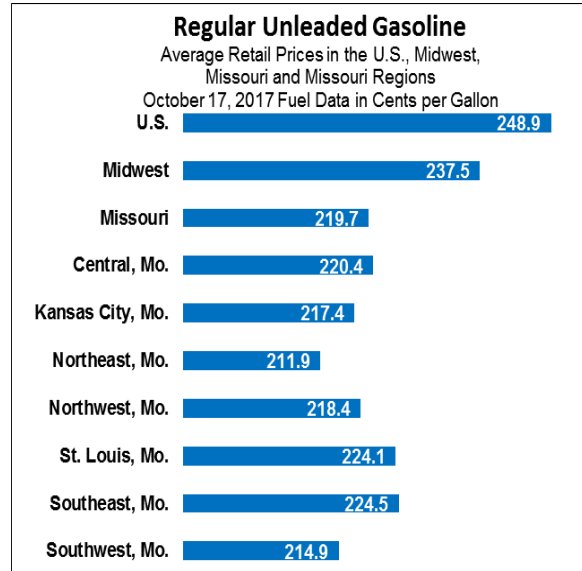
<i>Regular Unleaded Gasoline - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)</i>					
	<u>10-17-17</u>	<u>09-19-17</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>10-17-16</u>	<u>change</u>
<b>US</b>	<b>248.9</b>	<b>263.4</b>	<b>down 6%</b>	<b>225.7</b>	<b>up 10%</b>
<b>Missouri</b>	<b>219.7</b>	<b>232.2</b>	<b>down 5%</b>	<b>205.4</b>	<b>up 7%</b>

<i>Diesel Fuel - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)</i>					
	<u>10-17-17</u>	<u>09-19-17</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>10-17-16</u>	<u>change</u>
<b>US</b>	<b>278.7</b>	<b>279.1</b>	<b>down &lt;1%</b>	<b>248.1</b>	<b>up 12%</b>
<b>Missouri</b>	<b>251.7</b>	<b>250.6</b>	<b>up &lt;1%</b>	<b>228.5</b>	<b>up 10%</b>

- On October 17, Missouri's average retail price for gasoline was nearly \$2.20 per gallon, down 12.5 cents in the past month.
- Missouri's average price for diesel fuel was nearly \$2.52 per gallon, up 1.1 cents in the past month.
- Compared to last year at this time, Missouri's average retail gasoline price is 14.3 cents per gallon, or 7 percent, higher while the average retail diesel fuel price is 23.2 cents per gallon, or 10 percent, higher.
- At almost \$2.49, the U.S. average price for regular gasoline is 14.5 cents per gallon, or 6 percent, lower compared to last month.



- The U.S. average price for regular gasoline is 23.2 cents per gallon, or 10 percent, higher compared to this time last year. In the past week, the U.S. average decreased by 1.5 cents per gallon.
- Gasoline imports decreased from the prior week at nearly 0.7 MMB/D. Last year at this time, imports stood at nearly 0.9 MMB/D.
- Implied demand for gasoline decreased on the week at over 9.1 MMB/D. Demand stood at nearly 8.8 MMB/D at this time last year.
- In the past four weeks, U.S. gasoline demand has averaged over 9.3 MMB/D.
- U.S. gasoline supplies increased 0.9 MMB on the week to 222.3 MMB. U.S. supplies are 5.7 MMB lower compared to this time last year.
- Distillate stocks increased 0.5 MMB on the week at 134.5 MMB and stand 21.2 MMB lower compared to the same period last year.
- Distillate demand decreased on the week at nearly 3.5 MMB/D. Demand stood at nearly 4.0 MMB/D at this time last year. On a four-week average, distillate demand was lower at over 3.7 MMB/D.
- On October 17, Missouri's average retail price for E85 motor fuel, conventional motor fuel containing 85 percent ethanol, was almost \$2.09 per gallon, 11.2 cents, or 5.1 percent, lower than the average price for conventional motor gasoline.
- On October 17, Missouri's average retail price for B20, diesel fuel containing 20 percent biofuel, was nearly \$2.60 per gallon, 8.2 cents per gallon, or 3.3 percent, higher than the average price for conventional diesel fuel.
- According to EIA's latest *Short Term Energy Outlook* dated October 7, 2017, U.S. regular gasoline retail prices, which averaged \$2.43 per gallon in 2015 and \$2.15 per gallon in 2016, are projected to average \$2.39 in 2017.



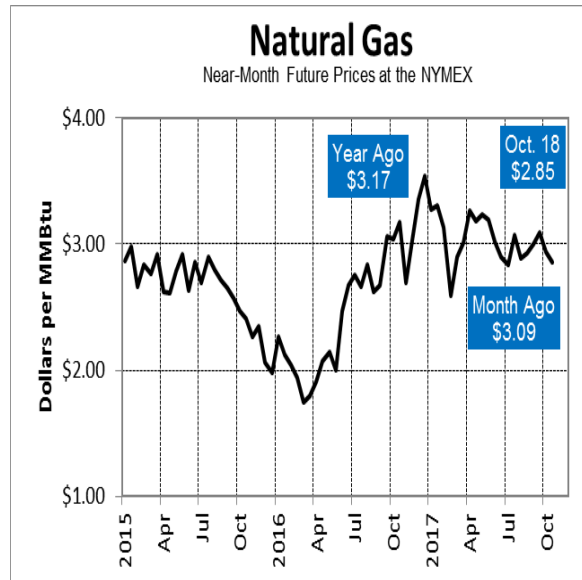
## Natural Gas

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 October 18, 2017, natural gas futures on the NYMEX closed at \$2.85 per million British thermal units (MMBtu), down \$0.32, or 10 percent, in the past year.**

Natural Gas - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per MMBtu)					
	<u>10-18-17</u>	<u>09-20-17</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>10-19-16</u>	<u>change</u>
NYMEX	\$2.85	\$3.09	down 8%	\$3.17	down 10%

- The November 2017 NYMEX futures contract settled at \$2.85 per MMBtu on October 18, down 10.8 cents from the prior settlement.
- In the past month, the futures contract has decreased 24 cents, or 8 percent.
- Futures are down \$0.32, or 10 percent, in the past year.
- Working gas in storage was 3,646 billion cubic feet (Bcf), 1.0 percent below the five-year average inventory level for the week. According to EIA's October 19, 2017 *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report*, U.S. natural gas supplies are 179 Bcf, or 4.7 percent, lower than last year at this time.



- According to the EIA, net injections into storage totaled 51 Bcf for the week ending October 13, 2017, compared with the five-year (2012–16) average net injection of 78 Bcf and last year's net injections of 77 Bcf during the same week.
- Temperatures in the Lower 48 states averaged 66 degrees Fahrenheit (°F), 7°F higher than the normal and 2°F higher than last year at this time. The Mountain Census division was the only region reporting cooler-than-normal temperatures, averaging 55°F, or 2°F lower than the normal and 3°F lower than last year at this time.
- According to the EIA, total U.S. consumption of natural gas was unchanged from last week, averaging 57.1 Bcf/d. Decreases in electric sector demand for natural gas this week were offset by increases in demand for home and building heating. Natural gas consumed for power generation declined by 12 percent week over week, industrial sector consumption increased by 3 percent, and residential/commercial sector consumption increased by 30 percent. Natural gas exports to Mexico increased 2 percent.

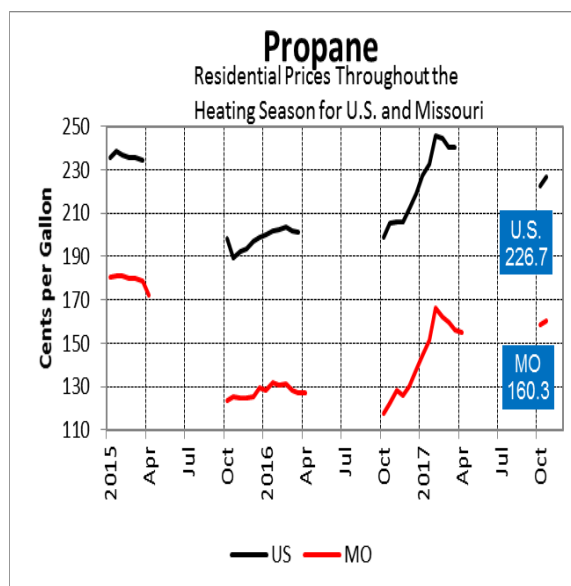
## Propane

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 October 16, the average Missouri retail price for residential propane was over \$1.60 per gallon, up 37.6 cents in the past year.**

Propane - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	10-16-17	09-19-17	change	10-17-16	change
Missouri	160.3	NA	NA	122.7	up 31%

- According to the Division of Energy's most recent statewide propane price survey conducted October 16, the average Missouri retail residential propane price was over \$1.60 per gallon, up 37.6 cents compared to last year at this time.
- According to the survey, the highest Missouri retail residential price for propane was \$2.10 per gallon. The lowest retail price was \$1.40 per gallon.
- U.S. propane stocks decreased by 0.1 MMB last week to 78.8 MMB as of October 13, 2017, 23.8 MMB, or 23.2 percent, lower than a year ago. Midwest propane stocks increased week-over-week by over 0.4 MMB to almost 27.3 MMB last week. Midwest inventories stood at almost 28.2 MMB at this time last year.



- U.S. propane consumption was unchanged on the week at over 0.9 MMB/D. Consumption stood at over 1.3 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>.