



Division of Energy

MISSOURI ENERGY BULLETIN

May 22, 2015

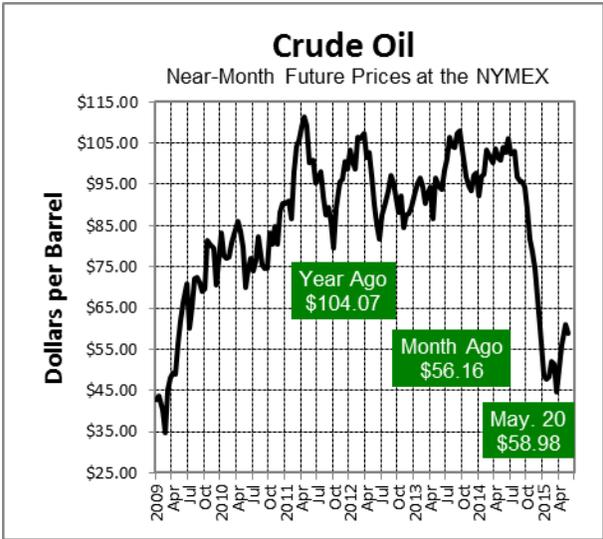
(Data is for the week ended May 15, 2015, unless stated otherwise.)

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.

<i>Crude Oil - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per barrel)</i>					
	<u>05-20-15</u>	<u>04-22-15</u>	<u>change</u>	<u>05-21-14</u>	<u>change</u>
NYMEX	\$58.98	\$56.16	up 5%	\$104.07	down 43%

- At the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), June 2015 crude oil futures ended \$0.99, or 1.7 percent, higher on the May 20 trade day to settle at \$58.98 per barrel, ending price declines over the past 5 consecutive days of trade on unexpectedly large decreases in domestic supplies of crude oil and motor fuel.
- Analysts attributed crude oil and gasoline price gains to expectations of strong driving demand during the coming Memorial Day weekend. AAA expects 33 million Americans to take a road trip during the holiday weekend, the highest volume for the weekend since 2005.
- Compared to this time last year, the U.S. crude oil futures settlement price of \$58.98 is \$45.09, or 43 percent, lower.
- According to the May 20 weekly Energy Information Administration (EIA) fuels report, U.S. crude inventories decreased 2.7 million barrels (MMB) to 482.2 MMB. U.S. crude supplies are now 90.9 MMB higher compared to this time last year.
- Crude imports increased from the prior week at 7.2 MMB/D, about 0.7 MMB/D lower compared to imports at this time last year. Domestic crude production decreased at about 9.3 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 16.2 MMB/D of crude. U.S. refinery capacity use was up on the week at 92.4 percent. Last year at this time, capacity use stood at 88.7 percent.
- Gasoline output was up slightly on the week at 9.9 MMB/D. Production at this time last year averaged 10.3 MMB/D. Distillate output was down slightly from the prior week at 4.8 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 19.7 MMB/D, up by 3.9 percent compared to the same period last year.

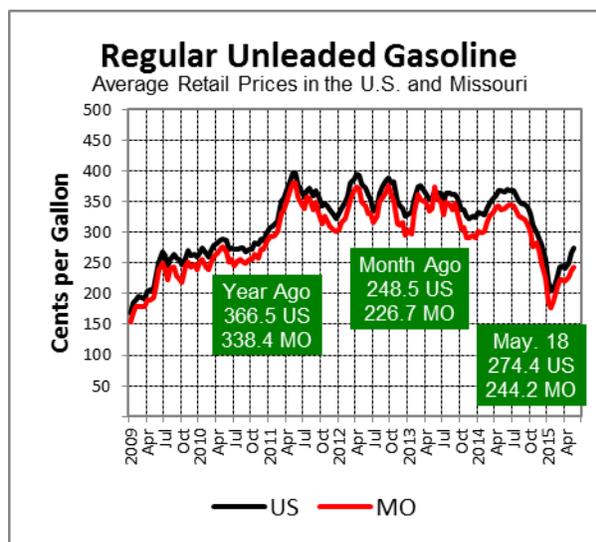
Transportation Fuels

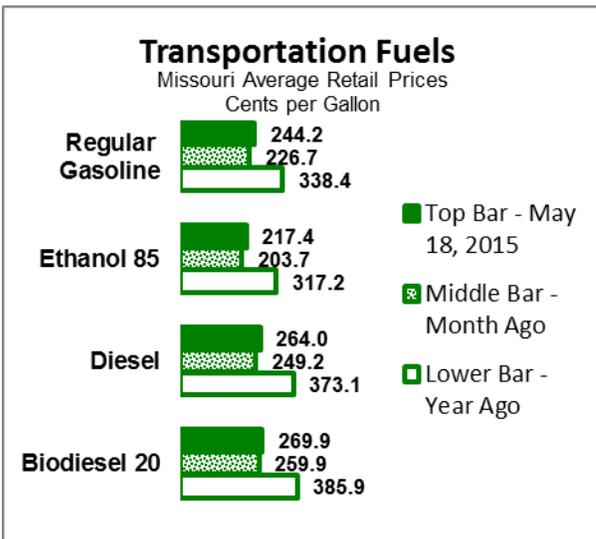
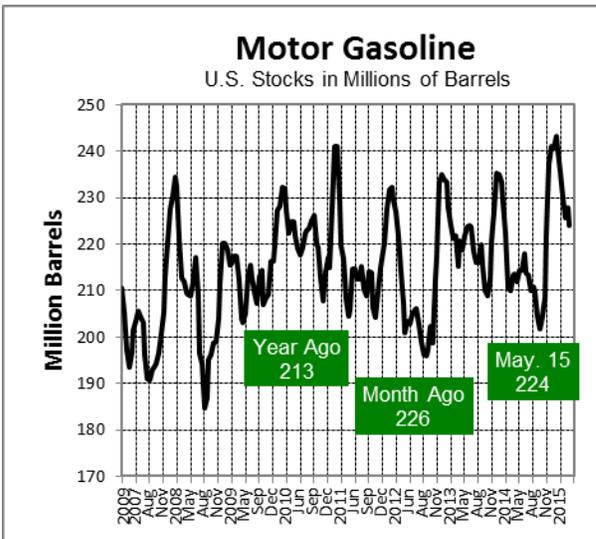
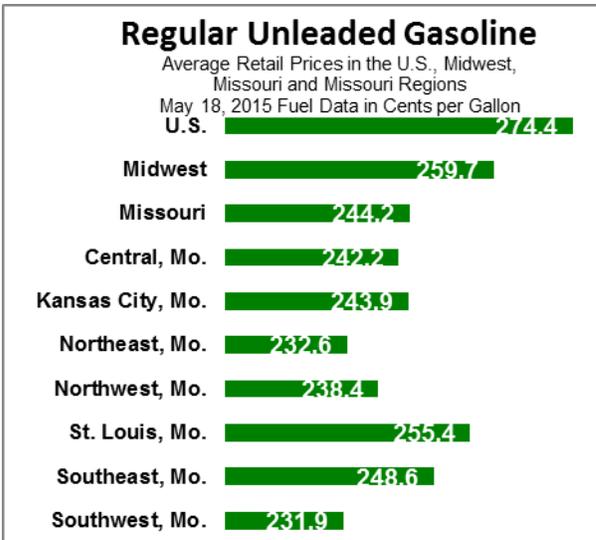
On May 18, Missouri's statewide average retail price for gasoline was about \$2.44 per gallon, up 17.5 cents in the past month and down 94.2 cents in the past year.

Regular Unleaded Gasoline - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	05-18-15	04-20-15	change	05-19-14	change
US	274.4	248.5	up 10%	366.5	down 25%
Missouri	244.2	226.7	up 8%	338.4	down 28%

Diesel Fuel - Retail Prices (cents per gallon)					
	05-18-15	04-20-15	change	05-19-14	change
US	290.4	278.0	up 4%	393.4	down 26%
Missouri	264.0	249.2	up 6%	373.1	down 29%

- On May 18, Missouri's average retail price for gasoline was about \$2.44 per gallon, up 17.5 cents in the past month.
- Missouri's average price for diesel fuel was \$2.64 per gallon, up 14.8 cents per gallon, or 6 percent, in the past month.
- Missouri's average retail gasoline price is 94.2 cents, or 28 percent, lower while the average retail diesel fuel price is 109.1 cents or 29 percent, lower for the comparable period in May 2014.
- At \$2.74, the U.S. average price for regular gasoline is 25.9 cents per gallon, or 10 percent, higher compared to last month.
- The U.S. average was down 92.1 cents, or 25 percent, compared to this time last year. In the past week, the U.S. average increased by 5.3 cents per gallon.





- Gasoline imports decreased from the prior week at 0.5 MMB/D, about 0.5 MMB/D lower compared to last year at this time.
- Implied demand for gasoline increased at nearly 9.3 MMB/D. At this time last year, demand was 9.2 MMB/D.
- In the past four weeks, U.S. gasoline demand has averaged 9.0 MMB/D, 0.1 MMB/D higher compared to the same four-week period last year.
- U.S. gasoline supplies decreased 2.8 MMB on the week to 223.9 MMB. U.S. supplies are up 10.6 MMB compared to this time last year and trend above the five-year average for this time of year.
- Distillate stocks decreased at 127.7 MMB and stand 11.4 MMB higher compared to the same period last year.
- Distillate demand decreased on the week at nearly 4.2 MMB/D. Demand stood at 3.8 MMB/D at this time last year. On a four-week average, distillate demand was higher at 4.1 MMB/D.
- On May 18, Missouri's average retail price for E85 motor fuel, conventional motor fuel containing 85 percent ethanol, was about \$2.17 per gallon, 26.8 cents or 11.0 percent lower than the average price for conventional motor gasoline.
- On May 18, Missouri's average retail price for B20, diesel fuel containing 20 percent biofuel, was about \$2.70 per gallon, 5.9 cents or 2.2 percent higher than the average retail price for conventional diesel fuel.
- According to the May 12, 2015, *Short Term Energy Outlook*, regular gasoline retail prices are forecast to average \$2.43 per gallon in 2015 compared with \$3.36 per gallon in 2014.

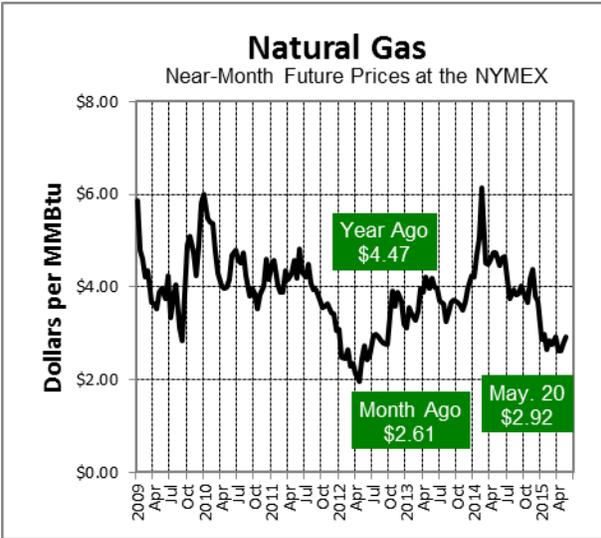
Natural Gas

Approximately 52 percent (1,236,651) 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 May 20, natural gas futures at the NYMEX closed at \$2.92 per million British thermal units (MMBtu), up \$0.31, or 12 percent, in the past month.

Natural Gas - Near Month Future Prices (dollars per MMBtu)					
	05-20-15	04-22-15	change	05-21-14	change
NYMEX	\$2.92	\$2.61	up 12%	\$4.47	down 35%

- At the NYMEX, June 2015 natural gas futures ended 3.3 cents lower on the May 20 trade day to close at \$2.92 per MMBtu. In the past month, natural gas futures have increased \$0.31 per MMBtu.
- In the past year, natural gas values have decreased by \$1.55 per MMBtu, or 35 percent.
- For the reporting week, May 13 to May 20, the price of the June 2015 contract fell from \$2.94 per MMBtu to \$2.925 per MMBtu.
- The 12-month strip (the average of the 12 contracts between June 2015 and May 2016) fell from \$3.15 per MMBtu on May 13 to \$3.12 per MMBtu on May 20.
- According to the EIA, U.S. natural gas consumption fell by 2.9 percent this week, with the largest decline in the power sector. Consumption of natural gas for power generation (power burn) fell 6.8 percent week over week, but was 22.3 percent greater than the same time last year. Residential and commercial consumption fell 1.2 percent week over week, and industrial consumption increased 0.9 percent from last week.
- Working gas in storage totaled 1,989 Bcf, 1.7 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 738 Bcf, or 59.0 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 2.6 MMB last week to 71.0 MMB as of May 15, 2015, 31.1 MMB (78.0%) higher than a year ago. Midwest inventories increased by 0.2 MMB. At 18.2 MMB, Midwest inventories are 4.7 MMB (35%), higher than a year ago.
- US demand for propane decreased on the week at about 0.9 MMB/D as of May 15, 2015. Propane demand is lower 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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<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>.