Average Wholesale Heating Oil Prices in Nebraska

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Analysis

The average wholesale <u>heating oil</u> price had fallen four cents from last week to \$1.72 per gallon on December 22, 2008 (see the <u>table</u> at the end of this report). The <u>graph</u> below shows the spread in Nebraska prices from month to month and from this year compared last year. This week's average price was 99 cents (or 36 percent) lower than the price at this time last year.

The four other <u>states</u> surveyed in the Midwest Region had lower prices ranging from \$1.46 to \$1.56 per gallon resulting in a regional average of \$1.53. Normally, the other surveyed states have comparable prices to Nebraska, but North Dakota has not submitted any reports after the first week of December. Ohio has started submitting reports, but Ohio's weekly average falls far short when using it as a replacement for North Dakota's average. North Dakota's average had been running 60 to 90 cents higher than the regional average whereas Ohio's average is relatively no different than the regional average. States near in proximity to Nebraska, such as Missouri and Minnesota, had prices of \$1.56 and \$1.46, respectively.

For the week ending December 19, the Midwest distillate inventory level was on the bottom boundary of the normal range for this time of year at 2.9 million barrels.

Notes: The <u>annual report</u> for the 2007-2008 winter season is available. An <u>archive</u> houses annual reports from previous years.

Heating Season

The Oil Price Information Service collects wholesale heating-oil prices each week for Nebraska and four (4) other states in the Midwest Region during the heating season (October to March). The Energy Information Administration, the independent statistical and analytical agency within the U.S. Department of Energy, uses the prices collected by the Oil Price Information Service to calculate a state average price, a regional average price, and a national average price which can be seen in the report Wholesale Heating-Oil Prices by Region and State.

Off Season

Prices are not collected during the off season (April through September).

Midwest Region

For statistical purposes, the Energy Information Administration defines the <u>Midwest region</u> to include the states of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

Nebraska's Average Wholesale Heating Oil Prices 2004/2005 - 2008/2009



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Nebraska's Average Wholesale Heating Oil Prices 2004/2005 — 2008/2009

		Heating Season								
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar				
2004/2005										
First Monday	\$1.479	\$1.480	\$1.225	\$1.215	\$1.302	\$1.556				
Second Monday	\$1.499	\$1.464	\$1.183	\$1.277	\$1.358	\$1.618				
Third Monday	\$1.606	\$1.402	\$1.376	\$1.344	\$1.420					
Fourth Monday	\$1.617	\$1.543	\$1.272	\$1.371	\$1.537					
Fifth Monday		\$1.478		\$1.341						
2005/2006										
First Monday	\$2.495	\$1.944	\$1.782	\$1.730	\$1.835	\$1.954				
Second Monday	\$2.379	\$1.851	\$1.796	\$1.752	\$1.809	\$1.844				
Third Monday	\$2.590	\$1.752	\$1.779	\$1.686	\$1.841					
Fourth Monday	\$2.532	\$1.732	\$1.713	\$1.810	\$1.857					
Fifth Monday	\$2.060			\$1.844						
2006/2007										
First Monday	\$1.849	\$1.906	\$2.032	\$1.923	\$1.900	\$2.130				
Second Monday	\$1.857	\$2.025	\$1.940	\$1.859	\$1.958	\$2,184				
Third Monday	\$1.936	\$2.055	\$2.090	\$1.780	\$1.933					
Fourth Monday	\$1.922	\$1.975	\$1.990	\$1.788	\$2.038					
Fifth Monday	\$1.895			\$1.833						
		Heating Season								
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar				
2007/2008										
First Monday		\$2.774	\$2.662	\$2.737	\$2.620	\$3.108				
Second Monday	\$2.494	\$2.804	\$2.585	\$2.616	\$2.813	\$3.228				
Third Monday	\$2.466	\$2.794	\$2.696	\$2.610	\$2.844	\$3.328				
Fourth Monday	\$2.506	\$2.896	\$2.704	\$2.643	\$3.004					
Fifth Monday	\$2.596		\$2.712							

	Heating Season								
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar			
2008/2009									
First Monday	\$3.269	\$2.399	\$1.982	NA	NA	NA			
Second Monday	\$2.784	\$2.356	\$1.714	NA	NA	NA			
Third Monday	\$2.546	\$2.169	\$1.762	NA	NA	NA			
Fourth Monday	\$2.289	\$2.004	\$1.718	NA	NA				
Fifth Monday			NA						

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Sources: Weekly Petroleum Status Report. Energy Information Administration, Washington, DC. Nebraska Energy Office, Lincoln, NE.

Note: NA = Not Available.

This report was updated on December 30, 2008.
Typically, there is one week between updates during the heating season.

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