Average Residential Propane Prices in Nebraska

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Annual Report | Annual Report Archive

Midseason Report

Analysis

On February 8, 2010, the average residential <u>propane</u> price had risen five cents from the last report to \$1.84 per gallon (see the <u>table</u> at the end of this report). The <u>graph</u> below this text shows the spread in prices from month to month and from this year compared to previous years. This week's average price was 29 cents (or 18 percent) higher than the price a year ago.

Other <u>states</u> in the Midwest Region had comparable prices ranging from \$1.84 to \$2.52 per gallon with the region averaging \$2.14. States adjacent to Nebraska, such as South Dakota, Iowa, and Missouri, had prices of \$1.92, \$1.84, and \$2.10, respectively.

From last week's report, Nebraska's average wholesale price had jumped 14 cents to \$1.56 per gallon while the average retail price had increased five cents to \$1.84 per gallon. As a result, the rack-to-retail margin had decreased to 29 cents per gallon. Of the surveyed states in the region this week, Nebraska had neither the lowest average retail price nor the lowest average wholesale price.

On the supply side, the Midwest Region inventory level was at the bottom boundary of the normal range for this time of year with 13.1 million barrels in storage on February 5.

Notes: The <u>annual report</u> for the 2008-2009 winter season is available. An <u>archive</u> houses annual reports from previous years.

Heating Season

The Nebraska Energy Office has participated in the State Heating Oil and Propane Program for nine winter seasons. During the heating season (October to March), the staff contact companies each week who supply propane to Nebraska, collect Monday's retail price, and submit the data to the Energy Information Administration. The Energy Information Administration calculates the average price shown in the table below.

In previous years, Nebraska had the lowest average residential propane price each week in the Midwest Region. The Energy Information Administration theorized that this was due to minimal transportation costs since Nebraska's wholesale prices were not the lowest in the region each week. Another reason would have been the number of participating states. Since state participation in the program is voluntary, propane prices have not been surveyed in each state in the Midwest Region. Kansas and Oklahoma might also have had low prices--possibly lower than Nebraska's because the two states are closer to production, refinery, and storage areas.

Off Season

During the off season (April through September), the Nebraska Energy Office staff continue to contact the same suppliers who were contacted during the heating

season. Staff contact suppliers once a month instead of once a week since the price of propane is usually not as volatile during the off season. The Nebraska Energy Office staff calculate the average price, shown in the <u>table</u> below, from the suppliers' retail prices on the first Monday of the month.

State Heating Oil and Propane Program

The Energy Information Administration, the independent statistical and analytical agency within the U.S. Department of Energy, conducts the State Heating Oil and Propane Program from October to March--the heating season--each year. The Energy Information Administration collects prices for the program each week from participating states and calculates a state average price, a regional average price, and a national average price which can be seen in the report Residential Propane Prices by Region and State.

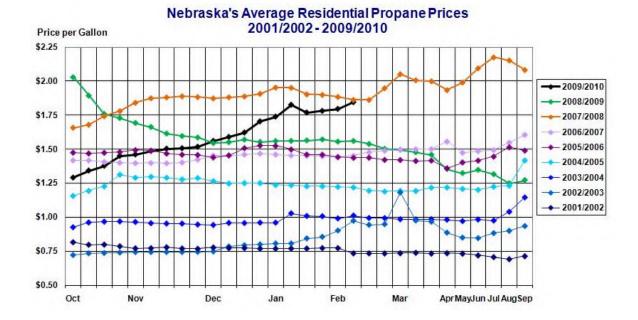
Midwest Region

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.

Price Explanation

The prices represent average home heating charge prices for delivery of consumer grade propane, excluding taxes and cash discounts.

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Nebraska's Average Residential Propane Prices 2001/2002 - 2009/2010

	Heating Season							Off Season					
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
2001/2	002												
First Monday	\$0.815	\$0.771	\$0.768	\$0.769	\$0.773	\$0.736	\$0.736	\$0.733	\$0.720	\$0.708	\$0.693	\$0.714	
Second Monday	\$0.797	\$0.772	\$0.777	\$0.770	\$0.735	\$0.739							

Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep			Н	leating	Seaso	n		Off Season						
Monday S0.798 S0.779 S0.770 S0.775 S0.734		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Solid Soli	Monday	\$0.798	\$0.779	\$0.773	\$0.770	\$0.735	\$0.734							
Monday \$0.774 \$0.769 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	Monday	\$0.786	\$0.770	\$0.773	\$0.773	\$0.734								
First Monday \$0.721 \$0.743 \$0.744 \$0.806 \$0.901 \$1.181 \$0.886 \$0.849 \$0.845 \$0.882 \$0.899 \$0.934 \$0.806 \$0.973 \$0.975 \$0.974 \$0.743 \$0.747 \$0.806 \$0.973 \$0.975 \$0.975 \$0.974 \$0.843 \$0.943 \$0.945 \$0.996 \$0.991 \$0.991 \$0.991 \$0.991 \$0.991 \$0.991 \$0.996 \$0.993 \$0.990 \$0.984 \$0.991 \$0.991 \$0.992 \$0.992 \$0.992 \$0.992 \$0.993 \$0.993 \$0.994 \$0.991 \$0.992 \$0.994 \$0.991 \$0.992 \$0.994 \$0.991 \$0.992 \$0.994	_	\$0.774		\$0.769										
Second Solid Sol	2002/2	003												
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Monday \$0.736 \$0.743 \$0.784 \$0.843 \$0.943 \$0.966		\$0.734	\$0.743	\$0.747	\$0.806	\$0.973	\$0.975							
Monday \$0.739 \$0.743 \$0.793 \$0.855 \$0.948		\$0.736	\$0.743	\$0.784	\$0.843	\$0.943	\$0.966							
Monday		\$0.739	\$0.743	\$0.793	\$0.855	\$0.948								
First Monday \$0.925 \$0.964 \$0.945 \$0.959 \$0.990 \$0.984 \$0.981 \$0.971 \$0.982 \$0.974 \$1.038 \$1.143 \$1.434 \$1.436 \$1.435 \$1.436 \$1.437 \$1.446 \$1.451 \$1.490 \$1.435 \$1.437 \$1.446 \$1.452 \$1.437 \$1.441 \$1.361 \$1.403 \$1.437 \$1.446 \$1.451 \$1.490 \$1.479 \$1.458 \$1.458 \$1.437 \$1.442 \$1.422 \$1.438 \$1.438 \$1.437 \$1.446 \$1.458 \$1.458 \$1.437 \$1.446 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.450 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.450 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.450 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.450 \$1.450 \$1.440 \$1.452 \$1.450 \$1.				\$0.799										
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Monday S0.966 S0.952 S0.957 S1.008 S0.993 S0.984		\$0.960	\$0.955	\$0.942	\$1.027	\$1.011	\$0.983							
Monday \$0.968 \$0.952 \$0.956 \$1.006 \$0.992		\$0.966	\$0.952	\$0.957	\$1.008	\$0.993	\$0.984							
Monday		\$0.968	\$0.952	\$0.956	\$1.006	\$0.992								
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Third Monday Fourth	\$1.406 \$1.401	\$1.403	\$1.461		\$1.477	\$1.501						
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	\$1.398			\$1.448	\$1.496							
Fifth	\$1.398			.								
Monday				\$1.442					0.55			
_	0-4		leating			Man	A	Mare		Season	A	Carr
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
2007/20	800											
First Monday		\$1.841	\$1.883	\$1.953	\$1.884	\$2.051	\$1.934	\$1.990	\$2.095	\$2.175	\$2.152	\$2.082
Second Monday	\$1.657	\$1.874	\$1.873	\$1.951	\$1.862	\$2.007						
Third			\$1.881									
Fourth			\$1.887			411000						
Fifth				Ф1. 099	φ1.9 4 0							
Monday	\$1.779		\$1.907									
2008/20	009											
First Monday	\$2.028	\$1.692	\$1.584	\$1.558	\$1.554	\$1.494	\$1.353	\$1.322	\$1.347	\$1.314	\$1.247	\$1.270
Second Monday	\$1.893	\$1.662	\$1.543	\$1.559	\$1.559	\$1.476						
Third Monday	\$1.758	\$1,614	\$1.550	\$1.563	\$1.537	\$1.458						
Fourth			\$1.569			,						
Fifth Monday	7111 20	V11000	\$1,552	ψ1107 C	ψ 1100 T							
2009/20	110		φ1.33Z									
	,10				ı							
First Monday	\$1.289	\$1.459	\$1.559	\$1.738	\$1.795	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Second Monday	\$1.341	\$1.485	\$1.588	\$1.825	\$1.844	NA						
Third Monday	\$1.376	\$1.502	\$1.621	\$1.768	NA	NA						
Fourth			\$1.703		NA							
Fifth Monday		\$1.516	ψ1,700	Ψ1,700	14/7							

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Sources: State Heating Oil and Propane Survey and the Weekly Petroleum Status Report. Energy Information Administration, Washington, DC. Nebraska Energy Office, Lincoln, NE.

Note: NA = Not Available.

This report was updated on February 18, 2010.

Typically, there is one week between updates during the heating season and one month between updates during the cooling season.