

Average Residential Heating Oil Prices Nebraska

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Analysis

On October 24, 2005, the average residential [heating oil](#) price had increased nearly 12 cents from last week to \$2.80 per gallon (see the [table](#) at the end of this report). The [graph](#) below shows the spread in prices from month to month and from this year compared to previous years. This week's average price was \$1.02 (or 57 percent) higher than the price at this time last year.

Other [states](#) in the Midwest Region had comparable prices ranging from \$2.67 to \$3.05 with the region averaging \$2.91 per gallon. States near Nebraska, such as Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, had prices of \$2.94, \$2.96, and \$2.97, respectively. This is the second week in five years that Nebraska did not have the lowest price in the region. Ohio had a lower price of \$2.67. Two of the surveyed states in the Midwest Region, Indiana, and Michigan, had averages that went over \$3 per gallon this week.

While wholesale prices fell nearly six cents per gallon this week and the rack-to-retail margin increased to 27 cents, Nebraska retail prices continue to be the lowest or next lowest of the surveyed states in the region. (Nebraska does not have the lowest wholesale prices of the surveyed states in the region.)

For the week ending October 21, the Midwest distillate inventory level remained below the normal range for this time of year at 6.6 million barrels.

Notes: The [annual report](#) for the 2004-2005 winter season is available. An [archive](#) houses annual reports from previous years.

Heating Season

The Nebraska Energy Office has participated in the State Heating Oil and Propane Program for five years. During the heating season (October to March), the staff contact companies each week who supply heating oil 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 the Midwest Region, Nebraska's average residential heating oil price was the lowest price each week during the last five heating seasons. The Energy Information Administration theorized that this was due to minimal transportation costs. Another reason would be the number of participating states. Since state participation in the program is voluntary, heating oil prices were not 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 heating oil sources.

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 heating oil is usually not as volatile during the off season. The Nebraska Energy

Office staff calculate the average price, shown in the [table](#) 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 Heating Oil Prices by Region and State](#).

Midwest Region

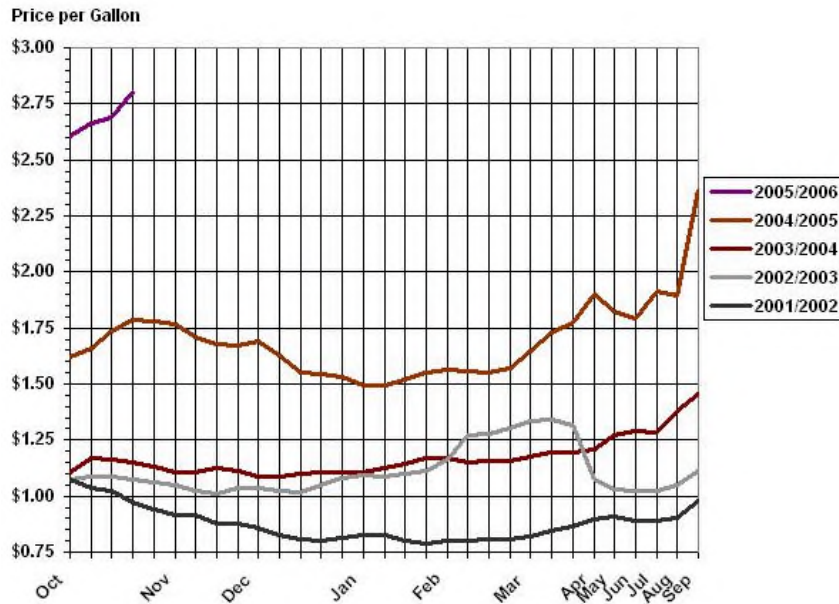
For statistical purposes, the Energy Information Administration defines the [Midwest region](#) to include the states of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

Price Explanation

The prices represent average residential home heating charge prices for home delivery of No. 2 heating oil, excluding taxes and cash discounts.

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Nebraska's Average Residential Heating Oil Prices 2001/2002 – 2005/2006



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Nebraska's Average Residential Heating Oil Prices 2001/2002 – 2004/2005

	Heating Season						Off Season					
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
2001/2002												
First Monday	\$1.076	\$0.916	\$0.857	\$0.825	\$0.800	\$0.819	\$0.894	\$0.908	\$0.887	\$0.889	\$0.905	\$0.982
Second Monday	\$1.038	\$0.916	\$0.824	\$0.824	\$0.802	\$0.844						

	Heating Season						Off Season					
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Third Monday	\$1.026	\$0.874	\$0.805	\$0.798	\$0.809	\$0.865						
Fourth Monday	\$0.971	\$0.878	\$0.799	\$0.790	\$0.808							
Fifth Monday	\$0.940		\$0.812									
2002/2003												
First Monday	\$1.073	\$1.048	\$1.036	\$1.094	\$1.162	\$1.336	\$1.074	\$1.027	\$1.023	\$1.026	\$1.051	\$1.113
Second Monday	\$1.086	\$1.025	\$1.022	\$1.084	\$1.269	\$1.339						
Third Monday	\$1.090	\$1.008	\$1.017	\$1.098	\$1.277	\$1.313						
Fourth Monday	\$1.077	\$1.039	\$1.047	\$1.113	\$1.302							
Fifth Monday			\$1.078									
2003/2004												
First Monday	\$1.109	\$1.109	\$1.088	\$1.108	\$1.171	\$1.177	\$1.205	\$1.272	\$1.292	\$1.287	\$1.381	\$1.457
Second Monday	\$1.168	\$1.105	\$1.088	\$1.126	\$1.153	\$1.193						
Third Monday	\$1.161	\$1.122	\$1.101	\$1.143	\$1.154	\$1.197						
Fourth Monday	\$1.148	\$1.114	\$1.108	\$1.168	\$1.157							
Fifth Monday			\$1.106									
2004/2005												
First Monday	\$1.621	\$1.768	\$1.629	\$1.495	\$1.557	\$1.727	\$1.900	\$1.822	\$1.792	\$1.912	\$1.892	\$2.365
Second Monday	\$1.661	\$1.710	\$1.548	\$1.496	\$1.554	\$1.773						
Third Monday	\$1.736	\$1.678	\$1.546	\$1.519	\$1.571							
Fourth Monday	\$1.788	\$1.672	\$1.531	\$1.549	\$1.649							
Fifth Monday		\$1.688		\$1.566								
2005/2006												
First Monday	\$2.608	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Second Monday	\$2.661	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA						
Third Monday	\$2.686	NA	NA	NA	NA							
Fourth Monday	\$2.804	NA	NA	NA	NA							
Fifth Monday	NA			NA								

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

Note: NA = Not Available.

*This report was updated on October 27, 2005.
Typically, there is one week between updates during the heating season
and one month between updates during the cooling season.*

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