

## Clean Cities Alternative Fuel Price Report



October 2007

### Clean -Cities

### CLEAN CITIES ALTERNATIVE FUEL PRICE REPORT

**OCTOBER 2007** 

#### WELCOME!

Welcome to the October 2007 issue of the Clean Cities Alternative Fuel Price Report, a quarterly report designed to keep you up to date on the prices of alternative fuels and conventional fuels in the U.S. This issue summarizes prices that were collected between October 2, 2007 and October 20, 2007 from Clean Cities Coordinators, fuel providers, and other Clean Cities stakeholders.

### **METHODOLOGY**

In order to collect price information for both alternative fuels and conventional fuels from areas across the country, Clean Cities Coordinators, fuel providers, and other key stakeholders were contacted to request that they provide prices for fuels in their area on a voluntary basis. Prices were collected on all major alternative fuels currently in widespread use (natural gas, propane, biodiesel, and ethanol), as well as prices for conventional fuels at stations that also sell alternative fuels (or stations nearby). Prices were collected from public and private refueling stations throughout the country, and were collected between October 2, 2007 and October 20, 2007. Prices were then averaged in order to determine regional price trends by fuel and variability in fuel price within regions (and among regions). Prices in this report are grouped by U.S. areas as defined by the



Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD): the districts are illustrated in the map to the right.

The prices collected for this report represent retail, at-the-pump sales prices for each fuel, including Federal and state motor fuel taxes. In some cases, prices were collected from government or utility refueling facilities and these taxes were not included in the reported price. In these instances, although these users are not required to pay these taxes, the taxes were added to the reported price to provide a more representative basis for comparison of fuel prices for the purpose of this report. In some cases, states may charge a flat annual fee for motor fuel taxes (especially for gaseous fuels like CNG): these fees are not considered in the prices reported in these pages.

## Cities

### **CLEAN CITIES ALTERNATIVE FUEL PRICE REPORT**

SUMMARY OF CURRENT REPORT INFORMATION

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Overall nationwide average prices for conventional and alternative fuels are shown in Table 1. As this table illustrates, alternative fuel prices relative to conventional fuels vary, with some (100% biodiesel) higher and some (propane, E85 and CNG) lower. CNG is about 99 cents less than gasoline on an energy-equivalent basis, while E85 is about 36 cents less per gallon than gasoline. Propane is about one cent per gallon less than gasoline. B2/B5 prices for low-level blends are lower than regular diesel by about 12 cents, and B20 blends are

**Table 1. Overall Average Fuel Prices** 

	Nationwide Average Price for Fuel This Report	Nationwide Average Price for Fuel Last Report	Change in Price This Report vs. Last Report	Units of Measurement
Gasoline (Regular)	\$2.76	\$3.03	(\$0.27)	per gallon
Diesel	\$3.11	\$2.96	\$0.15	per gallon
CNG	\$1.77	\$2.09	(\$0.32)	per GGE
Ethanol (E85)	\$2.40	\$2.63	(\$0.23)	per gallon
Propane	\$2.75	\$2.58	\$0.17	per gallon
Biodiesel (B20)	\$3.08	\$2.96	\$0.12	per gallon
Biodiesel (B2-B5)	\$2.99	\$2.84	\$0.15	per gallon
Biodiesel (B99-B100)	\$3.38	\$3.27	\$0.11	per gallon

the same as regular diesel. B99/B100 blends have a cost of about 27 cents per gallon more than regular diesel.

Relative to the last report from July 2007, the average prices for many of the fuels included in this price report have increased by as much as 17 cents. Some (gasoline, E85, and CNG) have dropped in price by as much as 32 cents. It should be noted that the price increases or decreases could be attributed both to an actual increase in price and to a slightly differing sample of prices (both location and quantity).

Prices in this report were collected and are reported in the units in which they are typically sold (dollars per gallon or dollars per gasoline-gallon equivalent). Because of differing energy contents per gallon for these fuels, the price paid per unit of energy content can differ somewhat from the price paid per gallon. Table 2 illustrates the fuel prices from Table 1 for the current reporting period normalized to a price per equivalent, per diesel gasoline-gallon equivalent, or per million Btu of energy. This calculation involves the use of nominal lower heating values in Btu per gallon of fuel which can be found in the Transportation Energy Data Book<sup>1</sup>. Note that prices for the alternative fuels in terms of cost per gallon equivalent are generally higher than their cost per gallon because of their lower energy content per gallon<sup>2</sup>. It has been seen, however, that consumer

Table 2. October 2007 Overall Average Fuel Prices on Energy-Equivalent Basis

	Nationwide Average Price in Gasoline Gallon Equivalents	Nationwide Average Price in Diesel Gallon Equivalents	Nationwide Average Price in Dollars per Million Btu
Gasoline	\$2.76	\$3.08	\$23.95
Diesel	\$2.79	\$3.11	\$24.13
CNG	\$1.77	\$1.98	\$15.37
Ethanol (E85)	\$3.39	\$3.78	\$29.40
Propane	\$3.80	\$4.23	\$32.90
Biodiesel (B20)	\$2.81	\$3.14	\$24.39
Biodiesel (B2-B5)	\$2.68	\$2.99	\$23.26
Biodiesel (B99-B100)	\$3.33	\$3.72	\$28.87

interest in alternative fuels increases as the price differential per gallon increases, even if that differential does not directly translate to savings on an energy-equivalent basis.

<sup>1</sup> A listing of the conversion factors used appears as an appendix at the end of this report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For ethanol flexible-fuel vehicles, the actual difference in energy cost per mile is somewhat less than would be calculated simply on the difference in energy content of the fuels, as some sources have noted many FFVs can achieve better energy efficiency (miles per unit of energy) on E85 than on gasoline. This effect is not currently included in these calculations as the magnitude of the effect varies by vehicle.

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**GASOLINE AND DIESEL PRICES** 

Average prices for gasoline and diesel as collected by Clean Cities coordinators and other stakeholders (supplemented where necessary with other reference sources for conventional fuels) are illustrated in Table 3. These prices were collected from refueling stations selling both conventional fuels and alternative fuels, and from conventional fuel refueling stations near alternative fuel stations. About 450 price points

Table 3. Average Gasoline and Diesel Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources

	Regular Gasoline Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$/gal)		Diesel Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$/gal)	
	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points
New England	\$2.84 / 0.12	35	\$3.16 / 0.06	29
Central Atlantic	\$2.77 / 0.14	41	\$3.13 / 0.10	34
Lower Atlantic	\$2.71 / 0.11	79	\$3.01 / 0.09	55
Midwest	\$2.72 / 0.12	164	\$3.09 / 0.13	112
Gulf Coast	\$2.69 / 0.09	39	\$2.98 / 0.05	34
Rocky Mountain	\$2.84 / 0.13	26	\$3.16 / 0.10	27
West Coast	\$2.92 / 0.18	66	\$3.21 / 0.15	69
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.76 / 0.15	450	\$3.11 / 0.14	360

were collected for gasoline and 360 for diesel, with average prices for gasoline ranging from a low of \$2.69 per gallon in the Gulf Coast region to a high of \$2.92 per gallon on the West Coast. Diesel prices ranged from \$2.98 in the Gulf Coast region to \$3.21 on the West Coast. Because prices for conventional fuels were collected from stations and regions providing alternative fuel price information, data collection was not uniform across the regions of the country. The information is, however, representative of refueling stations selling both alternative fuels and conventional fuels.

Table 4 illustrates average prices as provided by the DOE Energy Information Administration (EIA) on the petroleum information section website of its (http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\_gas/petroleum/info\_glance/pet roleum.html). These prices are averages of prices from a selection of 800 retail fuel stations across the country. Note that the average nationwide price from EIA matches relatively closely with the averages from the station information collected from Clean Cities stakeholders. Given the relatively good match of averages calculated from EIA and from Clean Cities data, comparisons in this document between conventional fuel prices and alternative fuel prices will be made using prices collected from Clean Cities representatives wherever possible, as these prices are most representative of stations selling both conventional and alternative fuels.

**Table 4. EIA Gasoline and Diesel Price Averages** 

	Gasoline Average Price from EIA, Week of 10/8/07	Diesel Average Price from EIA, Week of 10/8/07
New England	\$2.73	\$3.12
Central Atlantic	\$2.74	\$3.14
Lower Atlantic	\$2.75	\$2.98
Midwest	\$2.76	\$3.03
Gulf Coast	\$2.67	\$2.95
Rocky Mountain	\$2.80	\$3.14
West Coast	\$2.93	\$3.17
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.77	\$3.04

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COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (RELATIVE TO GASOLINE)

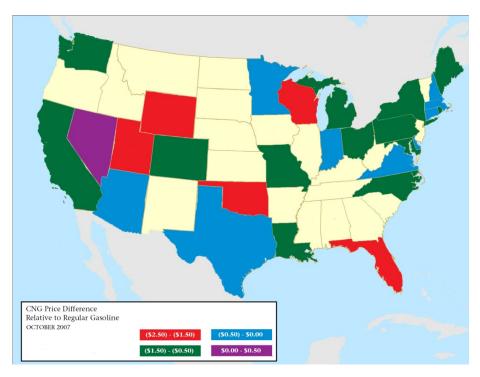
Average prices compressed natural gas for vehicle use are illustrated in Table 5, grouped by region. Information on prices for regular gasoline as provided by Clean Cities representatives is also shown. These prices were collected from across the country from Clean Cities Coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on voluntary basis. Just under three hundred CNG prices were collected in this report<sup>3</sup>.

Table 5. Compressed Natural Gas Average Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources

	Natural Gas (CNG) Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$/gge)		Regular Gasoline Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$/gal)	
	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points
New England	\$2.30 / 0.49	19	\$2.84 / 0.12	35
Central Atlantic	\$2.10 / 0.29	47	\$2.77 / 0.14	41
Lower Atlantic	\$1.74 / 0.60	3	\$2.71 / 0.11	79
Midwest	\$1.81 / 0.43	17	\$2.72 / 0.12	164
Gulf Coast	\$2.21 / 0.27	18	\$2.69 / 0.09	39
Rocky Mountain	\$1.06 / 0.72	95	\$2.84 / 0.13	26
West Coast	\$2.33 / 0.34	62	\$2.92 / 0.18	66
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$1.77 / 0.76	261	\$2.76 / 0.15	450

As Table 5 illustrates by region, CNG has a lower price than gasoline for all regions of the country for which prices were obtained, with the largest difference (\$1.78 per gge) being in the Rocky Mountain region. On average, CNG costs about 99 cents less than gasoline on a per gasoline gallon equivalent basis. Variability of CNG prices was higher (based on a standard deviation analysis) than variability of gasoline prices.

The map to the right illustrates some cost differentials by state for natural gas gasoline, based relative to differentials between natural gas prices and gasoline prices for each state (versus the regional averages illustrated in Table 5). In this map, negative numbers represent costs for natural gas lower than costs for gasoline. States not highlighted with a color did not have any natural gas data points in the current report. As the map illustrates, CNG prices were favorable relative to gasoline for virtually all of the states for which information was collected.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Prices for CNG were provided by the individual stakeholders in gasoline-gallon equivalents from the "price at the pump." It should be noted that the internal conversion factor between the physical quantities of gas delivered and gge was not collected from each of the refueling stations. Regional differences in gas heat content relative to the internal pump conversion factor may change the price per gge: these differences were not determined for this report, however.

COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (RELATIVE TO DIESEL)

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Table 6. Compressed Natural Gas Average Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources

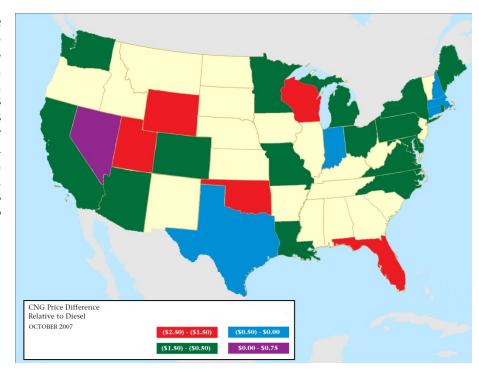
Average	price	S	for
compressed	natura	al gas	for
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in Table 6,			
region. Inf	ormat	ion	on
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providers,	and	ot	her
stakeholders	(	on	a
voluntary ba			

	Natural Gas (CNG) Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$/dge)		Diesel Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$/gal)	
	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points
New England	\$2.57 / 0.55	19	\$3.16 / 0.06	29
Central Atlantic	\$2.34 / 0.32	47	\$3.13 / 0.10	34
Lower Atlantic	\$1.94 / 0.67	3	\$3.01 / 0.09	55
Midwest	\$2.02 / 0.48	17	\$3.09 / 0.13	112
Gulf Coast	\$2.46 / 0.30	18	\$2.98 / 0.05	34
Rocky Mountain	\$1.18 / 0.80	95	\$3.16 / 0.10	27
West Coast	\$2.60 / 0.38	62	\$3.21 / 0.15	69
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$1.98 / 0.85	261	\$3.11 / 0.14	360

the CNG prices in Table 6 are the same group of prices as for Table 5, but converted to a cost per diesel gallon equivalent basis, in order to compare directly with diesel prices.

As Table 6 illustrates by region, CNG has a lower price than diesel for all regions of the country, with the largest difference (\$1.07 per dge) being in the Lower Atlantic and Midwest. On average, CNG costs about \$1.14 less than diesel on a per diesel gallon equivalent basis. Based on standard deviation calculations, CNG appears to have had more variability in price over the October 2007 time period relative to diesel fuel.

The map to the right illustrates some cost differentials by state for natural gas relative to diesel, based on differentials between natural gas prices and diesel prices for each state (versus the regional averages illustrated in Table 6). In this map, negative numbers represent costs for natural gas lower than costs for diesel. States not highlighted with a color did not have any natural gas data points in the current report. As with the comparison to gasoline, natural gas prices relative to diesel were also generally favorable, as the map shows.



### Clean Cities

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ETHANOL (E85)

Average prices ethanol in an 85% blend with 15% gasoline (E85) are illustrated in Table 7, grouped by region. Information on prices for regular gasoline as provided by Clean Cities representatives is also These prices shown. collected were from across the country from Clean Cities Coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on voluntary basis. Nearly Table 7. Ethanol (E85) Average Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources

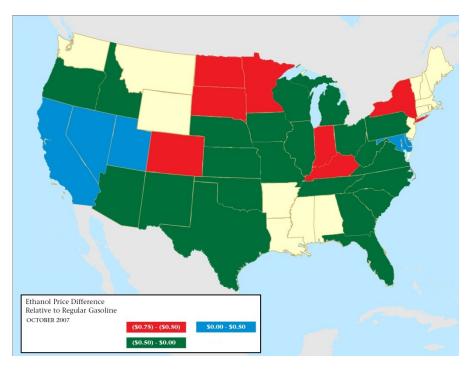
Ethanol (E85) Information Regular Gasoline Information Re

	Ethanol (E85) Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal)		Regular Gasoline Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal)	
	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points
New England			\$2.84 / 0.12	35
Central Atlantic	\$2.49 / 0.35	24	\$2.77 / 0.14	41
Lower Atlantic	\$2.49 / 0.15	35	\$2.71 / 0.11	79
	\$2.29 / 0.22	93	\$2.72 / 0.12	164
Gulf Coast	\$2.56 / 0.26	7	\$2.69 / 0.09	39
Rocky Mountain	\$2.63 / 0.38	10	\$2.84 / 0.13	26
West Coast	\$2.55 / 0.38	12	\$2.92 / 0.18	66
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.40 / 0.28	181	\$2.76 / 0.15	450

180 prices for ethanol were collected in this data collection effort. Data collection was not uniform across regions of the country, but as the majority of operational ethanol stations are in the Midwest, data collection generally mirrored the density of refueling.

Note that E85 has a lower average price per gallon than regular gasoline in all regions (see Table 7). On average, E85 is about 36 cents lower in price than regular gasoline on a per-gallon basis, with the largest average differential (43 cents) being found in the Midwest. Based on the calculated standard deviations in this set of E85 price information, it can be seen that price variability for E85 was somewhat larger than the price variability for gasoline for the October 2007 period.

The map to the right illustrates some cost differentials between E85 and regular gasoline by state, based on differentials between E85 prices and gasoline prices for each state (versus the regional averages illustrated in Table 7). In this map, negative numbers represent costs for E85 lower than for gasoline, and positive numbers represent costs for E85 higher than gasoline. States not highlighted with a color did not have any E85 data points in the current report. In the October 2007 time period of this report, E85 cost less per gallon than gasoline for much of the area for which prices were available: the best pricing was in the upper Midwest, as would be generally expected.



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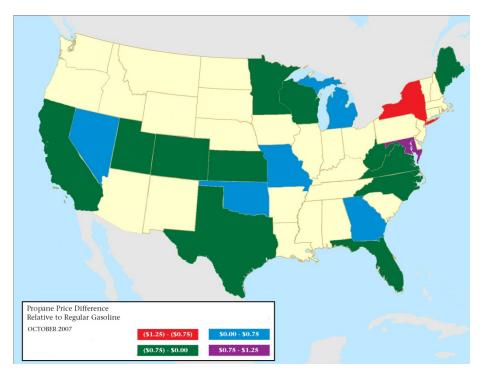
PROPANE

Average prices propane are illustrated in Table 8, grouped by region. Information on prices for regular gasoline as provided by from representatives Clean Cities is also shown. These prices collected from were across the country from Clean Cities Coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on voluntary basis. Just over 80 propane prices Table 8. Propane Average Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources Propane Information Regular Gasoline Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal) Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal) Number of Data Average Price Number of Data Average Price / Standard Points / Standard Points Deviation of Price Deviation of Price \$2.43 / -.--\$2.84 / 0.12 New England 1 35 20 Central Atlantic \$3.53 / 0.67 \$2.77 / 0.14 41 Lower Atlantic \$2.73 / 0.71 8 \$2.71 / 0.11 79 Midwest \$2.66 / 0.56 15 \$2.72 / 0.12 164 **Gulf Coast** 7 \$2.69 / 0.09 39 \$2.35 / 0.40 Rocky Mountain \$2.26 / 0.38 20 \$2.84 / 0.13 26 West Coast \$2.63 / 0.50 11 \$2.92 / 0.18 66 NATIONAL AVERAGE \$2.75 / 0.71 \$2.76 / 0.15 450

were collected in this reporting period.

As Table 8 illustrates regionally, propane has a lower price than gasoline in almost all regions of the U.S. except the Central Atlantic, based on these collected prices (about 45 cents per gallon less on average nationwide). The Rocky Mountain region has the most favorable price situation, with propane at 99 cents per gallon less than gasoline on average. Based on calculations of standard deviation in prices, it can be seen that propane prices for vehicle use seems to have varied more than gasoline prices during this sampling period.

The map to the right illustrates some cost differentials between propane and regular gasoline on a per-gallon basis, based on differentials between propane prices and gasoline prices for each state (versus the regional averages illustrated in Table 8). In this map, negative numbers represent costs for propane lower than costs for gasoline, and positive numbers represent propane prices higher than gasoline. States not highlighted with a color did not have any propane data points in the current report. Propane prices were generally favorable in Texas, Florida, and across the center of the country (Kansas, Colorado, and Utah).



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**BIODIESEL BLENDS: B20** 

Average prices biodiesel in a 20% blend with 80% diesel (B20) are illustrated in Table 9, grouped by region. Information on prices for regular diesel provided by Clean Cities representatives is also shown. These prices were collected from across the country from Clean Cities Coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on а voluntary basis. Just Table 9. Biodiesel (B20) Average Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources Biodiesel (B20) Information Diesel Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal) Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal) *Approximate* Average Price Average Price Approximate Number / Standard . Number of / Standard of Stations Deviation of Price Stations Deviation of Price \$3.10 / 0.09 \$3.16 / 0.06 29 New England 16 5 Central Atlantic \$2.86 / 0.27 \$3.13 / 0.10 34 Lower Atlantic \$3.00 / 0.13 23 \$3.01 / 0.09 55 Midwest \$3.00 / 0.11 21 \$3.09 / 0.13 112 **Gulf Coast** \$2.96 / 0.19 10 \$2.98 / 0.05 34 Rocky Mountain \$3.30 / 0.18 11 \$3.16 / 0.10 27 West Coast \$3.34 / 0.20 12 \$3.21 / 0.15 69

98

\$3.11 / 0.14

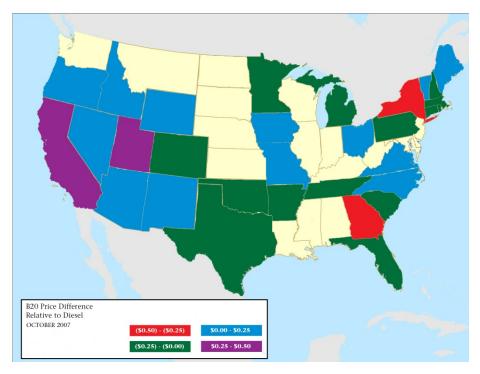
under 100 prices were obtained for B20 across the country.

NATIONAL AVERAGE

As Table 9 illustrates, biodiesel in a B20 blend has an average price per gallon that is generally close to conventional diesel fuel (ranging from 14 cents more to 27 cents less per gallon). Based on calculations of standard deviation on B20 prices, variability in B20 prices was relatively close to the variability in price of conventional diesel by region (as would probably be expected, given that 80% of the B20 blend is regular diesel fuel). On average in the U.S., biodiesel in a B20 blend costs about the same per gallon as conventional diesel fuel based on current information.

\$3.08 / 0.21

The map to the right illustrates some cost differentials between B20 and diesel on a per-gallon basis, based on differentials between biodiesel prices and gasoline prices for each state (versus the regional averages illustrated in Table 9). In this map, negative numbers represent costs for B20 lower than costs for diesel, and positive numbers represent B20 prices higher than diesel. States not highlighted with a color did not have any B20 data points in the current report. B20 had very favorable pricing in Georgia and New York in the October 2007 time period.



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BIODIESEL BLENDS: LOW-LEVEL (B2-B5)

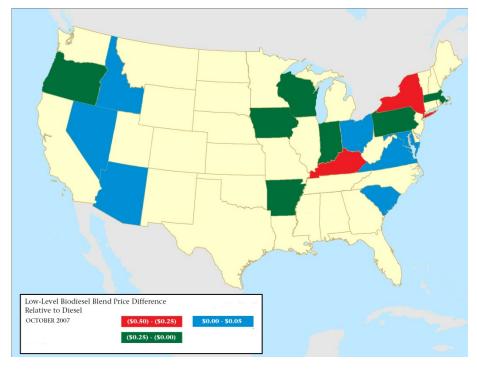
Average prices biodiesel in lower-level blends (2-5% biodiesel diesel fuel) are illustrated in Table 10, grouped by region. Information on prices for regular diesel as provided by Clean Cities representatives is also These prices shown. were collected from across the country from Cities Clean Coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on

Table 10. Biodiesel (	Table 10. Biodiesel (B2-B5) Average Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources				
	Biodiesel (B2 B Reported by Clean		Diesel Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal)		
	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points	Average Price / Standard Deviation of Price	Number of Data Points	
New England	\$3.07 /	1	\$3.16 / 0.06	29	
Central Atlantic	\$3.10 / 0.20	14	\$3.13 / 0.10	34	
Lower Atlantic	\$2.96 / 0.04	45	\$3.01 / 0.09	55	
Midwest	\$2.99 / 0.24	12	\$3.09 / 0.13	112	
Gulf Coast	\$2.94 / 0.13	18	\$2.98 / 0.05	34	
Rocky Mountain	\$3.19 /	1	\$3.16 / 0.10	27	
West Coast	\$3.10 / 0.06	3	\$3.21 / 0.15	69	
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.99 / 0.14	94	\$3.11 / 0.14	360	

voluntary basis. A total of 94 prices were obtained from areas offering low-level biodiesel blends.

As Table 10 illustrates regionally, average prices for low-level blends of biodiesel are close to average diesel prices (from 3 to 11 cents less than diesel per gallon). This close tracking with diesel price would be expected, given the small percentage of biodiesel in these blends: the regular diesel price would have much more impact on the overall price of the blend than the biodiesel price. Differences in price between low-level biodiesel blends and regular diesel could be attributed to the relatively small sample size.

The map to the right illustrates some cost differentials between low-level biodiesel blends and regular diesel on a per-gallon basis, based on differentials between biodiesel prices and gasoline prices for each state (versus the regional averages illustrated in Table 10). In this map, negative numbers represent costs for these blends that are lower than costs for diesel, and positive numbers represent prices for these blends that are higher than diesel. States not highlighted with a color did not have any low-level biodiesel blend data points in the current report. Low level blends of biodiesel are very cost competitive in Kentucky. Pricing appears to be good across Pennsylvania, Indiana, and the upper Midwest.



NATIONAL AVERAGE

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**BIODIESEL BLENDS: B100/B99** 

Average prices for highlevel blends of biodiesel (99% or 100% biodiesel with diesel fuel) are illustrated in Table 11, grouped by region. Information on prices for regular diesel provided by Clean Cities representatives is also shown. These prices were collected from across the country from Clean Cities Coordinators, fuel other providers, and stakeholders on

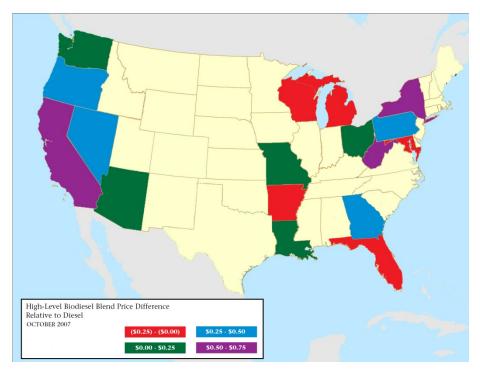
Table 11. Biodiesel (B99-B100) Average Prices by Region from Clean Cities Sources Biodiesel (B99 B100) Information Diesel Information Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal) Reported by Clean Cities (\$ per gal) Number of Data Average Price Number of Data Average Price / Standard Points / Standard Points Deviation of Price Deviation of Price \$3.16 / 0.06 29 New England Central Atlantic \$3.54 / 0.69 7 \$3.13 / 0.10 34 Lower Atlantic \$3.38 / 0.49 3 \$3.01 / 0.09 55 112 \$3.07 / 0.10 4 \$3.09 / 0.13 **Gulf Coast** 3 \$2.94 / 0.05 \$2.98 / 0.05 34 Rocky Mountain \$3.16 / 0.10 27 West Coast \$3.48 / 0.35 15 \$3.21 / 0.15 69

voluntary basis. About 32 price points were collected from stations offering B99/B100 for sale across the country.

\$3.38 / 0.45

As Table 11 illustrates regionally, the cost of B99/B100 is higher than the cost of diesel fuel per gallon in the regions for which data were collected, with the highest differential being 41 cents in the Central Atlantic. On average across the nation, B99/B100 is about 27 cents per gallon higher than regular diesel. Based on standard deviation calculations on these price points, it appears that prices for B99/B100 varied more widely in the October 2007 time period than regular diesel.

The map to the right illustrates some cost differentials between high-level biodiesel blends and regular diesel on a per-gallon basis, based on differentials between biodiesel prices and gasoline prices for each state (versus the regional averages illustrated in Table 11). In this map, negative numbers represent costs for these blends that are lower than costs for diesel, and positive numbers represent prices for these blends that are higher than diesel. States not highlighted with a color did not have any high-level biodiesel blend data points in the current report. Prices for B100 were generally higher than for diesel in the areas for which prices are available, save for Arkansas, Michigan, Maryland, and Florida.



\$3.11 / 0.14



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### COMPARISON OF PRICES OF THIS REPORT VERSUS LAST REPORT

Table 12 below summarizes the average prices collected for this report by region, and compares them to prices collected in the Price Report from July 2007. Some fuels decreased in price between the two reports (gasoline, CNG, E85) while others increased in price (diesel, propane, biodiesel). It should be noted that a portion of the price changes could be attributed to differing sample sizes and composition between the two reports.

Table 12. Comparison of Prices, Last Price Report versus Current Price Report

		Price for October 2007 Period	Price for July 2007 Period	Price Differential October vs. July
Gasoline (\$ per gallon)	National Average	\$2.76	\$3.03	(\$0.27) / (9%)
	New England	\$2.84	\$3.13	(\$0.29) / (9%)
	Central Atlantic	\$2.77	\$2.97	(\$0.20) / (7%)
	Lower Atlantic	\$2.71	\$2.87	(\$0.16) / (6%)
	Midwest	\$2.72	\$3.10	(\$0.38) / (12%)
	Gulf Coast	\$2.69	\$2.91	(\$0.22) / (8%)
	Rocky Mountain	\$2.84	\$3.09	(\$0.25) / (8%)
	West Coast	\$2.92	\$3.03	(\$0.11) / (4%)
Diesel (\$ per gallon)	National Average	\$3.11	\$2.96	\$0.15 / 5%
	New England	\$3.16	\$3.03	\$0.13 / 4%
	Central Atlantic	\$3.13	\$2.96	\$0.17 / 6%
	Lower Atlantic	\$3.01	\$2.87	\$0.14 / 5%
	Midwest	\$3.09	\$2.92	\$0.17 / 6%
	Gulf Coast	\$2.98	\$2.85	\$0.13 / 5%
	Rocky Mountain	\$3.16	\$3.03	\$0.13 / 4%
	West Coast	\$3.21	\$3.10	\$0.11 / 4%
Compressed Natural Gas (\$ per GGE)	National Average	\$1.77	\$2.10	(\$0.33) / (16%)
	New England	\$2.30	\$2.19	\$0.11 / 5%
	Central Atlantic	\$2.10	\$2.12	(\$0.02) / (1%)
	Lower Atlantic	\$1.74	\$1.65	\$0.09 / 5%
	Midwest	\$1.81	\$1.67	\$0.14 / 8%
	Gulf Coast	\$2.21	\$1.80	\$0.41 / 23%
	Rocky Mountain	\$1.06	\$2.41	(\$1.35) / (56%)
	West Coast	\$2.33	\$2.29	\$0.04 / 2%
Ethanol (E85) (\$ per gallon)	National Average	\$2.40	\$2.63	(\$0.23) / (9%)
	New England	<del></del>		N/A
	Central Atlantic	\$2.49	\$2.67	(\$0.18) / (7%)
	Lower Atlantic	\$2.49	\$2.71	(\$0.22) / (8%)
	Midwest	\$2.29	\$2.61	(\$0.32) / (12%)
	Gulf Coast	\$2.57	\$2.59	(\$0.02) / (1%)
	Rocky Mountain	\$2.63	\$2.58	\$0.05 / 2%
	West Coast	\$2.55	\$2.72	(\$0.17) / (6%)



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Table 12. Comparison of Prices, Last Price Report versus Current Price Report

		Price for October 2007 Period	Price for July 2007 Period	Price Differential October vs. July
Propane (\$ per gallon)	National Average	\$2.75	\$2.58	\$0.17 / 7%
	New England	\$2.43	\$2.35	\$0.08 / 3%
	Central Atlantic	\$3.53	\$3.59	(\$0.06) / (2%)
	Lower Atlantic	\$2.73	\$2.44	\$0.29 / 12%
	Midwest	\$2.66	\$2.81	(\$0.15) / (5%)
	Gulf Coast	\$2.35	\$2.04	\$0.31 / 15%
	Rocky Mountain	\$2.26	\$2.10	\$0.16 / 8%
	West Coast	\$2.63	\$2.09	\$0.54 / 26%
Biodiesel (B20) (\$ per gallon)	National Average	\$3.08	\$2.96	\$0.12 / 4%
	New England	\$3.10	\$2.98	\$0.12 / 4%
	Central Atlantic	\$2.86	\$3.13	(\$0.27) / (9%)
	Lower Atlantic	\$3.00	\$2.85	\$0.15 / 5%
	Midwest	\$3.00	\$2.81	\$0.19 / 7%
	Gulf Coast	\$2.96	\$2.90	\$0.06 / 2%
	Rocky Mountain	\$3.30	\$3.08	\$0.22 / 7%
	West Coast	\$3.34	\$3.07	\$0.27 / 9%
Biodiesel (B2-B5) (\$ per gallon)	National Average	\$2.99	\$2.84	\$0.15 / 5%
	New England	\$3.07		N/A
	Central Atlantic	\$3.10	\$2.97	\$0.13 / 4%
	Lower Atlantic	\$2.96	\$2.81	\$0.15 / 5%
	Midwest	\$2.99	\$2.81	\$0.18 / 6%
	Gulf Coast	\$2.94	\$2.90	\$0.04 / 1%
	Rocky Mountain	\$3.19	\$2.95	\$0.24 / 8%
	West Coast	\$3.10	\$3.01	\$0.09 / 3%
Biodiesel (B99-B100) (\$ per gallon)	National Average	\$3.38	\$3.27	\$0.11 / 3%
	New England			N/A
	Central Atlantic	\$3.54	\$3.26	\$0.28 / 9%
	Lower Atlantic	\$3.38	\$3.41	(\$0.03) / (1%)
	Midwest	\$3.07	\$2.85	\$0.22 / 8%
	Gulf Coast	\$2.94	\$3.09	(\$0.15) / (5%)
	Rocky Mountain		\$3.52	N/A
	West Coast	\$3.48	\$3.24	\$0.24 / 7%

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### ILLUSTRATION OF CONVERSION FACTORS FOR FUELS

The standard lower heating values for fuels from the Transportation Energy Databook 26 are listed below.

	Lower Heating Value
Gasoline	115,400 BTU/gal
Diesel	128,700 BTU/gal
Compressed Natural Gas	960 BTU/cubic foot
Ethanol	75,670 BTU/gal
Propane	83,500 BTU/gal
Biodiesel	117,093 BTU/gal

Conversion factors to establish prices in dollars per gasoline equivalent gallon are illustrated below, and were developed using the lower heating values outlined above. The conversion factors are derived in the manner shown in the graphic to the right.

In the case of CNG, prices are provided to us in GGE, so no conversion is necessary (the representative heating value of CNG is provided

Cost of Alternative Fuel as Reported

Conversion Factor for Cost

BTUS

GALLON OF GASOLINE

DOLLARS

GALLON OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL

Note that the units of BTU and Gollon of Alternative Fuel cancel out, leaving Dollars per Gallon of Gosoline for GGE)

above as a reference). To convert a price from dollars per gallon to dollars per gasoline equivalent gallon, multiply the price per gallon by the conversion factor.

	to GGE
CNG	1.00
Ethanol (E85)	1.41
Propane	1.38
Biodiesel (B20)	0.91
Biodiesel (B2)	0.90
Biodiesel (B100)	0.99

Conversion factors to establish prices in dollars per diesel equivalent gallon are illustrated below, and were developed using the lower heating values outlined above. To convert a price from dollars per gallon to dollars per diesel equivalent gallon, multiply the price per gallon by the conversion factor.

	Conversion factor to DGE
Ethanol (E85)	1.58
Propane	1.54
CNG (in GGE)	1.12
Biodiesel (B20)	1.02
Biodiesel (B2)	1.00
Biodiesel (B100)	1.10

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### WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE?

If you would like to provide prices for alternative fuels in your region and be part of the data collection effort for this report, please contact:

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