







Alternative Fuel
Price Report



#### Welcome to the

## April 2016 issue!

The Clean Cities Alternative Fuel Price Report is a quarterly report designed to keep Clean Cities coalitions and other interested parties up to date on the prices of alternative and conventional fuels in the United States. This issue summarizes prices that were submitted between April 1, 2016 and April 15, 2016 by Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other Clean Cities stakeholders

#### What's New in This Issue?

As shown in Table 2 and Tables 11a through 11g, the average price of all the alternative fuels, on a per gallon basis, as reported by Clean Cities coordinators, declined between January and April 2016. This has been the case in nearly every region of the country, for compressed natural gas (CNG), ethanol, propane and biodiesel (B20 and B99/B100).

The average price of diesel also continued to decline during the past quarter, but the average price of gasoline was up slightly in nearly every region.

## **Looking Ahead**

We will continue to improve the Alternative Fuel Price Report, based on user feedback.

#### LNG Prices

• While the number of liquefied natural gas (LNG) prices reported each quarter has remained fairly steady, we have had requests to include a section on LNG prices in upcoming issues of the AFPR. Look for LNG reporting in the July 2016 issue.

#### Renewable Diesel

• Several Clean Cities coordinators on the West Coast have begun reporting the use of renewable diesel by fleets in their regions. The number of data points is currently very small, but we will begin tracking them, and if the use of renewable diesel should begin to pick up, we may consider including a section in the AFPR on renewable diesel in the future.

#### **Historical Price Trends**

• We are also tracking historical price changes for both alternative and conventional fuels and plan to issue a special report with that information at a later date.

We look forward to hearing from you as we implement these upgrades.

## Methodology

- This report's prices represent retail, at-the-pump sales prices for each fuel, including federal and state motor fuel taxes.<sup>1</sup>
- Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other key stakeholders provide prices for fuels in their areas on a voluntary basis.
- Prices were submitted for all major alternative fuels currently in widespread use, i.e. natural gas, propane, biodiesel, and ethanol.
- Prices were submitted for conventional fuels from stations that also sell alternative fuels, or from nearby stations.
- Prices from public and private refueling stations are included.<sup>2</sup>
- Prices were averaged to determine regional price trends by fuel and variability in fuel price within and among regions.<sup>3</sup>
- Some states charge a flat annual fee, in lieu of collecting motor fuel taxes at the pump, usually for large trucks using gaseous fuels like compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG or propane). These flat fees are not included in the prices reported in these pages.

Consistent with the U.S. Energy Information
 Administration (EIA) fuel price reporting format, prices
 are grouped by the Petroleum Administration for Defense
 Districts (PADD). The PADD districts are illustrated in the
 map below.



FIGURE 1
PETROLEUM ADMINSTRATION FOR DEFENSE
DISTRICTS (PADD)

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

TABLE 1  Number of Data Points Submitted							
Region	Region Gasoline Diesel CNG Ethanol Propane B20 B99/B100						
New England	40	31	27	8	24	11	2
Central Atlantic	84	87	88	94	52	32	1
Lower Atlantic	72	68	63	89	136	23	17
Midwest	240	125	117	220	73	21	0
Gulf Coast	95	79	63	130	129	7	4
Rocky Mountain	102	83	109	64	77	9	0
West Coast	131	146	129	77	129	27	22
TOTAL	764	619	596	682	620	130	46

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In some cases, prices were submitted by government refueling facilities, and motor fuel taxes were not included in the prices reported to Clean Cities. In these instances, the appropriate federal and state motor fuel taxes have been added to the reported prices to provide a more representative basis for comparison.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Public refueling stations are open to the public, while private fueling stations are privately-owned or available only to selected fleets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Fuel price averages for this report are determined by simply averaging the individual data points received. A comparison of average fuel prices for private and for public stations by region can be found on pages 20-21.

# Summary of Current Report Information





Table 2 shows national average retail fuel prices for this report and the previous report. Changes in average retail prices from one quarter to another may be due to a number of factors, including an actual change in price, different sample sizes, the inclusion of different locations, and seasonal variations in demand.

Prices in this report were reported in the units in which they are typically sold, for example, dollars per gallon of gasoline or dollars per gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE) of CNG.

Consumer interest in alternative fuels generally increases when the alternative fuel price is less than the conventional fuel price on a per gallon basis, even if that differential does not directly translate to savings on an energy-equivalent basis.

TABLE 2 National Average Retail Fuel Prices Conventional and Alternative Fuels, April 2016*						
Fuel Type <sup>4</sup> January April Change in Price Units of Measurement						
Gasoline (E10)	\$1.98	\$2.06	\$0.08	per gallon		
Diesel	\$2.23	\$2.13	-\$0.10	per gallon		
CNG	\$2.09	\$2.02	-\$0.07	per GGE		
Ethanol (E85)	\$1.86	\$1.84	-\$0.02	per gallon		
Propane**	\$2.85	\$2.77	-\$0.08	per gallon		
Biodiesel (B20)	\$2.41	\$2.23	-\$0.18	per gallon		
Biodiesel (B99/ B100)	\$3.21	\$2.81	-\$0.40	per gallon		

<sup>\*</sup>Includes public and private stations

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes primary and secondary stations

TABLE 3 National Average Retail Fuel Prices On An Energy-Equivalent Basis, April 2016*					
Fuel Type	Per Gasoline Gallon Equivalent (\$/GGE)  Per Diesel Gallon Equivalent (\$/DGE)  Per Million British Therma Units (\$/MBtu				
Gasoline (E10)	\$2.06	\$2.32	\$18.02		
Diesel	\$1.90	\$2.13	\$16.55		
CNG	\$2.02	\$2.28	\$17.67		
Ethanol (E85)	\$2.39	\$2.71	\$27.28		
Propane**	\$3.79	\$4.26	\$45.39		
Biodiesel (B20)	\$2.01	\$2.28	\$15.90		
Biodiesel (B99/B100)	\$2.76	\$3.09	\$23.57		

<sup>\*</sup>Includes public and private stations

Liquid fuels have differing energy contents per gallon, so the price paid per unit of energy content can differ somewhat from the price paid per gallon. Table 3 shows fuel prices from Table 2 normalized to an energy-equivalent basis.

Note that, for the alternative fuels, prices on an energy-equivalent basis, ie, \$/GGE or \$/DGE, are generally higher than the prices per gallon, due to their lower energy content.<sup>5</sup>

Propane prices include information from both "primary" and "secondary" stations. Primary stations have dedicated vehicle services and tend to be less expensive than secondary stations, which mostly serve the propane tank and bottle market.

Prices for Table 3 were calculated using the nominal lower heating values in BTUs per gallon of fuel from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Transportation Energy Data Book.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes primary and secondary stations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A very small sample (6 points) of hydrogen information was received, with an average price of \$13.92/GGE.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For ethanol flexible-fuel vehicles (FFVs), the actual difference in fuel used per mile is somewhat less than would be calculated simply on the difference in energy content of the fuels. Some sources have noted that some 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 specific FFV model.

<sup>6</sup> http://cta.ornl.gov/data A listing of the conversion factors used appears as an appendix at the end of this report.

## Gasoline and Diesel Prices: Clean Cities and EIA Data

Table 4, below, shows gasoline and diesel prices submitted by Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis, between April 1 and April 15, 2016, compared to prices from the petroleum information section of the Energy Information Administration (EIA) website, for the week of April 4, 2016.

Clean Cities prices for conventional fuels were obtained from retail stations providing alternative fuel price information, or from nearby stations, so data collection was not uniform across the regions of the country; however, the information is representative of refueling stations selling both alternative fuels and conventional fuels.

The EIA data shows weekly average prices from a sample of approximately 800 retail gasoline and 400 retail diesel outlets across the country. The EIA data points are weighted to reflect the quantity of fuel being sold at that price.

The Clean Cities data is not weighted, and represents simple averages of reported prices. While there is some variation, the EIA average prices match relatively closely with the average prices reported by Clean Cities coordinators.

TABLE 4 Average Retail Gasoline and Diesel Prices by Region, in \$/gal from Clean Cities and EIA* Sources							
	GA	SOLINE PRIC	CES			DIESEL PRICES	
Region	Clean Cities	EIA**	Difference***		Clean Cities	EIA**	Difference***
New England	\$2.14	\$2.06	\$0.08		\$2.33	\$2.24	\$0.09
Central Atlantic	\$2.07	\$2.07	\$0.00		\$2.14	\$2.30	-\$0.16
Lower Atlantic	\$1.97	\$2.00	-\$0.03		\$2.12	\$2.08	\$0.04
Midwest	\$1.93	\$1.99	-\$0.06		\$2.00	\$2.07	-\$0.07
Gulf Coast	\$1.81	\$1.87	-\$0.06		\$1.88	\$1.98	-\$0.10
Rocky Mountain	\$1.93	\$1.97	-\$0.04		\$1.97	\$2.12	-\$0.15
West Coast	\$2.57	\$2.58	-\$0.01		\$2.42	\$2.32	\$0.10
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.06	\$2.08	-\$0.02		\$2.13	\$2.12	\$0.01

<sup>\*</sup>EIA = Energy Information Administration

http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/xls/PET\_PRI\_GND\_A\_EPMR\_PTE\_DPGAL\_W.xls

http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/xls/PET\_PRI\_GND\_A\_EPD2D\_PTE\_DPGAL\_W.xls

<sup>\*\*</sup>EIA prices are from the petroleum information section of the EIA website, week of April 4, 2016.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average Clean Cities prices that are lower than EIA prices.

**Natural Gas** 

## **Compressed Natural Gas (Relative to Gasoline)**

TABLE 5 COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG) AND GASOLINE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION							
Region CNG Prices Gasoline Prices Price (\$/GGE*) (\$/gal) Difference**							
New England	\$2.42	\$2.14	\$0.28				
Central Atlantic	\$1.87	\$2.07	-\$0.20				
Lower Atlantic	\$1.88	\$1.97	-\$0.09				
Midwest	\$1.91	\$1.93	-\$0.02				
Gulf Coast	\$2.01	\$1.81	\$0.20				
Rocky Mountain	\$1.89	\$1.93	-\$0.04				
West Coast	West Coast \$2.32 \$2.57 -\$0.25						
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.02	\$2.06	-\$0.04				

The prices shown in Table 5 were submitted by Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis, between April 1 and April 15, 2015.

CNG prices in Table 5 were obtained from the "price at the pump," given in \$/gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE), and averaged for each region.

As with other fuels, the energy content of natural gas can vary. CNG dispensers are calibrated for local gas compositions and dispense an accurate GGE for the actual gas being sold.

On average, during this reporting period, CNG cost about \$0.04 less than gasoline on a per gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE) basis. Note: The Alternative Fuel Price Report is a snapshot in time of retail fuel prices. Alternative fuel fleets can obtain significantly lower fuel prices than those reported in the AFPR by entering into contracts directly with local fuel suppliers. Contract prices will vary, depending on fleet size and amount of fuel to be purchased, distance from the supplier, region of the country and other factors.

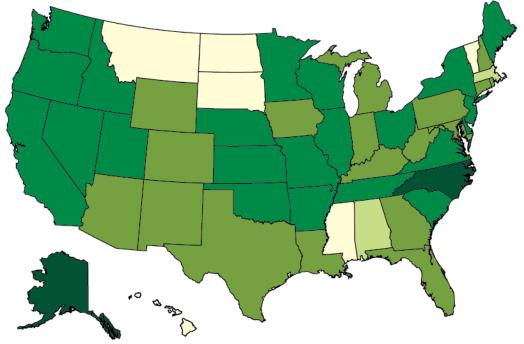


FIGURE 2
PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BY STATE FOR COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG)
RELATIVE TO GASOLINE

In this map, negative numbers represent prices for CNG that are lower than gasoline, on a per gasoline gallon equivalent basis. States not highlighted with a color did not have any CNG data points in the current report.

# CNG Price Difference Relative to Gasoline

-\$1.11 to -\$0.50 -\$0.49 to \$0.00

\$0.01 to \$0.50

\$0.51 to \$0.65

<sup>\*</sup>GGE = gasoline gallon equivalent

<sup>\*\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average CNG prices that are lower than gasoline, on a \$/GGE basis.

# Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), cont.



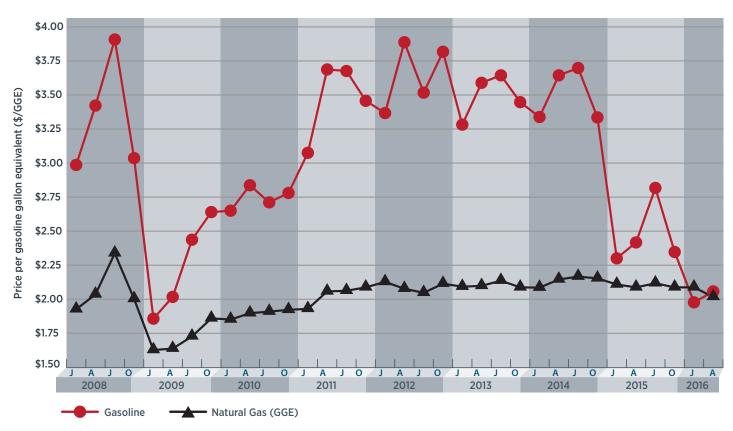


FIGURE 3
HISTORICAL COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG) PRICES VERSUS GASOLINE

**Natural Gas** 

## Compressed Natural Gas (Relative to Diesel)<sup>7</sup>

TABLE 6 COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG) AND DIESEL AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION					
Region	CNG Prices (\$/DGE*)	Diesel Prices (\$/gal)	Price Difference**		
New England	\$2.73	\$2.33	\$0.40		
Central Atlantic	\$2.11	\$2.14	-\$0.03		
Lower Atlantic	\$2.12	\$2.12	\$0.00		
Midwest	\$2.16	\$2.00	\$0.16		
Gulf Coast	\$2.27	\$1.88	\$0.39		
Rocky Mountain	\$2.14	\$1.97	\$0.17		
West Coast	\$2.62	\$2.42	\$0.20		
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.28	\$2.13	\$0.15		

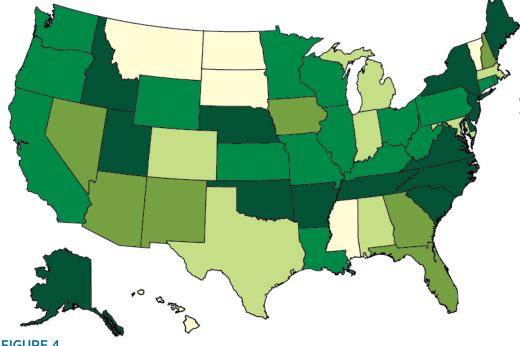
The prices shown in Table 6 were submitted by Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis, between April 1 and April 15, 2016.

Table 6 shows the prices from Table 5, converted to \$/diesel gallon equivalent (\$/DGE), for easy comparison with diesel prices.

As with other fuels, the energy content of natural gas can vary. CNG dispensers are calibrated for local gas compositions and dispense an accurate GGE for the actual gas being sold.

On average, during this reporting period, CNG cost about \$0.15 more than diesel on a per diesel gallon equivalent basis.

**Note:** The Alternative Fuel Price Report is a snapshot in time of *retail* fuel prices. Alternative fuel fleets can obtain significantly lower fuel prices than those reported in the AFPR by entering into contracts directly with local fuel suppliers. Contract prices will vary, depending on fleet size and amount of fuel to be purchased, distance from the supplier, region of the country and other factors.



In this map, negative numbers represent prices for CNG that are lower than diesel, on a per diesel gallon equivalent basis. States not highlighted with a color did not have any CNG data points in the current report.

CNG Price Difference Relative to Diesel

-\$0.66 to \$0.00

\$0.01 to \$0.30

\$0.31 to \$0.50

\$0.51 to \$0.87

FIGURE 4
PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BY STATE FOR COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG)
RELATIVE TO DIESEL

<sup>\*</sup>DGE = diesel gallon equivalent

<sup>\*\*</sup> Negative numbers represent average CNG prices that are lower than diesel, on a \$/DGE basis.

<sup>7</sup> A total of 42 liquefied natural gas (LNG) prices were submitted, with an average fuel price of \$2.31/DGE. Because of the small number of price points, this data is not reflected in the report.

# Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), cont.



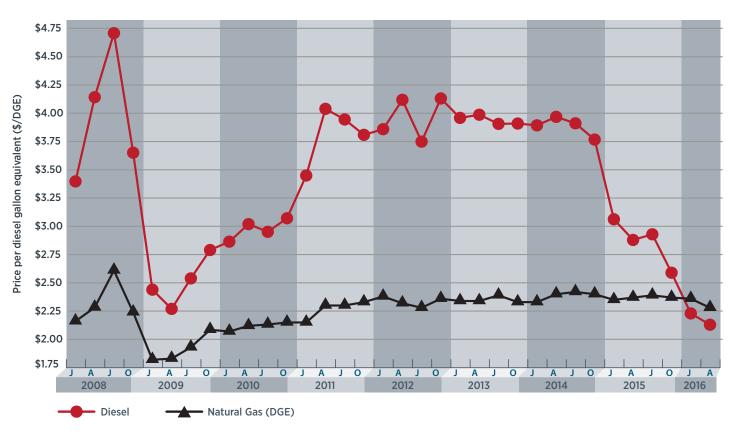


FIGURE 5
HISTORICAL COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG) PRICES VERSUS DIESEL

**Ethanol** 

## Ethanol (E85)

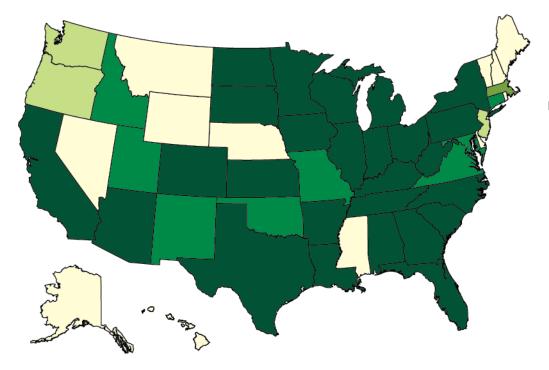
TABLE 7 ETHANOL (E85) AND GASOLINE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION					
Region E85 Prices Gasoline Prices Price (\$/gal) (\$/gal) Difference					
New England	\$2.43	\$2.14	\$0.29		
Central Atlantic	\$2.11	\$2.07	\$0.04		
Lower Atlantic	\$1.91	\$1.97	-\$0.06		
Midwest	\$1.66	\$1.93	-\$0.27		
Gulf Coast	\$1.64	\$1.81	-\$0.17		
Rocky Mountain	\$1.77	\$1.93	-\$0.16		
West Coast	\$2.29	\$2.57	-\$0.28		
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$1.84	\$2.06	-\$0.22		

The prices shown in Table 7 were submitted by Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis, between April 1 and April 15, 2016.

Most gasoline available throughout the United States today is a blend of 90% gasoline and up to 10% ethanol, or E10. Additionally, the E85 that is sold in the United States today actually contains, on average, approximately 70% ethanol.

E85 energy content for this report is therefore calculated as (.70)(E100 energy content) + (.30)(E0 energy content), to more closely reflect the actual energy content of E85 fuel available today.

On average, during this reporting period, E85 cost about \$0.22 less than gasoline on a per gallon basis.



In this map, negative numbers represent prices for E85 that are lower than gasoline, on a per gallon basis. States not highlighted with a color did not have any E85 data points in the current report.

E85 Price Difference Relative to Gasoline

-\$0.53 to \$0.00

\$0.01 to \$0.25

\$0.26 to \$0.50

\$0.51 to \$0.83

FIGURE 6
PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BY STATE FOR E85 RELATIVE TO GASOLINE

<sup>\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average E85 prices that are lower than gasoline, on a \$/gal basis.

# Ethanol (E85), cont.



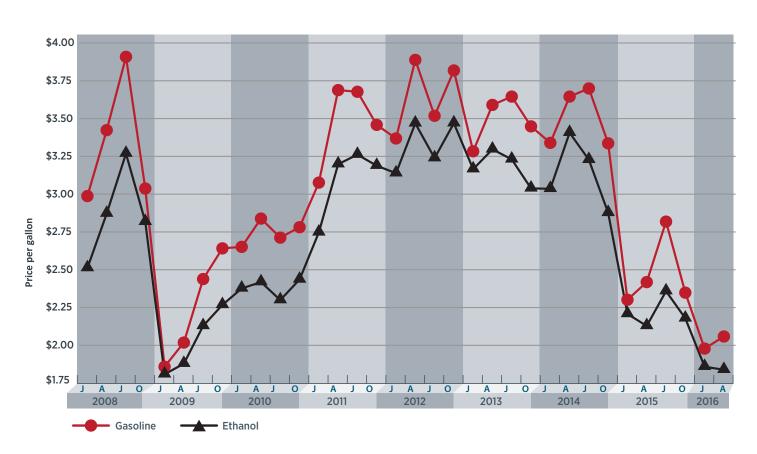


FIGURE 7 HISTORICAL ETHANOL (E85) PRICES VERSUS GASOLINE

**Propane** 

### Propane (LPG)

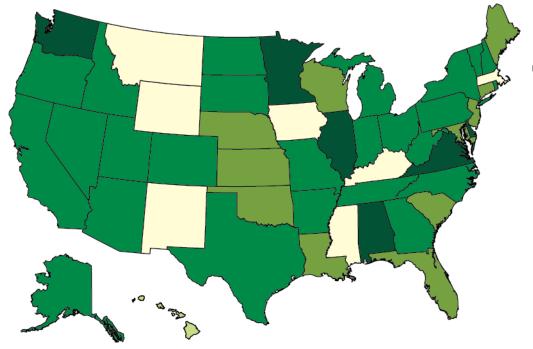
TABLE 8 PROPANE (LPG) AND GASOLINE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION						
Region LPG Prices Gasoline Prices Price (\$/gal) (\$/gal) Difference*						
New England	\$2.89	\$2.14	\$0.75			
Central Atlantic	\$2.77	\$2.07	\$0.70			
Lower Atlantic	\$2.78	\$1.97	\$0.81			
Midwest	\$2.69	\$1.93	\$0.76			
Gulf Coast	\$2.57	\$1.81	\$0.76			
Rocky Mountain	\$2.82	\$1.93	\$0.89			
West Coast	\$2.94	\$2.57	\$0.37			
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.77	\$2.06	\$0.71			

The prices shown in Table 8 were submitted by Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis, between April 1 and April 15, 2016.

Propane prices in this report are from both private fleet refueling stations and public refueling sites that can provide propane for vehicles and for other uses.<sup>8</sup>

Note: The Alternative Fuel Price Report is a snapshot in time of retail fuel prices. Alternative fuel fleets can obtain significantly lower fuel prices than those reported in the AFPR by entering into contracts directly with local fuel suppliers. Contract prices will vary, depending on fleet size and amount of fuel to be purchased, distance from the supplier, region of the country and other factors.

On average, during this reporting period, propane cost about \$0.71 more than gasoline on a per (liquid) gallon basis.



In this map, negative numbers represent prices for propane that are lower than gasoline, on a per gallon basis. States not highlighted with a color did not have any propane data points in the current report.

LPG Price Difference Relative to Gasoline

-\$0.73 to \$0.00

\$0.01 to \$1.00

\$1.01 to \$1.50

\$1.51 to \$2.99

Insufficient Data

FIGURE 8
PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BY STATE FOR PROPANE (LPG) RELATIVE TO GASOLINE

Because many propane retailers provide fuel for non-vehicle uses (camping stoves, gas grills, etc.), the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has worked with suppliers to clarify the differences. On the AFDC Station Locator website (http://www.afdc.energy.gov/locator/stations/) each public propane station is designated as a "primary" or "secondary" service type. Both types are able to fuel vehicles; however, stations designated as "primary" have indicated they have facilities and billing procedures specifically designed for vehicle customers. They may also offer special vehicle pricing and most accept major credit cards, similar to traditional gasoline/diesel retailers. Propane pricing reported in this guide reflects a sampling of both primary and secondary stations.

<sup>\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average propane prices that are lower than gasoline, on a \$/gal basis.

# Propane (LPG), cont.



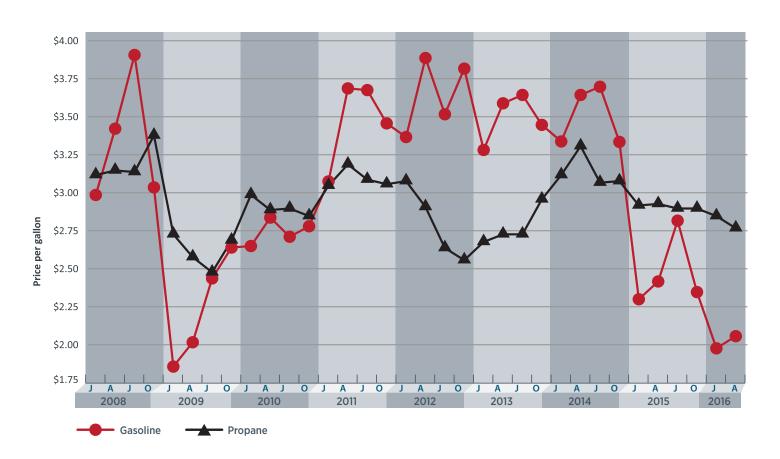


FIGURE 9
HISTORICAL PROPANE (LPG) PRICES VERSUS GASOLINE

**Biodiesel** 

#### **Biodiesel Blends: B20**

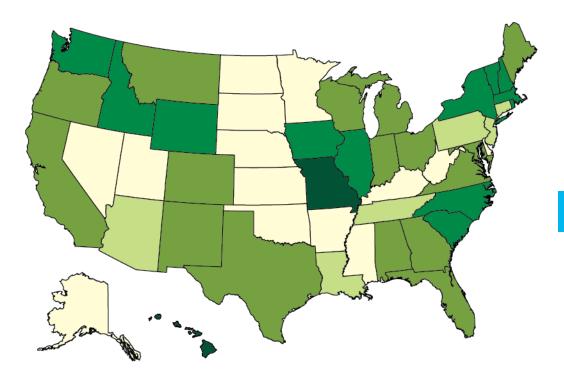
TABLE 9 BIODIESEL (B20) AND DIESEL AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION					
Region B20 Prices Diesel Prices Price (\$/gal) (\$/gal) Difference*					
New England	\$2.36	\$2.33	\$0.03		
Central Atlantic	\$2.16	\$2.14	\$0.02		
Lower Atlantic	\$2.14	\$2.12	\$0.02		
Midwest	\$2.14	\$2.00	\$0.14		
Gulf Coast	\$2.16	\$1.88	\$0.28		
Rocky Mountain	\$2.04	\$1.97	\$0.07		
West Coast	\$2.49	\$2.42	\$0.07		
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.23	\$2.13	\$0.10		

The prices shown in Table 9 were submitted by Clean Cities coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis, between April 1 and April 15, 2016.

B20 is a blend of 20% biodiesel and 80% conventional diesel. B20 contains only about 2% less energy (BTUs) per volume than 100% diesel. The appendix at the end of this report provides conversion factors for calculating B20 prices on a GGE and DGE basis.

Note that B20 prices, in many regions, track very closely with diesel prices.

On a national average basis, during this reporting period, B20 cost about \$0.10 more than diesel on a per gallon basis.



In this map, negative numbers represent prices for B20 that are lower than diesel, on a per gallon basis. States not highlighted with a color did not have any B20 data points in the current report.

B20 Price Difference Relative to Diesel

-\$0.87 to -\$0.50

-\$0.49 to \$0.00

\$0.01 to \$0.50

\$0.51 to \$0.89

FIGURE 10
PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BY STATE FOR B20 RELATIVE TO DIESEL

<sup>\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average B20 prices that are lower than diesel, on a \$/GAL basis.

# Biodiesel Blends: B20, cont.

A 2015

2016

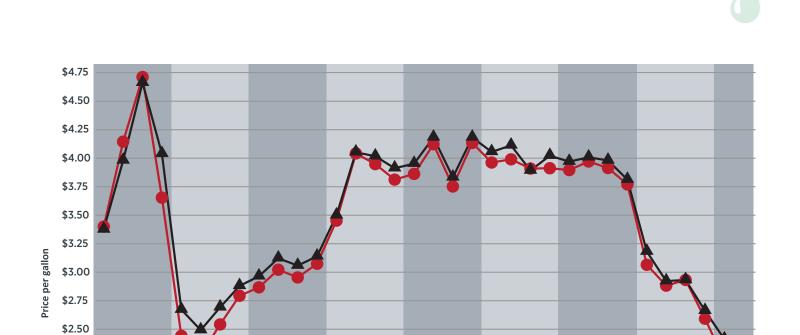


FIGURE 11 HISTORICAL B20 PRICES VERSUS DIESEL

<del>--</del> В20

Diesel

\$2.25

\$2.00 \$1.75

## **Biodiesel Blends: B99/B100**

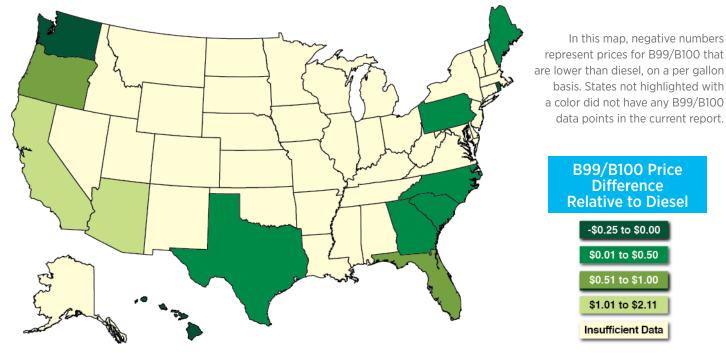
TABLE 10 BIODIESEL (B99/B100) AND DIESEL AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION					
Region B99/B100 Prices Diesel Prices Price (\$/gal) Difference					
New England	\$2.32	\$2.33	-\$0.01		
Central Atlantic	\$2.65	\$2.14	\$0.51		
Lower Atlantic	\$2.44	\$2.12	\$0.32		
Midwest		\$2.00			
Gulf Coast	\$2.32	\$1.88	\$0.44		
Rocky Mountain		\$1.97			
West Coast	\$3.24	\$2.42	\$0.82		
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.81	\$2.13	\$0.68		

**Biodiesel** The prices shown in Table 10 were submitted by **Clean Cities** coordinators, fuel providers, and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis, between April 1 and April 15, 2016.

B100 contains about 10% less energy (BTUs) per volume than 100% diesel.

The appendix at the end of this report provides conversion factors for calculating B100 prices on a GGE and DGE basis.

On average, during this reporting period, B99/B100 cost about \$0.68 more than diesel on a per gallon basis.



**B99/B100 Price Difference Relative to Diesel** 

In this map, negative numbers represent prices for B99/B100 that

basis. States not highlighted with a color did not have any B99/B100 data points in the current report.

-\$0.25 to \$0.00

\$0.01 to \$0.50

\$0.51 to \$1.00 \$1.01 to \$2.11

FIGURE 12 PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BY STATE FOR B99/B100 RELATIVE TO DIESEL

<sup>\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average B99/B100 prices that are lower than diesel, on a \$/GAL basis.

# Biodiesel Blends: B99/B100, cont.

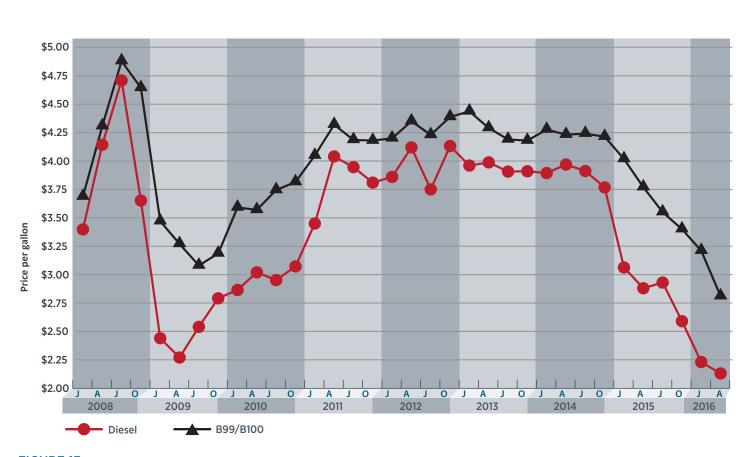


FIGURE 13 HISTORICAL B99/B100 PRICES VERSUS DIESEL

## **Comparison Of Prices: This Report Versus Last Report**

The following tables summarize the average retail prices submitted for this report by region, and compare them to prices submitted for the January 2016 Alternative Fuel Price Report. It should be noted that a portion of the price changes may be attributed to differing sample sizes and locations between the two reports.

# GASOLINE (\$ per gallon)



TABLE 11 a					
Region	Price for January 2016	Price for April 2016	Difference in \$	Difference in %	
New England	\$2.12	\$2.14	\$0.02	0.94%	
Central Atlantic	\$2.01	\$2.07	\$0.06	2.99%	
Lower Atlantic	\$1.93	\$1.97	\$0.04	2.07%	
Midwest	\$1.83	\$1.93	\$0.10	5.46%	
Gulf Coast	\$1.66	\$1.81	\$0.15	9.04%	
Rocky Mountain	\$1.84	\$1.93	\$0.09	4.89%	
West Coast	\$2.60	\$2.57	-\$0.03	-1.15%	
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$1.98	\$2.06	\$0.08	4.04%	

#### TABLE 11 b **Price for January** Difference in \$ Difference in % Region Price for April 2016 2016 \$2.50 -\$0.17 -6.80% New England \$2.33 Central Atlantic \$2.27 \$2.14 -\$0.13 -5.73% Lower Atlantic \$2.19 \$2.12 -\$0.07 -3.20% Midwest \$2.05 \$2.00 -\$0.05 -2.44% **Gulf Coast** \$2.01 \$1.88 -\$0.13 -6.47% \$2.05 -3.90% Rocky Mountain \$1.97 -\$0.08 West Coast \$2.55 \$2.42 -\$0.13 -5.10% NATIONAL AVERAGE \$2.23 \$2.13 -\$0.10 -4.48%

# DIESEL (\$ per gallon)



CNG (\$ per GGE)



TABLE 11 c					
Region	Price for January 2016	Price for April 2016	Difference in \$	Difference in %	
New England	\$2.45	\$2.42	-\$0.03	-1.22%	
Central Atlantic	\$1.97	\$1.87	-\$0.10	-5.08%	
Lower Atlantic	\$2.06	\$1.88	-\$0.18	-8.74%	
Midwest	\$1.95	\$1.91	-\$0.04	-2.05%	
Gulf Coast	\$2.03	\$2.01	-\$0.02	-0.99%	
Rocky Mountain	\$1.91	\$1.89	-\$0.02	-1.05%	
West Coast	\$2.40	\$2.32	-\$0.08	-3.33%	
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.09	\$2.02	-\$0.07	-3.35%	

## Comparison Of Prices: This Report Versus Last Report, cont.

TABLE 11 d				
Region	Price for January 2016	Price for April 2016	Difference in \$	Difference in %
New England	\$2.51	\$2.43	-\$0.08	-3.19%
Central Atlantic	\$2.12	\$2.11	-\$0.01	-0.47%
Lower Atlantic	\$1.92	\$1.91	-\$0.01	-0.52%
Midwest	\$1.69	\$1.66	-\$0.03	-1.78%
Gulf Coast	\$1.59	\$1.64	\$0.05	3.14%
Rocky Mountain	\$1.87	\$1.77	-\$0.10	-5.35%
West Coast	\$2.37	\$2.29	-\$0.08	-3.38%
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$1.86	\$1.84	-\$0.02	-1.08%

ETHANOL (E85) (\$ per gallon)



# PROPANE (\$ per gallon)



TABLE 11 e				
Region	Price for January 2016	Price for April 2016	Difference in \$	Difference in %
New England	\$2.89	\$2.89	\$0.00	0.00%
Central Atlantic	\$2.79	\$2.77	-\$0.02	-0.72%
Lower Atlantic	\$2.85	\$2.78	-\$0.07	-2.46%
Midwest	\$2.45	\$2.69	\$0.24	9.80%
Gulf Coast	\$3.04	\$2.57	-\$0.47	-15.46%
Rocky Mountain	\$2.88	\$2.82	-\$0.06	-2.08%
West Coast	\$2.94	\$2.94	\$0.00	0.00%
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.85	\$2.77	-\$0.08	-2.81%

TABLE 11 f				
Region	Price for January 2016	Price for April 2016	Difference in \$	Difference in %
New England	\$2.49	\$2.36	-\$0.13	-5.22%
Central Atlantic	\$2.33	\$2.16	-\$0.17	-7.30%
Lower Atlantic	\$2.28	\$2.14	-\$0.14	-6.14%
Midwest	\$2.30	\$2.14	-\$0.16	-6.96%
Gulf Coast	\$2.10	\$2.16	\$0.06	2.86%
Rocky Mountain	\$2.21	\$2.04	-\$0.17	-7.69%
West Coast	\$2.74	\$2.49	-\$0.25	-9.12%
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.41	\$2.23	-\$0.18	-7.47%

## BIODIESEL B20 (\$ per gallon)



# BIODIESEL B99/B100 (\$ per gallon)



TABLE 11 g				
Region	Price for January 2016	Price for April 2016	Difference in \$	Difference in %
New England	\$2.35	\$2.32	-\$0.03	-1.28%
Central Atlantic	\$4.30	\$2.65	-\$1.65	-38.37%
Lower Atlantic	\$3.12	\$2.44	-\$0.68	-21.79%
Midwest				
Gulf Coast	\$2.28	\$2.32	\$0.04	1.75%
Rocky Mountain	\$2.40			
West Coast	\$3.39	\$3.24	-\$0.15	-4.42%
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$3.21	\$2.81	-\$0.40	-12.46%

## Price Comparison By Region For Public & Private Refueling Stations

The tables below summarize average retail fuel prices contained in this report, sorted by type of refueling station, i.e., "private" or "public". The stations classified as "public" are open to the general public. The majority of the stations classified as "private" are operated by state or local government agencies, transit agencies, utility districts, colleges or universities, or military facilities. They serve the host agency's fleets, and may have contractual or other arrangements in place to sell fuel to other government agencies and/or selected other fleets. In some cases, contracts may include billing, accounting, or fleet service management fees that are rolled into the price of the fuel.

For this report, there were 3,119 prices submitted from "public" refueling stations, and 338 prices submitted from "private" refueling stations, for a total of 3,457 prices.

As with the other prices in this report, these prices include state and federal taxes, as described in the Methodology section of this document.

TABLE 12 a - Gasoline Average Retail Price by Refueling Station Type (\$/gal)		
Region PRIVATE PUBLIC		
New England	\$1.88	\$2.15
Central Atlantic	\$2.01	\$2.08
Lower Atlantic	\$1.96	\$1.97
Midwest	\$2.15	\$1.92
Gulf Coast		\$1.81
Rocky Mountain	\$1.99	\$1.93
West Coast	\$2.49	\$2.58
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.18	\$2.05

TABLE 12 b - Diesel Average Retail Price by Refueling Station Type (\$/gal)		
Region PRIVATE PUBLIC		
New England	\$2.20	\$2.35
Central Atlantic	\$1.97	\$2.22
Lower Atlantic	\$1.99	\$2.12
Midwest	\$1.65	\$2.00
Gulf Coast		\$1.88
Rocky Mountain	\$1.73	\$1.97
West Coast	\$2.27	\$2.44
NATIONAL AVERAGE \$2.05 \$2.14		

TABLE 12 c - CNG Average Retail Price by Refueling Station Type (\$/GGE)		
Region PRIVATE PUBLIC		
New England	\$1.86	\$2.49
Central Atlantic	\$1.61	\$2.00
Lower Atlantic	\$0.95	\$1.94
Midwest	\$1.85	\$1.93
Gulf Coast	\$1.82	\$2.03
Rocky Mountain	\$1.72	\$1.99
West Coast	\$1.99	\$2.36
NATIONAL AVERAGE \$1.73 \$2.09		

TABLE 12 d - E85 Average Retail Price by Refueling Station Type (\$/gal)		
Region PRIVATE PUBLIC		
New England		\$2.43
Central Atlantic	\$2.25	\$2.09
Lower Atlantic		\$1.91
Midwest	\$2.09	\$1.62
Gulf Coast	\$2.55	\$1.64
Rocky Mountain	\$1.55	\$1.78
West Coast	\$2.39	\$2.29
NATIONAL AVERAGE \$2.17 \$1.83		

<sup>---</sup> indicates no data points were submitted for this region.

## Comparison Of Prices By Region For Public & Private Refueling Stations cont.

TABLE 12 e - Propane Average Retail Price by Refueling Station Type (\$/gal)		
Region PRIVATE PUBLIC		
New England	\$2.34	\$2.91
Central Atlantic	\$1.33	\$3.16
Lower Atlantic	\$3.82	\$2.78
Midwest	\$1.53	\$2.79
Gulf Coast	\$1.37	\$2.66
Rocky Mountain	\$2.33	\$2.84
West Coast	\$3.00	\$2.93
NATIONAL AVERAGE \$1.93 \$2.83		

TABLE 12 f - B20 Average Retail Price by Refueling Station Type (\$/gal)		
Region PRIVATE PUBLIC		
New England	\$2.19	\$2.43
Central Atlantic	\$1.95	\$2.72
Lower Atlantic	\$1.73	\$2.18
Midwest	\$1.69	\$2.22
Gulf Coast	\$2.52	\$2.10
Rocky Mountain		\$2.04
West Coast	\$2.21	\$2.55
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$1.98	\$2.33

TABLE 12 g - B99/B100 Average Retail Price by Refueling Station Type (\$/gal)		
Region PRIVATE PUBLIC		
New England		\$2.32
Central Atlantic		\$2.65
Lower Atlantic	\$2.50	\$2.41
Midwest		
Gulf Coast		\$2.32
Rocky Mountain		
West Coast	\$3.79	\$3.19
NATIONAL AVERAGE \$2.82 \$2.81		

<sup>---</sup> indicates no data points were submitted for this region.

## **Historical Alternative Fuel Prices From Previous Reports**

The following graphs illustrate historical prices for the alternative fuels included in the Alternative Fuel Price Report from 2008 to the present, relative to gasoline and diesel. Compressed natural gas (in GGE), propane, and ethanol (E85) have been graphed against gasoline prices, while compressed natural gas (in DGE) and biodiesel blends (B20 and B99/B100) have been graphed against diesel prices.

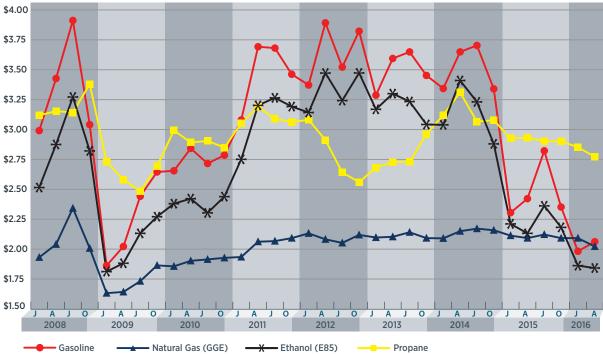


FIGURE 14
ALTERNATIVE FUEL PRICES VERSUS GASOLINE

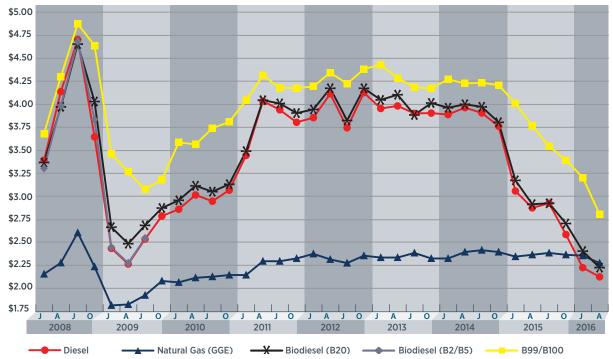


FIGURE 15
ALTERNATIVE FUEL PRICES VERSUS DIESEL

### Illustration of Conversion Factors for Fuels

TABLE 13 Lower Heating Values		
Fuel Lower Heating Value		
Gasoline (E0)	115,400 BTU/gal	
Gasoline (E10) <sup>10</sup>	114,300 BTU/gal	
Diesel	128,700 BTU/gal	
Biodiesel (B100)	117,100 BTU/gal	
Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) <sup>11</sup>	114,300 BTU/GGE	
Ethanol (E100)	75,700 BTU/gal	
Propane	83,500 BTU/gal	

Conversion factors used to establish prices in dollars per gasoline gallon equivalent (\$/GGE) and dollars per diesel gallon equivalent (\$/DGE) were developed using the lower heating values from the Transportation Energy Data Book Edition 33,9 and are listed to the left.

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 in Table 13 as a reference.

#### **Conversion to GGE**

The conversion factor used to convert the price of an alternative fuel from \$/gallon to \$/GGE is determined as follows:

Conversion factor = BTU/gal of gasoline (E10)
BTU/gal of alternative fuel

To calculate the price of an alternative fuel in \$/GGE, multiply the price per gallon of the alternative fuel by the relevant conversion factor from Table 14.

TABLE 14 Conversion Factors: \$/gal to \$/GGE			
Fuel Conversion Factor			
Biodiesel (B20)	0.90		
Biodiesel (B100)	0.98		
CNG	1.00		
Ethanol (E85) <sup>12</sup>	1.30		
Propane	1.37		

#### **Conversion to DGE**

The conversion factor used to convert the price of an alternative fuel from \$/gallon to \$/DGE is determined as follows:

 $\frac{\text{Conversion factor} = }{\text{BTU/gal of diesel}}$   $\frac{\text{BTU/gal of alternative fuel}}{\text{BTU/gal of alternative fuel}}$ 

For example, the conversion factor used to convert a B100 price from \$/gal to \$/DGE is determined as follows:

 $\frac{128,700 \text{ BTU/gal of diesel}}{117,100 \text{ BTU/gal of B}100} = 1.099$ , rounded to 1.10

TABLE 15 Conversion Factors: \$/gal to \$/DGE			
Fuel Conversion Fact			
Biodiesel (B20)	1.02		
Biodiesel (B100)	1.10		
CNG	1.13		
Ethanol (E85) 13	1.47		
Propane	1.54		

To calculate the price of an alternative fuel in \$/DGE, multiply the price per gallon of the alternative fuel by the relevant conversion factor from Table 15.

For example, if the price of B100 is given as \$3.00/gal, the \$/DGE is determined as follows:  $(\$3.00/\text{gal}) \times 1.10 = \$3.30/\text{DGE}$ 

<sup>9</sup> http://cta.ornl.gov/data

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Alternative Fuels Data Center, the energy content of common gasoline baseline references (E0, E10 and indolene) varies between 112,114 and 116,090 Btu/gal. We chose 114,300 Btu/gal for the E10 energy content, consistent with the Transportation Energy Data Book (TEDB) energy content of CNG, in GGEs. See next footnote

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> (5.66 lbs. of CNG/GGE) x (20,200 BTU/lb.) = 114,332; rounded to 114,300.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Most gasoline available throughout the United States today is a blend of 90% gasoline and up to 10% ethanol, or E10. Additionally, the E85 that is sold in the United States today actually contains, on average, approximately 70% ethanol. E85 energy content for this report is therefore calculated as [(.70) x (E100 energy content)] + [(.30) x (E0 energy content)], to more closely reflect the actual energy content of E85 fuel available today.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See footnote 12. above.

## Comparison of Prices on an Energy-Equivalent Basis

The following tables compare prices for E85, propane, B20 and B99/B100 to conventional fuels (gasoline and diesel) on an energy-equivalent basis. (Natural gas is generally sold in gasoline gallon equivalents or diesel gallon equivalents, so the natural gas "price at the pump" can be directly compared to the price of the corresponding conventional fuel, as shown in Tables 5 and 6.)

TABLE 16a ETHANOL (E85) AND GASOLINE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION (GGE)			
Region	E85 Prices (\$/GGE)	Gasoline Prices (\$/gal)	Price Difference*
New England	\$3.16	\$2.14	\$1.02
Central Atlantic	\$2.74	\$2.07	\$0.67
Lower Atlantic	\$2.48	\$1.97	\$0.51
Midwest	\$2.16	\$1.93	\$0.23
Gulf Coast	\$2.13	\$1.81	\$0.32
Rocky Mountain	\$2.30	\$1.93	\$0.37
West Coast	\$2.98	\$2.57	\$0.41
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.39	\$2.06	\$0.33

*Negative numbers represent average	ge E85 prices that are lower that	n gasoline, on a \$/GGE basis.
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TABLE 16b PROPANE (LPG) AND GASOLINE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION (GGE)			
Region	LPG Prices (\$/GGE)	Gasoline Prices (\$/gal)	Price Difference*
New England	\$3.96	\$2.14	\$1.82
Central Atlantic	\$3.79	\$2.07	\$1.72
Lower Atlantic	\$3.81	\$1.97	\$1.84
Midwest	\$3.69	\$1.93	\$1.76
Gulf Coast	\$3.52	\$1.81	\$1.71
Rocky Mountain	\$3.86	\$1.93	\$1.93
West Coast	\$4.03	\$2.57	\$1.46
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$3.79	\$2.06	\$1.73

<sup>\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average propane prices that are lower than gasoline, on a \$/GGE basis.

TABLE 16c BIODIESEL (B20) AND DIESEL AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION (DGE)			
Region	B20 Prices (\$/DGE)	Diesel Prices (\$/gal)	Price Difference*
New England	\$2.41	\$2.33	\$0.08
Central Atlantic	\$2.20	\$2.14	\$0.06
Lower Atlantic	\$2.18	\$2.12	\$0.06
Midwest	\$2.18	\$2.00	\$0.18
Gulf Coast	\$2.20	\$1.88	\$0.32
Rocky Mountain	\$2.08	\$1.97	\$0.11
West Coast	\$2.54	\$2.42	\$0.12
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$2.27	\$2.13	\$0.14

<sup>\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average B20 prices that are lower than gasoline, on a \$/DGE basis.

TABLE 16d BIODIESEL (B99/B100) AND DIESEL AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES BY REGION (DGE)			
Region	B99/B100 Prices (\$/DGE)	Diesel Prices (\$/gal)	Price Difference*
New England	\$2.55	\$2.33	\$0.22
Central Atlantic	\$2.92	\$2.14	\$0.78
Lower Atlantic	\$2.68	\$2.12	\$0.56
Midwest		\$2.00	
Gulf Coast	\$2.55	\$1.88	\$0.67
Rocky Mountain		\$1.97	
West Coast	\$3.56	\$2.42	\$1.14
NATIONAL AVERAGE	\$3.09	\$2.13	\$0.96

<sup>\*</sup>Negative numbers represent average B99/B100 prices that are lower than gasoline, on a \$/DGE basis.

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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, or if you have any questions, please contact:

U.S. DOE, Clean Cities EE-3V 1000 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20585 Phone: (202) 586-6459 afpr@alleghenyst.com

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