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## Gasoline Prices in Boston, 1981 to 2008

|  | Gasoline prices |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unflation adjusted | July |
| U.S. | $\$ 3.450$ | $\$ 4.142$ |
| All types | $\$ 3.522$ | $\$ 4.090$ |
| Unleaded regular | - | $\$ 4.350$ |
| Unleaded premium |  |  |
| Boston | $\$ 3.447$ | $\$ 4.066$ |
| All types | $\$ 3.532$ | $\$ 4.025$ |
| Unleaded regular | - | $\$ 4.259$ |
| Unleaded premium |  |  |
| Dash means data not available. |  |  |
| Inflation adjusted dollars are shown in July 2008 dollars. |  |  |



- Gasoline prices in Boston in July 2008 surpassed prices of the early 1980s, after adjusting for inflation. In series history there have been 13 over-the-year increases that were above 30 percent. Twelve of these occurred in the past eight and a half years.
- In July 2008, the average price of gasoline, all types in Boston was $\$ 4.066$. Drivers in Boston paid $\$ 0.08$ less per gallon than the national average ( $\$ 4.142$ ).
- Boston area gas prices increased $\$ 1.072$ per gallon since July 2007. Over the year, Boston area drivers have seen prices at the pump rise by a steep 35.8 percent. Over the two months the price of gasoline was up 8.2 percent.
- The July 2008 price for gasoline in Boston continues to exceed the September 2005 inflation adjusted high, during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when gasoline prices were $\$ 3.677$ per gallon. (The nominal price was $\$ 3.323$.) The previous inflation adjusted high was in March 1981 at $\$ 3.447$ per gallon. (The nominal price was $\$ 1.387$.)
- Since the 1981 reference date, the lowest nominal price for gasoline in Boston was reported in August 1986, $\$ 0.829$ per gallon, which equals a real (inflation adjusted) price of $\$ 1.662$ per gallon.

In the information provided above, the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U), U.S. City Average, was used to adjust historic gasoline prices to reflect the effect of inflation.

Average residential prices for utility (piped) gas, electricity, and fuel oil, average prices per gallon for gasoline - Boston, MA.

| Piped Gas | Piped gas | Electricity | Fuel oil | Gasoline | Gasoline <br> Unleaded | Gasoline |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unleaded |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| 2006 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| January | 84.455 | 191.597 | 92.454 | 2.387 | 2.412 | 2.369 | 2.593 |
| February | 77.771 | 175.103 | 93.206 | 2.411 | 2.423 | 2.379 | 2.595 |
| March | 73.091 | 162.999 | 92.974 | 2.409 | 2.319 | 2.278 | 2.492 |
| April | 73.052 | 162.892 | 92.974 | 2.493 | 2.704 | 2.669 | 2.865 |
| May | 63.551 | 135.753 | 90.675 | 2.554 | 3.000 | 2.956 | 3.172 |
| June | 63.528 | 135.705 | 90.675 | 2.530 | 3.054 | 3.011 | 3.249 |
| July | 63.511 | 135.667 | 87.045 | 2.558 | 3.116 | 3.071 | 3.305 |
| August | 63.537 | 135.723 | 87.045 | 2.551 | 3.149 | 3.101 | 3.360 |
| September | 63.534 | 135.717 | 88.001 | 2.453 | 2.740 | 2.679 | 2.955 |
| October | 56.943 | 119.553 | 88.001 | 2.325 | 2.302 | 2.241 | 2.543 |
| November | 80.131 | 180.721 | 92.326 | 2.321 | 2.221 | 2.165 | 2.440 |
| December | 80.091 | 180.616 | 92.326 | 2.385 | 2.354 | 2.309 | 2.535 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2007 | 80.147 | 180.758 | 92.726 | 2.356 | 2.396 | 2.347 | 2.590 |
| January | 75.789 | 170.017 | 92.726 | 2.387 | 2.237 | 2.187 | 2.423 |
| February | 75.802 | 170.064 | 90.744 | 2.507 | 2.573 | 2.532 | 2.727 |
| March | 75.758 | 169.945 | 90.751 | 2.492 | 2.770 | 2.727 | 2.937 |
| April | 60.068 | 126.690 | 87.482 | 2.515 | 3.033 | 2.987 | 3.202 |
| May | 62.230 | 132.079 | 87.482 | 2.493 | 3.107 | 3.067 | 3.271 |
| June | 62.270 | 132.161 | 85.136 | 2.557 | 2.994 | 2.946 | 3.175 |
| July | 61.352 | 129.988 | 85.136 | 2.571 | 2.856 | 2.801 | 3.053 |
| August | 60.033 | 126.638 | 85.136 | 2.653 | 2.767 | 2.713 | 2.961 |
| September | 58.788 | 123.689 | 85.136 | 2.796 | 2.706 | 2.661 | 2.916 |
| October | 73.566 | 164.003 | 86.703 | 3.112 | 3.021 | 2.983 | 3.210 |
| November | 73.725 | 164.428 | 86.703 | 3.257 | 3.040 | 3.000 | 3.237 |
| December |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2008 | 73.876 | 164.791 | 89.149 | 3.373 | 3.067 | 3.027 | 3.266 |
| January | 73.779 | 164.541 | 89.149 | 3.367 | 3.034 | 2.989 | 3.247 |
| February | 74.977 | 167.413 | 88.713 | 3.725 | 3.144 | 3.103 | 3.340 |
| March | 74.939 | 167.319 | 88.713 | 3.940 | 3.344 | 3.306 | 3.528 |
| April | 74.824 | 163.056 | 90.667 | 4.238 | 3.759 | 3.722 | 3.945 |
| May | 81.207 | 179.089 | 90.234 | 4.570 | 4.074 | 4.036 | 4.255 |
| June | 93.876 | 210.992 | 93.870 | 4.627 | 4.066 | 4.025 | 4.259 |
| July |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

NA=Not Available.
1/ Unleaded premium replaced leaded premium in January 1984.

## Average residential prices for utility (piped) gas, electricity, and fuel oil, average prices per gallon for gasoline - U.S. City Average

|  | Piped Gas | Piped gas | Electricity | Fuel oil | Gasoline | Gasoline <br> Unleaded | Gasoline <br> Unleaded |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 40 | 100 |  |  |  | All types | Regular |
| Premium 1/ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1/ Unleaded premium replaced leaded premium in January 1984.

