

U.S. summer gasoline price higher due to rising crude oil costs

The price U.S. drivers pay for gasoline this summer is expected to average \$3.61 per gallon....that's 3 cents more than last summer.

The higher pump price is due in part to the recent jump in crude oil costs and strong demand for gasoline...both domestically and abroad...according to the new monthly energy forecast by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The good news for consumers is that record U.S crude oil inventories of 400 million barrels will put downward pressure on both oil and gasoline prices over the coming months.

The average monthly price for gasoline is expected to reach \$3.72 per gallon in May and then gradually fall to \$3.51 per gallon in September.

Jonathan Cogan, for EIA, Washington