

Summer gasoline price forecast slightly higher, but drivers still pay less than last year

Rising crude oil prices are likely to be passed on to consumers at the pump, but U.S. drivers are still expected to pay the lowest summer gasoline prices since 2004, and for all of 2016 the average household will spend \$900 less on gasoline than it did two years ago."

In its new monthly forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said the retail price for regular grade gasoline will average \$2.21 per gallon this summer. While that's 17 cents higher than forecast last month it's 42 cents lower than the price last summer.

Rising crude oil prices which are up about 70% since hitting a 13-year low in February along with record high summer gasoline demand are behind the jump at the pump. The price of crude oil currently makes up almost half the cost of a gallon of gasoline.

EIA expects the average monthly price for gasoline will peak at \$2.28 per gallon in June and then to fall to \$2.12 at the end of the summer driving season in September.

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