

California Energy Price Data for August 2022

Below are the monthly updates from the most current August 2022 fuel price data (GasBuddy.com) and June 2022 electricity and natural gas price data (US Energy Information Administration). To view additional data and analysis related to the California economy, visit our website at www.centerforjobs.org/ca.

Fuel prices continued dropping in August from their previous highs, but California regulations sealing off the state from the broader global market supplies again resulted in somewhat lower drops compared to the rest of the US. Prices have since risen at a more moderate pace. In the latest price data from [CSAA](#), regular gasoline rose to an average of \$5.67 a gallon on Labor Day, compared to \$3.79 for the US and \$3.27 in Arkansas, the lowest price state.

Electricity costs continued their rise in June, with residential rates (12-month moving average) again the highest among the contiguous states and the average household electricity bill moving from 21st to 20th highest among the states and DC. California households and employers paid an additional \$24.2 billion compared to the average rate for the rest of the US as the result of California's energy policies, and \$31.1 billion compared to electricity rates in the lowest cost state.

Inflation Rising to Highest Since 1982

8.3%

Annual Increase in
California CPI

For the 12 months ending June, the California CPI rose 8.3%, up from 7.9% in May. In the same period, the US CPI rose 9.1%, edging down to 8.5% in July. **The California inflation rate was the highest since June 1982.**

California vs. Rest of US Fuel Price Gap at 40.4% Premium

\$1.53

Price Per Gallon
Above Average for Rest of
US (CA Average)

The August average price per gallon of regular gasoline in California eased 50 cents from July to \$5.33. The California premium above the average for the US other than California (\$3.80) edged up to \$1.53, a 40.4% difference.

2nd

Ranked by Price

In August, California narrowly fell behind Hawaii (\$5.35) for the highest gasoline price among the states and DC. Californians paid \$1.97 a gallon more than consumers in Georgia, the state with the lowest price.

California vs. US Diesel Price

\$1.31

Price Per Gallon
Above Average for Rest of
US (CA Average)

The August average price per gallon of diesel in California eased 35 cents from July to \$6.27. The California premium above the average for the US other than California (\$4.96) rose to \$1.31 cents, a 26.4% difference.

1st

Ranked by Price

In August, California again had the highest diesel price among the states and DC.

Range Between Highest and Lowest Prices by Region

\$1.78

Price Per Gallon
Above Average for Rest of
US (CA Average)

The cost premium above the US (other than California) average price for regular gasoline ranged from \$1.42 in the Sacramento Region (average August price of \$5.22), to \$1.78 in Central Coast Region (average August price of \$5.58).

Highest/Lowest Fuel Prices by Legislative District

August 2022: Average Price (\$ per gallon) of Regular Gasoline	
Legislator	Highest \$ Per Gallon
CD 24 (Carbajal-D)	\$5.59
CD 02 (Huffman-D)	\$5.59
CD 33 (Lieu-D)	\$5.55
CD 12 (Pelosi-D)	\$5.54
CD 28 (Schiff-D)	\$5.53
SD 17 (Laird-D)	\$5.57
SD 26 (Allen-D)	\$5.56
SD 02 (McGuire-D)	\$5.53
SD 11 (Wiener-D)	\$5.51
SD 13 (Becker-D)	\$5.48
AD 35 (Cunningham-R)	\$5.68
AD 50 (Bloom-D)	\$5.67
AD 02 (Wood-D)	\$5.64
AD 17 (Haney-D)	\$5.59
AD 29 (Stone-D)	\$5.55

August 2022: Average Price (\$ per gallon) of Regular Gasoline	
Legislator	Lowest \$ Per Gallon
CD 35 (Torres-D)	\$5.18
CD 39 (Kim-R)	\$5.17
CD 10 (Harder-D)	\$5.17
CD 06 (Matsui-D)	\$5.16
CD 07 (Bera-D)	\$5.15
SD 05 (Talamantes Eggman-D)	\$5.20
SD 20 (Leyva-D)	\$5.18
SD 06 (Pan – D)	\$5.16
SD 29 (Newman-D)	\$5.15
SD 04 (Nielsen – R)	\$5.14
AD 56 (Garcia-D)	\$5.14
AD 42 (Mayes-I)	\$5.13
AD 08 (Cooley – D)	\$5.13
AD 65 (Quirk-Silva-D)	\$5.12
AD 03 (Gallagher – R)	\$5.12

California Residential Electricity Price

80.9%

Above Average for
Rest of US

California average Residential Price for the 12 months ended June 2022 was 24.41 cents/kWh, 80.9% higher than the US average of 13.49 cents/kWh for all states other than California. California's residential prices again were the highest among the contiguous states.

California Residential Electric Bill

20th

Ranked by Cost

For the 12 months ended June 2022, the average annual Residential electricity bill in California was \$1,583, or 59.3% higher (\$589) than the comparable bill in 2010 (the year the AB 32 implementation began with the Early Action items). In this same period, the average US (less CA) electricity bill for all the other states grew only 12.8% (\$175).

In 2010, California had the 9th lowest residential electricity bill in the nation. In the latest data, it had the 20th highest.

Residential bills, however, vary widely by region, with the estimated annual household usage in the recent released data for 2020 as much as 78% higher in the interior regions compared to the milder climate coastal areas, and substantially higher when comparing across counties.

\$9.8b

Premium Above
Average for Rest of
US Price

For the 12 months ended June 2022, California's higher electricity prices translated into Residential ratepayers paying \$9.8 billion more than the average ratepayers elsewhere in the US using the same amount of energy.

California Commercial Electricity Price

84.5%

Above Average for
Rest of US

California average Commercial Price for the 12 months ended June 2022 was 20.13 cents/kWh, 84.5% higher than the US average of 10.91 cents/kWh for all states other than California. California's commercial prices again were the highest among the contiguous states.

California Industrial Electricity Price

119.0%

Above Average for
Rest of US

California average Industrial Price for the 12 months ended June 2022 was 15.94 cents/kWh, 119.9% higher than the US average of 7.25 cents/kWh for all states other than California. California's industrial prices again were the 3rd highest among the contiguous states.

\$14.5b

Premium Above Average
for Rest of US Price

For the 12 months ended June 2022, California's higher electricity prices translated into Commercial & Industrial ratepayers paying \$14.5 billion more than ratepayers elsewhere in the US using the same amount of energy. Compared to the lowest rate states, Commercial & Industrial ratepayers paid \$18.3 billion more.

California Natural Gas Prices

Average prices (\$ per thousand cubic feet, 12-month moving average) for the 12 months ended June 2022 and changes from the previous 12-month period for each end user. In June, California was again the 6th highest among the contiguous states for commercial rates and eased to 6th highest for residential rates. Industrial rates rose from 3rd to 2nd highest.

	<i>Residential</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Industrial</i>
CA, June 2022	\$18.65	\$13.79	\$11.52
CA, June 2021	\$14.95	\$10.58	\$8.20
Change	24.7%	30.3%	40.5%
Rest of US, June 2022	\$13.45	\$8.36	\$6.34
Rest of US, June 2021	\$10.00	\$7.11	\$3.82
Change	34.5%	17.6%	66.0%
CA premium over Rest of US, June 2022	38.7%	65.0%	81.7%
CA premium over Rest of US, June 2021	49.5%	48.8%	114.7%