

California Energy Price Data for July 2023

Below are the monthly updates from the most current July 2023 fuel price data (GasBuddy.com) and May 2023 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.

The additional costs under California policies, regulations, taxes, and fee add-ons continue to keep prices at the highest or near the highest among the contiguous states and DC across all energy sources.

Energy Price (12-month moving average)	Rank Among Contiguous States/DC	
	Current Month	Previous Month
Residential Electricity Rate	4th	4th
Average Residential Electricity Bill	13th	13th
Commercial Electricity Rate	1st	1st
Industrial Electricity Rate	3rd	3rd
Residential Natural Gas Rate	4th	4th
Commercial Natural Gas Rate	5th	4th
Industrial Natural Gas Rate	4th	3rd
Gasoline	2nd	2nd
Diesel	1st	1st

Fuel ranking based on monthly average; all others based on moving 12-month average

As the result of heat-related refinery issues and rising world oil prices, gasoline prices are currently trending up across the nation. The average gasoline price in July edged up 6 cents in California and marginally higher at 8 cents in the rest of the US. In the latest data from CSAA as of August 7, prices have risen nationally by 19 cents and by 14 cents in California. The price increases, however, have begun to slow in part due to easing demand.

Inflation Rate Eases

3.7%

Annual Increase in
California CPI

For the 12 months ending May, the California CPI rose 3.7%, easing from 4.2% in April. In the same period, the US CPI rose 4.0%, down from 4.9% in April.

California vs. Rest of US Fuel Price Gap at 39.2% Premium

\$1.39

Price Per Gallon
Above US Average
(CA Average)

The July average price per gallon of regular gasoline in California rose 6 cents from June to \$4.93. As prices in the other states rose slightly higher by 8 cents, the California premium above the average for the US other than California (\$3.54) notched down to \$1.39, a 39.2% difference.

2nd

Ranked by
Price

In July, California had the 2nd highest gasoline price among the contiguous states and DC, with Washington 2 cents a gallon higher. While previous refinery and pipeline issues affected supplies in Washington, the higher cost of that state's [carbon pricing system](#) is now keeping gasoline prices just above California's. Californians paid \$1.83 a gallon more than consumers in Mississippi, the state with the lowest price.

California vs. Rest of US Diesel Price

\$1.34

Price Per Gallon
Above US Average
(CA Average)

The July average price per gallon of diesel in California rose 13 cents from June to \$5.18. The California premium above the average for the US other than California (\$3.84) rose to \$1.34, a 34.8% difference.

1st

Ranked by
Price

In July, California had the highest diesel price among the contiguous states and DC.

Range Between Highest and Lowest Prices by Region

\$1.53

Price Per Gallon
Above US Average
(Central Sierra Region)

The cost premium above the US (other than California) average price for regular gasoline ranged from \$1.28 in the Central Valley Region (average July price of \$4.82), to \$1.53 in Central Sierra Region (average July price of \$5.07).

Highest/Lowest Fuel Prices by Legislative District:

July 2023: Average Price (\$ per gallon) of Regular Gasoline	
Legislator	Highest \$ Per Gallon
CD30 Schiff (D)	\$5.15
CD02 Huffman (D)	\$5.13
CD50 Peters (D)	\$5.08
CD36 Lieu (D)	\$5.08
CD32 Sherman (D)	\$5.07
SD24 Allen (D)	\$5.12
SD39 Atkins (D)	\$5.11
SD02 McGuire (D)	\$5.10
SD25 Portantino (D)	\$5.08
SD26 Durazo (D)	\$5.06
AD02 Wood (D)	\$5.18
AD51 Zbur (D)	\$5.16
AD44 Friedman (D)	\$5.15
AD77 Boerner Horvath (D)	\$5.14
AD30 Addis (D)	\$5.12

July 2023: Average Price (\$ per gallon) of Regular Gasoline	
Legislator	Lowest \$ Per Gallon
CD13 Duarte (R)	\$4.80
CD07 Matsui (D)	\$4.79
CD01 LaMalfa (R)	\$4.78
CD06 Bera (D)	\$4.77
CD09 Harder (D)	\$4.73
SD14 Caballero (D)	\$4.84
SD16 Hurtado (D)	\$4.83
SD06 Niello (R)	\$4.80
SD08 Ashby (D)	\$4.77
SD05 Eggman (D)	\$4.72
AD07 Hoover (R)	\$4.75
AD10 Nguyen (D)	\$4.73
AD22 Alanis (R)	\$4.71
AD13 Villapudua (D)	\$4.69
AD03 Gallagher (R)	\$4.69

California Residential Electricity Price

79.8%

Above Average for
Rest of US

California average Residential Price for the 12 months ended May 2023 was 26.99 cents/kWh, 79.8% higher than the US average of 15.01 cents/kWh for all states other than California. California's residential prices were the 4th highest among the contiguous states and DC.

California Residential Electric Bill

13th

Ranked by Cost

For the 12 months ended May 2023, the average annual Residential electricity bill in California was \$1,752, or 76.3% higher (\$758) 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 21.4% (\$292).

In 2010, California had the 9th lowest residential electricity bill among the contiguous states and DC. In the latest data, it had the 13th highest.

Residential bills, however, vary widely by region, with the estimated annual household usage in the recent released data for 2021 as much as 78% higher in the interior regions compared to the milder climate coastal areas, and substantially higher when comparing across counties.

\$10.8b

Premium Above
US Average Price

For the 12 months ended May 2023, California's higher electricity prices translated into Residential ratepayers paying \$10.8 billion more than the average ratepayers elsewhere in the US using the same amount of energy. Compared to the lowest cost state, California households paid \$14.9 billion more.

California Commercial Electricity Price

87.6%

Above Average for
Rest of US

California average Commercial Price for the 12 months ended May 2023 was 22.44 cents/kWh, 87.6% higher than the US average of 11.96 cents/kWh for all states other than California. California's commercial prices were the highest among the contiguous states and DC.

California Industrial Electricity Price

122.8%

Above Average for
Rest of US

California average Industrial Price for the 12 months ended May 2023 was 18.07 cents/kWh, 122.8% higher than the US average of 8.11 cents/kWh for all states other than California. California's industrial prices were the 3rd highest among the contiguous states and DC.

\$16.4b

Premium Above
US Average Price

For the 12 months ended May 2023, California's higher electricity prices translated into Commercial & Industrial ratepayers paying \$16.4 billion more than ratepayers elsewhere in the US using the same amount of energy. Compared to the lowest rate states, Commercial & Industrial ratepayers paid \$21.2 billion more.

California Natural Gas Prices

Average prices (\$ per thousand cubic feet; 12-month moving average) for the 12 months ended May 2023 and changes from the previous 12-month period for each end user:

	<i>Residential</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Industrial</i>
CA, May 2023	\$21.30	\$16.82	\$15.75
CA, May 2022	\$18.29	\$13.80	\$11.84
Change	16.5%	21.9%	33.0%
Rest of US, May 2023	\$15.43	\$10.01	\$8.31
Rest of US, May 2022	\$13.31	\$9.96	\$7.20
Change	15.9%	0.5%	15.4%
CA premium over Rest of US, May 2023	38.0%	68.0%	89.5%
CA premium over Rest of US, May 2022	37.4%	38.6%	64.4%