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# STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 109 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001

February 17, 2017

Madeline Prebil The Lenzner Firm, P.C. 815 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20006 Via US Mail & email

Re: Public Records Request—Gasoline Prices

Dear Ms. Prebil:

This letter is in response to your public records request dated January 19, 2017, which was received by our office on January 24. You requested all communications between our office and the Federal Trade Commission and the Office of Senator Bernie Sanders—and all consumer complaints we have received—that were regarding gasoline prices in Chittenden, Grand Isle, and Franklin Counties. Following phone and email exchanges between Christopher Curtis, Ilana Frier, and yourself, the timeframe of the request was revised to October 1, 2013, to present.

Enclosed, please find email communications between members of our office and members of Senator Bernie Sanders's office that are responsive to your request. Additionally, please find one outlook calendar item responsive to your request with regard to the FTC.

We found no other documents or communications, including consumer complaints, responsive to your request.

Note that these items were discovered by searching the records of front office personnel, as well as Public Protection Division personnel known to have worked in this subject area, including many who are no longer with this office.

#### **FEES**

Pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 316(d), the following breaks down the fees owed to cover the costs of this office's response to your public records request:

Staff Time (Program Technician -	\$.00 per minute	0.5 hours	\$0.00
first half hour)	<b>,</b>		
Staff Time (Program Technician)	\$.44 per minute	3.0 hours	\$79.20
TOTAL	- -	3.5 hours	\$79.20

Please make out a check payable to "State of Vermont", and send it to the following address:

Re: Public Records Fee – Gas Prices Vermont Attorney General's Office Attn: Diane Ford, Business Manager 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609-1001

Sincerely,

Rowan Cornell-Brown Program Technician From: Sent: Taylor, Christopher T. <CTAYLOR@ftc.gov> Wednesday, March 04, 2015 11:57 AM

To:

Abrams, Jill

Subject:

Accepted: Gas Prices-Tel. w/ John Platt and Chris Taylor from FTC

From:

Morgan, Wendy

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 8:42 AM

To:

'McLean, Daniel (Sanders)'

Cc:

'Maria Royle';'Nelson, Jenny (Sanders)'

Subject:

RE: Effect of fuel costs on farmers

You know, it almost doesn't matter what it is about farmers and cost of gasoline as long as it is accurate (Maria, correct me if you feel otherwise) -- could be national, could be some research or a report -- she just needs something to connect problem to agriculture -- maybe it is the number of acres in farming in the 4 NW counties -- do we know if they buy gas locally? Ie not delivered to farm?

----Original Message----

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel\_McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 5:23 PM

To: Morgan, Wendy

Cc: Maria Royle; Nelson, Jenny (Sanders) Subject: RE: Effect of fuel costs on farmers

Nothing with statewide data that I saw regarding gasoline. I have one more idea. Jenny, please feel free to correct me if I'm wrong.

----Original Message----

From: Morgan, Wendy [mailto:wendy.morgan@state.vt.us]

Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 4:43 PM

To: McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Cc: Maria Royle; Nelson, Jenny (Sanders) Subject: RE: Effect of fuel costs on farmers

Did anything come of this? We have a little breathing room here with the legislature gone next week, but I'm sure Maria would welcome any information Jenny might be able to unearth -- thanks, Wendy

Wendy Morgan, Chief **Public Protection Division** Office of the Vermont Attorney General 109 State Street Montpelier VT 05609-1001 (802) 828-5586

Please note my email has changed to: wendy.morgan@state.vt.us

----Original Message----

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 1:19 PM

To: Morgan, Wendy

Cc: Maria Royle; Nelson, Jenny (Sanders) Subject: RE: Effect of fuel costs on farmers

Vt. Dept. of Ag. may have that. Jenny Nelson from our office is reaching out to them.

----Original Message----

From: Morgan, Wendy [mailto:wendy.morgan@state.vt.us]

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 1:07 PM

To: McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Cc: Maria Royle

Subject: RE: Effect of fuel costs on farmers

Right -- that is our problem too -- we were just hoping you'd have better resources

----Original Message----

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel\_McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 12:53 PM

To: Morgan, Wendy Cc: Maria Royle

Subject: RE: Effect of fuel costs on farmers

I will see what I can get you. I don't immediately have any data on how much fuel Vermont farmers use. So it's hard to estimate the financial impact of the higher gas prices.

----Original Message----

From: Morgan, Wendy [mailto:wendy.morgan@state.vt.us]

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 10:41 AM

To: McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Cc: Maria Royle

Subject: Re: Effect of fuel costs on farmers

I'll let Maria answer specifically but she may be in committee now. Generally things are moving quickly right now so I'm sure anything you can do will be appreciated. Even if pieces come in over time.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 20, 2015, at 10:36 AM, "McLean, Daniel (Sanders)" < Daniel\_McLean@sanders.senate.gov> wrote:

- > I can try. When is your deadline?
- > Sent from my iPhone
- >> On Feb 20, 2015, at 10:20 AM, Morgan, Wendy <wendy.morgan@state.vt.us> wrote:

>> Maria is drafting legislation and it would be helpful to have facts re how fuel prices affect farmers. Might you have info you can send to both of us? Thanks Wendy

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

#### **RE: Press Conference on Gasoline Prices**

Frank, Jeff (Sanders) [Jeff\_Frank@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Monday, September 15, 2014 11:17 AM

To: Swanson, MaryKay

Ok - thank you very much,

Jeff

From: Swanson, MaryKay [mailto:marykay.swanson@state.vt.us]

Sent: Monday, September 15, 2014 11:16 AM

**To:** Frank, Jeff (Sanders) **Cc:** Swanson, MaryKay

Subject: Press Conference on Gasoline Prices

Jeff,

I spoke with General Sorrell.

He said that Chris Pearson organized the press conference and would be putting out a press release.

Chris' phone number is 802-860-3933.

I'm sorry I don't have more information to give you.

**Thanks** 

MK

Mary-Kay Swanson Executive Assistant Office of the Attorney General 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609 802-828-3173 From:

McLean, Daniel (Sanders) < Daniel\_McLean@sanders.senate.gov>

Sent:

Thursday, January 22, 2015 11:28 AM

To:

Kriger, Ryan; 'Ben Brockwell'

Cc: Subject: Morgan, Wendy Gas Hearing Packet

**Attachments:** 

Jan22\_15hearing.pdf

This is the packet I'm going to walk the committees through during today's hearing. It includes:

- a Gas Buddy chart, showing the last time Burlington, Vermont and Vermont (statewide average) had a gas price in sync with the national average was in mid-April 2014;
- highlights of the last three weeks of OPIS data;
- today's wholesale "rack" prices at the terminal in Albany, New York and Burlington, Vermont;
- Senate testimony on this subject from OPIS' Ben Brockwell, highlighting the fact that the cost of transporting gasoline adds just a few cents per gallon

From: Kriger, Ryan [mailto:ryan.kriger@state.vt.us] Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 1:13 PM

To: McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Cc: Morgan, Wendy

Subject: RE: does 345 work?

It does, will you call us or do we need a dial-in?

#### Ryan G. Kriger

Assistant Attorney General Vermont Office of the Attorney General **Public Protection Division** 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609-1001 ph: (802) 828-3170 ryan.kriger@state.vt.us

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:24 PM

To: Kriger, Ryan; Kriger, Ryan Subject: does 345 work?

Importance: High

See below. If so, what number should I call. I will connect you and Brockwell for the conf. call.

From: Ben Brockwell [mailto:bbrockwell@opisnet.com]

Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:16 PM

**To:** McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Subject: RE: 3:15 p.m. prep call for gas hearing; do you have 5 minutes?

Importance: High

Dan – we have a crude webinar from 2 pm to 3:30 pm so if this could happen at 3:45 to 4 pm that would be better.

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:13 PM

**To:** Ben Brockwell **Cc:** Ryan Kriger

Subject: 3:15 p.m. prep call for gas hearing; do you have 5 minutes?

Ben: Do you have 5 minutes or so by phone to touch base with Ryan Kriger from the Vermont Attorney General's office. This in preparation for the gas hearing tomorrow. The AG's office had a quick thought or two to run by you.

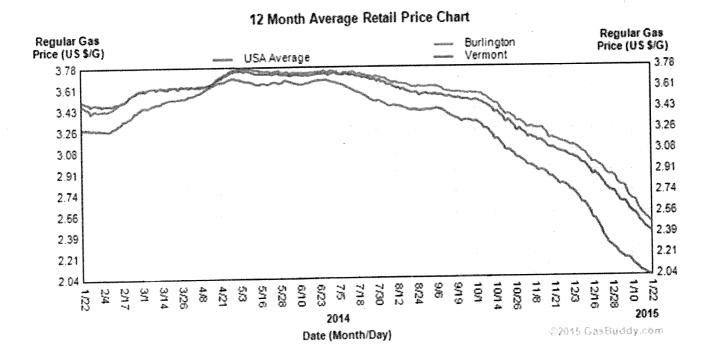
We were planning to speak by phone at 3:15 p.m. I can tweak that time if another time this afternoon works better. .. Dan

Daniel McLean Senior Press Advisor Office of U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders

daniel mclean@sanders.senate.gov (802) 862-0697 office phone (802) 222-7330 cell phone

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Volume 14 \* Issue 1

The Oil Industry's Benchmark For Retail Gasoline And Diesel Prices & Profits

# Price War, Pump Margins Top 2014 News

The crude oil price war between OPEC and U.S. shale producers that has chopped prices in half in the second half of 2014, along with robust retail gasoline margins stand out as two important stories in 2014. One might also add the top dollars being commanded by retail stations, oil terminals, and other assets being sold and rolled into Master Limited Partnerships, a trend that will likely continue in 2015.

Behind all of this are structural changes in the fuel slates – the use of alternative fuels – obligating station owners to amend their product offerings to keep abreast of shifting demand, highlighted by efforts to expand ethanol content in gasoline, expand CNG offerings, or make way for more diesel consumption.

The year ends with wholesale gasoline and diesel bulk prices that are unrecognizable from a year ago. Midwest bulk gasoline prices, for example, are at 70-month lows and at \$1.11/gal is a third of the price commanded

during the summer when numbers reached \$3.50/gal.

Retail gasoline prices on a national basis are within 27cts/gal of hitting the \$2/gal mark with prices more than a dollar per gallon cheaper than a year ago. Not one person predicted prices to be this low in 2014. Ironically, no one is predicting 2015 prices to reach the heights seen in 2014 either.

For the year, retail prices in the country dipped about \$1.03/gal, which falls short of the \$1.45/gal plunge in 2008 from January through December.

Nearly a quarter of all the gasoline stations in America currently show retail prices under \$2/gal, according to GasBuddy's weekly GasFacts.

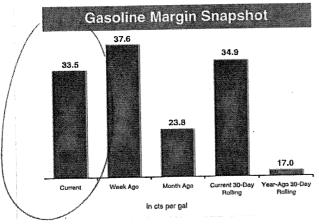
#### Sheetz to Break 500 Mark for Number of Retail Fuel Stores in 2015

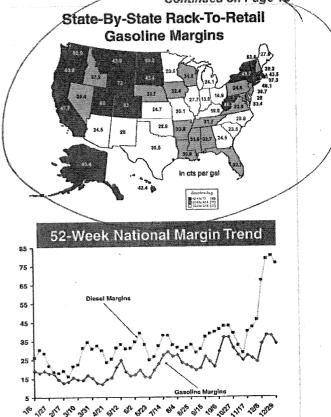
Mid-Atlantic fuel retailer and convenience store operator Sheetz is aiming to break the 500 mark for Continued on Page 12

12-Week National Fuel Price Trend

		G	ASOL	INE		DIESEL						
Date	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	%Profit	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	% Profit		
10/13	322.5	272.1	235.1	37.0	11.5%	368.9	312.3	269.4	43.9	11.6%		
10/20	313.1	262.9	225.9	36.9	11.8%	364.6	308.0	265.0	43.0	11.8%		
10/27	306.0	255.8	224.7	31.2	10.2%	361.9	365.3	266.3	39.0	10.8%		
11/3	299.6	249.4	221.9	27.5	9.2%	359.9	303.3	. 270.9	32.5	9.0%		
11/10	294.1	244.0	219.3	24.7	8,4%	361.9	305.2	276.7	28.5	7.9%		
11/17	290.1	240.1	212.9	27.2	9.4%	363.2	306.5	266.5	40.0	11.0%		
11/24	283.2	233.2	207.4	25.8	9.1%	359.9	303.2	261.0	42.3	11.8%		
12/1	278.3	228.3	204.4	23.9	8.6%	357.3	300.7	254.5	46.2	12.9%		
12/8	269.6	219.9	186.2	33.6	12.5%	351.8	295.4	228.2	67.2	19.1%		
12/15	257.9	208.3	(70.2	38.1	14.8%	342.7	286.4	207.6	78.8	23.0%		
12/21	243.2	193.8	156.2	37.6	15.5%	330.1	274.0	193.7	80.3	24.3%		
12/29	230.7	181.4	147.9	33.5	14.5%	319.6	263.7	187.2	76.5	23.9%		

Retail = average retail price; Net = retail price less state, federal and locel taxes and 1.5 cts/gal for freight; Rack = wholesale cost; Margin = difference between net and rack





OPIS For more information about OPIS retail products and services, visit http://www.opisnet.com/retail-fuel-prices.aspx

#### OPIS State-By-State Pricing Trends -

			GAS	OLINE	1 機工業		3.500		Di	SEL		
					Monthly C	hange-	138	5.45			Monthly	
ST	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Retail	Rack	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Retail	Rack
AK	311.2	283.0	239.6	43.4	-40.1	-44.5	351.8	317.6	284.5	33.1	-29.6	-40.E
AL	218.8	177.2	144.5	32.7	-42.5	-52.9	311.9	262.4	176.7	85.7	-25.5	-62.2
AR	218.3	176.4	142.5	33.8	-44.1	-56.2	299.5	250.6	181.8	68.8	-43.9	-71.6
AZ	221.4	182.3	157.8	24.5	-50.4	-53.7	309.2	256.2	187.8	68.3	-47.7	-91.6
CA	268.1	204.2	156.5	47.7	-39.3	-53.4	327.4	260.1	186.5	73.6	-41.8	-54.9
CO	223.6	180.3	127.3	53.0	-60.3	-67.7	321.4	273.6	178.1	95.5	-43.3	-93.2
CT	271.3	211.7	163.6	48.1	-41.2	-53.3	352.0	271.4	204.8	66.6	-24.1	-45.
DE	247.6	202.0	174.1	28.0	-34.7	-47.6	300.6	248.1	201.7	46.5	-32.4	-45.
FL	240.4	184.7	152.0	32.7	-38.6	-57.9	318.3	258.8	195.6	63.2	-29.0	-58.
GA	228.8	178.9	154.3	24.5	-42.3	-55.1	313.1	254.7	182.3	72.4	-31.4	-59.
HI	353.8	288.4	246.0	42.4	-34.4	-46.1	470.2	394.6	300.3	94.4	-9.4	-39.
IA	211.3	169.2	136.8	32.4	-66.0	-58.0	301.0	251.4	184.5	66.9	-65.0	-77.
ID	227.2	181.1	143.2	37.9	-76.0	-54.5	328.2	276.1	183.0	93.1	-41.3	-100
IL	228.1	168.3	140.5	27.7	-59.5	-64.8	337.5	261.8	182.1	79.7	-40.3	-79.
IN	206.2	150.1	136.3	13.8	-75.0	-71.9	332.3	268.6	189.6	79.0	-47.9	-90.
KS	204.5	159.4	134.7	24.7	-60.7	-56.3	298.5	245.4	181.6	63.8	-66.8	-74.
KY	214.1	162.1	143.3	18.8	-62.6	-59.7	331.0	276.0	182.9	93.1	-32.9	-95.
LA	216.3	175.3	135.5	39.8	-44.5	-58.5	303.2	256.2	168.2	88.0	-34.1	-64.
MA	253.7	207.1	163.7	43.5	-37.6	-56.3	325.5	272.9	204.4	68.5	-26.5	-46.
MD	247.6	199.9	166.6	33.4	-35.3	-48.4	309.4	255.0	196.6	58.4	-31.5	-47.
ME	249.7	198.2	170.7	27.5	-42.5	-52.9	333.2	275.3	221.8	53.5	-19.4	-36.
MI	207.6	159.0	134.9	24.1	-81.9	-75.0	338.6	278.4	181.9	96.5	-56.7	-105
MN	217.9	169.2	139.7	29.5	-50.6	-54.3	335.4	280.7	197.8	82.9	-57.2	-82.
мо	196.0	158.6	138.4	20.1	-55.9	-58.7	293.0	249.7	182.4	67.2	-59.2	<b>-7</b> 5.
MS	212.8	174.0	142.4	31.6	-42.3	-55.7	298.5	253.9	174.5	79.3	-33.3	-61.
МТ	229.2	181.3	137.4	43.9	-62.8	-69.4	308.0	253.4	188.3	65.2	-62.3	<b>-9</b> 5.
NC	236.4	179.6	150.8	28.8	-36.9	<del>-4</del> 9.2	320.3	257.4	191.3	66.1	-23.5	-51.
ND	241.3	198.2	139.0	59.2	-48.5	-61.1	360.5	311.4	191.9	119.5	-53.9	-88.
NE	221.9	174.5	134.8	39.7	-63.2	-59.4	315.4	262.6	184.8	77.9	-57.6	-78
NH	247.4	203.5	164.3	39.2	-38.5	-56.0	315.5	265.6	208.0	57.7	-24.6	-44.
NJ	234.0	199.4	160.6	38.7	-37.2	-54.2	299.2	255.5	201.2	54.3	-26.6	-45
NM	214.9	175.9	147.9	28.0	-46.6	-50.5	309.5	260.6	197.5	63.0	-46.5	-80
NV	252.7	191.3	155.9	35.4	-46.0	-57.7	318.3	257.9	188.6	69.3	-46.5	-72
NY	282.6	216.5	166.7	49.7	-35.5	-52.8	360.0	286.6	205.4	81.2	-19.4	-46
ОН	206.6	157.6	140.7	16.9	-73.6	-70.6	336.6	281.3	186.1	95.2	-40.2	-87
OK	199.9	162.8	134.0	28.8	-58.5	-56.8	281.7	241.6	180.1	61.5	-64.6	-74
OR	256.7	205.6	151.8	53.8	-46.2	-58.7	310.5	254.0	187.3	66.7	-49.4	-58
PA	260.3	198.4	163.8	34.6	-35.5	-56.3	340.3	263.2	202.2	61.0	-24.3	-54
RI	255.0	201.8	164.5	37.3	-40.1	-57.1	321.2	261.9	201.4	60.6	-29.5	-48
sc	214.1	177.3	153.8	23.5	-41.2	-50.8	306.5	263.7	190.3	73.4	-25.6	-55
SD	222.1	178.0	135.6	42.4	-56.4	-58.4	312.6	262.5	191.1	71.5	-70.2	-79
TN	214.9	173.4	141.7	31.7	-43.6	-57.6	309.3	264.8	176.8	87.9	-32.2	-79 -72
TX	207.6	167.3	136.9	30.5	-49.8	-58.3	305.9	259.6	177.3	82.4	-33.9	-72
UT	239.1	194.0	134.0	60.0	-58.7	-58.6	326.1	275.0	169.6	105.4	-38.2 -37.5	-112 -56
VA	221.9	189.2	155.3	33.9	-41.4	-50.8	310.5	262.4	186.3	76.1	-27.5	-56
VT	275.1	222.2	168.6	53.6	(30.4)	(-50.8)	343.2	285.1	212.6	72.5	-16.6	-43
WA	259.1	199.6	146.8	52.8	-48.6	-62.4	325.5	259.5	189.7	69.8	-44.4	-61 -03
WI	229.3	176.4	141.5	34.8	-52.5	-60.2	322.6	263.6	184.6	79.0	-62.9	-93
w	249.0	193.2	147.0	46.2	-41.6	-63.2	349.1	287.3	187.3	100.0	-26.6	-84
WY	248.1	204.0	131.0	73.0	-52.6	-75.2	339.9	289.8	200.1	89.7	-37.3	<u>-96</u>

Current retail average based on reconciled credit card transactions received by OPIS from the 7-day period between the previous Tuesday through the most recent Monday. Due to the way credit card receipts are reconciled, a few additional transactions may be received for the dates that already comprise the current weekly average. Minor fluctuations in the actual average may occur as a result. Rack averages are based on the daily OPIS average for the individual stations during the time period for the appropriate product sold at the station. Branded stations are matched to the appropriate suppliers at the closest rack. If we are unable to match a brand to a supplier we use the branded average price from the closest rack. All prices are for regular unleaded gasoline or diesel only and are in cts per gal.

Retail Fuel Watch is published weekly by UCG, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Blvd., Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7364. UCG chief executive officers: Bruce Levenson, Ed Peskowitz. © 2015. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. Circulation Office: 301-287-2525 Fax: 301-287-2039 Editorial: 800-275-0950 Staff: Brian Crotty, Ben Brockwell, Fred Rozell and Stephanie Newton. Postmaster: Send address changes to OPIS Retail Fuel Watch, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Blvd., Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7364.



Most Raik	Profitable Metros To Sell Metro	& Supply G	asoline Net	(Curren <sub>Rack</sub>	t Week) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rack Change
1	Casper WY	253.8	209.7	128.5	81.2	-42.8	-70.7
2	Washington (DC Only)	271.0	227.4	157.8	69.6	-32.4	-47.8
3	Rapid City SD	240.1	196.0	127.1	68.9	-56.4	-68.7
4	Bismarck ND	255,7	212.5	143.8	68.8	-37.1	-56.3
5	Burlington VT	288.0	235.1	169.2	65.9	<-26.6>	-50.6
6	San Francisco CA	285.3	219.6	155.1	64.5	-38.5	-52.1
7	San Luis Obispo CA	285.1	221.7	157.2	64.5	-35.1	-53.5
8	Seattle-Bellevue-Everett WA	272.0	212.4	148.5	63.9	-41.7	-59.7
9	Greeley CO	231.4	188.1	124.7	63.4	-58.3	-68.7
10	Salt Lake City-Ogden UT	237.1	192.0	133.1	59.0	-54.5	-56.8

24-4

ast Rank	Profitable Metros To Sell	& Supply G	asoline Nei	(Curren Rack	t Week) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rac Change
1	Lubbock TX	191.7	151.4	152.3	-0.8	-53.1	-48.8
2	Savannah GA	225.6	175.2	175.1	0.1	-45.0	-45.4
3	Lafayette IN	191.6	135.5	134.4	1.2	-88.2	-78.2
4	Albany GA	203.5	153.2	145.3	7.9	-51.0	-54.5
5	El Paso TX	204.4	164.2	155.5	8.7	-47.5	-43.4
6	Louisville KY (KY Only)	213.0	161.0	152.2	8.8	-63.6	-51.5
7	Grand Rapids-Muskegon MI	194.7	147.9	138.9	9.0	-96.0	-76.7
8	Columbus OH	199.0	150.0	140.9	9.0	-80.1	-70.0
9	Phoenix-Mesa AZ	209.8	170.8	161.4	9.3	-54.5	-51.6
10	Muncie IN	199.4	143.4	133.8	9.6	-76.9	-72.6

	Profitable Metros To Sel	I & Supply D	esel (C) Net	urrent M Rack	leek) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rack Change
1	Washington (DC Only)	343.3	293.7	181.4	112.2	-22.8	-59.4
2	Louisville KY (KY Only)	347.3	292.3	182.2	110.2	-19.8	-96.5
3	Cincinnati OH (OH Only)	349.7	294.4	184.7	109.6	-27.4	-93.3
4	Greeley CO	329.9	282.1	174.4	107.7	-35.9	-93.2
5	Salt Lake City-Ogden UT	324.9	273.8	166.9	106.9	-37.1	-115.9
6	Jackson MI	346.9	286.2	180.4	105.8	-53.4	-103.0
7	San Francisco CA	361.4	289.3	183.6	105.6	-32.3	-52.9
8	Toledo OH	338.3	283.0	178.5	104.5	-41.5	-101.9
9	Provo-Orem UT	321.8	270.7	166.4	104.3	-32.3	-116.0
10	Ann Arbor MI	344.4	283.9	180.1	103.7	-52.6	-103.6

	t Profitable Metros To Sell	& Supply D	iesel (C Net	urrent V	Veek) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rack Change
Rank		342.4	308.2	280.5	27.7	-29.3	-41.1
2	Anchorage AK Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton NJ	282.5	238.8	202.3	36.6	-33.7	-47.6
3	Fort Wayne IN	296.6	235.3	193.5	41.7	-79.2	-91.2
4	York PA	327.1	250.0	205.2	44.8	-28.3	-42.8
5	Florence AL	282.9	231.7	185.4	46.3	-42.5	-57.2
6	Harrisburg-Lebanon PA	329.7	252.6	204.9	47.7	-24.4	-43.6
7	Lancaster PA	330.6	253.5	205.5	48.0	-23.0	-42.3
8	Fayetteville-Rogers AR	280.2	231.3	183,3	48.0	-66.4	-74.8
9	Des Moines IA	283.9	234.3	184.9	49.4	-69.3	-75.3
10	Augusta-Aiken (SC Only)	281.4	238.6	189.2	49.5	-32.2	-61.4



Current = 7-day period between 12/23/14 and 12/29/14 Week Ago = 7 day period between 12/16/14 and 12/22/14 Month Ago = 7 day period between 11/25/14 and 12/01/14 Net = The retail everage less federal, state and local taxes plus 1.5 cts per gal for freight

Prices Between 12/23/14 and 12/29/14

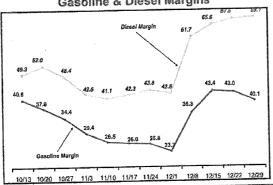
								Brands		Year-Ago 30-Day	Mantish	/ Change-
łonk	Brond	# of Outlets	Retail	Net	Rack	Current Margin	Week-Ago Morgin	Month-Ago Morgin	30-Day Rolling Avg	Rolling Avg	Retail	Rock
ECHA.	Stewarts	247	281.0	216.2	166.5	49.8	52.1	26.7	47.2	11.4	-31.2	-53.2
	Mobil	1,424	270.9	214.7	165.3	49.5	51.8	33.2	48.2	22.3	-38.9	-53.4
Janes grown delay and	Self-Respiration of a contract of any pro-	150	265.3	208.8	161.6	47.3	51.4	30.5	47.9	21.5	-38.3	-53.0
3	Getty Go Mart	104	244.7	189.9	142.9	47.0	50.1	22.8	44.0	17.5	-40.1	-64.2
4	Spinospiera ser a compression and the most	267	250.5	205.4	159.5	46.0	48.7	26.4	44.7	27.7	-34.8	-54.3
5	Lukoil	2,117	254.2	206.6	160.6	46.0	47.3	31.0	44.9	25.5	-38.2	-52.5
6	Shell	2,882	262.1	206.7	161.9	44.8	45.9	25.9	42.6	21.0	-36.0	-54.4
7	Sunoco	1,402	253.2	202.9	158.4	44.5	47.4	28.2	43.9	23.2	-37.5	-53.5
8	BP	43	280.7	214.9	170.8	44.1	44.6	19.6	38.6	11.0	-30.3	-53.6
9	Fastrac	1	284.4	218.2	174.6	43.6	46.0	22.1	40,1	7.2	-34.4	-54.5
10	Tops	56	manganam gama	Annal and the control	164.9	12.0	15.3	2.6	14.9	3.4	-44.0	-52.8
Lowest	Costco Market	50 24,489	223.4 253.9	176.9 202.8	162.7	40.1	42.9	23.3	39.5	18.9	-37.6	-53.8

etic a		#of				Current	Metro Vest App	Month-Ago	20-Day	Year-Ago 30-Day	*-Month	ly Change-
		Cutiels	Reteli	Net	Rack	Margin	Margin	Margin	Rolling Avg	Rolling Avg	Retail	Rack
ank	Warket 100.0-14	108	271.0	227.4	157.8	69.6	69.9	54.3	68.1	42.2	-32.4	-47.8
	Washington (DC Only)	150	288.0	235.1	169.2	65.9	67.1	41.9	62.0	23.0	-26.6	-50,6
	Burlington VI Barnstable-Yarmouth MA	114	267.3	220.7	162.7	57.9	61.4	40.4	57.6	20.0	-39.8	-57.3
-	New York NY	1131	287.1	220.0	163.3	56.7	60.2	41.5	56.8	26.8	-38.7	-52.5
	Rochester NY	410	288.4	222.7	166.6	56.1	57.2	30.0	50.8	15.3	-30.3	-55.3
	Bridgeport CT	289	278.6	219.2	163.2	56.0	60.4	42.6	57.0	27.1	-44.4	-53.0
	Glens Falls NY	68	280.9	217.8	164.1	53.7	55.6	28.2	49.5	16.0	-27.0	-51.8
	Dutchess County NY	130	283.6	217.8	164.8	53.0	54.3	37.1	51.7	23.4	-38.5	-53.0
	A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	71	226.4	194.6	141.9	52.7	52.5	34.6	48.4	26.0	-38.5	-56.6
0	Charlottesville VA Johnson City-Kingsport VA	80	224.3	192.5	141.8	50.7	50.3	30.7	46.7	22.7	-37.9	-57.8

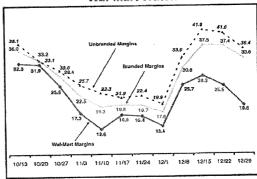
4-244

		8 of	-			Current	Week-Ago	Marke Month-Ago	20-Day	Yesr-Ago 30-Day	-Month	ly Change-
		Outlets	Refail	Net	Rack	Margin	Margin	Margin	Rolling Avg	Rolling Avg	Ratell	Rack
nk	Market	138	245.1	183.2	168.7	14.5	18.7	10.0	19.5	7.2	-47.9	-52.5
	York PA	39	243.3	195.6	176.7	18.9	25.5	6.8	20.9	14.4	-35.4	-47.5
	Wilmington-Newark DE (MD Only)	The second of the second	248.8	186.9	167.0	20.0	25.3	8.6	22.9	14.1	-38.7	-50.0
	Lancaster PA	163			142.5	20.0	18.9	21.6	25.2	12.5	-70.7	-69.1
	Parkersburg-Marietta (WV Only)	48	218.2	162.5	comprise only	20.0	15.5	-15.6	6.9	-21.8	-34.8	-71.1
	Erie PA	107	252.4	190.5	169.8	1	1	10.2	23.8	14.6	-40.9	-52.9
	Harrisburg-Lebanon PA	277	251.2	189.3	167.2	22.2	26.4	And the second second second	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	14.0	-43.1	-52.4
	Bangor ME	134	248.0	196.5	173.8	22.6	25.0	13.3	25.4		-41.6	-50.2
	Flichmond-Petersburg VA	530	214.5	182.7	158.5	24.2	27.6	15.6	26.7	22.5		Access of the State of
	Norfolk-Virginia Beach (VA Only)	605	224.9	193.1	168.3	24.8	26.9	19.0	27.1	23.1	-41.9	-47.7
)	Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton NJ	47	223.3	188.7	163.6	25.0	32.0	18.1	29.5	18.0	-45.5	-52.4

#### 12-Week Northeast Gasoline & Diesel Margins



#### 12-Week Wal-Mart Watch



Northeast Regional Fuel Marketer Profitability Index is published bi-monthly as a supplement to OPIS Retail Fuel Watch by UCG, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Bivd., Suite 200, Gaithers-burg, MD 20878-7364, UCG chief executive officers: Bruce Levenson, Ed Peskowitz. © 2015, Reproduction without permission is prohibited. Circulation Office: 301-287-2525 Fax: 301-287-2039 Editorial: 800-275-0950 Staff. Brian Crotty, Ben Brockwell, Fred Rozell and Stephanie Newton. Postmaster: Send address changes to OPIS Retail Fuel Watch, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Blvd., Suite 200, Galthersburg, MD 20878-7364.

The Oil Industry's Benchmark For Retail Gasoline And Diesel Prices & Profits

# Gasoline Price Descent Magnifies

A look at data over a couple of decades reveals that U.S. gasoline prices typically hit their winter trough during the first week of December. From the winter price trough numbers then begin an gradual ascent rising an average of 50% to reach a typical April peak

Prices for the winter of 2014-2015 are not conforming to this pattern. In fact, the market is already a month past its typical time frame for hitting a bottom. In that month alone (1st week in December until now) gasoline prices have tumbled almost 30% or in excess of 40cts/gal in most markets.

The reasons for the price drop are well documented but the size of the fall has caught most people by surprise. Since June, U.S. crude prices have dropped almost 60% in value. That doesn't match the 77% decline in prices back in 2008 from July to December; nevertheless the price drop is sizeable.

Retail Fuel Watch (RFW) took a look at trend of bulk gasoline prices from now into the spring and summer. Generally, the April/May gasoline market is priced about 20-25cts/gal over current winter numbers with summer prices rising another nickel or so. In most cases though, prices for June, July, and August aren't that much higher than May values.

Historically, prices peak in April then drop into July before rising an average of 25% through September.

The latest Department of Energy numbers don't offer much support to prices hitting a bottom and some experts are suggesting gasoline prices could drop another dime or more.

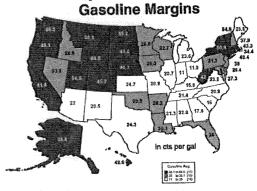
The weekly supply and demand numbers from the Energy Information Administration revealed a combined 19-million barrel build in gasoline and distillate stocks, one of the biggest weekly builds

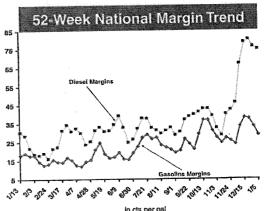
#### 12-Week National Fuel Price Trend

1		G	ASOL	INE		DIESEL						
Date	Refall	Net	Rack	Margin	% Profit	Retail	Net	Rack	Margio	%Profit		
10/20	313.1	267.9	225.9	36.9	11.8%	364.6	308.0	265.0	43.0	11.8%		
	306.0	255.8	224.7	31,2	10.2%	361.9	305.3	266.3	39.0	10.8%		
10/27		249.4	221.9	27.5	9.2%	359.9	303.3	270.9	32.5	9.0%		
11/3	299.6	STATE OF STREET	219.3	24.7	8.4%	361.9	305.2	276.7	28.5	7.9%		
11/10	294.1	244.0		27.2	9.4%	363.2	306.5	266.5	40.0	11.0%		
11/17	290.1	240.1	212.9		9.1%	359.9	303.2	261.0	42.3	11.8%		
11/24	283.2	233.2	207.4	25.8	an analysis agreed to	357.3	300 7	254.5	46.2	12.9%		
12/1	278.3	228.3	204.4	23.9	8.6%	351.8	295.4	228.2	67.2	19.1%		
1248	269.6	219.9	186.2	33.6	12.5%	1	286.4	207.6	78.8	23.0%		
12/15	257.9	208.3	170.2	38.1	14.8%	342.7	and the second second		80.3	24,3%		
12/22	243.2	193.8	156.2	37.6	15.5%	330.1	274.0	193.7		23.9%		
12/29	230.7	181.4	147.9	33.5	14,5%	319.6	263.7	187.2	76.5			
1/5	221.7	172.3	143.4	28.8	13.0%	311.5	255.4	180.4	75.0	24.1%		

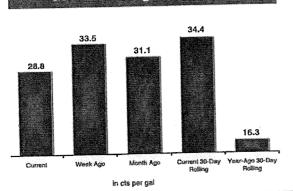
Retail = average retail price; Net = retail price less state, federal end local taxes and 1.5 cts/gal for freight; Rack = wholesale cost; Margin = difference between net and rack

### Continued on Page 12 State-By-State Rack-To-Retail





#### Gasoline Margin Snapshot



OPIS State-By-State Pricing Trends-

	2462		GASI	DLINE	10.00	100			DIE	SEL		
			2.2		Monthly (	Change-	生量 集			13.45	Monthly	
		<b>特别是</b>	Rack	Margin	Retail	Rack	Retall	Net	Rack	Margin	Retail	Rack
ST	Retail	Net	233.4	39.4	-46.5	-41.0	345.9	311.8	278.5	33.3	-32.1	-37.5
AK	301.0	272.8	144.7	22.8	-45.9	-38.5	305.3	255.9	175.7	80.2	-29.6	-45.4
AL	209.1	167.5	139.3	28.2	-45.6	-45.0	292.1	243.2	176.1	67.1	-45.2	-54.2
AR	209.4	167.5 174.1	152.2	22.0	-52.0	-46.5	300.2	247.1	181.1	66.0	-52.9	-73.2
AZ	213.2	200.3	158.5	41.8	-38.2	-39.8	321.9	254.8	186.7	68.1	-42.9	-35.0
CA	264.5	167.6	121.9	45.7	-64.1	-55.9	311.4	263.6	167.6	96.0	-48.9	-77.6
CO	210.9	203.6	155.2	48.4	-44.1	-48.0	345.9	265.3	195.5	69.8	-26.9	-37.5
CT	262.4	194.0	165.6	28.4	-38.4	-43.7	292.8	240.4	191.7	48.7	-35.6	-41.1
DE	239.6 232.5	176.4	150.4	26.0	-41.2	-45.1	310.7	251.1	194.3	56.8	-33.4	-44.0
FL	220.2	171.9	154.3	17.6	-44.3	-41.4	305.7	248.1	181.3	66.8	-35.7	-43.6
GA	348.7	283.5	240.8	42.6	-33.4	-41.6	469.4	393.9	292.7	101.2	-10.2	-37.6
H	203.7	161.6	126.3	35.3	-62.9	-53.7	294.0	244.5	170.7	73.7	-64.0	-59.0
IA	212.9	166.8	137.9	28.9	-79.9	-47.6	315.7	263.6	173.3	90.3	-48.8	-94.4
ID	214.9	156.1	132.4	23.7	-63.4	-57.6	326.7	251.9	170.7	81.2	-46.5	-63.5
I IL	196.0	141.2	130.3	11.0	-73.9	-62.0	321.5	258.5	178.3	80.2	-53.4	-76.9
IN KS	194.4	149.3	124.6	24.7	-61.6	-51.8	289.0	235.8	168.8	67.0	-68.8	-57.0
	210.6	161.6	145.8	15.8	-56.3	-42.1	323.9	271.8	186.8	85.0	-37.3	-71.7
KY	206.4	165.4	135.3	30.1	-47.3	-44.6	295.2	248.2	167.3	80.9	-38.4	-46.8
LA	1	197.9	154.7	43.3	-41.8	-50.4	317.6	265.0	194.6	70.4	-31.5	-39.4
MA	3	189.7	162.4	27.3	-38.6	-38.9	302.9	246.4	190.4	56.0	-34.2	-36.
MD		187.4	161.9	25.5	-48.8	-46.7	325.8	267.8	213.9	53.9	-26.3	-29.9
ME	3	147.0	123.3	23.6	-81.8	-70.9	325.3	265.9	166.2	99.7	-63.6	-94.1
MI		155.2	128.6	26.6	-55.2	-51.5	320.7	266.1	182.7	83.3	-65.5	-66.
MN	3 .	150.4	129.5	20.8	-55.1	-52.4	282.3	238.9	170.2	68.7	-62.7	-59.
MC MS		165.2	143.9	21.3	-44.4	-40.2	293.0	248.3	173.5	74.9	-34.6	-45.
\$100 marks (100 miles)	Name and the state of the state	174.3	136.2	38.1	-63.9	-58.4	299.7	245.1	186.6	58.5	-68.4	-79.
MI	1	172.0	151.3	20.8	-38.2	-35.5	312.8	249.2	189.6	59.6	-28.0	-36.
NC		185.2	127.1	58.2	-53.6	-59.0	347.7	298.6	177.7	120.9	-61.9	-75.
NE	3	165.1	125.0	40.1	-63.6	-53.6	304.9	252.6	172.3	80.3	-60.2	-60.
NE	1	193.2	155.3	37.9	-44.3	-50.1	308.0	258.1	198.3	59.7	-29.7	-38.
NH.	The transfer demand with any property on the	190.2	152.2	38.0	-41.6	-48.7	292.4	248.8	190.9	58.0	-30.0	-39.
N.	1	165.7	140.2	25.5	-50.5	-46.2	299.5	250.5	186.3	64.2	-52.5	-68
NV.	i i	184.5	150.7	33.8	-46.8	-48.7	309.9	249.5	180.0	69.5	-49.1	-55
N/	1	208.8	157.9	50.9	-38.3	-47.8	355.0	282.1	196.2	85.9	-21.9	-39
N,	ŧ	143.7	131.7	11.9	-76.0	-64.0	327.7	272.5	172.8	99.7	-45.4	-78
Ol Ol	and the second property of	154.1	124.8	29.3	-58.5	-51.7	272.8	232.7	167.6	65.1	-64.6	-57
0	1	196.1	147.0	49.1	-51.0	-49.1	302.2	245.7	175.5	70.2	-50.7	-48
O		184.2	153.0	31.3	-38.6	-53.5	335.6	249.6	191.9	57.6	-26.6	-46
P		190.5	156.1	34.4	-46.9	-51.1	311.6	252.4	193.2	59.2	-36.1	-39
R		169.3	153.3	16.0	-43.2	-37.5	300.6	257.7	189.2	68.5	-29.0	-38
S		167.6	126.3	41.2	-57.2	-52.7	304.7	254.6	179.8	74.9	-69.7	-61
S	1	164.3	143.0	21.4	-46.9	-41.2	302.2	257.7	174.2	83.6	-35.5	-61
T	1	159.4	135.1	24.3	-50.0	-44.7	298.0	251.7	172.9	78.9	-38.7	-57
T		180.8	126.3	54.5	-61.4	-51.2	316.4	265.2	156.0		-44.6	-10
U	1	177.4	154.2	23.2	-43.7	-37.4	304.8	256.8	183.5		-30.5	-42
6 V		214.2	159.3	her and the second section is the second sec	<b>√</b> 35.1)	(-45.7)	337.7	279.6	202.8	and the same of the same	-20.5	-36
& V	7 266.6 A 249.3	189.9	143.6		-53.4	-51.6	316.1	250.2	177.3		-49.1	-54
	1	163.0	130.4		-56.8	-55.7	310.3	251.3	169.8		-67.6	-77
		185.1	143.1		-46.1	-52.4	343.0	282.0	183.6		-30.6	-67
	/V 240.1 /Y 235.7	191.7	127.2		-57.7	-62.6	329.1	279.0	195.0	***************************************	-46.2 he most recent	-82

Current retail average based on reconciled credit card transactions received by OPIS from the 7-day period between the previous Tuesday through the most recent Monday. Due to the way credit card receipts are reconciled, a few additional transactions may be received for the dates that already comprise the current weekly average. Minor fluctuations in the actual average may occur as a result. Rack averages are based on the daily OPIS average for the individual stations during the time period for the appropriate product sold at the station. Branded stations are matched to the appropriate suppliers at the closest rack. If we are unable to match a brand to a supplier we use the branded average price from the closest rack. All prices are for regular unleaded gasoline or diesel only and are in cts per gal.

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January 8, 2015

	Profitable Metros To Sell &	Supply Ga	isoline ( Net	(Current Rack	Week) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rack Change
Rank	Casper WY	238.4	194.3	123.9	70.5	-53.6	-57.7
2	Burlington VT	279.0	226.7	160.3	66.4	-32.3	(-45.4)
3	Washington (DC Only)	263.4	219.8	154.2	65.6	-35.9	-37.7
ა 4	Bismarck ND	240.2	197.1	131.9	65.2	-44.8	-53.5
5	Seattle-Bellevue-Everett WA	262.6	203.1	143.3	59.8	-46.7	-49.8
5 6	Rochester NY	281.5	216.5	157.5	59.1	-31.8	-50.5
	San Luis Obispo CA	282.1	218.4	159.9	58.4	-32.1	-39.2
,	Rapid City SD	224.3	180.2	121.9	58.3	-66.4	-57.7
. 8	Common State Commo	245.8	206.7	149.0	57.7	<b>-</b> 44.1	-49.8
9 10	Flagstaff AZ  Barnstable-Yarmouth MA	257.8	211.1	153.6	57.5	-42.5	-51.4

13.14

	Profitable Metros To Se	II & Supply G Retail	asoline Net	(Current Rack	Week) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rack Change
Rank	Metro	216.7	168.0	171.9	-3.9	-48.8	-36.7
1	Savannah GA	195.1	146.4	146.5	0.0	-51.9	-37.2
2	Albany GA	185.0	130.2	129.8	0.3	-77.2	-65.2
3	Lafayette IN	186.0	133.9	133.0	1.0	-76.8	-51.3
4	Champaign-Urbana IL	185.9	136.9	135.2	1.7	-83.9	-55.3
5	Hamilton-Middletown OH		134.5	131.3	3.1	<i>-</i> 75.1	-56.2
6	Decatur IL	185.8	147.4	143.4	4.0	-47.1	-44.4
7	Lubbock TX	187.7		141.7	5.7	-68.4	-45.4
8	Owensboro KY	196.3	147.3	to a consequent of the second	7.0	-78.0	-65.2
9	Indianapolis IN	189.7	134.9	127.9		-79.2	-62.0
10	Dayton-Springfield OH	187.9	139.0	131.8	7.1	-13.2	02.0

	Profitable Metros To Sell	& Supply Di Retail	esel (Cu Net	irrent W Rack	leek) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Change
ank		328.4	273.3	160.9	112.4	-46.4	-93.1
1	Toledo OH	334.0	278.9	166.6	112.3	-43.0	-81.8
2	Columbus OH	313.5	262.3	150.9	111.4	-36.8	-112.8
3	Provo-Orem UT	336.7	276.7	166.4	110.3	-57.1	-90.8
4	Jackson MI	313.3	262.1	151.9	110.2	-45.3	-112.7
5	Salt Lake City-Ogden UT	333.9	284.8	175.4	109.4	-59.6	-71.1
6	Fargo-Moorhead (ND Only)		271.5	163.6	107.9	-42.8	<b>-77.</b> 5
7	Greeley CO	319.4	276.3	168.8	107.5	-55.9	-93.0
8	Lansing-East Lansing MI	336.4	PROFESSION ASSESSMENT OF THE PROFESSION ASSES	164.1	107.1	-59.3	-95.5
9	Ann Arbor MI Cleveland-Lorain OH	330.9 338.2	271.2 282.9	176.1	106.9	-37.8	-70.8

	Profitable Metros To Sell	& Supply D Retail	iesel (C Net	urrent V Rack	Veek) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rac Change
Rank	Metro	336.7	302.5	274.4	28.2	-32.1	-38.0
1	Anchorage AK	272.4	221.2	183.9	37.3	-49.0	-42.6
2	Florence AL	275.3	231.6	191.9	39.7	<b>*34,8</b>	-42.5
3	Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton NJ		237.4	195.3	42.1	-28.9	-39.0
4	York PA	323.6	and the second s	188.4	42.4	-35.6	-43.9
5	Augusta-Aiken (SC Only)	273.6	230.8		43.8	-24.6	-39.1
6	Harrisburg-Lebanon PA	325.1	238.9	195.0	g.,	-27.7	-40.0
7	Lancaster PA	324.0	237.8	193.7	44.1		<b>-44.9</b>
8	Orlando FL	304.5	244.8	200.0	44.9	-31.9	Andrew Company of the
9	Reading PA	324.1	238.0	193.0	45.0	-25.8	-39.4
9 10	Punta Gorda FL	298.3	238.6	193.1	45.5	-36.0	-47.0

Top-2	5 Most F	Profitable Markets To S	ell Ga	asolin	e in 2	2014	TD		
2013	Week Ago							Change From	% Change From
Rank	Rank	Market	ST	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Week Ago	Week Ago
1	1	Washington (DC Only)	DC	354.6	311.0	260.7	50.4	0.3	0.6%
2	2	San Francisco CA	CA	385.1	315.5	268.7	46.8	0.2	0.4%
- 3	3	San Luis Obispo CA	CA	384.7	317.9	271.5	46.4	0.3	0.7%
4	4	Santa Barbara CA	CA	379.8	312.8	271.5	41.3	0.2	0.5%
5	5	Bellingham WA	WA	364.1	303.9	262.9	41.0	0.2	0.5%
6	6	Bakersfield CA	CA	377.5	311.7	272.1	39.6	0.2	0.5%
7	7	Seattle-Bellevue-Everett WA	WA	363.0	302.8	263.2	39.6	0.4	1.0%
8	8	Bismarck ND	ND	339.8	296.7	257.6	39.1	0.5	1.3%
9	9	Salinas CA	CA	373.0	305.6	267.9	37.7	0.1	0.3%
10	10	Bridgeport CT	CT	371.0	302.5	264.9	37.6	0.3	0.8%
11	12	New York NY	NY	371.4	301.1	263.8	37.3	0.4	1.1%
12	11	Ventura CA	CA	375.1	309.4	272.3	37.1	0.1	0.3%
13	13	Medford-Ashland OR	OR	355.6	305.5	268.8	36.6	1.0	0.3%
14	14	Merced CA	CA	371.7	305.2	268.6	36.6	0.1	0.3%
15	17	Barnstable-Yarmouth MA	MA	350.1	303.5	267.0	36.5	0.4	1.1%
16	15	Portland-Vancouver (OR Only)	OR	353.2	301.5	265.0	36.5	0.2	0.6%
17	16	Oakland CA	CA	373.5	304.4	268.1	36.3	0.2	0.6%
18	18	San Diego CA	CA	374.6	307.7	271.7	36.0	0.1	0.3%
19	19	Orange County CA	CA	374.8	308.1	272.7	35.5	0.1	0.3%
20	20	Salem OR	OR	351.2	301.0	265.7	35.3	. 0.1	0.3%
21	21	San Jose CA	CA	372.8	304.3	269.0	35.3	0.2	0.6%
22 23	24	Burlington VT	VT	352.8	300.2	265.0	35.2	0.6	1.7%
23	22	Santa Hosa CA	CA	370.8	302.3	267.2	35.1	0.1	0.3%
24	23	Los Angeles-Long Beach CA	CA	377.1	307.6	272.6	34.9	0.1	0.3%
25	25	Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa CA	CA	368.9	301.6	266.8	34.7	0.1	0.3%

Top-2	5 Least F	Profitable Markets To Se	ill G	asoli	ne In	2014	YTD		
2013 Rank	Week Ago Rank	Market	ST	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Change From Week Ago	% Change From Week Ago
1	1	Erie PA	PA	340.6	278.6	282.3	-3.7	0.5	-11.9%
2	2	Lubbock TX	TX	302.6	262.4	257.4	4.9	-0.1	-2.0%
3	3	Decatur IL	IL.	323.7	262.0	254.9	7.1	-0.1	-1.4%
4	4	Florence AL	AL.	310.4	267.1	259.4	7.7	0.1	1.3%
5	7	Lafayette IN	IN	326.2	265.5	256.6	8.9	-0.1	-1.1%
6	5	Tucson AZ	AZ	313.9	274.8	265.8	9.1	0.3	3.4%
7	6	Clarksville-Hopkinsville (KY Only)	KY	315.7	264.3	255.2	9.1	0.1	1.1%
8	8	Jonesboro AR	AR	306.8	264.8	255.3	9.5	0.0	0.0%
9	9	Jacksonville NC	NO	326.4	269.1	259.4	9.7	1.0	1.0%
10	11	Albany GA	GA	310.5	260.8	250.9	10.0	-0.2	-2.0%
11	10	Orlando FL	FL	325.0	271.9	261.9	10.0	0.2	2.0%
12	12	El Paso TX	TX	313.0	272.7	262.4	10.3	-0.1	-1.0%
13	14	Savannah GA	GA	323.9	274.2	263.6	10.6	-0.3	-2.8%
14	13	Enid OK	OK	313.2	276.1	265.1	11.0	0.4	3.8%
15	19	Gary IN	IN	336.3	275.4	264.2	11.1	-0.1	-0.9%
16	20	Phoenix-Mesa AZ	AZ	321.2	282.1	271.0	11.1	-0.1	-0.9%
17	15	Springfield IL	11_	327.5	267.2	256.0	11.2	0.1	0.9%
18	17	Chattanooga TN (GA Only)	GA	310.9	261.3	250.1	11,2	0.1	0.9%
19	21	Amarillo TX	TX	305.2	264.9	253.5	11.5	0.2	1.8%
20	18	Memphis TN (AR Only)	AR	310.6	268.7	257.2	11.5	0.3	2.7%
21	22	Goldsboro NC	NC	319.9	262.5	251.0	11.6	0.0	0.0%
22	16	Cheyenne WY	WY	324.8	280.7	269.0	11.7	0.6	5.4%
23	23	Fayetteville-Rogers AR	AR	306.0	264.1	252.3	11.8	0.2	1.7%
24	NR	Las Cruces NM	NM	313.5	274.5	262.6	11.9	<b>-</b> 0.1	-0.8%
25	NR	Albuquerque NM	NM	309.3	270.3	258.3	12,0	0.0	0.0%

NR = Market was not ranked in the previous 25 least most/least profitable markets

<sup>\*</sup>To qualify market must have received prices from 40 or more unique stations \*Week-ag rank was what the year-to-date rank was last week



Current = 7-day period between 12/30/14 and 01/05/15 Week Ago = 7 day period between 12/23/14 and 12/29/14 Month Ago = 7 day period between 12/02/14 and 12/02/14 Not = The rotali average lass federal, state and local taxes plus 1.5 ots per gal for freight

Prices Between 12/30/14 and 01/05/15

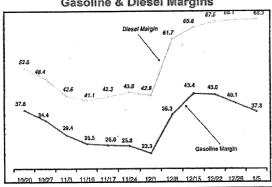
				Too	10 Best Earning Brands										
Renk	Brond	f of Outlets	Retail	Net	Rock	Current Margin	Week-Ago Margla	Month-Ago Margin	30-Day Rolling Avg	Year-Ago 30-Day Rolling Avg	-Monthi Retail	Change- Rock			
1	Stewarts	248	273.2	209.2	156.7	52.5	49.8	36.9	50.9	12.6	-34.3	-48.2			
2	Noco	35	281.7	214.9	164.8	50.1	43.4	34.7	46.1	12.9	-35.4	-48.8			
3	Tops	56	278.3	212.4	163.2	49.2	43.6	29.5	44.8	7.8	-34.3	-52.5			
4	Mobili	1,422	262.2	206.3	157.4	48.9	49.5	40.8	50.3	22.6	-41.9	-48.4			
5	Geltv	146	257.0	199.6	153.2	46.4	47.3	40.3	49.4	21.8	-42.0	-47.7			
6	Nice N Easy	43	271.6	206.9	161.1	45.7	41.6	28.0	43.0	13.3	-36.3	-52.3			
7	Fastrac	43	270.8	205.8	160.2	45.6	44.1	26.0	43.2	11.6	-33.7	-51.6			
8	Go Mart	104	237.2	183.0	138.5	44.5	47.0	34.3	46.5	16.1	-43.7	-53.2			
9	Lukoii	267	242.3	195.5	151.9	43.5	46.0	36.1	46.5	27.6	-39.4	-48.7			
10	Byrne Dairy	31	267.2	202.8	160.6	42.2	38.8	24.9	40.1	9.7	-34.2	-49.8			
Lowest	Costco	50	216.5	168.0	156.8	11.2	12.0	12.9	14.5	4.4	-45.9	-45.7			
	Market	24,487	245.3	192.6	155.3	37.3	40.1	32.5	40.6	19.2	-41.2	-47.2			

	Top 10 Best Earning Metro Markets													
		# of	19			Current	Week-Ago	Month-Ago	30-Day	Year-Age 30-Day	-Monthly Change			
Rank	Market	Outlete	Retail	Mal	Reck	Margin	Margin	Margin	Rolling Avg	Rolling Avg	Retail	Rack		
1	Burlington VT	149	279.0	226.7	160.3	(66.4)	65.9	52.7	65.2	23.7	-32.3	-45.4		
2	Washington (DC Only)	105	263.4	219.8	154.2	65.6	69,6	63.8	68.6	42.5	-35.9	-37.7		
3	Rochester NY	406	281.5	216.5	157.5	59.1	56.1	38.8	55.6	15.4	-31.8	-50.5		
4	Barnstable-Yarmouth MA	116	257.8	211.1	153.6	57.5	57.9	48.7	59.7	20.9	-42.5	-51.4		
5	New York NY	1135	278.2	212.0	155.1	56.9	56.7	49.8	58.5	27.3	-42.2	-47.2		
6	Glens Falls NY	67	274.2	211.8	155.2	56.6	53.7	37.8	54.0	16.5	-29.1	-46.6		
7	Bridgeport CT	288	269.9	211.2	154.9	56.3	56.0	50.4	58.5	27.4	-46.2	-47.8		
8	Albany-Schenectady-Troy NY	382	271.4	207.1	155.3	51.9	50.1	36.3	50.3	16.1	-32.6	-46.6		
9	Dutchess County NY	128	273.3	208.2	156.7	51.5	53.0	44.6	53.4	23.0	-42.3	-47.2		
10	New Haven-Meriden CT	310	263.0	204.3	154.4	49.9	49.4	40.4	51.5	18.6	-42.7	-48.0		

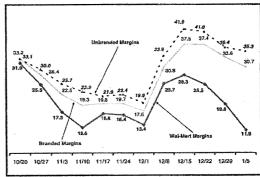
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		#of	-	44.3		Corrent	Week-Ago	Marke	30-Day	Year-Ago 30-Day	-Month	v Change-
Rank	Werket	Oullets	Retali	Hel	Rack	Margin	Margin	Margin	Rolling Avg	Rolling Avg	Retail	Rack
ī	Danville VA	77	198.5	163.1	151.3	11.8	25,5	25,9	24.1	15.2	-45,7	-35.3
5	Lynchburg VA	174	198.1	162.8	148.2	14.6	27.6	31.4	27.9	19.5	-50.9	-37.5
3	Richmond-Petersburg VA	526	205.6	171,2	155.9	15.4	24.2	25.6	24.3	22.1	-44.5	-37.8
	Norfolk-Virginia Beach (VA Only)	608	217.1	181.7	166.0	15.7	24.8	27.1	24.5	23.1	-42,7	-34.9
5	Wilmington-Newark DE (MD Only)	38	233.7	184.0	168.1	15.9	18.9	13.7	21.5	16.0	-39.5	-43.7
3	York PA	139	239.7	170.9	154.1	16.7	14.5	20.3	18.7	9.4	-50.3	-53.7
7	Parkersburg-Marietta (WV Only)	49	210.1	155.1	136.7	18.3	20.0	30.0	22.4	11.4	-71.0	-58.5
3	Erie PA	109	248.3	179.5	160.3	19.2	20.7	-11.9	14.3	-21.4	-33.3	-71.3
)	Bangor ME	135	236.5	185.0	165.4	19.6	22.6	22.7	24.6	15.2	-49.0	-45.9
10	Roanoke VA	137	203.6	168.2	148.5	19.8	34.9	39.5	34.1	21.1	-53.5	-37.3

#### 12-Week Northeast Gasoline & Diesel Margins



#### 12-Week Wal-Mart Watch



Northeast Regional Fuel Marketer Profitability Index is published bi-monthly as a supplement to OPIS Retail Fuel Watch by UCG, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Blvd., Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7364. UCG chief executive officers: Bruce Levenson, Ed Peskowitz. © 2015. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. Circulation Office: 301-287-2525 Fax: 301-287-2039. Editorial: 800-275-0950 Staff: Brian Crotty, Ben Brockwell, Fred Rozell and Stephanie Newton. Postmaster: Send address changes to OPIS Retail Fuel Watch, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Blvd., Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7364.

The Oil Industry's Benchmark For Retail Gasoline And Diesel Prices & Profits

# Retailers See Volumes Fade 2.3% in 2014

An OPIS survey of nearly 5,000 stations shows same store sales down 2.3% compared to 2013 and off by 3.6% when compared to 2012. The store numbers, which run the gamut from regional chains, to small operators, to large high volume outlets contradict reports from the EIA which says volumes were up 1.4% over last year, but confirm reports from various retailers who have been suspect of the EIA reports.

On a quarterly basis, the EIA shows volumes up almost 1% in the first quarter and up slightly for the second and third quarter, but up a strong 2.1% in the fourth quarter. The OPIS store volumes show a different story however, with volumes down a whopping 4.3% in the first quarter thanks to a bru-

12-Week National Fuel Price Trend

		U	ASOL	11.5				DIES		
Date	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	%Profit	Retail	Net	Rack	Margiu	% Profit
10/27	306.0	255.8	224.7	31.2	10.2%	361.9	305.3	266.3	39.0	10.8%
11/3	299.6	249.4	221.9	27.5	9.2%	359.9	303.3	270.9	32.5	9.0%
1/10	294.1	244.0	219.3	24.7	8.4%	361.9	305.2	276.7	28.5	7.9%
1/17	290.1	240.1	212.9	27.2	9.4%	363.2	306.5	266.5	40.0	11.0%
1/24	283.2	233.2	207.4	25.8	9.1%	359.9	303.2	261.0	42.3	11.8%
12/1	278.3	228.3	204.4	23.9	8.6%	357.3	300.7	254.5	46.2	12.9%
12/8	269.6	219.9	186.2	33.6	12.5%	351.8	295.4	228.2	67.2	19.1%
12/15	257.9	208.3	170.2	38.1	14.8%	342.7	286.4	207.6	78.8	23.0%
12/22	243.2	193.8	156.2	37.6	15.5%	330.1	274.0	193.7	80.3	24.3%
12/29	230.7	181.4	147.9	33.5	14.5%	319.6	263.7	187.2	76.5	23.9%
1/5	221.7	172.3	143.4	28.8	13.0%	311.5	255.4	180.4	75.0	24.1%
1/12	215.3	165.8	135.3	30.5	14.2%	302.5	246.5	167.9	78.5	26.0%

Retail = average retail price; Net = retail price less state, federal and local taxes and 1.5

Gasoline Margin Snapshot in cls per gal

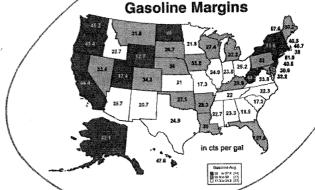
tal winter in much of the country. Sales were down by 1.5%, 1.9% and 1.3% in the second, third, and fourth quarters.

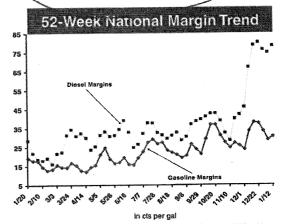
Only 42.5% of the stations sold more gasoline this year compared to what they sold in 2013, with almost 20% seeing drops of more than 10%. It was even worse when compared to 2012 with almost 60% of all stations selling less gasoline and 27.3% seeing drops of more than 10%.

Regionally, the Southeast was the only area to see gains versus 2013 with volumes edging up by 0.3%. The Southwestern region was about even compared to last year while the Western part of the country was down by 0.5%. The mid-section of the country

State-By-State Rack-To-Retail

Continued on Page 12

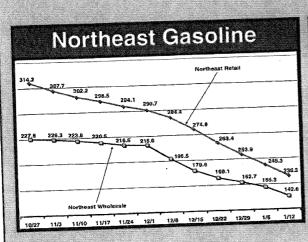


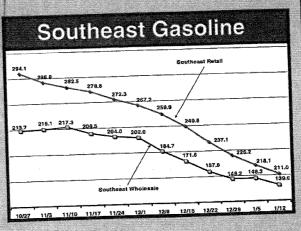


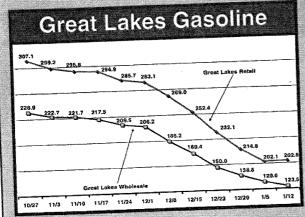
			GAS	OLINE	188				DIE	SEL		
					Monthly	Change-			100		Monthly (	Change
	5.0 B	Mal	Rack	Margin	Retail	Rack	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Retail	Rack
iT	Retail	Net	223.1	42.1	-48.5	-40.5	341.0	306.9	266.3	40.6	-32.9	-39.5
K	293.3	265.2 159.4	136.1	23.3	-46.6	-37.2	299.1	249.7	165.2	84.5	-30.9	-38.3
AL	201.0		130.1	28.3	-46.1	-42.9	283.1	234.3	165.5	68.8	-45.7	-45.2
VR	201.0	159.1 166.1	140.5	25.7	-51.2	-42.2	289.3	236.2	167.4	68.8	-56.0	-51.7
AZ	205.2	197.2	152.8	44.4	-33.3	-27.8	318.0	251.0	177.5	73.5	-38.0	-26.1
CA	261.5	155.5	121.3	34.3	-65.1	-36.9	300.9	253.0	155.7	97.4	-52.7	-60.9
00	198.9	193.7	141.8	51.9	-46.9	-44.7	339.0	258.5	182.4	76.0	-28.5	-40.0
CT	251.3	184.7	154.1	30.6	-40.4	-39.9	284.3	232.1	179.6	52.5	-36.8	-41.6
DE	230.1	168.4	140.6	27.8	-42.0	-44.7	302.9	243.1	184.2	59.0	-36.0	-38.6
FL	224.6	164.2	145.7	18.5	-44.3	-39.5	297.8	240.7	171.3	69.3	-38.1	-36.8
3A	211.7	279.1	231.5	47.6	-31.6	-40.1	466.5	391.0	281.4	109.6	-10.0	-38.0
HI	344.0		123.0	33.2	-56.3	-47.1	285.8	236.2	158.9	77.3	-60.9	-49.4
IA	198.2	156.2 152.6	129.9	22.7	-78.2	-39.4	298.1	246.0	157.4	88.5	-59.3	-70.8
ID	198.7		126.9	24.9	-56.9	-51.0	315.2	241.3	155.2	86.1	-50.0	-55.6
IL	210.2	151.8	124.6	23.8	-52.6	-52.7	309.5	247.3	157.6	89.8	-57.1	-69.7
IN	202.7	148.4	120.8	21.0	-58.4	-46.3	279.9	226.8	157.3	69.4	-64.4	-47.4
KS	186.9	141.8	137.3	25.9	-42.6	-38.1	313.0	262.3	164.5	97.8	-43.2	-68.0
KY	210.9	163.2		30.0	-46.5	-42.0	287.3	240.2	159.6	80.6	-39.4	-37.8
LA	198.5	157.5	127.5	46.7	-44.4	-45.7	308.9	256.3	182.4	73.9	-34.4	-40.6
VΙΑ	234.4	187.7	141.1	32.2	-39.3	-42.7	295.4	238.0	175.6	62.4	-35.8	-37.6
MD	231.9	181.3	149.1	30.2	-49.9	-44.7	317.7	259.8	202.2	57.6	-31.3	-31.6
ME	229.4	177.9	147.7	32.3	-62.8	-63.3	312.3	253.6	151.0	102.6	-66.1	-84.2
MI	197.1	149.1	116.8	32.3 21.8	-54.0	-47.3	306.9	252.2	167.2	85.0	-67.7	-58.3
MN	195.2	146.5	124.7	21.6 17.3	-54.0 -54.0	-46.5	272.5	229.1	158.4	70.7	-62.8	-50.0
MO	179.3	141.9	124.7	22.7	-42.9	-37.7	286.1	241.4	164.5	76.9	-35.5	-38.0
MS	197.6	158.7	136.0	31.8	-66.3	-45.7	287.2	232.6	174.6	58.0	-69.7	-63.5
MT	209.5	161.7	129.9	22.3	-38.0	-34.9	304.7	240.9	175.0	65.9	-32.1	-35.3
NC	223.1	165.3	142.9		-57.9	-53.8	330.8	281.7	163.6	118.1	-67.4	-66.4
ND	214.4	171.3	123.2	48.0	-57.9 -59.8	-46.4	294.3	242.3	160.9	81.4	-60.2	-49.3
NE	204.1	157.5	121.5	36.0	-59.6 -47.6	-45.9	300.0	250.1	186.5	63.6	-32.8	-39.1
NH	226.1	182.2	141.7	40.5	-47.5 -44.5	-45.7	283.9	240.3	177.4	62.8	-32.6	-41.3
NJ	213.7	179.1	138.6	40.5	-44.5 -51.1	-40.6	287.9	238.9	173.9	65.1	-55.1	-58.4
NM		156.1	135.4	20.7	-51.1 -45.8	-39.4	299.2	238.7	166.7	72.0	-51.7	-44.9
NV	236.9	175.4	142.0	33.4	-45.6 -39.9	-45.0	348.0	275.6	184.2	91.5	-24.3	-40.1
NY	265.0	200.2	144.6	55.6	-55.0	-56.2	316.8	261.7	154.6	107.1	-49.3	-73.3
OH		150.1	125.0	25.2		-36.2 -46.6	263.9	223.8	156.2	67.7	-59.1	-47.2
OK		147.3	120.2	27.1	-54.5	-34.9	290.6	234.1	163.1	71.0	-51.1	-45.0
OR		185.5	140.2	45.4	-53.0	-34.8 -50.7	330.4	240.1	178.1	62.0	-26.2	-47.7
PA	244.0	172.3	139.3	33.0	-40.4	-30.7 -45.6	302.6	243.4	178.2	65.1	-38.4	-44.0
RI	234.2	181.0	143.0	38.0	-48.5		293.1	250.3	178.2	72.0	-31.7	-33.5
SC	198.5	161.7	144.3	17.3	-43.5	-36.6	293.5	243.4	168.8	74.6	-66.8	-50.2
SD		160.3	123.6	36.7	-53.3	-41.5	293.3	250.3	164.0	86.3	-36.5	-47.3
TN	3	156.6	134.7	22.0	-46.8	-38.3	294.6	243.8	162.7	81.1	-41.1	-49.0
TX		152.2	127.3	24.9	-48.3	-41.3	1	252.1	147.5	104.5	-51.0	-74.2
UT		165.1	122.7	42.4	-66.9	-40.5	303.3	250.1	170.7	79.4	-32.4	-39.
VA	1	168.9	145.1	23.8	-42.6	-36.9	298.1		192.9	80.3	-23.2	-37.
VI	The second section of the second section is a second section of the second section sec	204.8	147.2	57.6	-38.6	-43.2	331.3	273.2	164.7	74.1	-51.3	-48.
W		179.8	134.7		-54.6	-38.5	304.6	238.8	154.2	85.3	-67.7	-65.
W	1	152.0	124.6		-57.0	-50.2	298.4	239.5		106.4	-36.4	-63.
W	1	176.9	132.6		-47.8	-49.3	332.9	272.2	165.8	80.1	-54.6	-60.7
W.		176.8	124.1	52.7	-63.8	-40.3	316.0	265.9	185.8	***************************************	ne most recent N	

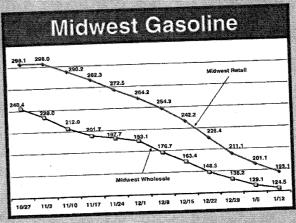
Current retail average based on reconciled credit card transactions received by OPIS from the 7-day period between the previous Tuesday through the most recent Monday. Due to the way credit card receipts are reconciled, a few additional transactions may be received for the dates that already comprise the current weekly average. Minor fluctuations in the actual average may occur as a result. Rack averages are based on the daily OPIS average for the individual stations during the time period for the appropriate product sold at the station. Branded stations are matched to the appropriate suppliers at the closest rack. If we are unable to match a brand to a supplier we use the branded average price from the closest rack. All prices are for regular unleaded gasoline or diesel only and are in cts per gal.

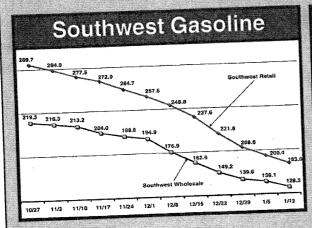
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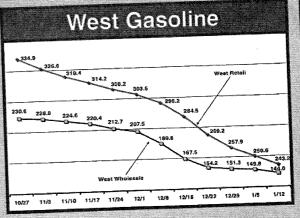












Rank	Profitable Metros To Sel Metro	l & Supply Ga Retail	soline Net	(Current Rack	Week) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rack Change
1	Washington (DC Only)	258.0	214.4	145.6	68.8	-35.9	-38.4
2	Burlington VT	(267.4)	215.3	(148.2)	(67.1)	(-37.6)	(-43.3)
3	Rochester NY	273.5	209.0	144.2	64.8	-33.2	-47.7
4	San Luis Obispo CA	279.1	215.3	152.5	62.8	-26.5	-28.5
	Bridgeport CT	260.6	203.1	141.4	61.7	-45.7	-44.7
6	New York NY	268.8	203.1	141.7	61.4	-43.0	-44.0
	Barnstable-Yarmouth MA	247.9	201.3	140.0	61.3	-44.1	-46.2
8	Glens Falls NY	265.4	203.4	142.4	61.0	-32.6	-43.8
9	Flagstaff AZ	237.3	198.2	137.6	60.6	-43.2	-45.0
10	Casper WY	225.8	181.7	122.4	59.3	-59.5	-31.2

	Profitable Metros To Sell	& Supply G Retail	asoline Net	(Currer Rack	t Week) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Ra Change
1	Savannah GA	210.0	162.0	166.8	-4.8	-47.4	-33.1
2	Albany GA	191.3	143.3	139.5	3.8	-45.5	-32.3
3	El Paso TX	190.4	150.1	145.6	4.5	-47.2	-33.2
4	Lubbock TX	181.6	141.3	133.8	7.5	-43.3	-43.8
5	Las Cruces NM	191.6	152.6	144.8	7.8	-50.4	-33.7
6	Decatur IL	186.1	134.8	126.9	7.9	-57.5	-49.1
7	Springfield IL	187.0	135.9	127.8	8.2	-59.9	-49.8
8	Memphis TN (MS Only)	184.6	146.1	137.3	8.8	-49.0	-38.1
9	Mcallen-Edinburg-Mission TX	193.2	152.9	142.9	10.0	-46.3	-38.0
10	Columbia MO	170.2	132.8	122.8	10.0	-53.2	-47.9

ost Rank	Profitable Metros To Sell Metro	& Supply Di Retail	esel (C) Net	rrent V Rack	/eek) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rac Change
Valut -4	Columbus OH	325.4	270.4	149.2	121.2	-45.5	-77.4
2	Cleveland-Lorain OH	329.7	274.6	159.2	115.4	-41.1	-65.9
3	Youngstown-Warren OH	328.7	273.6	159.0	114.6	-41.3	-64.0
4	Toledo OH	318.0	262.9	148.6	114.4	-49.8	-80.4
5	Jackson MI	324.1	264.8	150.5	114.3	-56.4	-82.2
6	Lansing-East Lansing MI	325.7	266.2	153.4	112.9	-56.7	-79.9
7	Grand Rapids-Muskegon MI	325.2	265.8	154.3	111.5	-53.2	-74.0
8	Washington (DC Only)	329.8	280.2	169.0	111.2	-30.6	-39.6
9	Benton Harbor MI	323.8	264.5	153.5	111.0	-55.6	-76.0
9 10	Cincinnati OH (OH Only)	326.3	271.2	160.7	110.4	-41.7	-72.2

	Profitable Metros To Sell	& Supply D	lesel (C Net	urreit V Rack	Veek) Margin	Monthly Retail Change	Monthly Rac Change
kank 4	Anchorage AK	331.5	297.3	262.1	35.2	-32.1	-40.0
2	Augusta-Aiken (SC Only)	265.7	222.9	181.3	41.6	-38.7	-33.3
3	Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton NJ	267.9	224.3	179.3	45.0	-34.8	-41.5
4	Florence AL	268.0	216.8	171.4	45.4	-44.7	-39.8
5	Punta Gorda FL	289.9	230.2	183.7	46.4	-39.1	-39.9
6	Orlando FL	296.2	236.4	189.8	46.6	-35.0	-39.9
7	York PA	317.3	227.0	180.3	46.7	-28.9	-45.5
8	Lancaster PA	317.2	226.9	179.7	47.2	-28.3	-46.0
9	Billings MT	280.7	226.1	178.0	48.1	-69.3	-59.1
10	Harrisburg-Lebanon PA	318.5	228.2	180.0	48.2	-24.8	-46.0

66

OPIS Year-To-Date Best & Worst Markets-

2014 Rank	Week Ago Rank	Market	ST	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Change From Week Ago	% Change From Week Ago
1 1 ·	22	Burlington VT	VT	271.5	219.5	152.6	66.9	31.7	90.1%
2	4	Washington (DC Only)	DC	259.9	216.3	149.4	66.9	16.5	32.7%
3	NR	Casper WY	WY	230.4	186.3	123.2	63.1	39.0	161.8%
4	NR	Rochester NY	NY	276.3	211.7	149.2	62.5	37.6	151.0%
,	3	San Luis Obispo CA	CA	280.5	216.6	156.6	60.0	13.6	29.3%
5	NR	Flagstaff AZ	AZ	240.6	201.5	142.0	59.5	26.4	79.8%
6	15	Barnstable-Yarmouth MA	MA	251.3	204.6	145.3	59.4	22.9	62.7%
. 7			СТ	263.8	205.8	146.6	59.3	21.7	57.7%
8	10	Bridgeport CT New York NY	NY	272.0	206.2	146.9	59.3	22.0	59.0%
9	11	Glens Falls NY	NY	268.6	206.5	147.4	59.2	29.7	100.7%
10	NR	Seattle-Bellevue-Everett WA	WA	256.1	196.6	139.2	57.4	17.8	44.9%
11	7		ND	229.8	186.7	129.6	57.1	18.0	46.0%
.12	8	Bismarck ND	CA	278.5	212.4	155.6	56.7	9.9	21.2%
13	2	San Francisco CA	NY	265.5	201.6	147.3	54.3	28.4	109.7%
14	NA	Albany-Schenectady-Troy NY	NY	277.3	210.9	156.7	54.2	30.8	131.6%
15	NR	Buffalo-Niagara Falls NY	CA	273.7	209.7	155.7	54.0	12.7	30.8%
16	4	Santa Barbara CA	NY	265.9	201.3	149.2	52.2	21.5	70.0%
17	NR	Dutchess County NY	CT	255.3	197.3	146.0	51.4	21.9	74.2%
18	NR	New Haven-Meriden CT	NY	263.4	198.0	147.0	51.1	19.8	63.3%
19	NR	Nassau-Suffolk NY	CA	270.7	207.7	156.6	51.1	11.5	29.0%
20		Bakersfield CA	NY	269.1	203.1	153.1	50.0	26.2	110.1%
21	NR	Utica-Rome NY		209.1	193.1	143.2	49.9	20.4	69.2%
22	NR	Trenton NJ	NJ	214.6	170.5	121.2	49.3	15.8	47.2%
23	NR	Rapid City SD	SD		196.8	148.1	48.7	21.4	78.4%
24	NR	New London-Norwich CT	CT NY	255.0 262.0	190.6	149.0	48.6	23.4	92.9%

2014 Rank	Week Ago Rank	Market	ST	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Change From Week Ago	% Change Fron Week Ago
Talla -	13	Savannah GA	GA	212.3	164.4	169.0	-4.6	-15.2	-143.4%
2	10	Albany GA	GA	192.6	144.6	142.5	2.1	-7.9	-79.0%
3	3	Decatur IL	IL	185.0	133.7	128.7	5.0	-2.1	-29.6%
4	12	El Paso TX	TX	193.0	152.7	147.5	5.2	-5.1	-49.5%
5	2	Lubbock TX	TX	183.8	143.6	137.7	5.9	1.0	20.4%
6 6	NR	Memphis TN (MS Only)	MS	187.0	148.5	141.0	7.6	-6.0	-44.1%
7	24	Las Cruces NM	NM	194.2	155.3	146.8	8.4	-3.5	-29.4%
8	NR	Mcallen-Edinburg-Mission TX	TX	195.5	155.3	146.7	8.6	-5.0	-36.8%
9	NR NR	Memphis TN (TN Only)	TN	192.5	151.0	141.3	9.6	-5.4	-36.0%
	15	Gary IN	IN	193.4	139.1	129.0	10.1	-1.0	-9.0%
10 11	NR	Greenville-Spartanburg SC	SC	192.3	155.5	145.2	10.3	-4.0	-28.0%
	NR NR	Wichita KS	KS	176.7	131.6	121.3	10.3	-9.3	-47.4%
12	NR NR	Owensboro KY	KY	193.8	146.1	135.6	10.5	-4.3	-29.1%
13	NA NR	Brownsville-Harlingen TX	TX	198.5	158.3	147.7	10.6	-5.2	-32.9%
14	18	Chattanooga TN (GA Only)	GA	197.7	149.8	139.0	10.7	-0.5	-4.5%
15	NR	Santa Fe NM	NM	182.9	143.9	133.0	10.9	-5.1	-31.9%
16	17	Springfield IL	IL	192.3	140.8	129.8	11.0	-0.2	-1.8%
17	NR	Macon GA	GA	201.4	153.5	142.5	11.0	-2.2	-16.7%
18		Charlotte-Gastonia (SC Only)	SC	191.5	154.6	143.6	11.0	-1.7	-13.4%
19	NR	Goldsboro NC	NC	218.9	161.0	150.0	11.1	-0.5	-4.3%
20	21	Albuquerque NM	NM	183.5	144.5	133.1	11.4	-0.6	-5.0%
21	25	Hattiesburg MS	MS	185.5	147.1	135.4	11.6	<b>-9.4</b>	-44.8%
22	NR	Columbia MO	МО		136.7	124.9	11.9	-1.3	-9.8%
23	NR	Phoenix-Mesa AZ	AZ	197.9	158.8	146.9	11.9	0.8	7.2%
24 25	16 NR	Pnoenix-mesa AZ Danville VA	VA	195.4	158.5	146.3	12.2	-5.4	-30.7%

NR = Market was not ranked in the previous 25 least most/least profitable markets

<sup>\*</sup>To qualify market must have received prices from 40 or more unique stations

<sup>\*</sup>Week-ag rank was what the year-to-date rank was last week



# NORTHEAST REGIONAL

HEL MARKETER PROFILERLITY INDEX

Current = 7-day period between 01/06/15 and 01/12/15 Week Ago = 7 day period between 12/30/14 and 01/05/15 Month Ago = 7 day period between 12/09/14 and 12/15/14 Net = The retail average less federal, state and local taxes plus 1.5 cts per gal for freight

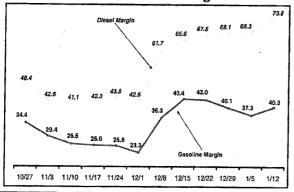
Prices Between 01/06/15 and 01/12/15

31		# of				***************************************	arning		Contract to the second			4.5
Rank	Brand	Outlets	Retail	Net	Rack	Current Margin	Week-Ago Margin	Month-Ago Morgin	30-Day Rolling Avg	Year-Ago 30-Day Rolling Ave	-Mosthi Retail	Change- Rock
1	Noco	35	275.4	209.1	148.9	60.2	50.1	43.1	49.9	14.8	-33.1	-48.2
2	Stewarts	248	263.5	200.0	143.3	56.7	52.5	46.7	52.9	15.5	-37.0	-45.1
3	Tops	56	270.7	205.1	149.0	56.1	49.2	39.5	48.5	10.1	-35.0	-50.1
4	Mobil	1,427	252.4	196.8	144.5	52.3	48.9	48.7	50.8	24.3	-43.4	-45.5
5	Getty	139	249.3	191.0	140.0	51.1	46.4	49.5	49.5	23.7	-42.5	-44.6
6	Nice N Easy	43	261.9	197.6	147.1	50.5	45.7	38.3	45.5	16.0	-38.6	-49.0
7	Fastrac	43	259.9	195.6	146.5	49.0	45.6	35.6	45.8	14.0	-36.6	-48.1
8	Byrne Dairy	31	257.4	193.5	146.8	46.8	42.2	35.5	42.4	12.4	-37.0	-46.3
9	Go Mart	104	229.0	175.0	128.2	46.8	44.5	41.6	47.3	15.2	-46.0	-50.3
10	Lukoil	270	232.4	184.9	138.5	46.4	43.5	44.9	46.5	28.5	-41.9	-45.9
Lowest	Costco	50	207.3	157.8	143.1	14.8	11.2	18.5	13.5	6.5	-45.7	-40.9 -44.5
-	Market	24,619	236.3	182.9	142.6	40.3	37.3	40.0	40.5	20.7	-42.6	-44.9

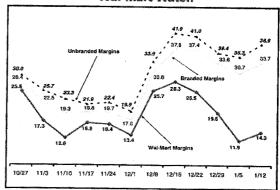
200						T	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN		-			
Rank	Maket	#of Outlets	Retail	Net	Rack	Current Margin	Week-Ago Margin	Month-Ago Margin	30-Day Rolling Avg	Year-Ago 38-Day Rolling Avg	-Month Retail	ly Change- Rack
1	Washington (DC Only)	105	258.0	214.4	145.6	68.8	65.6	66.4	68.8	43.1	-35.9	-38.4
2	Burlington VT	150	267.4	215.3	148.2	(67.T)	66.4	60.6	<b>66.5</b>	24.5	-37.6	-43.3
3	Rochester NY	406	273.5	209.0	144.2	64.8	59.1	48.4	59.1	17.5	-33.2	-47.7
4	Bridgeport CT	290	260.6	203.1	141,4	61.7	56.3	58.7	58.9	29.7	-45.7	-44.7
5	New York NY	1140	268.8	203.1	141.7	61.4	56.9	58.1	59.1	29.3	-43.0	-44.0
6	Barnstable-Yarmouth MA	116	247.9	201.3	140.0	61.3	57.5	59.2	60.0	23.9	-44.1	-44.0 -46.2
7	Glens Falls NY	67	265.4	203.4	142.4	61.0	56.6	48.3	56.7	18.3	-32.6	-46.2 -43.8
3	Buffalo-Niagara Falls NY	348	275.0	206.7	151.5	57.2	49.3	45.0	49.4	14.1	-32.5	
)	Albany-Schenectady-Troy NY	383	262.2	198.5	142.4	56.1	51.9	45.8	52.4	18.2	A commence of the	-44.7
10	Nassau-Suffolk NY	830	260.0	194.8	141.7	53.1	48.6	49.2	50.8	24.1	-35.5 -43.0	-44.0 -44.6

		#of			200	Current	Miles I. Barre					_
Rank	Market	Outlets	Retail	Net	Rack	Margin	Week-Ago Margin	Month-Ago Margin	30-Day Rolling Avg	Year-Ago 30-Day Rolling Avg	Month Retail	ly Change- Rack
1	Danville VA	75	193.6	156.7	142.2	14.6	11.8	27.1	21.0	14,1	-42.4	-34.9
2	Richmond-Petersburg VA	529	198.7	161.8	147.2	14.6	15.4	27.0	21.2	22.2	-44.5	-37.2
3	Erie PA	107	236.6	165.0	148.1	16.8	19.2	0.5	17.6	-20.1	-41.6	-67.7
4	York PA	139	227.3	155.6	138.3	17.3	16.7	24.5	17.1	12.9	-50.7	-53.2
5	Norfolk-Virginia Beach (VA Only)	615	210.0	173.1	155.6	17.5	15.7	28.0	21.8	23.8	-41.5	-36.1
6	Lynchburg VA	175	195.1	158.3	139.4	18.9	14.6	31.7	24.5	20.0	-44.2	-36.5
7	Wilmington-Newark DE (MD Only)	38	225.7	175.2	156.0	19.2	15.9	22.8	20.4	19.5	-40.9	-40.2
3	Roanoke VA	137	199.7	162.8	139.4	23.4	19.8	38.7	30.2	21.9	-46.7	-36.4
<b>)</b>	Parkersburg-Marietta (WV Only)	49	202.7	148.0	124.4	23.6	18.3	33.0	20.4	10.9	-66.8	-56.3
10	Lancaster PA	164	232.4	160.7	136.9	23.6	21.4	26.4	23.0	17.5	-44.6	-50.3 -51.8

#### 12-Week Northeast Gasoline & Diesel Margins



#### 12-Week Wal-Mart Watch



Northeast Regional Fuel Marketer Profitability Index is published bi-monthly as a supplement to OPIS Retail Fuel Watch by UCG, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Blvd., Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7364. UCG chief executive officers: Bruce Levenson, Ed Peskowitz. @ 2015. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. Circulation Office: 301-287-2525 Fax: 301-287-2039 Editorial: 800-275-0950 Staff: Brian Crotty, Ben Brockwell, Fred Rozell and Stephanie Newton. Postmaster: Send address changes to OPIS Retail Fuel Watch, Two Washington Center, 9737 Washingtonian Blvd., Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7364.

#### McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

From:

opisadmin@opisnet.com

Sent: To: Thursday, January 22, 2015 10:29 AM

McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Subject:

OPIS Wholesale Racks with OPIS Spot Mean

Account #230980

To align the following data, change the font size to 9 in Courier New.

ALBANY, NY

2015-01-22 10:00:11 EST

**OPIS	CONTRAC'	BENCH	1ARK	FILE**
**01	TS GROS	CLEAR	PRIC	CES**

9.0 RVP

								Move	
	Terms	Unl	Move	Mid	Move	Pre	Move	Date	Time
Apex	u N-10	Annal (1970) ANNO ANNO.				165.00	- 4.00	01/20	18:00
LOW RACK				Name Anner correction		165.00			
HIGH RACK		200 mm		<del></del>		165.00			
RACK AVG		400 WK 500 WW				165.00			
UBD LOW RAG	CK					165.00			
UBD HIGH RA						165.00			
UBD RACK AV		W/W FERM 1007 4/49				165.00			
CONT AVG-0		was way		ano ano. ••••		165.00			
CONT LOW-0				Mark #850 1009 1009		165.00			
CONT HIGH-		410 000				165.00			

ALBANY, NY

2015-01-22 10:00:11 EST

**OPIS	CONTRACT	BENCHMARK I	LUE""
**OPIS GR	OSS CBOB	ETHANOL (10%)	PRICES**

9.0 RVP

	·							Move		
	Terms	Unl	Move	Mid	Move	Pre	Move	Date	Time	
Apex	u N-10	137.00	+ 1.00	143.00	+ 1.00	154.00	+ 1.00			
PSX	u N-10	137.25		147.25	+ .50	154.25		01/21		
NWENGLPTR	u N-10	137.50		142.40	+ .25	151.35		01/22		
PFI	u N-10	137.50	+ .25	148.00	+ .75	167.75		01/21		
Global	u 1-10	138.54	- 2.44	143.43		154.55			18:00	
Citgo	b 1-10	138.75	+ .50	151.55		167.90			18:00	
Coastal	b 1-10	138.85	+ .26	148.85		170.61			18:00	
Sunoco	b 1-10	139.10	+ .26	149.60		170.86			18:00	
Shell	b 1-10	139.20	+ .81	147.91		173.55			18:00	
Valero	b 1-10	139.20		149.20		169.20	+ .25		18:00	
XOM	b 1-10	139.45		150.45		171.45	- 1.00		19:00	
Gulf	b 1-10	139.50		150.00		171.75			18:00	
Irving	b 1-10	139.55		163.93		171.65			00:01	
Valero	u N-10	140.25		150.75		171.15			18:00	
Mystik	b 1-12	140.55		151.05		172.80			18:00	
	b 1-10	140.65		150.65		169.65			18:00	
GULF-GIE	u Net	141.55		151.25		162.60			18:00	
Irving	u N-10			147.83		156.00			18:00	
Buckeye	u 1-10	145.50	+ 1.00	157.50	+ 1.00	175.50	+ 1.00	01/21	17:00	
LOW RACK		137.00		142.40		151.35				
HIGH RACK		145.50		163.93		175.50				
RACK AVG		139.66		149.72		166.14				
OPIS NYH B	ARGE DEL		POT (SR							
FOB ALBAN	Y	138.91				151.38				
BRD LOW RA	CK	138.75		147.91		167.90				
BRD HIGH R	ACK	140.65		163.93		173.55				
BRD RACK A	VG	139.48		151.32		170.94				
UBD LOW RA	CK	137.00		142.40		151.35				
UBD HIGH R	ACK	145.50		157.50		175.50				
UBD RACK A	.VG	139.86		147.93		160.79				
CONT AVG-0		139.66		149.72		166.14				
CONT LOW-0		137.00		142.40		151.35				
CONT HIGH-	01/22	145.50		163.93		175.50				

```
ALBANY-SCHENECTADY-TROY, NY
LOW RETAIL
                           247.25
AVG RETAIL
LOW RETAIL EX-TAX
                           175 93
AVG RETAIL EX-TAX
                           185.55
                                                                2015-01-22 10:00:11 EST
ALBANY, NY
                      **OPIS CONTRACT BENCHMARK FILE**
                     **OPIS GROSS PURE ETHANOL PRICES**
                                       with Move
                     w/out
                                                 Move Date Time
                                        RINS
               Terms RINS
                               Move
           u N-10 181.93 + 1.00 -- --
                                                 -- -- 01/21 18:00
U.S. Oil
                      181.93
LOW RACK
HIGH RACK
                     181.93
                     181.93
RACK AVG
                    181.93
UBD LOW RACK
                    181.93
UBD HIGH RACK
                    181.93
UBD RACK AVG
CONT AVG-01/22
                      181.93
                      181.93
CONT LOW-01/22
                     181.93
CONT HIGH-01/22
TOTAL ETHANOL AVG 181.93
                                                                2015-01-22 10:00:11 EST
ALBANY, NY
                      **OPIS CONTRACT BENCHMARK FILE**
                         **OPIS GROSS E-85 PRICES**
                                     Move
                               Move Date Time
               Terms
            u 1-10 160.90 + 1.07 01/21 18:00
DEB Distr u N-5 165.55 + .46 01/21 00:01
                      160,90
LOW RACK
                      165.55
HIGH RACK
                      163.23
RACK AVG
OPIS NYH BARGE DELIVERED SPOT (SRI)
 FOB ALBANY 153.36
UBD LOW RACK
                     160.90
                     165.55
UBD HIGH RACK
                      163.23
UBD RACK AVG
CONT AVG-01/22
                      163.23
CONT LOW-01/22
                      160.90
CONT HIGH-01/22 165.55
                                                                2015-01-22 10:00:11 EST
BURLINGTON, VT
                      **OPIS CONTRACT BENCHMARK FILE**
                                                                                   9.0 RVP
                   **OPIS GROSS CBOB ETHANOL(10%) PRICES**
                                                                          Move
                                                                  Move Date Time
                               Move Mid
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               Terms Unl
             b 1-10 144.40 - .91 168.44 - .89 175.87 - .89 01/22 00:01
Citgo b 1-10 144.40 - .91 108.44 - .09 175.87 - .89 01/22 00:01  
Citgo b 1-10 144.45 + .50 156.85 + .50 174.10 + .50 01/21 18:00  
Sunoco b 1-10 144.73 - .03 154.73 - .03 174.82 - .03 01/21 18:00  
Shell b 1-10 144.76 + .81 153.46 + .80 179.10 + .81 01/21 18:00  
Gulf b 1-10 145.00 - .25 156.00 - .25 175.75 - .25 01/21 18:00  
Global u 1-10 145.28 - 4.78 158.10 + 1.54 167.19 - .99 01/21 18:00  
GlobalXOM b 1-10 145.40 + .55 155.40 + .55 170.40 + .55 01/21 18:00  
LOW BRCK
                                                        167.19
                                        153.46
                      144.40
LOW RACK
                                                          179.10
                      145.40
                                        168.44
HIGH RACK
                                                          173.89
                                        157.57
RACK AVG
                      144.86
OPIS NYH BARGE DELIVERED SPOT (SRI)
                                                         156.84
 FOB BURLINGTON 144.37
                                        153.46
                       144.40
 BRD LOW RACK
                                                          179.10
                                       168.44
 BRD HIGH RACK
                      145.40
                                                          175.01
                                       157.48
                     144.79
 BRD RACK AVG
                                      158.10
                                                          167.19
                     145.28
 UBD LOW RACK
                                       158.10
                                                          167.19
                     145.28
 UBD HIGH RACK
                     145.28
                                                          167.19
                                        158.10
 UBD RACK AVG
                                       157.57
                                                          173.89
                      144.86
 CONT AVG-01/22
                                                         167.19
                                       153.46
 CONT LOW-01/22
                      144.40
```

CONT HIGH-01/22	145.40	168.44	179.10
BURLINGTON, VT			
LOW RETAIL	242.	37	
AVG RETAIL	248.	82	
LOW RETAIL EX-	'AX 191.	8.1	
AVG RETAIL EX-	TAX 198.	26	

#### Written Testimony prepared for:

U.S. Senate
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Vermont Field Hearing
Monday, August 6, 2012
Burlington City Hall
149 Church Street
Burlington, Vermont

My name is Ben Brockwell and I am Director of Data, Pricing & Information Service with OPIS (Oil Price Information Service).

OPIS is a privately-held, independent business information company, a division of Gaithersburg, Maryland-based UCG. The parent company provides business information services across a wide array of businesses including oil and energy, the specialty of OPIS. Other UCG business units deal in health, banking, and technology fields.

UCG celebrates 35 years in business in 2012.

OPIS celebrates its 32 year as part of UCG in 2012.

OPIS essential business function is to independently value the price of refined oil products (gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, propane, etc.) as they move along the supply chain from the refiner producer to the end-user consumer.

OPIS prices provide independent benchmarks for bulk buyers and sellers of petroleum needing an independent source to value their daily buy/sell transactions for specific products.

OPIS tracks wholesale rack or terminal prices at close to 400 city locations through all fifty U.S. states and in Canada.

OPIS wholesale prices are highly referenced benchmarks used by petroleum wholesalers to sell product to end-users. Our prices are typically used as reference points around which contract prices between a supplier and a consumer rise or fall, escalate or deescalate.

The U.S. government through its Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) relies on OPIS data to buy its bulk fuel needs for the military.

OPIS, through its retail gasoline/diesel group, also tracks retail gasoline prices at some 175,000 gasoline stations through all fifty states, including Vermont.

OPIS retail prices are site specific, brand specific, and product specific, and updated daily via credit card transaction reads mainly through Portland, Maine-based Wright Express, a credit card services company serving small, medium, and large sized fuel fleets.

OPIS also collects prices directly from some of the large chain retailers who have a vested interest in our data being correct because OPIS retail gasoline prices are being used by automobile companies as part of the dashboard software used to find gasoline stations and other consumer services – GPS based technology.

Retail gasoline and diesel prices are aggregated in a retail fuel data base and sorted in a variety of formats so the information can be sold on a fee-subscription basis.

A sampling of OPIS retail fuel products include: Retail Fuel Watch (RFW), a weekly publication that tracks rack-to-retail gasoline and diesel prices profit margins by geographical region (Northeast, for example); by state (Vermont); and by metropolitan location (Burlington). Among other things, RFW ranks by region the most profitable and least profitable cities to market gasoline. It also rates the top earning brands by region.

OPIS stores lots of retail pricing data in its Retail Data House, which can be used to generate comparative price studies over time by region, by brand, by state, etc.

OPIS also publishes a Retail Radius Report which essentially provides competitive station pricing data by specific geographical region within a specified radius of any selected station location.

OPIS also published from time to time special retail reports, including an Annual Retail Market in Review that summarizes and compares various data components, including gallons sold, annual margins, market share by brand, branded supplier price comparison, unbranded supplier price comparisons, branded versus unbranded price comparisons, etc.

Because of OPIS recognized expertise in wholesale and retail gasoline prices, I was contacted by the office of Senator Bernie Sanders regarding possible pump pricing discrepancies in Vermont, specifically the variation between prices in Burlington, Vermont and other areas of the state.

I was made aware of a July 2012 letter that the Senator had sent to the U.S. Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission asking for an investigation to explain why Burlington, Vermont prices were some 35cts/gal higher than places like Middlebury, less than 30 miles from Burlington.

Senator Sander's office asked OPIS to provide some historical information on rack-to-retail gasoline margins in Vermont over time to determine how Burlington profit margins compare to other Vermont cities, the U.S. average, plus the northeastern regional average.

OPIS provided several data series to aid the senator with his inquiry.

I was asked by the senator's office if there was a reasonable explanation why Burlington prices were so much higher than neighboring areas.

My immediate response was to take the senator's office through a number of variables that I would examine to help explain any significant price differences.

One of the first avenues of inquiry was took verify the type of gasoline that Burlington may use versus other areas of Vermont, the possibility that Burlington required what is known as reformulated gasoline, gasoline that is required in certain metropolitan areas to comply with ozone and clean air requirements.

RFG gasoline tends to be much more expensive than conventional gasoline because the fuel is tougher for refiners to make and requires the use of more expensive blend stocks.

Burlington, Vermont is not one of the metropolitan locations required to burn reformulated gasoline or low Reid Vapor Gasoline to meet clean air standards.

Burlington uses conventional gasoline at its stations, the same gasoline used through the entire state.

So my initial conclusion was that fuel specification differences did not explain the price discrepancies the senator outlined in his letter to the attorney general.

I then looked at state, county, and local gasoline tax possibilities as a reason one areas price could be so much higher than another – perhaps some Burlington city tax existed or some additional county tax on gasoline existed beyond the normal Vermont state gasoline tax that would create a price difference related to gasoline taxes.

I believe the Vermont gasoline tax structure is pretty uniform and to my knowledge no additional or special gasoline taxes or fees are in place in Burlington or in the neighboring counties that would explain the price differences mentioned by Senator Sanders' office.

So gasoline taxes didn't seem to me to offer a reasonable explanation of the retail gasoline price differences outlined by Senator Sanders.

I also took a look at transportation – the possibility that it cost more to deliver gasoline to Burlington than to other markets but the major oil terminals are located closer to Burlington than to other markets so I eliminated this as a cause for the price differences described by the Senator in his letter to the attorney general and chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

Companies that deliver gasoline for a living tell me it costs about 2.4cpg to deliver gasoline from zero to 25 miles; 3.4cpg from 26 to 50 miles; 4.6cpg from 51 to 75 miles; 6 cpg from 76 to 100 miles; and approximately 13 cpg to deliver fuel 200 miles. Time and

distance are the controlling variables that determine transportation rates, along with loading and unloading product, which is built into the rates.

Real estate values in Burlington may offer one explanation but it is a variable I am not in a position to evaluate: the point being that the cost of building a running a station in Burlington may be higher than in other Vermont locations so retailers strive to earn bigger profits to offset higher expenses.

Senator Sanders mentioned in his letter to the attorney general that the Burlington retail gasoline market was mostly controlled by four companies, suggesting a possible lack of local competition. That is an avenue of inquiry that might deserve closer inspection.

The impact of having a low-cost gasoline provider in a market can be significant. In New Jersey, for example, areas that have Wawa gasoline outlets tend to be 15 to 24cpg lower-priced than areas that don't.

Based upon my inquiry into this matter I have been unable to find a reasonable explanation to justify or explain why Burlington, Vermont retail gasoline prices are higher than neighboring areas.

From:

Kriger, Ryan

Sent:

Wednesday, September 17, 2014 4:37 PM

To:

'McLean, Daniel (Sanders)'

Subject:

**RE:** Gas Prices

Let's talk tomorrow.

-Ryan

**From:** McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel\_McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 1:17 PM

To: Kriger, Ryan Subject: Gas Prices

Ryan: I worked with you on gas prices back in 2012, correct? I have some ideas on how you can get some pricing data that the AG said he was looking for. ... Dan

Daniel McLean Senior Press Advisor Office of U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders

daniel mclean@sanders.senate.gov (802) 862-0697 office phone

Visit Senator Sanders' Online Resources: <u>Website</u> | <u>Facebook</u> | <u>Twitter</u> | <u>You Tube</u> | <u>Bernie Buzz</u> From:

McLean, Daniel (Sanders) < Daniel\_McLean@sanders.senate.gov>

Sent:

Wednesday, September 24, 2014 4:35 PM

To:

Kriger, Ryan

Subject:

RE: Ryan,

Confirmed. We have no parking. Sorry, I can't help there. See you tomorrow.

From: Kriger, Ryan [mailto:ryan.kriger@state.vt.us] Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 4:23 PM

To: McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Subject: RE: Ryan,

Dan,

Just confirming, we're going to 1 Church St, 3rd Floor, tomorrow? Do you suggest parking in the municipal garage over there, or is there other parking at the building?

-Ryan

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 5:15 PM

**To:** Kriger, Ryan **Subject:** RE: Ryan,

Thanks.

From: Kriger, Ryan [mailto:ryan.kriger@state.vt.us]

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 5:11 PM

**To:** McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Subject: RE: Ryan,

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 4:43 PM

**To:** Kriger, Ryan **Subject:** RE: Ryan,

Ryan: What is your cell number, just so I have it in case I need to reach on Thursday morning. Dan

From: Kriger, Ryan [mailto:ryan.kriger@state.vt.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 4:31 PM

**To:** McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Cc: Morgan, Wendy Subject: RE: Ryan,

We will see you at 10:30. Wendy Morgan, the Public Protection division chief, will be joining us.

-Ryan

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 1:38 PM

**To:** Kriger, Ryan **Subject:** Re: Ryan,

The sooner the better. I just want to get it in the schedule. Thanks.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Kriger, Ryan

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 1:21 PM

**To:** McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Subject: RE: Ryan,

Dan,

Sorry for the delay – there may be someone else in my office who wants to join, and I've been waiting to hear back on whether that time works for them. Is there a time you need confirmation by?

-Ryan

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 1:00 PM

To: Kriger, Ryan Subject: RE: Ryan,

Ryan: I tried to reach you by phone earlier, but I'll try you by email as well.

How about either 10:30 a.m. or 11 a.m. on Thursday morning at our office? Thanks. Dan

From: Kriger, Ryan [mailto:ryan.kriger@state.vt.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 8:47 AM

To: McLean, Daniel (Sanders)

Cc: Morgan, Wendy Subject: RE: Ryan,

Friady after 1:30 PM would work best for me, or Thursday morning. If those times don't work let me know and I'll try to move things around.

Ryan

From: McLean, Daniel (Sanders) [mailto:Daniel McLean@sanders.senate.gov]

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2014 5:59 PM

**To:** Kriger, Ryan **Subject:** Ryan,

Ryan,

The senator would like you to come into our Burlington office for a meeting re: gas prices later this week, Thursday

or Friday. When are you free?

Dan

Daniel McLean Senior Press Advisor Office of U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders From:

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Sent:

Wednesday, September 24, 2014 4:22 PM

To:

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Daniel McLean
Senior Press Advisor
Office of U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders

daniel mclean@sanders.senate.gov

(802) 862-0697 office phone (802) 222-7330 cell phone

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