

Fuel prices

March 2025 | Economic brief

The following information is sourced from the Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP) and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

The reported monthly average price for March 2025 is calculated as the average price in cents per litre (cpl) for the four weeks ending 30 March 2025 unless otherwise stated.

Gross indicative retail differences (GIRDs) are the average retail price less the published terminal gate prices (TGP) and are used as an indication of gross retail margins.

Unleaded (ULP)

	Average retail ULP price, cpl	Monthly change, cpl	Year-ended change, cpl
Darwin	181.8	↓0.1	↓9.9
Alice Springs	245.3	↓1.0	↓8.3
Katherine	213.6	↑1.0	↓2.1
Tennant Creek	222.5	↑0.7	↓5.3
Northern Territory average ¹	196.7	↓0.2	↓9.1
Australia average ¹	182.6	↓1.9	↓17.1

¹ weighted average

The average retail price of ULP in the Territory was 196.7 cpl, 0.2 cpl lower than the previous month and 9.1 cpl lower over the year (Chart 1). Nationally, the average retail price of ULP was 182.6 cpl, 1.9 cpl lower than the previous month and 17.1 cpl lower over the year.

In Darwin, the average ULP price was 181.8 cpl, 0.1 cpl lower than the previous month and 9.9 cpl lower over the year. This was the fourth lowest retail price of the capital cities, which ranged from 173.8 cpl in Adelaide to 194.1 cpl in Brisbane (Chart 2).

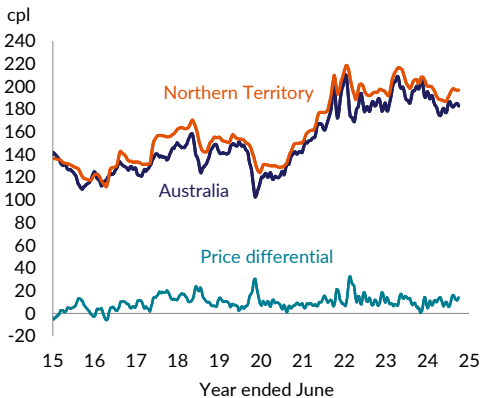
The average TGP for ULP in Darwin was 168.7 cpl, 6.0 cpl lower than the previous month and 16.2 cpl lower over the year. The average TGP nationally was 164.2 cpl, 5.7 cpl lower than the previous month and 17.8 cpl lower over the year.

The monthly average GIRD for ULP in Darwin increased by 5.9 cpl to 13.1 cpl (Chart 3). This was the fourth highest GIRD of the capital cities, which otherwise ranged from 9.6 cpl in Adelaide to 30.5 cpl in Brisbane. The national average GIRD for ULP increased by 3.9 cpl to 18.4 cpl in the month

ACCC fuel price monitoring

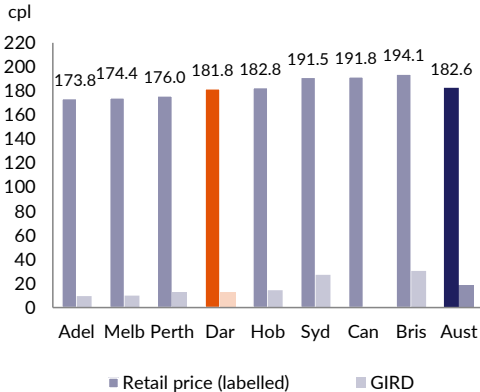
The ACCC released its Report on the Australian Petroleum Market for the December quarter 2024 on 25 February 2025. The Report can be accessed [here](#). The Report shows that the Darwin average ULP price was 168.9 cpl, 10.9 cpl lower than the average of the five largest capital cities (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth).

Chart 1: Retail unleaded petrol price (monthly average)



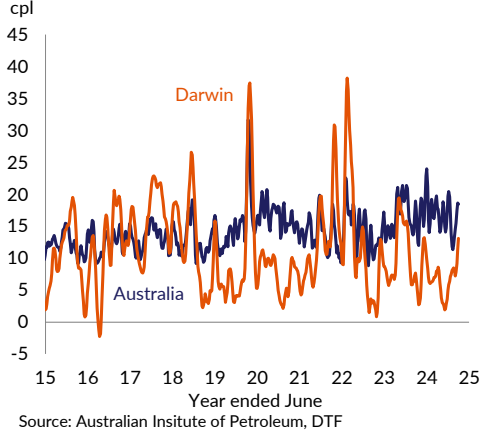
Source: Australian Institute of Petroleum, DTF

Chart 2: Retail ULP price and gross indicative retail difference (monthly average)



*No fuel import terminal in Canberra
Source: Australian Institute of Petroleum, DTF

Chart 3: ULP gross indicative retail difference (monthly average)



Source: Australian Institute of Petroleum, DTF

Diesel

The monthly average retail price of diesel across the Territory was 208.4 cpl. This was a decline of 1.9 cpl from the previous month and 11.1 cpl lower over the year (Chart 4). The monthly average retail diesel price across Australia was 188.8 cpl, a decline of 2.4 cpl from the previous month and 13.2 cpl lower over the year.

	Average retail diesel price, cpl	Monthly change, cpl	Year-ended change, cpl
Darwin	186.4	↓2.6	↓12.9
Regional average ¹	242.6	↓0.7	↓8.3
Northern Territory average ¹	208.4	↓1.9	↓11.1
Australia average ¹	188.8	↓2.4	↓13.2

1 weighted average

Darwin recorded a monthly average retail diesel price of 186.4 cpl, 2.6 cpl lower than the previous month and 12.9 cpl lower over the year. Darwin had the fourth lowest retail price of the capital cities, which ranged from 182.2 cpl in Adelaide to 195.7 cpl in Canberra (Chart 5).

The TGP for diesel in Darwin was 173.1 cpl, 6.2 cpl lower than last month and 14.8 cpl lower over the year. Darwin's average GIRD for diesel increased by 3.5 cpl to 13.2 cpl (Chart 6). This was the equal lowest of the capital cities with Adelaide, which otherwise ranged from 15.4 cpl in Perth to 22.5 cpl in Brisbane.

Brent crude oil

The monthly average spot price of Brent crude oil in March 2025 was \$112.75 per barrel in Australian dollar terms (Chart 7). This was a decline of 5.0% in the month and a decline of 12.8% over the year.

	Average spot price (per barrel)	Monthly change (%)	Year-ended change (%)
Brent crude \$US	71.00	↓5.0	↓16.2
Brent crude \$AU	112.75	↓5.0	↓12.8

Chart 7: Brent crude oil prices (monthly average)

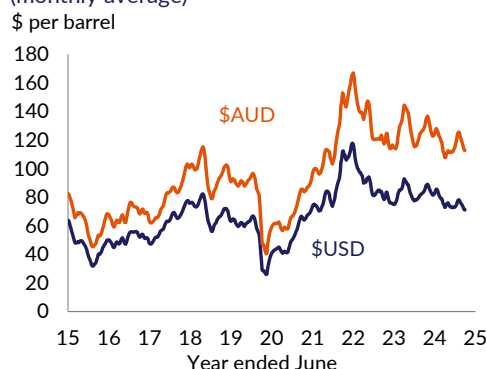


Chart 4: Retail diesel price (monthly average)

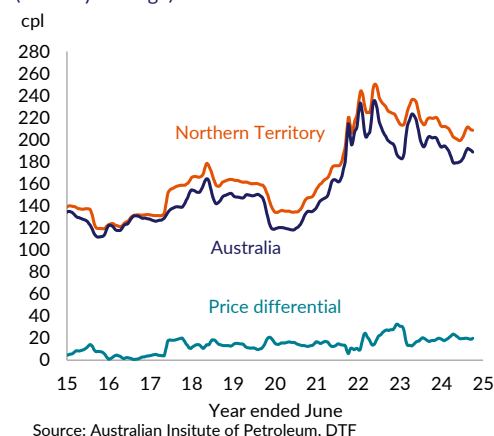


Chart 5: Diesel price and gross indicative retail difference (monthly average)

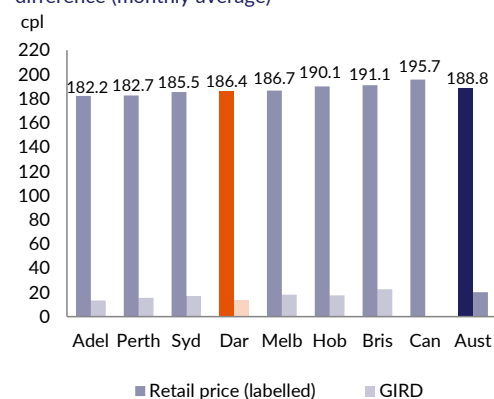


Chart 6: Diesel gross indicative retail difference (monthly average)

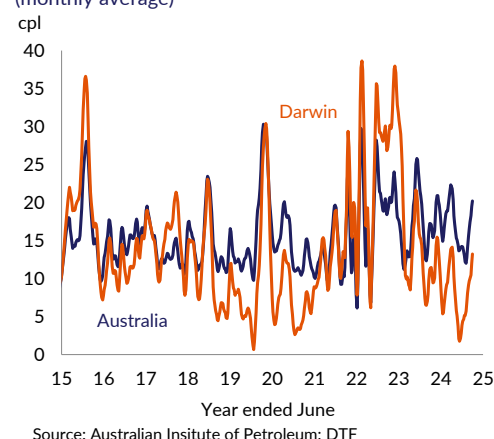


Table 1: Monthly average fuel prices

	Monthly average for the week ending (cpl)			Change (cpl)	
	Mar 24	Feb 25	Mar 25	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²
Unleaded petrol					
Retail price					
Northern Territory	205.8	196.9	196.7	-0.2	-9.1
– Darwin	191.7	181.9	181.8	-0.1	-9.9
– Alice Springs	253.6	246.3	245.3	-1.0	-8.3
– Katherine	215.7	212.6	213.6	1.0	-2.1
– Tennant Creek	227.8	221.8	222.5	0.7	-5.3
Australia	199.7	184.5	182.6	-1.9	-17.1
Terminal gate price³					
Darwin	184.9	174.7	168.7	-6.0	-16.2
Australia	182.0	169.9	164.2	-5.7	-17.8
Gross indicative retail difference (GIRD)⁴					
Darwin	6.7	7.2	13.1	5.9	6.4
Australia	17.6	14.5	18.4	3.9	0.8
Retail price differential from Australia					
Northern Territory	6.1	12.4	14.1	1.7	8.0
– Darwin	-8.0	-2.6	-0.8	1.8	7.2
Diesel					
Retail price					
Northern Territory	219.5	210.3	208.4	-1.9	-11.1
– Darwin	199.3	189.0	186.4	-2.6	-12.9
– Regional average*	250.9	243.3	242.6	-0.7	-8.3
Australia	202.0	191.2	188.8	-2.4	-13.2
Terminal gate price³					
Darwin	187.9	179.3	173.1	-6.2	-14.8
Australia	184.8	174.6	168.6	-6.0	-16.2
Gross indicative retail difference (GIRD)⁴					
Darwin	11.4	9.7	13.2	3.5	1.8
Australia	17.2	16.6	20.2	3.6	3.0
Retail price differential from Australia					
Northern Territory	17.5	19.1	19.6	0.5	2.1
– Darwin	-2.7	-2.2	-2.4	-0.2	0.3

Table 2 - Monthly average crude oil prices

	Monthly average for the week ending (\$)			Change (%)	
	Mar 24	Feb 25	Mar 25	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²
Brent spot price in \$US per barrel	84.78	74.75	71.00	-5.0	-16.2
Brent spot price in \$AU per barrel	129.24	118.69	112.75	-5.0	-12.8

1 Compares the average of the last four weeks with the average of the corresponding four weeks of the previous month.

2 Compares the average of the last four weeks with the average of the corresponding four weeks of the previous year.

terminal and provide an indication of the actual wholesale price of fuel. The largest component of the TGP is the price of crude oil, followed by the Commonwealth Government's fuel excise and goods and services tax.

4 Gross indicative retail differences (GIRD) are equal to the monthly average retail price less the monthly average TGP and are used as a broad indication of gross retail fuel margins.

* AIP does not report on diesel prices for Alice Springs, Katherine and Tennant Creek.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, Australian Institute of Petroleum, Reserve Bank of Australia, Investing.com AU

Term	Definition
Gross Indicative Retail Differences (GIRDs)	Gross indicative retail differences are the average retail price less the published terminal gate prices and are used as an indication of gross retail margins.
Terminal Gate Price (TGP)	Terminal gate price is the wholesale price for the bulk supply of a petroleum product.

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, as it is often derived from small samples and can be highly volatile. Although due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

More information

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