# **Fuel prices**

### May 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 May 2025 is calculated as the average price in cents per litre (cpl) for the four weeks ending 1 June 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	178.0	<b>₽</b> 2.0	<b>↓</b> 15.3
Alice Springs	241.5	<b>₽</b> 2.3	<b>₽</b> 8.9
Katherine	208.4	<b>₽</b> 1.1	<b>₽</b> 3.3
Tennant Creek	218.5	<b>₹</b> 3.4	<b>₹</b> 12.6
Northern Territory average <sup>1</sup>	192.9	<b>↓</b> 1.9	<b>↓</b> 13.2
Australia average <sup>1</sup>	172.9	<b>₹</b> 5.8	<b>↓</b> 18.9

<sup>1</sup> weighted average

The average retail price of ULP in the Territory was 192.9 cpl, 1.9 cpl lower than the previous month and 13.2 cpl lower over the year (Chart 1). Nationally, the average retail price of ULP was 172.9 cpl, 5.8 cpl lower than the previous month and 18.9 cpl lower over the year.

In Darwin, the average ULP price was 178.0 cpl, 2.0 cpl lower than the previous month and 15.3 cpl lower over the year. This was the second highest retail price of the capital cities, which ranged from 168.2 cpl in Hobart to 182.5 cpl in Brisbane (Chart 2).

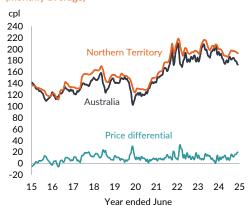
The average TGP for ULP in Darwin was 161.0 cpl, 2.7 cpl lower than the previous month and 19.2 cpl lower over the year. The average TGP nationally was 156.5 cpl, 2.6 cpl lower than the previous month and 20.3 cpl lower over the year.

The monthly average GIRD for ULP in Darwin increased by 0.7 cpl to 17.0 cpl (Chart 3). This was the second highest GIRD of the capital cities, which ranged from 7.8 cpl in Hobart to 26.3 cpl in Brisbane. The national average GIRD for ULP declined by 3.2 cpl to 16.4 cpl in the month.

## **ACCC** fuel price monitoring

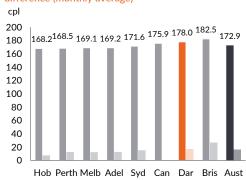
The ACCC released its Report on the Australian Petroleum Market for the March quarter 2025 on 3 June 2025. The Report can be accessed <a href="here">here</a>. The Report shows that the Darwin average ULP price was 181.4 cpl, 0.8 cpl lower than the average of the five largest capital cities (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth).

Chart 1: Retail unleaded petrol price (monthly average)



Source: Australian Institute of Petroleum, DTF

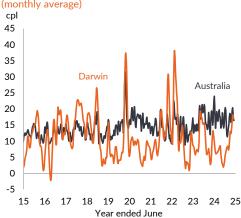
Chart 2: Retail ULP price and gross indicative retail difference (monthly average)



■ Retail price (labelled)

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

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



Source: Australian Insitute of Petroleum, DTF

#### **Diesel**

The monthly average retail price of diesel across the Territory was 204.4 cpl. This was a decline of 2.5 cpl from the previous month and 13.1 cpl lower over the year (Chart 4). The monthly average retail diesel price across Australia was 179.2 cpl, a decline of 5.5 cpl from the previous month and 18.5 cpl lower over the year.

	Average retail diesel price, cpl	Monthly change, cpl	Year-ended change, cpl
Darwin	179.2	<b>₹</b> 5.4	<b>₹</b> 16.2
Regional average <sup>1</sup>	239.4	<b>₹</b> 1.9	<b>₹</b> 12.2
Northern Territory average <sup>1</sup>	204.4	<b>₹</b> 2.5	<b>1</b> 3.1
Australia average <sup>1</sup>	179.2	<b>₹</b> 5.5	<b>₽</b> 18.5

<sup>1</sup> weighted average

Darwin recorded a monthly average retail diesel price of 179.2 cpl, 5.4 cpl lower than the previous month and 16.2 cpl lower over the year. Darwin had the second highest retail price of the capital cities, which ranged from 172.7 cpl in Hobart to 190.6 cpl in Canberra (Chart 5).

The TGP for diesel in Darwin was 162.8 cpl, 5.0 cpl lower than last month and 17.4 cpl lower over the year. Darwin's average GIRD for diesel declined by 0.5 cpl to 16.3 cpl (Chart 6). This was the fourth highest of the capital cities, which ranged from 10.6 cpl in Hobart to 20.5 cpl in Brisbane.

#### Brent crude oil

The monthly average spot price of Brent crude oil in May 2025 was \$99.15 per barrel in Australian dollar terms (Chart 7). This was a decline of 3.4% in the month and a decline of 20.8% over the year.

	Average spot price (per barrel)	Monthly change (%)	Year-ended change (%)
Brent crude \$US	63.90	<b>₽</b> 1.3	<b>₽</b> 23.0
Brent crude \$AU	99.15	<b>₹</b> 3.4	<b>\$</b> 20.8

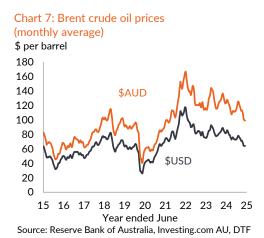
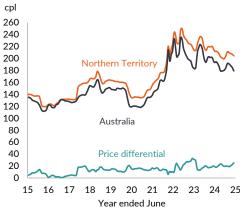
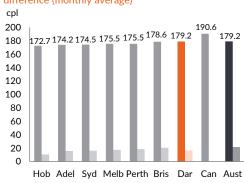


Chart 4: Retail diesel price (monthly average)



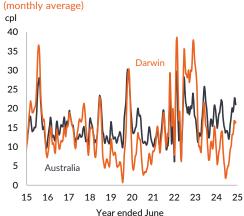
Source: Australian Insitute of Petroleum, DTF

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



■ Retail price (labelled) ■ GIRD
\*No fuel import terminal in Canberra
Source: Australian Insitute of Petroleum. DTF

Chart 6: Diesel gross indicative retail difference



Source: Australian Insitute of Petroleum; DTF

Table 1: Monthly average fuel prices

	Monthly average			Change (cpl)	
	May 24	Apr 25	May 25	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended <sup>2</sup>
Unleaded petrol					
Retail price					
Northern Territory	206.1	194.8	192.9	-1.9	-13.2
– Darwin	193.3	180.0	178.0	-2.0	-15.3
- Alice Springs	250.4	243.8	241.5	-2.3	-8.9
– Katherine	211.7	209.5	208.4	-1.1	-3.3
<ul> <li>Tennant Creek</li> </ul>	231.1	221.9	218.5	-3.4	-12.6
Australia	191.8	178.7	172.9	-5.8	-18.9
Terminal gate price <sup>3</sup>					
Darwin	180.2	163.7	161.0	-2.7	-19.2
Australia	176.8	159.1	156.5	-2.6	-20.3
Gross indicative retail difference (GIRD) <sup>4</sup>					
Darwin	13.1	16.3	17.0	0.7	3.9
Australia	15.0	19.6	16.4	-3.2	1.4
Retail price differential from Australia					
Northern Territory	14.3	16.1	20.0	3.9	5.7
- Darwin	1.5	1.3	5.1	3.8	3.6
Diesel					
Retail price					
Northern Territory	217.5	206.9	204.4	-2.5	-13.1
– Darwin	195.4	184.6	179.2	-5.4	-16.2
– Regional average*	251.6	241.3	239.4	-1.9	-12.2
Australia	197.7	184.7	179.2	-5.5	-18.5
Terminal gate price <sup>3</sup>					
Darwin	180.2	167.8	162.8	-5.0	-17.4
Australia	176.7	163.1	158.2	-4.9	-18.5
Gross indicative retail difference (GIRD) <sup>4</sup>					
Darwin	15.1	16.8	16.3	-0.5	1.2
Australia	20.9	21.6	21.0	-0.6	0.1
Retail price differential from Australia					
Northern Territory	19.8	22.2	25.2	3.0	5.4
– Darwin	-2.3	-0.1	0.0	0.1	2.3

Table 2 - Monthly average crude oil prices

	Monthly average (\$)			Change (%)	
	May 24	Apr 25	May 25	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended <sup>2</sup>
Brent spot price in \$US per barrel	82.97	64.74	63.90	-1.3	-23.0
Brent spot price in \$AU per barrel	125.13	102.68	99.15	-3.4	-20.8

<sup>1</sup> Compares the average of the last four weeks with the average of the corresponding four weeks of the previous month.

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

<sup>2</sup> Compares the average of the last four weeks with the average of the corresponding four weeks of the previous year.

<sup>3</sup> Terminal gate prices (TGPs) are the published daily spot prices at which fuel can be purchased from the fuel import or refinery 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>\*</sup> AIP does not report on diesel prices for Alice Springs, Katherine and Tennant Creek.

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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