

Fuel prices

April 2026 | Economic brief

The following information is sourced from the Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP) and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). It does not align with the daily prices reported on MyFuel NT.

The reported monthly average price for April 2026 is calculated as the average price in cents per litre (cpl) for the four weeks ending 03 May 2026 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	208.7	↓25.8	↑28.7
Alice Springs	271.7	↓2.8	↑27.9
Katherine	260.1	↑23.8	↑50.6
Tennant Creek	284.5	↑40.9	↑62.6
Northern Territory average ¹	224.6	↓17.9	↑29.8
Australia average ¹	203.3	↓29.1	↑24.6

¹ weighted average

The average retail price of ULP in the Territory was 224.6 cpl, 17.9 cpl lower than the previous month, however 29.8 cpl higher in year-ended terms (Chart 1). Nationally, the average retail price of ULP was 203.3 cpl, 29.1 cpl lower than the previous month, however 24.6 cpl higher in year-ended terms.

In Darwin, the average ULP price was 208.7 cpl, 25.8 cpl lower than the previous month, however 28.7 cpl higher in year-ended terms. This was the highest retail price of the capital cities, which otherwise ranged from 197.4 cpl in Adelaide to 203.1 cpl in Canberra (Chart 2).

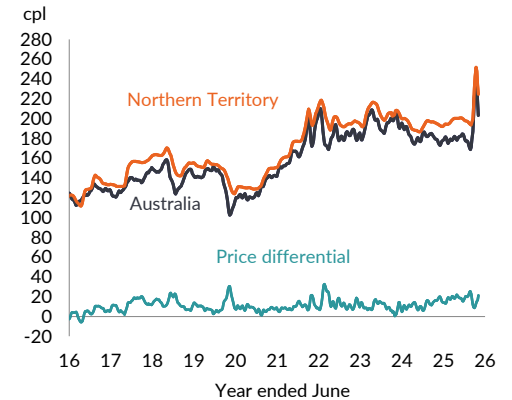
The average TGP for ULP in Darwin was 195.6 cpl, 30.5 cpl lower than the previous month, however 31.9 cpl higher in year-ended terms. The average TGP nationally was 191.4 cpl, 30.5 cpl lower than the previous month, however 32.3 cpl higher in year-ended terms.

The monthly average GIRD for ULP in Darwin increased by 4.7 cpl to 13.1 cpl (Chart 3). This was the highest GIRD of the capital cities, which otherwise ranged from 6.0 cpl in Adelaide to 11.6 cpl in Brisbane. The national average GIRD for ULP increased by 1.4 cpl to 11.9 cpl in the month.

ACCC fuel price monitoring

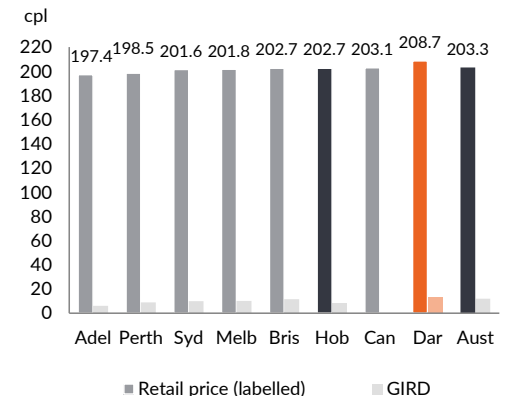
The ACCC released its Report on the Australian Petroleum Market for the December quarter 2025 on 6 March 2026. The Report can be accessed [here](#). The Report shows that the Darwin average ULP price was 185.9 cpl, 5.5 cpl higher than the average of the five largest capital cities (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth).

Chart 1: Retail unleaded petrol price (monthly average)



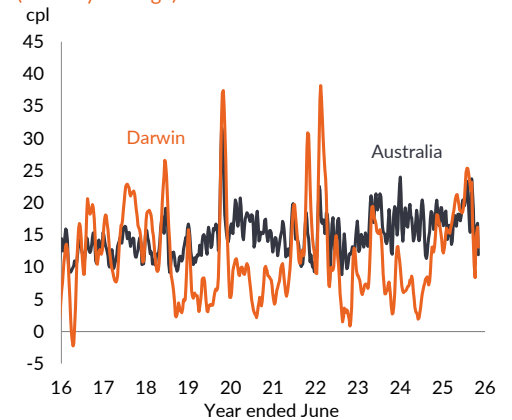
Source: Australian Institute of Petroleum, DTF

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 297.9 cpl. This was an increase of 18.1 cpl from the previous month and 91.0 cpl higher in year-ended terms (Chart 4). The monthly average retail diesel price across Australia was 289.3 cpl, an increase of 13.9 cpl from the previous month and 104.6 cpl higher in year-ended terms.

	Average retail diesel price, cpl	Monthly change, cpl	Year-ended change, cpl
Darwin	288.2	↑ 13.5	↑ 103.6
Regional average ¹	310.0	↑ 22.9	↑ 68.7
Northern Territory average ¹	297.9	↑ 18.1	↑ 91.0
Australia average ¹	289.3	↑ 13.9	↑ 104.6

¹ weighted average

Darwin recorded a monthly average retail diesel price of 288.2 cpl, 13.5 cpl higher than the previous month and 103.6 cpl higher in year-ended terms. Darwin had the second highest retail price of the capital cities, which ranged from 280.8 cpl in Perth to 291.5 cpl in Canberra (Chart 5).

The TGP for diesel in Darwin was 272.8 cpl, 7.1 cpl lower than last month, however 105.0 cpl higher in year-ended terms. Darwin's average GIRD for diesel increased by 20.7 cpl to 15.4 cpl (Chart 6). This was the lowest of the capital cities, which otherwise ranged from 16.7 cpl in Hobart to 23.4 cpl in Brisbane.

Brent crude oil

The monthly average spot price of Brent crude oil in April 2026 was \$142.51 per barrel in Australian dollar terms (Chart 7). This was a decline of 3.4% in the month and an increase of 38.8% in year-ended terms.

	Average spot price (per barrel)	Monthly change (%)	Year-ended change (%)
Brent crude \$US	101.40	↓ 1.6	↑ 56.6
Brent crude \$AU	142.51	↓ 3.4	↑ 38.8

Chart 7: Brent crude oil prices (monthly average)

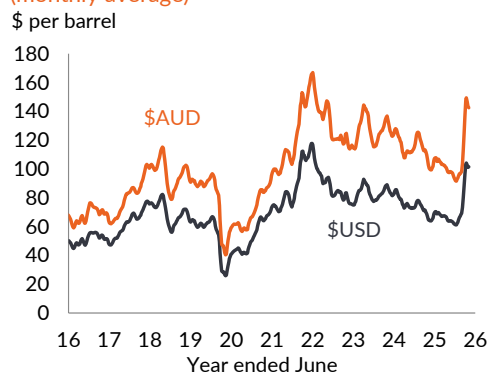


Chart 4: Retail diesel price (monthly average)

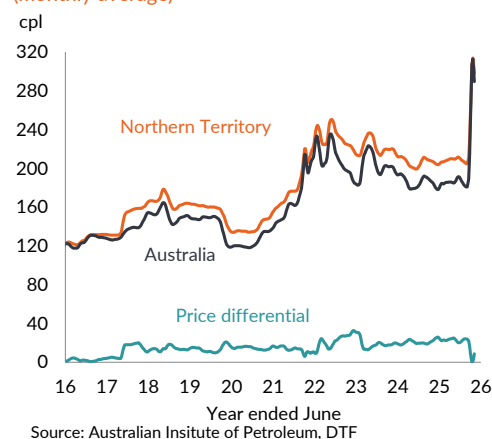


Chart 5: Diesel price and gross indicative retail difference (monthly average)

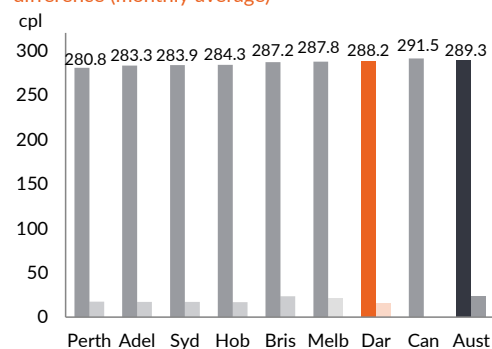


Chart 6: Diesel gross indicative retail difference (monthly average)

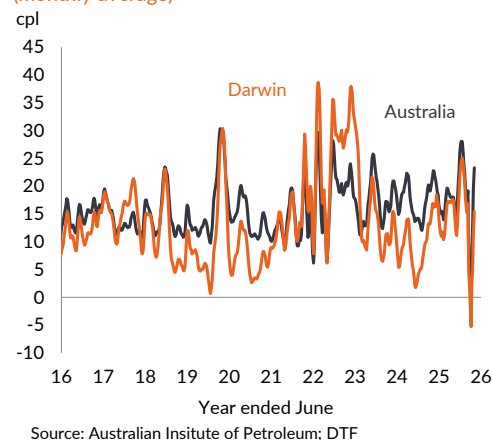


Table 1: Monthly average fuel prices

	Monthly average			Change (cpl)	
	Apr 25	Mar 26	Apr 26	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²
Unleaded petrol					
Retail price					
Northern Territory	194.8	242.5	224.6	-17.9	29.8
- Darwin	180.0	234.5	208.7	-25.8	28.7
- Alice Springs	243.8	274.5	271.7	-2.8	27.9
- Katherine	209.5	236.3	260.1	23.8	50.6
- Tennant Creek	221.9	243.6	284.5	40.9	62.6
Australia	178.7	232.4	203.3	-29.1	24.6
Terminal gate price³					
Darwin	163.7	226.1	195.6	-30.5	31.9
Australia	159.1	221.9	191.4	-30.5	32.3
Gross indicative retail difference (GIRD)⁴					
Darwin	16.3	8.4	13.1	4.7	-3.2
Australia	19.6	10.5	11.9	1.4	-7.7
Retail price differential from Australia					
Northern Territory	16.1	10.1	21.3	11.2	5.2
- Darwin	1.3	2.1	5.4	3.3	4.1
Diesel					
Retail price					
Northern Territory	206.9	279.8	297.9	18.1	91.0
- Darwin	184.6	274.7	288.2	13.5	103.6
- Regional average*	241.3	287.1	310.0	22.9	68.7
Australia	184.7	275.4	289.3	13.9	104.6
Terminal gate price³					
Darwin	167.8	279.9	272.8	-7.1	105.0
Australia	163.1	275.3	266.0	-9.3	102.9
Gross indicative retail difference (GIRD)⁴					
Darwin	16.8	-5.3	15.4	20.7	-1.4
Australia	21.6	0.1	23.3	23.2	1.7
Retail price differential from Australia					
Northern Territory	22.2	4.4	8.6	4.2	-13.6
- Darwin	-0.1	-0.7	-1.1	-0.4	-1.0

Table 2 - Monthly average crude oil prices

	Monthly average			Change (%)	
	Apr 25	Mar 26	Apr 26	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²
Brent spot price in \$US per barrel	64.74	103.07	101.40	-1.6	56.6
Brent spot price in \$AU per barrel	102.68	147.45	142.51	-3.4	38.8

n.p.: not published

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.

3 Terminal gate prices (TGP) 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.

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

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6718 | E: economics.dtf@nt.gov.au | W: nteconomy.nt.gov.au