

How Cuts in Saudi Oil Exports Could Affect New York Drivers

New York drivers are suffering record prices at the gas pump as an impending gasoline shortage in the United States is made worse by cuts in oil exports by Saudi Arabia. According to the American Automobile Association, gas prices across New York State have skyrocketed over the past month, hitting all-time highs and reaching prices almost 20% greater than last year at this time. Meanwhile preliminary data from the US Department of Energy indicates that over the first three weeks of August, Saudi Arabia cut the amount of oil it sent to the US by almost 25% or approximately 500,000 barrels per day. The average New York driver is likely to pay \$173 more for gas this year if the high prices persist. ***For a county-by-county breakdown of how soaring gas prices could hurt New Yorkers, please see the following report.***

Capital Region: On September 2, 2003, the average price of one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline was \$1.76 in the Tri-Cities, compared with \$1.45 a year ago. This represents an increase of over 21% and is just below the all-time high reached on August 30, 2003. The average driver in the Capital Region could see a \$208 increase in their annual gas bill as a result of this price change.

County	Licensed Drivers	Individual Added Expenditure	Total Added Expenditure
Albany	193,761	\$265	\$51.4 million
Rensselaer	106,366	\$200	\$21.3 million
Schenectady	111,385	\$171	\$19.1 million
Saratoga	152,011	\$179	\$27.2 million
Fulton	39,698	\$178	\$7.1 million
Montgomery	35,831	\$295	\$10.6 million
Schoharie	23,217	\$160	\$3.7 million
Washington	42,671	\$144	\$6.2 million
Capital Region	704,940	\$208	\$146.6 million

Rochester and the Finger Lakes: On September 2, 2003, the average price of one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline was \$1.79 in Rochester, compared with \$1.51 a year ago. This represents an increase of almost 19% and is the highest price ever recorded. The average driver in Rochester and the Finger Lakes could see a \$173 increase in their annual gas bill as a result of this price change.

County	Licensed Drivers	Individual Added Expenditure	Total Added Expenditure
Cayuga	55,053	\$189	\$10.4 million
Seneca	24,014	\$172	\$4.1 million
Yates	16,926	\$136	\$2.3 million
Ontario	74,169	\$237	\$17.6 million
Wayne	68,792	\$164	\$11.3 million
Monroe	506,567	\$160	\$80.9 million
Livingston	44,787	\$237	\$10.6 million
Schuyler	13,852	\$169	\$2.3 million
Tompkins	59,624	\$160	\$9.5 million
Finger Lakes	863,784	\$173	\$149 million

Central New York: On September 2, 2003, the average price of one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline was \$1.79 in Syracuse, compared with \$1.48 a year ago. This represents an increase of 21% and is just below the all-time high recorded on August 30, 2003. The average driver in Central New York could see a \$193 increase in their annual gas bill as a result of this price change.

County	Licensed Drivers	Individual Added Expenditure	Total Added Expenditure
Oneida	160,946	\$193	\$31.1 million
Oswego	85,701	\$194	\$16.6 million
Madison	49,452	\$146	\$7.2 million
Cortland	32,368	\$261	\$8.5 million
Onondaga	315,615	\$192	\$60.7 million
Central New York	644,082	\$193	\$124.1 million

Hudson Valley: On September 2, 2003, the average price of one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline was **\$1.89 in the Hudson Valley, compared with \$1.59 a year ago.** This represents an increase of 19%. The average driver in the Hudson Valley could see a \$149 increase in their annual gas bill as a result of this price change.

County	Licensed Drivers	Individual Added Expenditure	Total Added Expenditure
Westchester	639,903	\$129	\$82.3 million
Rockland	205,530	\$87	\$17.9 million
Putnam	74,470	\$170	\$12.7 million
Dutchess	199,171	\$167	\$33.2 million
Ulster	128,890	\$186	\$23.9 million
Sullivan	53,979	\$197	\$10.7 million
Orange	229,155	\$178	\$40.9 million
Greene	36,334	\$234	\$8.5 million
Columbia	46,805	\$239	\$11.2 million
Hudson Valley	1,614,237	\$149	\$241.3 million

North Country: On September 2, 2003, the average price of one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline was **approximately \$1.83 in the North County, compared with \$1.53 a year ago.** This represents an increase of 20%. The average driver in the North Country could see a \$198 increase in their annual gas bill as a result of this price change.

County	Licensed Drivers	Individual Added Expenditure	Total Added Expenditure
Warren	48,984	\$238	\$11.7 million
Essex	27,946	\$200	\$5.6 million
Clinton	53,882	\$214	\$11.5 million
Franklin	33,645	\$161	\$5.4 million
Hamilton	4,880	\$204	\$993,000
St Lawrence	74,512	\$165	\$12.3 million
Herkimer	45,747	\$199	\$9.1 million
Lewis	19,484	\$181	\$3.5 million
Jefferson	69,238	\$214	\$14.8 million
North Country	378,318	\$198	\$74.9 million

Southern Tier: On September 2, 2003, the average price of one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline was \$1.79 in Binghamton, compared with \$1.49 a year ago. This represents an increase of 20% and is just below the all-time high reached on August 29, 2003. The average driver in the Southern Tier could see a \$186 increase in their annual gas bill as a result of this price change.

County	Licensed Drivers	Individual Added Expenditure	Total Added Expenditure
Delaware	37,368	\$134	\$5.0 million
Otsego	43,457	\$201	\$8.7 million
Chenango	37,661	\$152	\$5.7 million
Broome	142,360	\$215	\$30.7 million
Tioga	37,749	\$157	\$5.9 million
Chemung	62,738	\$152	\$9.5 million
Steuben	72,363	\$208	\$15.1 million
Allegany	32,763	\$186	\$6.1 million
Southern Tier	466,459	\$186	\$86.7 million

Western New York: On September 2, 2003, the average price of one gallon of regular unleaded gasoline was \$1.80 in Buffalo-Niagara, compared with \$1.52 a year ago. This represents an increase of over 18% and is the highest price ever recorded. The average driver in Buffalo-Niagara could see a \$159 increase in their annual gas bill as a result of this price change.

County	Licensed Drivers	Individual Added Expenditure	Total Added Expenditure
Orleans	29,681	\$126	\$3.8 million
Genesee	44,178	\$389	\$17.2 million
Wyoming	29,820	\$176	\$5.3 million
Erie	640,863	\$162	\$103.6 million
Niagara	157,393	\$115	\$18.2 million
Cattaraugus	58,651	\$137	\$8 million
Chautauqua	96,474	\$128	\$12.4 million
Western New York	1,057,060	\$159	\$168.5 million