

Aug 04, 2020 00:00 BST

July was another bad month for drivers with petrol and diesel going up by 3p a litre

The average price of petrol and diesel rose for the second consecutive month, adding nearly £2 to a fill up, according to [RAC Fuel Watch](#) data for July.*

Unleaded rose 3.21p a litre from 111.06p to 114.27p, which sent the cost of a 55-litre tank to £62.85 – an increase of £1.77. Diesel went up by a similar amount – 2.95p a litre – from 115.09p to 118.04p, making a complete fill-up £1.62p more expensive at £64.92.

The price of oil was stable throughout July finishing at \$42.95 a barrel very similar to the beginning of the month. The wholesale price of petrol fell 2p across the month to 84.66p a litre, signalling that retailers should be reducing their pump prices slightly in the next week or two. Diesel also came down but only very slightly (0.22p) to 87.39p.

At the big four supermarkets, the average price of a litre of petrol increased by nearly 3.5p (3.43p) to 109.14p and diesel by 3.33p to 113.52p – this means refuelling at supermarket is an average of 5p a litre cheaper for unleaded and 4.5p for diesel.

Asda offered the cheapest supermarket unleaded by the end of July at 108.63p (up 2p) with the others all averaging just over 109p a litre. It also had the lowest price diesel at 112.68p ahead of Sainsbury's on 113.39p – Morrisons and Tesco were both at 114p.

RAC fuel spokesman Simon Williams said: “July was another bad month for drivers with a 3p a litre rise in the price of fuel. This means petrol’s 7p a litre

more expensive than it was at the end of May (107p on 31 May) and diesel is 6p more (111.86p on 31 May), something drivers will no doubt have noticed as each complete fill-up is costing almost £2 more.

“The higher prices at the pump have been driven by the cost of oil increasing steadily to around \$42 a barrel from a low of \$13.21 in April. But drivers may well be given some respite as oil producers are planning on ramping up production despite the risk of renewed lockdowns around the world. This could easily lead to supply outstripping demand and therefore a reduction on the forecourts of the UK. As it there is some scope for retailers to already be reducing their prices. If they play fair with drivers we ought to see 2p a litre come off the price of unleaded and nearer 4p come off diesel.”

Regional fuel price variation

Regional average unleaded pump prices

Unleaded	01/07/2020	30/07/2020	Change
UK average	111.06	114.27	3.21
Wales	109.74	113.19	3.45
East	111.17	114.60	3.43
South West	110.68	114.10	3.42
Scotland	110.84	114.13	3.29
South East	112.04	115.25	3.21
London	112.21	115.38	3.17
North West	110.69	113.85	3.16
Yorkshire And The Humber	110.62	113.73	3.11
North East	110.17	113.25	3.08
West Midlands	111.21	114.27	3.06
East Midlands	111.06	114.11	3.05
Northern Ireland	108.18	111.20	3.02

Regional average diesel pump prices

Diesel	01/07/2020	30/07/2020	Change
UK average	115.09	118.04	2.95
East	115.65	118.92	3.27
Scotland	114.67	117.81	3.14
South East	116.21	119.34	3.13
North West	114.53	117.55	3.02
Wales	114.11	117.05	2.94
West Midlands	115.27	118.15	2.88
London	116.18	119.03	2.85
South West	115.13	117.97	2.84
North East	114.02	116.85	2.83
East Midlands	115.21	117.98	2.77
Yorkshire And The Humber	114.72	117.32	2.60
Northern Ireland	111.97	114.46	2.49

Green – cheapest/least; red – most expensive/most

Motorists can keep abreast of the latest fuel prices by visiting the [RAC Fuel Watch webpage](#).

Ends

If you are a journalist and would like further information, please contact:

RAC press office: press.enquiries@rac.co.uk

Notes to Editors

* UK national and regional average pump prices quoted are based on Experian Catalist data from 1 to 30 July 2020. Wholesale prices, oil price and the value of sterling are based on data from 1 to 31 July 2020.

Notes to Editors

The press office email address is press.enquiries@rac.co.uk. **Please note:** the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the [RAC contacts page](#) to find the right contact.

ISDN radio studio facilities are available for interviews Monday to Friday.

About the RAC

The RAC provides complete peace of mind to 12m UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. Its services include:

- **[Breakdown assistance](#)**. Its highly skilled, 1,600-strong branded patrol workforce attends more than two million breakdowns every year, fixing on average four out of five vehicles at the roadside. The RAC's patrol fleet is one of the most advanced in the UK, and was the first to roll out both an [All-Wheels-Up recovery system](#), allowing the vast majority of vehicles to be recovered from a single patrol van, and [EV Boost](#) mobile electric vehicle charging units
- **[Insurance](#)**. The RAC is a top-five [car insurance](#) broker having surpassed the 500,000 policies-in-force milestone in 2018. It also offers '[black box' telematics policies](#)', as well as home and travel insurance
- **[Other motoring services](#)**. The RAC leads in the development of new solutions for business, fleets, electric vehicles and future car technology. Its additional products and services include a [personal loans offering](#), a [used car buying website](#), [vehicle inspections and checks](#), [legal services](#) or up-to-the-minute [traffic and travel information](#). It also has a network of [Approved Dealers](#) and [Approved Garages](#) which combine the trust of RAC brand with local service and convenience

The RAC also works to support the interests of its members and UK drivers on the most important motoring issues which it identifies via the annual [RAC Report on Motoring](#) and the [RAC Opinion Panel](#). The Report on Motoring is the longest running analysis of driver opinion in the UK having been published every year since 1989.

For more information about the RAC, visit the [RAC website](#).

Contacts



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