

# WEEKLY PETROL PRICES **REPORT**

Week ending 27 March 2022

Welcome to the latest AIP Weekly Petrol Prices Report.

All data, charts and tables in this report are based on the latest available market data to **Sunday, 27 March 2022**

## For more detailed information on:

Pricing Facts – see

<https://www.aip.com.au/facts-about-prices>

Terminal Gate Prices (wholesale) – see

<https://aip.com.au/pricing/terminal-gate-prices>

Pump Prices (retail) – see

<https://aip.com.au/pricing/pump-prices>

International Fuel Prices – see

<https://aip.com.au/pricing/international-prices/international-market-watch>

## In the AIP Weekly Petrol Prices Report:

- the data for international crude oil and petrol prices is supplied by Argus Media – see [www.argusmedia.com/](http://www.argusmedia.com/).
- the data for wholesale petrol prices is based on market data published by AIP member companies (BP, Viva Energy Australia, Mobil and Ampol) – see [www.aip.com.au/](http://www.aip.com.au/).
- the data for retail petrol prices is based on available market data supplied by MotorMouth – see [www.motormouth.com.au](http://www.motormouth.com.au).

Should you have any questions about the material in this report,  
please contact AIP at [aip@aip.com.au](mailto:aip@aip.com.au).

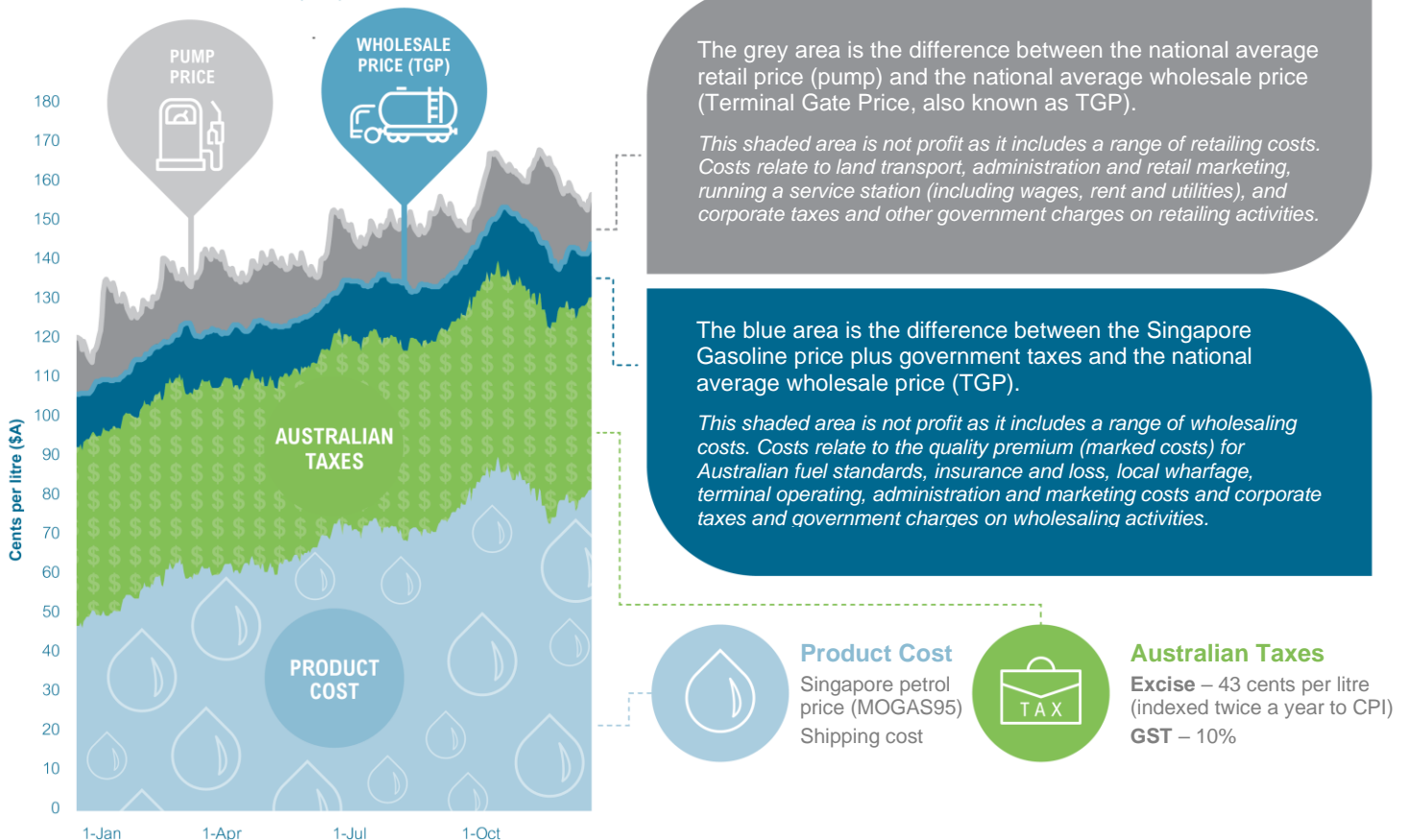
# The Australian Fuel Market - An Overall Snapshot

## Understanding Movements in Key Petrol Price Indicators

The Chart below provides an overall 'snapshot' of movements in key market indicators relevant to the price of petrol at the pump in Australia.

The Australian refining sector is a price taker. Domestic prices are closely linked to relevant international prices. The Singapore benchmark price of petrol (MOGAS95) is the key price benchmark for petrol in Australia. As the chart below shows, MOGAS95 Petrol plus shipping costs and Australian taxes represents almost the entire wholesale price of petrol.

Daily prices unleaded petrol - Australian national average  
(2021)



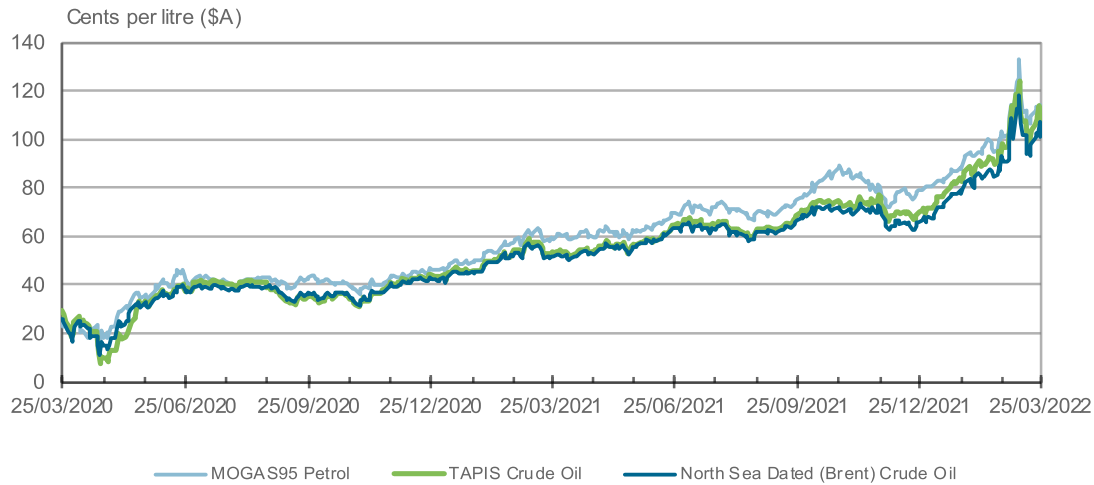
**Average Petrol retail price this week: 206.7 cents**  
**Average Petrol wholesale price this week: 186.6 cents**

### NOTES

- (1) **MOGAS95 PETROL:** the international petrol prices are provided by the Argus Media Group, and represent the end of day assessment for the midpoint of Singapore prices for 95 Octane Petrol (MOGAS95). The Australian Institute of Petroleum obtains confidential proprietary data from the Argus Media group under license, from which data the Australian Institute of Petroleum conducts and publishes its own calculations and opinions. Argus makes no warranties, express or implied, as to the accuracy, adequacy, timeliness, or completeness of its data or the Australian Institute of Petroleum's calculations or opinions, or their fitness for any particular purpose. Argus shall not be liable for any loss or damage arising from any party's reliance on Argus' data or the Australian Institute of Petroleum's calculations or opinions, and disclaims any and all liability related to or arising out of use of Argus' data and/or the Australian Institute of Petroleum's calculations and opinions to the full extent permissible by law. For further information about Argus products and services, see [www.argusmedia.com](http://www.argusmedia.com).
- (2) **SHIPPING:** AIP estimate, based on various sources (e.g. Argus, ACCC, Australian Petroleum Statistics and the Reserve Bank of Australia).
- (3) **TAXES:** is excise and GST less any relevant state rebates weighted by the volume of petrol consumed in each State.
- (4) **NATIONAL AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICES:** are derived from capital city prices weighted by fuel volume consumed in each State.
- (5) **NATIONAL AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES:** are calculated as the weighted average of each State/Territory's metropolitan and non metropolitan retail petrol prices, with the weights based on the number of registered petrol vehicles in each of these regions.

# International Market Trends

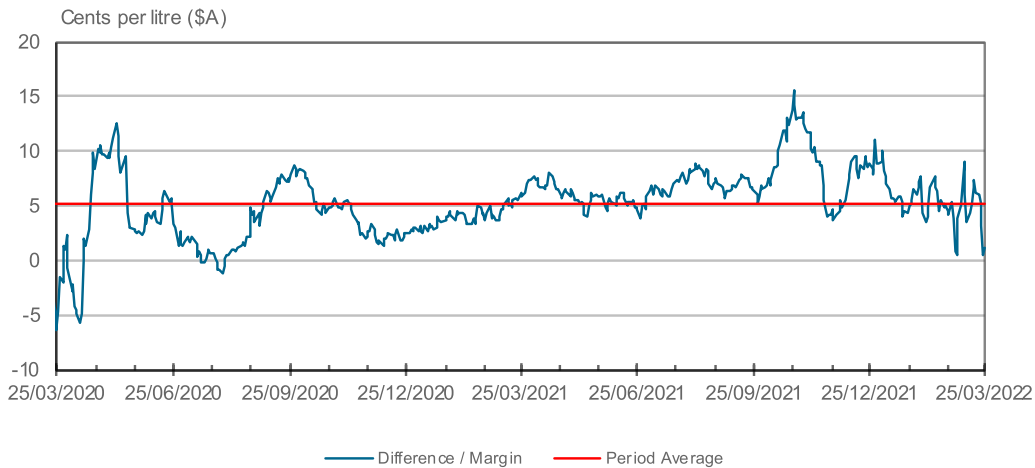
**Figure 1: Comparison of Singapore petrol price (MOGAS95) with crude oil prices**



NOTE: Australia is a significant part of the Asia-Pacific fuel market. The Australian market looks to Singapore, which is the regional refining and distribution centre, for relevant pricing benchmarks for petrol prices for unleaded petrol (Argus 95R gasoline/MOGAS95) and to Tapis and North Sea Dated (Brent) for crude oil. Argus Media publishes prices for Tapis and Dated Brent ("North Sea Dated" in Argus terminology). Countries across the Asia-Pacific region including Australia use North Sea Dated and its derivatives as benchmarks for crude oil contract purposes and spot transactions. For information on crude oil pricing in Asia see <http://www.aip.com.au/pricing/crude.htm>.

**Figure 2: Difference between market prices**

MOGAS95 Petrol Price Minus Tapis Crude Oil price



NOTE: The refiner margin above is the difference between market prices for MOGAS95 and Tapis. It is not a figure determined by refiners.

Cents per litre (A\$)	TAPIS CRUDE OIL	NORTH SEA DATED (BRENT) CRUDE OIL	MOGAS95 PETROL
Average: Last Week (to Friday 25/03/22)	109.0	102.9	112.2
Average: Previous Week (to Friday 18/03/22)	102.2	96.5	108.1
Average: Last 4 Weeks	107.8	102.0	112.3
Average: Last 12 Weeks	92.9	88.1	98.3
Average: Last 12 Months	70.9	68.4	77.7

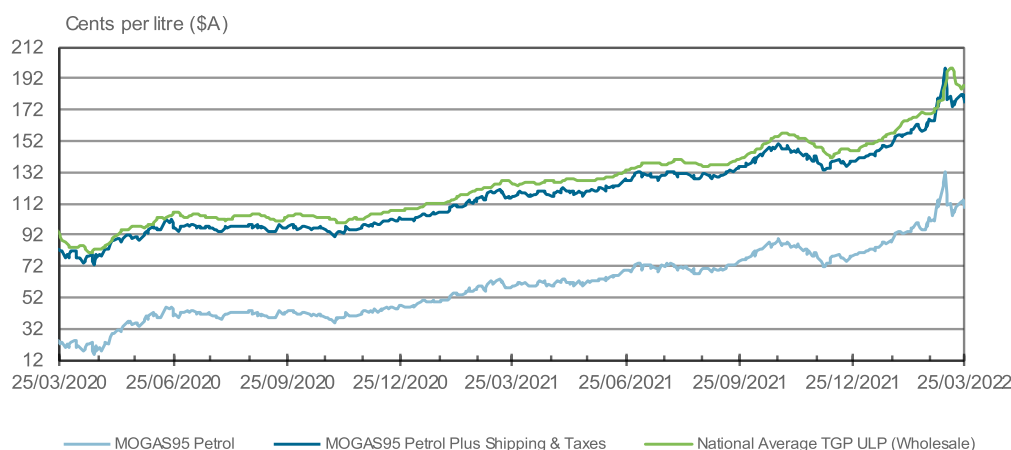
## PLEASE NOTE

Differences/margins between market prices or benchmarks are used as indicators of general trends in the petroleum market, **they do not represent profits** accruing to oil companies at the refining, wholesale or retail segments of the market. For each market segment, a range of costs would need to be deducted to determine actual profits.



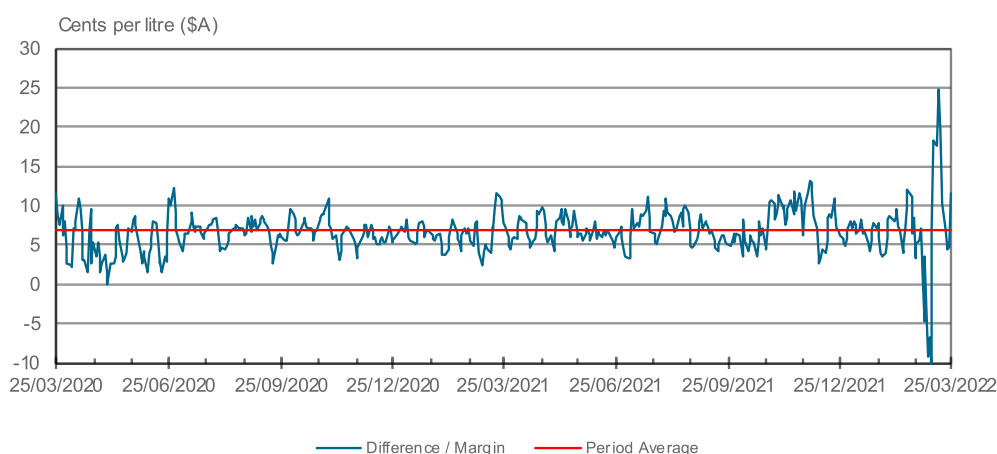
# Australian Wholesale Market Trends

**Figure 3: Comparison of Australian TGP ULP (or 'wholesale price') with Singapore petrol price (MOGAS95 Petrol)**



**NOTE:** The MOGAS95 Petrol prices and shipping rates are provided by Argus Media Group, see Notes on page 2.

**Figure 4: Difference between market prices**  
National Average TGP ULP minus MOGAS95 Petrol (plus shipping and taxes)



MOGAS95 PETROL	Cents per litre (A\$)	TGP ULP (National Average)	Cents per litre (A\$)
Average: Last Week (to Friday 25/03/22)	112.2	Average: Last Week (to Friday 25/03/22)	186.6
Average: Previous Week (to Friday 18/03/22)	108.1	Average: Previous Week (to Friday 18/03/22)	195.1
Average: Last 4 Weeks	112.3	Average: Last 4 Weeks	185.7
Average: Last 12 Weeks	98.3	Average: Last 12 Weeks	168.5
Average: Last 12 Months	77.7	Average: Last 12 Months	145.0

## PLEASE NOTE

Differences/margins between market prices or benchmarks are used as indicators of general trends in the petroleum market, **they do not represent profits** accruing to oil companies at the refining, wholesale or retail segments of the market.

For each market segment, a range of costs would need to be deducted to determine actual profits.

For example, at the wholesale level, a range of costs (including 'landed costs' and 'wholesaling costs') would need to be deducted to determine actual profits at the wholesale level. These 'landed costs' include the costs of the quality premium (market cost) for Australian fuel standards, insurance and loss, and local wharfage costs. The standard 'wholesaling costs' include terminal operating costs, administration and wholesale marketing costs and corporate taxes and government charges on wholesaling activities.

# Average Terminal Gate Prices (TGP's) Across Australia

Week ended 27 March 2022

## UNLEADED PETROL (cents per litre \$A)

	Monday 21 March 2022	Tuesday 22 March 2022	Wednesday 23 March 2022	Thursday 24 March 2022	Friday 25 March 2022
Sydney	187.3	185.8	186.0	187.2	188.1
Melbourne	187.2	185.6	185.6	186.8	187.7
Brisbane	186.8	185.2	185.2	186.4	187.2
Adelaide	187.2	185.6	185.6	186.8	187.7
Perth	186.7	185.1	185.1	186.3	187.2
Darwin	190.0	188.5	188.5	189.6	190.7
Hobart	190.8	189.9	190.1	191.6	192.6

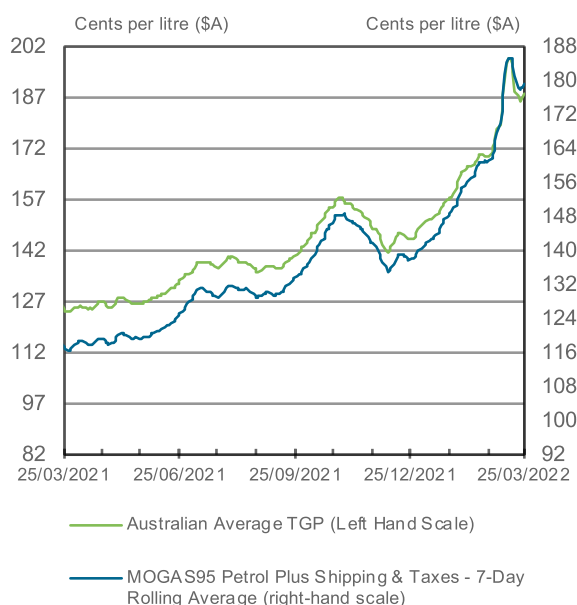
**NOTES:** Daily TGP data are published by all wholesale fuel suppliers. AIP's website presents average TGP data for each weekday – see [www.aip.com.au/pricing/tgp.htm](http://www.aip.com.au/pricing/tgp.htm). This data has been prepared by ORIMA Research Pty Ltd on behalf of AIP, using information from BP Australia, Ampol, Viva Energy Australia, and ExxonMobil Australia. Prices shown are the average TGP for unleaded petrol across each of these companies for the day.

## Explaining the time lag between changes in Singapore prices and changes in Australian wholesale petrol prices

Generally, there is a short time lag of 1-2 weeks between changes in Singapore prices and changes in Australian prices.

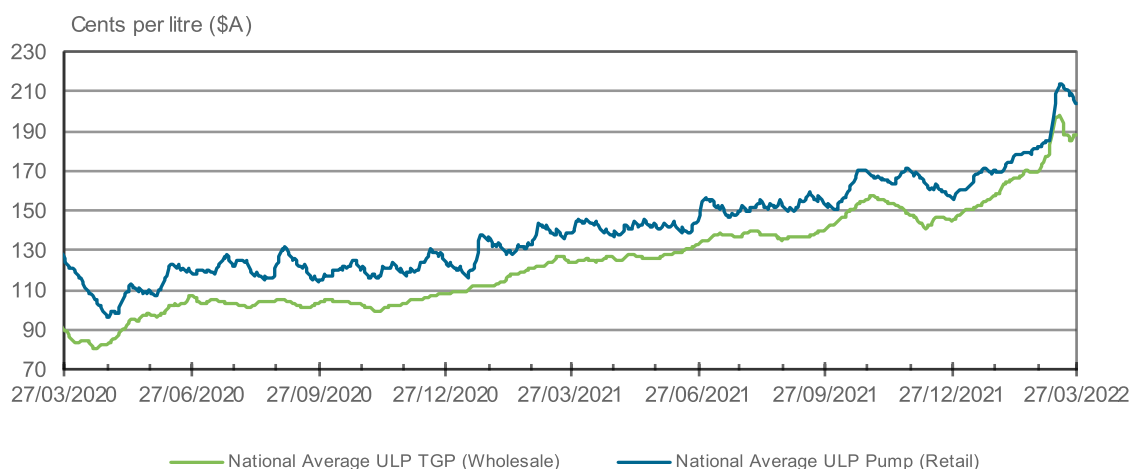
- ⇒ The lag can be seen in FIGURE 3 on the previous page. That is, see the slight delay in the peaks and troughs in the **green line** (National Average TGP) compared to the **blue line** (MOGAS95 Petrol plus Shipping & Taxes).
- ⇒ Importantly, this time lag occurs whether:
  - prices are going up (when the lag slows price rises to consumers)
  - or prices are going down (when the lag delays price falls).
- ⇒ The lag is a result of using a rolling average of Singapore prices as part of the wholesale pricing methodology (very similar to that used by the ACCC when wholesale prices were regulated by government). The pricing methodology is called import parity pricing (IPP).
- ⇒ The use of rolling averages smooths day-to-day price volatility.
- ⇒ Not accounting for this lag, introduced by the rolling average, leads to incorrect conclusions about how Singapore prices flow through to prices in Australia.

The very close relationship between changes in MOGAS95 Petrol and changes in Australian TGPs can be seen by applying a rolling average to the MOGAS95 Petrol data (a 7 day rolling average is used in the Chart to the right to illustrate this).

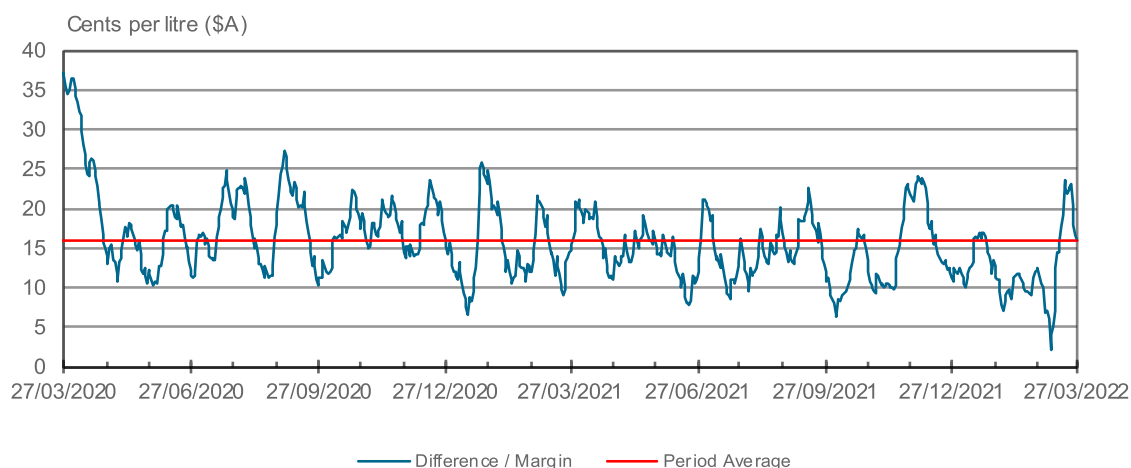


# Australian Retail Market Trends

**Figure 5: Comparison of Australian pump price with Australian TGP**  
Average Retail Price versus Average Wholesale Price



**Figure 6: difference between market prices**  
Australian Average Retail Price minus Average Wholesale Price



Wholesale: TGP ULP (National Average)	Cents per litre (A\$)	Retail: Pump Price ULP (National Average)	Cents per litre (A\$)
Average: Last Week (to Friday 25/03/22)	186.6	Average: Last Week (to Sunday 27/03/22)	206.7
Average: Last Week (to Friday 18/03/22)	195.1	Average: Last Week (to Sunday 20/03/22)	212.5
Average: Last 4 Weeks	185.7	Average: Last 4 Weeks	200.1
Average: Last 12 Weeks	168.5	Average: Last 12 Weeks	181.5
Average: Last 12 Months	145.0	Average: Last 12 Months	159.3

## PLEASE NOTE

- (1) The data for **retail petrol prices** is based on available market data supplied by MotorMouth (see [www.motormouth.com.au](http://www.motormouth.com.au)).
- (2) There is a **time lag** between changes in Australian wholesale (TGP) petrol prices and the change in retail petrol prices which needs to be taken into account when comparing relative price movements. According to the ACCC, this time lag can be longer during times of significant volatility in international and wholesale petrol prices.
- (3) Differences/margins between market prices or benchmarks are used as indicators of general trends in the petroleum market, **they do not represent profits** accruing to oil companies at the refining, wholesale or retail segments of the market. For each market segment, a range of costs would need to be deducted to determine actual profits. For example at the retail level, a range of standard retailing costs would need to be deducted to determine actual profits. These costs include:
  - ⇒ land transport costs (of getting fuel from the terminal gate to the petrol bowser)
  - ⇒ administration and retail marketing costs
  - ⇒ the costs of running service stations like wages, rent and utilities
  - ⇒ corporate taxes and other government charges on retailing activities

# Summary: Retail Petrol Price Trends Across States/Territories

Week ended 27 March 2022

## 'NATIONAL AND STATE' AVERAGE PRICES (cents per litre \$A)

	Weekly Average	Weekly Change	Low	High
National Average	206.7	-5.8	203.6	209.5
NSW / ACT	207.4	-4.4	205.1	210.0
Victoria	204.9	-8.0	200.6	209.5
Queensland	207.1	-7.5	203.9	211.3
South Australia	206.0	-10.1	198.5	213.9
Western Australia	205.7	0.6	196.0	212.5
Northern Territory	213.3	0.4	213.1	213.3
Tasmania	218.4	-2.6	217.6	219.8

## 'METROPOLITAN' AVERAGE PRICES (cents per litre \$A)

	Weekly Average	Weekly Change	Low	High
National Metropolitan Average	206.3	-8.0	202.1	210.0
Five Major Capital City Average	205.8	-8.1	201.0	209.6
Sydney	207.4	-7.4	203.8	211.5
Canberra	208.1	-0.5	208.1	208.3
Melbourne	205.0	-10.4	199.4	211.0
Brisbane	207.1	-10.5	202.7	212.8
Adelaide	205.5	-13.2	195.6	215.9
Perth	204.2	1.1	191.6	212.9
Darwin	209.4	0.2	209.2	209.5
Hobart	222.0	-1.0	221.5	222.9

## 'REGIONAL' AVERAGE PRICES (cents per litre \$A)

	Weekly Average	Weekly Change	Low	High
National Regional Average	207.4	-1.4	206.6	208.5
NSW / ACT	207.2	-1.0	206.4	208.1
Victoria	204.6	-1.1	203.9	205.5
Queensland	207.2	-1.8	206.1	208.5
South Australia	207.3	-1.2	206.9	208.3
Western Australia	210.8	-1.2	210.0	212.2
Northern Territory	223.9	0.7	223.5	224.2
Tasmania	215.8	-3.7	214.8	217.5

For average weekly retail (pump) prices for petrol and diesel across Australian cities and towns, please see <https://aip.com.au/pricing/pump-prices>

### NOTES

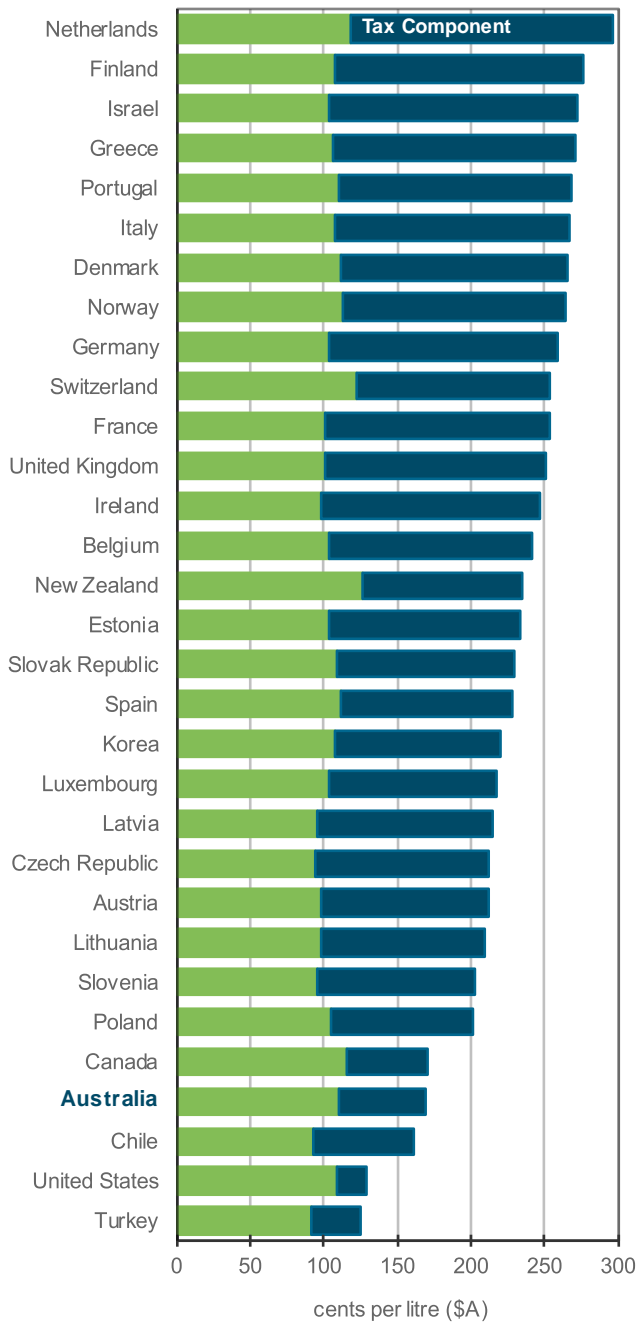
- (1) The data for retail petrol prices is based on available market data supplied by MotorMouth (see [www.motormouth.com.au](http://www.motormouth.com.au)).
  - (2) The National Average Retail Price is calculated as the weighted average of each State/Territory's metropolitan and non metropolitan retail petrol prices, with the weights based on the number of registered petrol vehicles in each of these regions.
  - (3) The National Metropolitan Average price is calculated as the weighted average of the retail petrol prices across each capital city, where the weights are based on the number of vehicles using petrol registered in each city.
  - (4) The Five Major Capital City Average is the unweighted average of the prices for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.
  - (5) The Regional Average price is calculated as the weighted average of the retail petrol prices for the non-metropolitan regions in each State/Territory, where the weights are based on the number of vehicles using unleaded petrol.
  - (6) The vehicle data source is ABS Motor Vehicle Census, 2011, Cat No 9309.0.
  - (7) 'Weekly Low' and 'Weekly High' are based on the lowest and the highest average daily prices in the relevant area. The average daily price for each region (eg. Geelong) is calculated as a straight numerical average of all 'price points' provided for that day. Aggregate daily prices are based on a weighted average of all regions (eg. Geelong, Ballarat, Wodonga etc) in the relevant area (eg. Victoria) where weights are based on the number of vehicles using unleaded petrol in each region.
  - (8) Weekly Average prices are a straight average of the seven days.
  - (9) Weekly Change is the change compared with the Weekly Average last week.
- For more information on data methodology, please see the AIP Website ([www.aip.com.au/pricing/retail.htm](http://www.aip.com.au/pricing/retail.htm)).

# Petrol and Diesel Prices & Taxes in OECD Countries

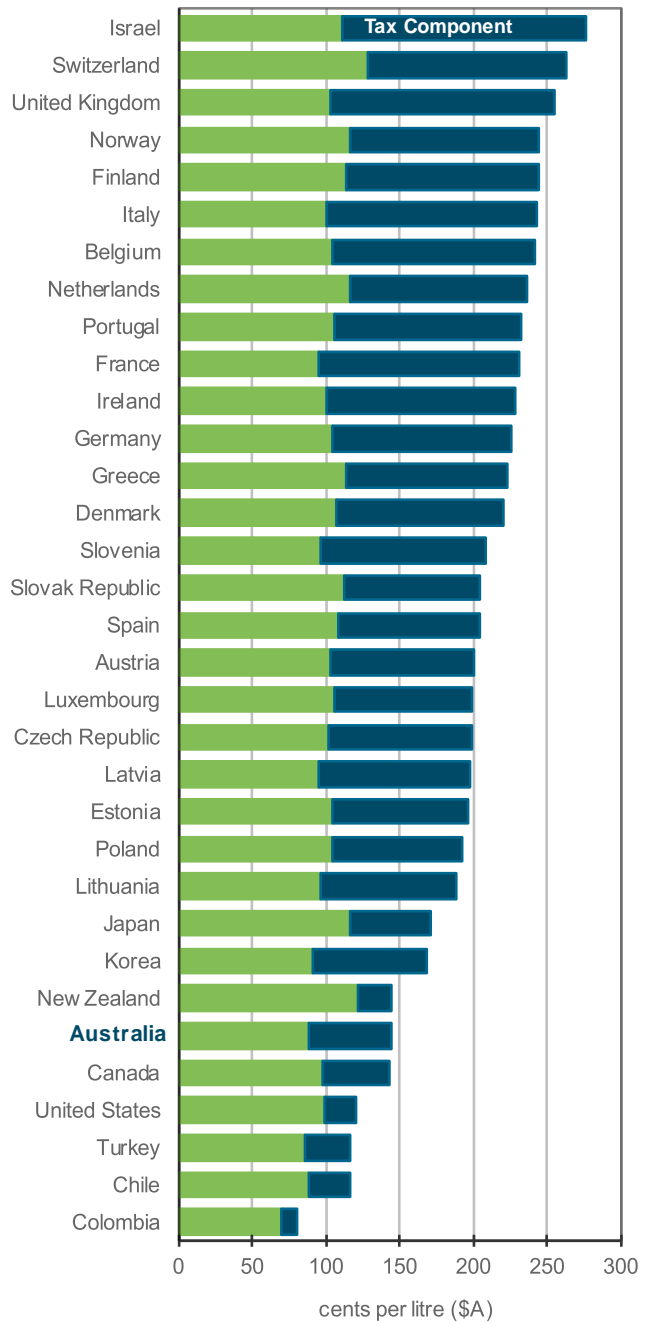
September Quarter 2021

The Charts show Australia has among the lowest petrol and diesel prices of all OECD countries.

**Petrol Prices and Taxes in OECD Countries**



**Diesel Prices and Taxes in OECD Countries**



Source: Australian Petroleum Statistics, Office of the Chief Economist