

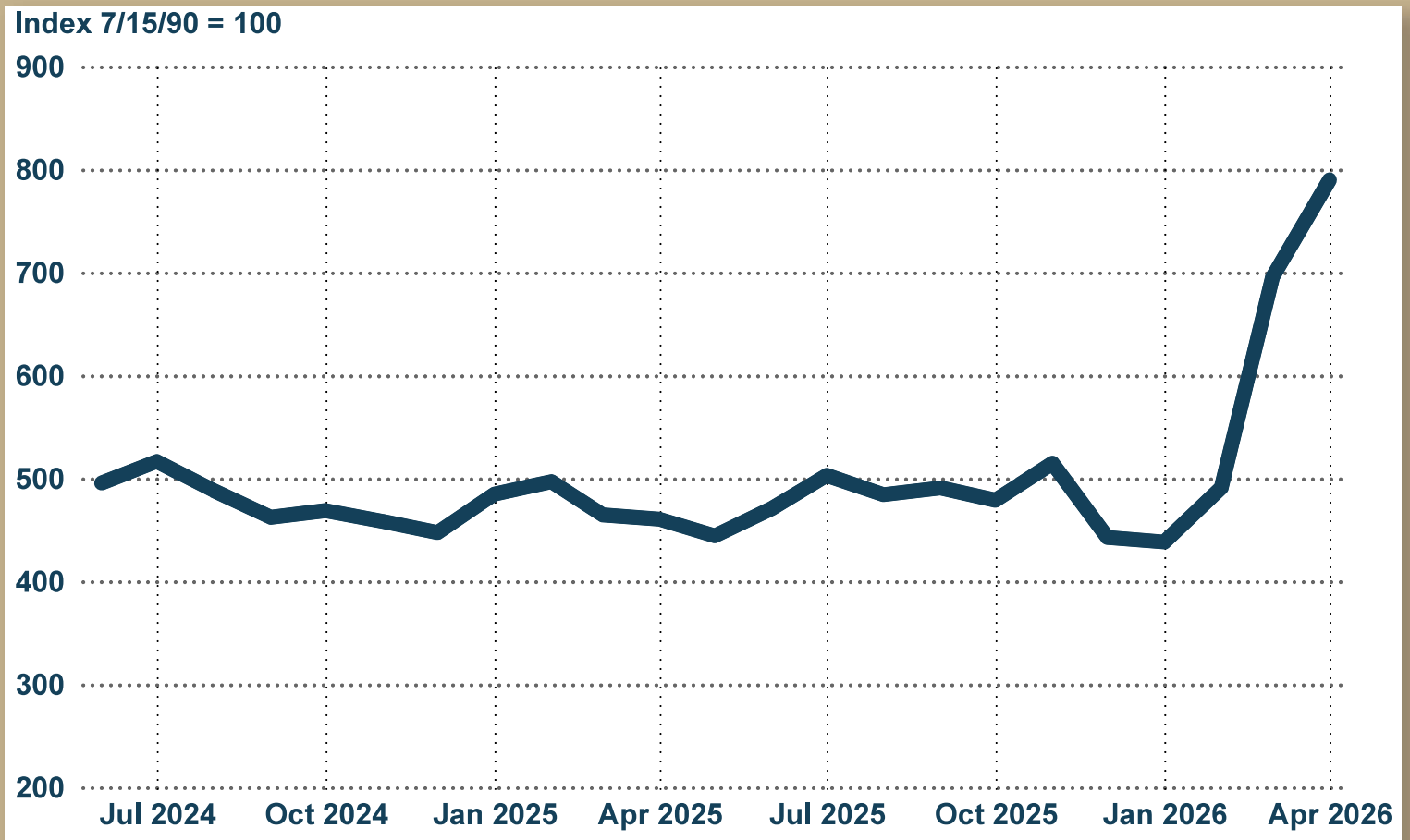


ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS

POLICY &
ECONOMICS

Monthly Railroad Fuel Price Indexes

Prices through April 2026



Monthly Railroad Fuel Price Indexes

Data

- The price data, which include federal excise taxes, transportation, and handling expenses, represent the average monthly price paid for gallons purchased by freight railroads during each month.

Collection

- Railroad diesel fuel prices, which are kept confidential, are collected by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) as sub-components of railroad costs reflected in both the AAR's Railroad Cost Recovery Indexes (RCR) and the Surface Transportation Board's Rail Cost Adjustment Factor (RCAF).
- Because fuel prices are an input to the RCAF, the collection and computation of the monthly figures are subject to strict procedures which are reviewed by the Surface Transportation Board and a third-party accounting firm.

Availability

- Index information for any given month becomes available during the final 10 days of the subsequent month at AAR.org/rail-cost-indexes/
- Monthly fuel index information is not available on other than an industry-wide basis.
- The quarterly publication AAR Railroad Cost Indexes contains an annual version of the RCR in its Table A, and a quarterly version in its Table C. Each table has a U.S., East, and West version that also lists the Fuel Index (1977=100.0) individually. That quarterly publication is available as a PDF with a calendar-year subscription.
- The STB's quarterly RCAF is submitted by the AAR to the STB on March 5, June 5, September 5, and December 5. The STB releases a decision on the submission 15 days later. The RCAF version of fuel is contained in the All-Inclusive Index, and is a forecast. The Fuel Index component is on a 1980=100.0 basis. The RCAF is adjusted two quarters later for differences between the forecast and actual. The quarterly fuel component is U.S. only. RCAF submissions, and the STB's decisions, are posted on the AAR and STB web sites. The publication AAR Railroad Cost Indexes maintains a history of the RCAF and All-Inclusive Index.

Index of Average U.S. Railroad Fuel Prices

Index

Year ▲	Jan 15, 1989 = 100.0 Jul 15, 1990 = 100.0	
☐ 2024		
January	509.3	511.4
February	554.3	556.6
March	541.3	543.5
April	541.1	543.4
May	500.6	502.7
June	493.5	495.6
July	514.3	516.4
August	486.3	488.3
September	460.4	462.3
October	466.8	468.7
November	456.5	458.4
December	445.6	447.5
☐ 2025		
January	482.8	484.8
February	494.7	496.8
March	462.6	464.5
April	458.4	460.3
May	442.4	444.3
June	468.7	470.7
July	500.8	502.9
August	482.2	484.3
September	488.7	490.7
October	476.8	478.8
November	512.6	514.8
December	440.9	442.7
☐ 2026		
January	436.4	438.3
February	488.8	490.9
March	692.9	695.8
April	786.6	789.9