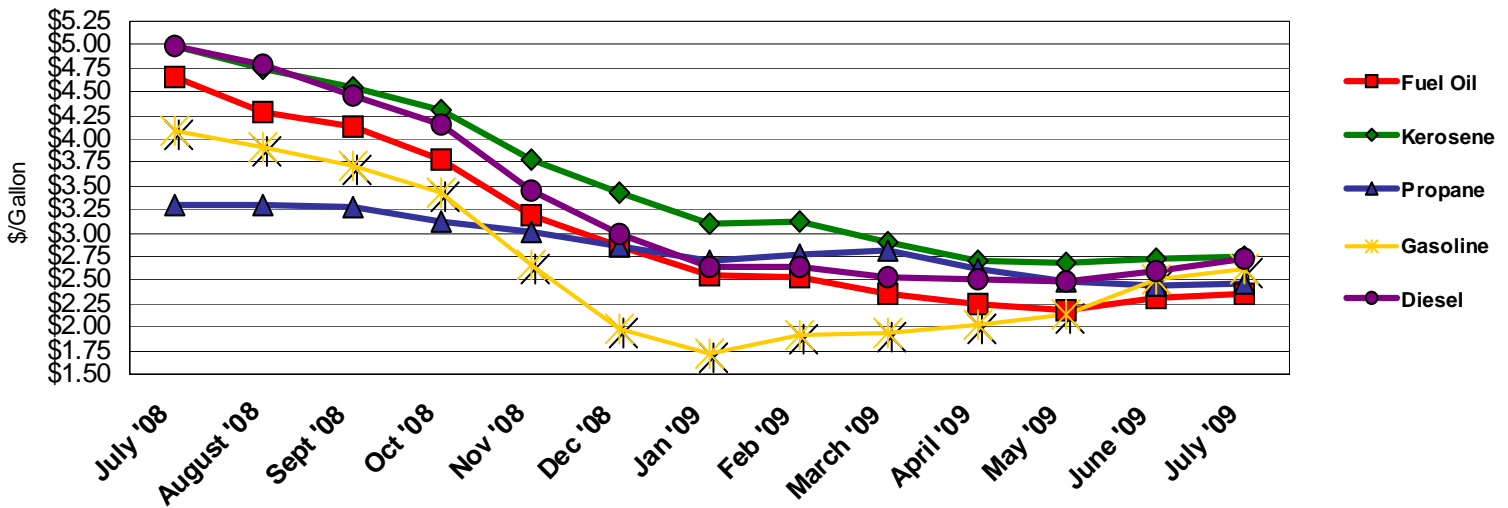


# VERMONT FUEL PRICE REPORT

July 2009

## One-Year Price Trend



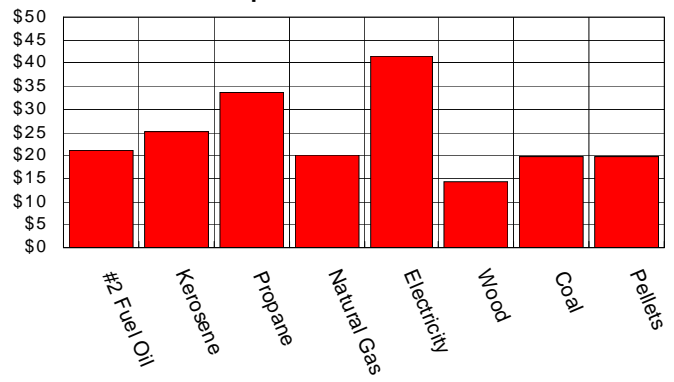
### Vermont Average Retail Petroleum Prices (per gallon)

	July '09	June '09	%change	July '08	%change
No. 2 Fuel Oil	\$2.34	\$2.31	1.32%	\$4.65	-49.57%
Kerosene	\$2.76	\$2.72	1.22%	\$5.00	-44.79%
Propane	\$2.47	\$2.45	0.85%	\$3.29	-25.00%
Reg. Unleaded Gasoline	\$2.61	\$2.51	4.16%	\$4.09	-36.13%
Diesel	\$2.72	\$2.59	5.27%	\$4.98	-45.32%

### Comparing the Cost of Heating Fuels

Type of Energy	BTU/unit	Adj Effic	\$/unit	\$/MMBtu
Fuel Oil, gallon	138,200	80%	\$2.34	\$21.20
Kerosene, gallon	136,600	80%	\$2.76	\$25.24
Propane, gallon	91,600	80%	\$2.47	\$33.71
Natural Gas, therm	100,000	80%	\$1.60	\$20.00
Electricity, kwh	3,412	100%	\$0.14	\$41.35
Wood, cord (green)	22,000,000	60%	\$190.00	\$14.39
Coal, ton	24,000,000	60%	\$285.00	\$19.79
Pellets, ton	16,400,000	80%	\$257.00	\$19.59

### Cost per 1 Million BTU



## GASOLINE AND DIESEL PRICES

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) has reported that the average price for regular gasoline has declined slightly since the end of June. The New England average retail price of regular gasoline was \$2.61 per gallon the first week of July and \$2.53 per gallon as of July 13.

Diesel prices are also on the decline, with the New England average retail price of diesel at \$2.65 per gallon the first week of July and \$2.62 per gallon as of July 13.

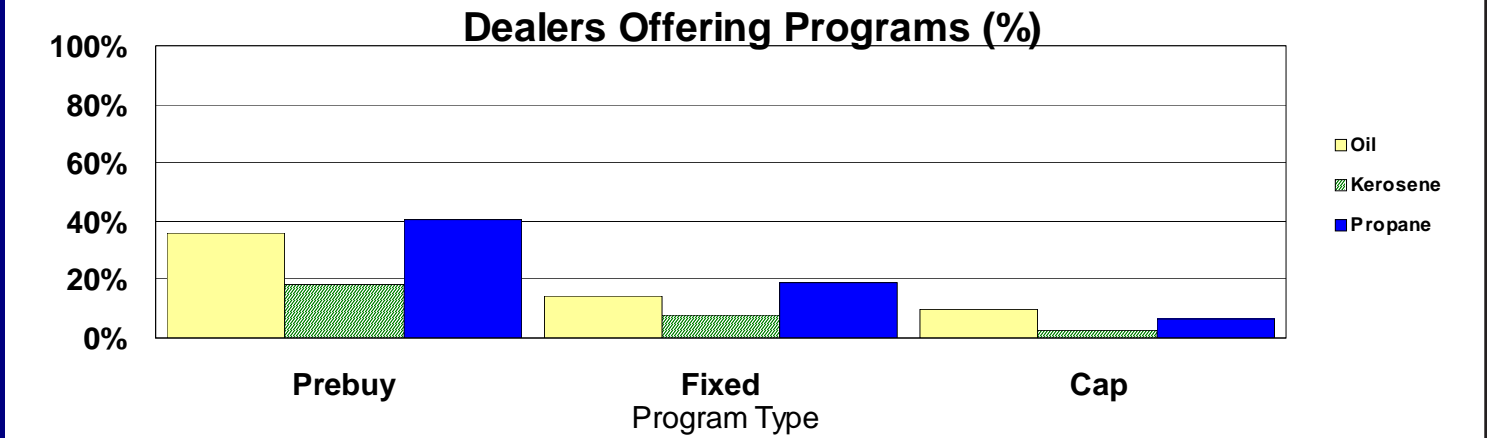
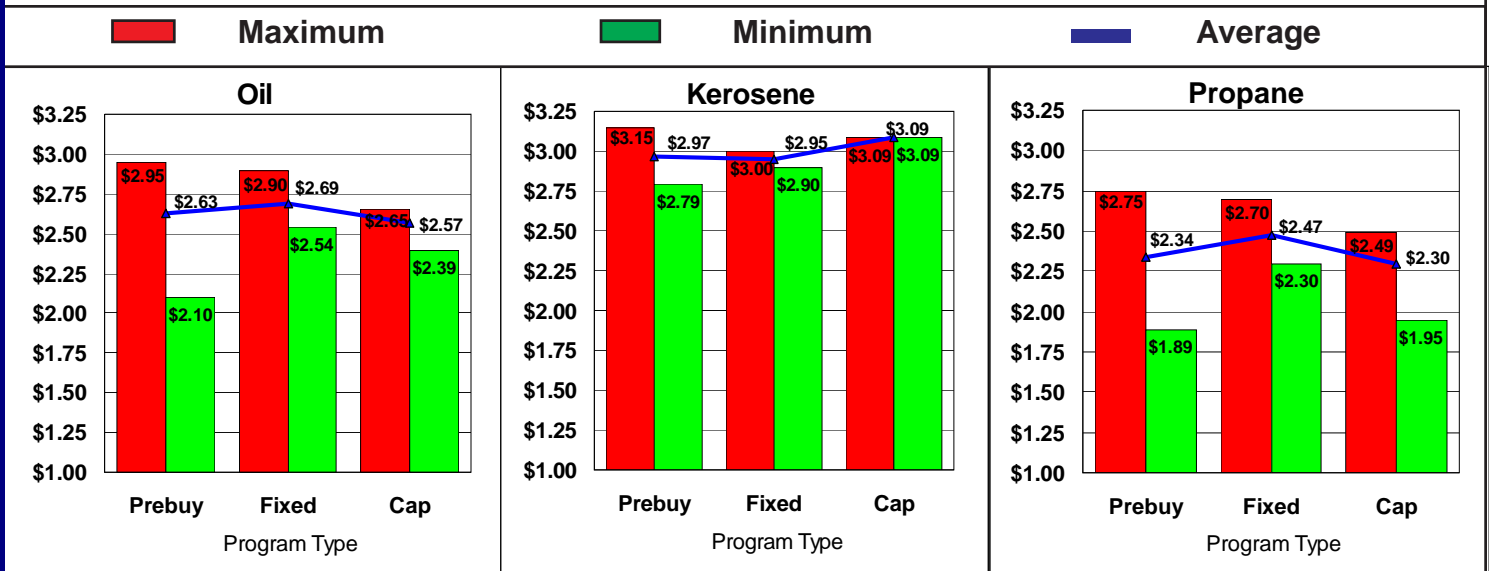
Additional information is available at: [www.eia.doe.gov](http://www.eia.doe.gov)

## PRICE PROTECTION PROGRAMS

Many fuel dealers offer their customers “price protection” programs. With **"Pre-Buy"** programs, customers can purchase a specified volume of fuel at a discounted price by paying for the heating season's fuel in advance. In **"Fixed Price"** programs, a pre-determined price per unit is set for all of the fuel delivered during the heating season. In **"Cap"** programs, the fuel price will not exceed a pre-determined value and may go down based on market conditions at time of delivery. Cap and Fixed Price programs may be part of "Budget" programs, in which the customer agrees to make equal monthly payments, often for 10 to 12 months.

Price protection programs can be beneficial, as they provide a degree of certainty, and customers are better able to budget their finances and thus are not caught short during the heating season. However, price protection programs don't guarantee savings, so consumers need to consider their options carefully.

The charts below show the availability and average price per gallon for price protection programs as of **July 6th**, from a representative sample (approximately 70) Vermont fuel dealers. Many dealers indicated at the time of the survey that they had not yet issued their programs. A few dealers indicated their programs had already ended.



NOTE: The Vermont Fuel Price Report is published monthly by the Vermont Department of Public Service. Prices are collected on or about the first Monday of each month and reflect dealer discounts for cash or self-service, except propane prices, which are an average of the credit and discount prices. For more information please, contact Kelly Launder at 1-800-642-3281 or (802) 828-4039 or by email at [kelly.launder@state.vt.us](mailto:kelly.launder@state.vt.us).