



STATE OF MAINE
 OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
 1 STATE HOUSE STATION
 AUGUSTA, MAINE
 04333-0001

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
 GOVERNOR

JOHN M. KERRY
 DIRECTOR
 OFFICE OF ENERGY
 INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY

**For Immediate Release
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**Contact: Ian Burnes
 287-8927**

Heating Oil Price Averages Rising

Augusta--- The Governor’s Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) conducted it’s off season oil survey and has found that the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be at **\$2.15 per gallon** \$.04 higher than last week’s survey.

“So far this year the price of crude oil has risen nearly \$33 dollars since the market’s low point in February,” says OEIS Director John Kerry. “It is important to prepare for next years heating season today through careful planning and budgeting.”

As Of June 1, 2009

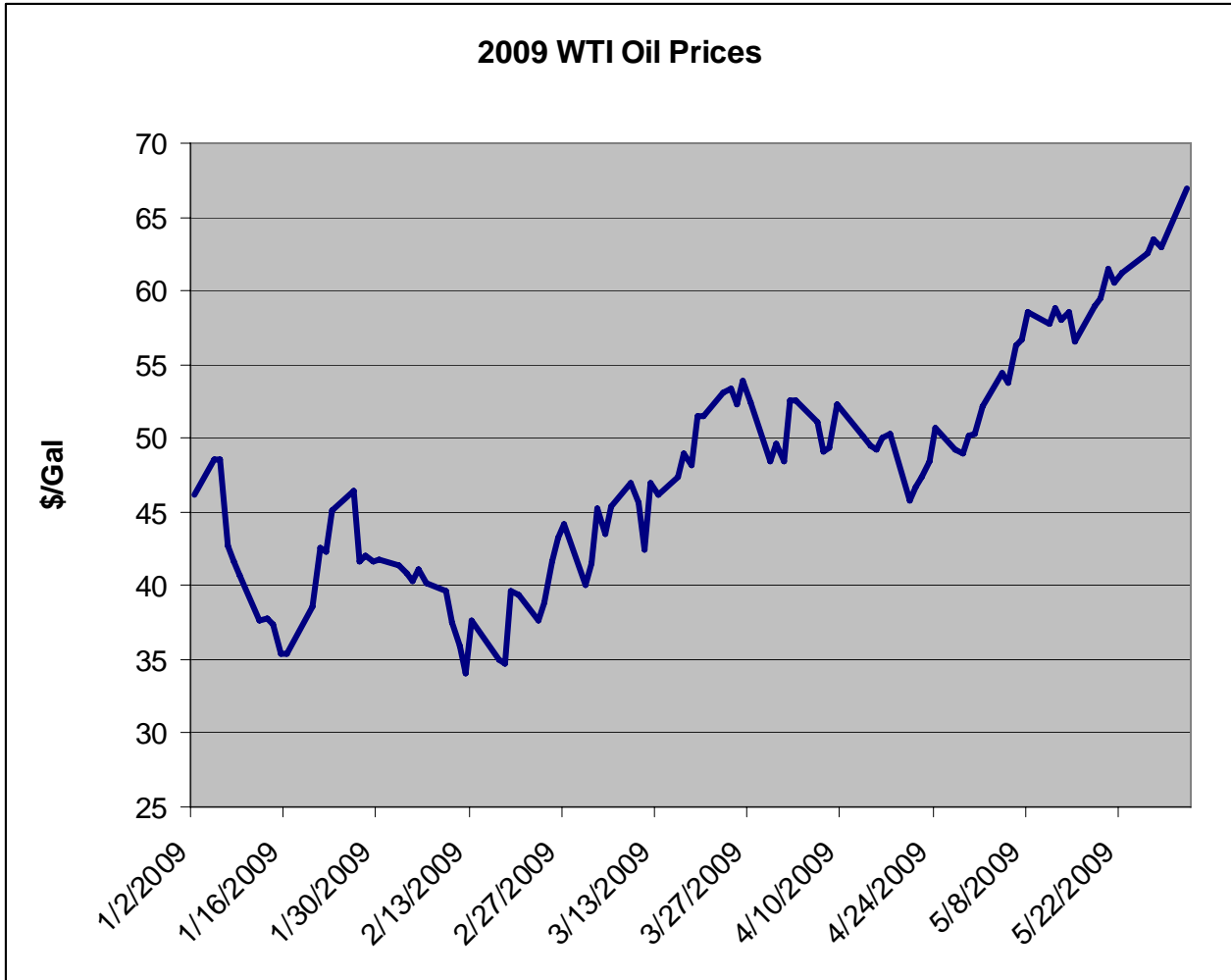
Heating Oil	Statewide	Southwest	Central	Eastern	Western	Northern
Average	2.15	2.06	2.20	2.19	2.06	2.33
High	2.40	2.35	2.35	2.25	2.25	2.40
Low	1.86	1.86	2.09	2.10	1.90	2.24
Kerosene	2.58	2.44	2.67	2.63	2.51	2.73

It is important to note that the price for heating oil is a statewide average and that prices in a given geographic region of the state may be considerably higher or lower than the statewide average. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$1.86 per gallon was found in the Southwestern region. The high-end price of \$2.40 per gallon was found in the Northern region. The statewide kerosene price average is \$2.58 per gallon at this time. The table below provides current Maine cash prices in dollars rounded to the nearest penny.

The most recent average price of natural gas delivered to Maine consumers was listed by the Energy Information Administration at \$17.64 for a thousand cubic feet of gas, or equivalent to heating oil at \$2.40 a gallon.

The most recent average statewide price of gasoline and diesel in Maine as posted by AAA’s Daily Fuel Gauge Report was \$2.52 per gallon for gasoline, and \$2.43 for diesel fuel.

At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$67.79. Below is a price trend of the price in 2009:



For assistance please contact MaineHousing about their Home Energy Loan Program (HELP) that provides low interest rate loans of up to \$30,000 to low- and moderate-income homeowners to finance a wide variety of energy-related improvements to their homes. For program details and a list of HELP lenders visit MaineHousing's website at www.mainehousing.org or call 1-877-544-3271. Many projects funded through this program save more money through the improvements than the loan payments they have to make. Businesses should take advantage of Efficiency Maine's small business loan program to make energy upgrades: http://www.energymaine.com/business_programs.htm

The next survey is scheduled for June 8, 2009.