



Supply and Demand Basics (Part 2)

Antitrust
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Exercise: Gas Prices



Independent Statistics & Analysis
U.S. Energy Information
Administration

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much gasoline does the United States consume?

In 2016, about 143.37 billion gallons (or about 3.41 billion barrels¹) of finished motor gasoline were consumed² in the United States, a daily average of about 391.73 million gallons (or about 9.33 million barrels per day).³ This was the largest amount of annual motor gasoline consumption on record.

¹ There are 42 U.S. gallons in a barrel.

² EIA uses *product supplied* to represent approximate consumption of petroleum products. Product supplied measures the disappearance of these products from primary sources, such as refineries, natural gas processing plants, blending plants, pipelines, and bulk terminals.

³ Preliminary data for 2016.

Learn more:

[Data for U.S. product supplied for finished motor gasoline](#)

[U.S. petroleum supply and disposition data](#)

[Energy Explained: Use of Gasoline](#)

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What if ...

A new drilling technology allows more oil deposits to be reachable and extractable at the same level of investment?

What if ...

A cultural shift caused by movies and television makes it trendy to carpool, buy fuel efficient cars, and walk or bike instead of drive?

What if ...

A cultural shift caused by movies and television makes people crave sports cars and SUVs with powerful V8 engines?

What if ...

War in the Middle East causes an interruption of maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz?

What if ...

An improving economy gives people more disposable income that they spend on goods and vacations?