

UK Fuel Price Index

Monthly Fuel Price Report - October 2026



PETROL, UK AVERAGE

174.2p

per litre, October 2026

DIESEL, UK AVERAGE

199.3p

per litre, October 2026

PETROL, YEAR ON YEAR

+39.5p

vs October 2025

DIESEL, YEAR ON YEAR

+56.5p

vs October 2025

PROVISIONAL - MONTH IN PROGRESS

Prepared by findpetrol.co.uk Research

Provisional edition, as at 24 October 2026 - includes crude oil pass-through analysis

Methodology: findpetrol.co.uk/reports/methodology

Underlying price data: Open Government Licence v3.0. Free to cite with attribution.

Executive summary

In October 2026, the UK average price of petrol was 174.2p per litre, up 4.5p vs the previous month, and diesel 199.3p per litre, up 6.5p vs the previous month. Both are monthly means across every UK nation and region, from 19 daily readings so far - this edition is provisional and will change until the month closes.

This was an oil-price month. Brent crude averaged \$122.84 a barrel, up 7.6% vs the previous month, and stood at \$116.72 as we went to press. Nothing else in the pump price moves like that: duty has been frozen at 52.95p a litre since March 2022, so when petrol moves by several pence in a month, it is almost always the crude price doing the moving.

The last ten trading days point at the month ahead: Brent has fallen 10.2% since 12 October. Applying our estimated pass-through - about 0.26p at the pump for every 1% crude falls, once the move has fully worked through - implies petrol easing by around 2.7p a litre over the coming weeks. That is a mechanical estimate of how prices usually behave, not a forecast: crude itself can and does change course.

Where you fill up still matters more than when: East of Northern Ireland had the UK's cheapest petrol at 166.7p and Highlands and Islands the most expensive at 177.6p - a 10.9p gap between regions on identical fuel.

Against the long run, petrol remains well above the 106.2p low of May 2020 and below the all-time high of 189.4p set in July 2022.

The month's figures

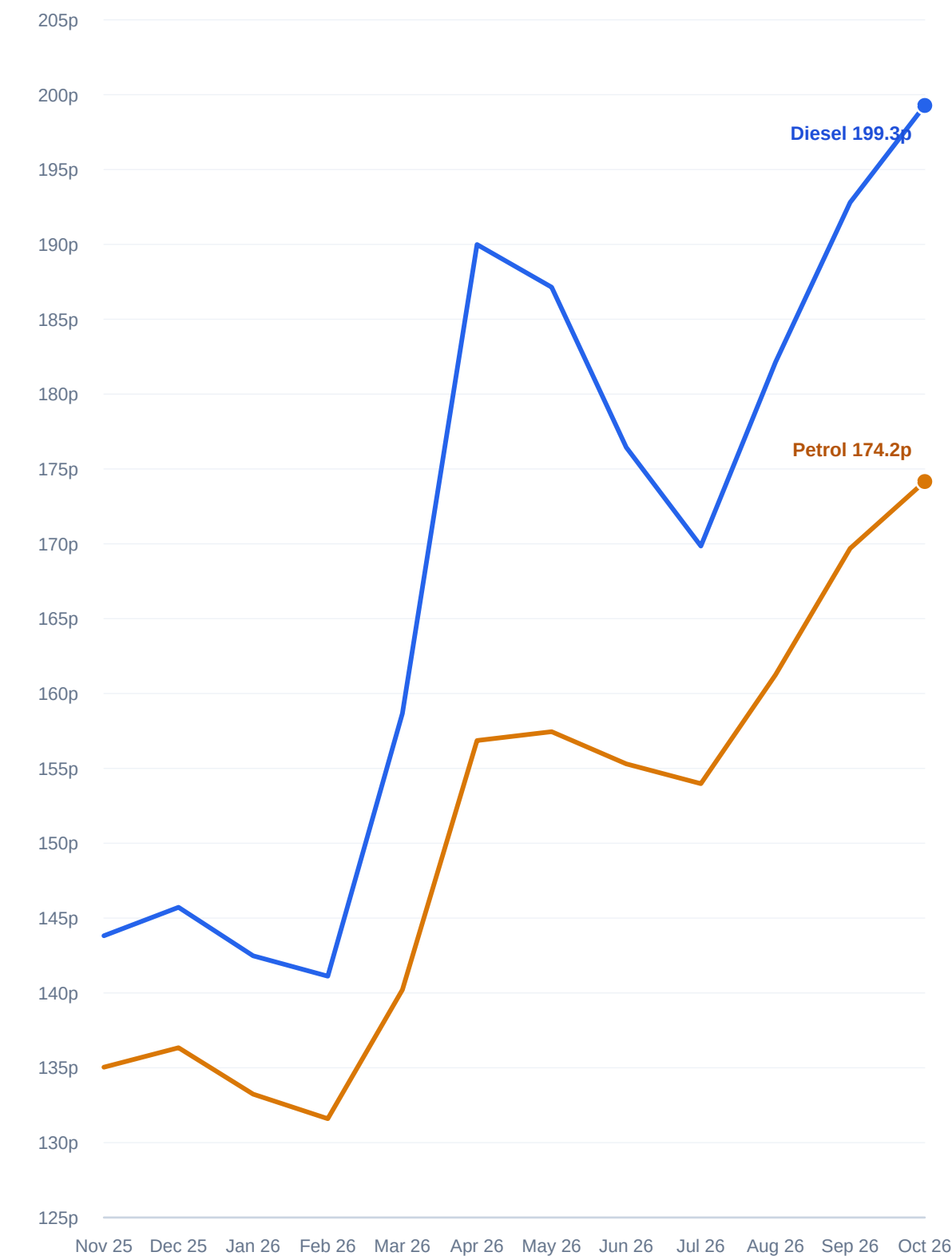
Measure	Figure	Comparison
Petrol, UK average	174.2p per litre	up 4.5p vs the previous month
Diesel, UK average	199.3p per litre	up 6.5p vs the previous month
Petrol, year on year	+39.5p vs October 2025	about £21.72 more on a 55-litre fill
Diesel, year on year	+56.5p vs October 2025	
Brent crude, monthly average	\$122.84 a barrel	up 7.6% vs the previous month
Petrol, spread across stations	173.8p to 174.4p	cheapest to dearest station, in month
Cheapest region, petrol	East of Northern Ireland, 166.7p	
Most expensive region, petrol	Highlands and Islands, 177.6p	10.9p gap
Series high, petrol	189.4p	July 2022
Series low, petrol	106.2p	May 2020

October 2026 in detail

Measure (fuel named)	Figure	vs prior month	vs year ago
All pump figures in pence per litre. Changes are for the same fuel as the row names.			
Petrol, UK average	174.2p	+4.5p	+39.5p
Diesel, UK average	199.3p	+6.5p	+56.5p
Petrol, lowest station	173.8p		
Petrol, highest station	174.4p		
Diesel, lowest station	198.8p		
Diesel, highest station	199.7p		
Brent crude, monthly average	\$122.84	+7.6%	
Readings in month	19	daily sampling	

A month built from 19 daily readings. Before July 2026 the series averages one official reading per week; from July 2026 it averages one reading per day from our own collection - a finer figure, and the reason months either side of that change are flagged when compared. A site is one observation regardless of how much fuel it sells.

Petrol and diesel, trailing twelve months



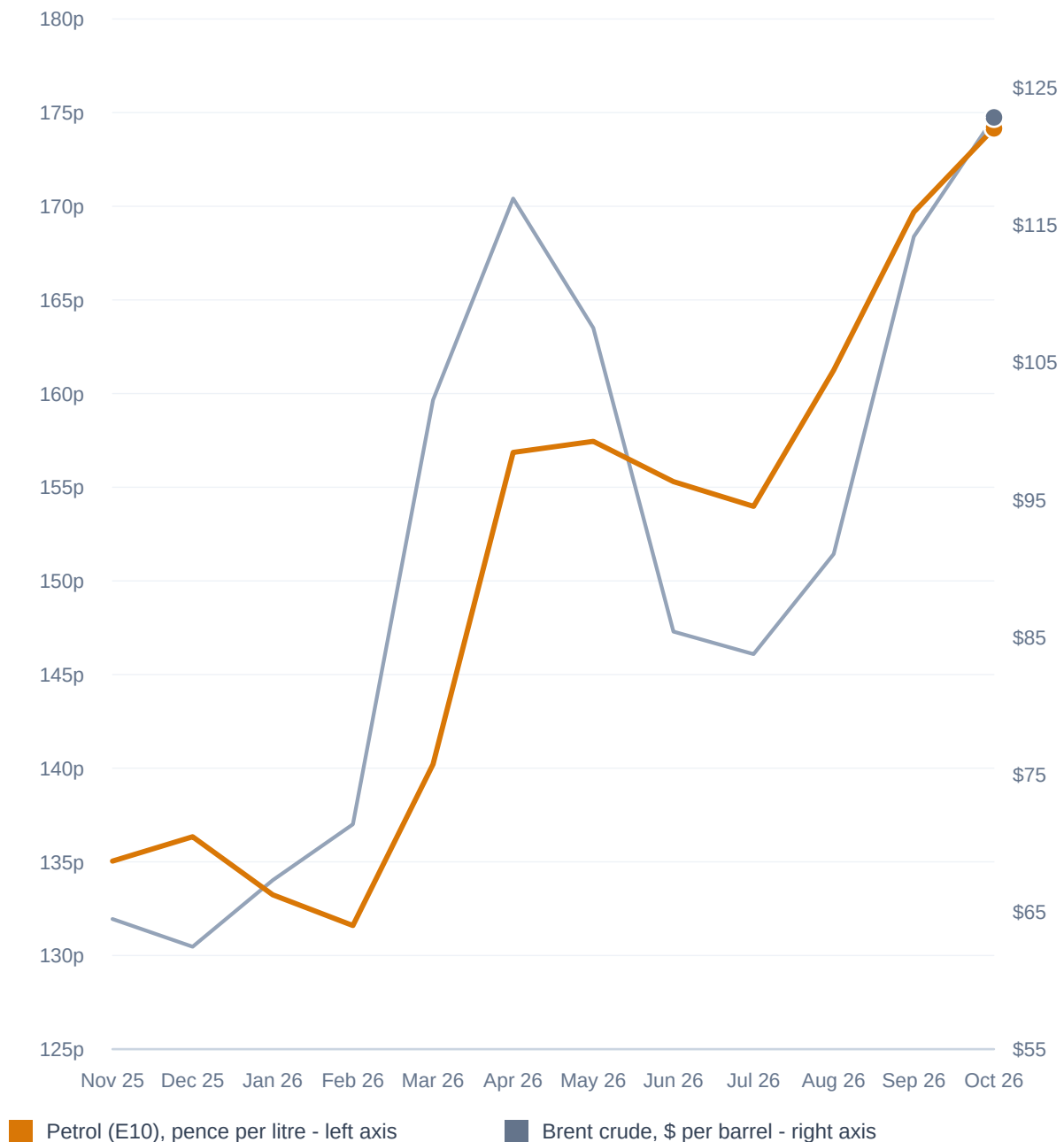
■ Petrol (E10), pence per litre

■ Diesel (B7), pence per litre

Source: findpetrol.co.uk UK Fuel Price Index

The oil price and the pump

Roughly a third of what you pay at the pump is the crude oil the fuel is made from - the single biggest moving part, and the one this section tracks. The question that matters to a driver is simple: when the oil price falls, do stations pass the saving on - and how fast? The chart below shows the two together over the last twelve months, pump prices on the left axis and Brent crude on the right; the analysis beneath it measures how much of a crude move actually reaches the pump, and whether rises travel faster than falls.



Monthly averages; Brent from daily closes. Source: findpetrol.co.uk UK Fuel Price Index

Where the crude oil price goes, and how fast it reaches the pumps

Where each 174.2p litre of petrol goes



Crude oil	57.7p	(33% of the pump price)
Duty	53.0p	(30% of the pump price)
VAT	29.0p	(17% of the pump price)
Refining, delivery and retail	34.5p	(20% of the pump price)

Crude is converted at a stated \$1.34 to the pound and 159 litres to the barrel; duty is the 52.95p rate in force since March 2022; VAT is 20% of the final price. The refining, delivery and retail share is what remains - the margin chain between oil leaving a refinery and fuel entering your tank.

Rises travel faster than falls

We estimated how much of a crude move reaches the pump within a month, separately for rises and for falls, across 311 weeks from October 2020 to October 2026 (weeks around duty changes excluded). On UK data, this window shows when crude jumps, stations reprice quickly; when it slides back, the saving arrives more slowly and less completely.

After a 10% crude RISE:  3.6p on a litre of petrol within a month

After a 10% crude FALL:  2.6p off a litre of petrol within a month

A 10% rise in crude adds about 3.6p to a litre of petrol within a month; a 10% fall takes about 2.6p off. (Fit: R-squared 0.33 for rises, 0.11 for falls, on 158 and 119 weeks respectively - these are associations measured on our data, not a causal model.)

How many days a crude move takes to reach the pump

On our own daily collection (since July 2026), the day-to-day link between crude and pump prices is strongest when crude is lagged by 1 days (correlation 0.44 over 48 days): a move in Brent this week builds into pump prices over roughly the following fortnight rather than arriving overnight.

What the oil price implies for November 2026

Brent has fallen 10.2% over the ten trading days to 23 October (\$129.95 to \$116.72). At the usual pace of pass-through, that implies petrol easing by around 2.7p a litre over the coming weeks. A mechanical estimate of how prices usually behave - not a forecast of where crude goes next.

Regional prices

Petrol is cheapest in East of Northern Ireland (166.7p) and most expensive in Highlands and Islands (177.6p) - a 10.9p gap between regions on identical fuel.

Region	Nation	Stations	Petrol avg (p/l)	Diesel avg (p/l)
East of Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland	317	166.7p	192.6p
Greater Belfast	Northern Ireland	201	166.9p	191.7p
Yorkshire and the Humber	England	666	173.1p	198.8p
North East England	England	307	173.1p	198.9p
South Wales	Wales	352	173.2p	198.5p
South of Scotland	Scotland	108	173.9p	199.4p
North West England	England	843	174.2p	198.9p
Mid Wales	Wales	49	174.6p	200.4p
Greater London	England	518	174.7p	200.1p
North East Scotland	Scotland	107	174.7p	199.6p
North Wales	Wales	102	174.9p	199.6p
South West England	England	781	175.0p	200.0p
East Midlands	England	589	175.0p	199.6p
West Midlands	England	703	175.1p	199.8p
East of England	England	754	175.1p	199.9p
Central Belt	Scotland	421	175.4p	200.0p
South East England	England	1,064	175.9p	200.4p
Highlands and Islands	Scotland	144	177.6p	203.3p

Regional figures are the mean of this month's weekly snapshots (3 weeks). Our regional series begins in late July 2026; months before that are national only, and a month needs at least two weekly snapshots before a regional average is published at all.

The long run, 2020 to today

Annual averages of the monthly editions, with each year's highest and lowest single month for petrol - so the records quoted below can be read straight off the table. 2026 is marked * because the year is still in progress: its average covers the editions published to date.

Year	Petrol avg	vs prior yr	Diesel avg	Highest month	Lowest month
Averages in pence per litre; month columns are single months (petrol).					
2026 *	153.4p	+18.3p	174.0p	174.2p Oct	131.6p Feb
2025	135.1p	-6.4p	142.7p	139.2p Feb	131.9p Jun
2024	141.5p	-6.1p	148.4p	148.8p May	134.0p Oct
2023	147.6p	-17.2p	158.1p	155.1p Oct	142.8p Dec
2022	164.8p	+33.5p	178.0p	189.4p Jul	145.1p Jan
2021	131.3p	+17.1p	134.9p	145.8p Dec	116.6p Jan
2020	114.2p		119.6p	126.9p Jan	106.2p May

The shape of these six years is the shape of three shocks. In 2020 the pandemic collapsed demand for travel and petrol fell to its all-time low of 106.2p in May 2020. In 2022, Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent crude surging and petrol to its series peak of 189.4p in July 2022 - the government cut fuel duty by 5p that March to soften it. Through 2023 and 2024 wholesale markets calmed and the annual average drifted down, making 2025 the cheapest year since 2021. 2026 has turned sharply the other way: the conflict in the Middle East pushed Brent above \$120 a barrel, and October's monthly average is already well above the 2026 figure shown here, which covers the year to date.

Records across the series

Petrol's highest single month is 189.4p (July 2022) and its lowest is 106.2p (May 2020) - both appear in the Highest and Lowest month columns above. Between them sits a range of 83.2p a litre, or about £45.75 on a 55-litre fill.

Methodology

Source

The monthly series combines two official sources. Up to June 2026 it uses the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero weekly road fuel price statistics. From July 2026 it uses our own daily national average, calculated from prices retailers publish under the CMA open fuel price scheme. Brent crude is the daily front-month close.

Sampling

Months up to June 2026 are the mean of one official reading per week (four or five readings). Months from July 2026 are the mean of one reading per day. This edition used 19 readings (daily sampling). Tested against July 2026, where both methods are available, the two differ by 0.5p a litre - worth a footnote when comparing a 2021 month against a 2026 one.

Averaging and coverage

Figures are the unweighted mean of the price at each station: a site is one observation regardless of how much fuel it sells, so the average describes the market a driver faces rather than the volume sold. Months with fewer than three readings are omitted. Regional figures are the mean of the month's weekly regional snapshots; at least two snapshots are required.

Crude pass-through (the oil section)

Pass-through is estimated on weekly averages of both series. Weekly pump changes are regressed on the current and three lagged weekly Brent percentage changes, separately for weeks where the cumulative four-week Brent move is a rise of at least 1% and weeks where it is a fall of at least 1%. The sum of the four coefficients is the within-a-month pass-through in pence per litre per 1% of Brent. Weeks around the March 2022 duty change are excluded because a duty cut moves the pump for reasons nothing to do with crude. This is an association measured on our data, not a causal model: exchange-rate moves, refinery outages and retail pricing strategy are all inside the residual.

Pump-price decomposition

Crude cost is the month's average Brent price converted at a stated \$1.34 to the pound and 158.99 litres per barrel; duty is the 52.95p rate in force since March 2022; VAT is 20% of the final price; the remainder is refining, delivery and retail. The exchange rate is a stated assumption for presentation - the pass-through estimates above use percentage changes and do not depend on it.

Revisions

A month still in progress is marked provisional and changes as readings arrive; once a month closes its figures are final and this PDF is archived unchanged.

Using this data

These figures are free to use in articles, research and reporting. We ask only that you credit findpetrol.co.uk and link to the edition you quote, so readers can see the current figures and the method behind them.

Suggested citation

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Underlying price data is published under the Open Government Licence v3.0. The full methodology, regional definitions and the complete data policy are at findpetrol.co.uk/reports/methodology. Data enquiries: findpetrol.co.uk/contact.