

Quarterly statistics

Energy prices and taxes

for OECD countries

An overview
Second quarter 2019

This overview presents a selection of data from the 2Q2019 edition of the [Energy Prices and Taxes](#) database of the International Energy Agency. This database includes annual and quarterly end user industry and consumer prices for OECD countries; as well as annual, quarterly and monthly crude oil spot prices, oil product spot prices and import costs by crude stream. The end user prices cover the main oil products, gas, coal and electricity.

The Energy Prices and Taxes database has a larger scope and more detailed resolution and frequency for OECD countries than its associated [World Energy Prices](#) database.

This document can be downloaded free of charge at the following link
<https://webstore.iea.org/energy-prices-and-taxes-for-oecd-countries-2nd-quarter-2019-an-overview>

More information is available at <https://www.iea.org/statistics/prices/>.

Please address your inquiries to prices@iea.org.

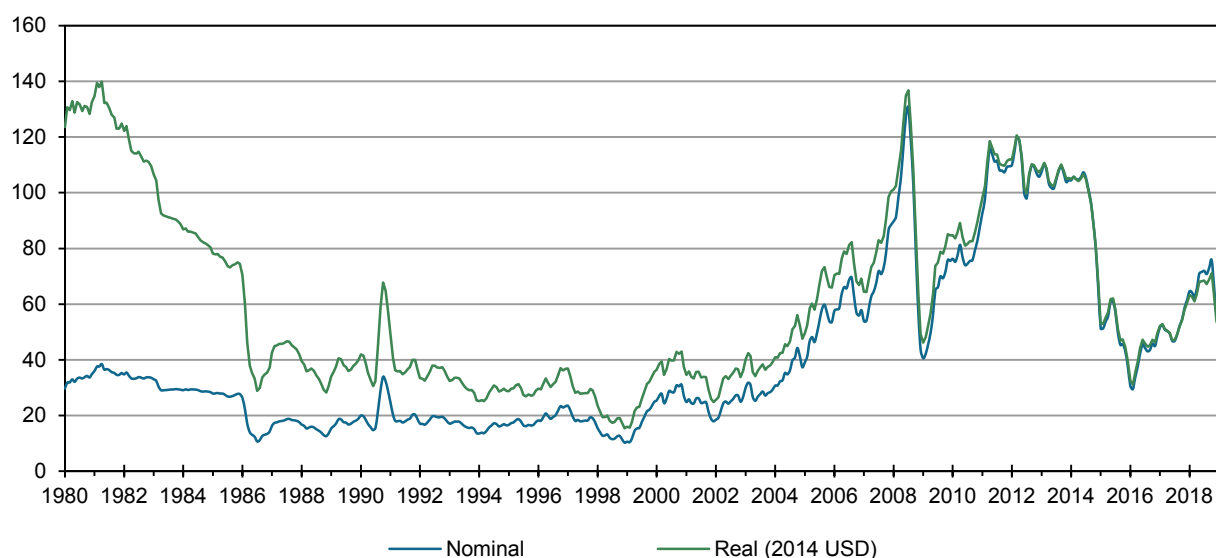
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OECD Energy Prices and Taxes

Energy prices are a significant part of expenditures for both households and firms, and have important implications for industrial competitiveness and consumer welfare. End-use prices paid by final consumers are affected by movements in commodity markets as well as policy settings.

Figure 1 – Nominal and real crude oil import costs (IEA average)*

USD/bbl

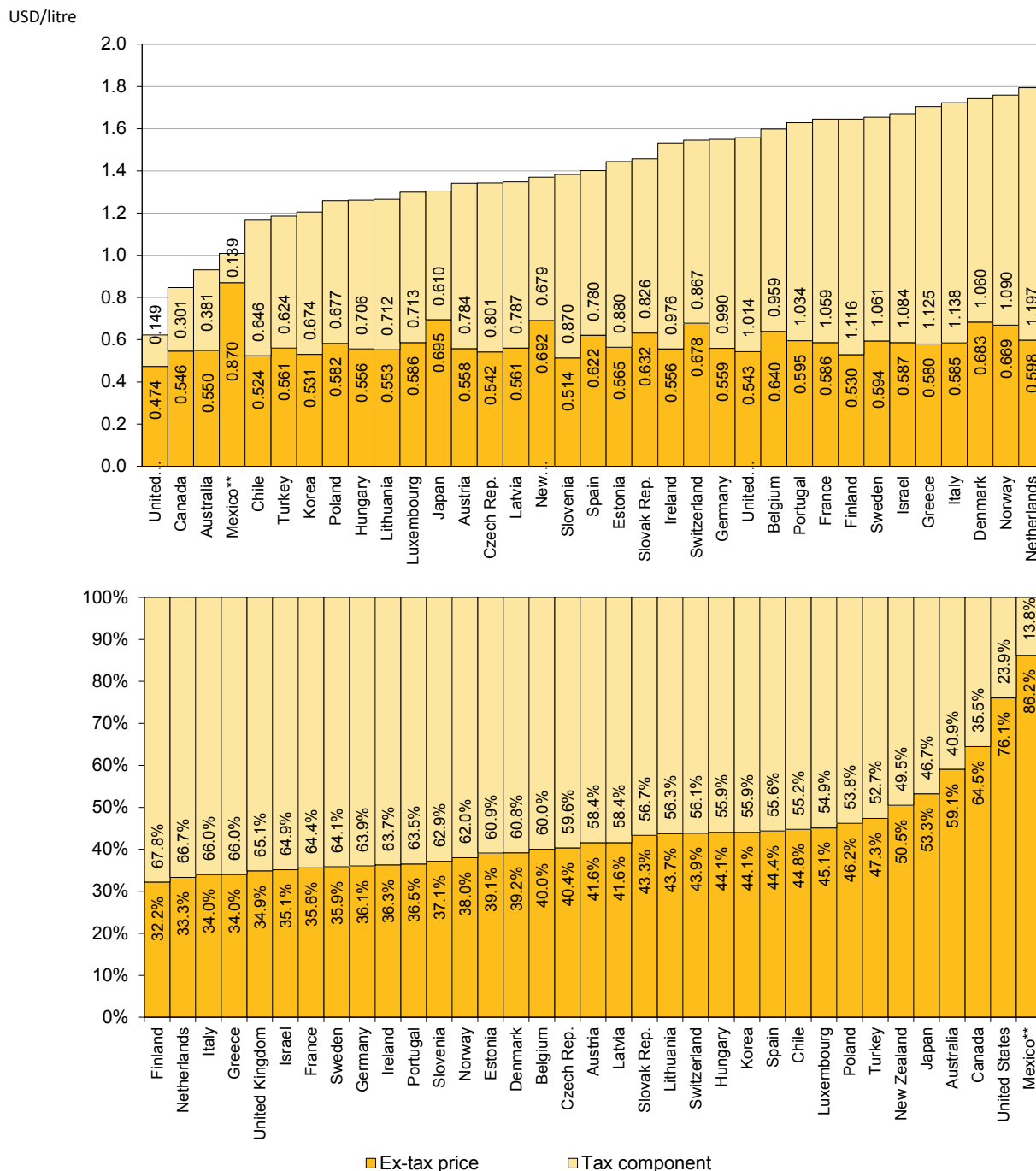


* Monthly averages, from January 1980 to March 2019.

In the first quarter of 2019, crude oil import costs decreased in all IEA member countries except in the United States (+2%). The total IEA average decrease was 9% over fourth quarter 2018 levels. Prices decreased the most in Japan (–16%), Korea (–14%) and Spain (–12%). Year on year, average import costs in IEA member countries showed an overall decrease of 6%.

The ex-tax price for gasoline is relatively homogenous among OECD countries (Figure 2). This is mainly due to the existence of a well-connected trading market for crude oil.

Figure 2 – Unleaded gasoline prices and taxes, 1Q2019

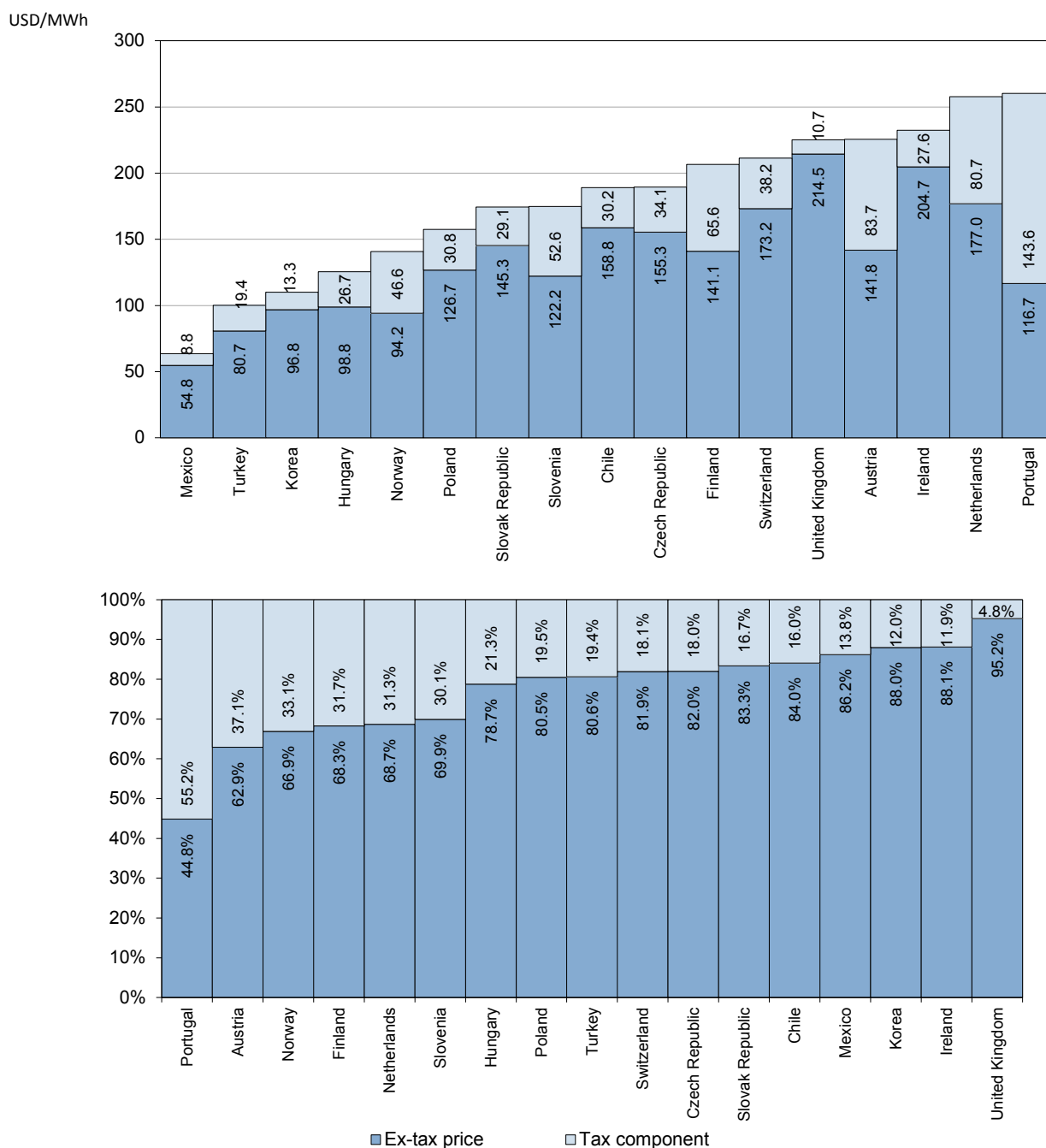


* Regular unleaded for Australia, Canada, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand and the United States; premium unleaded 95 for all other countries.

** Disaggregation between the ex-tax price and excise tax currently not available for Mexico, so ex-tax price includes excise tax. Tax component includes VAT only.

European consumers generally pay the highest post-tax gasoline prices. This is primarily a reflection of the tendency for European countries to use high taxation to reduce consumption of gasoline for environmental concerns and/or to raise revenues for social policy objectives.

Figure 3 – Electricity prices and taxes for households, 1Q2019



Electricity prices show a different pattern compared to transport fuel prices (Figure 3). In fact, the electricity market and the final price are highly dependent on country-specific characteristics such as the generation mix, the characteristics of the grid network and regulatory settings. Ideally, the ex-tax price reflects not only the cost of generation, but also grid infrastructure development, operation and maintenance. This results in significant variation in ex-tax prices for electricity from country to country. Indeed, there is an almost five-fold difference in electricity prices from lowest (Mexico) to highest (Portugal), while gasoline prices exhibit a three-fold difference between the lowest (United States) and highest (Netherlands). In general, taxes on electricity consumption are lower than those for transport fuels, mainly because electricity is considered as a primary good without a close substitute.

Reference to databases

Energy Prices and Taxes [Database documentation](#) (for OECD countries)

Geographical groupings¹

EU Member States: EU-28 starting in July 2013; EU-27 from January 2007 to June 2013; EU-25 from May 2004 to December 2006; EU-15 prior to May 2004. Regional averages include only those countries where information is available for that quarter and year.

EU28: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

EMU: Economic and Monetary Union: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Spain.

IEA: Includes IEA Europe, IEA Asia and Oceania, and IEA North America.

IEA Europe: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

IEA Asia and Oceania: Australia, Japan, Korea and New Zealand.

IEA North America: Canada, Mexico and the United States.

OECD: OECD Europe, OECD Asia and Oceania, and OECD Americas.

OECD Americas: Canada, Chile, Mexico and the United States.

OECD Asia and Oceania: Australia, Israel², Japan, Korea and New Zealand.

OECD Europe: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

1. This document is without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area. In this publication, "country" refers to country or territory, as the case may be.

2. The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD and/or the IEA is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

Sources

2Q2019 [*Energy Prices and Taxes*](#), OECD/IEA, Paris

Released in June 2019 at <http://data.iea.org>

Queries should be addressed to stats@iea.org

In addition, a wide range of free energy statistics can be accessed at www.iea.org/statistics

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