MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

Weekly fuel price monitoring

Data dictionary – 16 September 2026

This document outlines the structure of the fuel price monitoring data published on a weekly basis on the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) website[1].

Purpose and usage

This series is produced to promote transparency in retail petrol and diesel pricing. It gives an indication of how recent movements in key factors, such as international oil prices, are affecting retail pump prices that consumers are facing.

This data is intended to provide an indication to the public of how retail fuel prices and their components are tracking over time. MBIE endeavours to ensure that the data is accurate. However, we do not warrant or represent that the data is current, accurate or complete. MBIE excludes all liability and/or responsibility for any loss or damage directly or indirectly resulting from the use of, or reliance on, the data including (without limit) resulting from any error, inadequacy, deficiency, flaw in or omission from the information. MBIE may change, delete, add to or otherwise amend the data at any time.

Format and structure

MBIE's weekly fuel price monitoring data is available on the MBIE website in the form of a comma-separated value (CSV) file of seven columns. These columns are detailed below.

Column	Description	Example value
Week	The week of the year for which this observation applies. This is calculated using ISO 8601 date standards.	2024w01
Date	The date corresponding to the Friday of the week for which this observation applies. This is given in ISO 8601 format (eg '2024-01-31').	2024-01-31

[1] https://www.mbie.govt.nz/building-and-energy/energy-and-natural-resources/energy-statistics-and-modelling/energy-statistics/weekly-fuel-price-monitoring

Variable	The variable being measured.	Dubai crude price Importer cost Board price
Fuel	The fuel type that the variable applies to. For variables that are not linked to a specific fuel type, this will be blank.	Regular Petrol Premium Petrol 95R Diesel
Value	The value of the variable.	12.32
Unit	The unit of measurement for this variable.	Cents per litre
Status	Indicates if the data for that period is provisional or final. Provisional data is calculated using an estimated adjustment factor and will change when data is finalised.	Provisional Final

Fuel values

We provide fuel price data for three fuels:

- Regular Petrol
- Premium Petrol 95R[2]
- Diesel.

We use these values in the **Fuel** column to show when a given measurement applies to a particular fuel.

Some variables in this dataset don't apply to any one specific fuel:

- Dubai crude price
- Exchange rate

In these cases, the **Fuel** column is left blank.

Variable values

The below table outlines all possible values observed in the **Variable** column of this dataset. For each variable, we provide:

- A description of what the variable represents.
- Whether the variable applies to a specific fuel or whether it's a general variable.
- The unit or units that are associated with each variable.
- The source

Variable	Description	Fuel-specific?	Units	Source
Dubai crude price	The Dubai Fateh spot crude price.	No	USD per barrel NZD per barrel	Argus Media Limited

[2] "95R" refers to the 95 Research octane number. This is the common grade for premium petrol in New Zealand.

Exchange rate	The weekly average exchange rate.	No	USD per NZD	Reserve Bank of New Zealand
Importer cost	The calculated cost of purchasing the fuel and importing it to New Zealand.	Yes	Cents per litre	Argus Media Limited Envisory
ETS	Costs associated with the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), based on the prevailing carbon price from the New Zealand Carbon Market.	Yes	Cents per litre	Envisory
GST	The GST component of the weekly average adjusted retail price.	Yes	Cents per litre	
Taxes	Total direct taxes and levies on a given fuel. This excludes GST.	Yes	Cents per litre	Current direct duties, taxes and direct levies are available on the MBIE website.
Price excluding tax	The adjusted retail price less direct taxes and levies, GST, and ETS.	Yes	Cents per litre	
Board price	The national average advertised price for a given fuel for the week.	Yes	Cents per litre	Datamine
Adjusted retail price	The national average price paid by consumers for a given fuel for the week.	Yes	Cents per litre	
Importer margin	The discounted diesel price less direct taxes and levies, GST, ETS, and the importer cost.	Yes	Cents per litre	
Importer margin trend	This is a trend series calculated for the importer margin series. It is based on a LOESS smoothing algorithm.	Yes	Cents per litre	