



**S-1**  
**Driving Privileges  
and ID Cards in Other  
States for Those Who  
Cannot Prove Lawful  
Presence**

**S-2**  
**State Highway  
Fund Receipts and  
Transfers**

**S-3**  
**State Motor Fuels  
Taxes and Fuel Use**

Jill Shelley  
Principal Research  
Analyst  
785-296-3181  
Jill.Shelley@klrd.ks.gov

## Transportation

### S-3 State Motor Fuels Taxes and Fuel Use

For many years, the state sources that provide the most funding for transportation programs have been motor fuels taxes, sales tax, and registration fees.

This article provides information regarding Kansas motor fuels taxes and fuels use.

**Per gallon amounts of motor fuels taxes.** Kansas' motor fuels taxes are 24¢ a gallon on gasoline and 26¢ a gallon on diesel fuel, unchanged since 2003. The table below lists the effective dates of tax increases for motor fuels. The increases in 1989 through 1992 were part of the Comprehensive Highway Plan as it was enacted in 1989, and those in 1999 and 2001 were part of the original ten-year Comprehensive Transportation Program enacted in 1999. No increases in fuels taxes are associated with the Transportation Works for Kansas (T-Works) bill enacted in 2010.

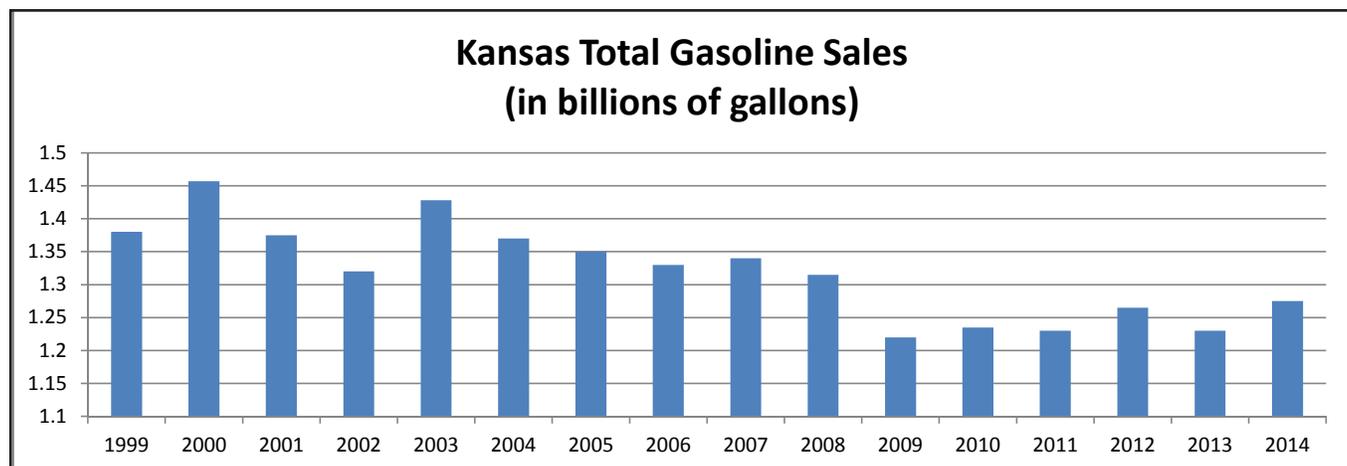
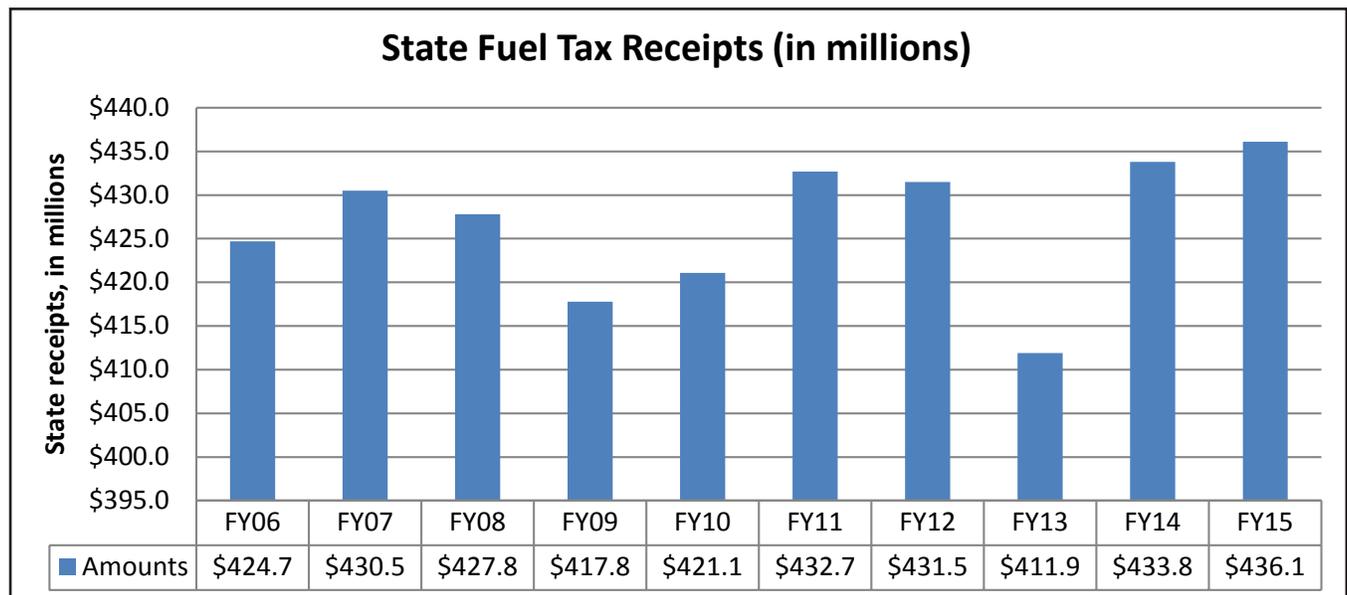
<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Gasoline</b>	<b>Diesel</b>
1925	2¢	--
1929	3¢	--
1941	--	3¢
1945	4¢	4¢
1949	5¢	5¢
1956	--	7¢
1969	7¢	8¢
1976	8¢	10¢
1983	10¢	12¢
1984	11¢	13¢
1989	15¢	17¢
1990	16¢	18¢
1991	17¢	19¢
1992	18¢	20¢
1999	20¢	22¢
2001	21¢	23¢
2002	23¢	25¢
2003	24¢	26¢

A tax of 17¢ a gallon was imposed on E-85 gasohol beginning in 2006. Certain fuel purchases, including aviation fuel and fuel used for nonhighway purposes, are exempt from taxation.

A federal fuels tax of 18.4¢ a gallon for gasoline, gasohol, and special fuels and 24.4¢ a gallon for diesel fuel also is included in fuel prices. The amount of federal tax per gallon has not increased since 1993, although increases have been proposed in Congress.

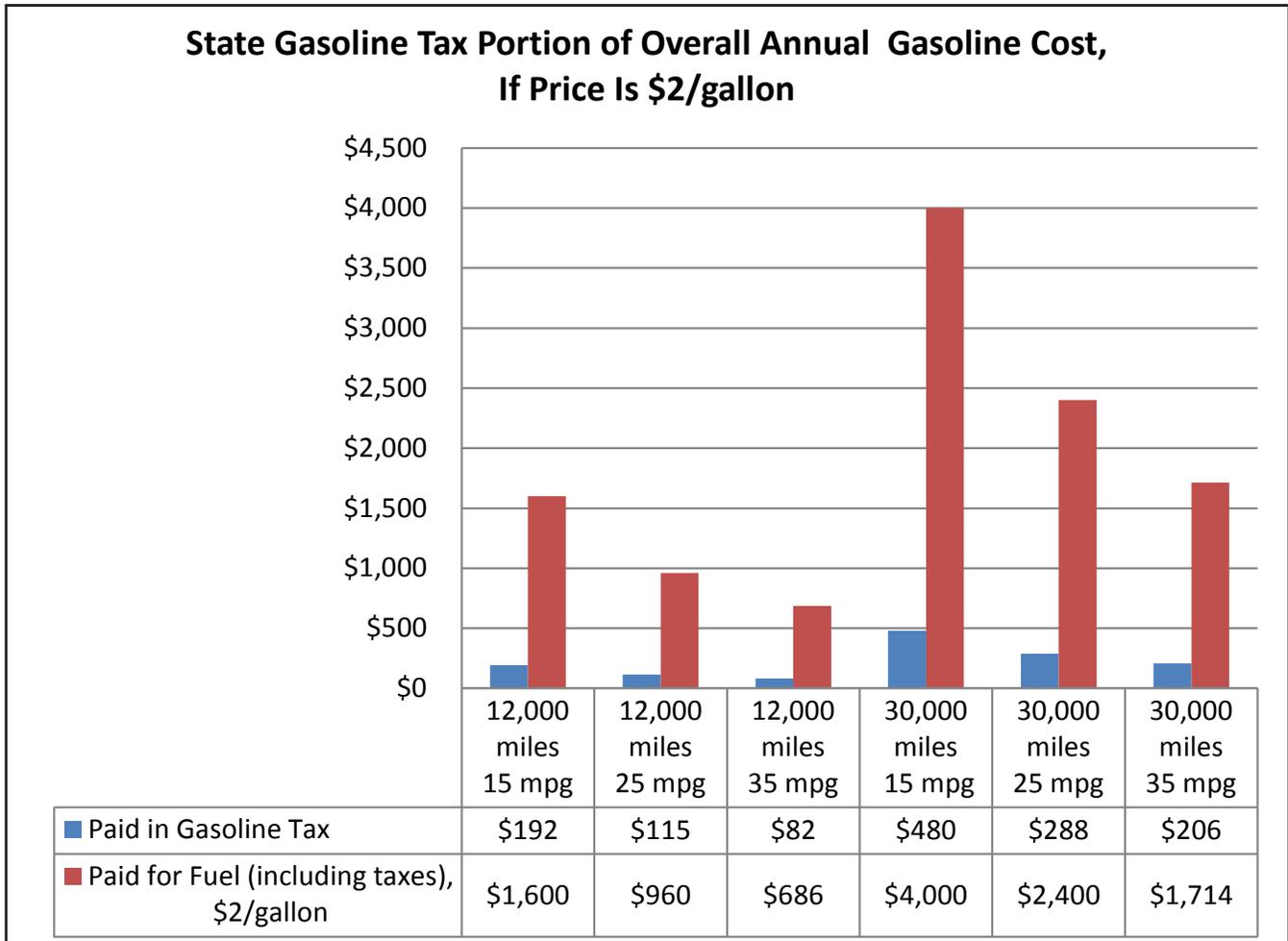
Combined state, local, and federal gasoline taxes across the country as of October 1, 2015, averaged 48.7¢ a gallon and ranged from a low of 30.7¢ a gallon in Alaska and 32.9¢ a gallon in New Jersey to 73.7¢ a gallon in Pennsylvania, 62.9¢ a gallon in Washington state, 62.7¢ a gallon in New York, and 61.6¢ a gallon in Hawaii. The equivalent rate for Kansas was 42.4¢ a gallon.

**Fuels usage and tax revenues.** Kansas fuels tax revenues and gasoline usage fluctuate, as illustrated in the graphics below.



**Amounts households spend.** According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. households spent a median of \$9,073 on transportation in 2014, an increase from \$8,293 in 2011. In 2014, \$2,468 (27 percent) of

the transportation total was spent on gasoline. If fuel prices average \$2 a gallon, state fuel taxes account for 12 percent of the amount motorists spend on fuel.



Sources:

Reports, Monthly Motor Fuel Reported by States, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Highway Policy Information, Motor Fuel and the Highway Trust Fund. <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/motorfuel/may14/index.cfm> and reports for previous years, current year information accessed December 11, 2015.

KDOT budget documents submitted to KLRD, September 2015, and in previous years

Press release, “Consumer Expenditures – 2014,” For release: 10:00 a.m. (EDT), Thursday, September 3, 2015 USDL-15-1696;U.S. Department of Labor, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/cesan.nr0.htm>, accessed December 11, 2015.

American Petroleum Institute, Combined local, state, and federal gasoline taxes: <http://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas-overview/industry-economics/fuel-taxes>

For further information please contact:

Jill Shelley, Principal Research Analyst  
[Jill.Shelley@klrd.ks.gov](mailto:Jill.Shelley@klrd.ks.gov)

Chris Courtwright, Principal Economist  
[Chris.Courtwright@klrd.ks.gov](mailto:Chris.Courtwright@klrd.ks.gov)

Aaron Klaassen, Principal Fiscal Analyst  
[Aaron.Klaassen@klrd.ks.gov](mailto:Aaron.Klaassen@klrd.ks.gov)

Kansas Legislative Research Department  
300 SW 10th Ave., Room 68-West, Statehouse  
Topeka, KS 66612  
Phone: (785) 296-3181  
Fax: (785) 296-3824