

E15 MARKET UPDATE

HIGHER OCTANE AT A LOWER PRICE

In spite of vexing regulatory hurdles and an aggressive misinformation campaign, the market for E15 continued to expand in 2015. After debuting at a single Kansas retail station in 2012, E15 has spread rapidly and is now sold at roughly 180 stations in more than 20 states.

And more stations are coming. In September 2015, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that some 1,500 retail stations in 21 states would receive \$100 million to install nearly 4,900 pumps capable of dispensing E15, other mid-level ethanol blends, and E85.

Over the past three years, E15 has proven itself as a safe, economical, and popular alternative to gasoline. Contrary to Big Oil's claims, not a single verifiable case of "engine damage," inferior performance, or misfueling has been reported. In fact, it is estimated that nearly 200 million trouble-free miles have been driven on E15. Moreover, E15 typically offers slightly higher octane than E10, but usually costs a bit less.



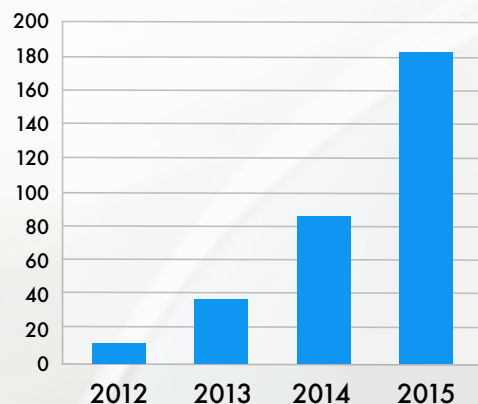
"The Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership is one approach USDA is using to aggressively pursue investments in American-grown renewable energy to create new markets for U.S. farmers and ranchers, help Americans save money on their energy bills, support America's clean energy economy, cut carbon pollution and reduce dependence on foreign oil and costly fossil fuels."

— U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack

While the Environmental Protection Agency's E15 waiver approves the use of E15 in all vehicles built since 2001 (about 90% of the current fleet), most automakers themselves are explicitly approving the use of the fuel in their newer vehicles. More than 70% of new (2016) models are clearly approved to use E15 by the manufacturer. Notably, Fiat Chrysler joined Ford, General Motors, Honda, Toyota, Volkswagen, and others in approving E15 for model year 2016 vehicles.

The largest remaining impediment to E15 growth is EPA's inequitable application of gasoline vapor pressure regulations. In effect, EPA's regulations make it nearly impossible for many retailers to sell E15 to conventional autos in the summertime. Resolution of this arcane barrier remains a top priority for RFA.

U.S. Retail Stations Offering E15



Source: RFA

Automaker Approval of E15

	E15 Explicitly Approved by Automaker in All Vehicle Models
	E15 Approved by EPA/Not Approved by Automaker
	E15 Explicitly Allowed by Automaker in Some Vehicle Models

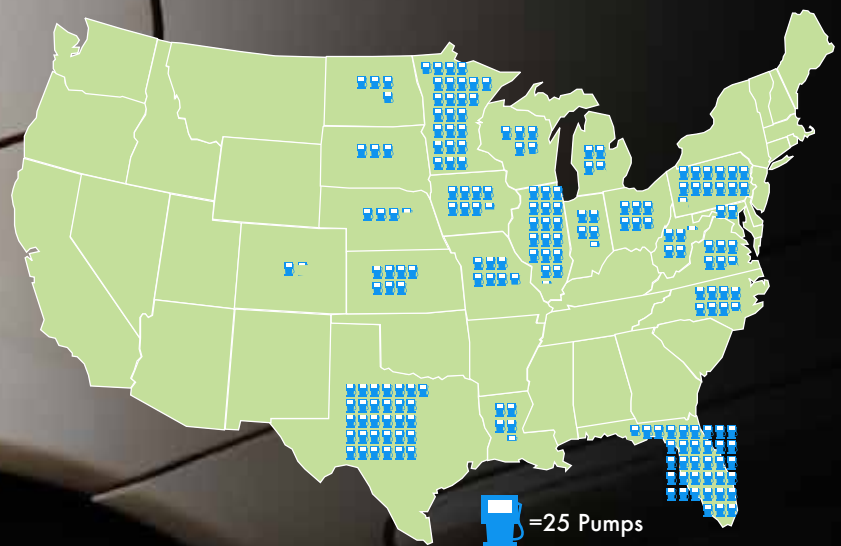
	MY 2012	MY 2013	MY 2014	MY 2015	MY 2016
Audi					
BMW/MINI					
Fiat-Chrysler Automobiles (FCA Group)					
Chrysler					
Dodge*					
Fiat					
Jeep					
Ram					
Ford Motor Company					
Ford*					
Lincoln					
General Motors Company					
Chevrolet					
Buick					
Cadillac					
GMC					
Honda Motor Company					
Honda					
Acura					
Hyundai					
Jaguar					
Kia Motors					
Land Rover					
Mazda					
Mercedes-Benz					
Nissan Motor Company					
Nissan					
Infiniti					
Porsche					
Subaru					
Toyota Motor Corporation					
Toyota					
Lexus					
Scion					
Volkswagen					
Volvo					
All Others					

*Except Dodge Viper and Ford F-650/F-750

Source: RFA based on information from manufacturers



New E15/E85/Blender Pumps Resulting from USDA Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership Grants



Source: RFA based on U.S. Dept. of Agriculture data