# SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON E15

## FUEL ECONOMY, COST, AND FILL-UP FREQUENCY

A consumer-focused look at the real-world impact of using **E15 compared to E10.**


**E15 IS**

# 10%

**LESS EXPENSIVE ON AVERAGE***

*E15prices.com

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RENEWABLE FUELS ASSOCIATION

# Will I lose fuel economy using E15?

Any impact on fuel economy from using E15 instead of E10 is negligible and is likely unnoticeable by the driver.

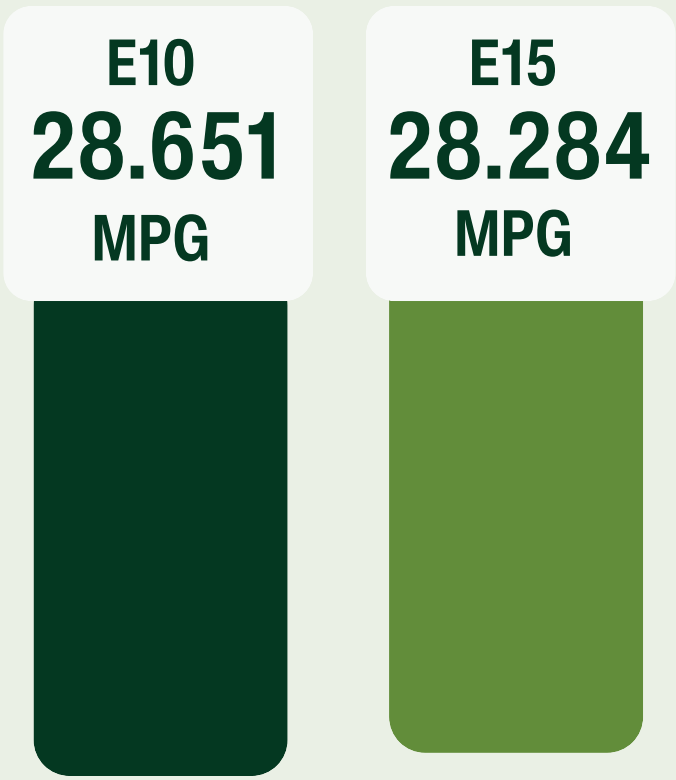
If vehicle fuel economy was perfectly correlated to fuel energy content, a gallon of E15 would deliver 1.7% fewer miles per gallon than a gallon of E10. For the average vehicle, this would mean average fuel economy of 25.6 mpg when using E10 and 25.2 mpg when using E15.[1]

Recent dynamometer vehicle testing by the University of California, Riverside (UCR) analyzed the fuel economy of 20 late-model light-duty vehicles when operating on E10 and E15.[2] Across all 20 vehicles, the average fuel economy was 28.651 mpg when using E10 and 28.284 mpg when using E15 — a difference of **1.28%**.

Three of the 20 vehicles tested experienced **slightly better fuel economy** when using E15 versus E10, and two of the vehicles showed no change in fuel economy. This is likely explained by these vehicles' sensitivity to E15's slightly higher octane value and higher heat of vaporization.

## AVERAGE FUEL ECONOMY

### UC, RIVERSIDE TESTING OF 20 VEHICLES




**DIFFERENCE**
**1.28%**
**FEWER MPG WITH E15**

E15 has 1.7% less energy content than E10, but other factors also influence fuel economy. In fact, under-inflated tires, excess weight, or aggressive driving have a much bigger impact on fuel eoncomy than using E15.[3]

[1] EPA real-world fuel economy data show average fuel economy of 25.6 mpg.
[2] https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/fuels-multimedia-evaluation-e15
[3] https://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/drive.shtml

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3 COST SAVINGS

# When fuel economy is considered, will I really save money using E15?

**Yes.** Any time E15 is priced at least 1.3% below E10, you'll save money and have a lower fuel cost per mile.

E15 is currently priced **10% below E10**, on average, resulting is substantial savings to the driver. Drivers using E15 today have a fuel cost per mile that is **1.5 cents lower** than drivers using E10.

SAVE MORE THAN **$390** ANNUALLY

The average U.S. household drives 25,720 miles annually, according to government data. Driving that distance would require 1,005 gallons of E10 or 1,018 gallons of E15 — a difference of just 13 gallons over the course of a full year. Using recent average prices for E10 and E15, a household choosing E15 instead of E10 would save more than **$390 annually** in gasoline expenses.

| | E10 | E15 | DIFFERENCE | DIFFERENCE % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average Retail Price[4] | $4.37 | $3.93 | -$0.44 | **-10.1%** |
| Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled per Household[5] | 25,720 | 25,720 | -- | -- |
| Average Fuel Economy[6] (miles/gallon) | 25.60 | 25.27 | -0.33 | -1.28% |
| Annual Fuel Required (gallons) | 1,004.7 | 1017.8 | +13.1 | +1.28% |
| Annual Fuel Spending | $4,390.55 | $4,000.05 | **-$390.50** | **-8.9%** |
| **Cost per Mile** | **$0.171** | **$0.156** | **-$0.015** | **-8.9%** |

[4] E85prices.com
[5] Federal Highway Administration & U.S. Census Bureau
[6] U.S. EPA and UC, Riverside

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## FILL-UP FREQUENCY

# Will I have to fill up more often when using E15?

**No.** You may need one additional fill-up per year – if that.

A typical American household choosing E15 over E10 would need to buy just 13 additional gallons of fuel over the course of a year.

The average light-duty vehicle fuel tank holds 19 gallons.[7] That means a household using E10 will make 53 trips to the gas station per year. A household using E15 might make one additional trip per year.

Depending on tank size, fill-up habits, and other factors, a driver using E15 could make the same – or even fewer – trips to the gas station as a driver using E10.

### ANNUAL FUEL REQUIRED PER HOUSEHOLD (GALLONS)

| | |
|---|---|
| E10 | 1,004.7 |
| E15 | 1,017.8 |
| DIFFERENCE | +13.1 |

### ANNUAL FILL-UPS REQUIRED PER HOUSEHOLD

| | |
|---|---|
| E10 | 53 |
| E15 | 54 |
| DIFFERENCE | +1 |

### THE EXTRA 13 GALLONS NEEDED ANNUALLY EQUALS JUST 0.23 GALLONS PER FILL-UP

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[7] https://yougov.com/en-us/articles/53422-americas-car-owners-are-loyal-to-their-vehicle-type-especially-suv-drivers and https://www.vevor.com/diy-ideas/gasoline-tank-sizes/?warmTaskId=20260510_080001&srsltid=AfmBOoqehCaRcrMvyioRXjlBS8OeMUqqJO-7Q10WXTCkDyh5_4HzR_Wr