

## Truckers Pull Rigs Off Road, Others Slow to Crawl in Loosely Organized Protest of Fuel Prices

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**TRENTON, N.J.** — Independent truckers around the country pulled their rigs off the road and others slowed to a crawl on major highways in a loosely organized protest of high fuel prices.



Jimmy Lowry, 51, of St. Petersburg, Fla., and others said it costs about \$1 a mile to drive one of the big rigs, although his company is offering as little as 87 cents a mile. Diesel cost \$4.03 a gallon at the Baldwin truck stop.

In Washington, top executives of the five biggest U.S. oil companies said Tuesday they know high fuel prices are hurting consumers but deflected any blame and argued their profits — \$123 billion last year — were in line with other industries.



Prices for diesel fuel have been lifted in the last few months by a wave of higher crude oil prices. Although oil has dropped from its March 13 closing high of \$109.17, it is still trading above \$100 per barrel and keeping gasoline and diesel prices at or near record levels.

The U.S. retail price for gasoline set a new high of \$3.29 a gallon after rising 3.1 cents over the last week, the federal Energy Information Administration said on Monday. The national price for regular, self-service gasoline is up 58 cents from a year ago as expensive crude oil continued to be passed on to consumers at the pump, the Energy Department's analytical arm said in its weekly survey of service stations. In the EIA's latest weekly survey, gasoline was the most expensive on the West Coast at \$3.52 a gallon, up 0.6 cent. San Francisco had the highest city price at \$3.65, down a penny. The Gulf Coast states had the cheapest regional price at \$3.21 a gallon, up 4 cents. Boston had the lowest city price, up 0.7 cent to \$3.11.

1. In paragraph form, compare and contrast regional gasoline prices across the U.S. as reported this past Monday by the federal Energy Information Administration.
2. Generally, an 18-wheeler averages six miles per gallon and may carry up to 300 gallons or 1135.62 liters of diesel. At approximately \$4.03 gallon, how much would one invest in fuel alone for a round-trip drive to Los Angeles, California considering 1,107 miles represents  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the total distance traveled?
3. How much money will Jimmy Lowry, 51, of St. Petersburg, Florida earn if he were the driver in question two?
4. The algebraic equation  $d/r = t$  shows the relationship between distance (d) traveled, the rate (r) traveled, and the time (t) traveled. If the rate decreases and the distances stay the same, the time increases. Assuming the trip in question two was completed at an average of 47.5 mph to accommodate rest stops, etc. how long did it take? If the driver accelerated an average of only 2.5 mph how much time could he have saved? Explain.
5. On the graph above, identify and explain the selection of the independent variable. The reading indicated on the graph above that reflects the largest increase in fuel costs is between which two years? Least? Explain.
6. At 9:42 a.m., two 18-wheelers simultaneously departed Topeka, Kansas (CST) one driving east at 72 mph and the other traveling west at 67 mph. At what time in McDonough, Georgia (EDT) will they be 1,206 miles apart?  
*HINT: When objects travel in opposite directions, their combined speed is the sum of the rates.*
7. Upon completion of this assignment, how far have we progressed through the 2007-08 series of *The Daughtry Times*®? Express your answer as a fraction, decimal, percentage, and pie chart.
8. Complete *The Daughtry Times*® "Writing Guidelines" checklist on all questions requiring a written response. To ensure compliance, neatly label each component adjacent to your paragraph.
9. Complete *The Daughtry Times*® "Preliminary Reading Guidelines" checklist prior to reading the passage and clearly identify each essential component of the article (title, keywords in italics, etc.).
10. Using contextual clues only, explain the meaning of the italicized words: *analytical* and *deflected*. Additionally, use each word in a sentence to demonstrate further comprehension.
11. In paragraph form, explain at least five legitimate and educational purposes behind *The Daughtry Times*®.