

North Dakota Legislative Council

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FUEL TAX RATE CHANGES

The following table provides the history of fuel tax rates in effect from 1926, when the motor vehicle fuel tax was first enacted by an initiated measure, through the present date.

Year	Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Rate ¹	Special Fuel Tax Rate ²	Special Fuel Excise Tax Rate ³	Aviation Fuel Tax Rate ⁴
1926	2 cents per gallon			
1929	3 cents per gallon ⁵			
1951	6 cents per gallon			
1955	6 cents per gallon	6 cents per gallon		
1959	6 cents per gallon	6 cents per gallon	2 percent excise tax	
1965	6 cents per gallon	6 cents per gallon	2 percent excise tax	2 percent excise tax
1969	7 cents per gallon	7 cents per gallon	2 percent excise tax	2 percent excise tax
1977	8 cents per gallon	8 cents per gallon	2 percent excise tax	2 percent excise tax
1979	8 cents per gallon ⁶	8 cents per gallon	2 percent excise tax	2 percent excise tax
1981	8 cents per gallon ⁶	8 cents per gallon ⁷	2 percent excise tax	2 percent excise tax
1983	13 cents per gallon8	13 cents per gallon ^{8,9}	2 percent excise tax	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
1985	13 cents per gallon ¹¹	13 cents per gallon ¹²	2 percent excise tax	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
1987	17 cents per gallon ¹³	17 cents per gallon ¹³	2 percent excise tax	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
1993	17 cents per gallon ¹⁴	17 cents per gallon ¹⁴	2 percent excise tax	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
1995	17 cents per gallon ¹⁵	17 cents per gallon ¹⁵	2 percent excise tax	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
1997	20 cents per gallon ¹⁶	20 cents per gallon ¹⁶	2 percent excise tax ¹⁷	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
1999	21 cents per gallon	21 cents per gallon	2 percent excise tax	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
2005	23 cents per gallon ¹⁸	23 cents per gallon	2 percent excise tax	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰
2007	23 cents per gallon	23 cents per gallon	4 cents per gallon ¹⁹	8 cents per gallon ¹⁰

¹Motor vehicle fuels include gasoline and gasohol.

- ⁸Alcohol blended fuel is subject to a reduced tax rate of nine cents per gallon through December 31, 1983, and eight cents per gallon through December 31, 1984.
- ⁹Blended diesel fuel consisting of not less than 10 percent recovered oil is subject to a reduced tax rate of nine cents per gallon through June 30, 1985.
- ¹⁰An excise tax of 4 percent of the purchase price of aviation fuel is deducted from refund payments made to purchasers that qualify for a refund of the eight cents per gallon aviation fuel tax.
- ¹¹Alcohol blended motor vehicle fuel is subject to a reduced tax rate of five cents per gallon through June 30, 1987.
- ¹²Alcohol blended special fuel is subject to a reduced tax rate of seven cents per gallon through December 31, 1985, and nine cents per gallon through June 30, 1987.
- ¹³Alcohol blended fuel is subject to a reduced tax rate of 13 cents per gallon through July 1, 1989.
- ¹⁴A one cent per gallon rate increase, triggered based on the availability of federal highway matching funds, was imposed from December 1, 1993, through December 31, 1995.
- ¹⁵A three cent per gallon rate increase, triggered based on the availability of federal highway matching funds, was imposed from January 1, 1996, through December 31, 1997.

²Special fuels include clear diesel, kerosene, propane, compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, and other special fuels except gasoline, gasohol, or aviation fuels.

³A special fuel excise tax, which historically has been measured as a percentage of the sale price of fuel, is applied to sales of dyed diesel fuel and sales of special fuel other than diesel fuel, which are subject to a refund of tax based on the purposes for which the fuel is used.

⁴Aviation fuels includes aviation gasoline and jet fuel.

⁵An additional one cent per gallon tax is imposed from April 1, 1939, through June 30, 1945.

⁶Alcohol blended motor vehicle fuel is subject to a reduced tax rate of four cents per gallon.

⁷Blended diesel fuel consisting of not less than 20 percent recovered oil is subject to a reduced tax rate of four cents per gallon from July 1, 1981, through June 30, 1983. Alcohol blended special fuel is subject to a reduced tax rate of four cents per gallon.

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¹⁶The motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax rates were temporarily increased to 20 cents per gallon, effective July 1, 1997, through December 31, 1999.

- ¹⁷The 2 percent excise tax first applied to dyed diesel fuel in April 1997.
- ¹⁸A reduced tax rate of one cent per gallon was imposed on the first 1.2 million gallons of E85 fuel sold in this state.
- ¹⁹The special fuel excise tax rate changed from 2 percent of the value of the fuel to four cents per gallon for all special fuels except propane.