

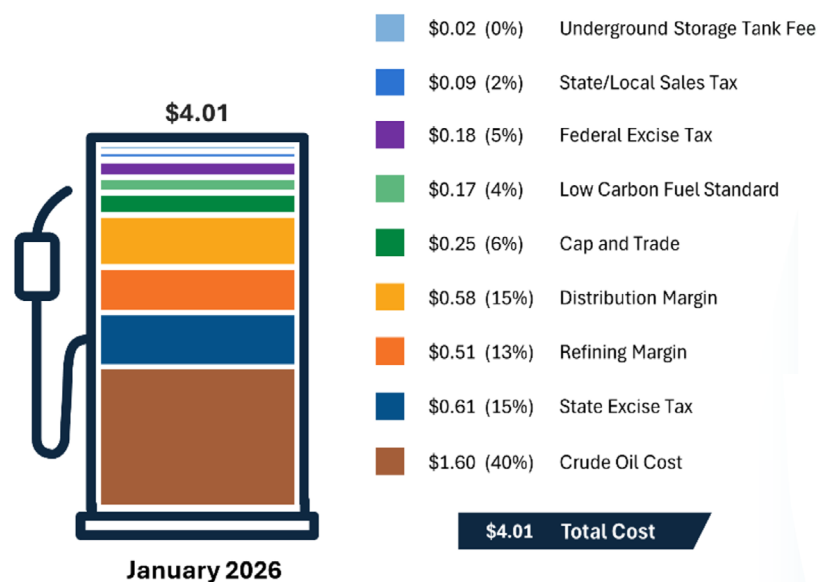


# WHAT DO CALIFORNIANS GET PER GALLON?

The state gas tax represents a small but critical portion of the price at the pump

Californians feel the impact of gas prices every day, but what's often unknown is how the price at the pump is divvied up. **A relatively small portion of the price per gallon is the state excise tax**, and it is a critical funding source to achieve a priority for Californians: maintaining and improving the state's transportation system.

The majority of gasoline costs are driven by factors like crude oil prices, refining and distribution, **not state policy**. The **state gas tax, less than one-sixth of the cost per gallon**, delivers essential transportation infrastructure to Californians statewide.



(Estimated Gasoline Price Breakdown and Margins, California Energy Commission)

## SMALL SHARE WITH BIG IMPACT

The state gas tax:

- **Fixes Roads & Bridges**
  - Funds about 80% of highway and road repairs in California
  - Supports 8,000+ transportation improvement projects statewide
- **Supports Transit & Mobility**
  - Maintains transit, bike and pedestrian infrastructure
  - Keeps 39 million Californians connected
- **Protects Jobs & the Economy**
  - Every \$1 spent on infrastructure in California creates \$4.30 in economic activity
  - Supports 100,000+ jobs annually
- **Enhances Public Safety**
  - Ensures safe roads and reliable emergency access



## WHAT VOTERS THINK

Transportation California commissioned statewide polling and focus groups in 2025. The research tested voter perceptions around fairness, transportation priorities and potential modernization strategies.

More than two in three California voters see a need for additional funding to support roads and public transit, with the largest percentage of voters surveyed saying there is a “great need” for funding.

## VOTERS’ TOP TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING PRIORITIES:

1. Filling potholes
2. Repairing aging bridges, tunnels and overpasses
3. Repairing highways to alleviate traffic

## WITHOUT THE GAS TAX, PROJECTS WOULD BE STUCK IN GRIDLOCK

Fuel taxes currently fund approximately 80% of highway and road repairs in California. As more drivers transition to zero-emission and fuel-efficient vehicles, declining fuel tax revenues are projected to leave the state and local communities facing a \$31.1 billion funding gap over the next 10 years, according to the California Transportation Commission (CTC). Overall, CTC estimates a total revenue shortfall of \$215.7 billion over the next 10 years to meet all transportation system needs.

Some of the impacts of this shortfall include:

- Delayed or canceled projects across California
- Over 100,000 jobs at risk in just one year
- Worsening road conditions and safety risks
- Higher long-term costs due to deferred maintenance



## THE BOTTOM LINE

Most of what Californians pay at the pump is driven by global oil markets and industry costs, **not state taxes**. The state gas tax is a **small but essential investment that keeps California moving safely, supports jobs and maintains the infrastructure** our economy depends on.