

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2006 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Tiffani M. Destine

J0206

Project Title

Gas Blast

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The problem seems to be that gas is very expensive, and Americans are having to get gasoline everyday. Could it be that Americans are driving to much or that the gas stations themselves are ripping us off and not giving us the right amount of gasoline. It is hypothesized that the more expensive the gasoline cost, the less gas a person will get. This is believed to be true because, the gas stations will get more money because, the gasoline itself is more expensive.

Methods/Materials

This problem will be solved by going to ten different gas stations, and paying the price for a gallon of gasoline displayed. Then, the price that was paid will be pumped into an authorized 1 gallon gas can. The gasoline pumped will be measured to see if people are getting ripped off. The controls in this project are, the gas stations (Arco, Shell, Chevron, 76, and Independently Owned) and the pumps (#1-10) chosen to be tested. Background knowledge shows that only 13% of the price payed for a gallon goes to the gas stations itself. Background knowledge also shows that gas station get tested by the State to see if people are getting a gallon of gas, if gas stations do not pass the State test it may result in major fine or forced to shut down.

Results

As it was hypothesized gas stations are ripping people off. Each gas stations tested had a least one pump that did not deliver a gallon of gas. 57% of the pumps did not deliver a full gallon of gas. Only 43% of pumps tested did indeed deliver a full gallon. This data only shows a 7% difference but, when it boils down to the end it make a BIG difference.

Summary Statement

Are people getting the gallon of gasoline the paid for?

Help Received

Mother overseen project