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Project Overview

 This project is aimed to Unlocking actionable insights in the Gasoline business through historical pricing data analysis. The ultimate goal is to inform strategic decision-making, optimize pricing strategies for energy-related businesses, and contribute to effective policymaking

Business Problem

What are the top 5 best Cities for gasoline service providers to invest to invest in?

What are the trends in Gasoline prices in different cities?

Project Objectives

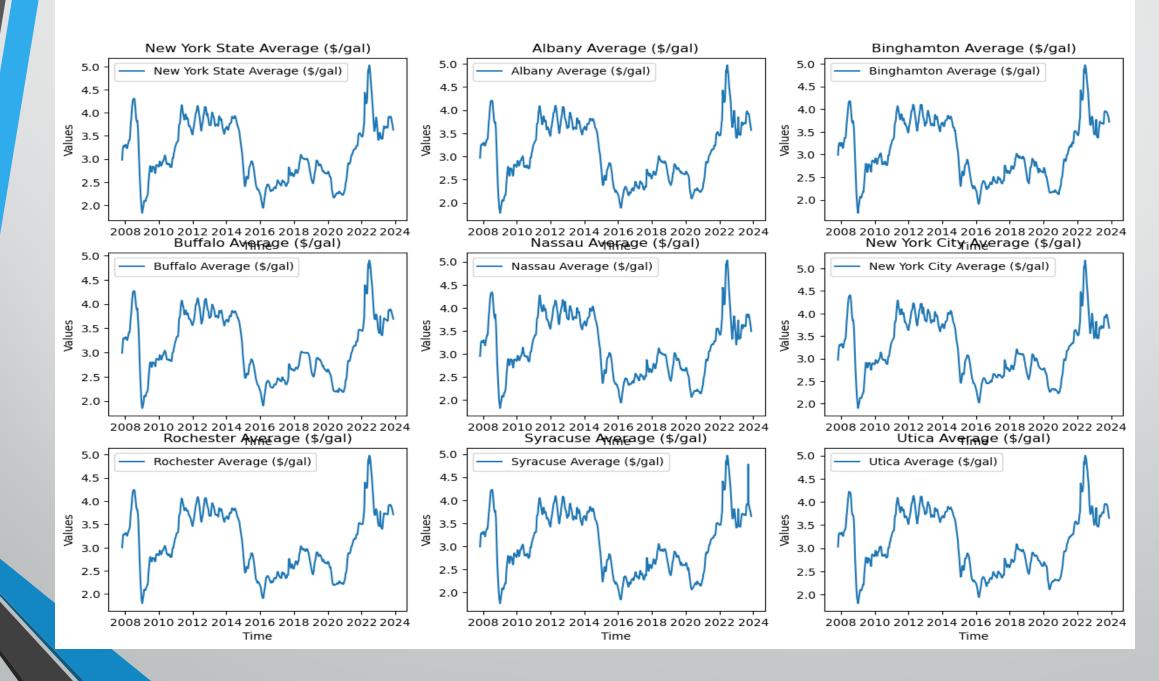
- Examining historical gasoline price trends in different states to reveal patterns and explore the potential development of forecasting models.
- Identifying states with more stable or predictable pricing patterns.

Data Understanding

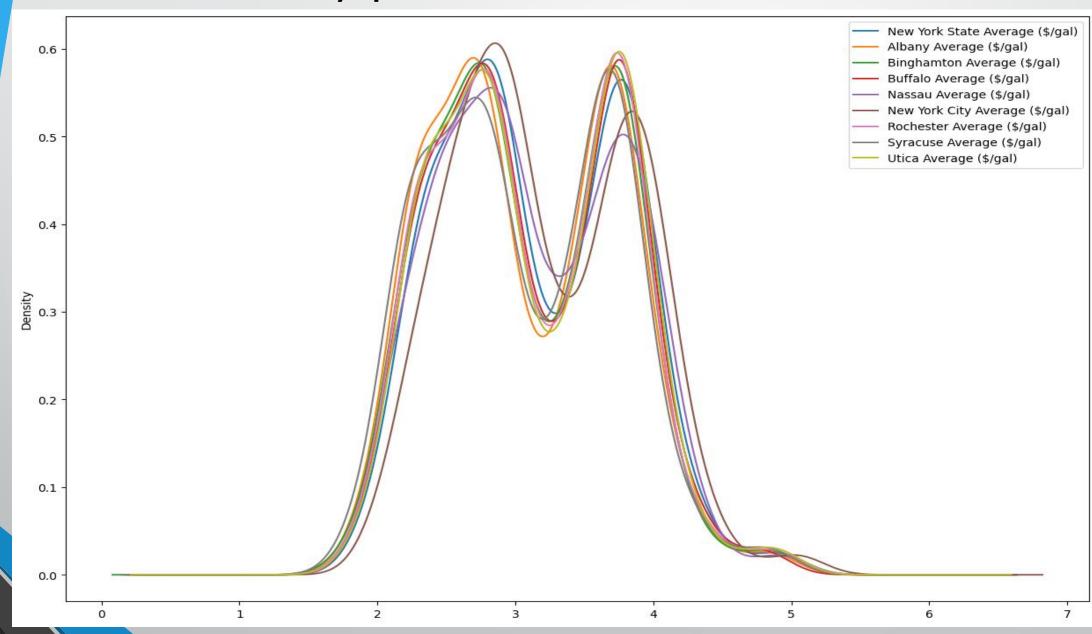
- The data was collected from the American Automobile Association (AAA) Daily Fuel Gauge Report, and spans from October 2007 to November 2023
- The dataset has 17 features/columns.
- The Date column is of type object and has to be converted to datetime.
- The data is arranged in the decreasing order of date which has to be reversed.
- The data has 10 columns with complete entries and 6 with many missing values.

We utilized data from the following columns:

- New York State
- Albany
- Binghamton
- Buffalo
- Nassau
- New York City
- Rochester
- Syracuse
- Utica



Density plot for the dataset



Model

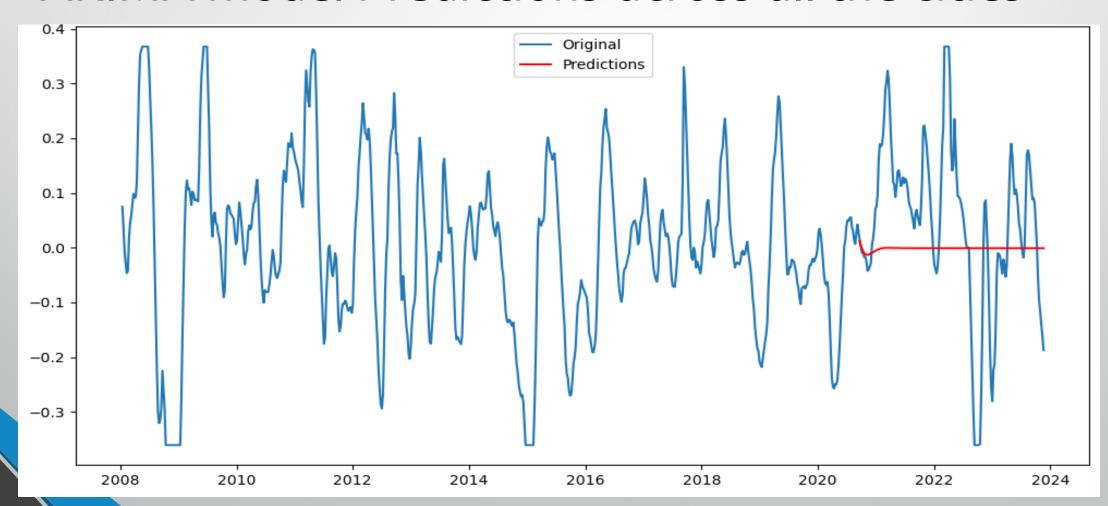
- We employed the ARIMA model to fit our data, which includes training the model on historical time series data to capture patterns and relationships.
- The model performed relatively well with Mean Squared Error values of between 0.0233 and 0.0311

Observations

- There was a high correlation(over 0.95) of the prices across all cities
- Similar trends on the predictions

Correlation Matrix Heatmap 1.00 New York State Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -0.98 0.98 1.00 0.98 0.98 0.98 0.99 Albany Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -1.00 0.98 0.96 0.97 0.97 0.98 0.98 0.99 - 0.99 0.98 0.97 0.96 0.97 0.98 0.98 Binghamton Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -0.98 1.00 - 0.98 Buffalo Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -0.98 0.96 0.97 1.00 0.94 0.96 0.96 0.97 Nassau Average (\$/gal) ma diff -0.98 0.97 0.96 0.94 1.00 0.96 0.96 0.96 - 0.97 New York City Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -0.97 0.97 0.96 1.00 0.97 0.96 0.97 - 0.96 Rochester Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -0.96 0.97 1.00 0.98 0.99 0.98 0.98 0.98 Syracuse Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -0.98 0.98 0.96 0.96 0.96 0.98 1.00 0.98 - 0.95 Utica Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff -0.98 0.99 0.98 0.97 0.96 0.97 0.98 0.98 1.00 New York State Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff Albany Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff Binghamton Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff Buffalo Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff Nassau Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff New York City Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff Rochester Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff Syracuse Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff Utica Average (\$/gal)_ma_diff

A similarity was observed on the trends of the ARIMA model Predictions across all the cities



Conclusions

- Consistency in Gasoline Price Trends:
- Common Influencing Factors
- Global Market Dynamics
- Economic Implications
- Consumer Behavior and Sensitivity

Recommendations

- Data Quality and Generalizability: The consistency in trends raises questions about the generalizability of the model and the quality of the data used.
- Future Research Directions: The discovery of a common trend in gasoline prices across cities opens avenues for future research