

NBC's 3<sup>rd</sup> *Hour of Today*

10/19/22

9:05:33 a.m.

51 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Inflation Set to Impact Holiday Travel]

AL ROKER: But for those who are going to be driving, we've seen gas prices go down, but now they are creeping up. Any relief at the gas pumps?

TOM COSTELLO: Well, as you know, the Biden administration is talking about tapping — continuing to tap the Strategic Petroleum Reserve another 15 million barrels. Listen, a lot of oil analysts think that's going to have a negligible impact. Some of that is being done for domestic political consumption going into the midterms. That said, we're right now averaging \$3.85 a gallon. That's a nationwide average. A lot more in California. Up 18 cents in a month. Up 51 cents in a year. I talked to an oil expert this morning who says we may see that drop a little bit, down about ten cents a gallon as they continue to tap the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. That would get us to \$3.75 a gallon nationally. Again, a lot more out in California, absolutely.