Contract No. 340201/2019/805240/SER/CLIMA.A.2/0011 LOT

European Commission

Excerpt for participants:

Monitoring of refrigerant prices against the background of Regulation (EU) No 517/2014

Q2/2020 – September 2020

CITEPA Öko-Recherche Büro für Umweltforschung und -beratung GmbH

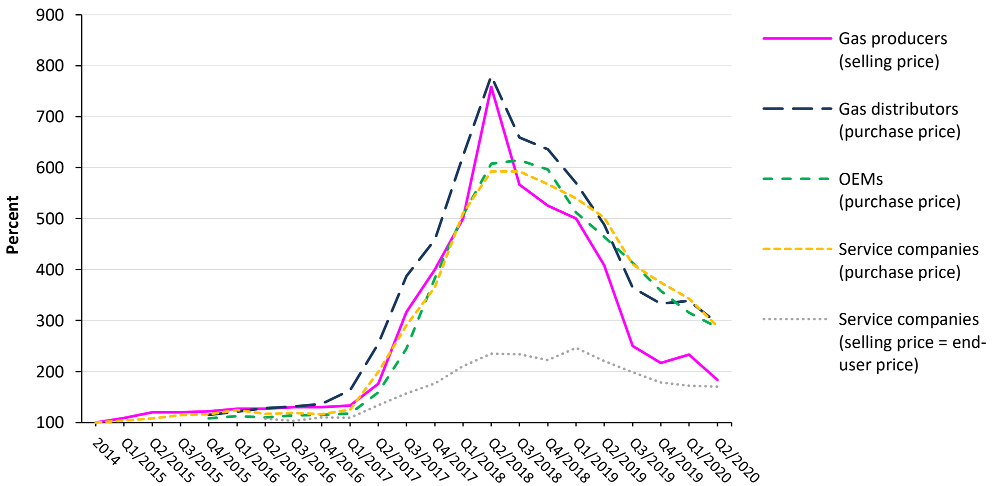
In cooperation with AFCE, AREA, ATF, BWP, EPEE, Eurovent, SNEFCCA,VDKF

For **more information** visit our website www.oekorecherche.de or follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/OekoRecherche.

In Q2/2020, 58 companies from ten EU Member States (main respondents from France, Germany, and Italy) and all supply chain levels (3 gas producers, 6 gas distributors, 25 OEMs, 23 service companies, and 1 end-user) reported purchase and/or selling prices for HFCs and lower GWP alternatives. Please note that companies do not report prices for all refrigerants but only for the ones relevant to them.

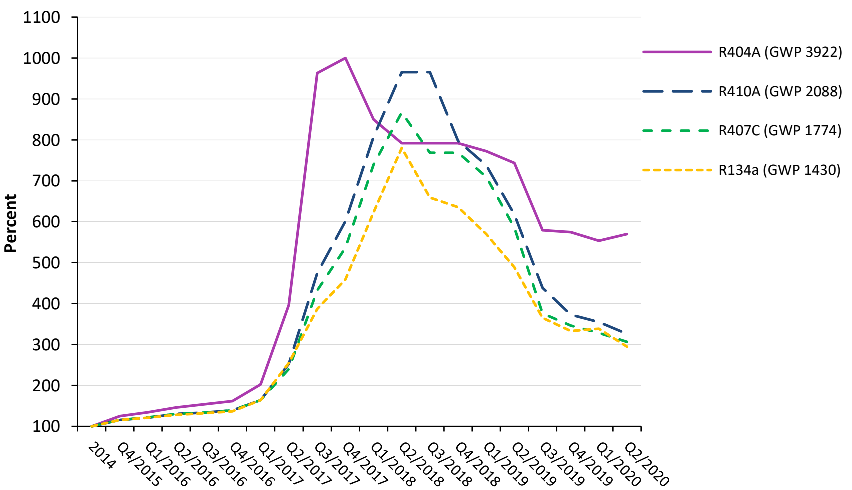
Along the supply chain

Figure 1 shows the price **development of R134a (GWP 1430) at all levels of the supply chain.** Data presented include prices reported by three gas producers, three gas distributors, 20 OEMs, and 21 service companies. Prices are indexed to the baseline year 2014 (= 100 %).



Gas distributor level

Figure 2 displays the **development of average purchase prices** reported by three large gas distributors. Prices are indexed to the baseline year 2014 (= 100 %).



Other findings for Q2/2020:

- Demand was said to be very low, inter alia due to the economic situation under the influence of Covid-19. A strong decrease in demand was observed in the automotive sector, where R134a is used for first filling of mobile AC systems in new vehicles exported to non-EU countries (OEM level) as well as for servicing and maintenance of existing mobile AC systems (service company level). With respect to R410A, demand was said to be rather low since many buildings were not used and hence companies were holding back investments in new AC systems or the servicing and maintenance of existing AC systems.
- Prices for R134a and R410A decreased at all supply chain levels compared to the previous quarter, while R404A prices remained rather stable.
- Gas suppliers indicated a clear technological shift towards natural refrigerants (e.g. in commercial refrigeration, heat pumps, white goods), at clear expense of synthetic lower GWP alternatives such as HFO-HFC-blends, for which demand is still low, as many OEMs are switching directly to natural refrigerants. Prices of HFO-HFC blends remained either stable or decreased compared to the previous quarter.
- Prices for quota authorisations reported by six companies ranged from < 1 to 5 €/t CO_2e. Some quota holders made extensive efforts to approach their customers, but companies were described as “well-stocked” with quota authorisations.
- There were no indications with respect to limited availability of any refrigerant.