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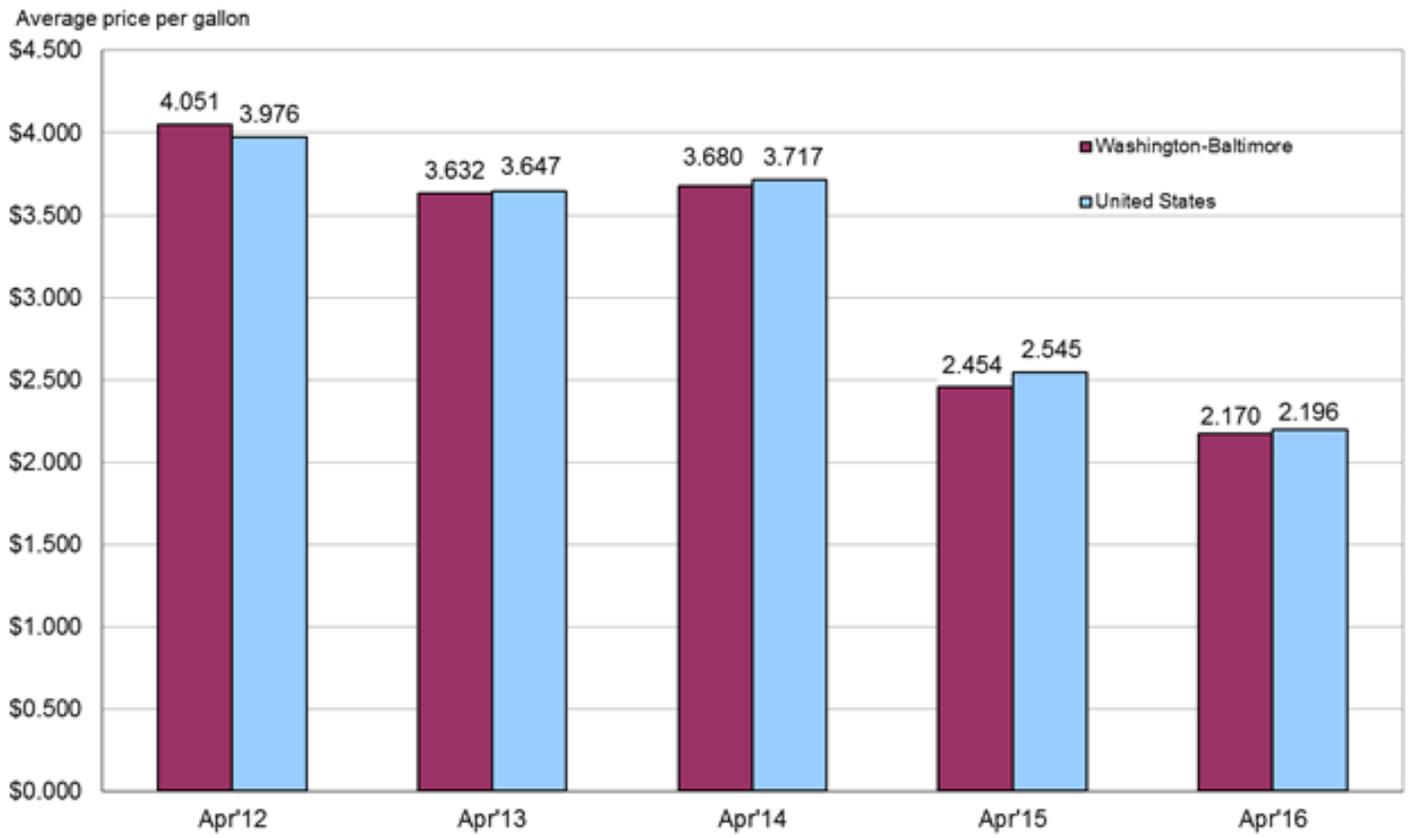
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Average Energy Prices, Washington-Baltimore – April 2016

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.170 a gallon in the Washington-Baltimore area in April 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Sheila Watkins noted that area gasoline prices were down 11.6 percent compared to last April when they averaged \$2.454 per gallon. Washington area households paid an average of 13.5 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in April 2016, up 8.9 percent from 12.4 cents per kWh in April 2015. The average price of utility (piped) gas at \$0.958 per therm in April 2016 was down 12.4 percent from \$1.093 per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.170 a gallon, Washington area consumers paid close to the national average of \$2.196 for a gallon of gasoline in April 2016. Last April, gasoline prices in Washington were 3.6 percent lower than the national average. From 2012 to 2014, prices for a gallon of gasoline in Washington have differed from the U.S. average by less than two percent in April. (See [chart 1.](#))

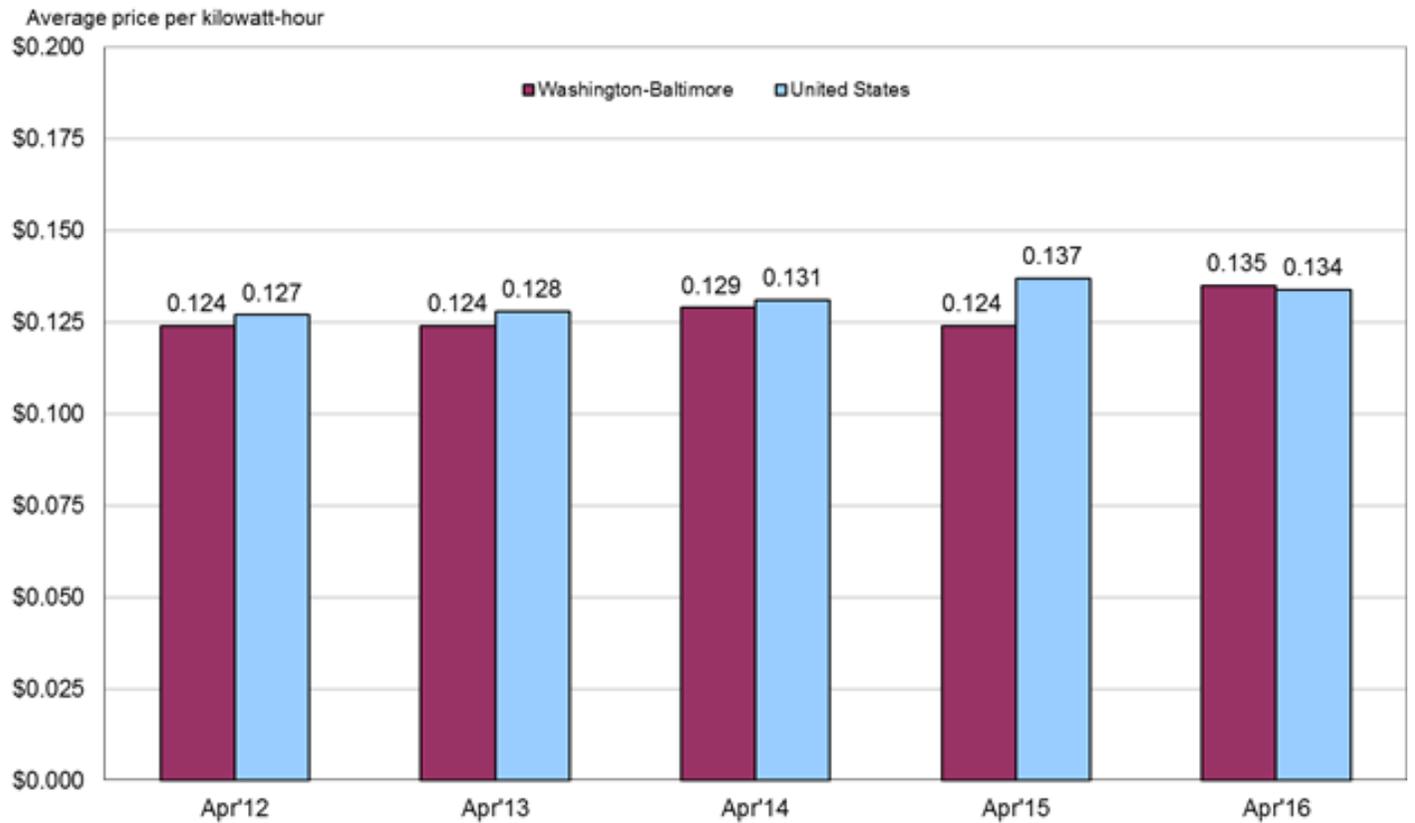
Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Washington-Baltimore and United States, April 2012–April 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 13.5 cents per kWh that Washington households paid for electricity in April 2016 was similar to the nationwide average. Last April, the price per kWh for electricity in Washington was 9.5 percent lower than the national average. From 2012 to 2014, Washington area electricity prices were closer to the national average, differing by 3.1 percent or less in the month of April. (See [chart 2.](#))

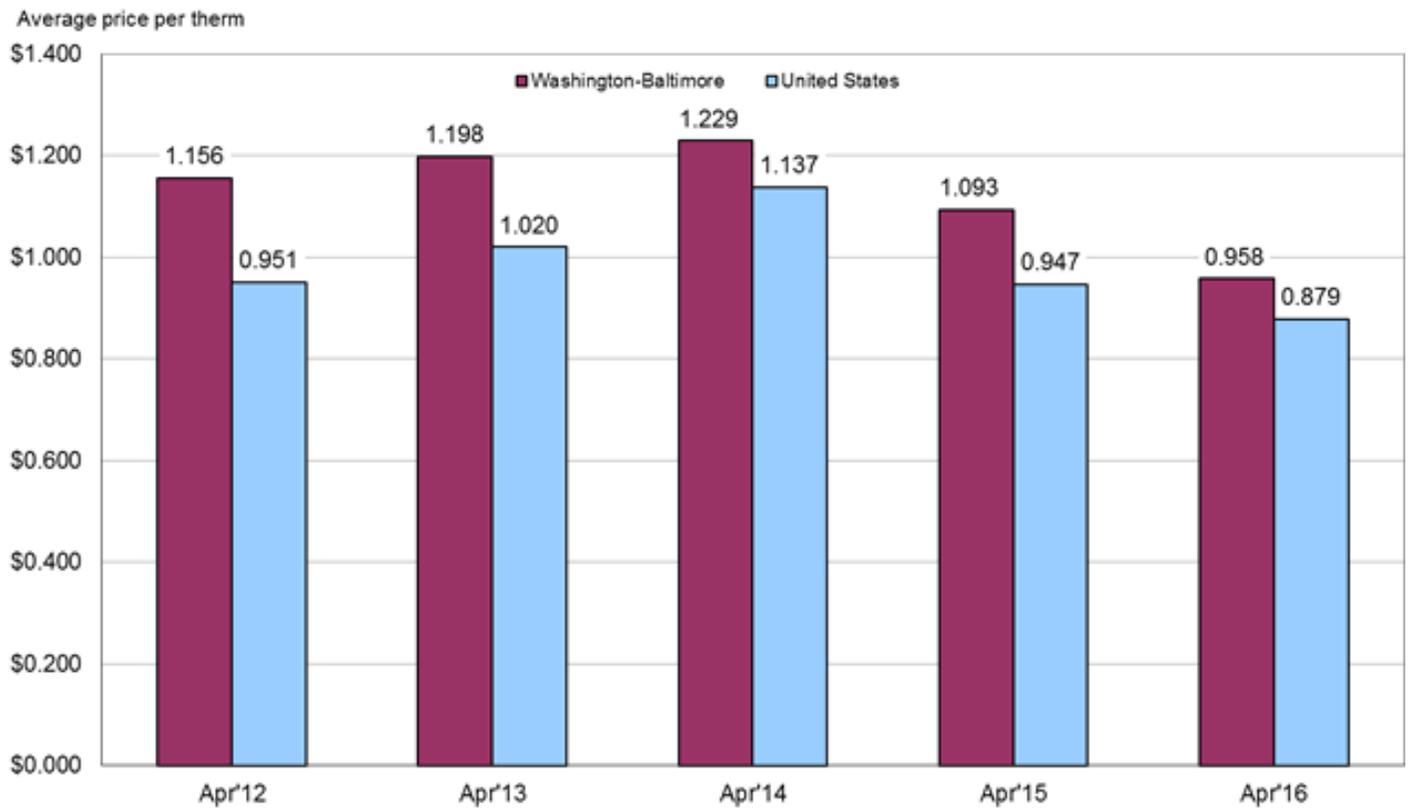
Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Washington-Baltimore and United States, April 2012–April 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The price paid by Washington area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, was \$0.958 per therm in April, 9.0 percent above the national average of \$0.879 per therm. Utility (piped) gas prices in the Washington area have ranged from 8.0 to 21.6 percent higher than the national average in April over the past five years. (See [chart 3.](#))

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Washington-Baltimore and United States, April 2012–April 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Consumer Price Index for May 2016 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, June 16, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Technical Note

Average prices are estimated from Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for selected commodity series to support the research and analytic needs of CPI data users. Average prices for electricity, utility (piped) gas, and gasoline are published monthly for the U.S. city average, the 4 regions, the 3 population size classes, 10 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 14 largest local index areas. For electricity, average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) are published. For utility (piped) gas, average prices per therm are published. For gasoline, the average price per gallon is published. Average prices for commonly available grades of gasoline are published as well as the average price across all grades.

All eligible prices are converted to a price per normalized quantity. These prices are then used to estimate a price for a defined fixed quantity. The average price per kilowatt-hour represents the total bill divided by the kilowatt-hour usage. The total bill is the sum of all items applicable to all consumers appearing on an electricity bill including, but not limited to, variable rates per kWh, fixed costs, taxes, surcharges, and credits. This calculation also applies to the average price per therm for utility (piped) gas.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone:

(202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

The **Washington-Baltimore, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.Va., Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes the District of Columbia; Baltimore City and the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, and Washington in Maryland; the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, and Manassas Park and the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, King George, Loudoun, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren in Virginia; and the counties of Berkeley and Jefferson in West Virginia.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, United States and the Washington-Baltimore area, April 2015–April 2016, not seasonally adjusted

| Year and Month | Gasoline per gallon | | Electricity per kWh | | Utility (piped) gas per therm | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| | United States | Washington-Baltimore | United States | Washington-Baltimore | United States | Washington-Baltimore |
| 2015 | | | | | | |
| April..... | \$ 2.545 | \$ 2.454 | \$ 0.137 | \$ 0.124 | \$ 0.947 | \$ 1.093 |
| May..... | 2.832 | 2.669 | 0.137 | 0.123 | 0.930 | 1.096 |
| June..... | 2.889 | 2.799 | 0.143 | 0.133 | 0.942 | 1.012 |
| July..... | 2.893 | 2.778 | 0.142 | 0.134 | 0.933 | 0.973 |
| August..... | 2.745 | 2.609 | 0.142 | 0.135 | 0.932 | 1.001 |
| September..... | 2.463 | 2.359 | 0.141 | 0.136 | 0.921 | 1.008 |
| October..... | 2.357 | 2.254 | 0.136 | 0.136 | 0.909 | 1.002 |
| November..... | 2.249 | 2.193 | 0.134 | 0.133 | 0.903 | 0.985 |
| December..... | 2.125 | 2.091 | 0.133 | 0.133 | 0.892 | 0.952 |
| 2016 | | | | | | |
| January..... | 2.034 | 1.983 | 0.134 | 0.134 | 0.898 | 0.930 |
| February..... | 1.833 | 1.836 | 0.134 | 0.135 | 0.895 | 0.960 |
| March..... | 2.021 | 1.954 | 0.134 | 0.135 | 0.884 | 1.006 |
| April..... | 2.196 | 2.170 | 0.134 | 0.135 | 0.879 | 0.958 |