



For Release: Wednesday, December 11, 2019

19-XXXXX-PHI

MID-ATLANTIC INFORMATION OFFICE: Philadelphia, Pa.

Technical information: (215) 597-3282 BLSInfoPhiladelphia@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic

Media contact: (215) 861-5600 BLSMediaPhiladelphia@bls.gov

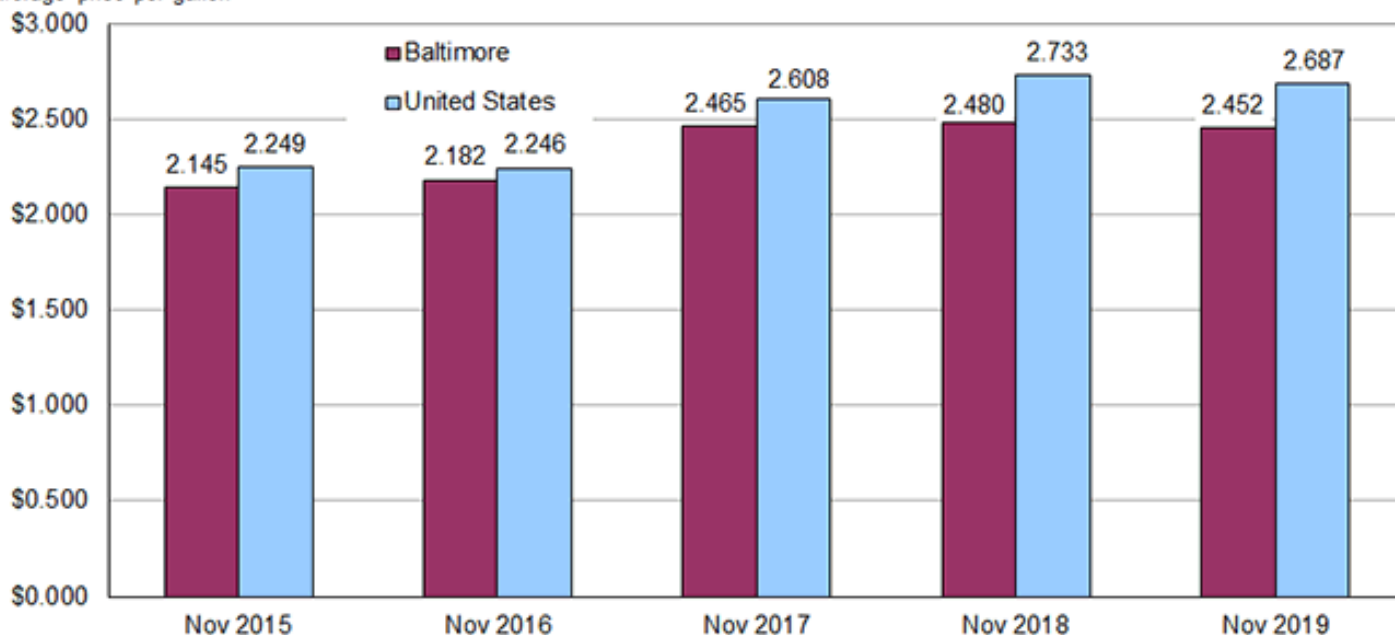
Average Energy Prices, Baltimore-Columbia-Towson – November 2019

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.452 a gallon in the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson area in November 2019, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau’s Regional Commissioner, noted that area gasoline prices were close to their price last November when they averaged \$2.480 per gallon. Baltimore-area households paid an average of 12.3 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in November 2019, 3.9 percent lower than its November 2018 average of 12.8 cents. The average cost of utility (piped) gas at \$1.305 per therm in November was 19.2 percent higher than its price of \$1.095 per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.452 a gallon, the price for gasoline in the Baltimore area was 8.7 percent lower than the national average of \$2.687 a gallon in November 2019. Gasoline prices in the Baltimore area were below the national average in November for the previous four years, ranging from 2.8 percent to 9.3 percent lower. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Baltimore-Columbia-Towson and United States, November 2015–November 2019

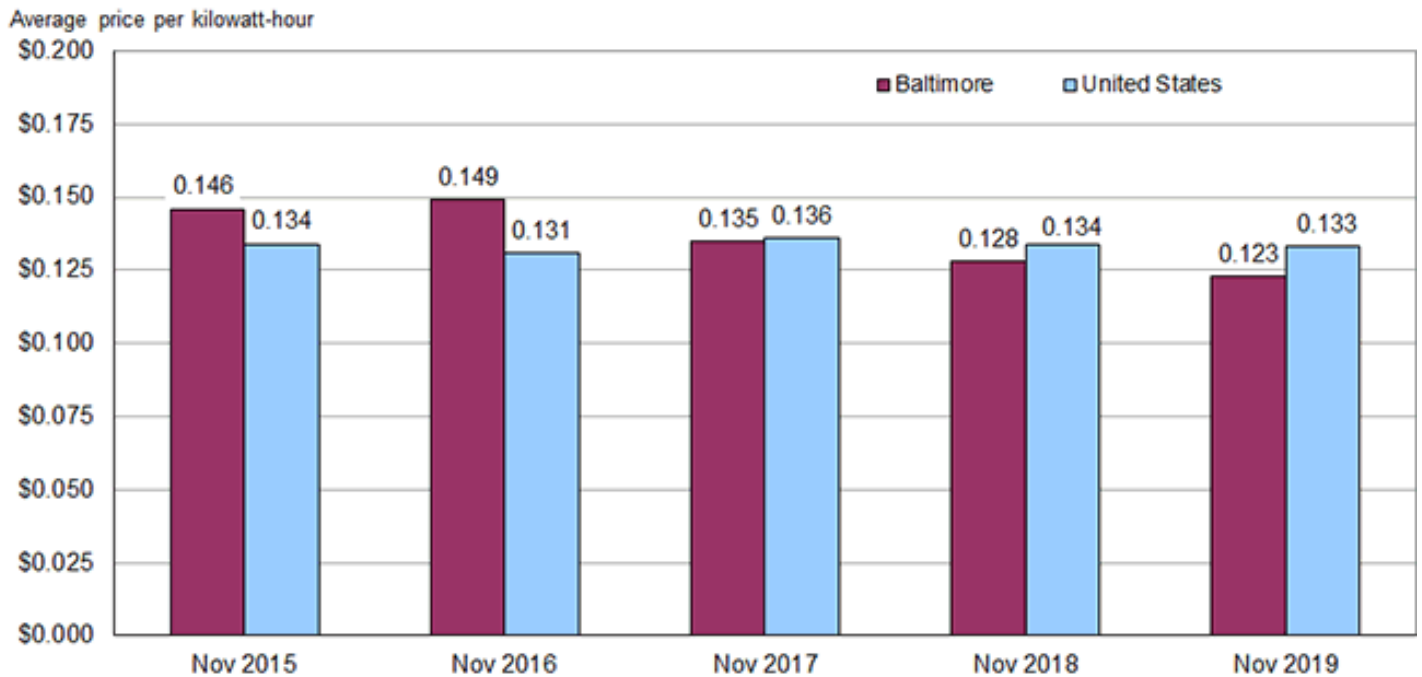
Average price per gallon



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 12.3 cents per kWh that Baltimore households paid for electricity in November 2019 was 7.5 percent lower than the nationwide average cost of 13.3 cents per kWh. Last November, electricity prices in Baltimore were 4.5 percent lower than the nation. From 2015 to 2017, prices paid by Baltimore-area consumers for electricity in November differed from the U.S. average by 0.7 lower to 13.7 percent higher. (See [chart 2.](#))

Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Baltimore-Columbia-Towson and United States, November 2015–November 2019

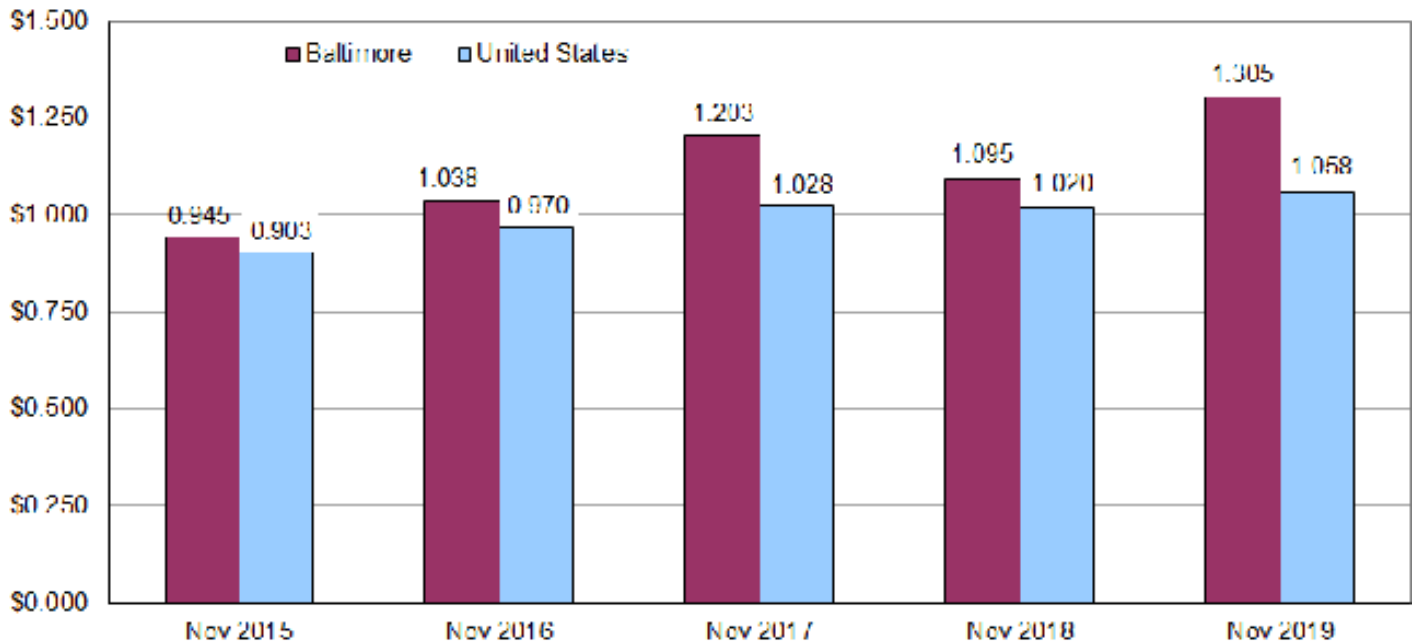


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The price paid by Baltimore-area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, was \$1.305 per therm in November 2019, 23.3 percent higher than the national average of \$1.058 per therm. Local utility (piped) gas prices were 7.4 percent higher than those for the nation in November 2018. From 2015 to 2017, utility (piped) gas prices in the Baltimore area differed from the national average prices by 4.7 to 17.0 percent in November. (See [chart 3.](#))

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Baltimore-Columbia-Towson and United States, November 2015–November 2019

Average price per therm



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Consumer Price Index for December 2019 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, January 14, 2019, 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, 9 divisions, 2 population size classes, 8 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 23 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 **Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD, Core Based Statistical Area** includes Baltimore City and the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Queen Anne’s in Maryland.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, United States and the Baltimore area, September 2018–September 2019, not seasonally adjusted

Year and Month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	Baltimore	United States	Baltimore	United States	Baltimore	United States
2018						
November	\$2.480	\$2.733	\$0.128	\$0.134	\$1.095	\$1.020
December	2.225	2.479	0.127	0.135	1.151	1.085
2019						
January	2.173	2.352	0.125	0.135	1.149	1.082
February	2.221	2.412	0.129	0.136	1.141	1.051
March	2.493	2.620	0.129	0.135	1.109	1.048
April	2.702	2.894	0.131	0.135	1.095	1.034
May	2.797	2.963	0.131	0.136	1.058	1.035
June	2.595	2.814	0.118	0.139	1.164	1.035
July	2.687	2.836	0.118	0.140	1.044	1.029
August	2.539	2.716	0.116	0.139	1.130	1.034
September	2.425	2.694	0.116	0.139	1.031	1.019
October	2.445	2.741	0.122	0.136	1.126	1.041
November	2.452	2.687	0.123	0.133	1.305	1.058