



NEWS RELEASE



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Average Energy Prices, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint – January 2014

Gasoline prices averaged \$3.343 a gallon in the Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint area in January 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that area gasoline prices were similar to last January when they averaged \$3.332 per gallon. Detroit area households paid an average of 14.8 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in January 2014, 2.6 percent less than a year earlier. The average cost of utility (piped) gas, at 86.6 cents per therm in January, was down from 90.5 cents per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$3.343 a gallon, gasoline prices in the Detroit area were comparable to the national average of \$3.378 in January 2014. Consumers in the Detroit area have paid similar prices for a gallon of gasoline compared to the national average in each of the past five Januaries. (See [chart 1.](#))

The 14.8 cents per kWh Detroit households paid for electricity in January 2014 was 1.4 cents, or 10.4 percent more than the nationwide average of 13.4 cents per kWh. Over the past five Januaries, Detroit area consumers have paid as little as 7.2 percent less than the national average for electricity in 2011 to as much as 22.7 percent more in January 2012. (See [chart 2.](#))

At 86.6 cents per therm, prices paid by Detroit area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were 17.4 cents, or 16.7 percent below the national average of \$1.040 in January 2014. A year earlier, area consumers paid 9.1 percent less than the nation for natural gas. (See [chart 3.](#))

The Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, Mich. Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA) covered in this release is comprised of Genesee, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties in Michigan.

Historical average energy prices for the U.S. and select metropolitan areas are available at www.bls.gov/ro5/ro5econ1.htm.

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 from this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200, Federal Relay Services: 800-877-8339.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint and the United States, January 2013 - January 2014, not seasonally adjusted

Year and month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	Detroit area	United States	Detroit area	United States	Detroit area	United States
2013						
January	\$3.332	\$3.407	\$0.152	\$0.129	\$0.905	\$0.996
February	3.759	3.748	0.152	0.129	0.906	0.997
March	3.802	3.792	0.155	0.128	0.904	0.994
April	3.707	3.647	0.157	0.128	0.881	1.020
May	3.827	3.682	0.162	0.131	0.875	1.036
June	4.028	3.693	0.166	0.137	0.881	1.038
July	3.639	3.687	0.156	0.137	0.877	1.025
August	3.625	3.658	0.156	0.137	0.824	1.003
September	3.658	3.616	0.158	0.137	0.862	1.000
October	3.371	3.434	0.162	0.132	0.838	0.999
November	3.323	3.310	0.158	0.130	0.855	0.999
December	3.254	3.333	0.158	0.131	0.860	0.998
2014						
January	3.343	3.378	0.148	0.134	0.866	1.040