



**For Release: Friday, June 05, 2015**

**15-998-CHI**

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

Technical information: (312) 353-1880 BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/midwest

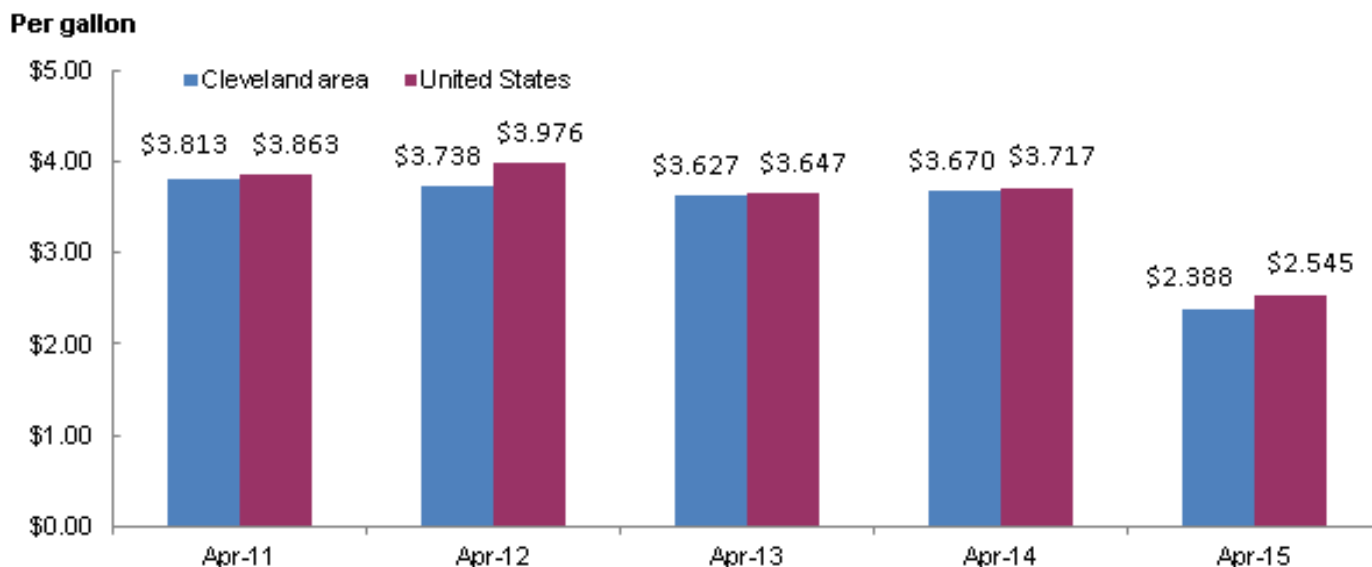
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

## Average Energy Prices, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain — April 2015

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.388 a gallon in the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain area in April 2015, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that area gasoline prices were down \$1.282 compared to April 2014 when they averaged \$3.670 per gallon. Cleveland area households paid an average of 13.1 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in April 2015, 4.0 percent higher than the 12.6 cents per kWh paid in April 2014. Utility (piped) gas averaged 65.3 cents per therm in April, down from its average price of 84.2 cents per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.388 a gallon, costs for gasoline in the Cleveland area were 6.2 percent lower than the national average of \$2.545 in April 2015. Average gasoline costs in Cleveland had been comparable to the U.S. average during three of the past four years (2011-2014) in April. (See [chart 1.](#))

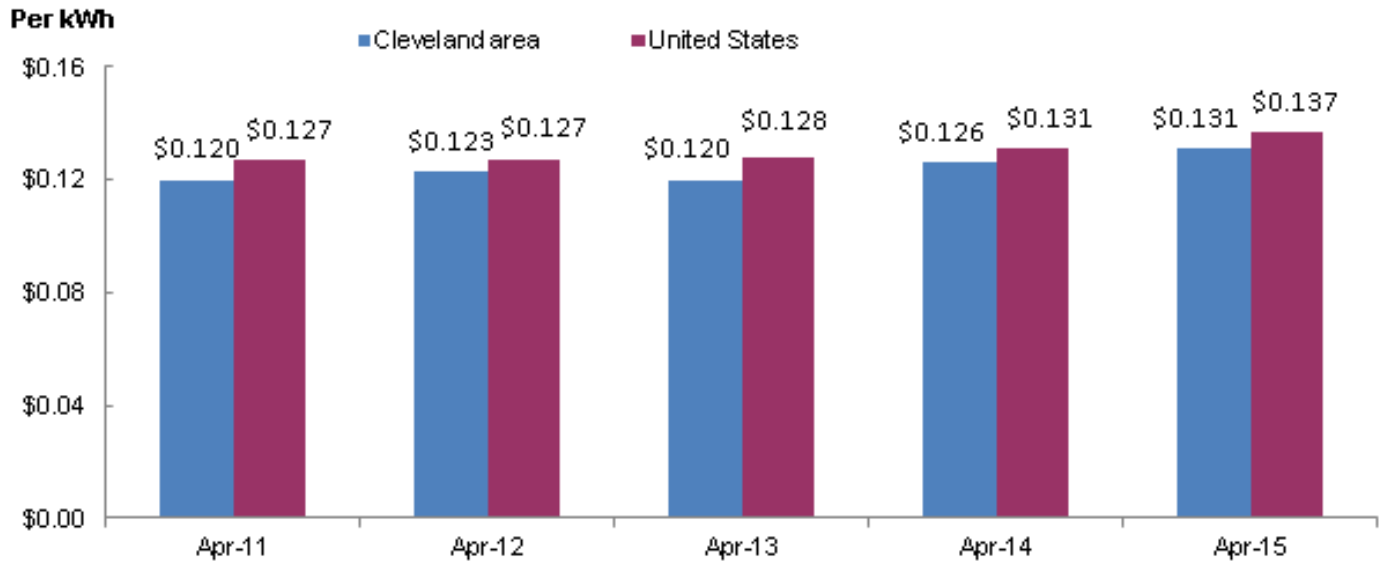
**Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, 2011-2015 (as of April)**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 13.1 cents per kWh Cleveland households paid for electricity in April 2015 was 4.4 percent lower than the nationwide average of 13.7 cents during this same period. Electricity costs in the Cleveland area had been below the U.S. average in the previous four years (2011-2014) in April by as much as 6.3 percent. (See [chart 2.](#))

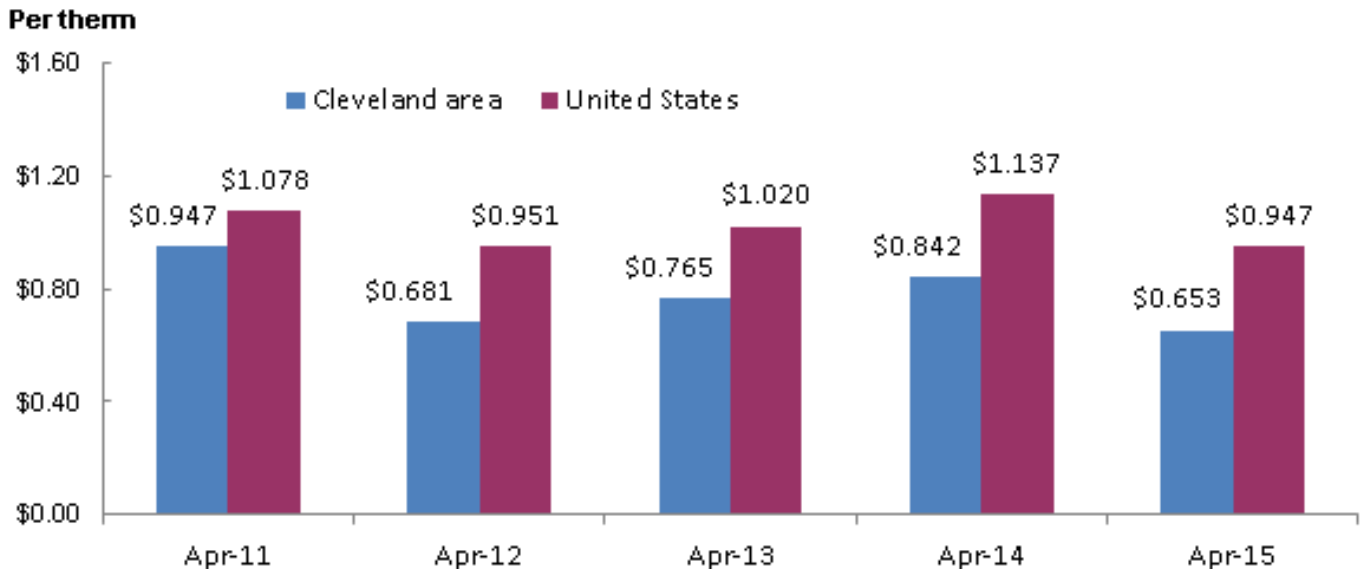
**Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, 2011-2015 (as of April)**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Cleveland area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, at 65.3 cents per therm, were 31.0 percent below the national average of 94.7 cents per therm in April 2015. Utility (piped) gas prices in the Cleveland area had been lower than the national average in the prior four years (2011-2014) in April, ranging from 12.2 percent in 2011 to 28.4 percent in 2012. (See [chart 3](#).)

**Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, 2011-2015 (as of April)**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, Ohio, Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area** consists of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit Counties in Ohio.

Historical average energy prices for the U.S. and select metropolitan areas are available at [www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/data/averageenergyprices\\_selectedareas\\_table.htm](http://www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/data/averageenergyprices_selectedareas_table.htm).

---

**The Consumer Price Index for May 2015 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, June 18, 2015, 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.

**Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain and the United States, April 2014 – April 2015, not seasonally adjusted**

Year and month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	Cleveland area	United States	Cleveland area	United States	Cleveland area	United States
<b>2014</b>						
April .....	\$3.670	\$3.717	\$0.126	\$0.131	\$0.842	\$1.137
May.....	3.755	3.745	0.126	0.136	0.814	1.111
June.....	3.886	3.750	0.142	0.143	0.839	1.088
July.....	3.546	3.690	0.140	0.143	0.819	1.093
August.....	3.458	3.540	0.140	0.143	0.811	1.060
September.....	3.397	3.463	0.127	0.141	0.750	1.058
October.....	3.188	3.241	0.126	0.136	0.763	1.033
November.....	2.943	2.945	0.125	0.134	0.760	1.035
December.....	2.601	2.618	0.126	0.135	0.753	1.060
<b>2015</b>						
January.....	2.062	2.170	0.131	0.138	0.774	1.036
February.....	2.265	2.308	0.135	0.138	0.678	1.007
March.....	2.420	2.544	0.136	0.136	0.663	0.985
April.....	2.388	2.545	0.131	0.137	0.653	0.947