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Average Energy Prices, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint — July 2016

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.414 a gallon in the Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint area in July 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that area gasoline prices were down 52.0 cents compared to last July when they averaged \$2.934 per gallon. Detroit area households paid an average of 16.1 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for electricity in July 2016, unchanged from 16.1 cents per kWh in July 2015. The average cost of utility (piped) gas, at 73.3 cents per therm in July, was down from 78.6 cents per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.414 a gallon, costs for gasoline in the Detroit area were 12.7 cents above the national average of \$2.287 a gallon in July 2016. With the exception of July 2013, when Detroit area gasoline prices were 4.8 cents lower than the national average, Detroit gasoline costs in the previous four years (2012-2015) have exceeded the national average, ranging from 4.1 cents to 10.8 cents more. (See [chart 1](#).)

Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint and the United States, 2012–2016 (as of July)

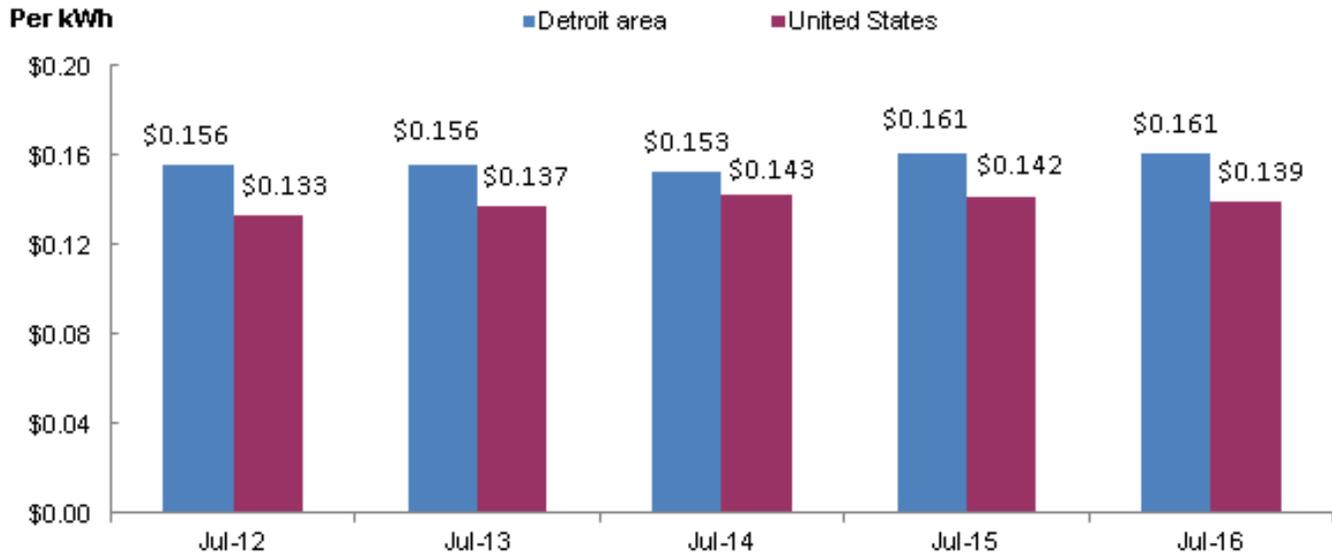
Per gallon



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 16.1 cents per kWh that Detroit households paid for electricity in July 2016 was 15.8 percent higher than the nationwide average cost of 13.9 cents per kWh. In the previous four years (2012-2015) in July, Detroit area electricity costs exceeded the national average, ranging from 7.0 percent to 17.3 percent more. (See [chart 2](#).)

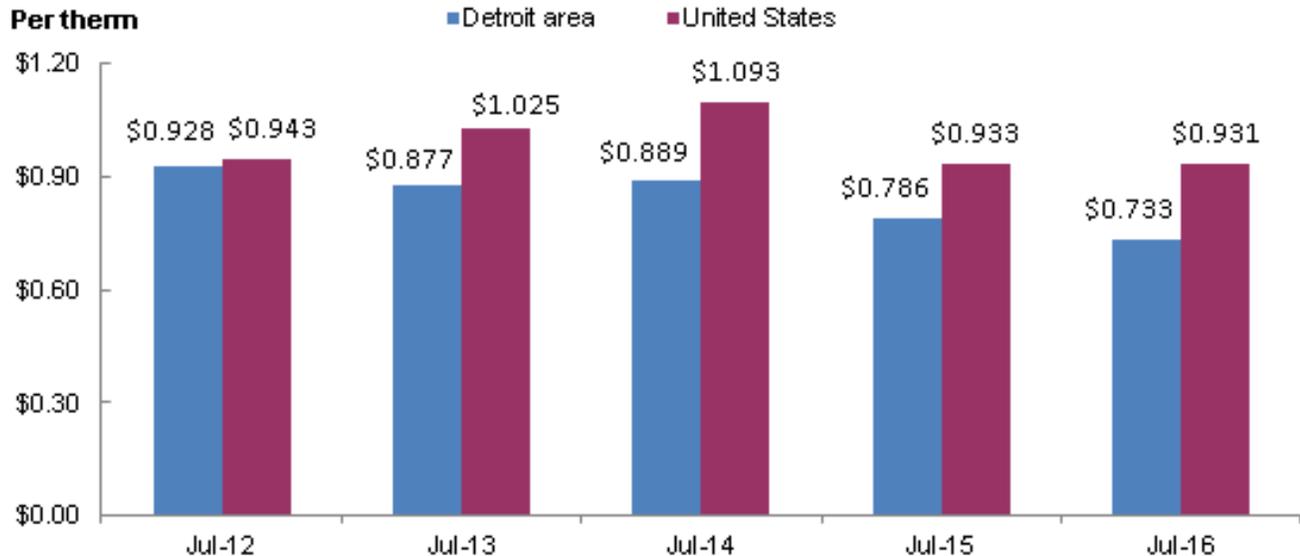
Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint and the United States, 2012–2016 (as of July)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Detroit area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were 73.3 cents per therm in July 2016, 21.3 percent below the national average of 93.1 cents per therm. In the previous three years (2013-2015) in July, Detroit area utility (piped) gas costs were lower than the national average, ranging from 14.4 percent to 18.7 percent less. (See [chart 3.](#))

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint and the United States, 2012–2016 (as of July)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, Mich.** consolidated area 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/regions/midwest/data/averageenergyprices_selectedareas_table.htm.

The Consumer Price Index for August 2016 is scheduled to be released on Friday, September 16, 2016.

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, July 2015 – July 2016, 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
2015						
July	\$2.934	\$2.893	\$0.161	\$0.142	\$0.786	\$0.933
August	2.834	2.745	0.160	0.142	0.787	0.932
September	2.457	2.463	0.153	0.141	0.788	0.921
October	2.532	2.357	0.159	0.136	0.775	0.909
November	2.339	2.249	0.156	0.134	0.780	0.903
December	1.966	2.125	0.157	0.133	0.772	0.892
2016						
January	1.906	2.034	0.156	0.134	0.766	0.898
February	1.703	1.833	0.158	0.134	0.768	0.895
March	2.018	2.021	0.156	0.134	0.772	0.884
April	2.179	2.196	0.156	0.134	0.726	0.879
May	2.387	2.324	0.156	0.133	0.725	0.877
June	2.679	2.422	0.162	0.138	0.728	0.891
July	2.414	2.287	0.161	0.139	0.733	0.931