



For Release: Wednesday, October 28, 2020

20-1932-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

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

Media contact: (312) 353-1138

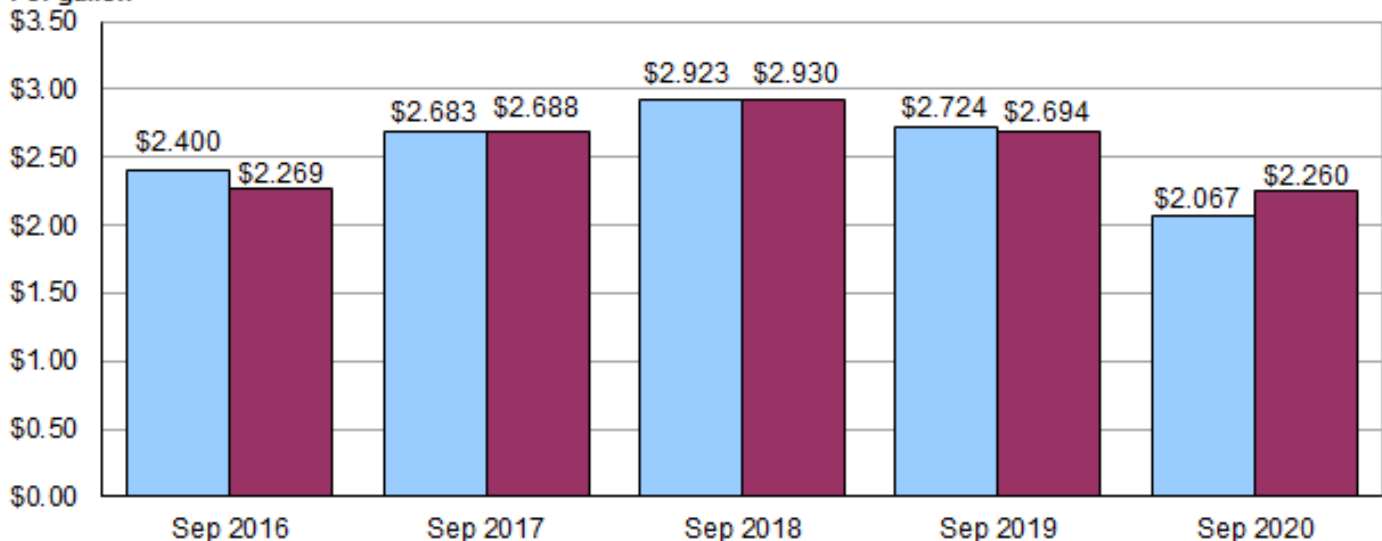
### Average Energy Prices, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn — September 2020

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.067 per gallon in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn area in September 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Jason Palmer noted that area gasoline prices were 65.7 cents lower than a year ago in September when they averaged \$2.724 per gallon. Detroit area households paid an average of 18.0 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) of electricity in September 2020, 4.0 percent higher than the 17.3 cents paid in September 2019. In September 2020, the average cost of utility (piped) gas was 89.0 cents per therm, comparable to the average price of 86.0 cents per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.067 per gallon in September 2020, costs for gasoline in the Detroit area were 19.3 cents lower than the national average of \$2.260 per gallon. In September 2016, Detroit area gasoline prices were 13.1 cents higher than the national average, but in the previous three years (2017-2019), local area gasoline prices were comparable to the national average. (See [chart 1.](#))

**Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, and the United States, 2016–20 (as of September)**

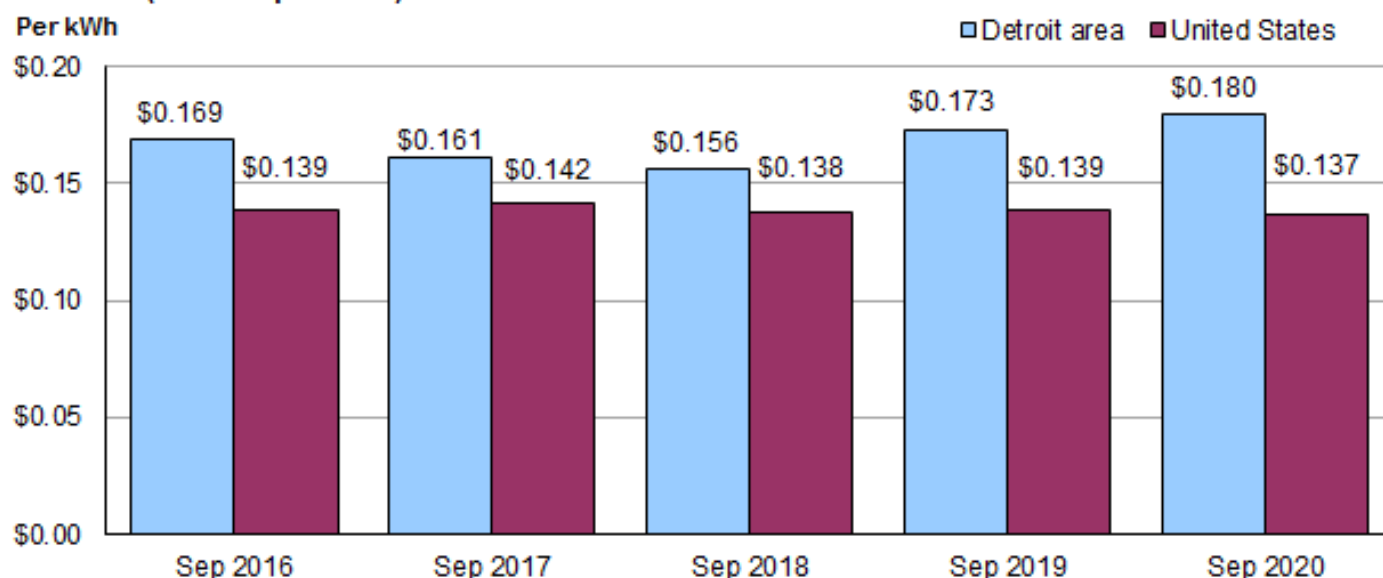
Per gallon



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 18.0 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) that Detroit area households paid for electricity in September 2020 was 31.4 percent more than the nationwide average cost of 13.7 cents per kWh. In the previous four years (2016-2019) in September, Detroit area electricity costs exceeded the national average, ranging from 13.0 percent to 24.5 percent more. (See [chart 2.](#))

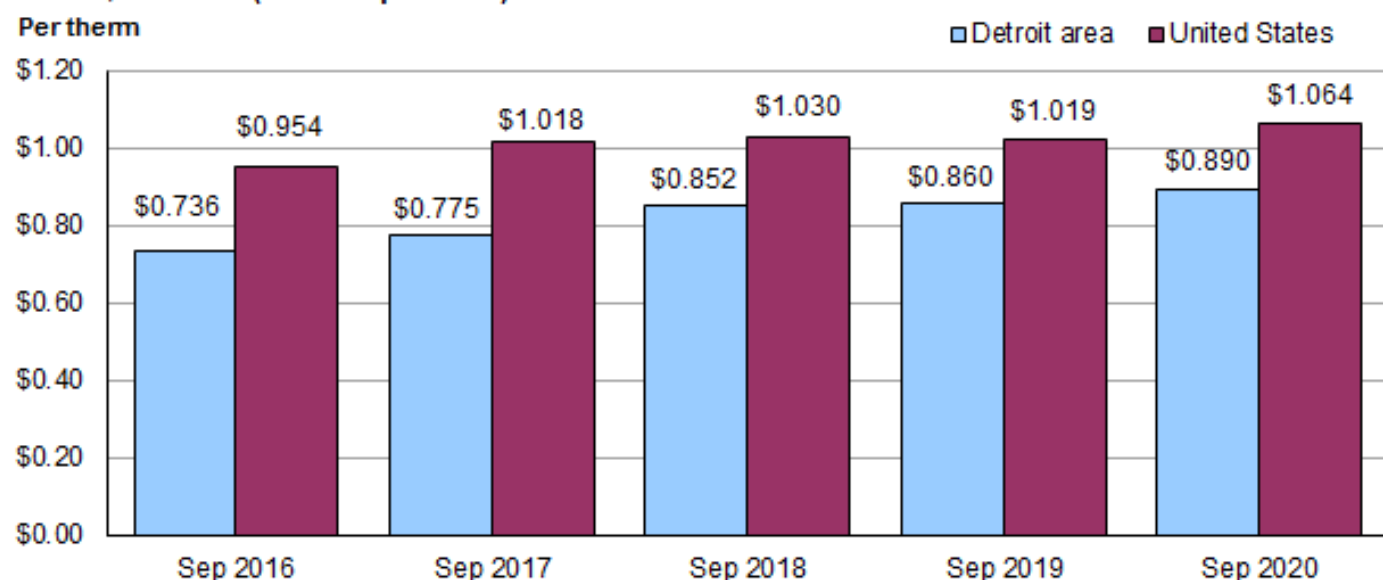
**Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, and the United States, 2016–20 (as of September)**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Detroit area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were 89.0 cents per therm in September 2020, 16.4 percent below the national average of \$1.064 per therm. In the previous four years (2016-2019) in September, Detroit area utility (piped) gas costs were lower than the national average, ranging from 15.6 percent to 23.9 percent less. (See [chart 3.](#))

**Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, and the United States, 2016–20 (as of September)**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI**, core based statistical area covered in this release is comprised of Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, 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](http://www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/data/averageenergyprices_selectedareas_table.htm).

---

**The Consumer Price Index for October 2020 is scheduled to be released Thursday, November 12, 2020.**

### **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 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-Warren-Dearborn, MI, and the United States, September 2019 – September 2020, 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
<b>2019</b>						
September.....	\$2.724	\$2.694	\$0.173	\$0.139	\$0.860	\$1.019
October.....	2.637	2.741	0.171	0.136	0.896	1.041
November.....	2.541	2.687	–	0.133	0.875	1.058
December.....	2.574	2.652	0.165	0.133	0.879	1.057
<b>2020</b>						
January.....	2.569	2.631	0.163	0.134	0.886	1.066
February.....	2.382	2.530	0.164	0.134	0.877	1.050
March.....	2.117	2.334	0.164	0.134	0.835	1.034
April.....	1.548	1.946	0.164	0.133	0.831	1.028
May.....	1.800	1.946	0.172	0.134	0.846	1.037
June.....	2.083	2.141	0.175	0.137	0.862	1.037
July.....	2.222	2.243	0.175	0.137	0.857	1.027
August.....	2.189	2.245	0.175	0.137	0.864	1.031
September.....	2.067	2.260	0.180	0.137	0.890	1.064

Note: Dash (–) indicates no data available.