



For Release: Thursday, January 13, 2022

22-75-SAN

WESTERN INFORMATION OFFICE: San Francisco, Calif.

Technical information: (415) 625-2270 BLSinfoSF@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/west

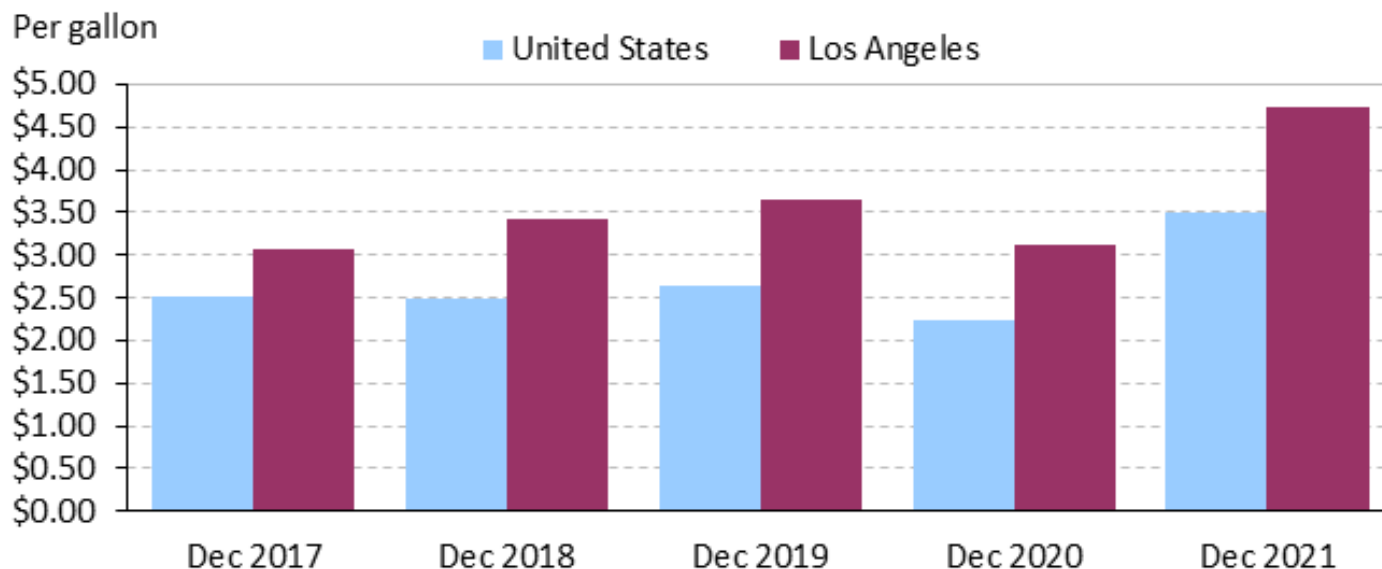
Media contact: (415) 625-2270

Average Energy Prices, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim – December 2021

Gasoline prices averaged \$4.720 a gallon in the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area in December 2021, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Chris Rosenlund noted that area gasoline prices were \$1.600 higher than last December when they averaged \$3.120 per gallon. Los Angeles area households paid an average of 24.0 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in December 2021, higher than the 20.8 cents price per kWh paid in December 2020. The average cost of utility (piped) gas at \$1.625 per therm in December was higher than the \$1.374 per therm spent last year. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$4.720 a gallon, Los Angeles area consumers paid 34.7 percent more than the \$3.505 national average in December 2021. A year earlier, consumers in the Los Angeles area paid 39.6 percent more than the national average for a gallon of gasoline. The local price of a gallon of gasoline has ranged from 22.1 to 39.6 percent above the national average in the month of December during the past five years. (See [chart 1.](#))

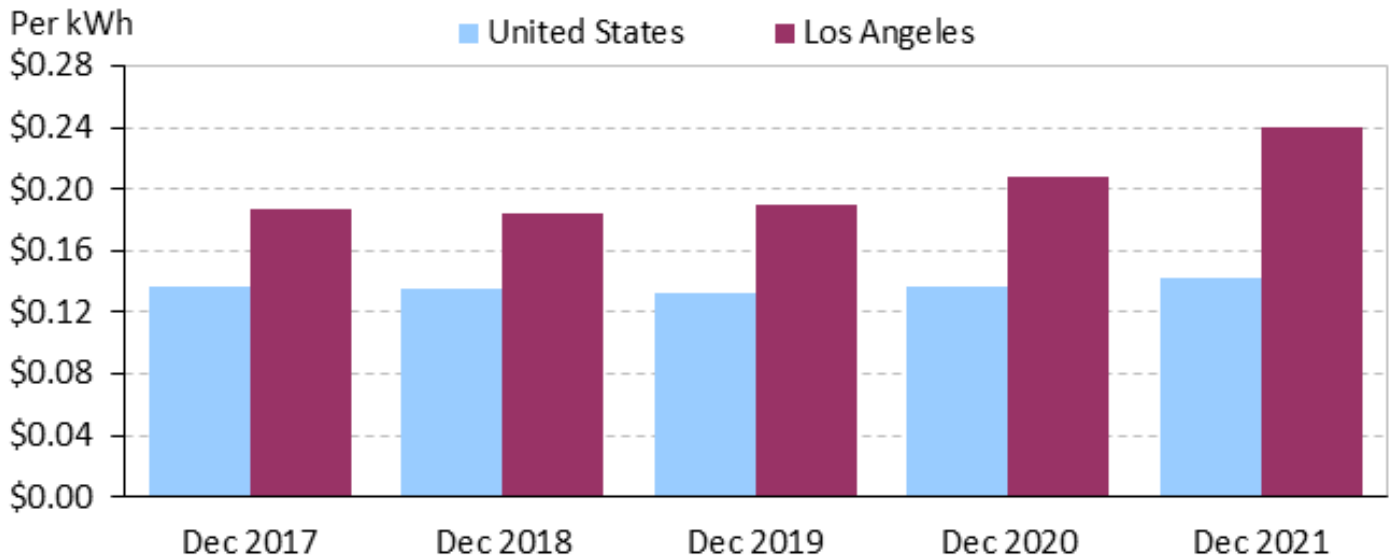
Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, the United States and Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, 2017–21 (as of December)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 24.0 cents per kWh Los Angeles households paid for electricity in December 2021 was 69.0 percent more than the nationwide average of 14.2 cents per kWh. Last December, electricity costs were 52.9 percent higher in Los Angeles compared to the nation. In the past five years, prices paid by Los Angeles area consumers for electricity exceeded the U.S. average by 36.3 percent or more in the month of December. (See [chart 2.](#))

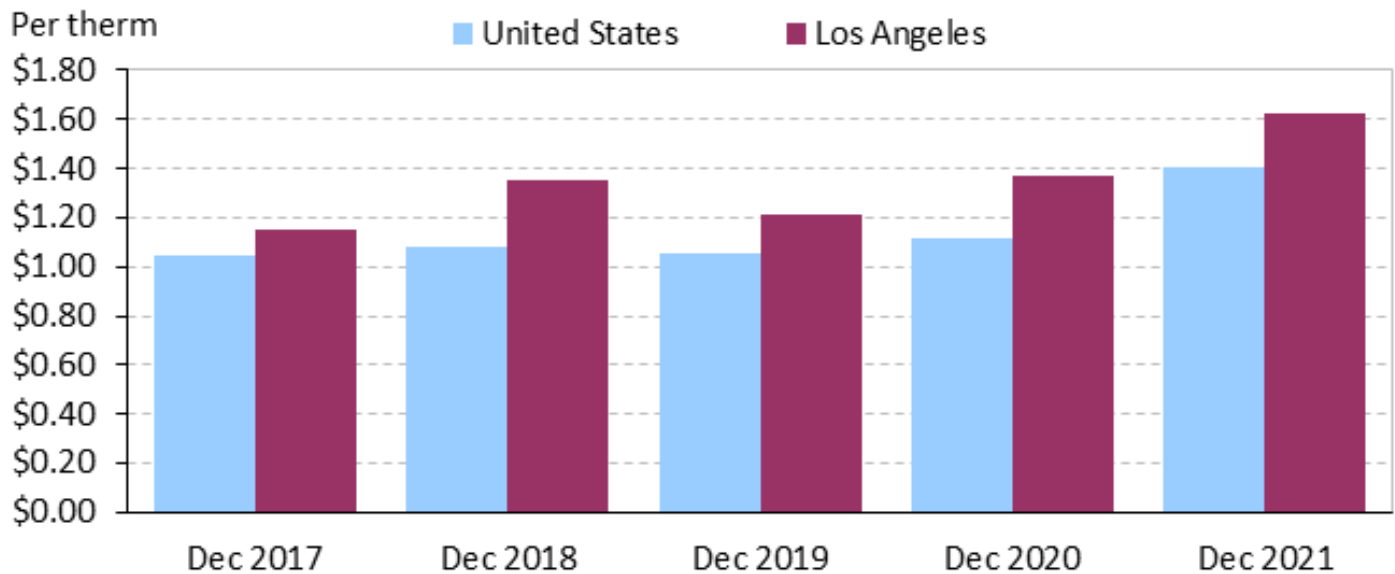
Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, the United States and Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, 2017–21 (as of December)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Los Angeles area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were \$1.625 per therm, 15.9 percent more than the national average in December 2021 (\$1.402 per therm). A year earlier, area consumers paid 23.3 percent more per therm for natural gas compared to the nation. In the Los Angeles area over the past five years, the per therm cost for natural gas in December has varied between 10.7 percent and 24.4 percent above the U.S. average. (See [chart 3.](#))

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, the United States and Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, 2017–21 (as of December)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim metropolitan area consists of Los Angeles and Orange Counties in California.

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.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, the United States and Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, December 2020–December 2021, not seasonally adjusted

Year and month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	United States	Los Angeles area	United States	Los Angeles area	United States	Los Angeles area
2020						
December	\$2.235	\$3.120	\$0.136	\$0.208	\$1.114	\$1.374
2021						
January	2.391	3.278	0.136	0.207	1.119	1.409
February	2.559	3.506	0.137	0.219	1.124	1.379
March	2.856	3.784	0.138	0.219	1.144	1.380
April	2.907	3.900	0.139	0.220	1.166	1.331
May	3.041	4.055	0.140	0.220	1.201	1.609
June	3.245	4.295	0.142	0.218	1.219	1.647
July	3.326	4.384	0.143	0.221	1.241	1.680
August	3.351	4.429	0.144	0.221	1.267	1.705
September	3.361	4.440	0.144	0.222	1.302	1.702
October	3.477	4.524	0.142	0.239	1.383	1.796
November	3.576	4.694	0.142	0.240	1.401	1.710
December	3.505	4.720	0.142	0.240	1.402	1.625