



For Release: Friday, May 13, 2022

22-925-SAN

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Average Energy Prices, Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue – April 2022

Gasoline prices averaged \$4.908 in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue area in April 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Chris Rosenlund noted that area gasoline prices were \$1.587 higher than last April when they averaged \$3.321 per gallon. Seattle area households paid an average of 11.9 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in April 2022, compared to the 11.6 cents per kWh paid in April 2021. The average cost of utility (piped) gas at \$1.263 per therm in April was more than the \$1.175 per therm spent last year. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$4.908 a gallon, Seattle area consumers paid 12.3 percent more than the \$4.369 national average in April 2022. A year earlier, consumers in the Seattle area paid 14.2 percent more than the national average for a gallon of gasoline. The local price of a gallon of gasoline has been within 26.7 percent of the national average in the month of April during the past five years. (See [chart 1.](#))

Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, the United States and Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, 2018–22 (as of April)

Period	United States	Seattle
Apr 2018.....	\$2.795	\$3.197
Apr 2019.....	\$2.894	\$3.345
Apr 2020.....	\$1.946	\$2.465
Apr 2021.....	\$2.907	\$3.321
Apr 2022.....	\$4.369	\$4.908

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 11.9 cents per kWh Seattle households paid for electricity in April 2022 was 21.2 percent less than the nationwide average of 15.1 cents per kWh. Last April, electricity costs were 16.5 percent lower in Seattle compared to the nation. In each of the past five years during the month of April, prices paid by Seattle area consumers for electricity were less than the U.S. average by at least 14.9 percent. (See [chart 2.](#))

Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, the United States and Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, 2018–22 (as of April)

Period	United States	Seattle
Apr 2018.....	\$0.134	\$0.114
Apr 2019.....	\$0.135	\$0.112
Apr 2020.....	\$0.133	\$0.113
Apr 2021.....	\$0.139	\$0.116
Apr 2022.....	\$0.151	\$0.119

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Seattle area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were \$1.263 per therm, or 12.6 percent below the national average in April 2022 (\$1.445 per therm). A year earlier, area consumers prices per therm for natural gas were similar to the nation. In the past five years, the per therm cost for natural gas in April in the Seattle area has varied between 10.8 percent above and 12.6 percent below the U.S. average. (See [chart 3](#).)

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, the United States and Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, 2018–22 (as of April)

Period	United States	Seattle
Apr 2018.....	\$1.044	\$1.078
Apr 2019.....	\$1.034	\$1.018
Apr 2020.....	\$1.028	\$1.139
Apr 2021.....	\$1.166	\$1.175
Apr 2022.....	\$1.445	\$1.263

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, Wash. metropolitan area consists of King, Snohomish, and Pierce Counties of Washington.

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; Telecommunications Relay Service: 7-1-1.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, the United States and Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, April 2021–April 2022, not seasonally adjusted

Year and month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	United States	Seattle area	United States	Seattle area	United States	Seattle area
2021						
April	\$2.907	\$3.321	\$0.139	\$0.116	\$1.166	\$1.175
May	3.041	3.448	0.140	0.116	1.201	1.186
June	3.245	3.832	0.142	0.116	1.219	1.186
July	3.326	4.013	0.143	0.117	1.241	1.186
August	3.351	4.077	0.144	0.117	1.267	1.186
September	3.361	4.070	0.144	0.117	1.302	1.187
October	3.477	4.068	0.142	0.116	1.383	1.192
November	3.576	4.090	0.142	0.117	1.401	1.269
December	3.505	4.085	0.142	0.117	1.402	1.269
2022						
January	3.500	4.138	0.147	0.117	1.409	1.269
February	3.675	4.182	0.148	0.117	1.413	1.269
March	4.401	4.848	0.150	0.117	1.411	1.269
April	4.369	4.908	0.151	0.119	1.445	1.263