



For Release: Thursday, February 28, 2019

19-353-PHL

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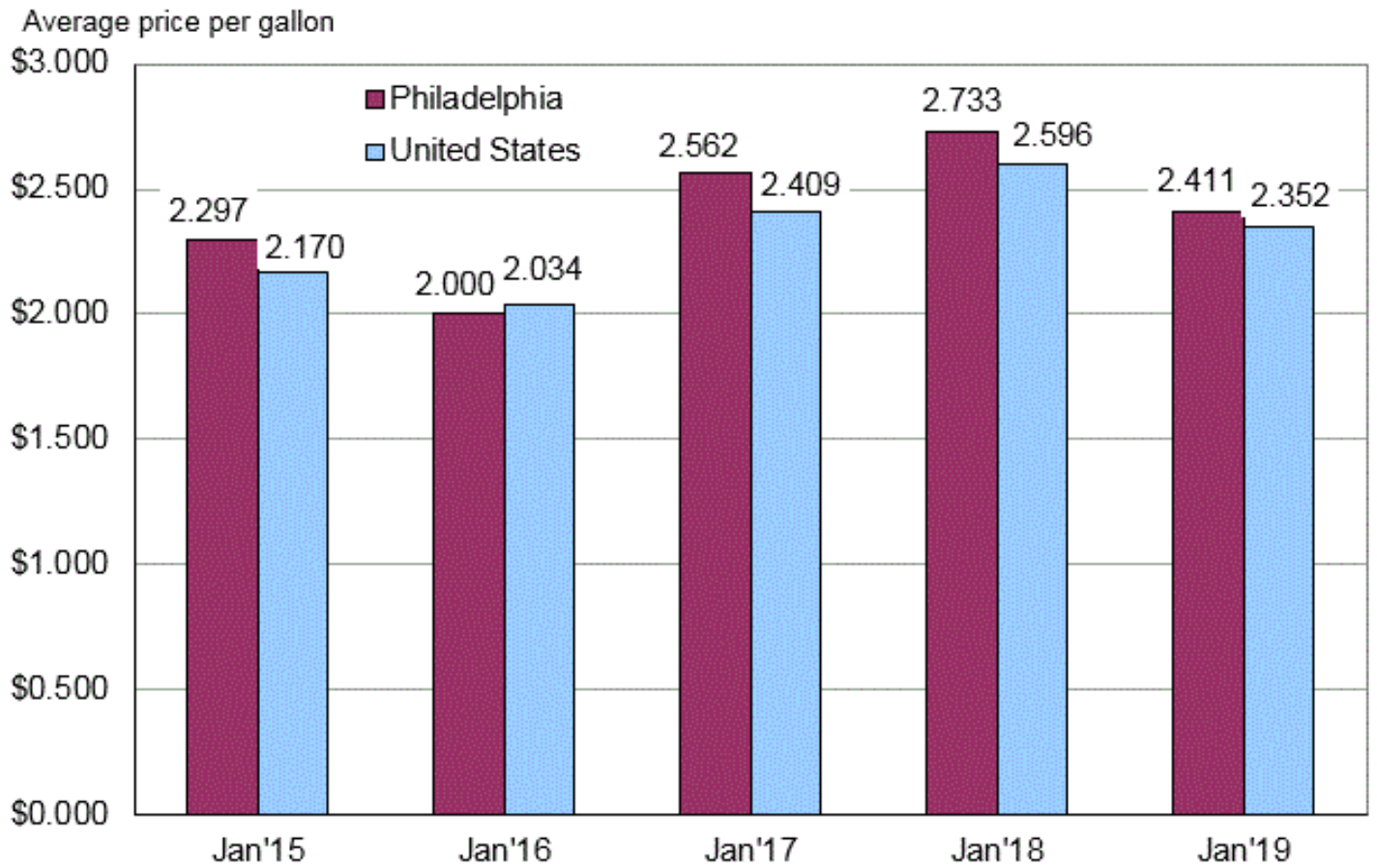
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Average Energy Prices, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington – January 2019

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.411 a gallon in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington area in January 2019, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's Regional Commissioner, noted that area gasoline prices were 11.8 percent lower than last January when they averaged \$2.733 per gallon. Philadelphia-area households paid an average of 11.8 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in January 2019, 19.7 percent lower from 14.7 cents in January 2018. The average cost of utility (piped) gas at \$1.152 per therm in January was 5.7 percent higher than its price of \$1.090 per therm a year earlier. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.411 a gallon, the price for gasoline in the Philadelphia area was close to the national average of \$2.352 a gallon in January 2019. From 2015 to 2018, local and national prices for gasoline in January differed by 6.4 percent or less. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

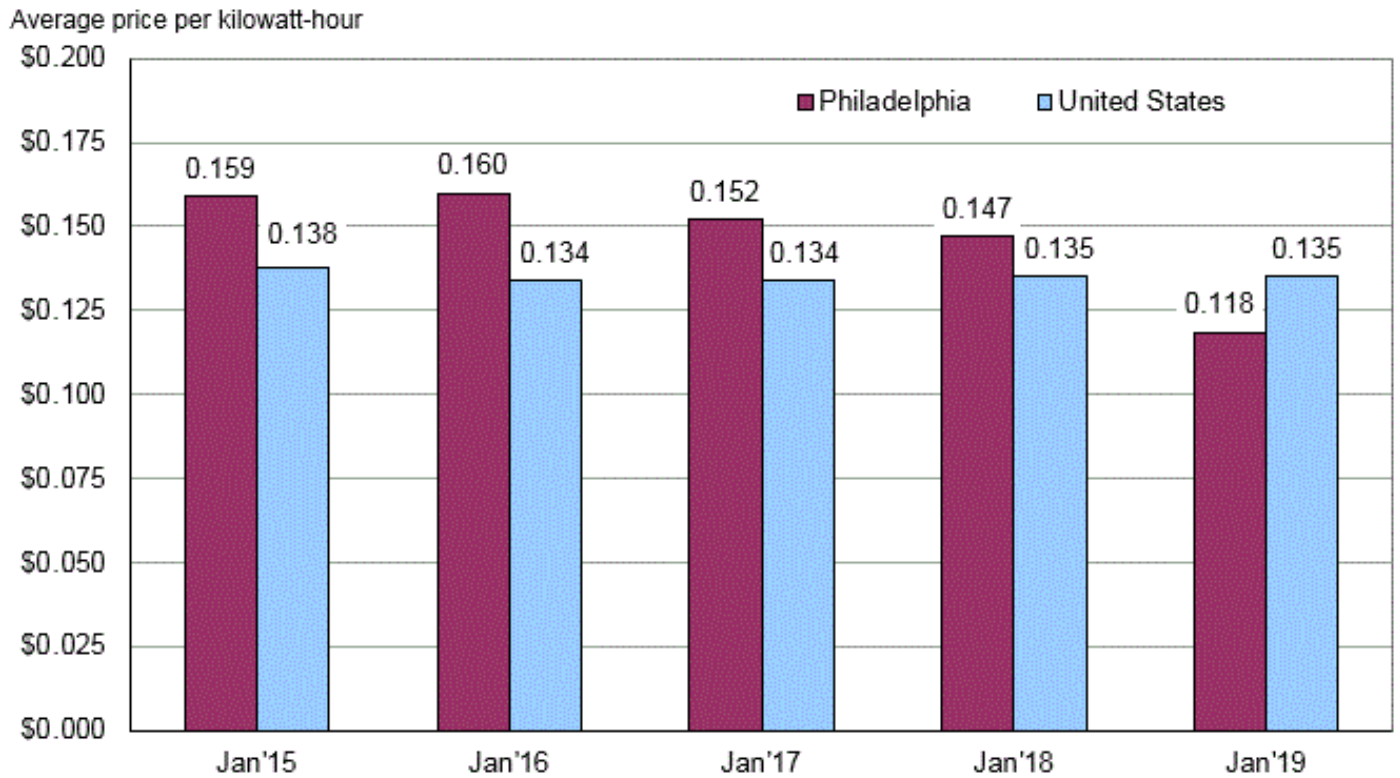
Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington and United States, January 2015–January 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 11.8 cents per kWh that Philadelphia households paid for electricity in January 2019 was 12.6 percent lower than the nationwide average cost of 13.5 cents per kWh. Last January, electricity prices in Philadelphia were 8.9 percent higher than the nation. From 2015 to 2017, prices paid by Philadelphia-area consumers for electricity in January exceeded the U.S. average by 13.4 percent or more. (See [chart 2](#).)

Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington and United States, January 2015–January 2019

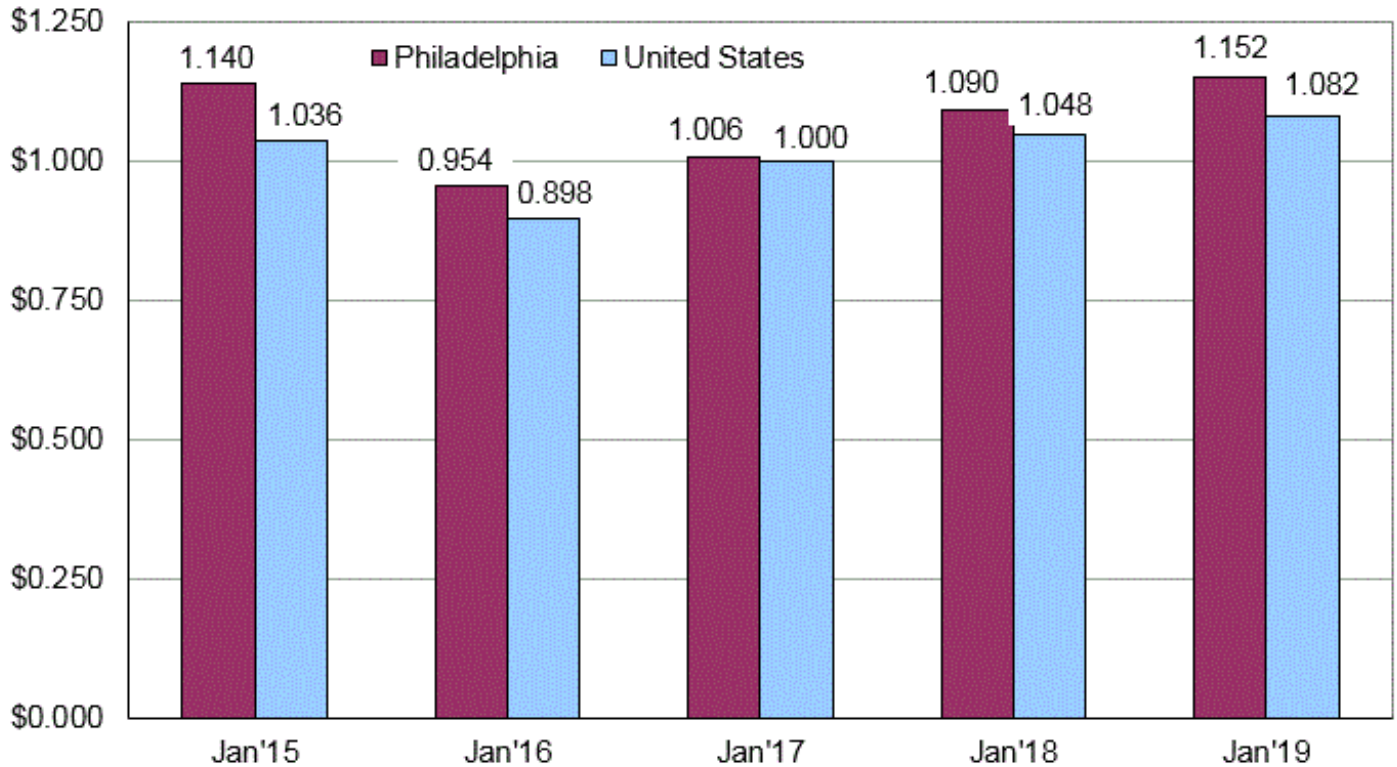


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The price paid by Philadelphia-area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, was \$1.152 per therm in January 2019, 6.5 percent higher than the national average of \$1.082 per therm. Utility (piped) gas prices in the Philadelphia area were also above the national average in January for the previous four years, ranging from 0.6 percent to 10.0 percent higher. (See [chart 3.](#))

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington and United States, January 2015–January 2019

Average price per therm



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Consumer Price Index for February 2019 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 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, 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.

The **Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Core Based Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties in Pennsylvania; Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Salem Counties in New Jersey; New Castle County in Delaware; and Cecil County in Maryland.

Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, United States and the Philadelphia area, January 2018–January 2019, not seasonally adjusted

Year and Month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	Philadelphia	United States	Philadelphia	United States	Philadelphia	United States
2018						
January.....	\$2.733	\$2.596	\$0.147	\$0.135	\$1.090	\$1.048
February.....	2.763	2.632	0.148	0.135	1.095	1.077
March	2.660	2.631	0.145	0.135	1.138	1.054
April	2.884	2.795	0.145	0.134	1.112	1.044
May.....	3.000	2.963	0.153	0.136	1.111	1.050
June.....	2.995	2.970	0.155	0.139	1.092	1.042
July	2.986	2.930	0.155	0.139	1.096	1.038
August	2.973	2.919	0.154	0.139	1.096	1.055
September.....	2.977	2.930	0.152	0.138	1.096	1.030
October.....	2.922	2.945	0.149	0.136	1.108	1.023
November.....	2.658	2.733	0.151	0.134	1.116	1.020
December.....	2.509	2.479	0.150	0.135	1.134	1.085
2019						
January.....	2.411	2.352	0.118	0.135	1.152	1.082