

SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE  
Atlanta, Ga.

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## AVERAGE ENERGY PRICES IN MIAMI-FORT LAUDERDALE – JANUARY 2012

Miami area consumers paid 39.5 percent more than the U.S. city average for utility (piped) gas in January 2012, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. In contrast, the price for electricity in Miami was 10.9 percent less than the U.S. city average, while the average price of gasoline was close to the national average. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the percentage differential between local and national prices for utility (piped) gas narrowed since January 2011 while the differential for electricity widened. (See table A. Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

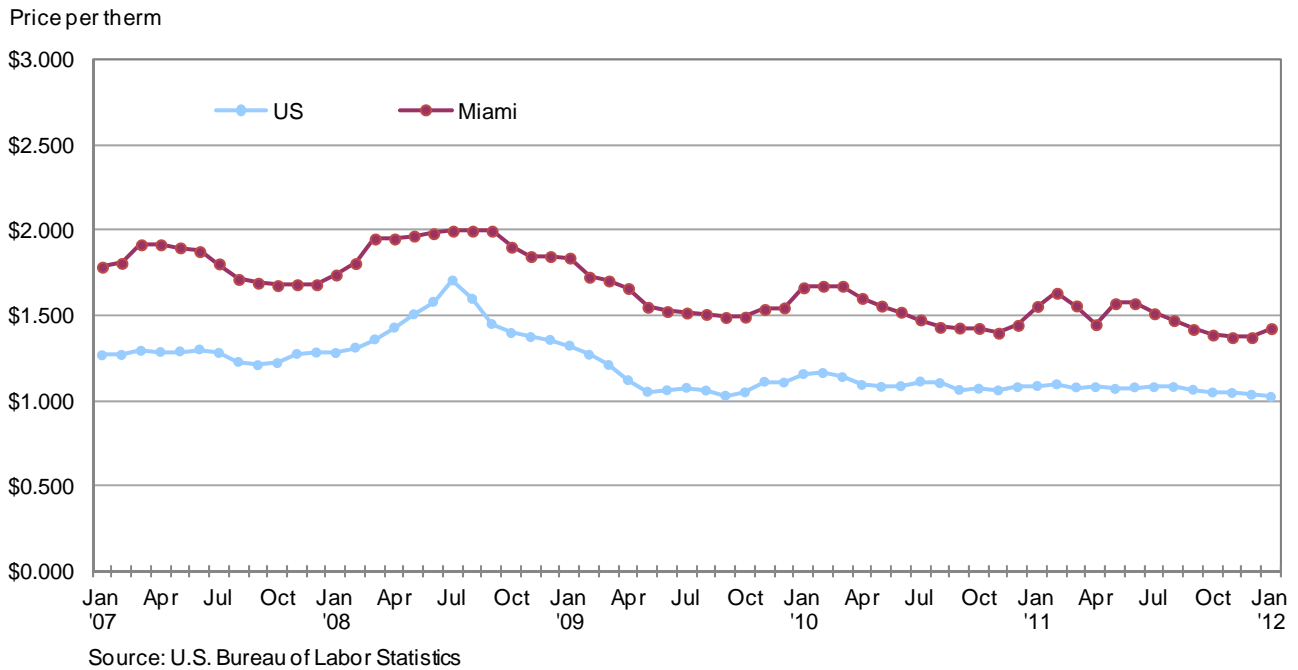
**Table A. Average prices of selected energy products, United States and the Miami area, January 2011 and January 2012**

	January 2011			January 2012		
	United States	Miami area	Percent difference	United States	Miami area	Percent difference
Utility (piped) gas per therm	\$1.085	\$1.554	43.2	\$1.021	\$1.424	39.5
Gasoline per gallon	\$3.139	\$3.209	2.2	\$3.447	\$3.553	3.1
Electricity per kWh	\$0.125	\$0.114	-8.8	\$0.128	\$0.114	-10.9

NOTE: A positive percent difference measures how much the price in the Miami area is above the national price, while a negative difference reflects a lower price in the Miami area.

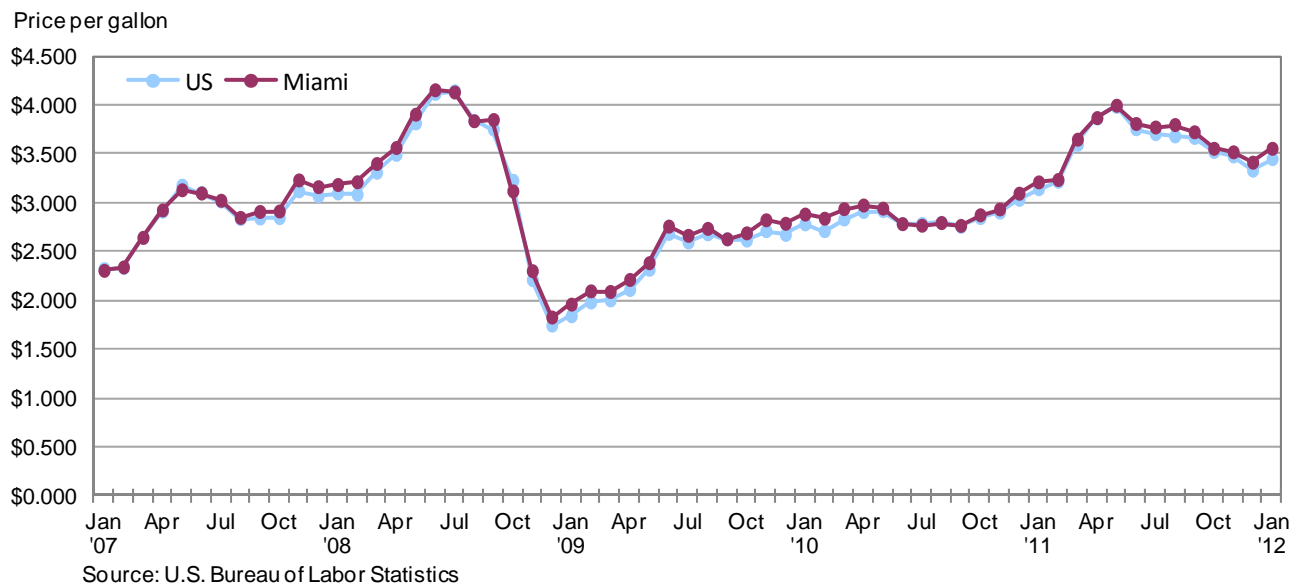
A therm—a measure of constant heating value—of utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, in the Miami area averaged \$1.424 in January 2012, down 8.4 percent from a year ago. Nationwide, a therm declined 5.9 percent from January 2011 to January 2012. Over the past five years, Miami utility (piped) gas prices have remained above the national average. (See chart 1.)

**Chart 1. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, United States and the Miami area, January 2007–January 2012**



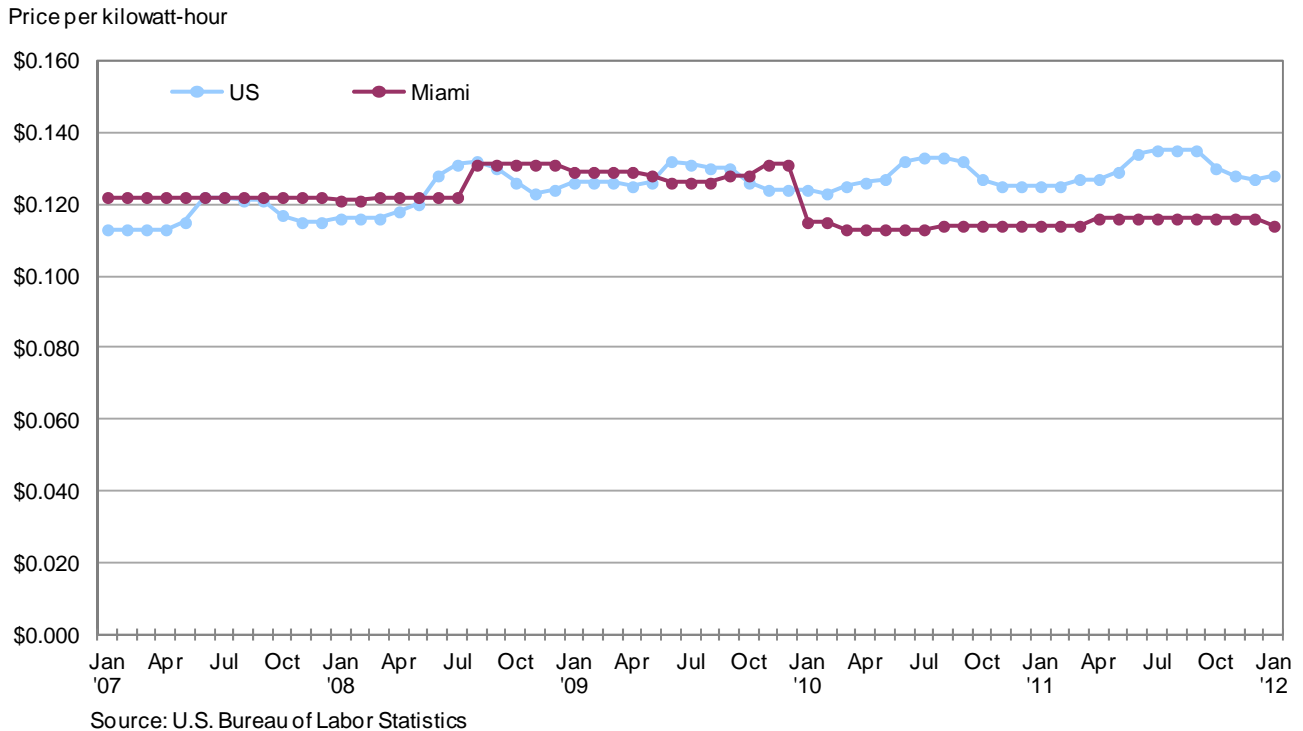
In January 2012, a gallon of gasoline averaged \$3.553 in the Miami area, an increase of 10.7 percent over the year, similar to the national increase of 9.8 percent. Although the price of gasoline can be volatile from month to month, local and national prices have moved in tandem over the last five years. (See chart 2.)

**Chart 2. Average prices for gasoline, United States and the Miami area, January 2007–January 2012**



A kilowatt-hour (kWh) of electricity cost Miami area consumers \$0.114 in January 2012, unchanged from a year earlier. Nationwide, electricity prices averaged \$0.128 in January 2012, an increase of 2.4 percent over the year. Since January 2010, electricity prices in Miami have remained below the U.S. city average. (See chart 3.)

**Chart 3. Average prices for electricity, United States and the Miami area, January 2007–January 2012**



The Miami-Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Combined Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA) is comprised of Broward and Miami-Dade Counties in Florida.

**Additional Information**

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

For personal assistance or further information on CPI data, as well as other Bureau products, contact the Southeast Information Office at 404-893-4222 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

**Technical Information**

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) and per 500 kWh are published. For utility (piped) gas, averages prices per therm, per 40 therms, and per 100 therms 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 prices across all grades.

Price quotes for 40 therms and 100 therms of utility (piped) gas and for 500 kWh of electricity are collected in sample outlets for use in the average price programs only. Since they are for specified consumption amounts, they are not used in the CPI. All other prices quotes used for average prices estimation are regular CPI data.

With the exception of the 40 therms, 100 therms, and 500 kWh price quotes, 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.

**Table 1. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, gasoline, and electricity, United States and the Miami area, January 2011–January 2012, not seasonally adjusted**

Year and Month	Utility (piped) gas per therm		Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh	
	United States	Miami area	United States	Miami area	United States	Miami area
2011						
January	1.085	1.554	3.139	3.209	0.125	0.114
February	1.095	1.631	3.215	3.234	0.125	0.114
March	1.077	1.557	3.594	3.646	0.127	0.114
April	1.078	1.447	3.863	3.867	0.127	0.116
May	1.068	1.570	3.982	3.994	0.129	0.116
June	1.077	1.570	3.753	3.807	0.134	0.116
July	1.078	1.511	3.703	3.771	0.135	0.116
August	1.079	1.471	3.680	3.796	0.135	0.116
September	1.063	1.419	3.664	3.722	0.135	0.116
October	1.047	1.386	3.521	3.553	0.130	0.116
November	1.044	1.371	3.475	3.517	0.128	0.116
December	1.034	1.371	3.329	3.411	0.127	0.116
2012						
January	1.021	1.424	3.447	3.553	0.128	0.114