

# Public Power Costs Less

Across the country, publicly owned electric utilities continue to provide customers with low-cost energy for homes and businesses. The chart below compares the national average residential, commercial and industrial revenue per kilowatt-hour paid by customers of publicly owned, investor-owned and cooperative electric utilities in 2009, and the table on the following page shows revenue per kilowatt-hour information by state and utility type. All of these rates are for full-service (bundled) sales.

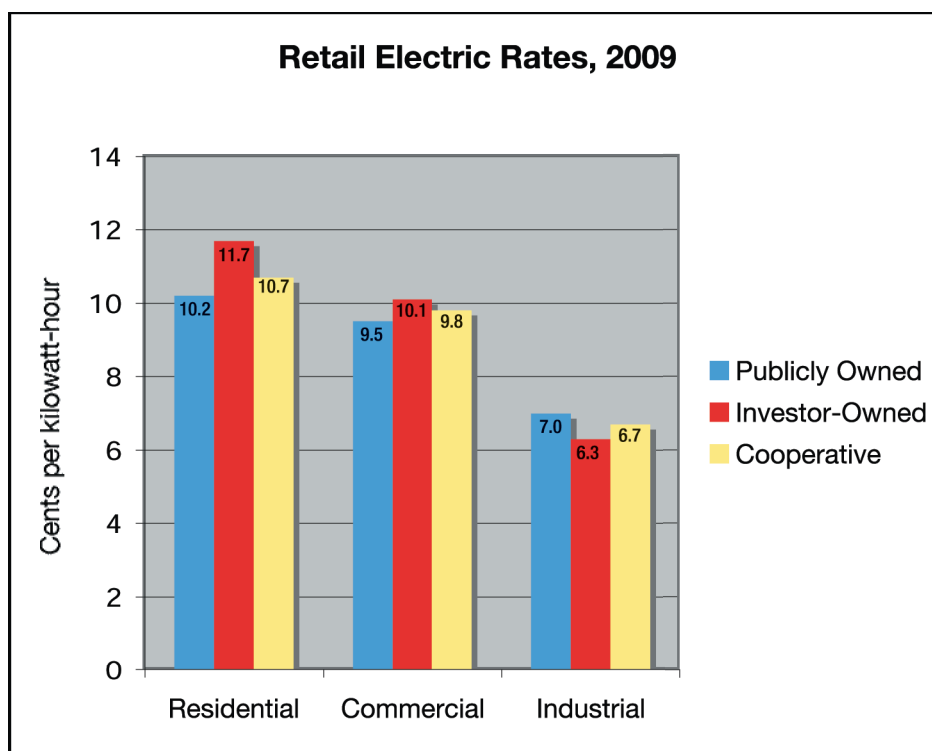
Residential customers of investor-owned utilities paid average rates that were 15 percent above those paid by customers of publicly owned systems during 2009. Public power customers paid an average of 10.2 cents per kilowatt-hour for residential electric service, compared to 11.7 cents per kilowatt-hour paid by residential customers of investor-owned utilities, and 10.7 cents per kilowatt-hour paid by residential customers of cooperative systems.

Commercial customers of investor-owned systems paid 6 percent more for electricity than public power customers in 2009. Public power commercial customers paid an average of 9.5 cents per kWh, compared to 10.1 cents per kWh paid by commercial customers of investor-owned utilities and 9.8 cents per kWh paid by commercial customers of cooperative utilities. Average rates for industrial customers of investor-owned utilities were less than those of public power and cooperative industrial customers: 6.3 cents per kWh for customers of investor-owned utilities compared to 7.0 cents per kWh for public power utility customers, and 6.7 cents per kWh for customers of cooperative utilities. However, industrial customers vary greatly in size, and on average in-

vestor-owned systems serve larger industrial customers than do public power systems. The average investor-owned, full-service industrial customer purchased 1,400 megawatt-hours (MWh) in 2009 whereas the average public power industrial customer purchased 985 MWhs. The difference in customer size may account for the lower industrial price for investor-owned systems.

The 2009 averages presented here are based on the Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration's data from Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Utility Report." Data were reported by 2,006 publicly owned electric utilities, 200 investor-owned utilities and 875 cooperative systems operating in the 50 states and District of Columbia.

These rate comparisons do not include sales in retail choice states to customers that are served by alternative suppliers. Typically, retail choice programs were enacted in high-cost states, so average rates for customers served by alternative suppliers are higher than the national average. In 2009, residential customers served by alternative suppliers paid an average of 17.0 cents per kWh, compared to the national average of 11.5 cents per kWh. Commercial customers served by alternative suppliers paid an average of 12.2 cents per kWh compared to the national average of 10.3 cents per kWh, and industrial customers served by alternative suppliers paid an average of 9.2 cents per kWh, compared to the national average of 6.7 cents per kWh. Retail choice sales (unbundled sales) represented 8.2 percent of total sales to consumers in 2009, and 98 percent of retail choice sales were to customers located in the service territory of investor-owned utilities.



# Utility Sector Rate Comparison, by State, 2009

Cents per kilowatt-hour

State	Residential			Commercial			Industrial			Total		
	Public	Private	Co-op	Public	Private	Co-op	Public	Private	Co-op	Public	Private	Co-op
Alabama	9.0	10.9	11.8	9.3	10.1	11.4	7.2	5.8	8.3	8.7	8.8	11.2
Alaska	13.8	17.4	17.9	11.3	18.8	16.5	14.7	8.8	13.4	12.0	16.5	16.2
Arizona	10.3	10.9	12.5	8.6	10.2	10.9	6.0	6.9	8.5	9.0	9.9	11.5
Arkansas	8.2	9.6	8.6	7.4	7.5	7.9	6.1	6.2	4.6	7.2	7.8	7.2
California	12.6	15.4	14.7	12.1	14.0	14.9	10.1	11.0	10.4	11.7	14.2	12.8
Colorado	8.4	9.9	11.0	6.8	8.2	9.7	5.6	5.8	7.6	7.0	8.2	9.5
Connecticut	15.0	20.6		13.4	18.4		11.2	15.5		13.1	19.9	
Delaware	15.1	14.4	12.3	15.5	13.7	11.3	12.1	7.0		13.9	13.8	12.1
District of Columbia		13.7			15.1						14.4	
Florida	12.8	12.4	12.1	11.1	10.7	10.9	9.6	9.2	9.3	11.6	11.5	11.6
Georgia	9.3	10.1	10.2	8.8	8.7	10.0	6.0	6.0	6.7	8.2	8.4	9.8
Hawaii		23.9	30.1		21.5	30.9		17.7	28.4		20.8	29.7
Idaho	6.0	7.9	7.8	5.7	6.5	6.8	4.5	5.3	4.3	5.7	6.5	6.7
Illinois	9.5	11.3	12.0	9.6	9.8	9.8	7.4	5.1	7.4	9.1	10.6	10.7
Indiana	9.3	9.1	10.9	8.8	8.2	9.5	7.3	5.6	7.3	8.3	7.3	9.7
Iowa	8.9	9.8	11.0	7.8	7.4	8.1	6.2	5.0	6.3	7.6	7.0	9.0
Kansas	10.3	9.0	11.1	8.9	7.4	9.3	6.0	5.8	7.4	8.1	7.6	9.4
Kentucky	8.3	7.6	9.4	8.4	7.2	9.3	6.6	5.6	4.6	7.6	6.8	7.1
Louisiana	7.8	8.2	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	6.5	5.2	6.6	7.7	6.9	7.7
Maine	14.7	16.0	29.1	12.1	12.2	22.9	12.2			13.4	13.2	27.2
Maryland	10.8	15.1	14.3	11.2	12.7	12.1	9.1	9.3	10.3	10.6	14.4	13.5
Massachusetts	14.0	17.2		14.2	17.0		12.6	15.2		13.5	17.0	
Michigan	9.7	11.7	12.4	8.9	9.3	10.2	7.6	6.9	7.5	8.7	9.5	11.3
Minnesota	9.8	9.9	10.2	9.0	7.7	8.4	7.1	6.0	6.9	8.4	7.7	9.3
Mississippi	9.3	9.6	10.9	9.5	8.8	11.1	7.5	6.4	8.4	9.0	8.3	10.3
Missouri	8.9	8.0	9.6	7.8	6.6	8.6	6.9	4.9	6.5	8.0	6.8	9.0
Montana	6.0	9.5	8.6	5.4	9.0	7.5	8.2	6.1	6.0	5.8	8.8	7.8
Nebraska	8.5		10.4	7.4		10.9	5.6		11.2	7.2		10.9
Nevada	8.5	13.1	10.3	6.4	11.3	8.7	2.8	9.0	4.4	5.5	11.2	6.4
New Hampshire	14.5	16.0	20.0	15.6	13.6	18.2	13.7	13.6	12.4	14.4	14.8	19.1
New Jersey	16.9	16.3	11.9	16.5	14.6	11.5	13.6	11.5	8.5	16.0	15.4	11.6
New Mexico	9.3	9.6	12.2	8.9	8.3	9.5	6.1	5.2	6.4	7.8	8.1	8.6
New York	16.4	17.5	11.5	16.1	16.3	10.0	4.5	10.7	8.3	15.5	16.6	11.1
North Carolina	11.5	9.3	11.4	9.5	7.5	10.1	7.5	5.8	6.3	9.9	7.8	10.8
North Dakota	6.5	7.6	7.6	6.4	6.8	7.5	6.8	5.6	5.2	6.5	7.0	6.5
Ohio	10.1	10.7	10.5	10.0	9.6	9.7	8.3	6.6	7.0	9.3	9.0	9.6
Oklahoma	8.9	7.9	9.8	8.1	6.3	9.0	5.9	4.5	5.6	7.8	6.4	8.6
Oregon	6.8	9.3	7.8	6.3	7.8	6.7	4.1	6.0	5.0	5.7	8.2	6.9
Pennsylvania	14.0	11.6	11.5	12.9	9.5	10.2	11.3	7.1	7.8	13.0	9.6	10.9
Rhode Island	15.2	15.6		16.8	14.1		13.8	12.8		14.8	14.8	
South Carolina	9.3	10.0	11.7	8.6	8.4	11.0	5.6	5.7	6.9	7.2	8.1	10.7
South Dakota	8.0	8.6	8.5	7.6	7.4	7.7	5.9	5.4	5.7	7.1	7.5	7.8
Tennessee	9.2	7.7	9.6	9.5	7.9	10.3	7.3	5.4	7.7	8.8	6.6	9.5
Texas	9.5	9.0	11.0	8.4	7.7	9.9	6.7	5.1	7.9	8.6	7.1	10.1
Utah	8.6	8.6	6.7	7.8	6.8	6.8	6.3	4.6	6.3	7.8	6.6	6.7
Vermont	14.6	14.5	17.6	13.8	12.6	15.1	12.6	8.7	9.9	13.8	12.2	15.6
Virginia	9.6	10.3	12.6	8.5	7.9	10.9	7.2	6.5	9.2	8.5	8.7	11.7
Washington	6.6	9.1	6.9	5.8	8.7	5.7	3.9	6.9	5.0	5.5	8.7	6.2
West Virginia	8.4	7.9	13.8	8.4	6.8	7.7	6.4	5.2	27.9	8.1	6.6	13.1
Wisconsin	9.9	12.1	12.5	9.1	9.6	9.8	7.0	6.7	6.5	8.4	9.4	11.3
Wyoming	8.6	8.8	8.3	7.4	7.6	7.0	6.7	4.7	5.0	7.8	5.9	6.3