

Ohio Businesses on Standard Service Offer Pay 50% Above Average Rate

New survey finds Ohio's six investor-owned utilities charge about 50% above the statewide commercial average, with rates up 27.68% since April 2024.

COLUMBUS, OH, UNITED STATES, August 4, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Survey: Companies Can Beat Surging Standard Service Offer Commercial Rates

Across the country, commercial electricity prices have climbed steadily since April 2024. Businesses nationwide now pay 13.51 cents per kilowatt hour on average, up 6.71% from 12.66 cents. However, [Ohio business electricity rates](#) have surged much faster.

What Ohio Utilities Charge for Commercial Electricity Service

In just two years, tight energy supplies in the PJM grid pushed capacity auction results sharply higher. As a result, Ohio businesses have watched their commercial electric rates soar.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the average [Ohio commercial electricity](#) rate stood at 10.69 cents per kWh in April 2024. By April 2026, that rate had risen to 13.65 cents per kWh, a jump of 27.68%. The state now ranks fourth nationally for the highest percentage increase to commercial electric rates.

The rising rates reflect the cost of energy supply with the utility's charge for delivering and maintaining power. Both factors have pushed prices upward, driven by rising transmission costs, maintenance needs, and storm damage repairs.

However, EIA's statewide average blends data from Ohio's six investor-owned utilities along with

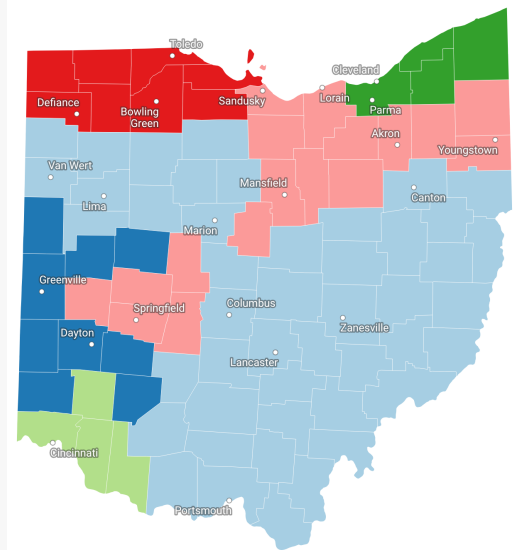
What Ohio Utilities Charge for Commercial Electricity Service

EIA data shows that Ohio utility costs for commercial electricity service has risen by 27.68% since 2024



Ohio Utility

AEP Ohio AES Ohio Duke Energy Ohio Illuminating Company Ohio Edison Toledo Edison



EIA average commercial electricity service supply & delivery costs in Ohio:
April, 2024 10.69 c/kWh
April, 2026 13.65 c/kWh

Percent change applied to EIA data for 2024 Ohio utility commercial rates.

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Ohio's six investor-owned utilities — AEP Ohio, AES Ohio, Duke Energy Ohio, Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison and Toledo Edison — serve nearly 90% of the state's electricity customers. Their commercial rates rose 27.68% since April 2024. Source: EIA.

32 coops and municipal utilities. Though the investor owned utilities serve nearly 90% of Ohio's electricity customers, coops and municipal utilities typically charge less. As a result, their pricing tends to pull the statewide average rate lower.

When researchers at OHEnergyRatings.com isolated the commercial electricity rates offered by the six investor owned utilities, they found their rates averaged 16.06 cents per kWh in 2024; about 50% higher than most coops and municipals.

Rates among these six utilities ranged from 11.63 cents per kWh at Duke Energy to 18.59 cents per kWh at Illuminating Company. Applying the statewide 27.68% increase, analysts estimate 2026 rates now average 20.50 cents per kWh across these utilities, with Illuminating Company reaching roughly 23.74 cents.

For a business in 2026 using 6,000 kWh a month, this translates to a monthly bill near \$1,230, about \$300 more than in 2024.

Unlike residential bills, where the utility delivery charge makes up most of the cost, commercial bills are driven mainly by the energy supply rate. This means businesses still paying their utility's Standard Service Offer likely pay far more than necessary.

With so many factors affecting commercial electricity prices, business owners now have more reason to compare rates carefully. By shopping [Ohio energy suppliers](#) and switching to a certified retail electricity provider, businesses can often save up to 50% compared to their utility's default rate.

To find the entire Ohio Commercial Survey click here:

<https://www.ohenergyratings.com/resources/ohio-commercial-electricity-rates-rise-28-percent>

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