

Washing machines

Snapshot

	50-LB. CAPACITY	100-LB. CAPACITY
Highest priced unit:	\$12,600	\$25,515
Average priced unit:	\$10,238	\$19,772
Lowest priced unit:	\$7,875	\$17,535

Pricing Trends

2006-2007: +4%

2007-2008: +5%

2009 projection: +5%

Typical delivery time:

10 to 20 days

Typical delivery charges: Varies, based on location and needs

Average life span of product:

12 to 15 years

Percent vendor installed: 80% to 90%

Standard warranty: 3 years (parts)

Extended warranty: Via local distributor

Average maintenance cost per year:

About \$300 to \$600

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Sources: Alliance Laundry Systems/UniMac, Automated Laundry, Continental Girbau, Pellerin Milnor



Photo: Alliance Laundry Systems/UniMac

FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"We wash residents' clothes separately. We don't commingle clothes anymore to get away from some of the regulations [regarding] bleach and that kind of stuff." Paulette Maursetter, Administrator, Senior Citizens Home, Hosmer, SD

Buyer Notes

- Escalating commodity prices have forced the industry to raise prices faster than at any period in the past 20 years, one vendor said.
- As utility rates for water and natural gas increase, many buyers are looking for high-efficiency washers for more extraction and less water consumption, according to a vendor. Extraction can be measured in G-force. A 300 G-force product can reduce natural gas costs in the dryer compared with less expensive, lower G-force washers.

**For a list of vendors go to the:
EQUIPMENT section, page 98-99**