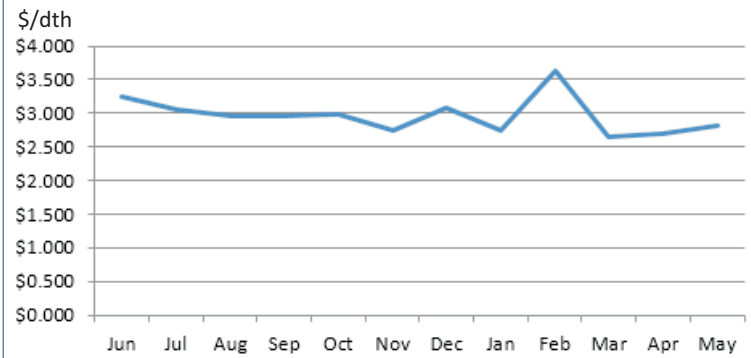


## News Tracker:

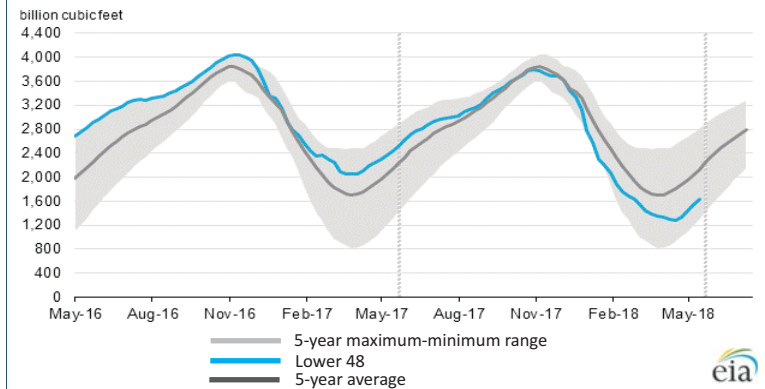
- Natural gas spot prices rose at most locations from Wednesday, May 16 to Wednesday, May 23 (the Report Week). The Henry Hub spot price rose from \$2.78/MMBtu to 2.86/MMBtu from start to finish of the Report Week.
- At the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex), the June 2018 natural gas futures contract price rose 10¢ from \$2.815/MMBtu to \$2.914/MMBtu during the course of the Report Week, the highest front-month price since January.
- Net natural gas injections into storage totaled 91 Bcf for the week ending May 18, compared with the five-year (2013-17) average net injections of 89 Bcf and last year's net injections of 74 Bcf during the same week. Net injections during the week averaged 13.2 Bcf/day; net injections will have to average 13.1 Bcf/day for the remainder of the refill season to match the five-year average level (3,815 Bcf) by October 31. Working gas stocks totaled 1,629 Bcf, which is 499 Bcf (23%) lower than the five-year average and 804 Bcf (33%) lower than last year at this time. The deficit to the five-year average peaked at 534 Bcf earlier this year during the week ending April 20. Temperatures in the Lower 48 states averaged 63 degrees Fahrenheit (°F), 1°F higher than the normal and the same as last year at this time.
- The natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, rose by 45¢, averaging \$8.69/MMBtu for the week ending May 23. The price of natural gasoline, ethane, propane, butane, and isobutane rose, by 1%, 5%, 6%, 2%, and 14%, respectively.
- According to Baker Hughes, for the week ending Tuesday, May 15, the natural gas rig count increased by 1 to 200. The number of oil-directed rigs remained constant at 844. The total rig count increased by 1, and it now stands at 1,046, the highest level since March 2015.

Excerpted from 

## Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: Jun 2017 - May 2018:



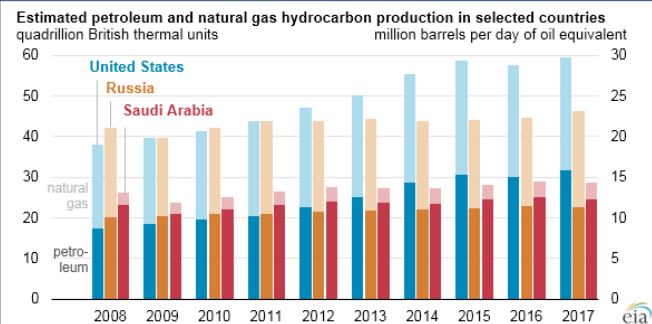
## Working nat. gas in underground storage as of May 18, 2018



## Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - Jun18-May19:

Process Load-weighted \$2.969/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.123  
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$3.026/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.124

## The United States remains the world's top producer of petroleum and natural gas hydrocarbons:



The US remained the world's top producer of petroleum and natural gas hydrocarbons in 2017, reaching a record high. The US has been the world's top producer of natural gas since 2009, when US natural gas production surpassed that of Russia, and the world's top producer of petroleum hydrocarbons since 2013, when US production exceeded Saudi Arabia's. Since 2008, US petroleum and natural gas production has increased by nearly 60%. For the US and Russia, total petroleum and natural gas hydrocarbon production, measured in energy content, is almost evenly split between petroleum and natural gas, while Saudi Arabia's production heavily favors petroleum. US petroleum production increased by 745,000 barrels per day (b/d) in 2017, driven by a 21% increase in oil prices to approximately \$65 per barrel. In the US, crude oil and lease condensate accounted for 60% of total petroleum hydrocarbon production in 2017, and natural gas plant liquids accounted for 24%. Saudi Arabia and Russia have much smaller volumes of natural gas plant liquids, as well as refinery gain and biofuels production, which

combined account for most of the remaining share of US petroleum production. US dry natural gas production grew slowly in early 2017 because of unfavorable economic conditions at that time. Production increased during the last nine months of the year, ultimately leading to a 5.7 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) difference between the first quarter and fourth quarter of 2017. From 2016 to 2017, domestic dry natural gas production increased by 1%, and US liquefied natural gas exports quadrupled. Consumer natural gas demand was mixed, as a result of warmer winter weather compared with 2016 and higher natural gas prices contributing to a 7% decline in natural gas consumption for power generation.

Excerpted from 

"And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free.  
 And I won't forget the men who died, who gave that right to me." -Lee Greenwood