

Newstracker:

-Natural gas spot prices rose at most locations for the period of Wednesday, April 1 to Wednesday, April 8 (the Report Week). The Henry Hub spot price rose from \$1.60 per million British thermal units (MMBtu) to \$1.80/MMBtu from open to close of the Report Week.

-At the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex), the price of the May 2020 natural gas futures contract increased 20¢, from \$1.587/MMBtu to \$1.783/MMBtu from start to finish of the Report Week. The price of the 12-month strip averaging May 2020 through April 2021 futures contracts climbed 13¢/MMBtu to \$2.346/MMBtu.

-The net natural gas injection into storage totaled 38 Bcf for the week ending April 3, compared with the five-year (201519) average net injection of 6 Bcf and last year's net injection of 25 Bcf during the same week. Working natural gas stocks totaled 2,024 Bcf, which is 324 Bcf (19%) more than the five-year average and 876 Bcf (76%) more than last year at this time.

-Total US consumption of natural gas fell by 6% compared with the previous report week, according to data from IHS Markit. In the residential and commercial sectors, consumption declined by 15% amid seasonal spring temperatures. Natural gas consumed for power generation was flat, averaging 26.0 Bcf/d. Industrial sector consumption decreased by 5% week over week. Natural gas exports to Mexico decreased 10%.

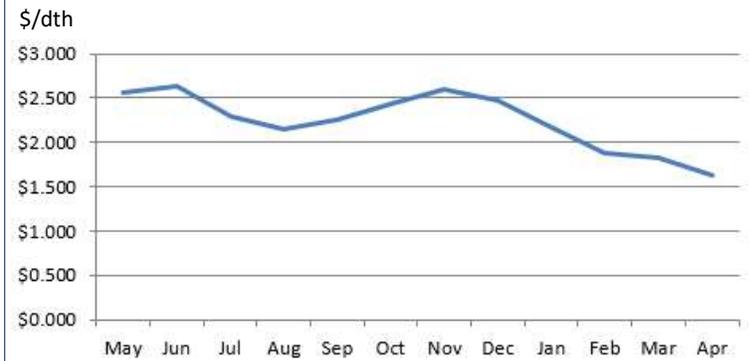
-US LNG exports decreased week over week, with twelve LNG vessels with a combined LNG-carrying capacity of 42 Bcf departing the US between April 2, 2020, and April 8, 2020, according to shipping data provided by Marine Traffic. This number is the lowest reported weekly tanker count since the beginning of this year.

-The natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, rose by 3¢/MMBtu, averaging \$2.52/MMBtu for the week ending April 8. The prices of isobutane and ethane fell by 2% and 5%, respectively. The price of natural gasoline remained flat week over week while the prices of propane and butane rose by 1% and 20%, respectively.

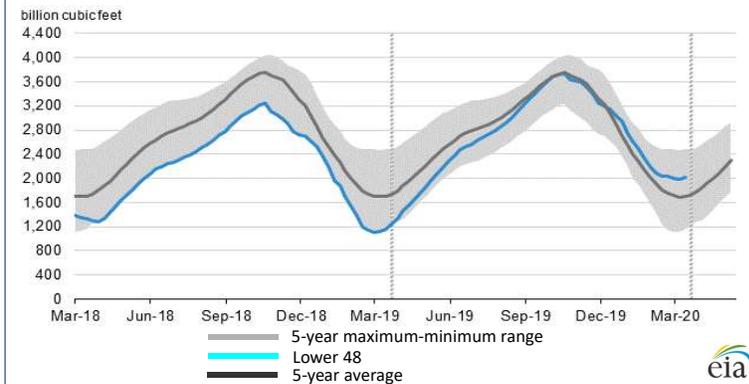
-According to Baker Hughes, for the week ending Tuesday, March 31, the natural gas rig count decreased by 2 to 100. The number of oil-directed rigs fell by 62 to 562. The total rig count decreased by 64, and it now stands at 664.

Excerpted from 

Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: May 2019 - Apr 2020:



Working natural gas in underground storage as of Apr. 3, 2020

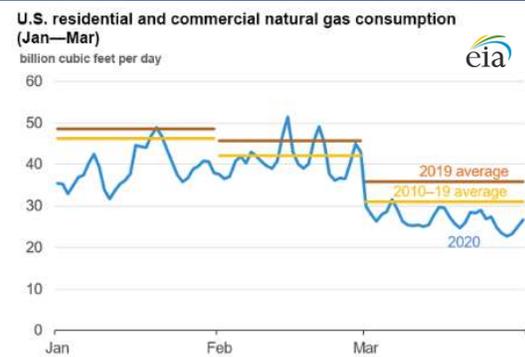


Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - May20-Apr21:

Process Load-weighted \$2.346/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.133
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$2.564/dth - w/o/w = ▲\$0.114

With warm weather, US residential and commercial natural gas consumption down in 2020:

US residential and commercial natural gas consumption from January to March 2020 averaged about 35.6 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d), a decrease of 18% (7.8 Bcf/d), from January to March 2019 and was 10% (4.2 Bcf/d) lower than the 10-year (2010-2019) average, according to IHS Markit estimates for 2020 and US Energy Information Administration (EIA) historical data. This decrease was driven by unseasonably warm weather. Total natural gas customer-weighted heating degree days (HDDs) for January to March 2020 were 13% lower than the 30-year (1981-2010) average. The primary use of natural gas by residential and commercial customers during the winter is space heating, and fewer HDDs indicate less need for heating. January 2020 was the fifth-warmest January on record in the US, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. January 2020 HDDs were 17% lower than the 30-year average. According to EIA's Natural Gas Monthly, January 2020 US natural gas consumption in the residential and commercial sectors was about 13% lower than the January 2019 average, and about 9% lower than the 10-year average for January. January 2020 had the lowest January consumption by the residential and commercial sectors since January 2012. Mild weather continued through the rest of the winter. HDDs in February and March totaled about 7% and 15% lower than their 30-year averages, respectively. Although EIA does not yet have data for these months, according to IHS Markit estimates and EIA historical data, U.S. residential and commercial natural gas consumption in February and March averaged 10% (4.4 Bcf/d) and 25% (9.1 Bcf/d) lower than their respective 2019 averages and 2% (0.8 Bcf/d) and 14% (4.2 Bcf/d) lower than their respective 2010-2019 averages.



Excerpted from 

"I thought I was grounded. I thought from my kinda blue-collar outlook on life that I would call myself a grounded person. I was not. I was like a balloon flying around in the air. And as soon as our first child was born, boom - my feet came right down to the ground." -John Prine¹