

**Newstracker:**

-Natural gas spot prices fell at most locations from Wednesday, January 13 to Wednesday, January 20 (the Report Week). The Henry Hub spot price fell from \$2.75 per million British thermal units (MMBtu) to \$2.42/MMBtu from open to close of the Report Week.

-At the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex), the price of the February 2021 natural gas futures contract decreased 19¢, from \$2.727/MMBtu to \$2.539/MMBtu for the Report Week. The price of the 12-month strip averaging February 2021 through January 2022 futures contracts declined 10¢/MMBtu to \$2.738/MMBtu.

-Due to the federal government being closed on 1-20-21, natural gas weekly storage results are not available at this time.

-Total US consumption of natural gas fell by 5.4% compared with the previous Report Week, according to data from IHS Markit. Natural gas consumed for power generation declined by 9.9% week over week. In the residential and commercial sectors, consumption declined by 4.6%. Industrial sector consumption decreased by 1.4% week over week. Natural gas exports to Mexico decreased 0.6%. Natural gas deliveries to US liquefied natural gas (LNG) export facilities (LNG pipeline receipts) averaged 10.9 Bcf/d, or 0.08 Bcf/d higher than last week.

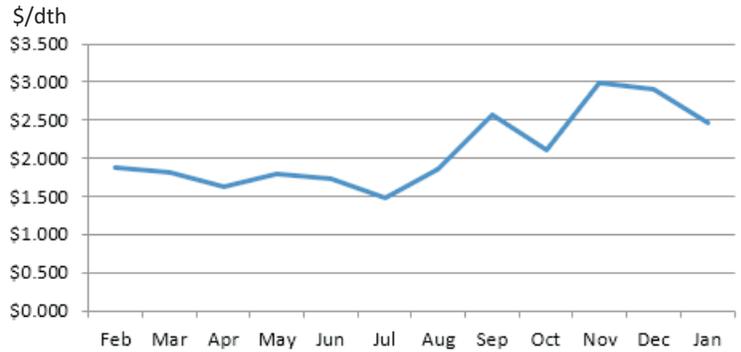
-According to data from IHS Markit, the average total supply of natural gas fell by 0.4% compared with the previous report week. Dry natural gas production grew by 0.1% compared with the previous report week. Average net imports from Canada decreased by 6.1% from last week amid temperatures that were much warmer than normal in northeastern markets.

-The natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, rose by 35¢/MMBtu, averaging \$7.35/MMBtu for the week ending January 20. The prices of natural gasoline, ethane, butane, isobutane, and propane all rose, by 1%, 2%, 5%, 5%, and 8%, respectively

-According to Baker Hughes, for the week ending Tuesday, January 12, the natural gas rig count increased by 1 to 85. The number of oil-directed rigs rose by 12 to 287. The total rig count increased by 13, and it now stands at 373.

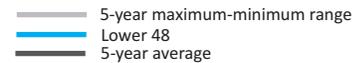
Excerpted from 

**Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: Feb 2020 - Jan 2021:**



**Working natural gas in underground storage as of January 15, 2021**

Due to the federal government being closed on 1-20-21, natural gas weekly storage results are not available at this time.



**Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - Feb21-Jan22:**

Process Load-weighted \$2.738/dth - w/o/w = ▼\$0.104  
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$2.760/dth - w/o/w = ▼\$0.108

**What is the Polar Vortex:**

The polar vortex is a large area of low pressure and cold air surrounding both of the Earth's poles. It ALWAYS exists near the poles, but weakens in summer and strengthens in winter. The term "vortex" refers to the counter-clockwise flow of air that helps keep the colder air near the Poles. Many times during winter in the northern hemisphere, the polar vortex will expand, sending cold air southward with the jet stream (see graphic above). This occurs fairly regularly during wintertime and is often associated with large outbreaks of Arctic air in the United States. The one that occurred January 2014 is similar to many other cold outbreaks that have occurred in the past, including several notable colder outbreaks in 1977, 1982, 1985 and 1989. There are several things the polar vortex is NOT. Polar vortexes are not something new. The term "polar vortex" has only recently been popularized, bringing attention to a weather feature that has always been present. It is also not a feature that exists at the Earth's surface. Weather forecasters examine the polar vortex by looking at conditions tens of thousands of feet up in the atmosphere; however, when we feel extremely cold air from the Arctic regions at Earth's surface, it is sometimes associated with the polar vortex. This is not confined to the United States. Portions of Europe and Asia also experience cold surges connected to the polar vortex. By itself, the only danger to humans is the magnitude of how cold temperatures will get when the polar vortex expands, sending Arctic air southward into areas that are not typically that cold. In short, there is no cause to be alarmed when you hear about the polar vortex, but you should be prepared for colder temperatures. Check the forecast for your area on weather.gov to ensure you are dressed appropriately. It is also a good idea to check the items in your home and car emergency kits at the beginning of each winter season to ensure you are prepared for any type of hazardous winter weather.



www.weather.gov/safety/cold-polar-vortex 

"People relate to the spirit of the band, which is to live your way and succeed on your own terms. There's no hypocrisy in being successful and still railing against conformity." -Paul Stanley<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/paul\_stanley\_564526