
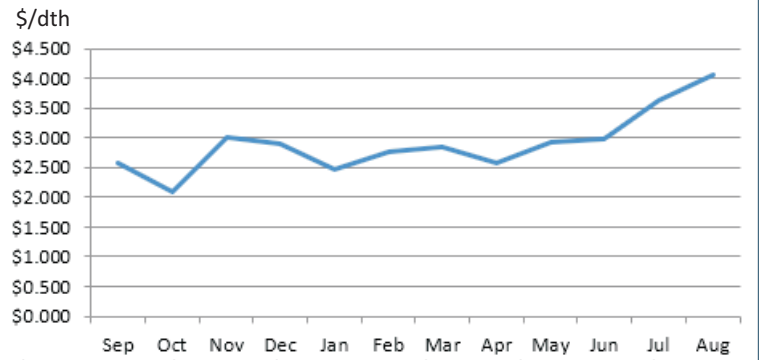


## Newstracker:

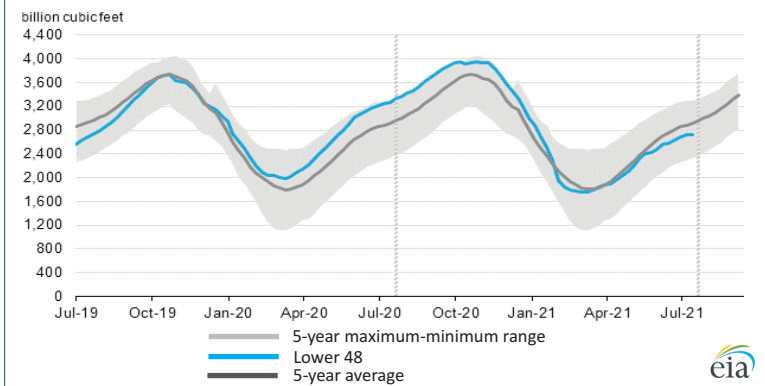
- Natural gas spot prices rose at most locations from Wednesday, July 28 to Wednesday, August 4 (the Report Week), during which the Henry Hub spot price rose from \$4.05/MMBtu to \$4.12/MMBtu.
- The August 2021 NYMEX natural gas futures contract expired July 28 at \$4.044/MMBtu. The September 2021 NYMEX contract price increased to \$4.158/MMBtu, up 12¢/MMBtu for the Report Week. The price of the 12-month strip averaging September 2021 through August 2022 futures contracts climbed 17¢/MMBtu to \$3.854/MMBtu.
- Net natural gas injections into storage totaled 13 Bcf for the week ending July 30, compared with the five-year (2016-2020) average net injections of 30 Bcf and last year's net injections of 32 Bcf during the same week. Working natural gas stocks totaled 2,727 Bcf, which is 185 Bcf (6%) lower than the five-year average and 542 Bcf (17%) lower than last year at this time.
- Mean temperatures dropped substantially across wide sections of the US last week, resulting in total US consumption of natural gas falling by 3.8%w/o/w, according to data from IHS Markit. Average weekly natural gas consumption for power generation and residential and commercial sectors declined by 7.3% and 2.0% w/o/w, respectively. Industrial sector consumption increased by 2.6% w/o/w, offsetting the previous week's 1.1% decrease, and ending the week at the highest levels since the last week of May. Natural gas exports to Mexico decreased 7.5% w/o/w. Natural gas deliveries to US LNG export facilities were 0.2 Bcf/d lower w/o/w.
- The natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, rose by 14¢/MMBtu, averaging \$9.64/MMBtu for the week ending August 4. Ethane prices rose 2% and are now at the highest levels since early 2019, pushed up by rising ethylene prices, which rose 5% w/o/w, and are now at the highest level since the first week of May. Propane and isobutane prices rose 2%, and normal butane prices rose 1%, as continuing strong international demand for liquefied petroleum gases (LPG) sustains elevated US exports of these fuels. Natural gasoline prices remained relatively unchanged.
- According to Baker Hughes, for the week ending Tuesday, July 27, the natural gas rig count decreased by 1 to 103. The number of oil-directed rigs fell by 2 to 385. The total rig count decreased by 3, and it now stands at 488.

Excerpted from 

## Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: Sep 2020 - Aug 2021:



## Working natural gas in underground storage as of July 30, 2021

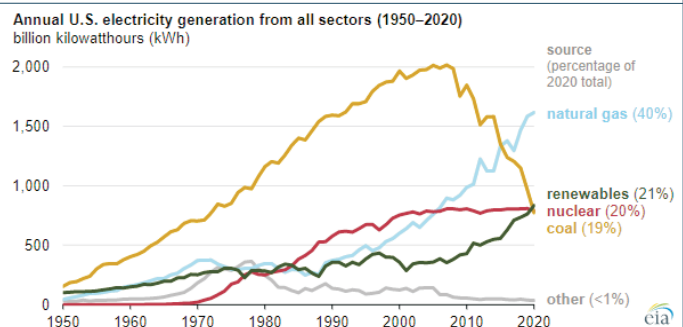


## Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - Sep21-Oct22:

Process Load-weighted \$3.854/dth - w/o/w = ▲ \$0.170  
Heat Load-weighted \$4.062/dth - w/o/w = ▲ \$0.181

## Renewables became the second-most prevalent US electricity source in 2020:

In 2020, renewable energy sources (including wind, hydroelectric, solar, biomass, and geothermal energy) generated a record 834 billion kWh of electricity, or about 21% of all the electricity generated in the US. Only natural gas (1,617 billion kWh) produced more electricity than renewables. Renewables surpassed both nuclear (790 billion kWh) and coal (774 billion kWh) for the first time on record. This outcome in 2020 was due mostly to significantly less coal use in US electricity generation and steadily increased use of wind and solar. In 2020, US electricity generation from coal declined 20% from 2019, while renewables, including small-scale solar, increased 9%. Wind, currently the most prevalent source of renewable electricity in the US, grew 14% in 2020 from 2019. Utility-scale solar generation (from projects greater than 1 megawatt) increased 26%, and small-scale solar, such as grid-connected rooftop solar panels, increased 19%. US coal-fired electricity generation peaked at 2,016 billion kWh in 2007 and much of that capacity has been replaced by or converted to natural gas-fired generation since then. Coal was the largest source of electricity until 2016, and 2020 was the first year that more electricity was generated by renewables and by nuclear power than by coal. Nuclear electric power declined 2% from 2019 to 2020 because several nuclear power plants retired and other nuclear plants experienced slightly more maintenance-related outages. Coal-fired electricity generation is forecast to increase during 2021 as natural gas prices continue to rise and as coal becomes more economically competitive. Renewable generation is expected to increase 7% in 2021 and 10% in 2022. Nuclear electric power is expected to decline 2% in 2021 and 3% in 2022 as operators retire several generators.



Excerpted from 

“His aura had an aura.” -Eli Grba, referring to teammate Mickey Mantle<sup>1</sup>