

Newstracker:

-Natural gas spot prices fell at most locations from Wednesday, March 29, to Wednesday, April 12 (the Report Week), during which the Henry Hub spot price rose 4 cents to \$2.21/MMBtu.


-The price of the May 2023 NYMEX natural gas futures contract decreased 6.2 cents to \$2.093/MMBtu for the Report Week. The price of the 12-month strip averaging May 2023 through April 2024 futures contracts declined 10.3 cents to \$2.897/MMBtu. International natural gas futures prices decreased this Report Week, with LNG cargoes in East Asia decreasing 35 cents to a weekly average of \$12.61/MMBtu and prices at TTF in the Netherlands decreasing \$1.12 cents to a weekly average of \$13.84/MMBtu. In the same week last year, the prices were \$33.12/MMBtu in East Asia and \$32.91/MMBtu at TTF.

-Net natural gas injections into storage totaled 25 Bcf for the week ending April 7, compared with the five-year average net injections of 28 Bcf and last year's net injections of 8 Bcf during the same week. Working natural gas stocks totaled 1,855 Bcf, which is 295 Bcf (19%) more than the five-year average and 460 Bcf (33%) more than last year at this time.

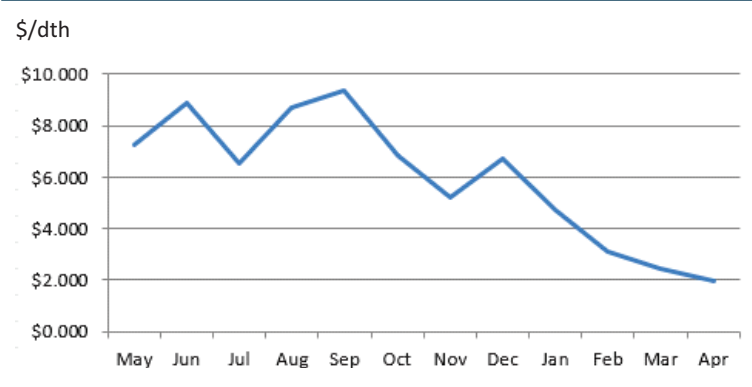
-Total US consumption of natural gas fell by 5.7% (4.2 Bcf/d) compared with the previous Report Week. In the residential and commercial sectors, natural gas consumption declined by 17.0% (3.9 Bcf/d), for power generation declined by 0.6% (0.2 Bcf/d), and for the industrial sector decreased by 0.7% (0.2 Bcf/d). Natural gas exports to Mexico decreased 2.1% (0.1 Bcf/d). Natural gas deliveries to US LNG export facilities averaged 13.7 Bcf/d, or 0.2 Bcf/d lower than the previous Report Week.

-The natural gas plant liquids composite price at Mont Belvieu, Texas, rose by 9 cents/MMBtu, averaging \$7.44/MMBtu for the week ending April 12. The Brent crude oil price rose 3%, while propane prices rose 2%, resulting in a 6% increase in the propane discount relative to crude oil.

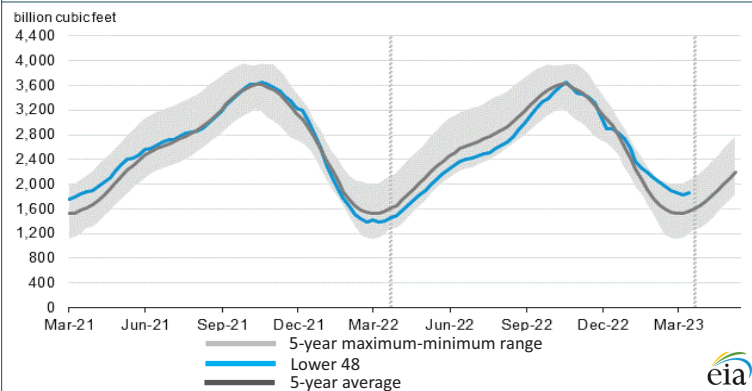
-For the week ending Tuesday, April 4, the natural gas rig count decreased by 2 rigs from a week ago to 158 rigs. The number of oil-directed rigs decreased by 2 rigs from a week ago to 590 rigs. The total rig count, which includes 3 miscellaneous rigs, stands at 751, 62 more rigs than last year at this time.

Excerpted from 

Monthly NYMEX Natural Gas Settle Price: May 2022 - Apr 2023:



Working natural gas in underground storage as of Apr. 7, 2023

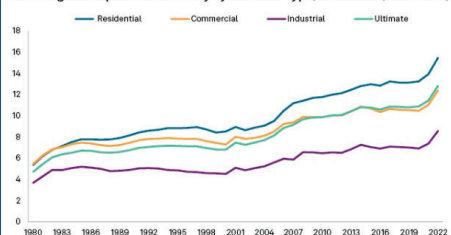


Forward 12-month NYMEX natural gas strip price - May23-Apr24:

Process Load-weighted \$2.897/dth - w/o/w = ▼\$0.103
 Typical Heat Load-weighted \$3.223/dth - w/o/w = ▼\$0.095

US retail electric prices rise by largest factor in more than 4 decades:

US average retail price of electricity by customer type, 1980-2022 (cents/kWh)



The average retail price of electricity per kilowatt-hour (\$/kWh) paid by ultimate customers in the US in 2022 rose 12.1% on a nominal basis to 12.82 cents compared with 11.44 cents in 2021. The observed increase in \$/kWh was acute across residential, commercial and industrial customer classes. The 2022 overall electric price increase at the ultimate customer level followed a 5.1% increase in retail electricity prices in 2021 and a 0.7% increase in 2020. While US dry gas production grew 3.7% in 2022 to average 98.1 Bcf/d, it could not match overall natural gas demand. Increased energy costs are believed to have been the most influential factor in higher electric prices, as the cost of most energy commodities rose in 2021 and again in 2022. Natural gas prices rose in both years as producers struggled to keep pace with growth in gas utilization by multiple industries and swelling LNG export activity. Electric customers in Hawaii paid the highest ultimate prices in the country in 2022, at 40.3 cents/kWh. Other states with high average prices were Massachusetts at 26.2 cents/kWh and California at 24.98 cents/kWh. In 2022, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah had the lowest prices, with the average ultimate customer paying 7.75 cents, 8.57 cents and 8.72 cents, respectively, for each kWh. Electricity prices may incrementally rise in 2023 and 2024, though increases in these years are unlikely to be as sharp as observed for 2022 across residential, commercial and industrial customers. Amplified gas prices in 2021 and 2022 — driven by increased natural gas demand from LNG exports and growing gas use outside the power generation sphere — are likely to slacken in 2023 and 2024 on increased natural gas production. In addition, natural gas prices may fall on increased electricity production from renewable energy resources. Increasing costs for renewable energy projects — from higher raw materials, stretched supply chains and higher transportation expenses — may filter down to retail electric rates, with upticks in retail electric prices expected in 2023 and 2024.

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"Rugby is great. The players don't wear helmets or padding; they just beat the living daylights out of each other and then go for a beer. I love that." -Joe Theismann¹

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¹https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/joe_theismann_313822