

Natural Gas Annual 1998

October 1999

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U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

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Preface

The *Natural Gas Annual* provides information on the supply and disposition of natural gas to a wide audience including Congress, Federal and State agencies, industry analysts, consumers, and educational institutions. The 1998 data are presented in a sequence that follows natural gas (including supplemental supplies) from its production to its end use. This is followed by tables summarizing natural gas supply and disposition from 1994 to 1998 for each Census Division and each State. Annual historical data are shown at the national level.

The data in the *Natural Gas Annual 1998* are taken from surveys conducted by the Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), to fulfill its responsibilities for gathering and reporting energy data. Two EIA surveys provide most of the information presented in this report—the mandatory Form EIA-176, “Annual Report of Natural and Supplemental Gas Supply and Disposition,” and the Form EIA-895, “Monthly Quantity and Value of Natural Gas Report.” Form EIA-176 was submitted by respondents out of an identified universe of operators of fields, wells, or natural gas processing plants who distribute gas to end users or transport gas to or across a State border; operators of synthetic natural gas plants; natural gas distributors; natural gas

pipeline companies; and companies that operate underground natural gas storage facilities. Form EIA-895 was submitted by the appropriate agencies of the 33 natural gas producing States.

Data collected on Form EIA-176 are not proprietary. Selected company-level data are presented in the Consumption section.

Other EIA surveys that provided information for this report are Forms EIA-816, “Monthly Natural Gas Liquids Report,” and EIA-64A, “Annual Report of the Origin of Natural Gas Liquids Production,” for gas processed, plant fuel, and extraction loss data; Form EIA-857, “Monthly Report of Natural Gas Purchases and Deliveries to Consumers,” for data on the city gate prices; Forms EIA-759, “Monthly Power Plant Report,” and FERC-423, “Monthly Report of Cost and Quality of Fuels for Electric Plants,” for data on the quantity and price of natural gas consumed by electric utilities; and Office of Fossil Energy, “Natural Gas Imports and Exports ” for data on the quantity and price of natural gas imports and exports. The EIA report, *U.S. Crude Oil, Natural Gas, and Natural Gas Liquids Reserves, Annual Report*, was the source of the reserves data.

Cautionary Note: Number of Residential Consumers

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects that there may be some double counting in the number of residential users reported for 1998, specifically that some residential customers were reported as both sales and transportation customers.

To collect data for the number of residential consumers, EIA currently surveys companies that deliver gas to consumers. Traditionally, residential customers have obtained the gas commodity, and all services associated with delivering it, from their local distribution company (LDC). The LDC records these customers as sales customers. Customer choice programs allow consumers to select the provider from whom they purchase gas. When customers elect to purchase gas from a provider other than the LDC, the LDC continues to deliver the gas to the household, even though it no longer sells the gas. The LDC records these customers as transportation customers. A residential customer who entered a customer choice program during 1998 would have been classified early in the year as a traditional sales customer and again later in the year as a transportation customer. This double reporting affects the number of residential consumers and the average annual residential consumption per consumer shown in the *Natural Gas Annual*.

To help readers evaluate the problem of double reporting, Table A7 is provided in Appendix A, “Summary of Data Collection Operations and Report Methodology.” It lists residential customers by sales and transportation, known as “deliveries for the account of others,” for 1997 and 1998. Appendix A also includes the survey Form EIA-176, “Annual Report of Natural and Supplemental Gas Supply and Disposition.” Numbers of residential customers are reported on this form for both sales and transportation classifications.

Various customer choice programs, also known as retail unbundling programs, were implemented in many States during 1998. A description of these programs by individual State is on the EIA web site at: www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/natural_gas/restructure/restructure.html.

Some of the data are collected under the authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), an independent commission within the DOE that has jurisdiction primarily in the regulation of electric utilities and the interstate natural gas industry. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the United States Minerals Management Service (MMS) of the Department of the Interior were sources of supplemental information on production, the number of producing gas and gas-condensate wells, and wellhead values. The geographic coverage is the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

All volumes of natural gas in this publication are reported at 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute and 60 degrees Fahrenheit, except where noted. A glossary of terms is provided to assist users in understanding the data presented. A description of the data collection surveys appears in Appendix A. Appendix B describes metric and thermal conversion factors, and Appendix C lists additional natural gas information sources.

The tables of data that appear in this report are available on the Internet. See inside front cover for further details.

Natural Gas Publications and Databases Available Electronically

All of the natural gas publications are available electronically on the EIA website. Certain natural gas data are also provided in database formats on the web site. The table below is a guide to the major natural gas products.

Product	Format	Contents
<u>Publications</u>		
<i>Natural Gas Weekly Market Update</i>	PDF	Analysis of current price, supply, and storage data
<i>Natural Gas Monthly</i>	PDF	Monthly supply, disposition, and price data
<i>Natural Gas Annual</i>	PDF	Annual supply, disposition, and price data
<i>Historical Natural Gas Annual</i>	PDF	Historical annual supply, disposition, and price data from 1930 - 1997
<i>Issues and Trends</i>	PDF	Comprehensive analysis of growth and change in the natural gas industry
<i>U.S. Crude Oil, Natural Gas and Natural Gas Liquids Reserves</i>	PDF	Proved reserves in the United States
<i>Oil and Gas Field Code Master List</i>	PDF	Listing of U.S. oil and gas field names
<u>Databases</u>		
Monthly data	TXT	Tables 1-6, and 9 from the <i>Natural Gas Monthly</i>
Historical monthly data	EXE	Consumption and price data, 1984-1994; 1995-present
Annual data	TXT	Tables from the <i>Natural Gas Annual</i>
Historical annual data	TXT	Tables from the <i>Historical Natural Gas Annual</i>
Field Codes	EXE	Oil & Gas Field Code Master List
<u>Applications</u>		
EIA-176 Query System	EXE	Filings to the Form EIA-176, "Annual Report of Natural and Supplemental Gas Supply and Disposition"
EIAGIS	EXE	Periodic updates for users of the EIAGIS-NG Geographic Information System

PDF files are image files that can be viewed through Adobe Acrobat.

TXT files are ASCII text. They may be replications of published tables, including table titles, column and row identification, or they may be flat files with a minimum of content description suitable for input to spreadsheets or other programs.

EXE files are executables that can be downloaded then opened. Databases are distributed as self-executing Zipped archives which spawn numerous data files and documentation. Applications are distributed as self-executing Zipped archives which initially generate numerous files and then form an application which is installed on the user's PC.

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