

Motor gasoline retail prices: Motor gasoline prices calculated each month by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in conjunction with the construction of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Those prices are collected in 85 urban areas selected to represent all urban consumers-about 80 percent of the total U.S. population. The service stations are selected initially, and on a replacement basis, in such a way that they represent the purchasing habits of the CPI population. Service stations in the current sample include those providing all types of service (i.e., full-, mini-, and self-service).

Motor gasoline (total): For stock level data, a sum including finished motor gasoline stocks plus stocks of motor gasoline blending components but excluding stocks of oxygenates.

MTBE: See **Methyl tertiary butyl ether**.

NAICS (North American Industry Classification System): A coding system developed jointly by the United States, Canada, and Mexico to classify businesses and industries according to the type of economic activity in which they are engaged. NAICS replaces the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. For additional information on NAICS, go to <http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>.

Naphtha: A generic term applied to a refined or partially refined **petroleum** fraction with an approximate boiling range between 122 degrees and 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

Natural Gas: A gaseous mixture of **hydrocarbon** compounds, primarily **methane**, used as a fuel for **electricity generation** and in a variety of ways in buildings, and as raw material input and fuel for industrial processes.

Natural gas, dry: **Natural gas** which remains after: (1) the liquefiable **hydrocarbon** portion has been removed from the gas stream (i.e., gas after lease, field, and/or plant separation); and (2) any volumes of **nonhydrocarbon gases** have been removed where they occur in sufficient quantity to render the gas unmarketable. **Note:** Dry natural gas is also known as consumer-grade natural gas. The parameters for measurement are cubic feet at 60 degrees Fahrenheit and 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute.

Natural gas (dry) production: The process of producing consumer-grade **natural gas**. Natural gas withdrawn from reservoirs is reduced by volumes used at the production (lease) site and by processing losses. Volumes used at the production site include (1) the volume returned to reservoirs in cycling, **repressuring** of oil reservoirs, and conservation operations; and (2) **vented natural gas** and **flared natural gas**. Processing losses include (1) **nonhydrocarbon gases** (e.g., water vapor, carbon dioxide, helium, hydrogen sulfide, and nitrogen) removed from the gas stream; and (2) gas converted to liquid form, such as **lease condensate** and **natural gas plant liquids**. Volumes of dry gas withdrawn from gas storage reservoirs are not considered part of production. Dry natural gas production equals **natural gas marketed production** less **natural gas plant liquids** production.

Natural gas liquids (NGL): A group of **hydrocarbons** including **ethane**, **propane**, **normal butane**, **isobutane**, and **natural gasoline**. Generally include **natural gas plant liquids** and all **liquefied refinery gases** except **olefins**. See **Paraffinic hydrocarbons**.

Natural gas marketed production: Gross withdrawals of **natural gas** from production reservoirs, less gas used for reservoir **repressuring**; **nonhydrocarbon gases** removed in treating and processing operations; and quantities of **vented natural gas** and **flared natural gas**.

Natural gas plant liquids (NGPL): Those **hydrocarbons** in **natural gas** that are separated as liquids at natural gas processing, fractionating, and cycling plants. Products obtained include **ethane**, **liquefied petroleum gases (propane, normal butane and isobutane)**, and **natural gasoline**. Component products may be fractionated or mixed. **Lease condensate** and **plant condensate** are excluded. **Note:** Some EIA publications categorize NGPL production as field production, in accordance with definitions used prior to January 2014.

Natural gas wellhead price: The **wellhead price** of **natural gas** is calculated by dividing the total reported value at the wellhead by the total quantity produced as reported by the appropriate agencies of individual producing states and the U.S. Minerals Management Service. The price includes all costs prior to shipment from the lease, including gathering and compression costs, in addition to state production, severance, and similar charges.