



Independent Statistics & Analysis

U.S. Energy Information
Administration

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LNG exports continue to grow through 2022

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates that, in 2020, the United States exported an average of 7.6 billion cubic feet per day more natural gas than it imported. Because of rising liquefied natural gas and pipeline exports, the United States has been a net exporter of natural gas since the second quarter of 2017. EIA forecasts net natural gas exports will continue to rise, averaging 9.8 billion cubic feet per day in 2021 and 10.7 billion cubic feet per day in 2022.

In its January *Short-Term Energy Outlook*, EIA estimates that the United States exported 9.8 billion cubic feet per day of liquefied natural gas in December, an increase of 0.4 billion cubic feet per day over the previous record set in November 2020. The increase in U.S. LNG exports was driven by rising natural gas prices in Europe and Asia; reduced global supply of LNG resulting from several unplanned outages at LNG export facilities worldwide; and cold weather in key LNG-consuming markets, particularly Asia. U.S. LNG exports are expected to continue to rise through the forecast period, increasing by 30% in 2021 and by 42% in 2022 compared with 2020.

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