



**U.S. Energy Information
Administration**

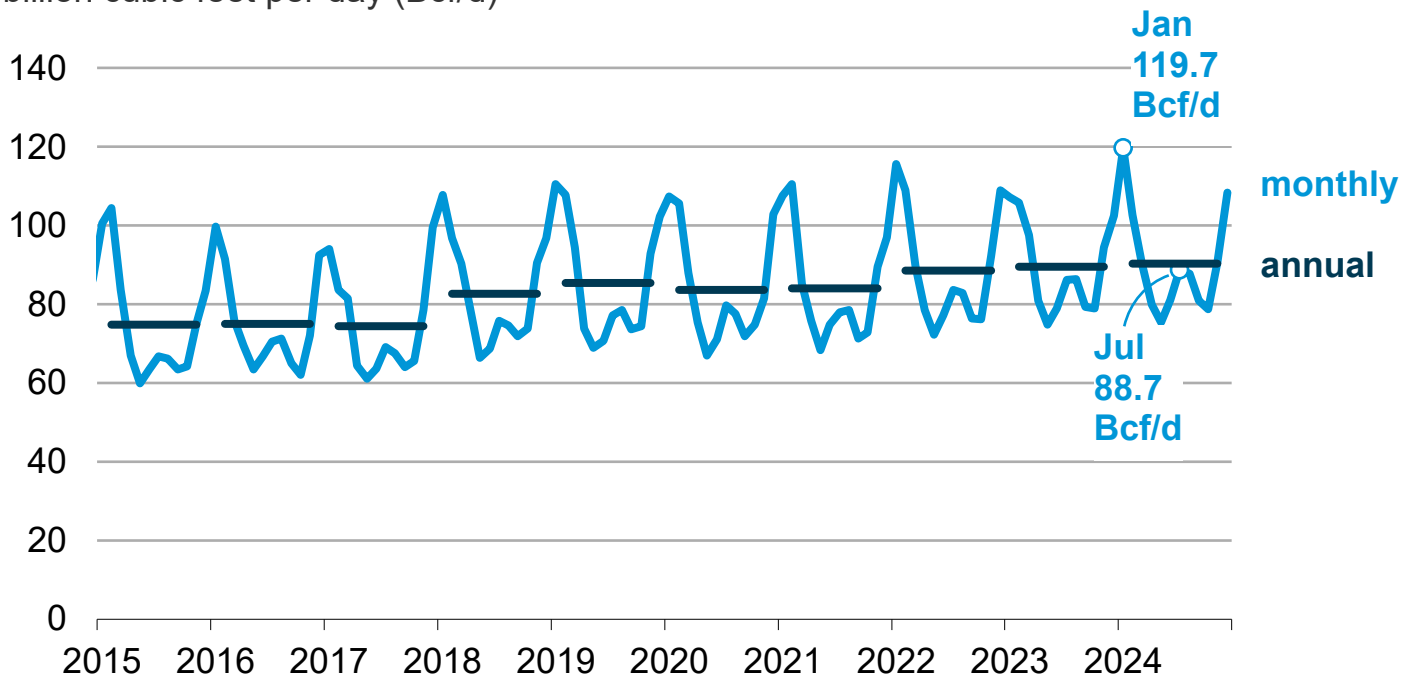
Today in Energy

IN-BRIEF ANALYSIS

March 31, 2025

U.S. natural gas consumption set new winter and summer monthly records in 2024

U.S. natural gas consumption averages (Jan 2015–Dec 2024) billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d)



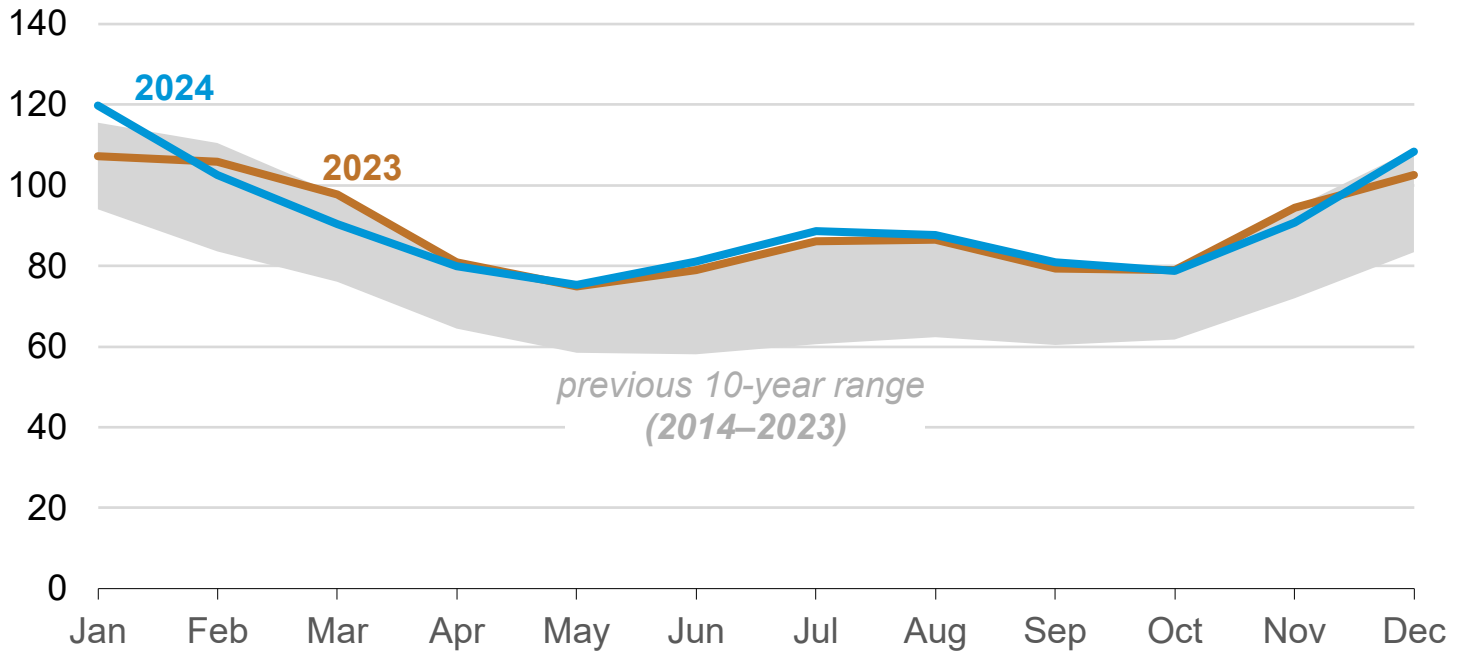
Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, [Natural Gas Monthly](#)

In 2024, U.S. natural gas consumption averaged a record 90.3 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) and set new winter and summer monthly records in January and July, according to data in our [Natural Gas Monthly](#). Overall, U.S. consumption last year increased 1% (0.9 Bcf/d) from 2023. In January, natural gas consumption was up 12% (12.5 Bcf/d) compared with January 2023 consumption, and in July, consumption increased by 3% (2.5 Bcf/d) compared with July 2023.

Weather has a significant effect on natural gas consumption patterns. Natural gas consumption peaks in the United States in [both the winter and summer](#). In winter, the most natural gas is consumed in January or February, when demand for space heating in the residential and commercial sectors peaks. In the summer, electricity generation increases in July and August to meet air-conditioning demand, driving more [natural gas consumption](#).

U.S. monthly natural gas consumption (Jan 2014–Dec 2024)

billion cubic feet per day



Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, [Natural Gas Monthly](#)

Despite the record in January, from February through April 2024, mild weather led to less consumption of natural gas compared with the same months in 2023. In each month from May through September 2024, natural gas consumption surpassed the previous year's monthly records. [Historic low natural gas prices in 2024](#) meant that natural gas was more competitive in the electric power sector, especially compared with coal, contributing to increased use of natural gas for electricity generation.

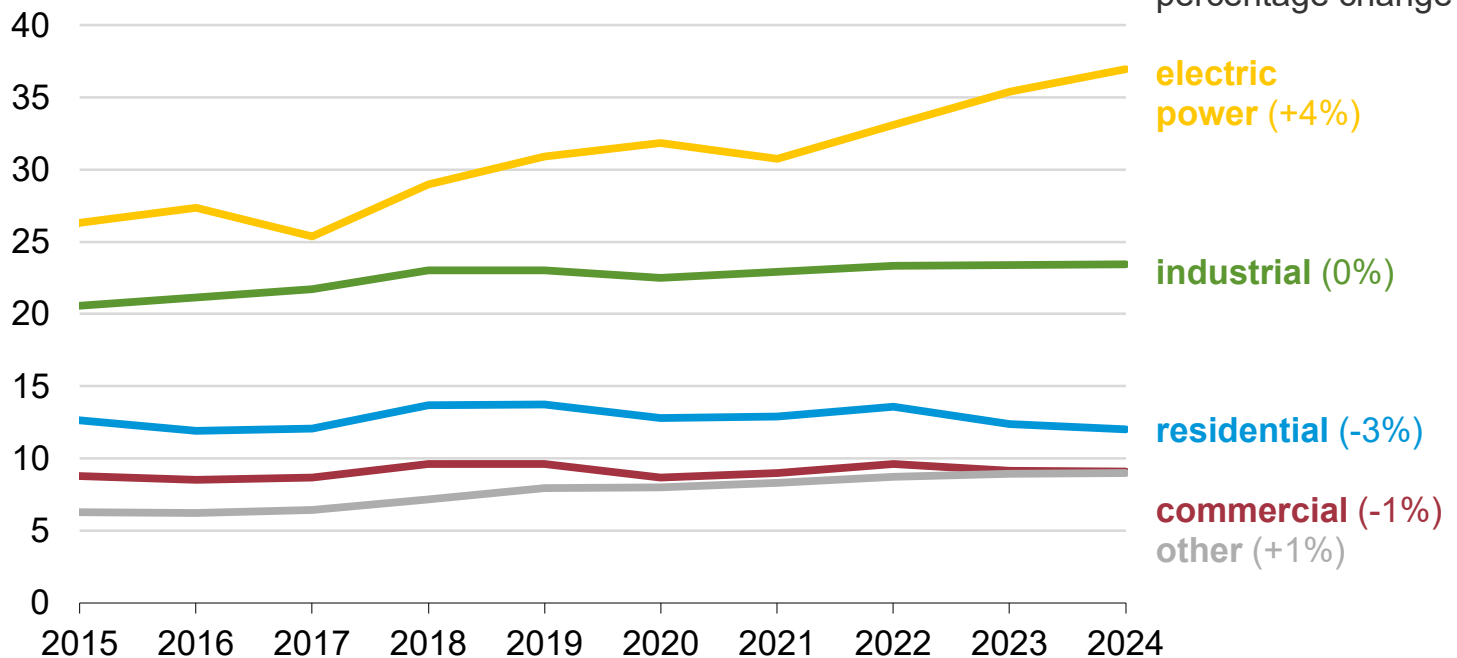
Annual consumption in the combined residential and commercial sectors declined by an average of 2% (0.4 Bcf/d) last year compared with 2023, despite a cold January that resulted in [record-high natural gas consumption](#) in these sectors. Natural gas consumed in the industrial sector held steady from the year before, while consumption in the electric power sector, which accounted for 41% of U.S. natural gas consumption in 2024, increased by 4% (1.6 Bcf/d).

U.S. annual natural gas consumption by sector (2015–2024)

billion cubic feet per day



2023 to 2024
percentage change



Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, [Natural Gas Monthly](#)

Note: Other=natural gas volumes consumed as transportation fuel, as lease and plant fuel, and in pipeline and distribution use

The summer of 2024 (June–August) ranked as [the fourth-warmest on record](#) in the U.S. Lower 48 states, leading to strong demand for air conditioning and resulting in new daily records for [electricity generation in July](#) and [August](#). As a result, natural gas consumption in the electric power sector rose in July and August to be the highest ever recorded for the summer.

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