

Table 25. Heating value of natural gas consumed, by state, 2014-2016
(Btu per cubic foot)

State	2016 11-Month YTD	2015 11-Month YTD	2014 11-Month YTD						2016
				November	October	September	August	July	
Alabama	1,029	1,030	1,024	1,030	1,031	1,032	1,031	1,029	
Alaska	1,001	1,001	1,002	1,000	1,001	1,002	1,003	1,003	
Arizona	1,037	1,038	1,029	1,034	1,031	1,034	1,035	1,031	
Arkansas	1,025	1,029	1,024	1,021	1,018	1,020	1,022	1,021	
California	1,035	1,035	1,028	1,032	1,033	1,037	1,038	1,035	
Colorado	1,063	1,059	1,042	1,063	1,069	1,075	1,074	1,072	
Connecticut	1,026	1,027	1,020	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,025	1,025	
Delaware	1,042	1,050	1,053	1,045	1,046	1,046	1,043	1,044	
District of Columbia	1,043	1,044	1,037	1,040	1,035	1,038	1,038	1,038	
Florida	1,023	1,024	1,021	1,024	1,023	1,026	1,026	1,023	
Georgia	1,030	1,028	1,022	1,030	1,032	1,032	1,029	1,028	
Hawaii	983	980	958	947	952	945	947	967	
Idaho	1,033	1,027	1,026	1,036	1,035	1,035	1,035	1,028	
Illinois	1,031	1,029	1,021	1,031	1,029	1,028	1,030	1,029	
Indiana	1,039	1,036	1,021	1,046	1,048	1,042	1,047	1,035	
Iowa	1,054	1,051	1,038	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,061	1,057	
Kansas	1,036	1,038	1,021	1,039	1,037	1,038	1,039	1,033	
Kentucky	1,032	1,025	1,027	1,039	1,027	1,030	1,038	1,033	
Louisiana	1,033	1,032	1,029	1,022	1,022	1,026	1,028	1,022	
Maine	1,025	1,026	1,028	1,018	1,016	1,019	1,026	1,023	
Maryland	1,051	1,055	1,050	1,045	1,042	1,046	1,051	1,052	
Massachusetts	1,030	1,030	1,031	1,029	1,029	1,029	1,028	1,028	
Michigan	1,041	1,030	1,021	1,048	1,047	1,047	1,052	1,044	
Minnesota	1,040	1,041	1,033	1,033	1,037	1,038	1,036	1,034	
Mississippi	1,032	1,031	1,029	1,037	1,032	1,034	1,031	1,022	
Missouri	1,024	1,023	1,015	1,024	1,024	1,023	1,024	1,022	
Montana	1,030	1,028	1,027	1,039	1,029	1,034	1,033	1,028	
Nebraska	1,055	1,055	1,039	1,063	1,068	1,069	1,073	1,070	
Nevada	1,041	1,043	1,034	1,038	1,039	1,044	1,045	1,044	
New Hampshire	1,029	1,031	1,032	1,027	1,028	1,026	1,026	1,026	
New Jersey	1,040	1,046	1,042	1,040	1,038	1,038	1,039	1,038	
New Mexico	1,048	1,040	1,034	1,040	1,039	1,048	1,055	1,046	
New York	1,031	1,033	1,031	1,031	1,030	1,030	1,029	1,029	
North Carolina	1,036	1,034	1,018	1,034	1,039	1,037	1,035	1,033	
North Dakota	1,057	1,048	1,066	1,075	1,072	1,061	1,090	1,089	
Ohio	1,070	1,066	1,046	1,071	1,072	1,068	1,067	1,068	
Oklahoma	1,049	1,047	1,040	1,050	1,050	1,053	1,051	1,049	
Oregon	1,040	1,037	1,025	1,035	1,038	1,038	1,046	1,045	
Pennsylvania	1,041	1,047	1,047	1,039	1,040	1,041	1,039	1,040	
Rhode Island	1,029	1,028	1,029	1,028	1,030	1,029	1,028	1,028	
South Carolina	1,029	1,030	1,024	1,029	1,031	1,030	1,030	1,029	
South Dakota	1,055	1,050	1,036	1,052	1,053	1,056	1,057	1,060	
Tennessee	1,028	1,026	1,026	1,035	1,028	1,026	1,025	1,025	
Texas	1,031	1,033	1,029	1,028	1,030	1,034	1,035	1,031	
Utah	1,042	1,043	1,041	1,042	1,041	1,041	1,042	1,042	
Vermont	1,025	1,026	1,016	1,022	1,019	1,016	1,017	1,016	
Virginia	1,053	1,053	1,040	1,055	1,052	1,053	1,054	1,054	
Washington	1,079	1,064	1,043	1,083	1,081	1,076	1,085	1,085	
West Virginia	1,089	1,086	1,073	1,083	1,083	1,103	1,109	1,108	
Wisconsin	1,035	1,038	1,032	1,033	1,036	1,029	1,026	1,026	
Wyoming	1,070	1,054	1,042	1,056	1,050	1,054	1,058	1,053	
Total	1,036	1,037	1,030	1,037	1,036	1,037	1,037	1,034	

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 25. Heating value of natural gas consumed, by state, 2014-2016

(Btu per cubic foot) – continued

State	2016						2015	
	June	May	April	March	February	January	Total	December
Alabama	1,026	1,028	1,028	1,030	1,025	1,029	1,030	1,029
Alaska	1,003	1,002	1,001	1,001	1,000	1,000	1,001	1,000
Arizona	1,031	1,037	1,042	1,050	1,047	1,046	1,040	1,044
Arkansas	1,020	1,018	1,019	1,017	1,015	1,019	1,020	1,015
California	1,042	1,021	1,035	1,034	1,036	1,038	1,036	1,037
Colorado	1,071	1,066	1,065	1,055	1,052	1,050	1,060	1,051
Connecticut	1,026	1,025	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,027	1,026
Delaware	1,042	1,042	1,044	1,043	1,050	1,055	1,050	1,049
District of Columbia	1,034	1,035	1,040	1,043	1,049	1,051	1,044	1,044
Florida	1,020	1,021	1,023	1,024	1,025	1,015	1,024	1,023
Georgia	1,027	1,030	1,028	1,030	1,030	1,029	1,027	1,027
Hawaii	1,050	1,018	992	1,003	1,004	998	982	997
Idaho	1,035	1,044	1,056	1,044	1,038	1,034	1,030	1,041
Illinois	1,027	1,032	1,032	1,030	1,031	1,031	1,029	1,030
Indiana	1,042	1,038	1,034	1,032	1,033	1,030	1,027	1,033
Iowa	1,058	1,057	1,053	1,052	1,052	1,053	1,053	1,056
Kansas	1,034	1,032	1,033	1,037	1,036	1,032	1,036	1,031
Kentucky	1,025	1,018	1,026	1,023	1,025	1,027	1,023	1,024
Louisiana	1,023	1,022	1,021	1,022	1,025	1,024	1,025	1,023
Maine	1,023	1,019	1,024	1,030	1,037	1,035	1,027	1,027
Maryland	1,046	1,047	1,048	1,050	1,055	1,061	1,055	1,050
Massachusetts	1,029	1,029	1,029	1,030	1,032	1,031	1,029	1,030
Michigan	1,041	1,038	1,040	1,036	1,038	1,040	1,033	1,040
Minnesota	1,044	1,042	1,041	1,039	1,035	1,043	1,040	1,041
Mississippi	1,030	1,036	1,033	1,039	1,032	1,031	1,030	1,030
Missouri	1,022	1,021	1,024	1,024	1,023	1,024	1,012	1,023
Montana	1,029	1,023	1,023	1,027	1,030	1,033	1,026	1,034
Nebraska	1,064	1,064	1,062	1,048	1,054	1,054	1,057	1,053
Nevada	1,038	1,039	1,042	1,037	1,042	1,043	1,042	1,042
New Hampshire	1,028	1,027	1,029	1,031	1,039	1,035	1,030	1,030
New Jersey	1,037	1,037	1,039	1,042	1,043	1,044	1,045	1,044
New Mexico	1,049	1,052	1,048	1,048	1,048	1,046	1,038	1,046
New York	1,030	1,029	1,033	1,033	1,034	1,033	1,032	1,033
North Carolina	1,034	1,038	1,038	1,037	1,034	1,034	1,035	1,034
North Dakota	1,070	1,091	1,108	1,099	1,095	1,095	1,086	1,112
Ohio	1,069	1,070	1,068	1,070	1,072	1,073	1,068	1,077
Oklahoma	1,046	1,047	1,044	1,048	1,047	1,049	1,047	1,050
Oregon	1,044	1,043	1,038	1,036	1,034	1,033	1,036	1,036
Pennsylvania	1,041	1,042	1,042	1,042	1,045	1,048	1,047	1,046
Rhode Island	1,028	1,029	1,034	1,025	1,027	1,032	1,028	1,028
South Carolina	1,029	1,030	1,031	1,029	1,031	1,031	1,030	1,030
South Dakota	1,058	1,054	1,052	1,053	1,058	1,060	1,054	1,058
Tennessee	1,024	1,031	1,031	1,034	1,035	1,035	1,029	1,034
Texas	1,027	1,029	1,032	1,030	1,028	1,029	1,034	1,030
Utah	1,040	1,041	1,042	1,041	1,043	1,046	1,044	1,046
Vermont	1,025	1,023	1,028	1,030	1,032	1,029	1,025	1,027
Virginia	1,052	1,054	1,052	1,056	1,055	1,055	1,052	1,057
Washington	1,080	1,078	1,078	1,077	1,075	1,070	1,065	1,073
West Virginia	1,118	1,096	1,096	1,096	1,096	1,092	1,097	1,090
Wisconsin	1,033	1,037	1,038	1,038	1,046	1,045	1,042	1,044
Wyoming	1,048	1,053	1,055	1,071	1,052	1,056	1,060	1,054
Total	1,034	1,034	1,037	1,037	1,038	1,038	1,037	1,038

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 25. Heating value of natural gas consumed, by state, 2014-2016
(Btu per cubic foot) – continued

State	2015							
	November	October	September	August	July	June	May	April
Alabama	1,029	1,030	1,030	1,030	1,032	1,032	1,031	1,032
Alaska	1,001	1,001	1,001	1,002	1,002	1,002	1,001	1,002
Arizona	1,041	1,042	1,040	1,038	1,038	1,036	1,038	1,040
Arkansas	1,014	1,029	1,019	1,022	1,023	1,020	1,022	1,025
California	1,037	1,035	1,037	1,037	1,037	1,037	1,033	1,034
Colorado	1,060	1,069	1,076	1,069	1,073	1,070	1,059	1,059
Connecticut	1,027	1,028	1,026	1,026	1,027	1,027	1,049	1,026
Delaware	1,051	1,051	1,043	1,044	1,044	1,055	1,055	1,051
District of Columbia	1,039	1,045	1,035	1,036	1,037	1,040	1,044	1,044
Florida	1,023	1,023	1,024	1,024	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,024
Georgia	1,026	1,028	1,029	1,028	1,030	1,031	1,028	1,026
Hawaii	996	996	989	965	1,011	1,005	990	959
Idaho	1,035	1,033	1,024	1,028	1,034	1,010	1,000	1,023
Illinois	1,030	1,028	1,028	1,027	1,027	1,027	1,029	1,028
Indiana	1,034	1,039	1,041	1,044	1,043	1,043	1,037	1,039
Iowa	1,057	1,058	1,058	1,059	1,059	1,060	1,054	1,051
Kansas	1,035	1,037	1,039	1,042	1,040	1,039	1,044	1,036
Kentucky	1,021	1,024	1,020	1,015	1,024	1,021	1,023	1,016
Louisiana	1,022	1,023	1,023	1,024	1,028	1,027	1,028	1,029
Maine	1,025	1,026	1,019	1,018	1,020	1,020	1,022	1,025
Maryland	1,049	1,053	1,050	1,049	1,055	1,057	1,058	1,051
Massachusetts	1,029	1,028	1,027	1,028	1,029	1,027	1,027	1,029
Michigan	1,041	1,034	1,036	1,035	1,034	1,033	1,028	1,035
Minnesota	1,045	1,041	1,039	1,041	1,043	1,047	1,044	1,037
Mississippi	1,029	1,028	1,031	1,029	1,030	1,030	1,032	1,037
Missouri	1,024	1,025	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,026	1,024	1,026
Montana	1,034	1,032	1,032	1,033	1,031	1,030	1,019	1,021
Nebraska	1,055	1,060	1,068	1,071	1,068	1,063	1,061	1,057
Nevada	1,043	1,043	1,044	1,043	1,044	1,045	1,043	1,043
New Hampshire	1,029	1,029	1,028	1,028	1,027	1,028	1,028	1,029
New Jersey	1,044	1,041	1,041	1,042	1,043	1,043	1,043	1,043
New Mexico	1,042	1,048	1,040	1,049	1,038	1,039	1,038	1,034
New York	1,032	1,032	1,032	1,031	1,031	1,032	1,032	1,034
North Carolina	1,033	1,040	1,038	1,037	1,038	1,033	1,035	1,035
North Dakota	1,097	1,093	1,078	1,095	1,117	1,089	1,084	1,084
Ohio	1,077	1,071	1,071	1,068	1,069	1,068	1,072	1,073
Oklahoma	1,047	1,049	1,049	1,047	1,050	1,049	1,048	1,045
Oregon	1,035	1,036	1,038	1,039	1,039	1,042	1,039	1,035
Pennsylvania	1,046	1,045	1,044	1,044	1,044	1,046	1,050	1,049
Rhode Island	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,029
South Carolina	1,030	1,031	1,031	1,029	1,031	1,030	1,030	1,029
South Dakota	1,053	1,053	1,056	1,060	1,062	1,059	1,054	1,051
Tennessee	1,031	1,032	1,025	1,023	1,027	1,025	1,025	1,027
Texas	1,033	1,036	1,036	1,035	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,034
Utah	1,044	1,044	1,042	1,043	1,043	1,043	1,043	1,049
Vermont	1,027	1,030	1,020	1,019	1,022	1,021	1,021	1,024
Virginia	1,051	1,053	1,055	1,054	1,056	1,055	1,055	1,045
Washington	1,069	1,064	1,066	1,065	1,070	1,069	1,065	1,062
West Virginia	1,114	1,090	1,102	1,099	1,099	1,096	1,107	1,103
Wisconsin	1,043	1,045	1,034	1,040	1,036	1,040	1,038	1,039
Wyoming	1,046	1,040	1,041	1,044	1,042	1,045	1,045	1,043
Total	1,038	1,037	1,037	1,036	1,037	1,037	1,037	1,037

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 25. Heating value of natural gas consumed, by state, 2014-2016

(Btu per cubic foot) – continued

State	2015			2014				
	March	February	January	Total	December	November	October	September
Alabama	1,029	1,026	1,028	1,024	1,028	1,029	1,027	1,029
Alaska	1,001	1,000	1,000	1,001	1,001	1,001	1,001	1,001
Arizona	1,036	1,038	1,038	1,030	1,032	1,032	1,033	1,032
Arkansas	1,023	1,023	1,021	1,017	1,017	1,011	1,018	1,019
California	1,033	1,035	1,034	1,030	1,034	1,035	1,034	1,033
Colorado	1,051	1,044	1,046	1,047	1,051	1,042	1,055	1,050
Connecticut	1,029	1,026	1,017	1,027	1,017	1,018	1,020	1,021
Delaware	1,062	1,061	1,061	1,060	1,064	1,063	1,063	1,062
District of Columbia	1,046	1,047	1,045	1,043	1,043	1,044	1,041	1,039
Florida	1,024	1,025	1,024	1,021	1,025	1,024	1,023	1,024
Georgia	1,025	1,026	1,025	1,020	1,025	1,026	1,026	1,027
Hawaii	947	954	968	959	962	974	968	990
Idaho	1,030	1,037	1,047	1,017	1,039	1,046	1,019	1,005
Illinois	1,029	1,030	1,027	1,023	1,024	1,023	1,021	1,021
Indiana	1,031	1,029	1,028	1,019	1,029	1,025	1,027	1,028
Iowa	1,047	1,047	1,045	1,040	1,045	1,044	1,046	1,044
Kansas	1,035	1,034	1,033	1,024	1,025	1,028	1,025	1,027
Kentucky	1,015	1,018	1,023	1,027	1,019	1,017	1,022	1,038
Louisiana	1,029	1,031	1,030	1,027	1,038	1,037	1,034	1,031
Maine	1,030	1,035	1,033	1,029	1,027	1,025	1,016	1,023
Maryland	1,058	1,061	1,059	1,053	1,057	1,057	1,052	1,049
Massachusetts	1,030	1,035	1,035	1,026	1,028	1,029	1,028	1,029
Michigan	1,030	1,026	1,027	1,019	1,029	1,026	1,023	1,022
Minnesota	1,033	1,034	1,041	1,033	1,040	1,038	1,040	1,046
Mississippi	1,031	1,033	1,036	1,028	1,034	1,035	1,033	1,035
Missouri	1,025	1,020	1,017	1,015	1,017	1,017	1,018	1,017
Montana	1,028	1,029	1,028	1,025	1,030	1,026	1,031	1,040
Nebraska	1,053	1,054	1,052	1,042	1,052	1,049	1,053	1,050
Nevada	1,041	1,040	1,040	1,034	1,037	1,036	1,036	1,033
New Hampshire	1,033	1,041	1,037	1,031	1,030	1,028	1,028	1,027
New Jersey	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,042	1,045	1,044	1,039	1,039
New Mexico	1,034	1,038	1,038	1,034	1,037	1,037	1,039	1,041
New York	1,034	1,035	1,034	1,032	1,033	1,032	1,032	1,031
North Carolina	1,030	1,028	1,030	1,021	1,029	1,028	1,025	1,022
North Dakota	1,072	1,078	1,036	1,086	1,096	1,105	1,100	1,123
Ohio	1,062	1,062	1,065	1,057	1,060	1,057	1,054	1,052
Oklahoma	1,044	1,043	1,042	1,039	1,041	1,041	1,043	1,044
Oregon	1,032	1,031	1,031	1,029	1,028	1,028	1,029	1,033
Pennsylvania	1,049	1,054	1,053	1,048	1,052	1,049	1,044	1,045
Rhode Island	1,029	1,029	1,029	1,028	1,029	1,029	1,030	1,027
South Carolina	1,028	1,028	1,030	1,024	1,029	1,028	1,027	1,028
South Dakota	1,047	1,048	1,048	1,041	1,048	1,048	1,049	1,045
Tennessee	1,029	1,029	1,028	1,027	1,028	1,029	1,027	1,024
Texas	1,029	1,028	1,026	1,031	1,030	1,031	1,033	1,033
Utah	1,047	1,046	1,039	1,040	1,037	1,038	1,041	1,040
Vermont	1,027	1,035	1,026	1,017	1,021	1,019	1,015	1,015
Virginia	1,051	1,053	1,056	1,046	1,054	1,055	1,046	1,038
Washington	1,060	1,054	1,052	1,044	1,050	1,049	1,045	1,046
West Virginia	1,069	1,084	1,097	1,090	1,094	1,077	1,082	1,119
Wisconsin	1,040	1,044	1,042	1,035	1,038	1,035	1,034	1,034
Wyoming	1,042	1,041	1,043	1,040	1,036	1,033	1,030	1,031
Total	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,032	1,035	1,034	1,033	1,033

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 25. Heating value of natural gas consumed, by state, 2014-2016
(Btu per cubic foot) – continued

State	2014							
	August	July	June	May	April	March	February	January
Alabama	1,027	1,026	1,025	1,024	1,021	1,019	1,017	1,018
Alaska	1,001	1,001	1,001	1,001	1,002	1,001	1,004	1,002
Arizona	1,032	1,030	1,028	1,028	1,031	1,026	1,025	1,024
Arkansas	1,021	1,021	1,019	1,017	1,018	1,015	1,015	1,017
California	1,031	1,028	1,028	1,029	1,028	1,024	1,023	1,025
Colorado	1,048	1,048	1,050	1,051	1,041	1,038	1,036	1,030
Connecticut	1,023	1,022	1,022	1,020	1,019	1,016	1,015	1,015
Delaware	1,065	1,063	1,049	1,045	1,051	1,048	1,048	1,052
District of Columbia	1,038	1,038	1,038	1,035	1,038	1,031	1,035	1,041
Florida	1,023	1,022	1,019	1,019	1,019	1,018	1,018	1,018
Georgia	1,023	1,023	1,022	1,021	1,018	1,018	1,018	1,018
Hawaii	978	951	947	947	947	947	946	947
Idaho	996	984	993	1,006	1,022	1,030	1,036	1,048
Illinois	1,020	1,022	1,020	1,020	1,020	1,020	1,020	1,020
Indiana	1,030	1,025	1,023	1,023	1,019	1,019	1,017	1,016
Iowa	1,047	1,043	1,039	1,040	1,036	1,034	1,033	1,034
Kansas	1,025	1,025	1,023	1,022	1,023	1,019	1,017	1,017
Kentucky	1,036	1,034	1,037	1,031	1,028	1,026	1,024	1,029
Louisiana	1,029	1,029	1,025	1,028	1,021	1,018	1,016	1,017
Maine	1,039	1,031	1,030	1,033	1,030	1,030	1,030	1,029
Maryland	1,051	1,051	1,052	1,047	1,049	1,045	1,048	1,053
Massachusetts	1,029	1,030	1,031	1,030	1,030	1,031	1,032	1,035
Michigan	1,028	1,015	1,019	1,020	1,017	1,021	1,021	1,019
Minnesota	1,051	1,042	1,042	1,038	1,034	1,033	1,027	1,031
Mississippi	1,036	1,035	1,034	1,030	1,026	1,019	1,014	1,019
Missouri	1,018	1,016	1,016	1,011	1,014	1,014	1,013	1,013
Montana	1,036	1,038	1,030	1,032	1,027	1,030	1,030	1,034
Nebraska	1,052	1,051	1,047	1,043	1,043	1,037	1,034	1,034
Nevada	1,035	1,033	1,033	1,032	1,034	1,032	1,033	1,033
New Hampshire	1,030	1,033	1,038	1,032	1,031	1,031	1,033	1,037
New Jersey	1,038	1,040	1,037	1,035	1,040	1,045	1,047	1,050
New Mexico	1,046	1,041	1,033	1,030	1,028	1,027	1,029	1,030
New York	1,031	1,031	1,031	1,031	1,031	1,032	1,031	1,032
North Carolina	1,024	1,017	1,014	1,016	1,015	1,017	1,018	1,016
North Dakota	1,106	1,078	1,079	1,083	1,077	1,074	1,084	1,087
Ohio	1,052	1,053	1,048	1,047	1,050	1,041	1,042	1,044
Oklahoma	1,042	1,042	1,043	1,040	1,037	1,039	1,036	1,036
Oregon	1,035	1,029	1,044	1,041	1,034	1,010	1,012	1,013
Pennsylvania	1,046	1,046	1,044	1,044	1,046	1,048	1,050	1,052
Rhode Island	1,029	1,029	1,023	1,028	1,030	1,031	1,032	1,031
South Carolina	1,024	1,022	1,023	1,022	1,022	1,022	1,021	1,022
South Dakota	1,045	1,039	1,041	1,039	1,036	1,035	1,034	1,034
Tennessee	1,020	1,032	1,031	1,032	1,027	1,021	1,020	1,020
Texas	1,036	1,033	1,032	1,029	1,026	1,028	1,022	1,027
Utah	1,040	1,038	1,036	1,038	1,044	1,045	1,044	1,044
Vermont	1,018	1,011	1,031	1,026	1,014	1,015	1,009	1,013
Virginia	1,040	1,041	1,040	1,038	1,041	1,039	1,040	1,044
Washington	1,047	1,049	1,050	1,045	1,042	1,041	1,037	1,035
West Virginia	1,106	1,099	1,095	1,094	1,111	1,065	1,073	1,073
Wisconsin	1,034	1,029	1,032	1,033	1,032	1,035	1,033	1,031
Wyoming	1,031	1,025	1,026	1,029	1,031	1,030	1,032	1,034
Total	1,033	1,032	1,030	1,030	1,029	1,029	1,028	1,029

Notes: Geographic coverage is the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Heating value is the average number of British thermal units (Btu) per cubic foot of natural gas as reported on Form EIA-857. See Appendix A, Explanatory Note 11, for further information.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA): Form EIA-857, "Monthly Report of Natural Gas Purchases and Deliveries to Consumers."