

energy

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Featured Article
Energy-Efficient Building
Design for the Louisiana
Capitol Complex: Overview
of the Process & Results



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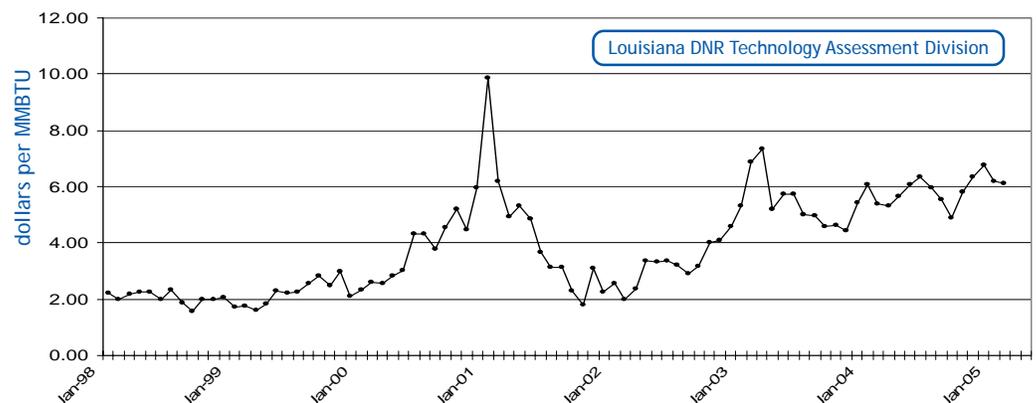
Highlights MARCH 2005

Despite high inventories in storage, natural gas prices have increased 11% since mid-February to \$6.72 MMBTU, a 68 cents per MMBTU increase. As of February 25, 2005, natural gas in storage was 1,613 BCF, which is 28.5% above the 5-year average, according to the Department of Energy/Energy Information Administration's *Natural Gas Weekly Update*. High natural gas prices are caused by the elevated prices in the petroleum sector and continued cold weather forecasts. The price of natural gas is expected to stay above \$5 per MMBTU through the summer months due to bullish oil prices and demand from the utility sector as the economy improves.

Data

Louisiana Natural Gas Average Spot Prices (Dollars per MMBTU)

Month	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	% Change	
						03/04	04/05
January	9.84	2.56	5.33	6.07	6.18		1.79%
February	6.19	1.98	6.89	5.38	6.10		13.47%
March	4.94	2.36	7.35	5.32		-27.69%	
April	5.32	3.35	5.19	5.67		9.16%	
May	4.84	3.31	5.74	6.10		6.13%	
June	3.69	3.35	5.73	6.33		10.35%	
July	3.13	3.21	5.02	5.94		18.50%	
August	3.13	2.91	4.95	5.55		12.06%	
September	2.28	3.18	4.60	4.91		6.72%	
October	1.78	4.03	4.62	5.80		25.54%	
November	3.09	4.08	4.44	6.33		42.57%	
December	2.26	4.58	5.41	6.76		24.98%	
Year Average	4.21	3.24	5.44	5.85	6.14		



Current Oil & Gas Data

Louisiana DNR Technology Assessment Division

PRODUCTION	SEP 04	AUG 04	JUL 04	SEP 03
Louisiana Federal Offshore (OCS)				
Crude Oil & Condensate ^C (MMB)	37	40	43	43
Natural Gas & Casinghead ^C (BCF)	234	265 ²	261	269 ²
United States Total				
Crude Oil & Condensate ^C (MMB)	153	164	168	170
Natural Gas & Casinghead ^C (BCF)	1,496	1,604	1,573	1,568 ²
Imports				
U.S. Crude Oil ^C (MMB)	290	324	319	312
U.S. Natural Gas ^C (BCF)	324	350	359	326 ²
Baker Hughes Rig Counts				
U.S. Gas ^A	1,073	1,063	1,041	936
U.S. Oil ^A	166	170	170	154
U.S. Offshore ^A	92	95	98	109
U.S. Total ^A	1,240	1,234	1,213	1,093
PRICES				
Crude Oil (\$/barrel)				
OPEC Average ^C (F.O.B.)	40.69	37.57	35.28	23.79 ²
U.S. Imports Average ^C (F.O.B.)	38.86	37.33	34.92	24.10
U.S. Wellhead Average ^C	40.63	40.10	36.54	25.23
Gulf OCS Wellhead Average ^C	40.81	39.39	36.43	26.80
State Severance Wellhead Average ^E	41.24	39.51	37.09	30.25
Natural Gas (\$/MCF)				
U.S. City Gates Average ^C	6.07	6.46	6.68	5.58 ²
U.S. Imports Average ^C (F.O.B.)	4.98	5.48	5.85	4.67 ²
U.S. Wellhead Average ^C	4.86	5.36	5.60	4.58
State Royalty Wellhead Average	5.12	5.95	6.31	5.20 ²
NYMEX Henry Hub End of the Month	5.20	6.05	6.14	4.93
Settle Gas Price B (\$/MMBTU)				

Note from the Editors

Louisiana Energy Facts is published monthly by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Technology Assessment Division as a public service to individuals interested in Louisiana energy activities. Content includes recent oil, gas and other energy statistics and a brief analysis of current trends.

Louisiana Energy Facts articles provide insight and information on subjects of special interest to our readers, and may announce relevant, forthcoming publications.

These documents are available on the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Technology Assessment Division home page:

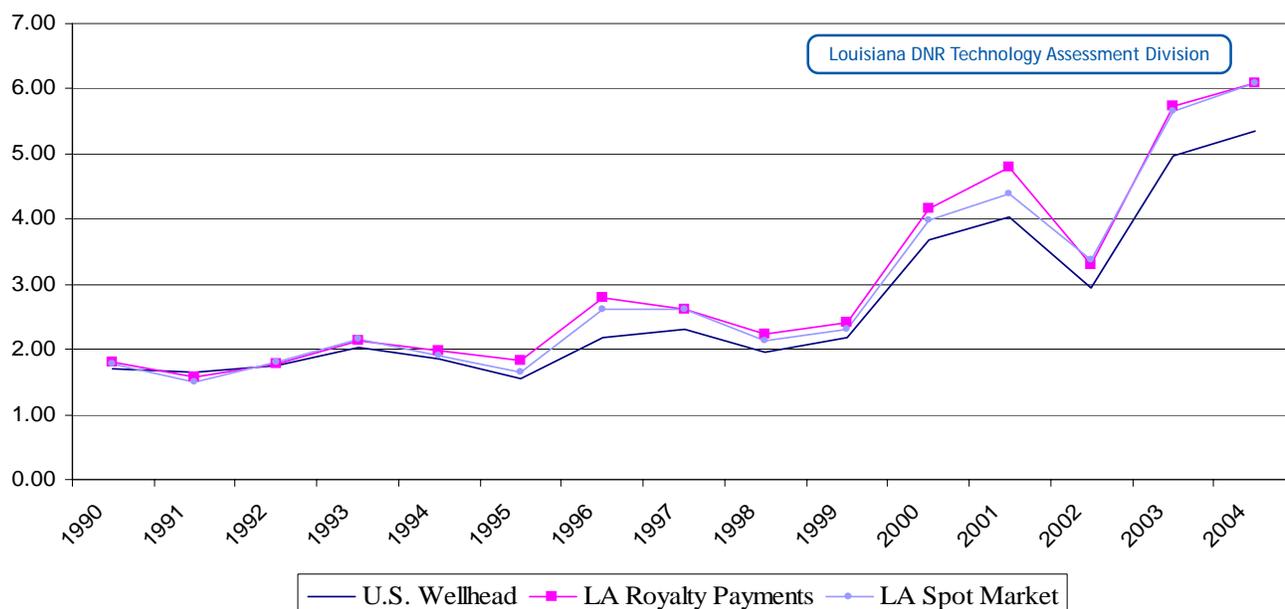
<http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/tad>. From the menu, select **Energy Data & Reports**; choose **Louisiana Energy Facts Newsletter**. Our current online holdings are available through 1998. If the issue you are seeking is unavailable, please contact us.

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Natural Gas Average Prices 1990-2004

Louisiana DNR Technology Assessment Division



KEY

- 1** Estimated
- 2** Revised
- BCF** Billion Cubic Feet
- BTU** British Thermal Unit
- F.O.B.** Free on Board
- MCF** Thousand Cubic Feet
- MMB** Million Barrels
- OCS** Outer Continental Shelf
- N/A** Not Available

DATA SOURCES

- A** Oil & Gas Journal
- B** Wall Street Journal
- C** U.S. Dept. of Energy
- D** Natural Gas Week
- E** LA Dept of Revenue & Taxation

Note: Unless otherwise specified, data is from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and excludes Federal OCS.

UNITED STATES

Year	Wellhead ^C	Foreign Imports ^C	City Gate ^C
1990	1.71	1.94	3.03
1991	1.64	1.83	2.90
1992	1.74	1.85	3.01
1993	2.04	2.03	3.21
1994	1.85	1.87	3.07
1995	1.55	1.49	2.78
1996	2.17	1.97	3.27
1997	2.32	2.15	3.66
1998	1.96	1.97	3.07
1999	2.19	2.23	3.10
2000	3.69	3.88	4.62
2001	4.02	4.36	5.24
2002	2.95	3.14	4.10
2003	4.98 ²	5.18 ²	5.84 ²
2004 ¹	5.36	5.62	6.41

LOUISIANA

Royalty Payments	Spot Market ^D
1.79 ²	1.77
1.57	1.50
1.77	1.80
2.14	2.15
1.98	1.91
1.82	1.65
2.78	2.60
2.62	2.60
2.22	2.14
2.42	2.31
4.16	3.98
4.80	4.38
3.30 ²	3.37
5.74 ²	5.66
6.09	6.08

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Louisiana DNR Technology Assessment Division

SPOT MARKET PRICES

	Feb 05	Jan 05	Feb 04
Louisiana Natural Gas ^D (\$/MMBTU)	6.10	6.18 ²	5.38
NYMEX Henry Hub Last Settle Gas Price ^B (\$/MMBTU)	6.29	6.21	5.78
Louisiana Sweet Crude - St. James ^B (\$/Barrel)	47.61	46.60 ²	34.46

BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS

	Jan 05	Dec 04	Jan 04
North Louisiana ^A	39	40	35
South Louisiana Inland Waters ^A	21	20	17
South Louisiana Inland ^A	26	28	24
Louisiana State Offshore	4	4	3
Louisiana Federal OCS Offshore	73	77	78
Total Louisiana ^A (OCS included)	163	169	157

PRODUCTION (State Jurisdiction Only)

	Jan 05	Dec 04	Jan 04
Louisiana Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	6.9	6.8	7.2 ²
Louisiana Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	107.4	108.0	109.2 ²

DRILLING PERMITS (State Jurisdiction Only)

	Jan 05	Dec 04	Jan 04
Total Louisiana Oil and Gas	171	134	109
Louisiana Wildcats	10	4	11
Louisiana Offshore (Wildcats included)	7	5	4