

# Natural Gas Industry Fundamentals and Outlook

October 24, 2024



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# AGA Team



**Richard Meyer**  
Vice President,  
Energy Markets,  
Analysis & Standards



**Liz Pardue**  
Director,  
Economic &  
Regulatory Analysis



**Lauren Scott**  
Market & Regulatory  
Analyst



**Brendan O'Brien**  
Director,  
Energy Analysis

# State of Play



## **Growing Demand**

Industrial reshoring, growing electric power requirements, and new consumers



## **Lower Prices**

Return to historical natural gas pricing trends



## **Exports poised to climb**

New LNG export terminals and infrastructure to serve them



## **Cost-Effective**

Lower commodity prices have translated to lower natural gas consumer bills

# What We'll Cover



1. Review of Market Fundamentals
2. Gas Utility Planning and Readiness
3. End-Use Consumer Analysis

# Review of Market Fundamentals

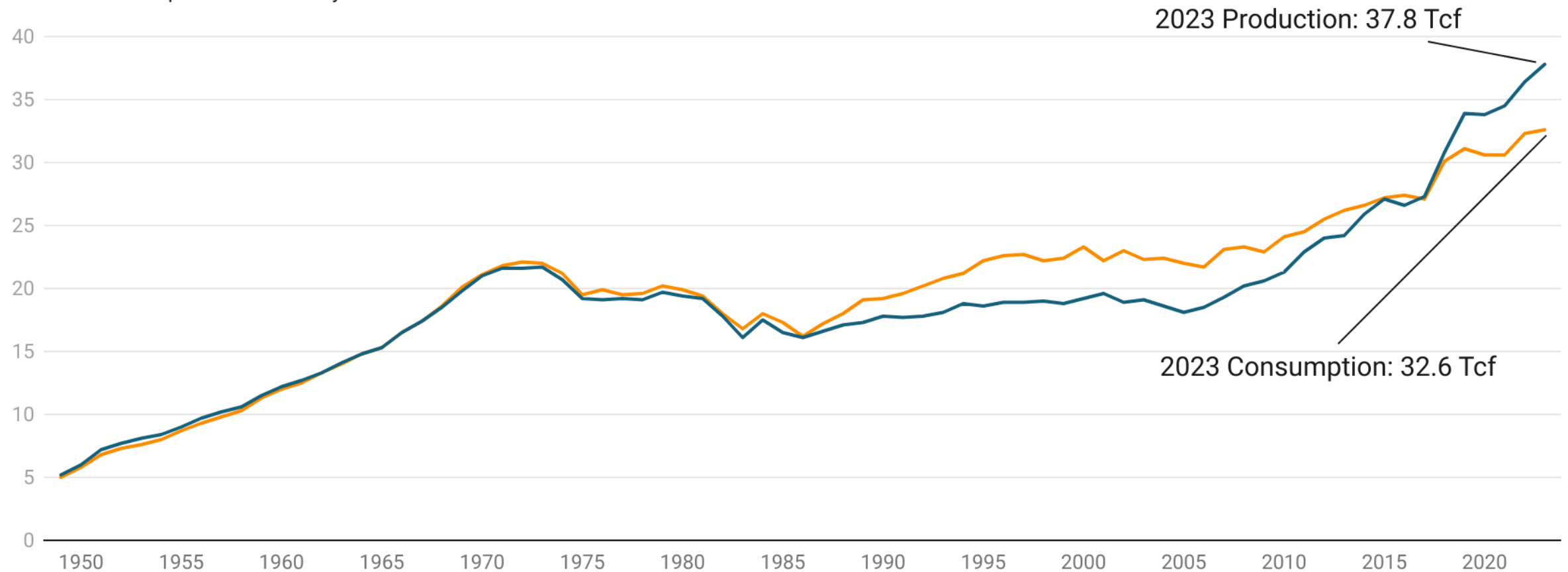


# The U.S. natural gas market set new records last year

## Annual U.S. Natural Gas Production and Consumption 1949 – 2023

Trillion cubic feet

— Total Consumption — Total Dry Production

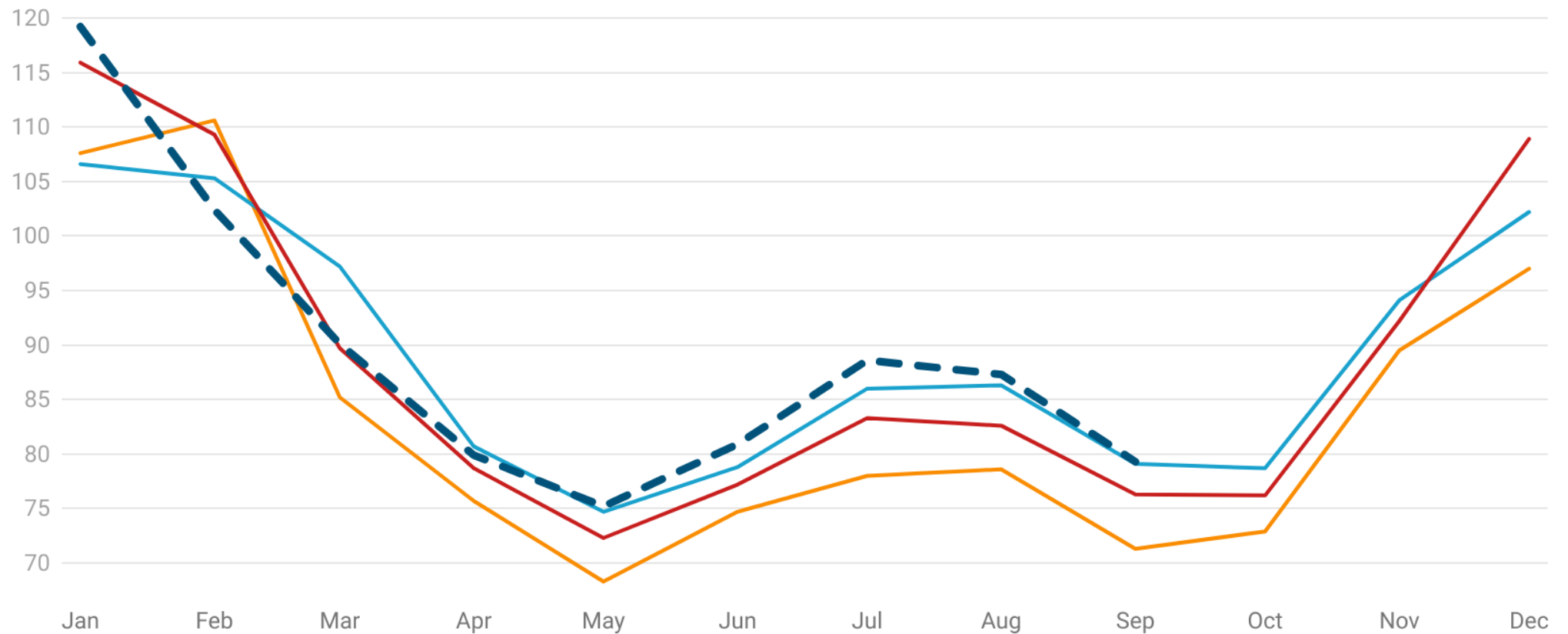


# Natural gas demand is on pace to set another record in 2024

## Monthly U.S. Natural Gas Consumption

Billion cubic feet per day

— 2021 — 2022 — 2023 — 2024





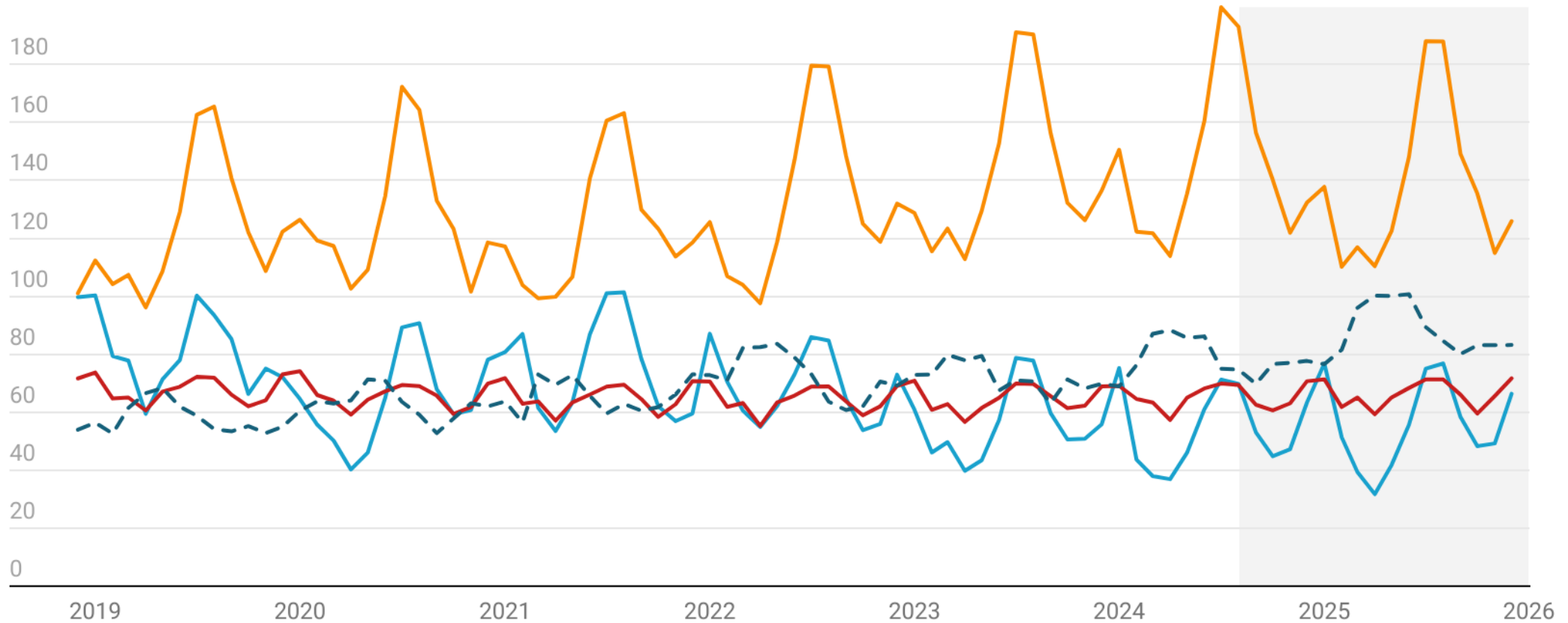
# Natural Gas remains the leading fuel source for electricity generation

## Monthly U.S. Electricity Generation by Top Energy Sources

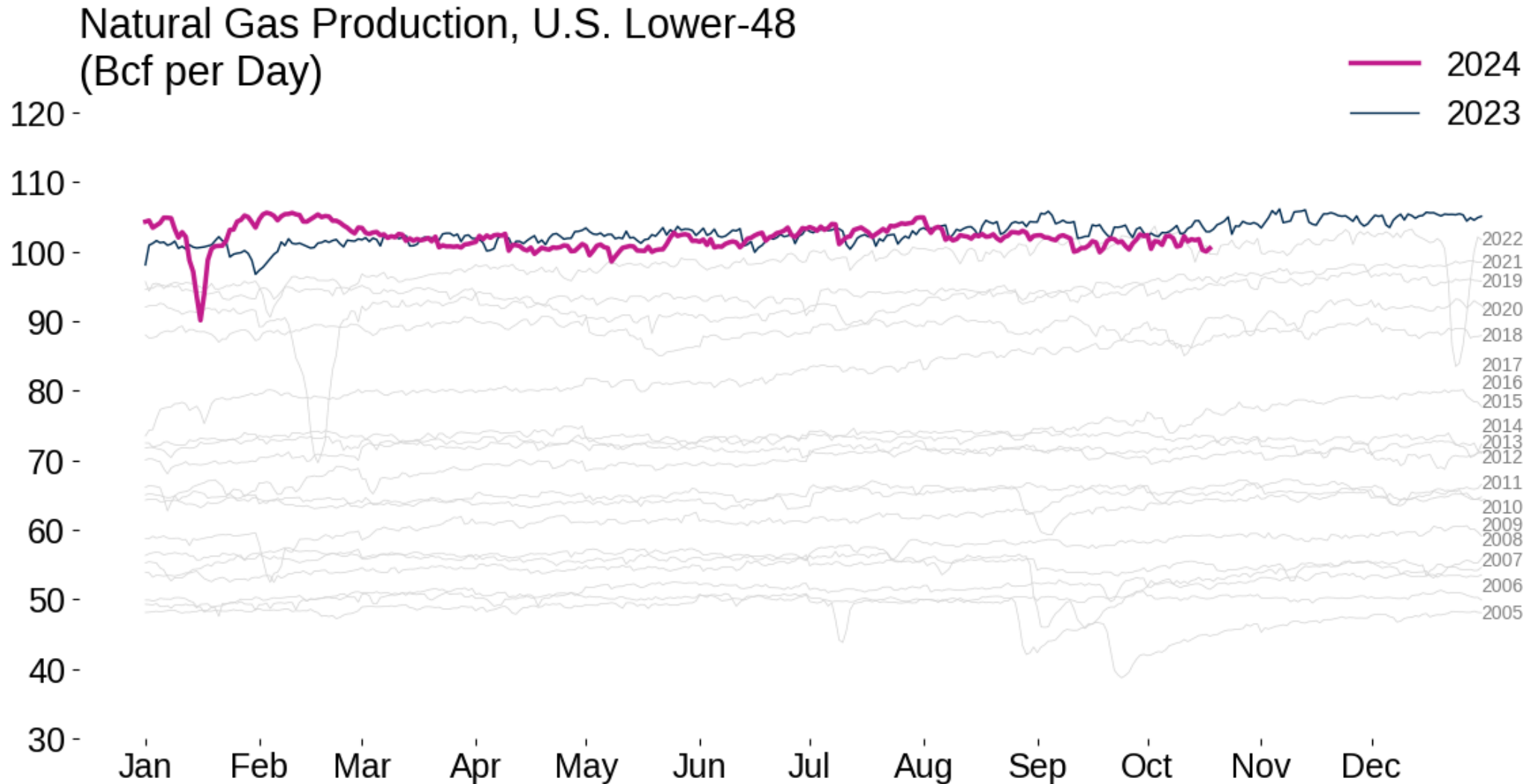
billion kilowatthours

— Coal — Natural Gas — Nuclear - - Renewables

Record high, August 2024



# Natural gas production declined beginning in March with operator pullbacks and curtailments in response to low prices

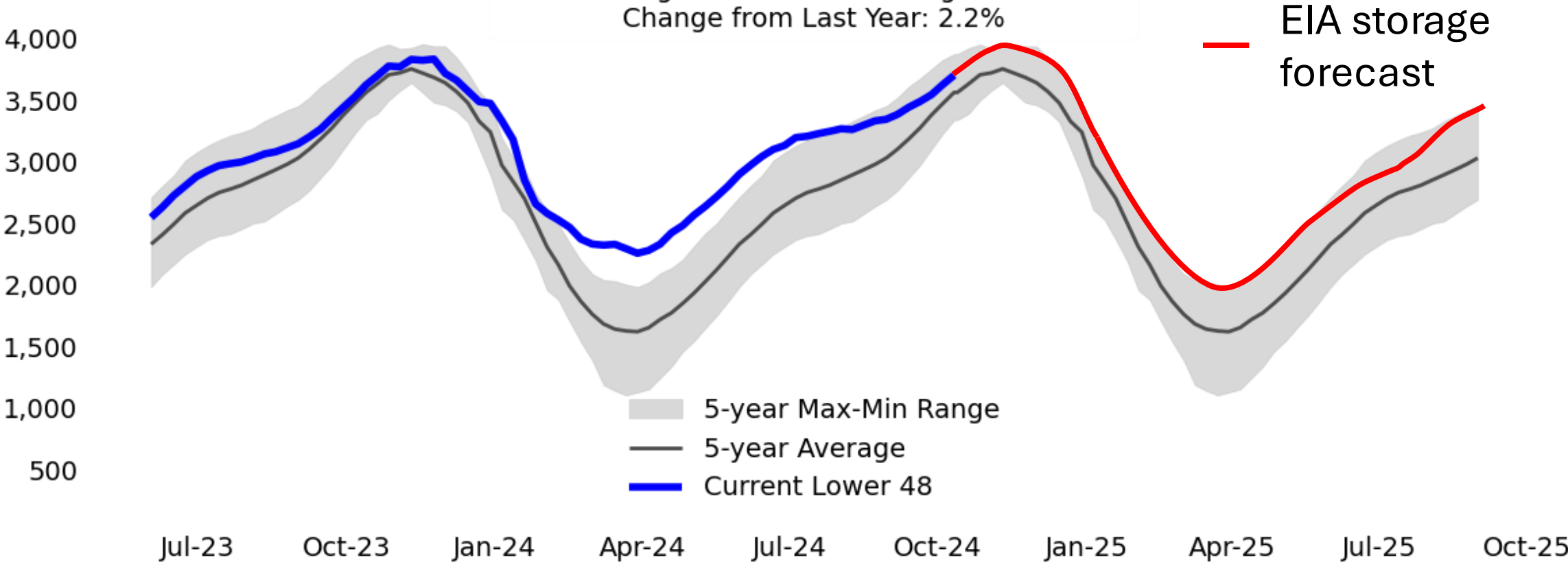


Source: S&P Global Commodity Insights, ©2024 by S&P Global Inc., Chart: American Gas Association, Data as of Oct 17, 2024, Subject to Revision

# Storage inventories remain above the five-year average even as storage injections slowed this summer

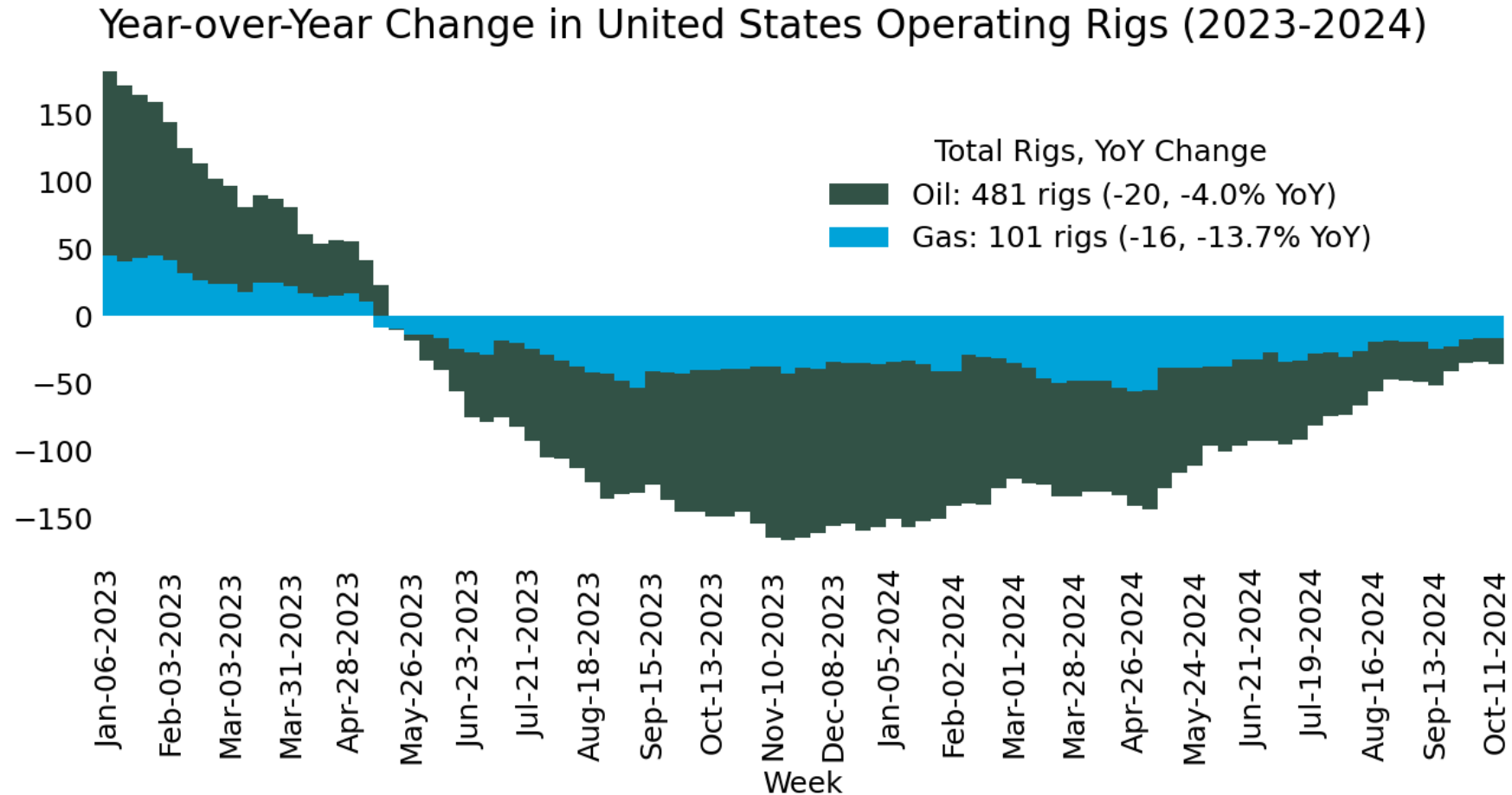
## U.S. Working Gas in Underground Storage Compared with the Five-Year Minimum and Maximum (Billion cubic feet)

Current Working Inventories: 3,705 BCF  
Net Change, Week Ending Oct 11, 2024: 76 BCF  
Change from the 5-Year Avg: 3.9%  
Change from Last Year: 2.2%



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

# U.S. drilling rig count remained steady around 580 rigs since mid-summer, is down year over year



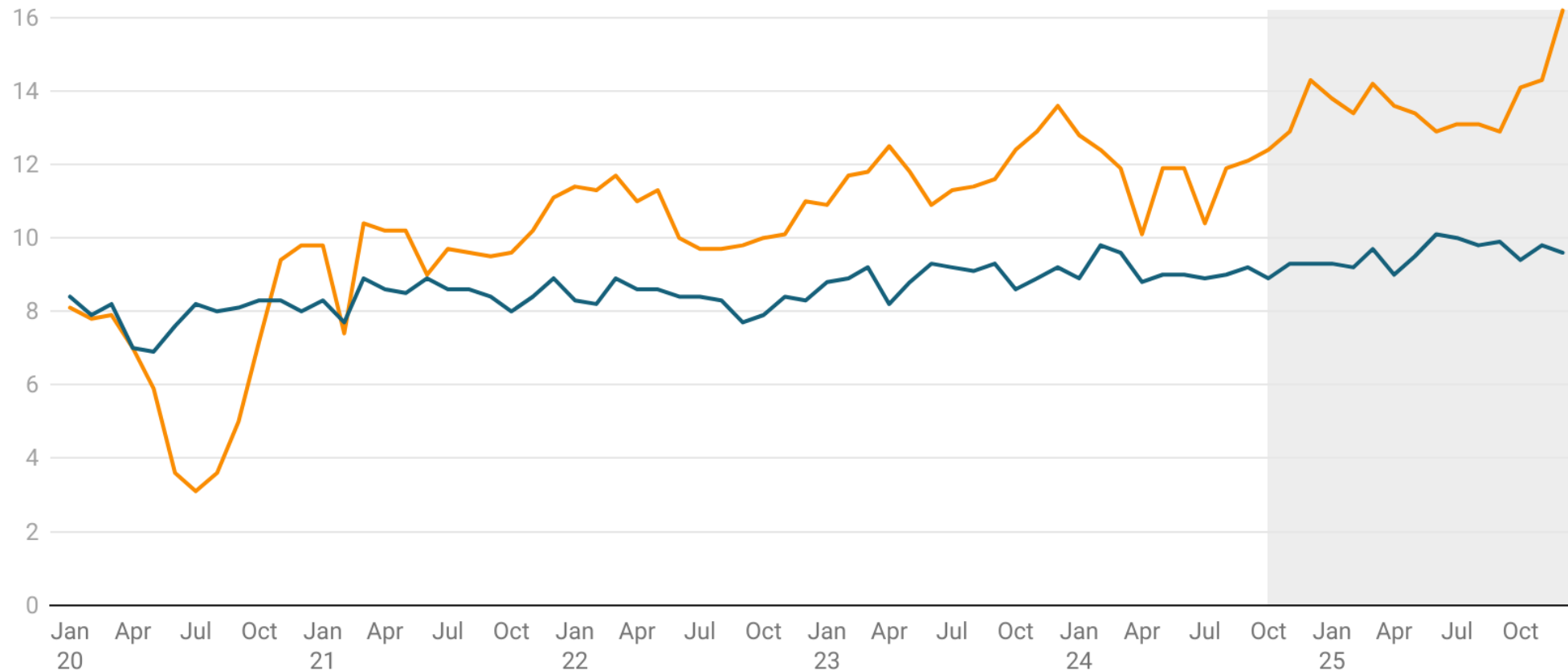
# LNG export demand expected to grow as new facilities come online.

## Monthly U.S. Gross Natural Gas Exports

Billion cubic feet per day

— LNG Exports (gross) — Pipeline Exports (gross)

LNG exports  
expected to average  
13.8 Bcf/d in 2025



# Demand growth is expected to exceed supply in 2024 & 2025

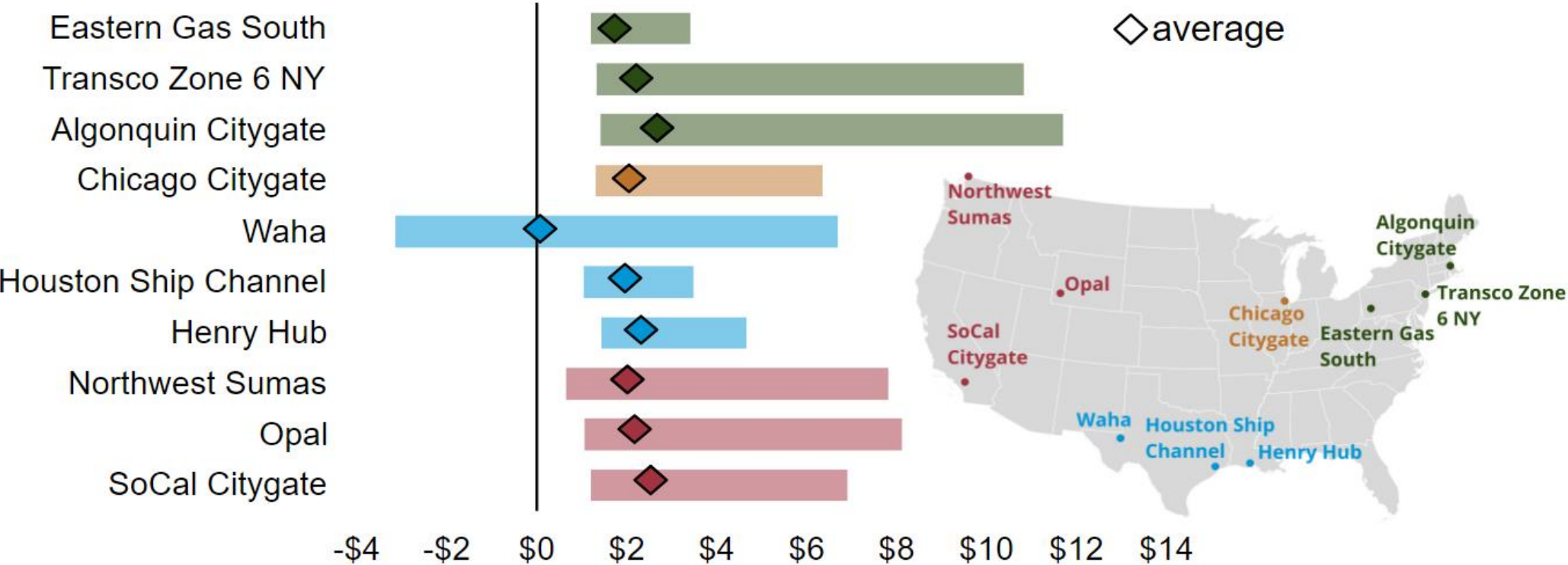
## Natural Gas Balances (Bcf per Day)

	Forecast			
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Dry Gas Production	99.6	103.8	103.5	104.6
LNG Net Exports	10.5	11.9	12.0	13.7
Pipeline Net Exports	0.1	0.9	0.9	1.7
Total Consumption	88.5	89.1	90.1	89.1
Dec. Working Gas Inventories (Bcf)	2,925	3,457	3,285	3,230
Net Inventory Change	-0.8	1.5	-0.5	-0.2

*Short-Term  
Energy  
Outlook,  
Energy  
Information  
Administration  
October 2024*

# Natural gas market prices vary across the country, with higher and lower pricing often a function of infrastructure constraints

Range of natural gas spot prices at key pricing hubs (Jan 1–Sep 30, 2024)  
seven-day moving average in \$/MMBtu

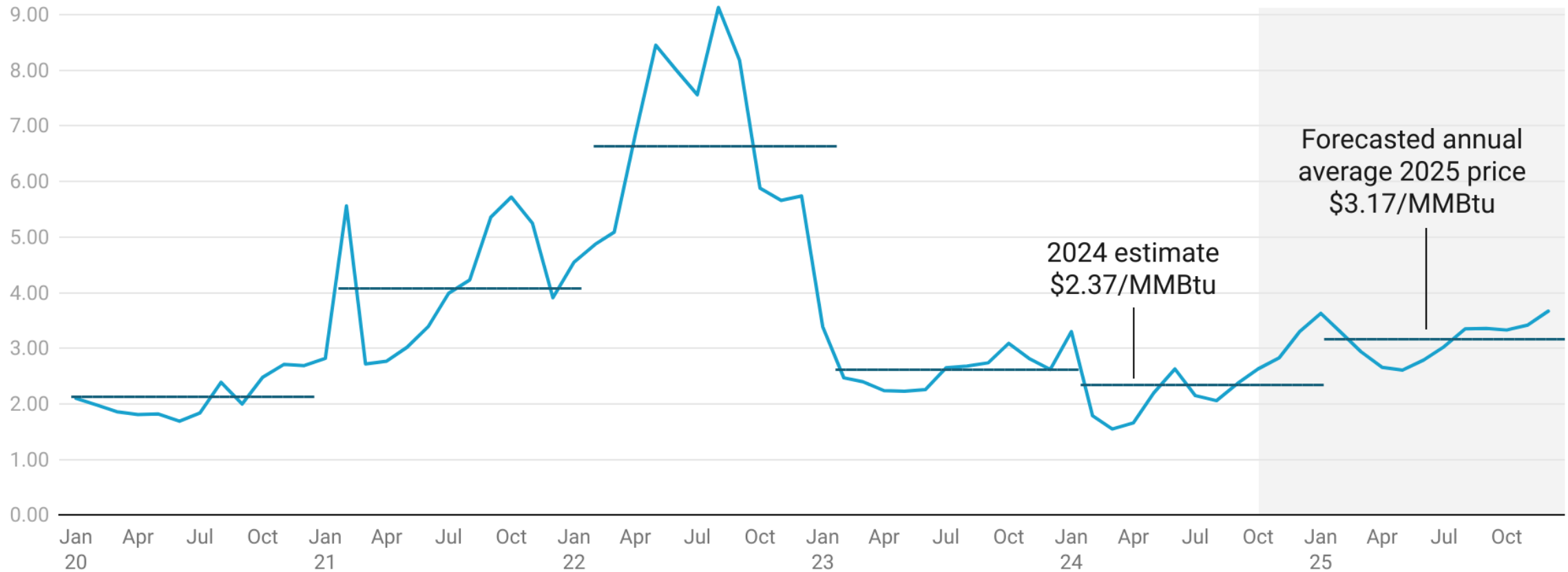


# Average Henry Hub spot prices expected to soften in 2024, projected to increase 34% in 2025

## Monthly Henry Hub Spot Price 2020 – 2025

Dollars per million Btu

— Henry Hub Spot Price





# Gas Utility Planning and Readiness



# Each year local natural gas utilities develop robust plans to reliably and cost-effectively meet customer needs

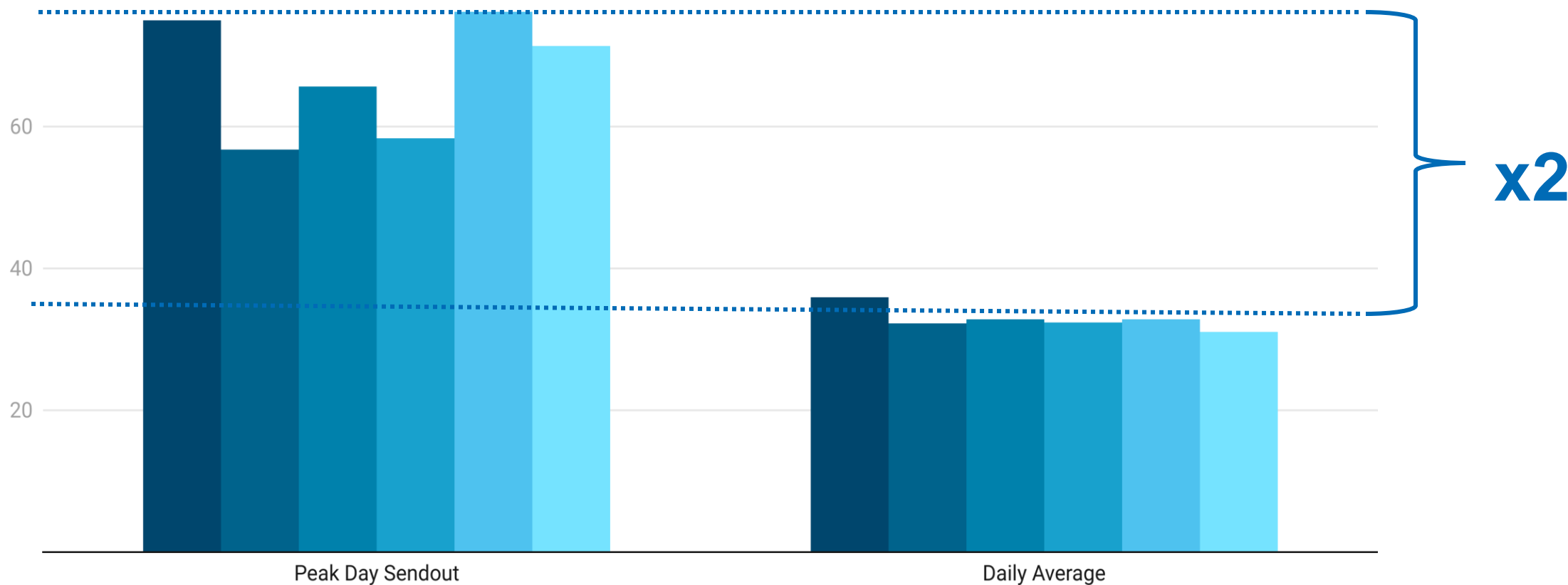
- AGA surveyed natural gas utilities to understand supply portfolio practices for 2022-2023 winter heating season
  - Total utility respondents: 37
  - Gross utility WHS peak day volume: 26.5 Bcf
  - Total WHS utility sales customers: 23 million

# Natural gas utilities plan and prepare to meet peak energy requirements. Peak natural gas demand is typically **double** the seasonal average

## U.S. Winter Heating Season Residential & Commercial Demand

Bcf

2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24

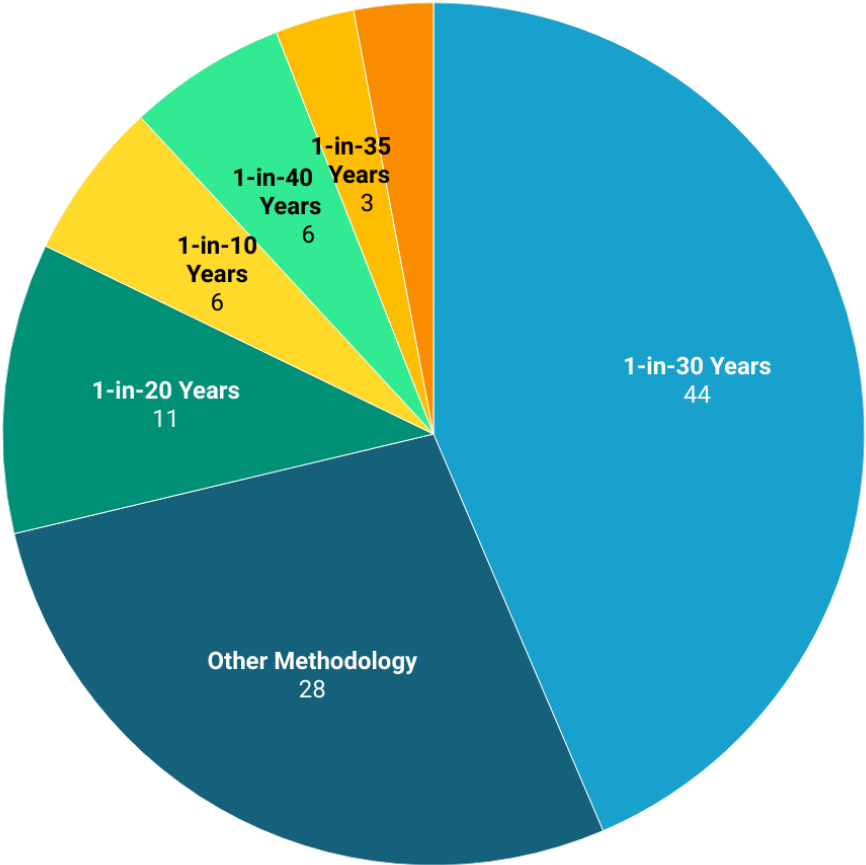


# Gas utilities apply specific methods for determining a design day temperature calculation, which influences the construct of their gas supply portfolio

## Design Day Methodology

Percent of Total Companies

1-in-30 Years    Other Methodology    1-in-20 Years    1-in-10 Years    1-in-40 Years  
1-in-35 Years    Other Time Period



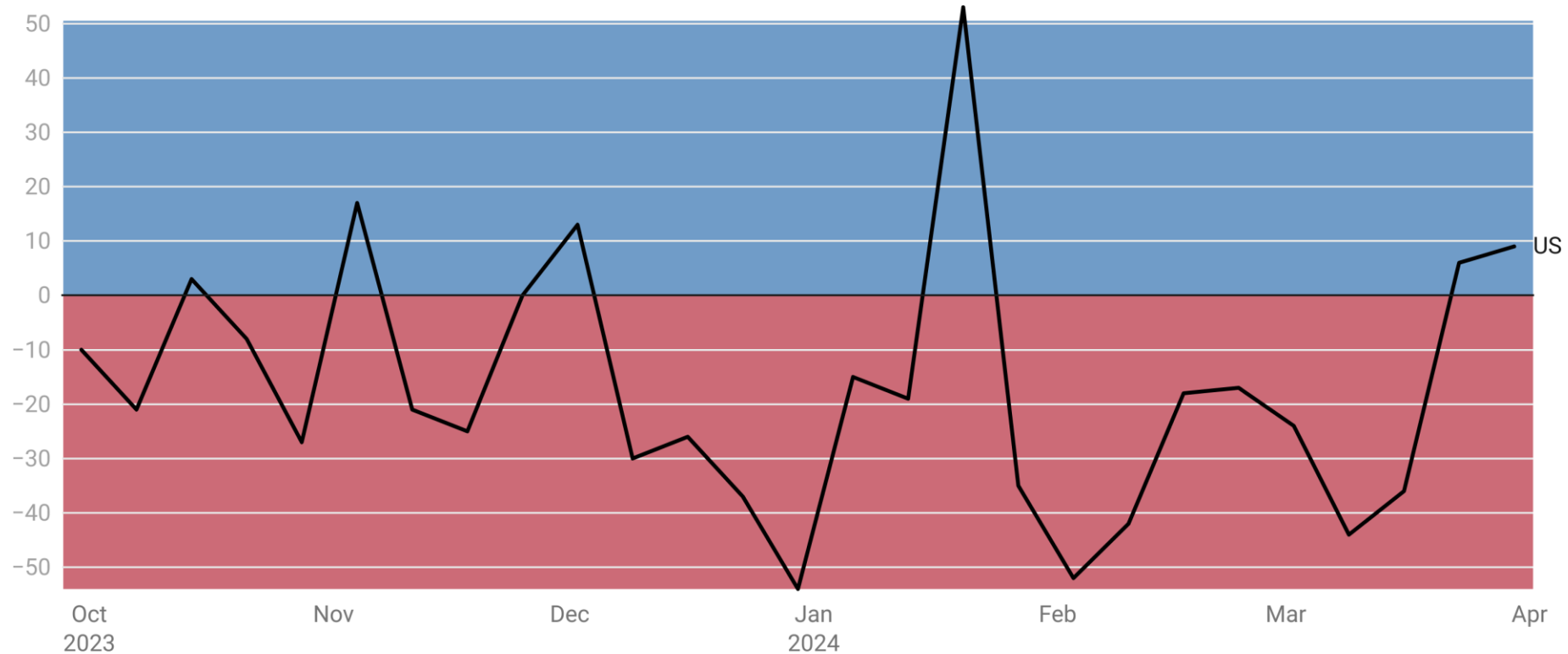
American Gas Association  
*AGA Winter Heating Season Performance Survey 2022-23*



# 'Milder winter' may still include extreme cold events

## Heating Degree Days National Weekly Summary

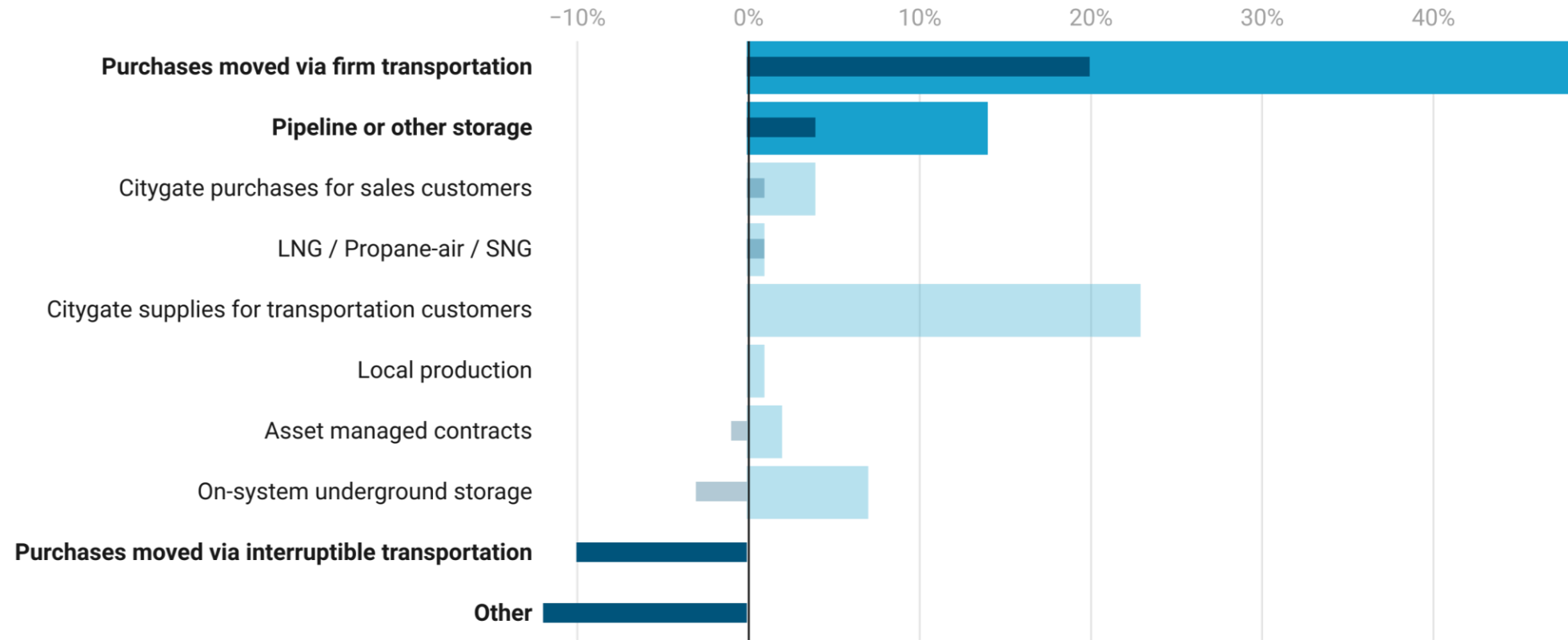
Deviation from 30-year Normal



# Local gas utilities build and manage a portfolio of supply, storage, and transportation services to meet requirements

## Aggregate Peak Month Gas Supply

■ Percent of Total Supply  
■ Net Percentage Point Change from Prior Survey



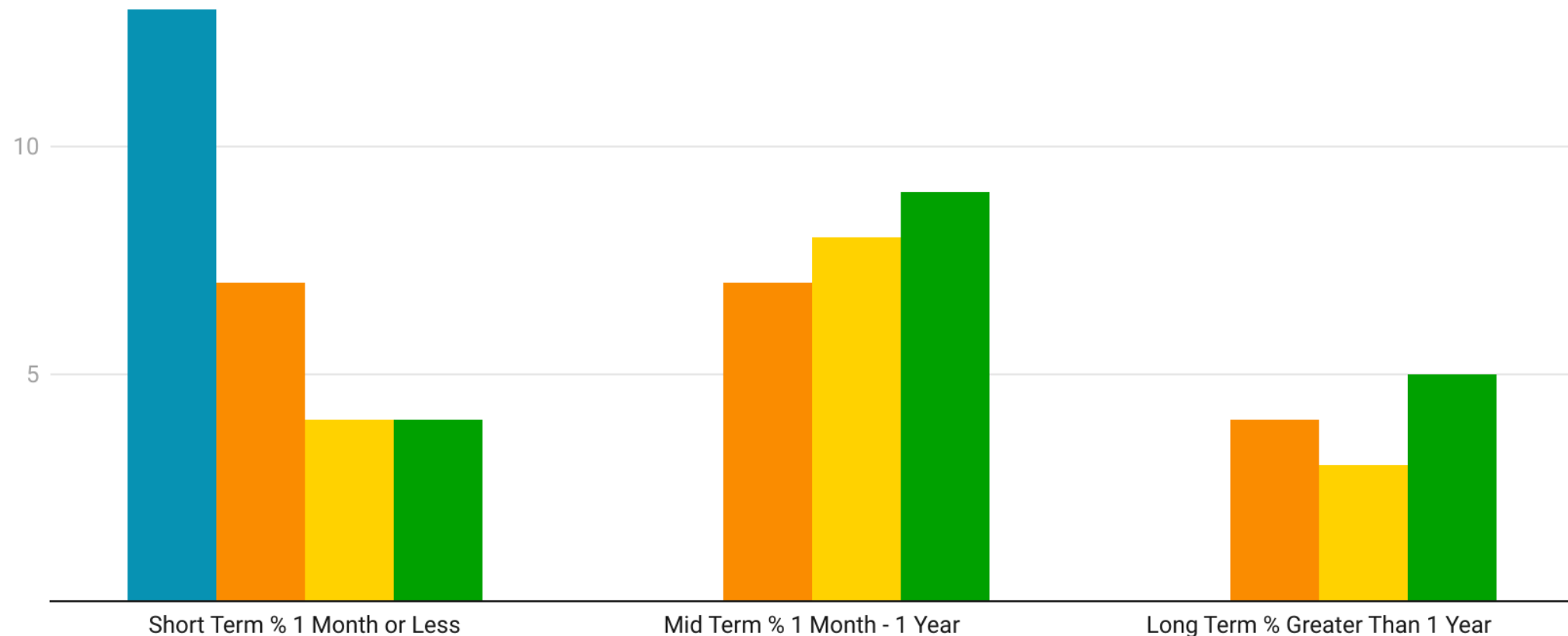
AGA Winter Heating Season Performance Survey 2021-22 & 2022-23  
Note: 'Other' category includes supply sources such as linepack, transporter imbalances, and off-system displacement

# Gas utilities use a range of financial tools including term contracts to secure gas supplies

## Gas Supply Contracts by Supply Volume Range

Number of Companies

1 - 25% 26 - 50% 51 - 75% 76 - 100%



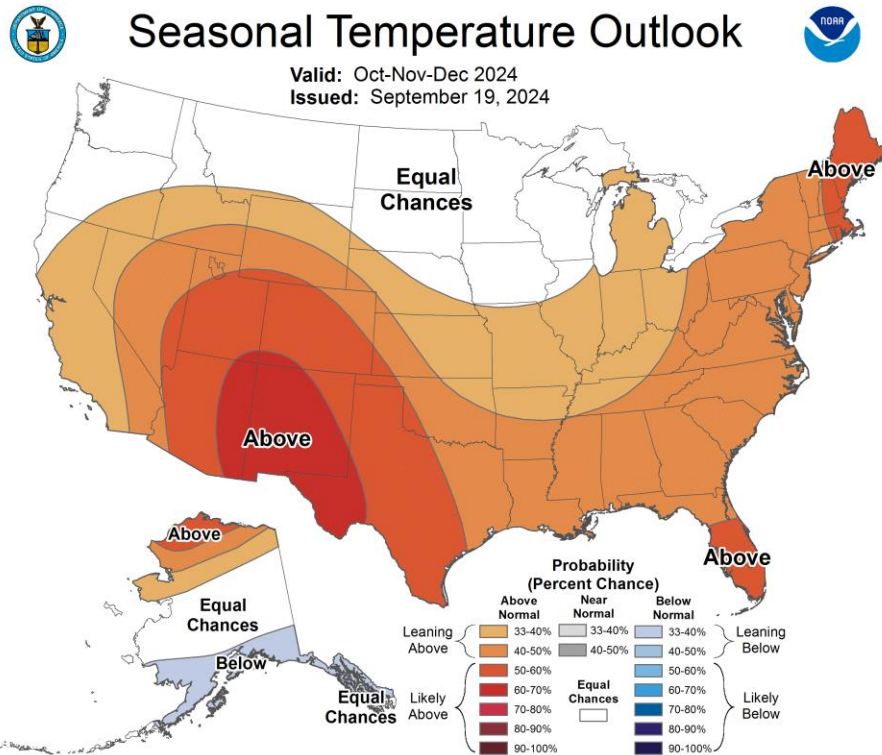
# End-Use Consumer Analysis



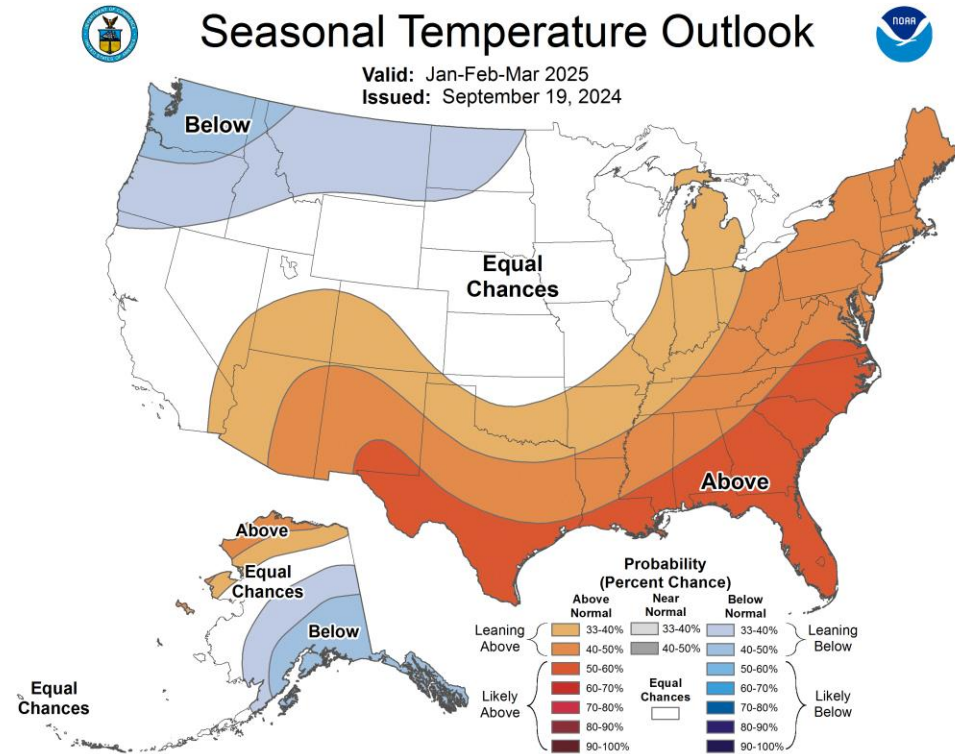


# “La Niña” weather pattern will shape the 2024-2025 winter, which may drive higher heating demand

## NOAA Forecast October-December



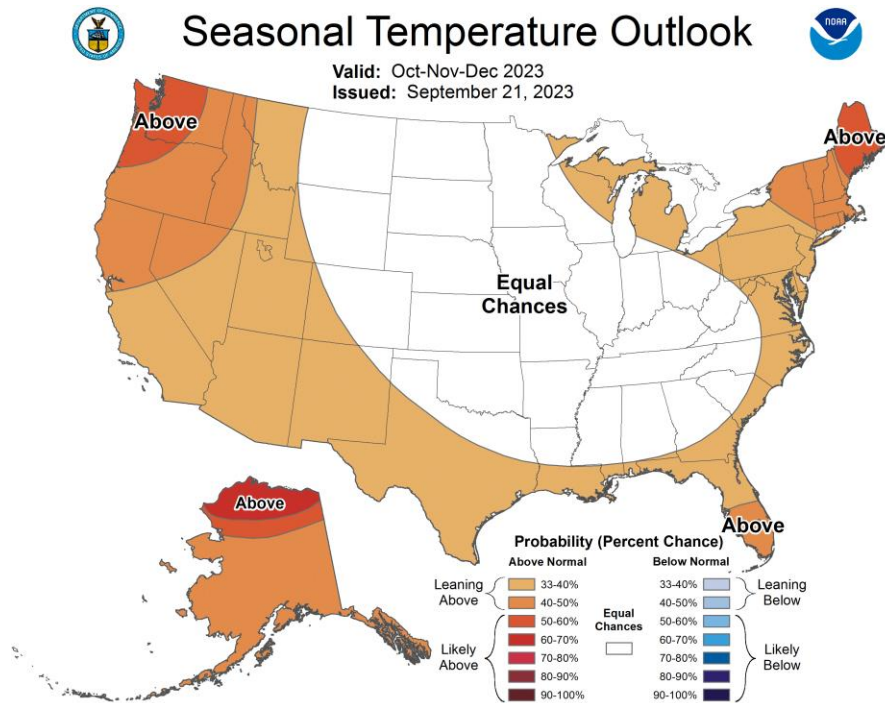
## NOAA Forecast January-March



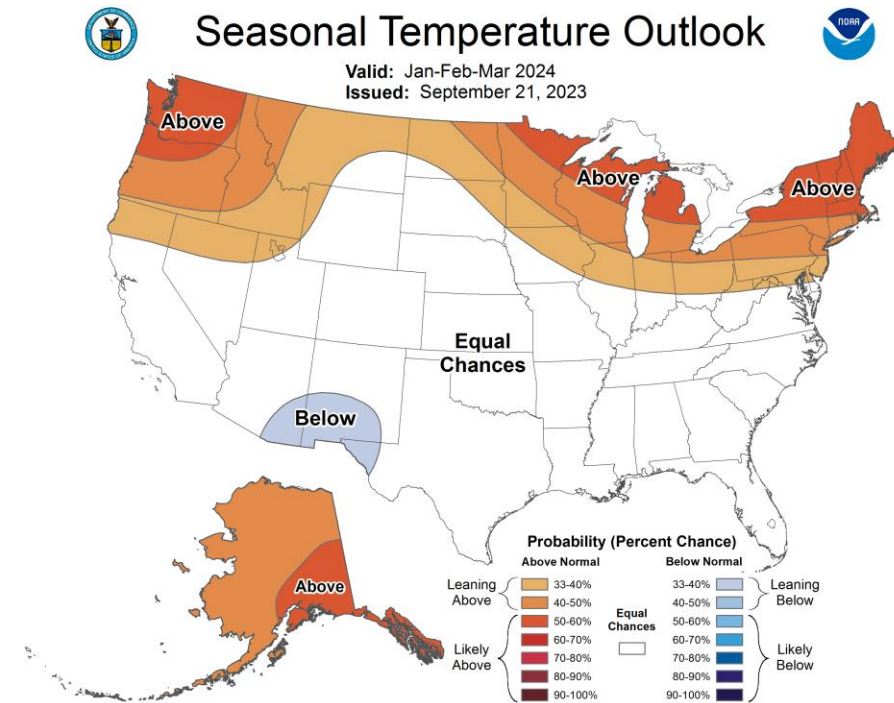
Source: National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

# This contrasts with last winter's "El Niño" which generally brought lower heating demand

## NOAA Forecast October-December



## NOAA Forecast January-March

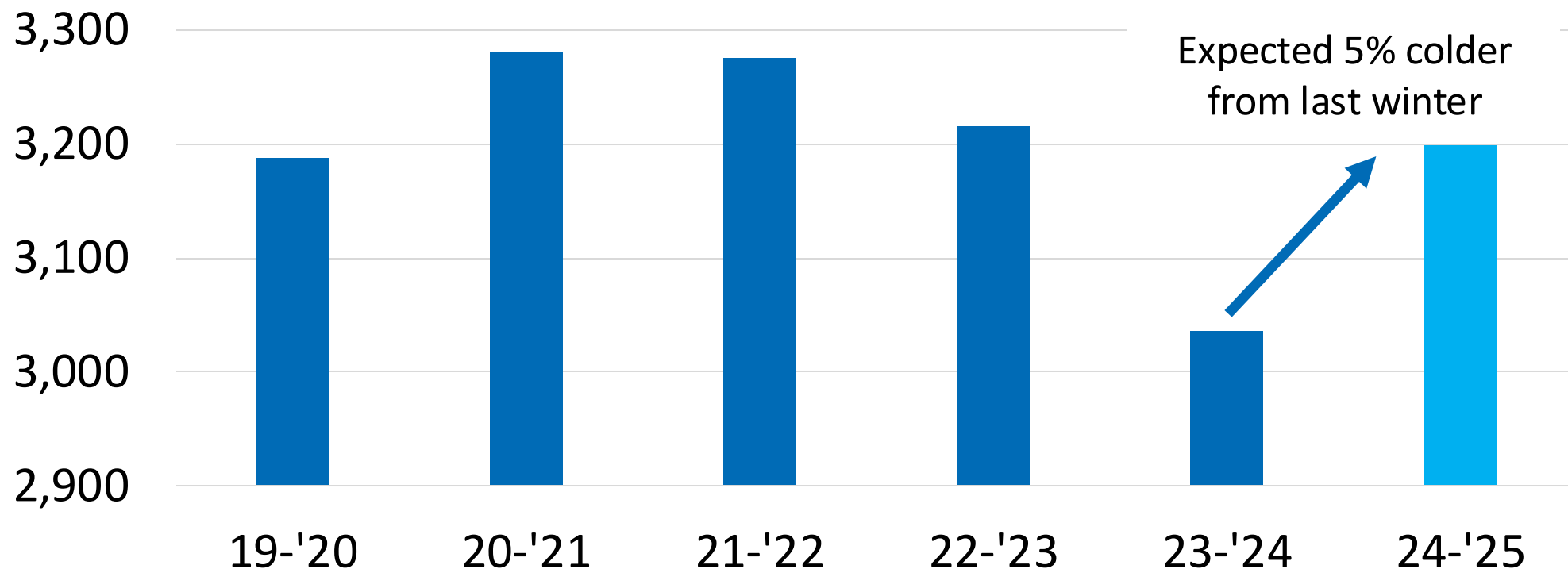


# NOAA forecasted 2024-2025 winter temperatures expected to be 5% colder than last year

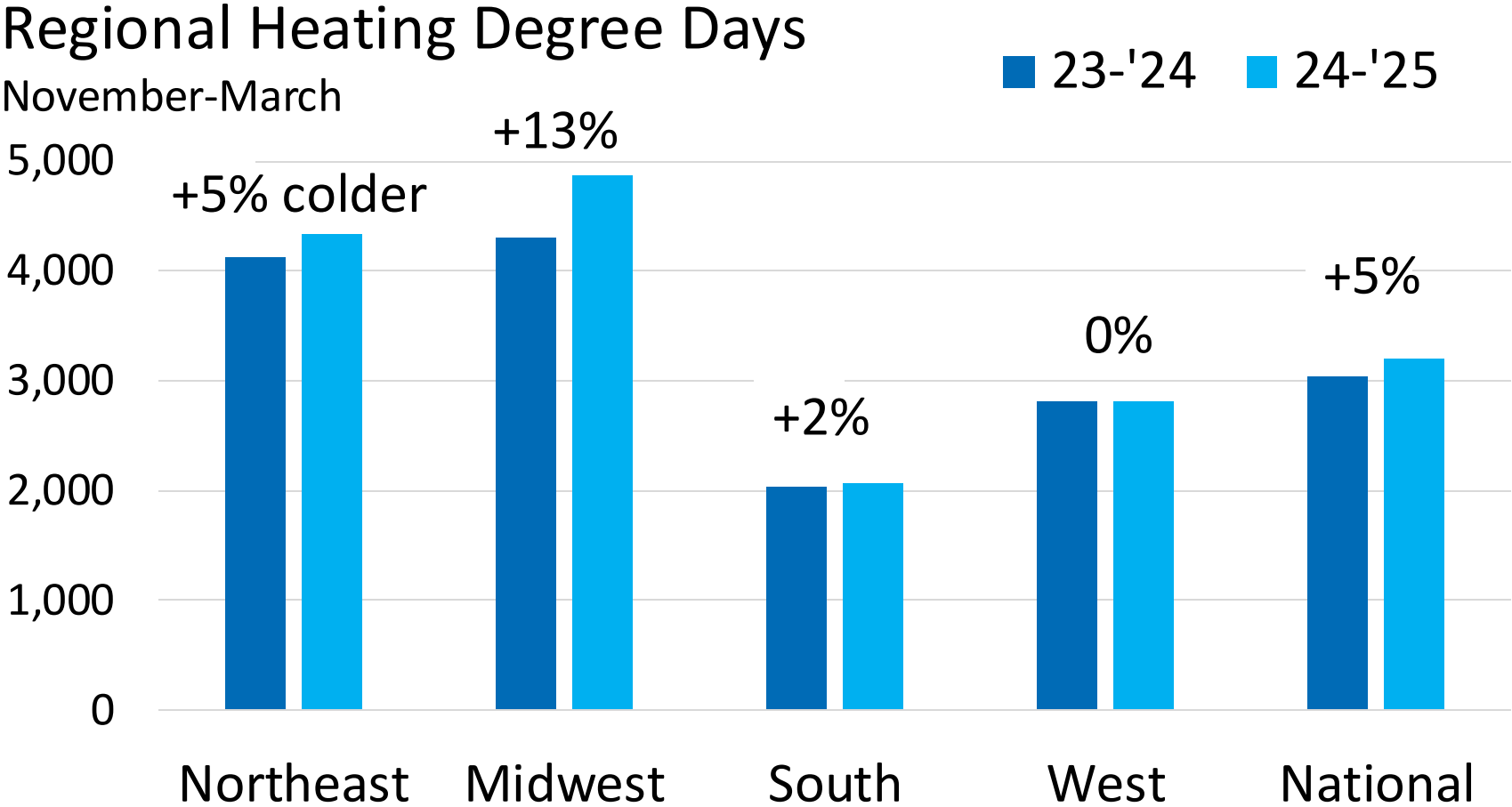
## U.S. Heating Degree Days

November-March

\*Natural Gas Households Historically 8% Higher HDD Than National Average



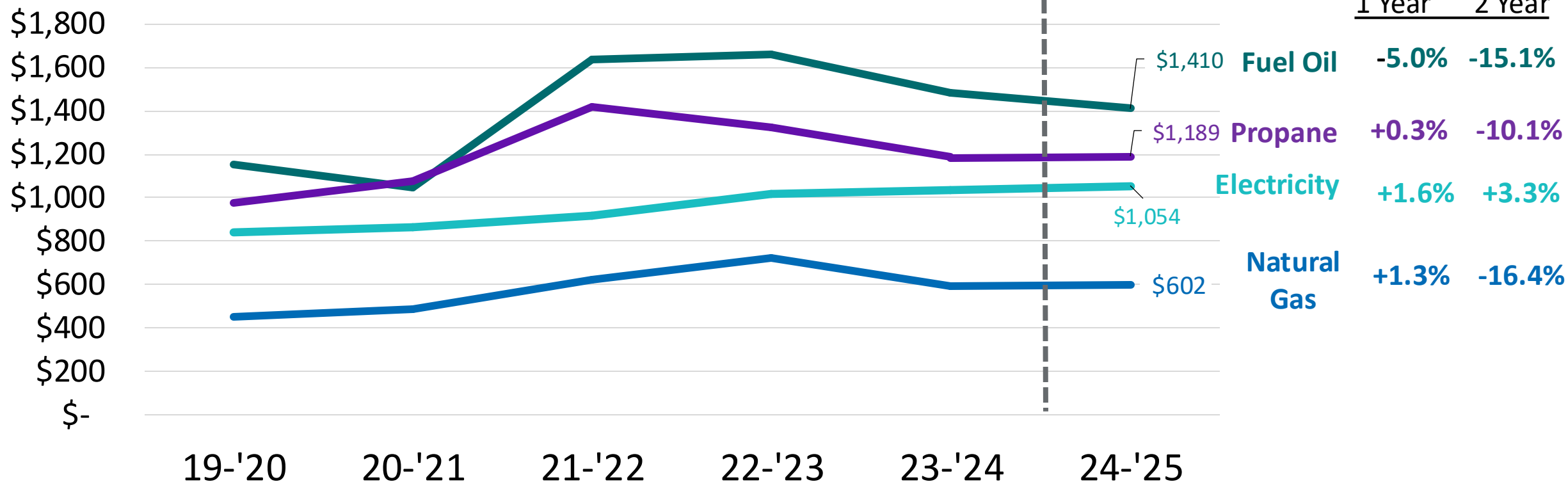
# Overall colder winter conditions expected across U.S. lower-48, driving a more space heating in the Northeast and Midwest



# Winter energy bills are expected to match last year, with natural gas bills forecasted 16% lower than two years ago during similar weather conditions

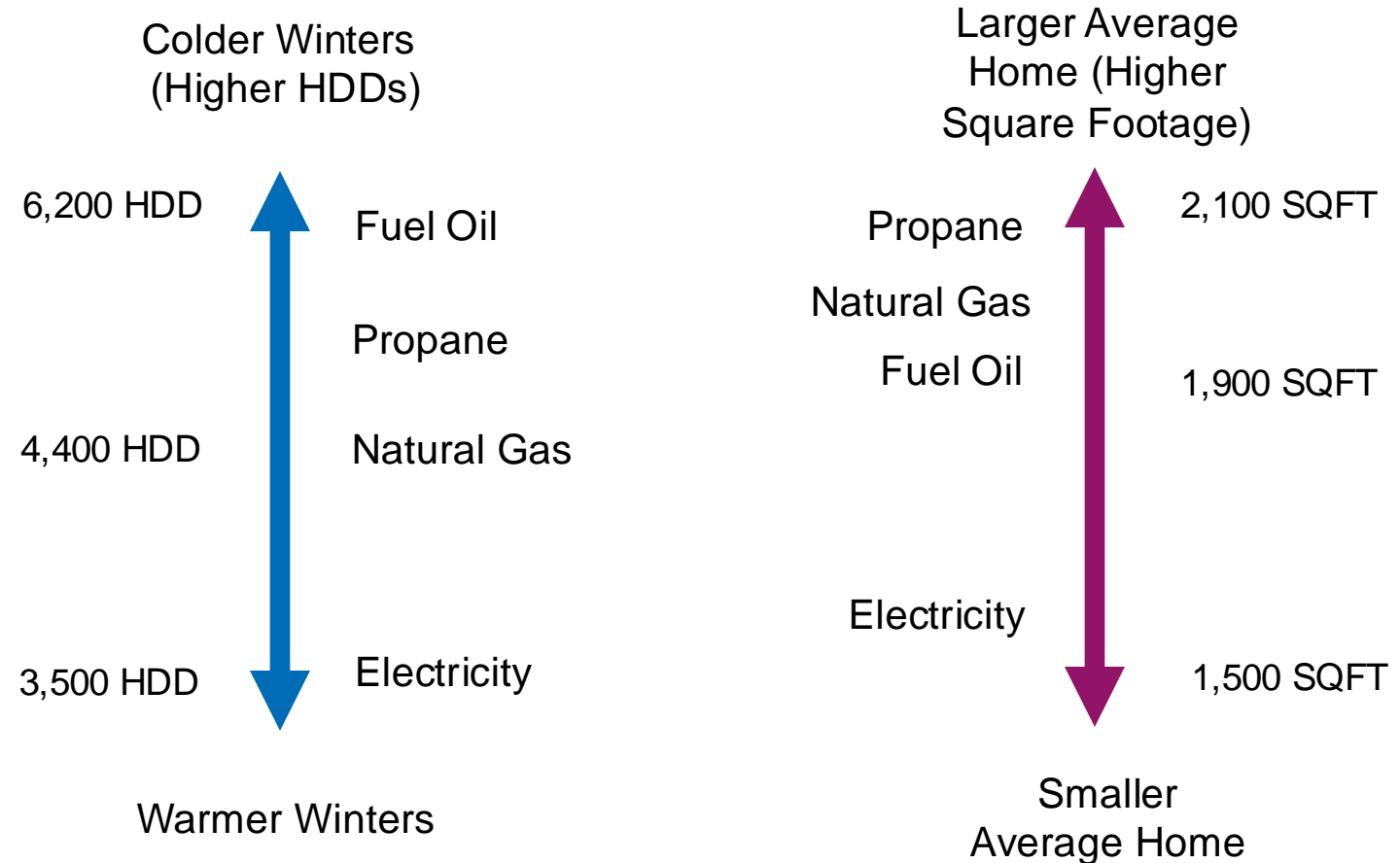
## Average Winter All Energy Expenditures By Primary Heating Fuel

November– March, EIA Short-Term Energy Outlook October 2024



# Variations in housing characteristics between heating fuels impact average energy expenditures and heating bills

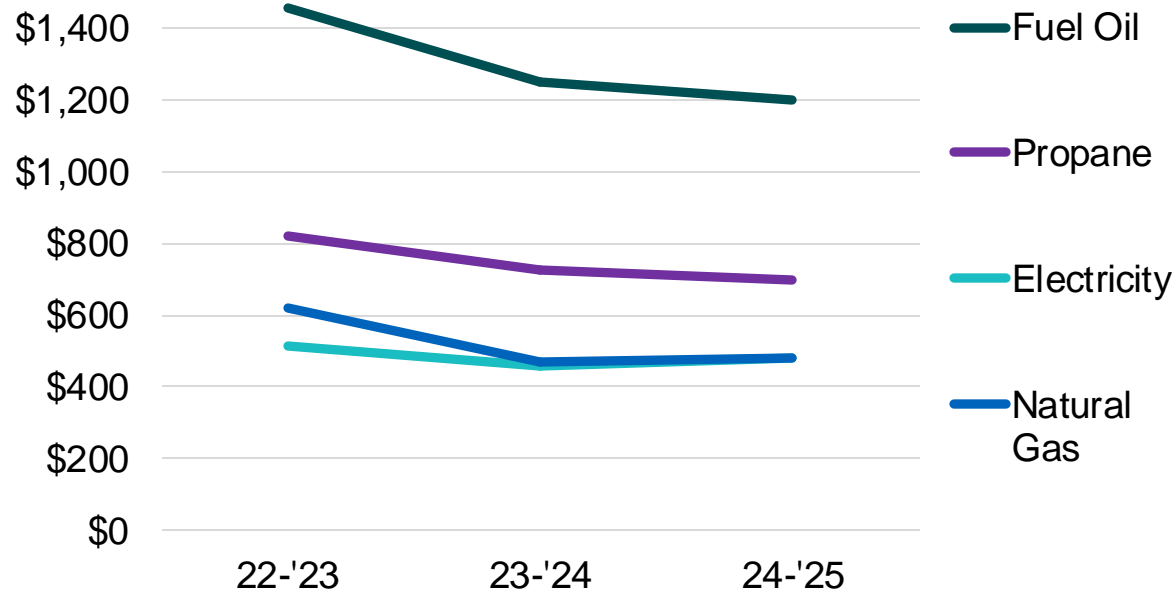
Households that heat with natural gas experience **24% colder winters** and are **28% larger in square footage** than homes heating with electricity



# Comparable heating bills to last year, despite a 5% colder winter. Accounting for housing demographics, natural gas households can save 59% to 100%

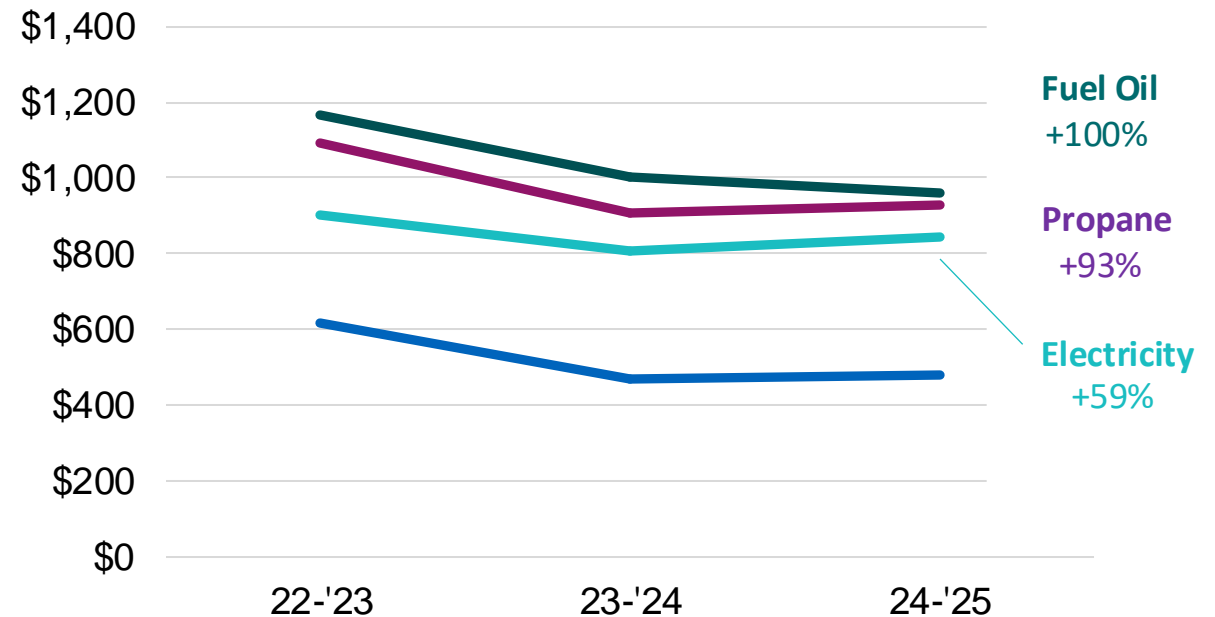
## EIA Average Winter Heating Bills

By Primary Heating Fuel (November– March)



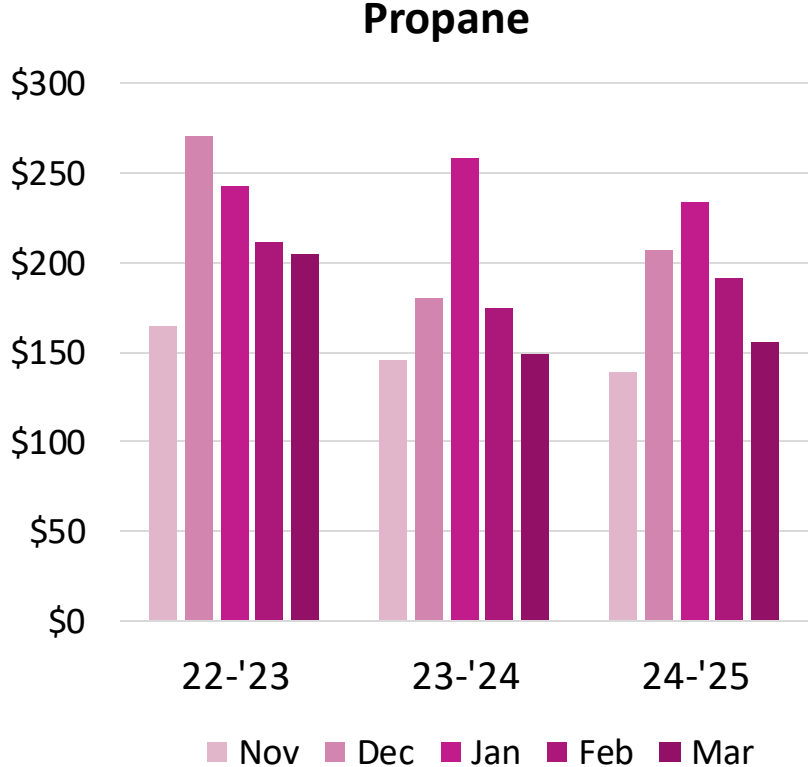
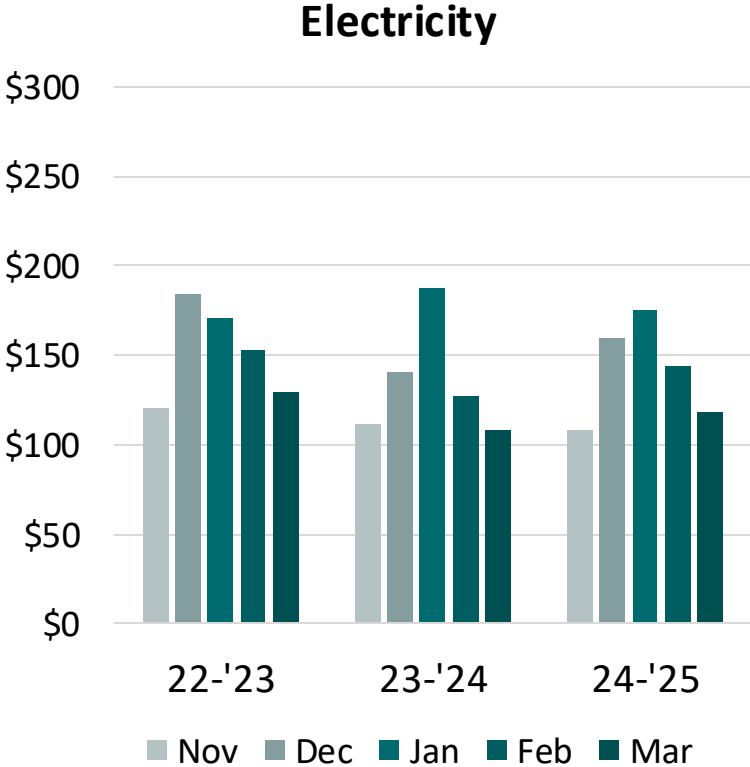
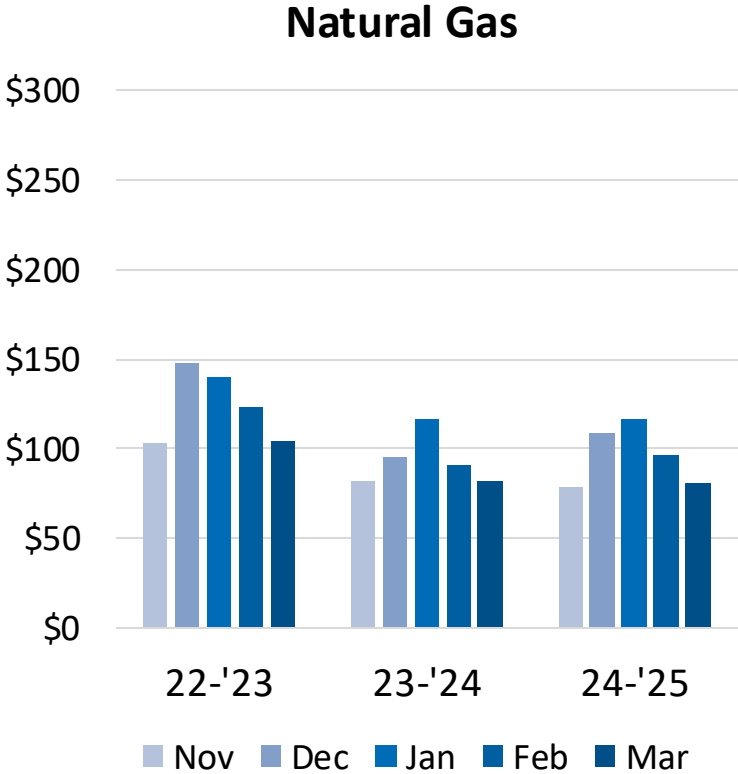
## Adjusted Winter Heating Bills

Adjusted for Natural Gas Household Characteristics  
By Primary Heating Fuel (November– March)



\*Adjusted EIA Winter Fuels Outlook to reflect the same average square footage and winter climate for each fuel

# Households heating with natural gas generally show lower monthly bill volatility across the winter heating season



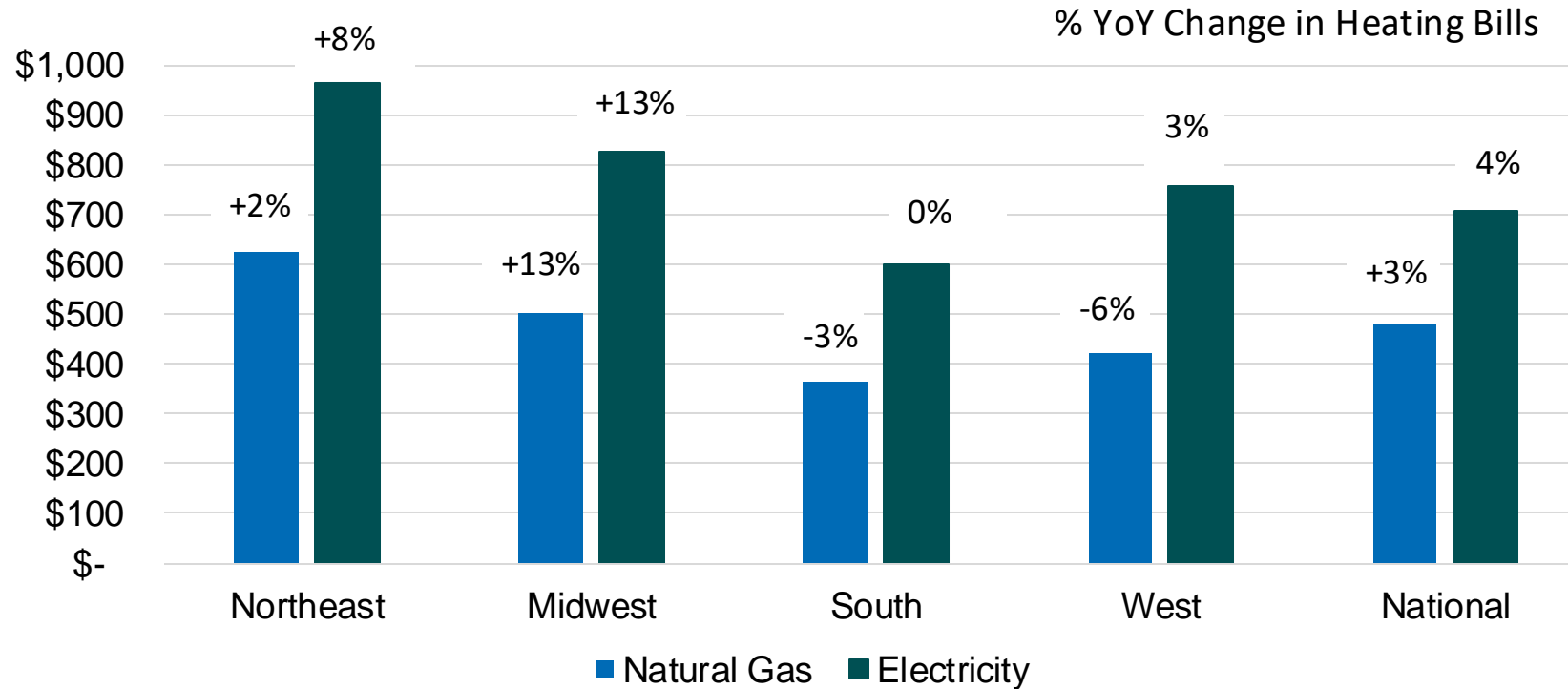
\*Adjusted EIA Winter Fuels Outlook to reflect the same average square footage and winter climate



# Colder winter expectations in the north and Midwest result in higher bills year over year. Overall natural gas households get more value for less

## Regional Winter Heating Bills (Nov 24 - Mar '25)

Adjusted\* for Natural Gas Household Characteristics



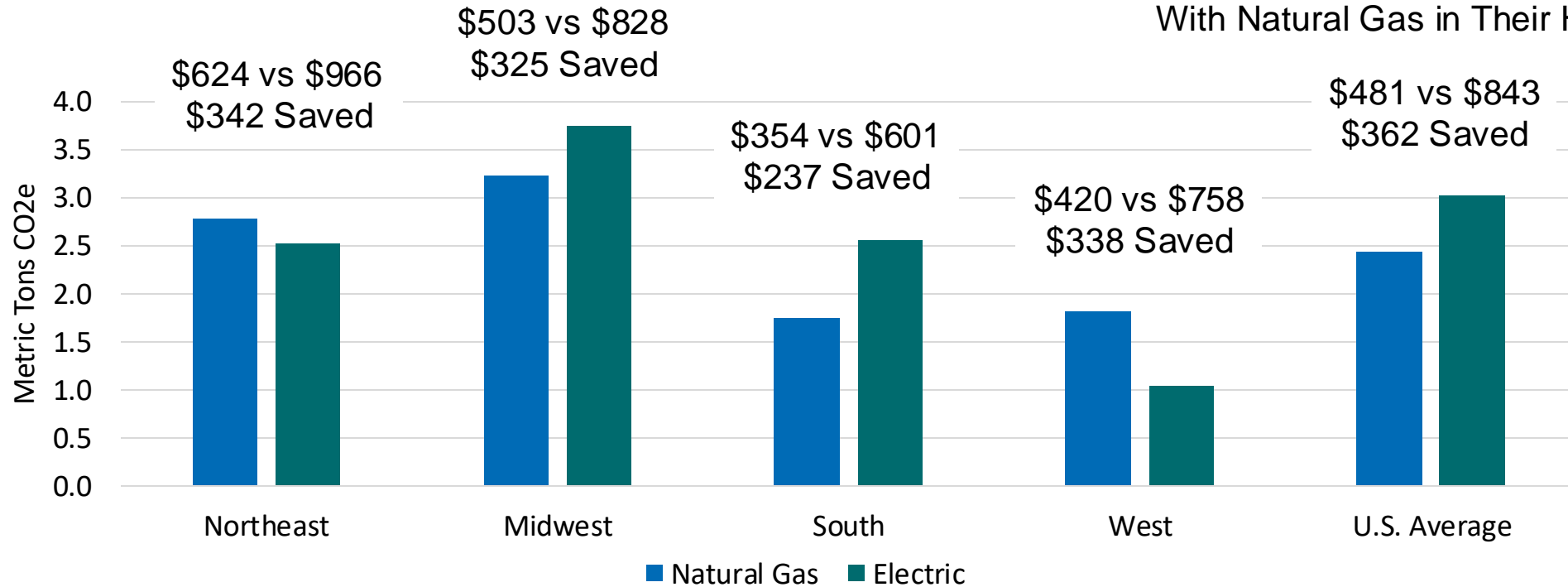
\*Adjusted EIA Winter Fuels Outlook to reflect the same average square footage and winter climate

# Natural gas household emissions are competitive with electric, reducing Average emissions by 24% while saving \$362 in heating costs

## Household Winter Emissions from Space Heating (Nov 24 - Mar '25)

Adjusted\* for Natural Gas Household Characteristics

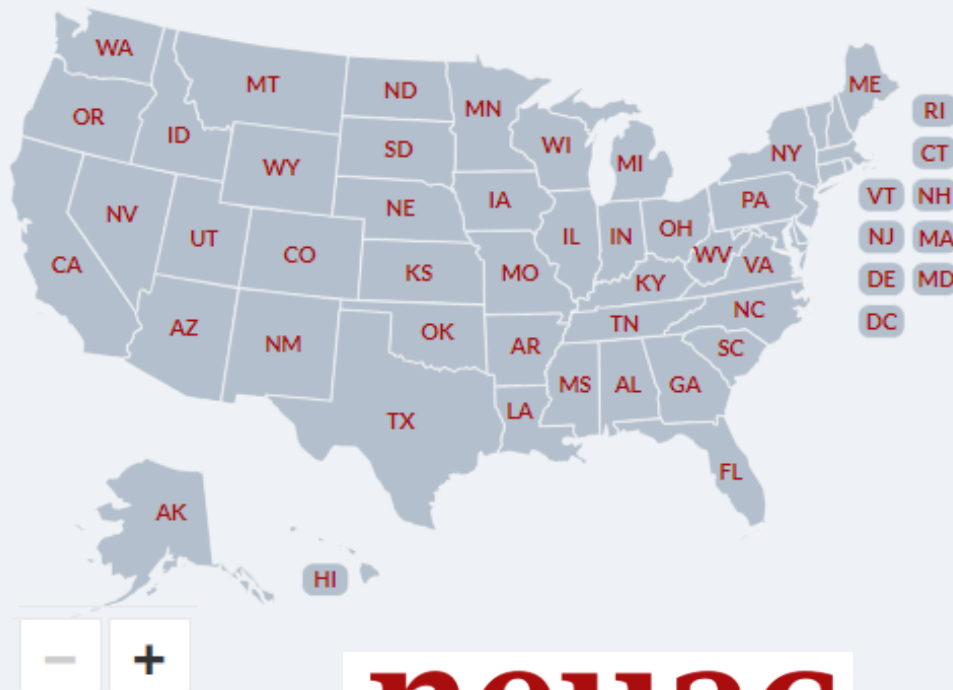
Average Household Can Save \$362  
With Natural Gas in Their Home



\*Adjusted EIA Winter Fuels Outlook to reflect the same average square footage and winter climate

# Energy assistance programs are available to help low-income and vulnerable customers

## State Resource Directory



**neuac**  
NATIONAL ENERGY & UTILITY  
AFFORDABILITY COALITION

### District of Columbia Resources

#### District of Columbia LIHEAP

District of Columbia LIHEAP Office Contact Information  
Find a Local LIHEAP Program

#### District of Columbia LIHEAP Metrics

District of Columbia State Sheet

#### Nonprofit Fuel Funds and Utility Assistance Programs

DC.gov Utility Assistance  
Greater Washington Urban League – Pepco Energy Assistance  
Utility Discount Program

State Resource Directory and other assistance information is available from the National Energy & Utility Affordability Coalition at [neuac.org](http://neuac.org).



# Forthcoming AGA energy efficiency report

- Survey of North American natural gas companies
- Natural gas efficiency program low-income enrollments increased from 2021 to 2022
- U.S. low-income programmatic expenditures in 2022 of more than \$422 million (roughly 32% of total efficiency program expenditures)
- Low-income program efficiency savings of approximately 11.8 million therms in 2022

# Final Thoughts

- The natural gas market is set to be **well-supplied** headed into the winter heating season. **Gas utilities plan and prepare** to meet their obligations to consumers.
- **Gas for electric power** remains essential for meeting load growth and peak requirements. Maintaining generation, fuel deliverability, and infrastructure is essential for reliability.
- **The market may tighten** into 2025, but the outlook will be sensitive to production response.
- **New infrastructure will be necessary** to meet growing demand and maintain price stability.

