

GAS FACTS

2006 DATA

- ENERGY RESERVES ■ NATURAL GAS SUPPLY
- END-USERS ■ SALES ■ TRANSPORTATION VOLUMES
- DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSMISSION
- FINANCE ■ PERSONNEL DATA
- UNDERGROUND STORAGE
- ENERGY CONSUMPTION
- REVENUES ■ PRICES
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2006 DATA

Unless otherwise noted, material presented in this volume is based on data collected from individual utilities by the Department of Statistics of the American Gas Association. It may be excerpted without charge, but credit to the source is requested.

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eGUS

The underlying data for many of the tables in Gas Facts can be accessed by AGA members via eGUS, the internet browser based version of the Gas Utilities Statistics system, located at www.aga.org/eGUS. Simply obtain your username and password through the AGA website (www.aga.org) and enter them when prompted by the eGUS site. The eGUS User Manual and an e-mail address for additional help is located in the Help & FAQ Section.

If AGA members need further information or assistance with the eGUS system, please contact Mr. Paul Pierson, Manager Statistics Services, (202) 824-7133 or ppierson@aga.org.

AGA members and non-members can request queries of the data for a nominal fee. If you would like information on the type of data available or on the cost of running a query, please contact Mr. Paul Pierson, Manager, Statistics, (202) 824-7133, ppierson@aga.org.

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INTRODUCTION

GENERAL

The American Gas Association assumed its present status as a gas utility industry trade association in 1918, after a merger of two predecessor organizations. Today it renders assistance to the gas utility industry and provides an advocacy platform for local distribution companies so that the industry may serve its customers more efficiently. The Association recognizes the need for factual information regarding the gas industry for the use, not only of industry organizations, but also interested outside publics. Its statistical efforts are a vital part of this function, and the publication of *Gas Facts* is one result of these efforts.

This publication contains detailed statistics for 2006 and summary statistics for prior years for the gas utility industry which by definition, consists of the companies engaged in natural gas distribution and transmission. The publication also contains relevant data on the gas producing segment of the industry. Gas volumes are expressed in millions of cubic feet (at 14.73 psi and 60°F unless otherwise noted) and in British thermal units (Btu) to permit direct comparison with other energy data. A conversion table is included as Appendix B. Throughout the publication totals may not add due to independent rounding.

The user should be aware that there has developed a large transportation market which directly affects gas utility sales quantities, revenues and number of customers. Although total pipeline throughput may remain the same, as transportation volumes to end-users increase, gas utility sales quantities to end-users will decrease.

Data presented in *Gas Facts*, broken down by company type, are not necessarily comparable from year to year. Acquisitions, mergers and corporate reorganizations continue to cause the number of companies in any given category to vary from year to year. Some of these changes are significant and can cause a dramatic shift in the data reported for a specific category from previous years.

In addition, data and resulting estimates are attributed to utility industry segments in *Gas Facts* as distribution, transmission or integrated based not only on company operating revenues (see glossary) but also on how the company has submitted information in the *Uniform Statistical Report (USR)*. For example, if a company under one corporate name submits combined data indicating qualifying revenues for distribution and transmission activities, then it is placed in the integrated category. However, if a large company submits data for distribution companies separate from transmission companies, there is no effort to recombine the data to produce an integrated result. Distribution data in that case is attributed to the distribution segment and transmission data to the transmission segment.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Most of the information contained in this volume is developed from data forms contained in the *Uniform Statistical Report* and other sources such as the Energy Information Administration (EIA) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Tables presented in *Gas Facts* use data primarily from distribution companies submitting a *Uniform Statistical Report* (USR), and estimates for those companies not reporting based on recent historical experience.

Estimates of proved reserves of natural gas are taken from the U.S. Department of Energy report *U.S. Crude Oil, Natural Gas and Natural Gas Liquids Reserves*. Data for gas space-heating customers were taken from the AGA *Residential Natural Gas Market Survey*. Changes in the quantity and format of data reported to AGA, the Energy Information Administration, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and others have influenced the quality and type of tables that can be constructed from the available sources. As a result, tables in this edition have been modified or eliminated compared with previous *Gas Facts* editions based on judgments regarding sample size and data quality.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our thanks go to the companies participating in the *Uniform Statistical Report* information gathering effort. Their cooperation and support are the essential elements that have made this publication a primary source of gas utility industry data and an important industry reference. The cooperation of the public and governmental agencies credited in tables is also greatly appreciated.

Key contributions to this publication have been made by the Manager, Statistical Services, Paul Pierson; Manager, Customer Transportation Programs, Mariam Arnaout; Statistical Consultant, Kelly Hopkins; and Policy Analysis Senior Staff Associate, Lucy Castañeda-Land.

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SECTION 1

2006 IN REVIEW

Highlights from the 2007 edition of *Gas Facts*:

Supply:

- Gas well completions in 2006 increased 5.5 percent compared with 2005.
- Estimated working gas capacity in underground storage, as of June 2006, was 3,982 Bcf, with a total deliverability of 83,540 MMcf per day.
- The United States imported 3.6 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in 2006, primarily from Canada.

Delivery:

- The U.S. natural gas industry had 1.53 million miles of pipeline — including distribution, transmission, and gathering lines — in place in 2006.

Sales:

- Gas utility sales decreased 0.9 percent in 2006 to 8,222 trillion Btus.
- Residential sales decreased 8.8 percent from 2005 levels.
- Commercial sales decreased 9.5 percent.
- Industrial sales decreased 4.7 percent.
- Electric Generation sales decreased 0.6 percent.

Prices:

- The average retail natural gas price increased 2.1 percent in 2006 compared to 2005 prices.
- The average residential price increased 6.3 percent.
- Average commercial prices increased 5.1 percent.
- Average industrial prices decreased 8.3 percent.