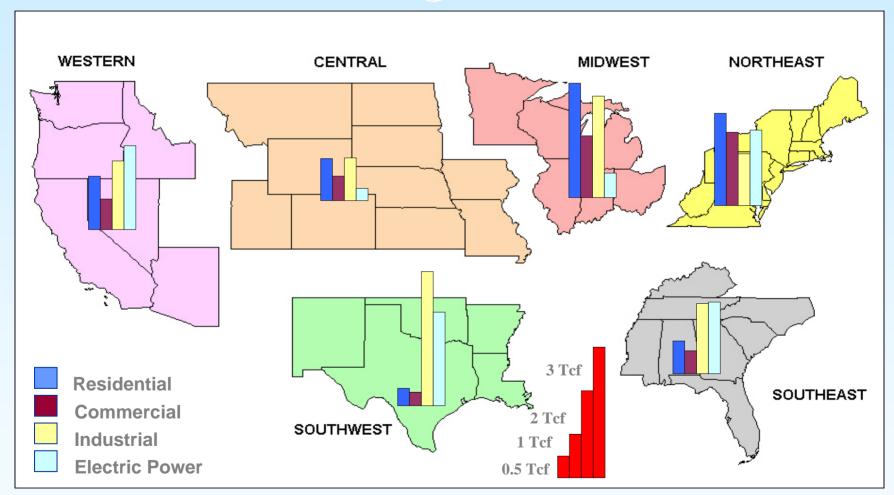
# EIA's Natural Gas Outlook Through 2025

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for
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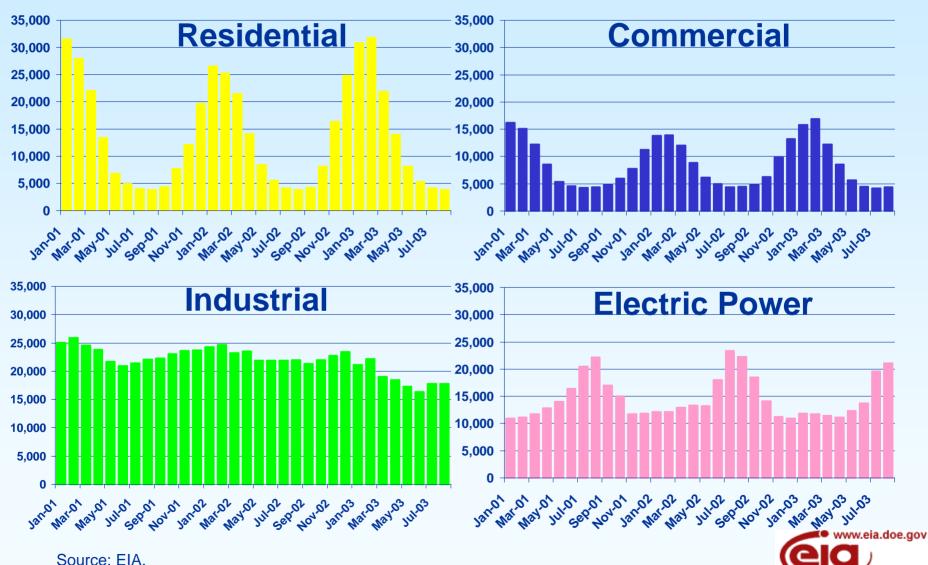
## End-Use Consumption by Sector and Region, 2002







#### U.S. Seasonal Natural Gas Load Patterns By Sector (MMcfd)



# Short-Term Outlook for Natural Gas

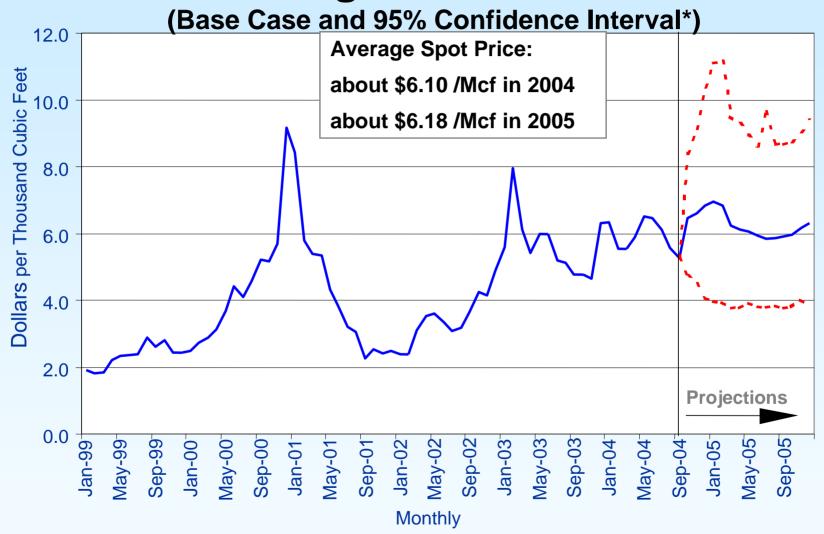
- WELLHEAD PRICE: \$5.52 per Mcf in 2004; \$5.63 per Mcf in 2005
- CONSUMER PRICES: Higher than last winter; Prices (+11%)

**Total Expenditures (+15%)** 

- CONSUMPTION: Increased demand this heating season, and in 2005
- SUPPLY : Growth in 2005
  - Current storage inventory about 8% higher than 5-year average
  - Production increase in 2005 after decline in 2004
  - New well completions remain high but production from existing wells is declining
  - Modest, but steady increases in LNG imports
- CAVEAT: Outlook incorporates NOAA weather forecast. Extremes in market or weather conditions could change this outlook.



## Natural Gas Spot Prices Are Expected to Average \$6.10 This Year

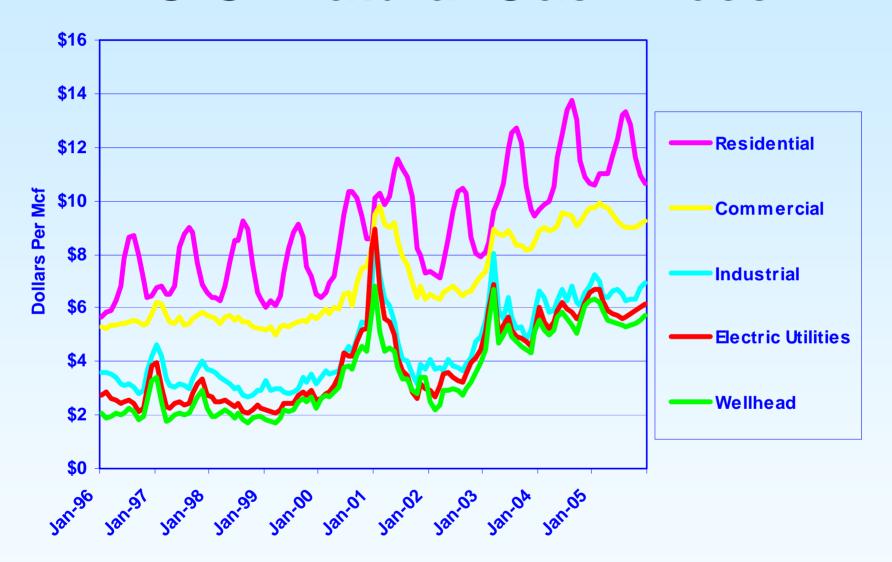


<sup>\*</sup>The confidence intervals show +/- 2 standard errors based on the properties of the model. The ranges do not include the effects of major supply disruptions.



Sources: Short-Term Energy Outlook, October 2004.

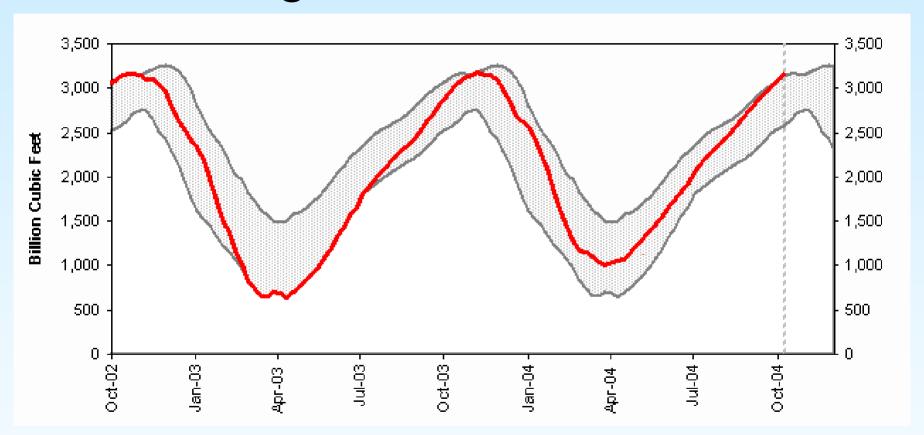
#### U.S. Natural Gas Prices





Source: Short-Term Energy Outlook, October 2004.

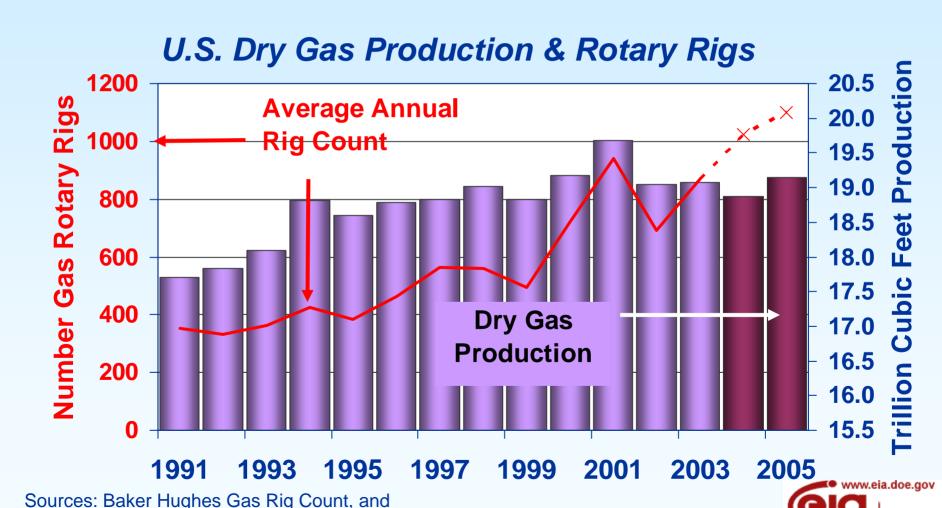
# Working Gas in Underground Storage Is Above "Normal"



Notes: The shaded area indicates the range between the historical minimum and maximum values for the weekly series from 1999 through 2003.

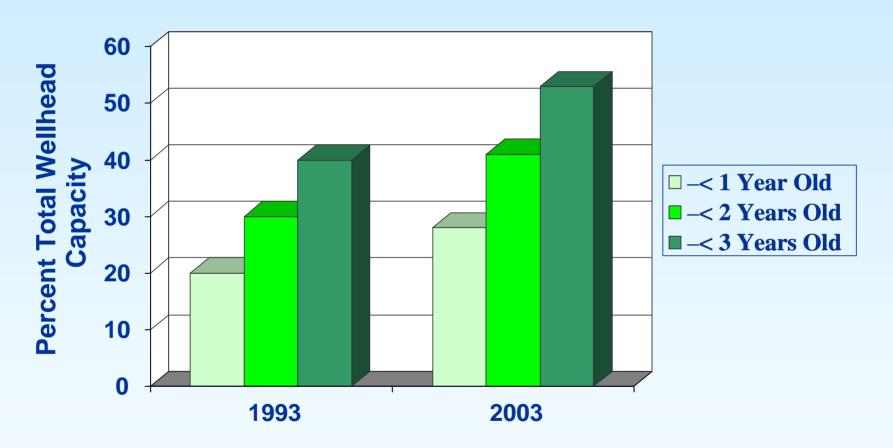
Source: Weekly storage values from March 15, 2002, to the present are from Form EIA-912, "Weekly Underground Natural Gas Storage Report." Values for earlier weeks are from the Historical Weekly Storage Estimates Database.

## Active Rig Count Is Higher than Ever But Production Growth Is Limited



Short-Term Energy Outlook, October 2004

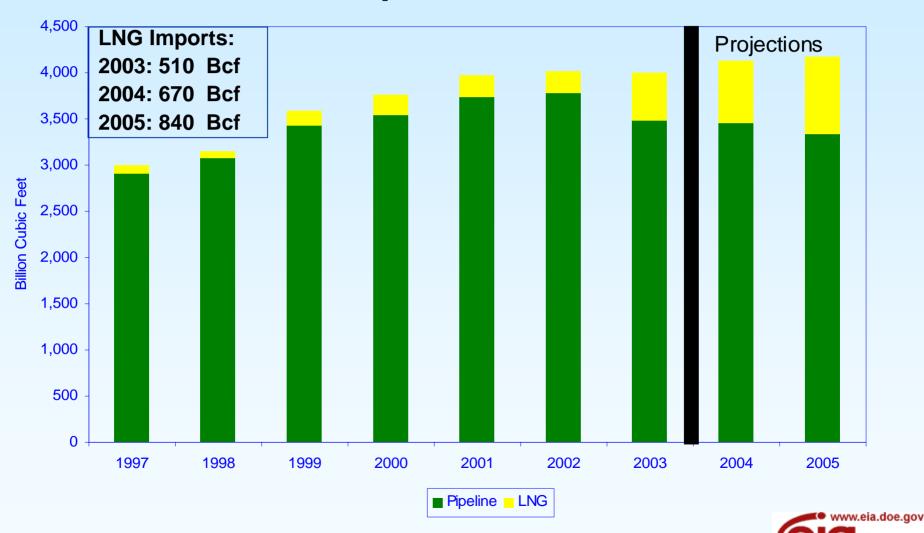
## A Growing Percentage of Production Flows from Wells Three Years Old or Less



Source: EIA.

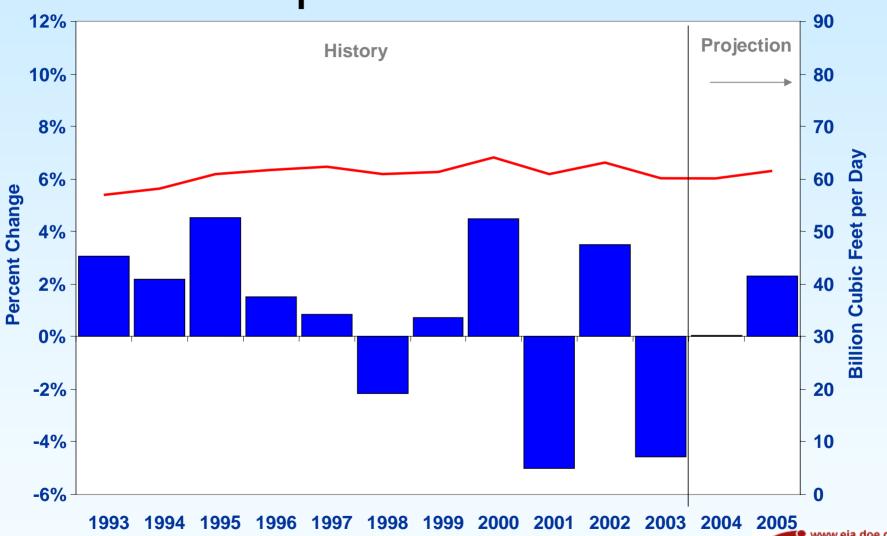


# Pipeline Imports Decline as LNG Imports Increase



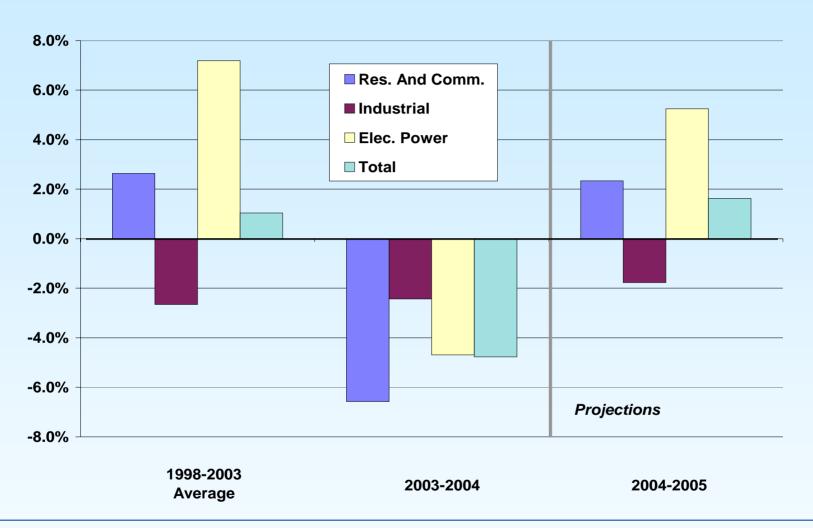
Source: Short-Term Energy Outlook October, 2004.

# Increases in Annual Demand Are Not Expected Until 2005



Source: Short-Term Energy Outlook, October 2004.

#### **U.S. Winter Natural Gas Demand Growth**

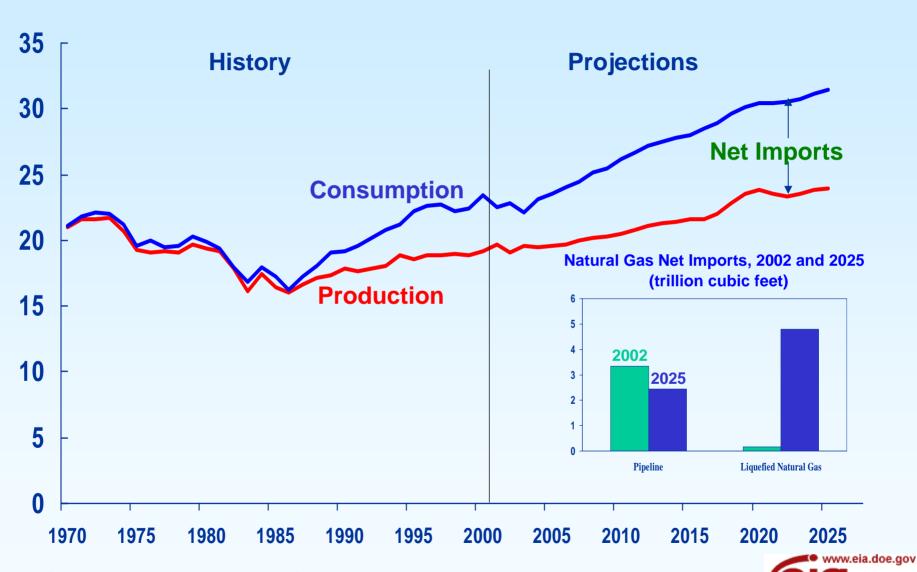


Weather, increased power sector demand drives winter gas demand

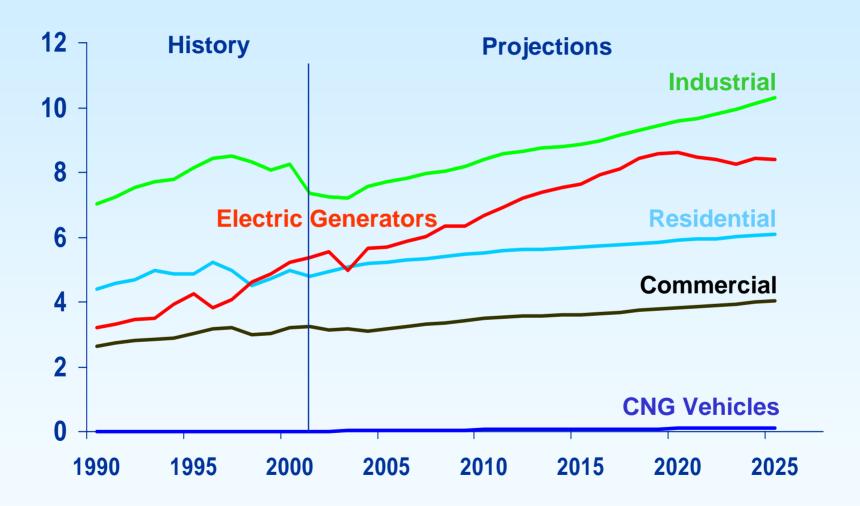


Source: Short-Term Energy Outlook, October 2004.

### Natural Gas Production, Consumption, and Imports, 1970 - 2025 (trillion cubic feet)

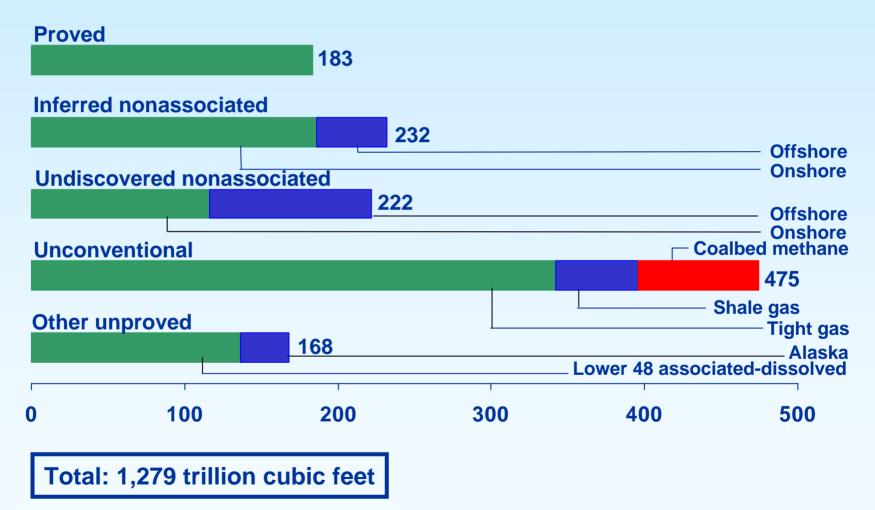


## U.S. Natural Gas Consumption by Sector, 1990-2025 (trillion cubic feet)



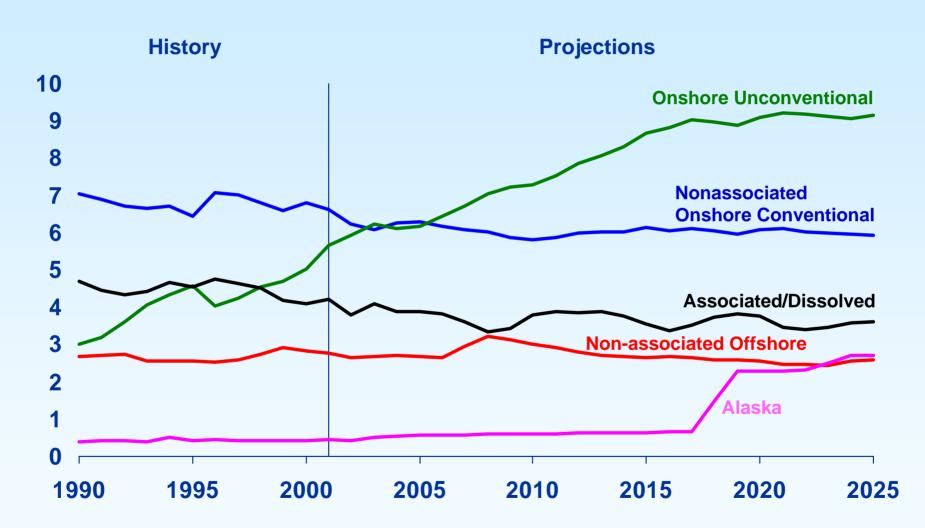


### Technically Recoverable U.S. Natural Gas Resources as of January 1, 2002 (trillion cubic feet)



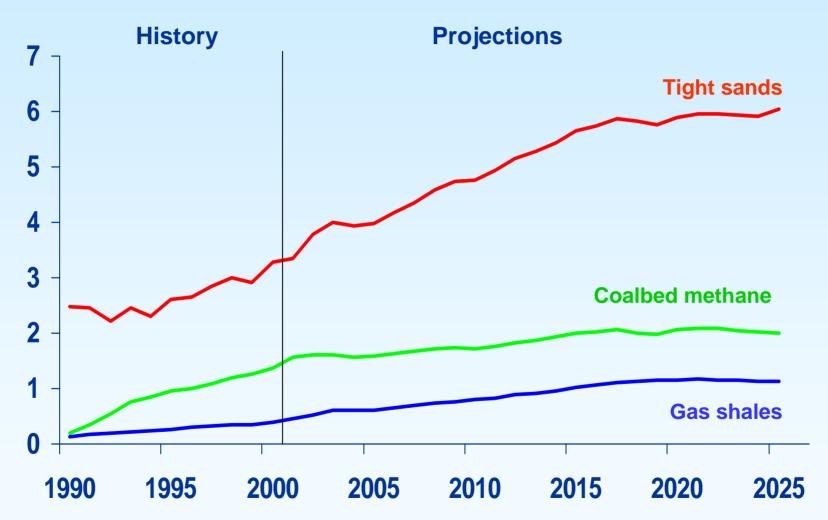


#### U.S. Dry Natural Gas Production, 1990 - 2025 (trillion cubic feet)



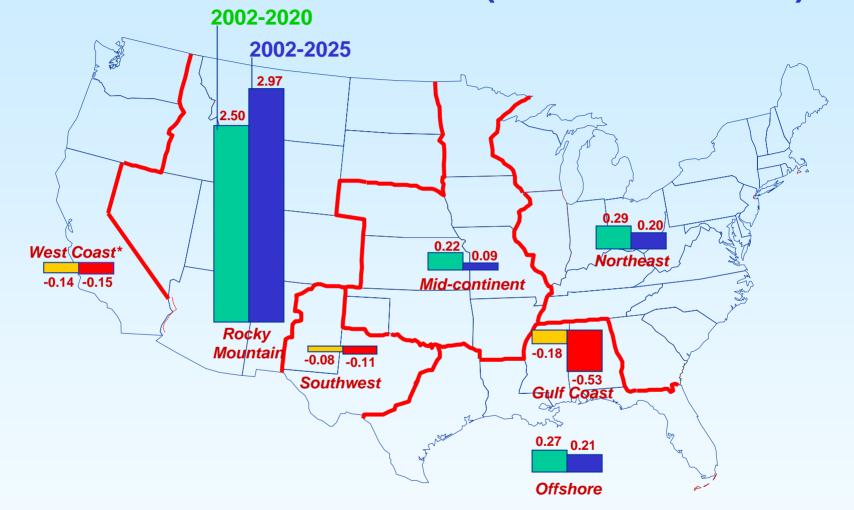


## U.S. Unconventional Natural Gas Production, 1990-2025 (trillion cubic feet)





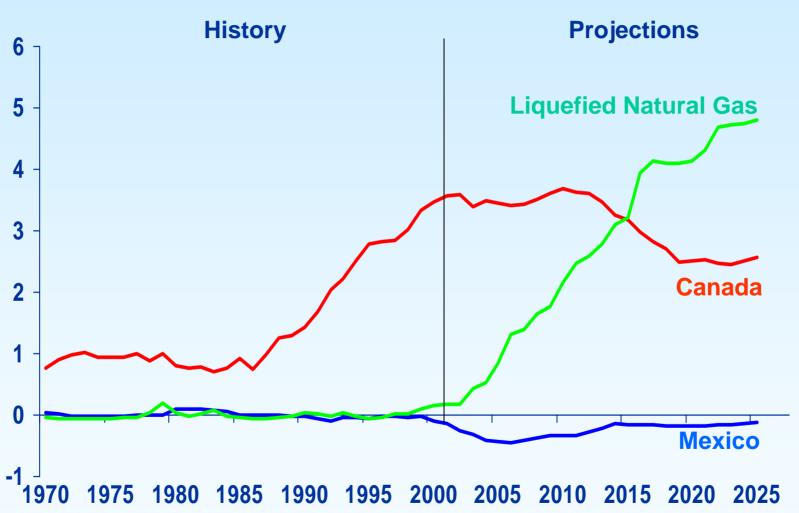
## Incremental Natural Gas Production by Region, 2002-2020 and 2002-2025 (trillion cubic feet)





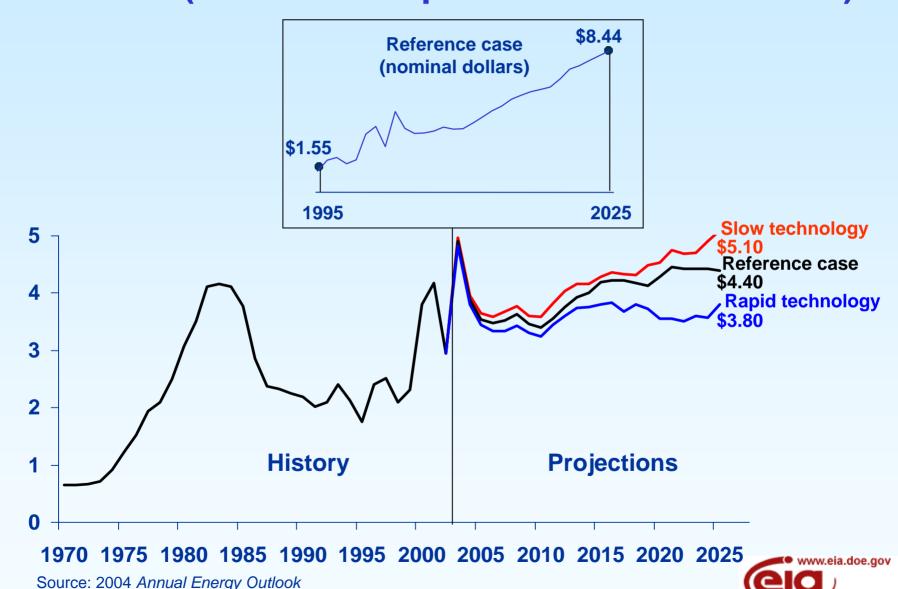
<sup>\*</sup> Includes Offshore

## Net U.S. Imports of Natural Gas, 1970-2025 (trillion cubic feet)





## Lower 48 Natural Gas Wellhead Prices, 1970-2025 (2002 dollars per thousand cubic feet)



## **KEY CHANGES IMPACTING NATURAL GAS MARKETS BETWEEN AEO2005 and AEO2004**

#### **CHANGE**

#### DEMAND:

Lower capital costs for gas powered generation plants Lowered growth in bulk chemical industry

#### SUPPLY:

Higher costs and resources
Higher costs for onshore gas and lower finding rates
Tax and loan incentives for Alaska gas pipeline
Higher costs and lower domestic production only
partially offset by increased LNG imports

#### IMPORTS/EXPORTS:

Reduced LNG costs, increased expansion potential CANADA: reduced coalbed methane production

#### **IMPACT**

More gas use for generation.

Less industrial gas use

Combined impact is mixed
Upward pressure on gas prices
Alaska pipeline available earlier
Higher natural gas prices

LNG more attractive Lower exports to the U.S.



# In Summary: EIA's Natural Gas Outlook

#### **Short-Term**

- Continued market tightness.
- Some demand recovery.
- Modest production increase.
- Imports: LNG increases, pipeline decreases.

#### Long-Term

- Technology advances and access to additional supply sources will moderate gas prices.
- U.S. LNG market is expected to grow.
- Electricity use of gas, coal and renewables expected to increase.



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