### COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

# Natural Gas/Fuels Price Update

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1

# Gas/Fuels Price Update: KEY TAKEAWAYS

**PRICING UPDATE:** Uncertainty continues about global supply, inflation for natural gas and delivered fuels. Price increases for natural gas have been significant, and consumer impacts linger from Winter Storm Uri. Prices for heating oil have risen sharply in recent weeks due largely to global supply constraints and geopolitical events, but leveled off.

**HOW COMMERCE CAN HELP:** Many elements to support Minnesotans in staying warm and safe while saving money, including:

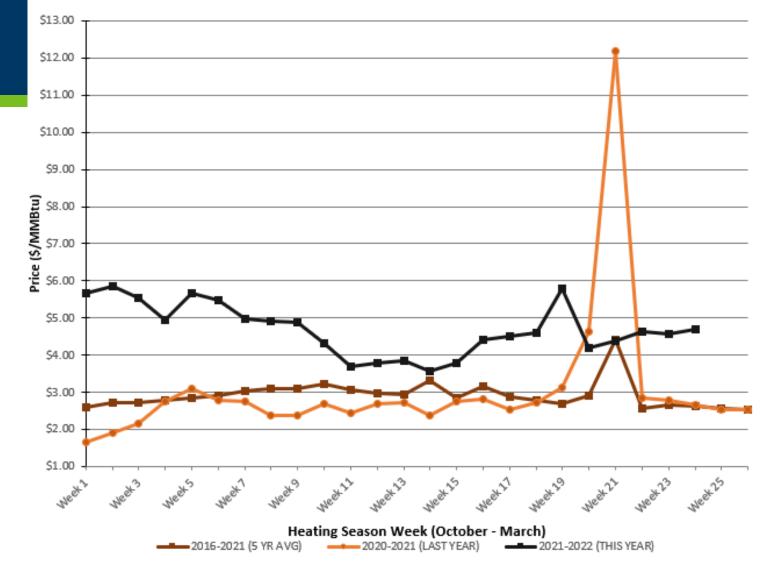
- Energy Assistance (EAP)
- Gas Affordability Programs
- Energy Repair and Replacement (ERR)
- •Weatherization Assistance (WAP)
- Conservation Improvement Program (CIP)

# Fuels Outlook: NATURAL GAS

EIA Weekly Summary: update published 3/17/22

• US Inventory is 17% below the 5-year average and 19% below one year ago

#### Natural Gas Prices (EIA/Henry Hub)

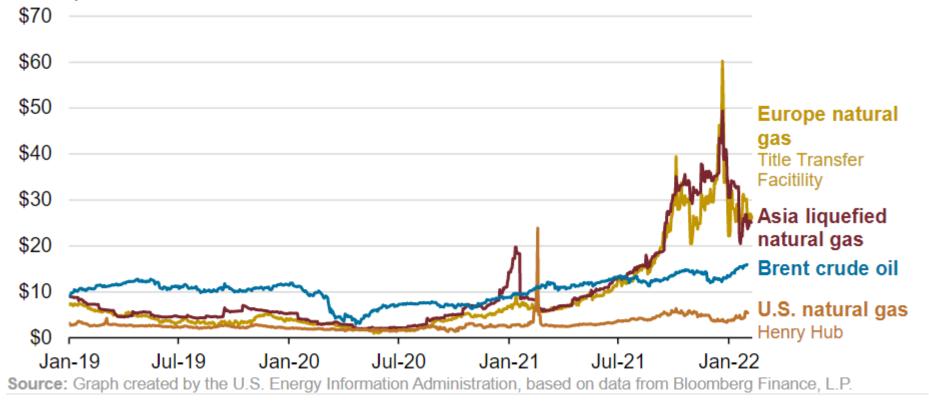


HEATING FUEL	AVERAGE PRICE	PRICE COMPARISONS	
NATURAL GAS (EIA data) Prices published 3/16/22	\$4.70/MMBtu, up \$0.13 from prior week. Same week last year, \$2.65	• 52-week range \$2.45-\$5.87	-

### Gas price trends: GLOBAL

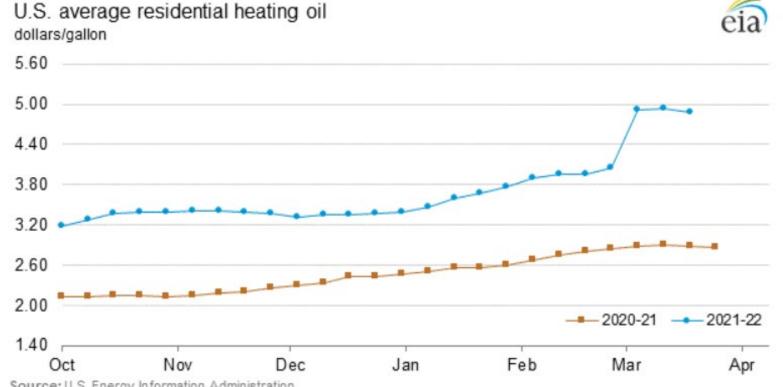
eia

Daily crude oil, natural gas, and liquefied natural gas spot prices (Jan 2019–Feb 2022) dollars per million British thermal units



# **Fuels Outlook: HEATING OIL**

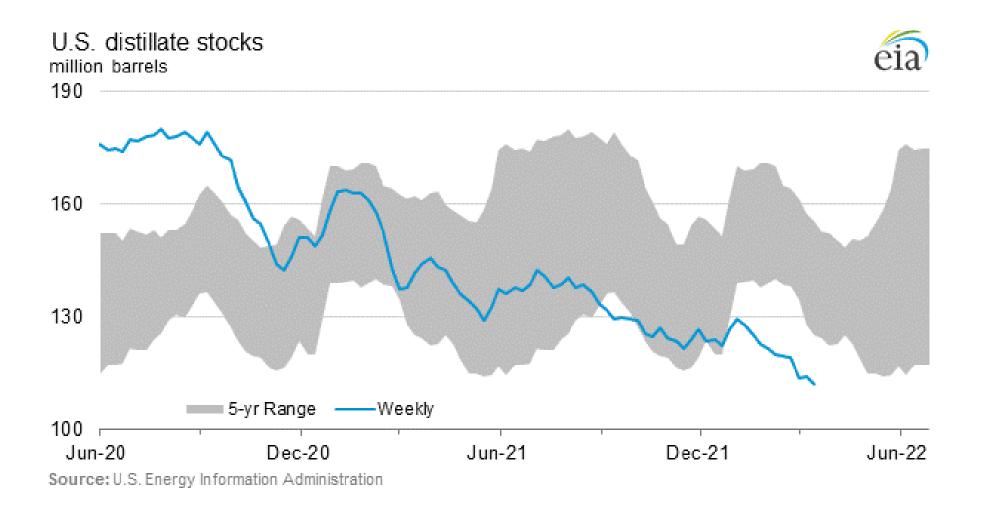
- Inventory
  - US: decreased last week and is about 16% below the 5-yr average
  - Currently unable to • anticipate leveling off
- Heating oil is sensitive to geopolitical events



HEATING FUEL	AVERAGE PRICE	PRICE COMPARISONS
HEATING OIL (MN data) Received by 3/16/2022	\$4.46/gal, up \$0.23 from prior week Same week last year, average \$2.84	• Weekly range \$3.69-\$5.85

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

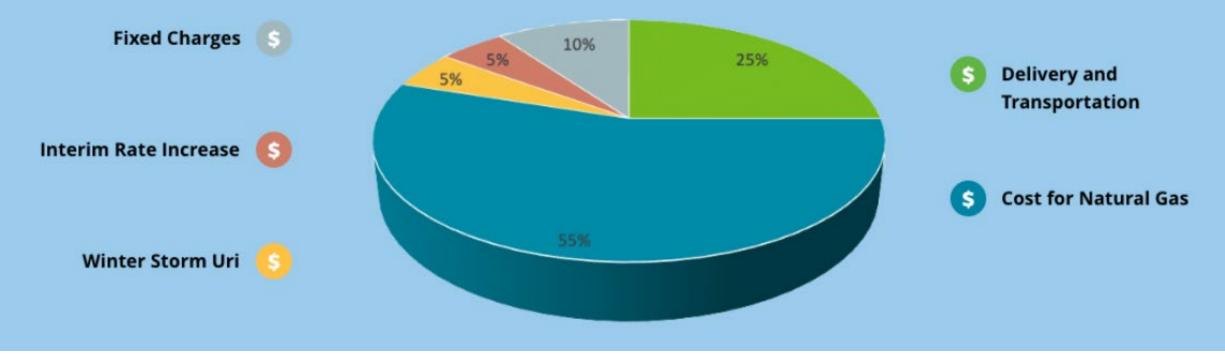
## Gas Price Update: Crude Oil Supply



# Gas Price Update: Impact to Consumer Bills

#### **Understanding Your Natural Gas Bill**

The chart below shows a SAMPLE winter natural gas bill for an average residential home.



# Energy Assistance – Help Available

- More Minnesotans qualify than ever before, almost 600,000 households – or about one of every four households in Minnesota.
- Renters and homeowners can get both energy and weatherization assistance.
- You can be eligible for thousands of dollars of help for past-due bills, future heating bills, to repair or replace a broken heating system, add insulation, and more.
- To-date, 100% increase in new applicants from last year.

#### **Energy Assistance Program Dashboard**

10/1/21-3/21/2022 (Updated Weekly)

**\$108,817,624** AWARDED TO HOUSEHOLDS

\$1,211 AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD BENEFIT

How does Energy Assistance award benefits?

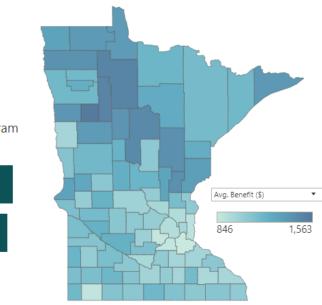
48% have a person over 60

47% have a

disabled member

Energy Assistance has helped **89,850** households this program year.





**Emergency Assistance** Emergency assistance helps households at risk of losing heat or power.