

March 1998

# Louisiana Energy Facts

Department of Natural Resources

Technology Assessment Division

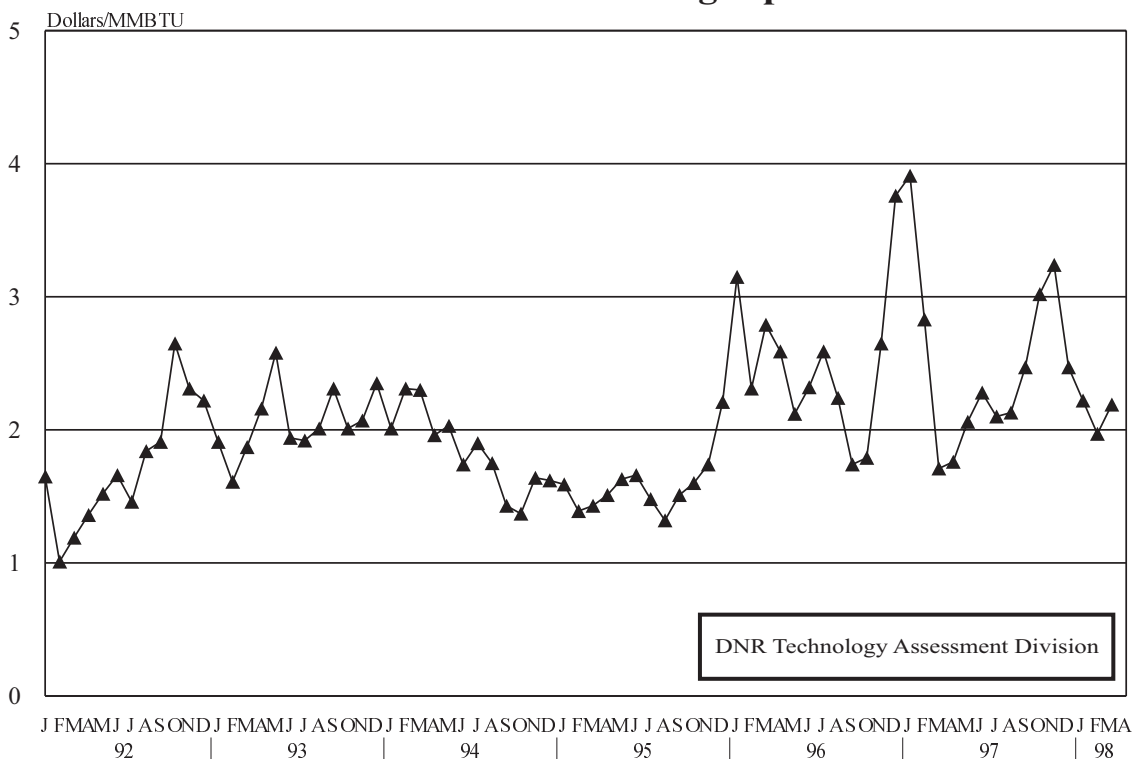
The Louisiana natural gas average spot market price for March 1998 was \$2.19 per MMBTU. This was 44% below the January 1997 price of \$3.91 per MMBTU. For the first quarter of 1998, the average price was \$2.13 per MMBTU. This was \$0.70 per MMBTU below the 1997 first quarter average. Milder winter weather than expected in the U.S., adequate gas storage levels, additional supply from new pipelines, and low crude oil prices are the reasons for the decrease.

## Louisiana Natural Gas Average Spot Prices<sup>E</sup> (Dollars/MMBTU)

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Percentage
							Change 97/98 or 96/97
January	1.91	2.01	1.59	3.15	3.91	2.22	-43.18%
February	1.61	2.31	1.39	2.31	2.83	1.97	-30.35%
March	1.87	2.30	1.43	2.79	1.71	2.19	27.75%
April	2.16	1.96	1.51	2.59	1.76		-31.77%
May	2.58	2.03	1.63	2.12	2.06		-2.69%
June	1.94	1.74	1.66	2.32	2.28		-1.85%
July	1.92	1.90	1.48	2.59	2.10		-18.78%
August	2.01	1.75	1.32	2.24	2.13		-4.79%
September	2.31	1.43	1.51	1.74	2.47		42.39%
October	2.01	1.37	1.60	1.79	3.02		68.53%
November	2.07	1.64	1.74	2.65	3.24		22.37%
December	2.35	1.62	2.21	3.76	2.47		-34.35%
<b>Year Average</b>	<b>2.06</b>	<b>1.84</b>	<b>1.59</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>2.13*</b>	

\*Partial year

## Louisiana Natural Gas Average Spot Prices<sup>E</sup>



	JAN 98	DEC 97	JAN 97	SOURCE
<b>SPOT MARKET PRICES</b>				
Louisiana Natural Gas Average (\$/MMBTU)	2.22	2.47	3.91	E
Louisiana Sweet Crude-St. James (\$/barrel)	16.71	18.66	22.57 <sup>2</sup>	B
<b>BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS</b>				
North Louisiana	21	18	17 <sup>2</sup>	A
South Louisiana Inland Waters	23	23	22	A
South Louisiana Inland	55	61	35 <sup>2</sup>	A
Louisiana Offshore (State + OCS)	117	115	85 <sup>2</sup>	
Total Louisiana (OCS included)	216	217	159 <sup>2</sup>	A
The United States Total	995	1,013	822 <sup>2</sup>	A
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
<u>LOUISIANA STATE JURISDICTION ONLY</u>				
Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	10.7	10.8	11.2 <sup>2</sup>	
Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	129.4	129.3	134.9 <sup>2</sup>	

	SEP 97	AUG 97	SEP 96	SOURCE
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
<u>LOUISIANA FEDERAL OFFS ORE (OCS)</u>				
Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	30	30	28	C
Natural Gas Marketed Production (BCF)	345	347	292 <sup>2</sup>	C
<u>UNITED STATES TOTAL</u>				
Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	192	195	195	C
Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	1,545	1,599	1,531 <sup>2</sup>	C
<b>IMPORTS</b>				
<u>UNITED STATES</u>				
Crude Oil (MMB)	256	258	220	C
Natural Gas (BCF)	240	249	238 <sup>2</sup>	C
<b>PERMITS</b>				
<u>LOUISIANA STATE JURISDICTION ONLY</u>				
Total Oil and Gas	143	134	113	
Wildcats	12	13	5	
State Offshore (Wildcats included)	9	6	7	
<b>PRICES</b>				
<u>CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel)</u>				
OPEC Average (F.O.B.)	16.49	16.37 <sup>2</sup>	20.67 <sup>2</sup>	C
U.S. Imports Average (F.O.B.)	16.73	16.68 <sup>2</sup>	21.03 <sup>2</sup>	C
U.S. Wellhead Average	16.44	16.21 <sup>2</sup>	19.93 <sup>2</sup>	C
Gulf OCS Wellhead Average	17.77	17.76	21.64	C
State Wellhead Average	18.53	17.99	21.93	D
<u>NATURAL GAS PRICES (\$/MCF)</u>				
U.S. City Gate	3.61	3.44 <sup>2</sup>	3.05 <sup>2</sup>	C
U.S. Imports Average	1.84	1.83	1.62 <sup>2</sup>	C
U.S. Wellhead Average	2.44	2.21	1.85 <sup>2</sup>	C
State Royalty Wellhead Average	2.61	1.62 <sup>2</sup>	1.87	

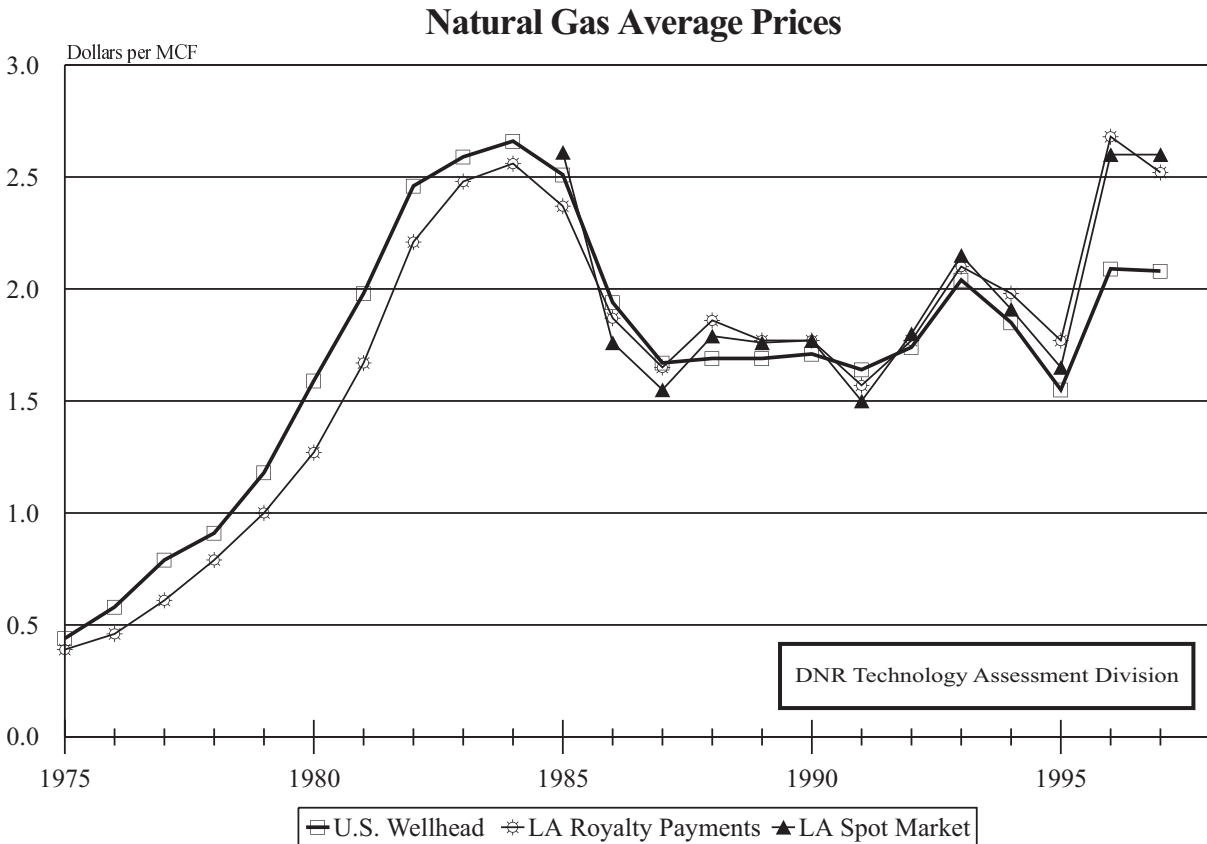
1 Estimated                      2 Revised                      MMBTU: Million BTU                      OCS: Outer Continental Shelf                      MMB: Million Barrels  
BCF: Billion Cubic Feet                      F.O.B.: Free on board                      MCF: Thousand Cubic Feet                      N/A: Not Available  
Note: Unless otherwise specified, Louisiana data excludes Federal OCS.

DATA SOURCES  
Unless otherwise specified, data is from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.  
A: Oil and Gas Journal  
B: Wall Street Journal  
C: U.S. Department of Energy  
D: Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation  
E: Natural Gas Clearinghouse

## Natural Gas Average Prices (Dollars/MCF)\*

Year	UNITED STATES			LOUISIANA	
	Wellhead <sup>C</sup>	Foreign Imports <sup>C</sup>	City Gate <sup>C</sup>	Royalty Payments	Spot Market <sup>*E</sup>
1975	0.44	1.31	0.80	0.39	N/A
1976	0.58	1.73	0.98	0.46	N/A
1977	0.79	1.99	1.31	0.61	N/A
1978	0.91	2.21	1.47	0.79	N/A
1979	1.18	2.60	1.81	1.00	N/A
1980	1.59	4.42	2.41	1.27	N/A
1981	1.98	4.84	2.89	1.67	N/A
1982	2.46	4.94	3.60	2.21	N/A
1983	2.59	4.51	4.04	2.48	N/A
1984	2.66	4.08	3.89	2.56	N/A
1985	2.51	3.19	3.75	2.37	2.61
1986	1.94	2.53	3.22	1.87	1.76
1987	1.67	2.17	2.87	1.65 <sup>2</sup>	1.55
1988	1.69	2.00	2.92	1.86	1.79
1989	1.69	2.04	3.01	1.77	1.76
1990	1.71	1.94 <sup>2</sup>	3.03	1.77 <sup>2</sup>	1.77
1991	1.64	1.83 <sup>2</sup>	2.90	1.57	1.50
1992	1.74	1.85 <sup>2</sup>	3.01	1.77	1.80
1993	2.04	2.03 <sup>2</sup>	3.21	2.10	2.15
1994	1.85	1.87 <sup>2</sup>	3.07	1.98 <sup>2</sup>	1.91
1995	1.55	1.49 <sup>2</sup>	2.78	1.77 <sup>2</sup>	1.65
1996	2.09	1.83	3.19	2.68 <sup>2</sup>	2.60
1997	2.08	1.99	2.09	2.52	2.60

\*See table on page 1 for average spot market prices on a BTU basis.



<b>Spot Market Price Monthly Average</b>	
	<b>March 1998</b>
Louisiana Natural Gas	\$2.19/MMBTU
	<b>February 1998</b>
Louisiana Sweet Crude-St. James	\$16.45/barrel
<b>PERMITS - Louisiana Jurisdiction Only</b>	
	<b>January 1998</b>
Total Oil and Gas	114
Wildcats	10
State Offshore (Wildcats included)	8

**Department of Natural Resources**  
Jack C. Caldwell, Secretary



**Technology Assessment Division**  
**Editorial Staff**

T. Michael French, Director  
William J. Delmar, Jr., Assistant Director  
Manuel L. Lam, Senior Analyst  
Phyllis S. Ortego, Editor  
Phone: (504 ) 342-4593 Fax: (504) 342-2707

This issue of **Louisiana Energy Facts** is funded 100% (\$220.80) with Petroleum Violation Escrow funds as part of the State Energy Program as approved by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Department of Natural Resources.

This public document was published at a total cost of \$220.80. 1,110 copies of this public document were published in this first printing at a total cost of \$220.80. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints, is \$220.80. This document was published by the Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 94396, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9396 to promulgate the State Energy Program developed under authority of P.L. 94-163. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by State agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

**Louisiana Department of Natural Resources**  
**Technology Assessment Division**  
**P.O. Box 94396**  
**Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9396**

**March 1998**  
**Louisiana Energy Facts**

