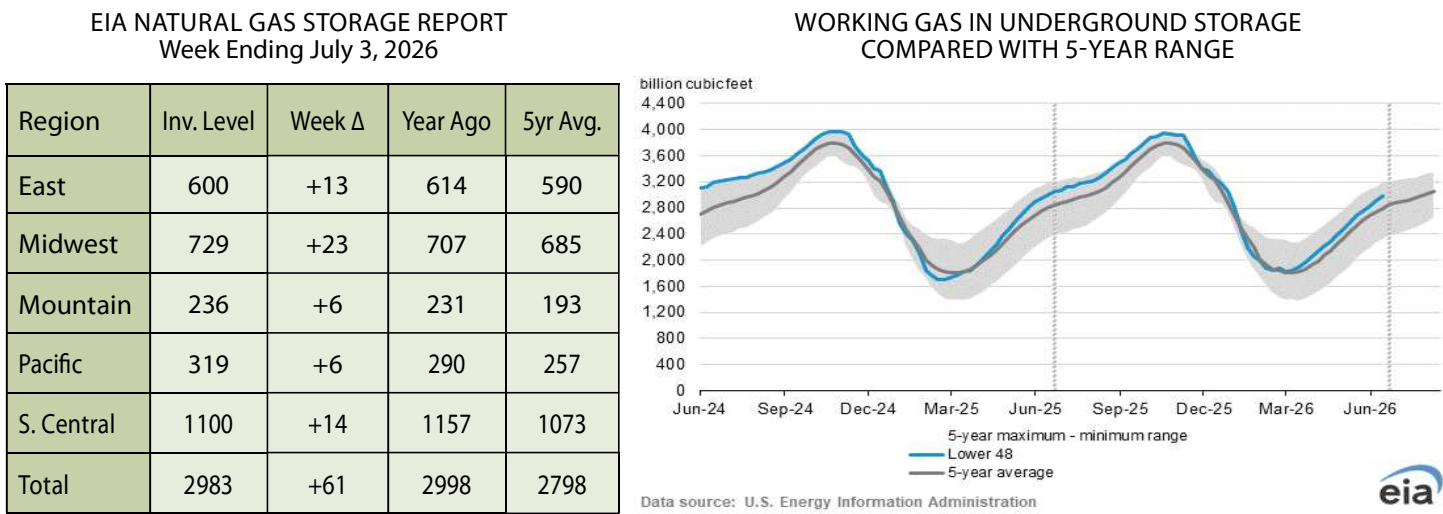


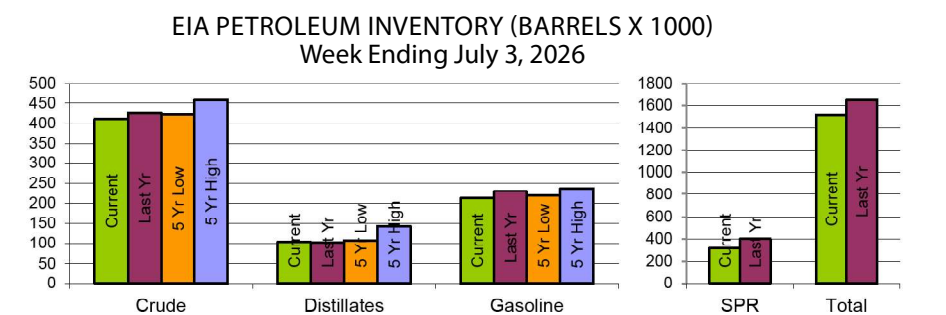
WEEKLY NATURAL GAS MARKET UPDATE

JULY 13, 2026

The August-2026 NYMEX natural gas contract closed Friday at \$2.940, down \$0.256 for the week. The 12-month strip average price of natural gas fell by \$0.140 over the same period. The August-2026 NYMEX crude oil contract closed Friday at \$71.41, up \$2.72 for the week. Updated NOAA weather forecasts suggest that extreme heat over much of the US this week may give way to more normal temps for at least the Midwest/North-east in the weeks ahead. Later this week the NOAA will update its outlook for the balance of the summer and beyond. The Tropical Atlantic is currently quiet with no threat of storm activity in the Gulf of America this week. Baker Hughes reported on Friday that the US natural gas rig count was unchanged at 126 while total rigs (gas/oil combined) were up 1 to 581. In its most recent natural gas storage data, the EIA reported an injection of 61 Bcf into national inventories, a number higher than consensus market expectations. Early estimates for this week’s report indicate an expected injection in the range of 20 to 40 Bcf vs. an injection of 53 Bcf for the same week last year and a 5-yr avg. injection of 51 Bcf.



Storage Highlights: Working gas in storage was 2,983 Bcf as of Friday, July 3, 2026, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net increase of 61 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 15 Bcf less than last year at this time and 185 Bcf above the five-year average of 2,798 Bcf. At 2,983 Bcf, total working gas is within the five-year historical range. (Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding)



U.S. commercial crude oil inventories (excluding those in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve) increased by 3.0 million barrels from the previous week. At 411.4 million barrels, U.S. crude oil inventories are about 6% below the five-year average for this time of year. Total motor gasoline inventories decreased by 1.9 million barrels from last week and are 6% below the five-year average for this time of year. Both finished gasoline and blending component inventories decreased last week. Distillate fuel inventories decreased by 5.0 million barrels last week and are about 12% below the five-year average for this time of year. Propane/propylene inventories decreased by 0.8 million barrels from last week and are 29% above the five-year average for this time of year. Total commercial petroleum inventories decreased by 4.0 million barrels last week.

BAKER HUGHES US NATURAL GAS RIG COUNT, 7/10/2026

	This Week	+/-	Last Week	+/-	Year Ago
Gas Rigs	126	-0-	126	+18	108

