

Natural Gas Utilities Continue to Grow

7/21/2025

Key National Trends

- 609,289 net new residential natural gas end users were added in 2023, according to EIA data. On average, that's 1,669 new households added every day across the U.S.
- Texas led the nation in 2023 with single year growth with 100,925 net new residential end users added, followed by California (+75,427) and New Jersey (+29,192). These additions reflect strong continued growth in high-population and high-development states.

Long-Term Growth Trends (2012–2023)

- Since 2012, over 6.4 million net residential gas end users have been added in the U.S. This represents a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 0.84% nationally.
- California (+600,848), Texas (+779,896), Michigan (+260,899), and New York (+272,972) have all added substantial numbers over the decade-plus.
- In 2023, there were 73,226,403 total residential natural gas customers in the U.S.

State-Level Highlights

Rank	State	Total net Growth (2012–2023)	CAGR - 10Y
1	Texas	779,896	1.49%
2	California	600,848	0.50%
3	New York	272,972	0.88%
4	Michigan	260,899	0.67%
5	Colorado	242,102	1.24%
6	Utah	227,193	1.67%

Fuel Choice Legislation

Fuel choice laws protect access to natural gas by preventing local bans on new construction. As of 2025, 27 states have adopted such laws. Of the top six states for residential gas growth since 2012, Texas and Utah have fuel choice protections, while California, New York, Colorado, and Michigan do not. This suggests that while fuel choice laws can support customer growth, other drivers like housing and population trends as well as energy prices remain important.

Average Annual Change in Residential End Users

State	1 Year 2022–23	10 Year Average 2012–23	Average 10Y Annual Growth	State	1 Year 2022–23	10 Year Average 2012–23	Average 10Y Annual Growth
Alabama	7,681	3,031	0.4%	Montana	2,601	3,068	1.0%
Alaska	1,784	1,742	1.2%	Nebraska	-9,938	1,828	0.3%
Arizona	18,280	20,439	1.5%	Nevada	15,032	15,748	1.7%
Arkansas	6,724	2,337	0.4%	New Hampshire	2,294	1,789	1.5%
California	75,427	60,085	0.5%	New Jersey	29,192	27,297	0.9%
Colorado	22,881	24,210	1.2%	New Mexico	4,186	4,286	0.7%
Connecticut	3,866	7,909	1.3%	New York	12,016	21,414	0.4%
DC	-1,299	763	0.5%	North Carolina	24,987	25,345	1.8%
Delaware	2,663	4,356	2.3%	North Dakota	1,192	2,127	1.4%
Florida	15,080	20,248	2.4%	Ohio	25,702	23,432	0.6%
Georgia	11,854	9,949	0.5%	Oklahoma	6,374	5,328	0.5%
Hawaii	1	254	0.8%	Oregon	8,636	10,475	1.3%
Idaho	11,101	10,574	2.4%	Pennsylvania	4,497	19,305	0.6%
Illinois	10,354	15,166	0.4%	Rhode Island	1,946	1,769	0.7%
Indiana	16,089	16,578	0.9%	South Carolina	25,044	21,558	2.9%
Iowa	6,344	6,937	0.7%	South Dakota	3,866	3,278	1.6%
Kansas	1,426	3,039	0.3%	Tennessee	7,714	13,707	1.1%
Kentucky	3,072	3,083	0.4%	Texas	100,925	77,990	1.5%
Louisiana	-8,621	1,175	0.1%	Utah	24,953	22,719	2.2%
Maine	385	1,121	3.5%	Vermont	590	823	1.7%
Maryland	5,666	10,653	0.8%	Virginia	6,352	12,814	1.0%
Massachusetts	12,094	13,564	0.8%	Washington	8,348	17,729	1.4%
Michigan	17,702	26,090	0.7%	West Virginia	-1,406	-495	-0.1%
Minnesota	20,026	18,556	1.1%	Wisconsin	21,468	16,839	0.9%
Mississippi	17,472	285	0.1%	Wyoming	1,150	1,430	0.8%
Missouri	3,516	9,586	0.6%	Total	609,289	643,333	0.8%

***Green highlight indicates states with fuel choice legislation**

Source: Energy Information Administration EIA-176 Survey

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