Meeting Europe's Natural Gas Demand

With Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022 and subsequent halting of most pipeline natural gas deliveries to European countries, Europe's vulnerability to supply disruption has posed major security and economic concerns for many European governments and the EU. However, European countries were largely able to overcome the shortfalls in Russian imports because of increased imports by both pipeline and LNG from other suppliers (including from the United States), refilling of gas storage, decreased consumption, and increased renewable generation.

- **Gas storage capacity** (bcm)
- 🛏 Natural gas import pipeline (operating)
- Natural gas import pipeline (not operating)
- LNG Liquefaction/export facilities (shut down or on standby)
- LNG Liquefaction/export facilities (operating)
- LNG Regasification/import facilities
- European Union member states Data on the map are from 2023

Data on the map are from 2023 Gas storage includes select non-EU countries



200 Contracted volumes (bcm) _____



Russian pipeline gas delivery to the EU decreased by more than **80%**

from 2021 to 2023. Some EU countries have gas contracts beyond 2030.

2020 2022 2024 2026 2028 2030 (Estimated) Turkey is the second largest importer of Russian natural gas, but is not an EU member Annual actual delivery figures may include non-contracted volumes of natural gas purchased from Russia on the spot market

Some contracts go beyond 2030

Sources of EU Natural Gas Imports

2021 Total Imports: 334 bcm

Russia Pipeline 40% LNG 4 %	Norway 24%	North Africa 13%
	Other 12%	U.S. 6%

2022 Total Imports: 334 bcm			
Norway 27%	Other 22%		
Russia Pipeline 18% LNG 5%	U.S. 15%	North Africa 12%	
FU Production: 47 bcm			

2023 Total Imports: 290 bcm Norway 30% Other U.S. 21% 19% North Africa 14% Pipeline 9% LNG 6%

EU Production: 39 bcm

Subtotals may differ from totals due to rounding

EU Production: 51 bcm

Abbreviations: European Union (EU), billion cubic meters (bcm), and liquefied natural gas (LNG). Sources: Map created by CRS using data from Midstream Essentials, U.S. Department of State, and ESRI. Russian natural gas contracts data from CEDIGAZ, an energy subscription database. EU natural gas import data from Council of the EU, "Where Does the EU's Gas Come From?" updated March 21, 2024, and Ben McWilliams et al., "European Natural Gas Imports," Bruegel Datasets, updated April 17, 2024. Natural gas storage data from Council of the EU, "Gas Storage Capacity and Filling Level in the EU Member States," updated March 21, 2024, and Cedigaz. Information prepared by Michael Ratner, Specialist in Energy Policy; Sarah Garding, Analyst in European Affairs; Brion Long,





Author Information

Michael Ratner Specialist in Energy Policy Sarah E. Garding Analyst in European Affairs

Disclaimer

This document was prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). CRS serves as nonpartisan shared staff to congressional committees and Members of Congress. It operates solely at the behest of and under the direction of Congress. Information in a CRS Report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to Members of Congress in connection with CRS's institutional role. CRS Reports, as a work of the United States Government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS Report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS Report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain the permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.