INNOVATION ENERGY GROUP



NORTH AMERICA

Market Driver Report

The week of September 27, 2026

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September,2026 | 1 MIN READ

The strongest signal for the **2026-2027 North American winter** is the development of a **strong to potentially very strong El Niño**, according to NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. NOAA reported in September 2026 that El Niño is strengthening and has a **greater than 90% chance of being very strong during winter 2026-27**. [cpc.ncep.noaa.gov]

Expected North American Pattern

Based on historical strong El Niño winters and current seasonal outlooks:

Southern United States

- Higher likelihood of wetter-than-normal conditions from California across the Southwest, Gulf Coast, and Southeast. [farmersalmanac.com], [opensnow.com]
- More frequent storm systems and increased risk of heavy precipitation events. [farmersalmanac.com]
- Mountain regions of the southern Rockies may see above-normal snowfall. [farmersalmanac.com], [opensnow.com]

Northern United States and Southern Canada

- Favoring warmer-than-average temperatures overall. [opensnow.com], [cpc.ncep.noaa.gov]
- Cold outbreaks can still occur but historically are less frequent during strong El Niño winters. [opensnow.com]
- Snowfall is generally favored to be below normal across much of the northern tier of the U.S. and parts of Canada. [opensnow.com]

Northeast U.S.

- Forecast confidence is lower than in the South. Some outlooks indicate a mix of rain, ice, and heavy wet snow events rather than persistent cold. [farmersalmanac.com], [elninoguide.com]
- Seasonal snowfall could vary significantly depending on storm tracks. [elninoguide.com]

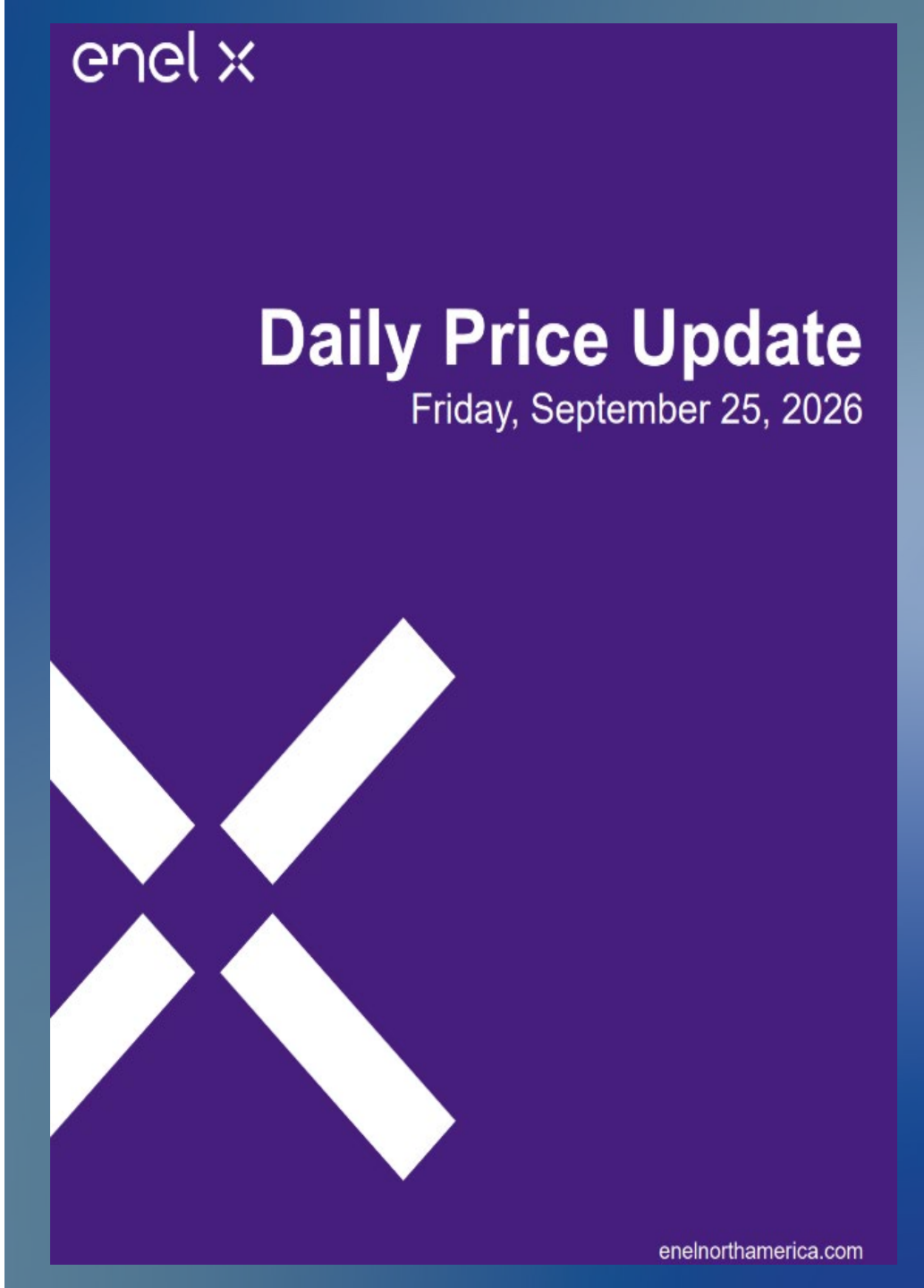
Western North America

- Southwest: increased chances for wetter conditions and more snow in favored mountain areas. [opensnow.com], [farmersalmanac.com]
- Pacific Northwest: tendency toward warmer and drier conditions in strong El Niño years.

Daily price update

https://cdnstorage.innovationenergygroup.net/ENELX/ENELX_DailyPriceUpdate_09.25.2026.pdf

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September 25, 2026 www.encorenergy.com Phone: 402-905-4000 or 855-4NATGAS

Physical Spot Prices – September 24, 2026

	Price	Change	Natural Gas Equivalent
Natural Gas – H. Hub	$3.297/MMBtu	+$0.396	$3.297
Propane – Mont Belvieu	$0.8559/gal	+$0.0115	$9.35
Crude Oil – WTI Cush	$97.76/bl	-$4.670	$16.86
No.2 Heating Oil – NYH	$164.91/bl	-$21.530	$28.31
No.6 Resid. – G. Coast	$79.25/bl	+$1.940	$12.60
Cent App Coal (prev. day)	$84.00/ton	-$0.250	$3.36

Change is from previous week

U.S. Rotary Rig Count for:

Week ending 09-18-26

	Gas	Oil
Current	134	452
Last Week	132	450
Last Year	118	418

Market Update is a weekly publication of Encore Energy Services, Inc. and is designed to provide industrial and commercial customers with the latest "Market News" in the natural gas industry. The information contained herein is intended as general business information. This publication contains forward-looking material and is not intended for a specific business situation. If you would like copies of previous reports, please visit our website or contact your Sales Manager.

Futures Pricing

At the close of business Thursday, September 24, 2026 the future strip prices were as follows:

	This Week 09/24/26	Last Week 09/17/26	Change	Last Month 08/24/26	Change	Last Year 09/24/25	Change
NYMEX near month	$3.297	$2.901	+$0.396	$2.835	+$0.462	$3.868	-$0.571
NYMEX 12-month strip	$3.261	$3.110	+$0.151	$3.159	+$0.102	$3.943	-$0.682
NYMEX Winter strip	$3.542	$3.302	+$0.240	$3.392	+$0.150	$4.318	-$0.776
NYMEX Summer strip	$3.061	$3.027	+$0.034	$3.058	+$0.003	$3.670	-$0.609

Near month range for the week = $2.817 - $3.317

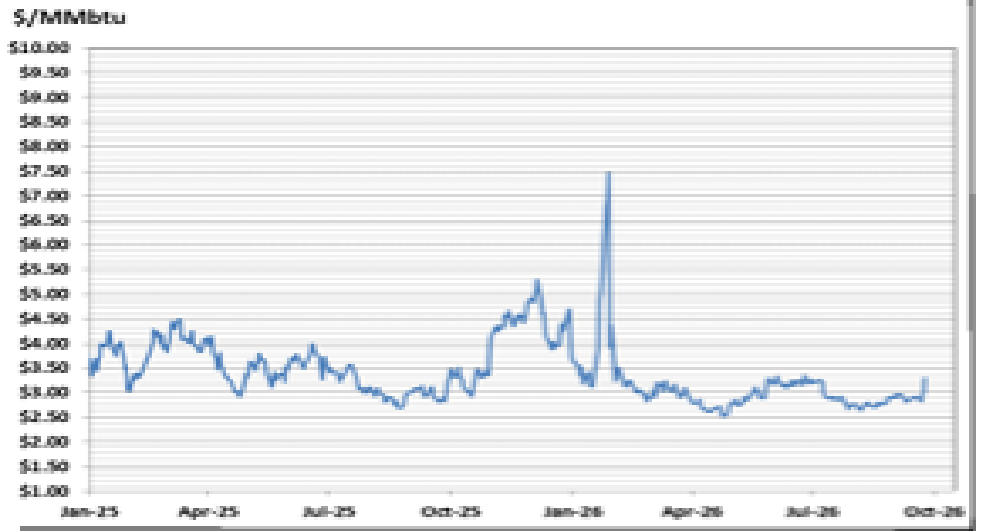
Current near month is Oct '26

12-month strip is Oct '26 – Sep '27

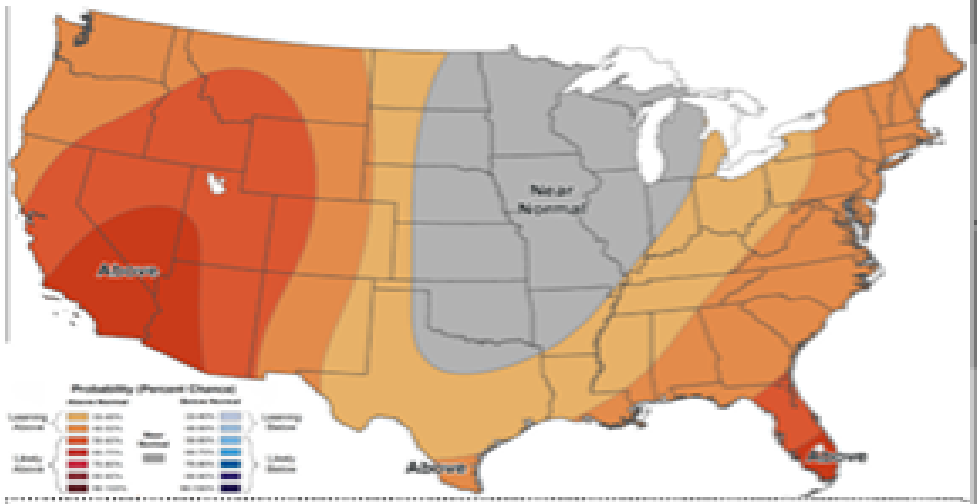
Summer strip is April '27 – Oct '27

Winter strip is Nov '26 – Mar '27

Near- Month Natural Gas Futures Prices (NYMEX) through Sep 24, 2026



Temperature Forecast
Oct 02, 2026 through Oct 08, 2026



For more information on anything addressed in this report, please contact your Sales Manager.

Sources: NOAA, EIA, CME Group and Baker Hughes

Storage Report

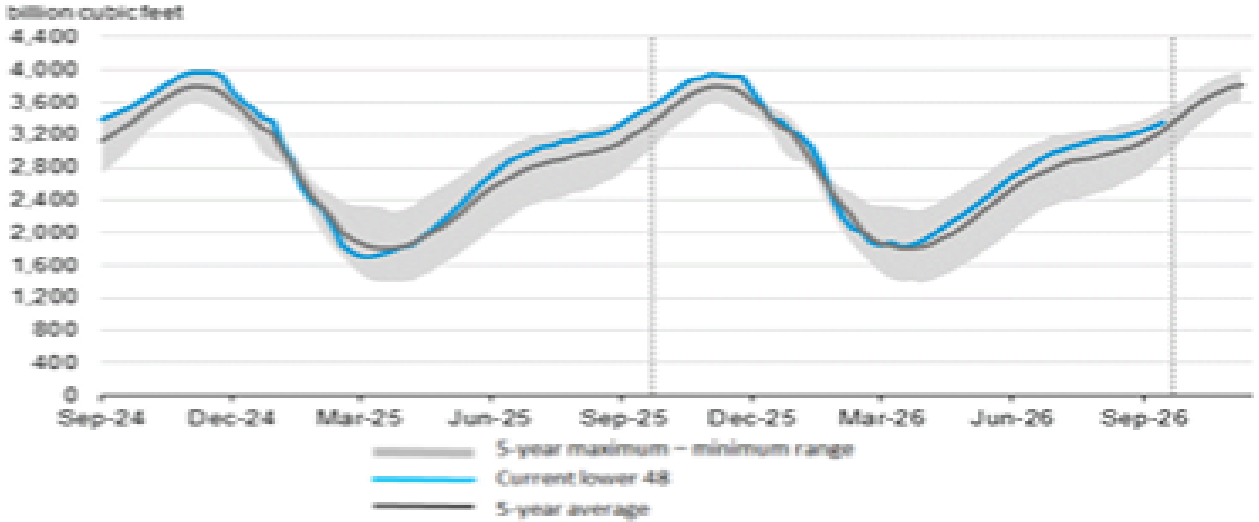
For the week ending Sep 18, 2026, natural gas storage reported by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) was as follows:

This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Ave.
3,351	3,298	3,497	3,256

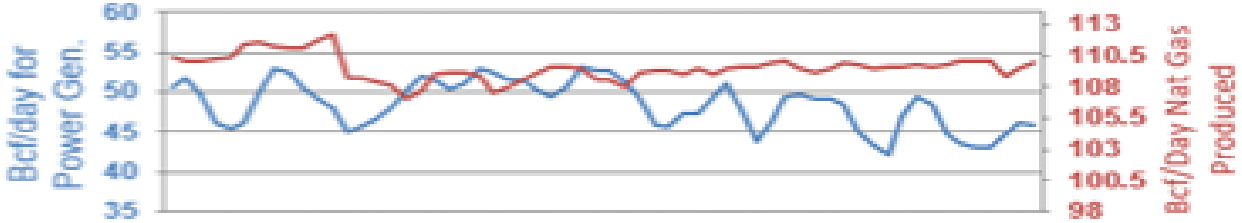
Change this week: +53 Bcf Change for the same week last year: +77 Bcf

Inventory vs. 1 Year ago: -4.2% Inventory vs. 5-Yr. Ave: +2.9%

Working Gas in Storage Compared to 5-Year Range



Daily Nat Gas Use For U.S. Power Production (last 60 days)



Last 52 week Average = 36.6 Bcf/day Last 30 day Average = 48.6 Bcf/day

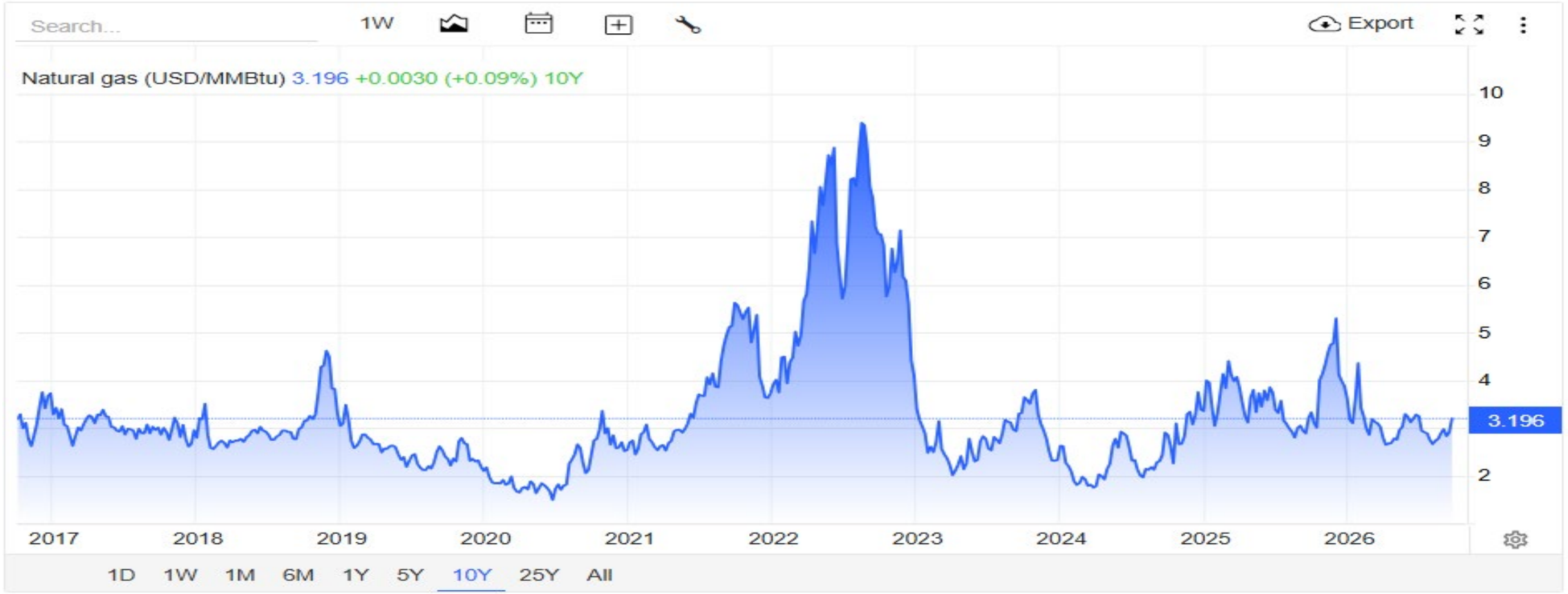
% of U.S. Demand = 41% % of U.S. Demand = 57%

NATURAL GAS

- US Natgas Prices Drop on Profit-Taking
- US natural gas prices fell to $3.15 per MMBtu on Friday as traders took profits after prices surged to a 13-week high in the previous session amid supply disruptions in West Virginia. TC Energy's Columbia Gas Transmission pipeline in Appalachia declared force majeure due to an unexpected mechanical issue, prompting the biggest single-day gain in gas prices since January. The market also remains supported by rising LNG feedgas demand, with flows to the nine major export plants averaging 17.8 bcfd in September, up from 17.2 bcfd in August, even with the 0.8-bcfd Cove Point facility offline for planned maintenance. Meanwhile, EIA data showed inventories rose by 53 Bcf for the week ended September 18, narrowing the storage surplus over the 5-year average to 95 Bcf from 118 Bcf a week ago, as hot weather boosted cooling demand. While September production remains near record levels at an average 112.8 bcfd, daily output has been falling mainly due to declines in Louisiana and West Virginia.

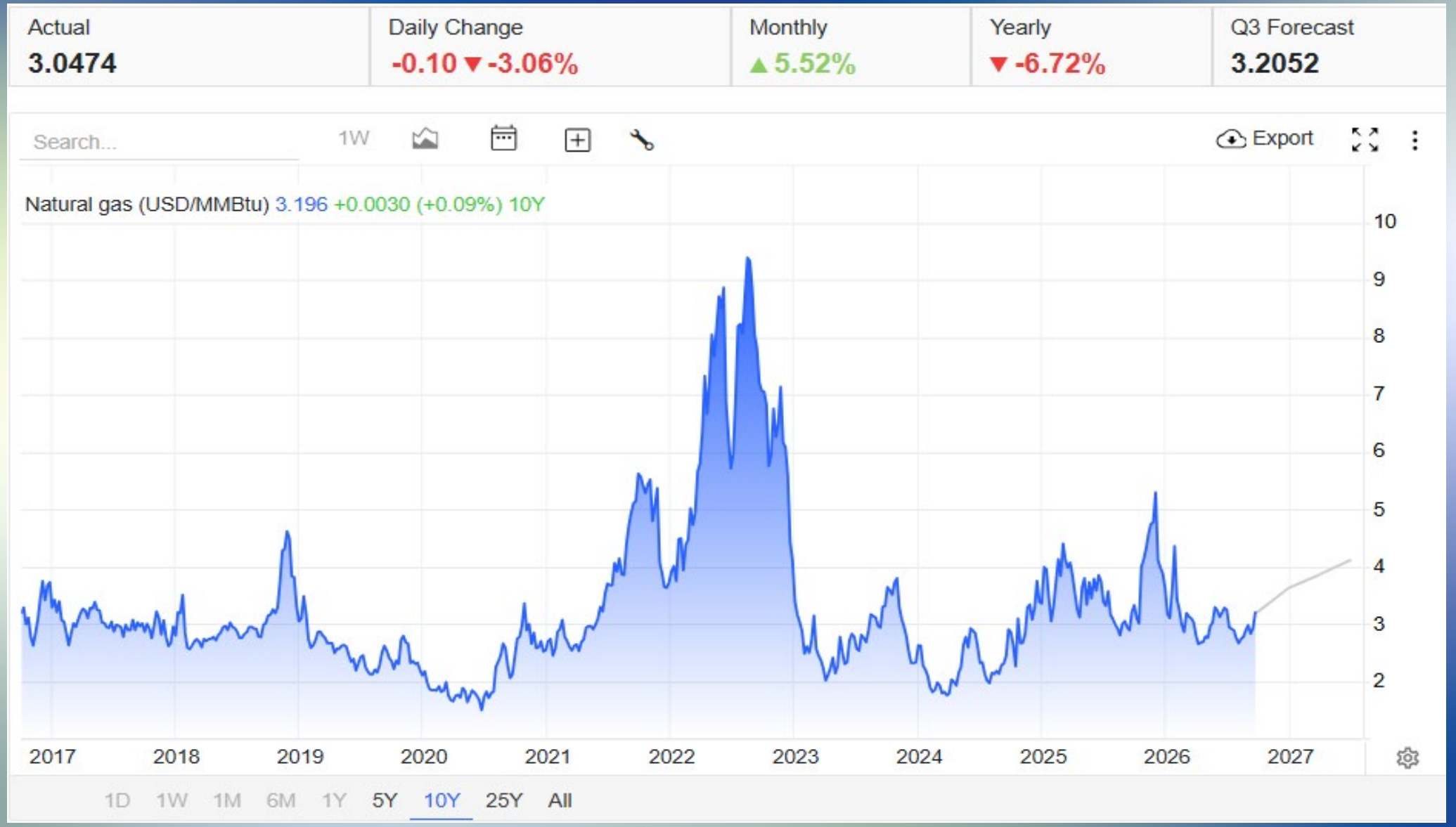
Natural gas

Actual	Daily Change	Monthly	Yearly	Q3 Forecast
3.0474	-0.10 ▼ -3.06%	▲ 5.52%	▼ -6.72%	3.2052



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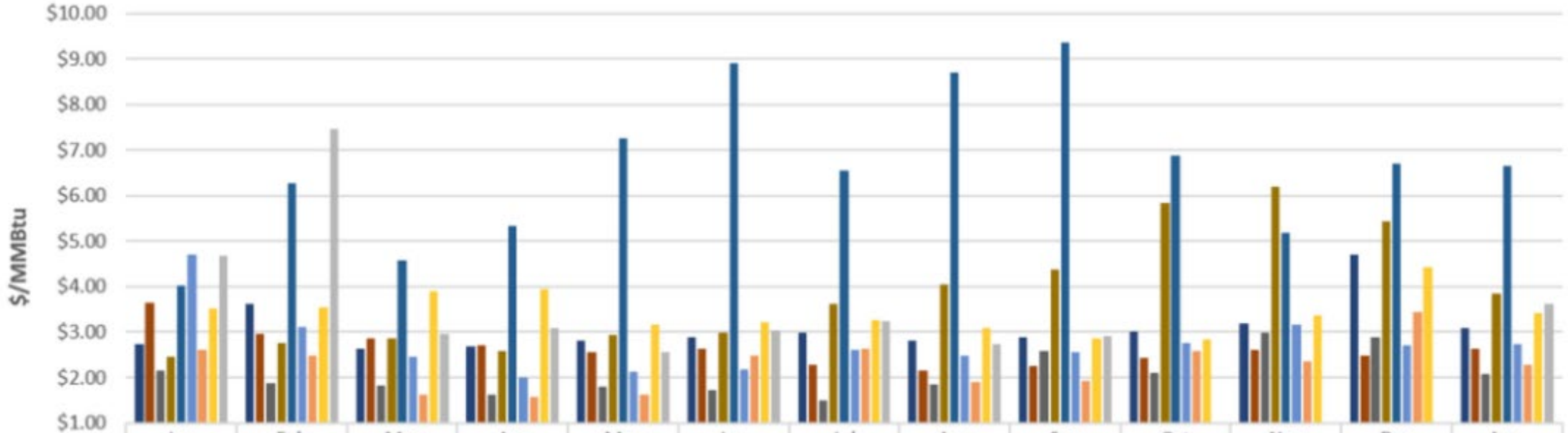
Natural Gas Forecast



Natural Gas Forecast

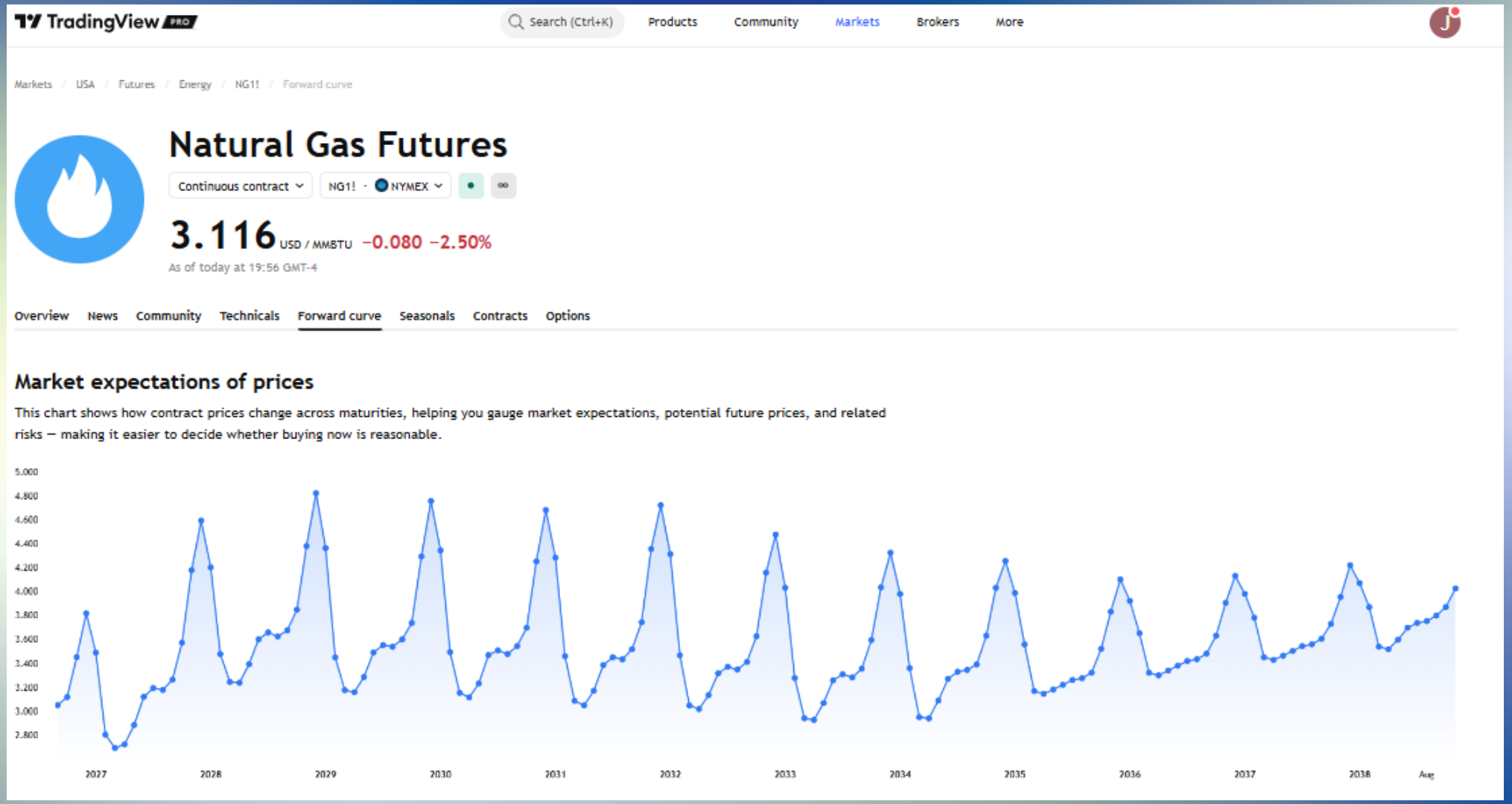
- Natural gas fell to 3.05 USD/MMBtu on September 27, 2026, down 4.65% from the previous day. Over the past month, Natural gas's price has risen 5.52%, but it is still 6.72% lower than a year ago, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks the benchmark market for this commodity. Natural gas is expected to trade at 3.21 USD/MMBtu by the end of this quarter, according to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts' expectations. Looking forward, we estimate it to trade at 4.11 in 12 months time.

NYMEX Settlements: 2018 - 2026



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2018	$2.738	$3.631	$2.639	$2.691	$2.821	$2.875	$2.996	$2.822	$2.895	$3.021	$3.185	$4.715	$3.086
2019	$3.642	$2.950	$2.855	$2.713	$2.566	$2.633	$2.291	$2.141	$2.251	$2.428	$2.597	$2.470	$2.628
2020	$2.158	$1.877	$1.821	$1.634	$1.794	$1.722	$1.495	$1.854	$2.579	$2.101	$2.996	$2.896	$2.077
2021	$2.467	$2.760	$2.854	$2.586	$2.925	$2.984	$3.617	$4.044	$4.370	$5.841	$6.202	$5.447	$3.841
2022	$4.024	$6.265	$4.568	$5.336	$7.267	$8.908	$6.551	$8.687	$9.353	$6.868	$5.186	$6.712	$6.644
2023	$4.709	$3.109	$2.451	$1.991	$2.117	$2.181	$2.603	$2.492	$2.556	$2.764	$3.164	$2.706	$2.737
2024	$2.619	$2.490	$1.615	$1.575	$1.614	$2.493	$2.628	$1.907	$1.930	$2.585	$2.346	$3.431	$2.269
2025	$3.514	$3.535	$3.906	$3.950	$3.170	$3.204	$3.261	$3.081	$2.867	$2.835	$3.376	$4.424	$3.427
2026	$4.687	$7.460	$2.969	$3.095	$2.559	$3.040	$3.231	$2.725	$2.907				$3.630

Natural Gas Forward Curve



Home Heating Oil

US heating oil futures fell below $4.70 per gallon, declining for a third consecutive session to a two-week low, as uncertainty over US diesel export restrictions persisted. The White House denied reports of a planned 90-day ban, while Energy Secretary Chris Wright said the administration was instead seeking voluntary curbs from major refiners. Still, President Donald Trump earlier said he supported restricting diesel exports, leaving the administration's approach unclear. Meanwhile, diplomatic hopes between the US and Iran eased some supply concerns, as negotiators reportedly explored a phased path to end the war, including reopening the Strait of Hormuz and lifting Washington's economic blockade of Iran. However, continued attacks in the Middle East kept broader de-escalation hopes at bay. Separately, the approaching winter heating season could lift demand and further tighten supplies, with distillate inventories already about 12% below the five-year average, according to the EIA.

Home Heating Oil



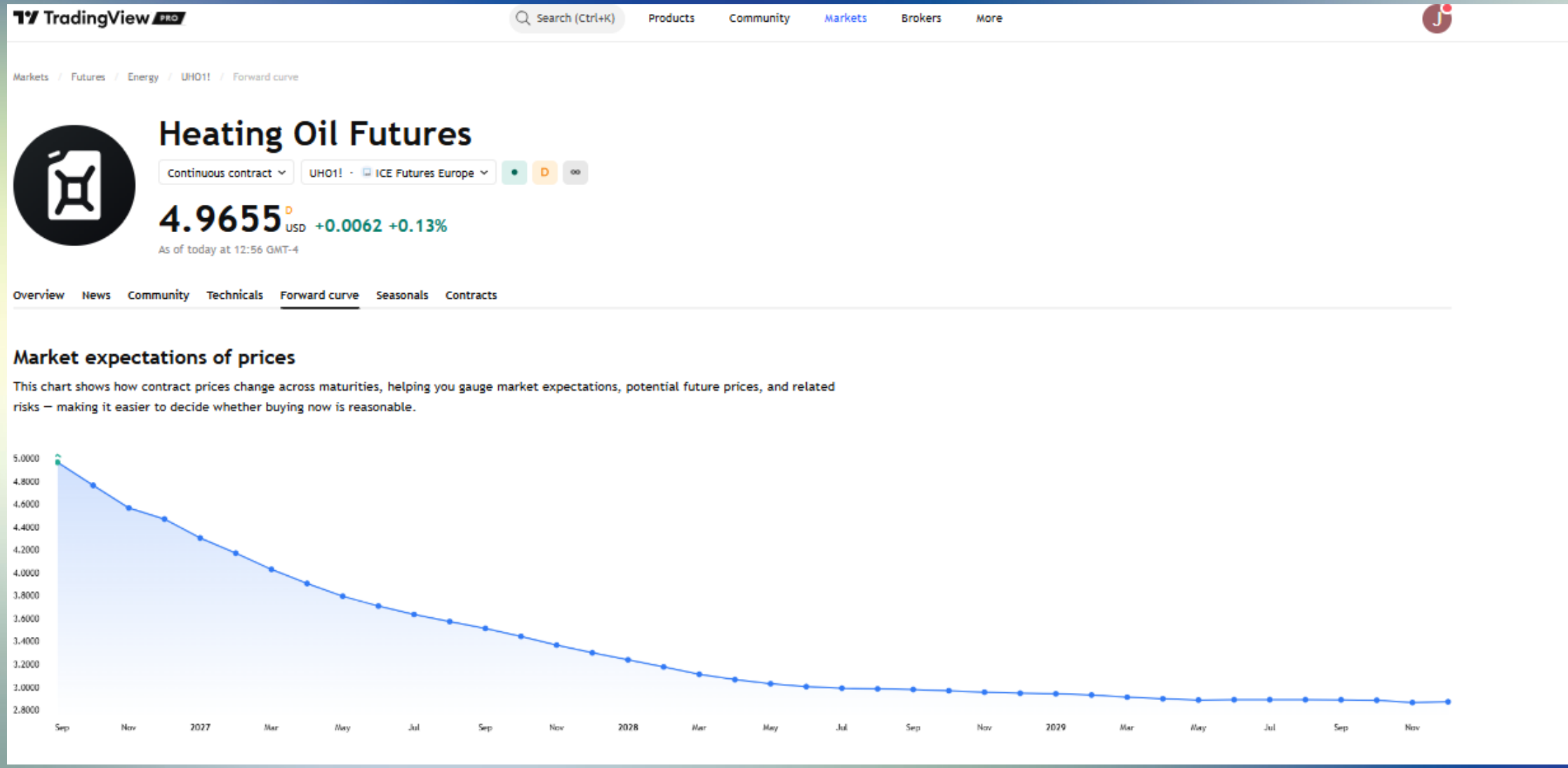
Home Heating Oil Forecast

Heating Oil rose to 4.79 USD/Gal on September 27, 2026, up 2.35% from the previous day. Over the past month, Heating Oil's price has risen 12.85%, and is up 104.15% compared to the same time last year, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks the benchmark market for this commodity. Heating oil is expected to trade at 4.69 USD/GAL by the end of this quarter, according to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts expectations. Looking forward, we estimate it to trade at 5.63 in 12 months time.

Home Heating Oil Forecast



Home Heating Oil Futures Curve



WTI (West Texas Intermediate) Crude oil

Crude oil climbed above $93 per barrel on Monday, recovering some of the previous session's losses after President Donald Trump rejected Iran's latest proposal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, raising concerns that the restoration of oil flows through the critical waterway could face further delays. Trump also said Tehran had overplayed its hand and expects negotiations to resume this week. Meanwhile, Iran said it is waiting for a definitive US response to its seven-day proposal to reopen the strait and other demands, adding that it will not ease its conditions after Trump rejected Tehran's latest plan. Elsewhere in the Middle East, tensions remain high as Saudi Arabia intercepted Houthi drones heading toward Riyadh, along with a missile targeting Khamis Mushait in the south. Alerts were also issued in Abha and Jazan, where Aramco operates energy facilities. In the US, Trump is considering a ban on diesel exports as part of efforts to address elevated fuel prices.

WTI Crude Oil

Actual	Daily Change	Monthly	Yearly	Q3 Forecast
93.214	0.804 ▲ 0.87%	▲ 11.85%	▲ 47.02%	92.599

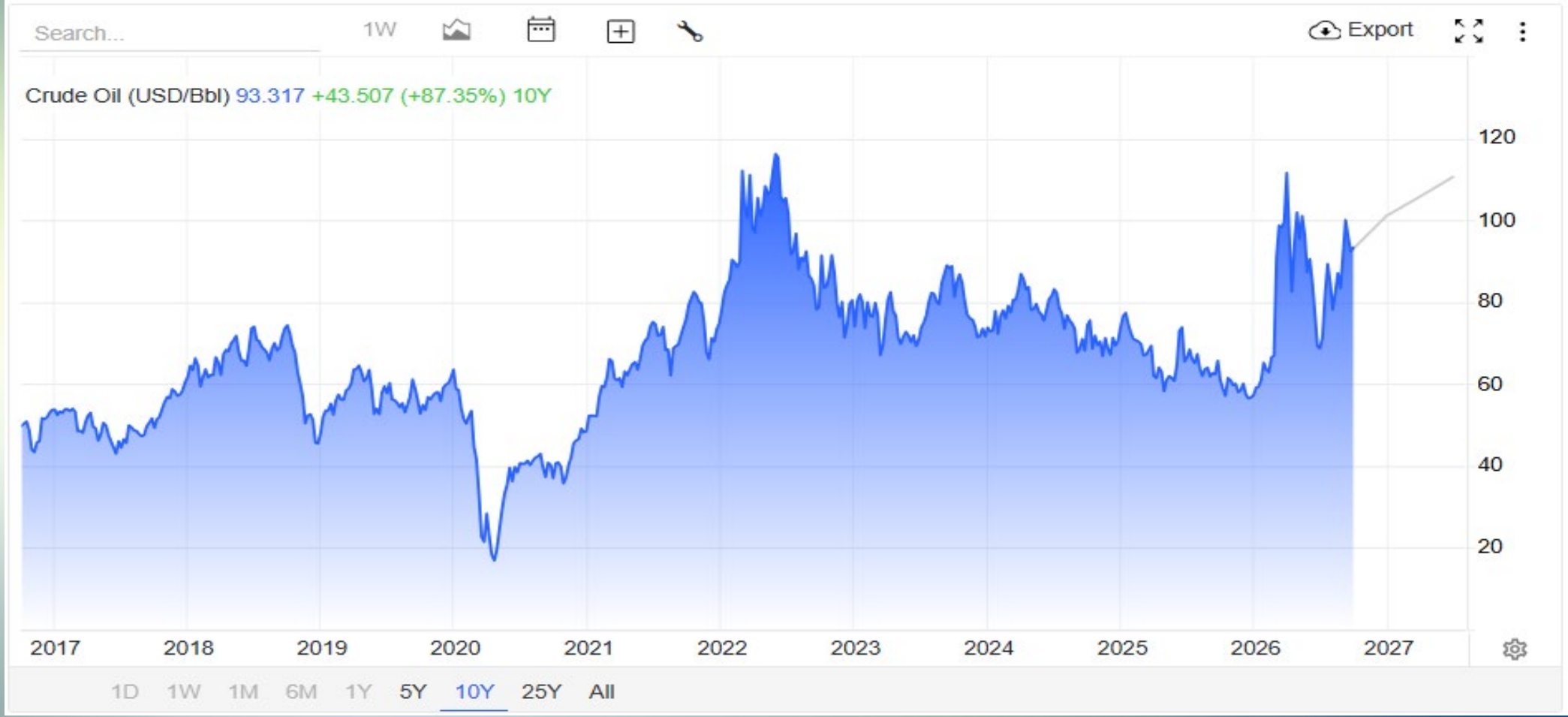


WTI Crude Forecast

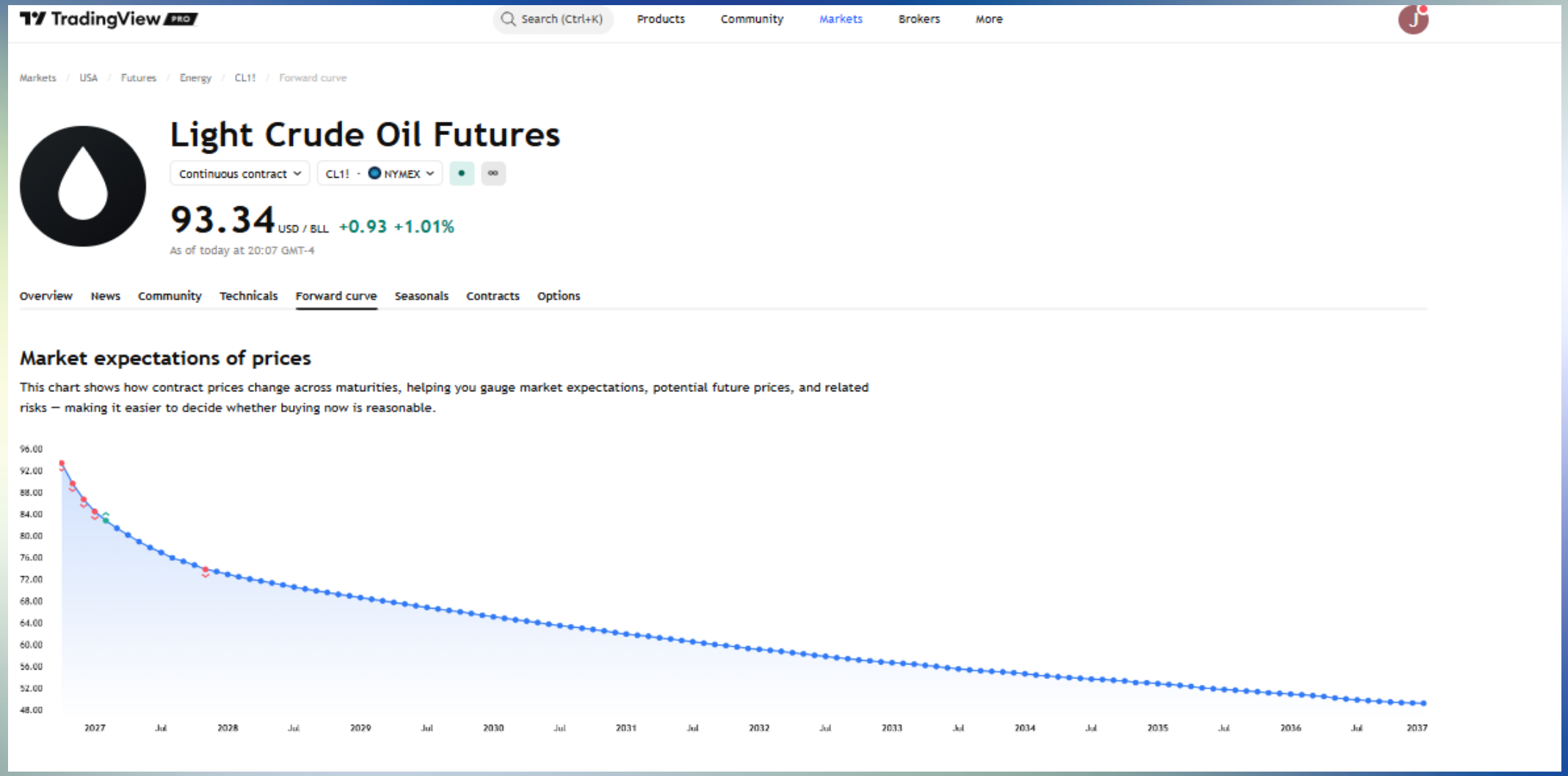
Crude Oil rose to 93.28 USD/Bbl on September 27, 2026, up 0.95% from the previous day. Over the past month, Crude Oil's price has risen 11.85% and is up 47.02% compared to the same time last year, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks the benchmark market for this commodity. Crude Oil is expected to trade at 92.60 USD/BBL by the end of this quarter, according to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts' expectations. Looking forward, we estimate it to trade at 110.62 in 12 months time.

WTI Crude Oil Forecast

Actual	Daily Change	Monthly	Yearly	Q3 Forecast
93.308	0.898 ▲ 0.97%	▲ 11.85%	▲ 47.02%	92.599



WTI Light Crude Oil Futures Curve

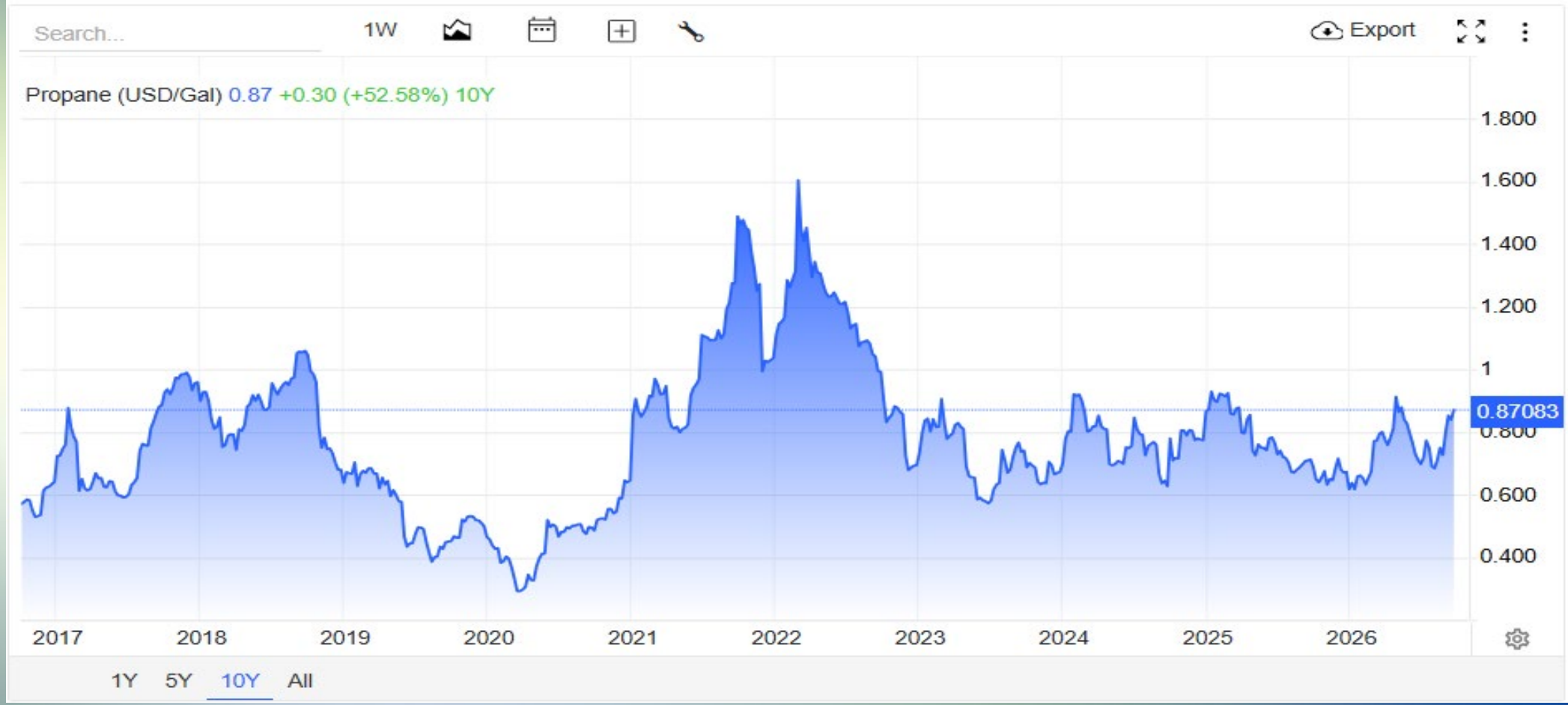


Propane Gas

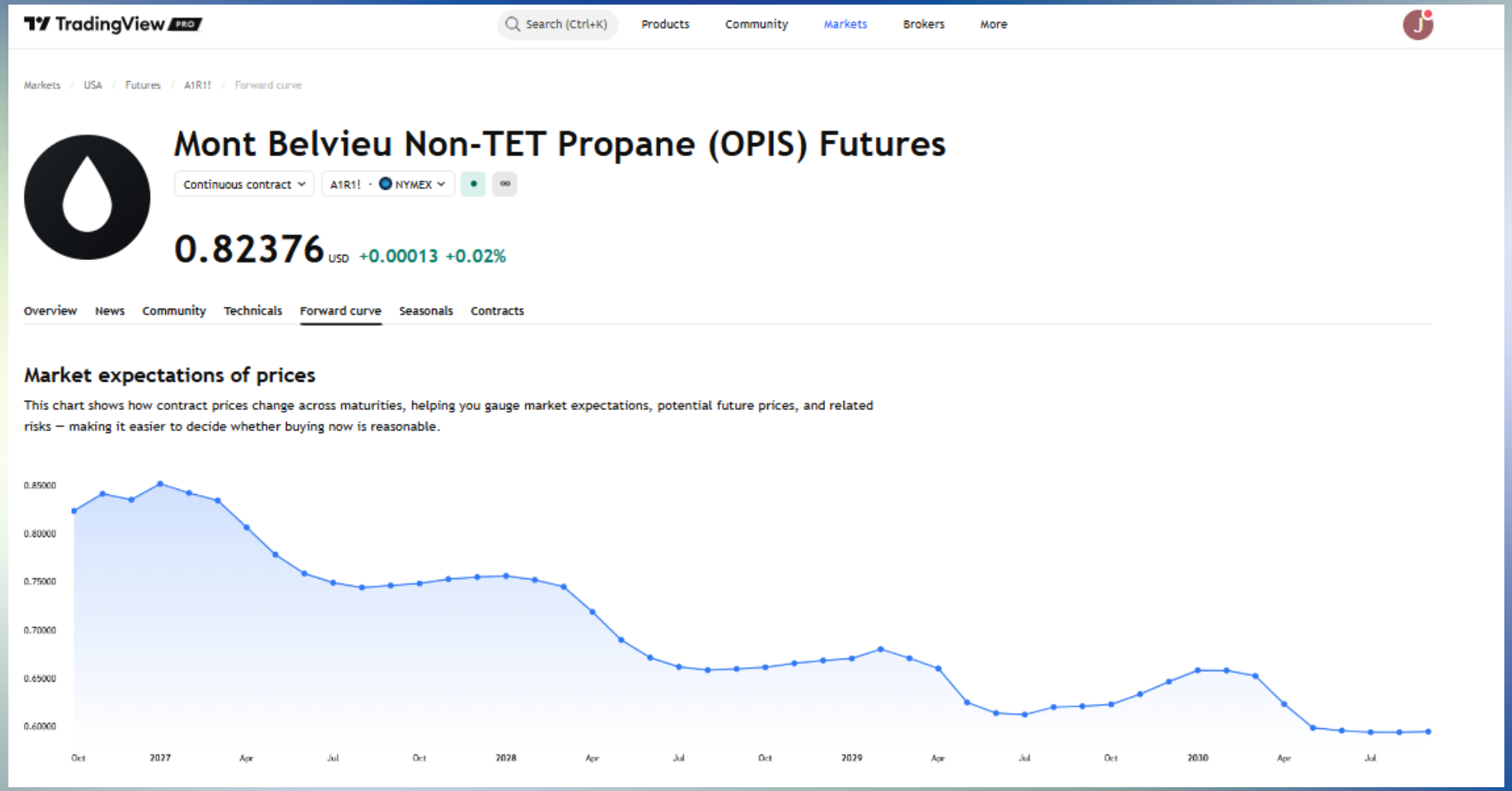
Propane fell to 0.87 USD/Gal on September 25, 2026, down 2.06% from the previous day. Over the past month, Propane's price has risen 21.94%, and is up 22.23% compared to the same time last year, according to trading on a contract for difference (CFD) that tracks the benchmark market for this commodity.

Propane Gas

Actual	Daily Change	Monthly	Yearly	Q3 Forecast
0.87	-0.02 ▼ -2.06%	▲ 21.94%	▲ 22.23%	0.87



Propane Futures Curve



Questions?

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