



Natural gas consumption within GRTgaz's territory 1st quarter 2009

1. GROSS CONSUMPTION

During the 1st quarter of 2009, gross consumption of natural gas within GRTgaz's territory – excluding its own consumption – increased by 4.5% compared to the 1st quarter of 2008, at 187.5 TWh in 2009 compared with 179.1 TWh in 2008. This increase in gross consumption is directly due to the effects of the average temperature for the 2009 period under consideration in GRTgaz's zones (4.2°C), which was colder than the corresponding period in 2008 (6.2°C).

2. CLIMATE-ADJUSTED CONSUMPTION

To enable comparisons to be made between two climatically different years, GRTgaz carries out a climate adjustment for gross consumption. Climate adjustment involves using a statistical model to evaluate the level of consumption that would have been noted for a reference climate defined as a benchmark. The reference climate adopted by GRTgaz corresponds to the reference temperature for the period 1974-2003, adjusted to offset the trend towards global warming.

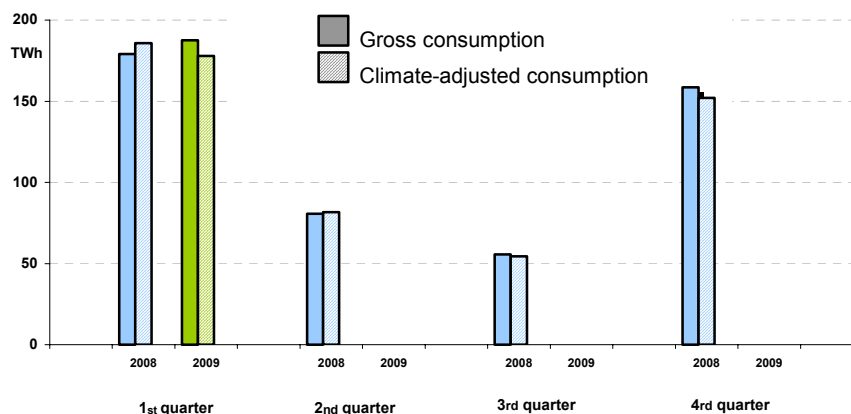
The climate adjustment is positive for a temperature that is warmer than the reference temperature (if the actual temperature was the reference temperature, consumption would in fact have been higher than the actual consumption). It is negative for a temperature colder than the reference.

The average temperature for the 1st quarter of 2009 in GRTgaz's zones, which was colder than that for the same period in 2008 (4.2°C in 2009 compared to 6.2°C in 2008), was lower than the reference temperature (6.1°C), which explains the negative climate adjustment for the 1st quarter of 2009.

Once the climate adjustment has been made, consumption for the 1st quarter of 2009 ($187.5 - 9.6 = 177.9$ TWh) was down (-4.2%) compared with the 1st quarter of 2008 ($179.1 - 6.6 = 185.7$ TWh).

While the average climatic conditions in the 1st quarter of 2009 were considerably colder than in 2008 and led to a growth in gross consumption of 4.5%, adjusted consumption is down by 4.2%. This is due mainly to the continued slowdown in activity experienced since October 2008. The fall in consumption in the industry was 10% this quarter, while the residential-commercial sector has remained relatively stable.

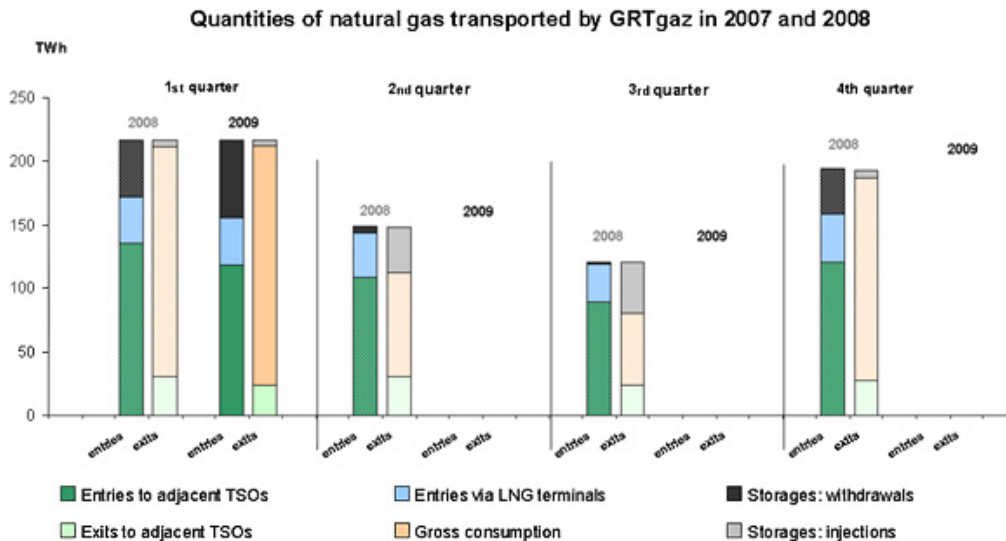
Gross and climate-adjusted consumption on GRTgaz's territory



3. QUANTITIES OF NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTED

GRTgaz transports natural gas for consumption on its own territory, but also natural gas destined for adjacent transmission system operators and underground storage facilities connected to its network.

The quantities of natural gas transported by GRTgaz can be calculated either as the sum of gas quantities entering the system (from LNG terminals, other transmission systems and withdrawals from storage facilities), or as the sum of gas quantities leaving the system (deliveries to other transmission systems, consumption and injection into storage facilities).



Quantities transported during the 1st quarter of 2009 compared with those transported during the 1st quarter of 2008:

	Exit quantities to adjacent TSOs	Consumption ⁽¹⁾ (including GRTgaz's own consumption)	Injections into underground storage facilities	TOTAL
Q1 2009	23.7 TWh	188.2 TWh	4.4 TWh	216.3 TWh
Q1 2008	31.1 TWh	180.1 TWh	5.5 TWh	216.7 TWh
Diff.	-23.8%	4.5%	-18.9%	-0.2%

	Entry quantities from adjacent TSOs	LNG terminals	Withdrawals from underground storage facilities	TOTAL
Q1 2009	118.4 TWh	36.9 TWh	61.1 TWh	216.3 TWh
Q1 2008	135.6 TWh	36.8 TWh	44.2 TWh	216.7 TWh
Diff.	-12.7%	0.4%	38.1%	-0.2%

GRTgaz is responsible for the operation, maintenance and development of a natural gas transmission system in France more than 31,600 km long. GRTgaz transports almost 700 TWh of natural gas per year.

In a changing European market, GRTgaz has a dual role:

- to transport natural gas to customers at optimum cost and in maximum safety;
- to contribute to the opening up of the French natural gas market by making the transmission system and the services associated with it available.

In particular, GRTgaz must maintain the continuity of the gas transportation service, which is a public service obligation. The surveys conducted and consumption forecasts produced by GRTgaz are used to steer its network development strategy and to dimension the infrastructures required to fulfil this obligation.

¹ These are the quantities consumed by large users connected directly to the GRTgaz system, by public distribution networks supplied by GRTgaz and by GRTgaz itself for its own needs, in particular to operate its compressor stations.