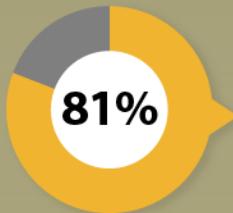
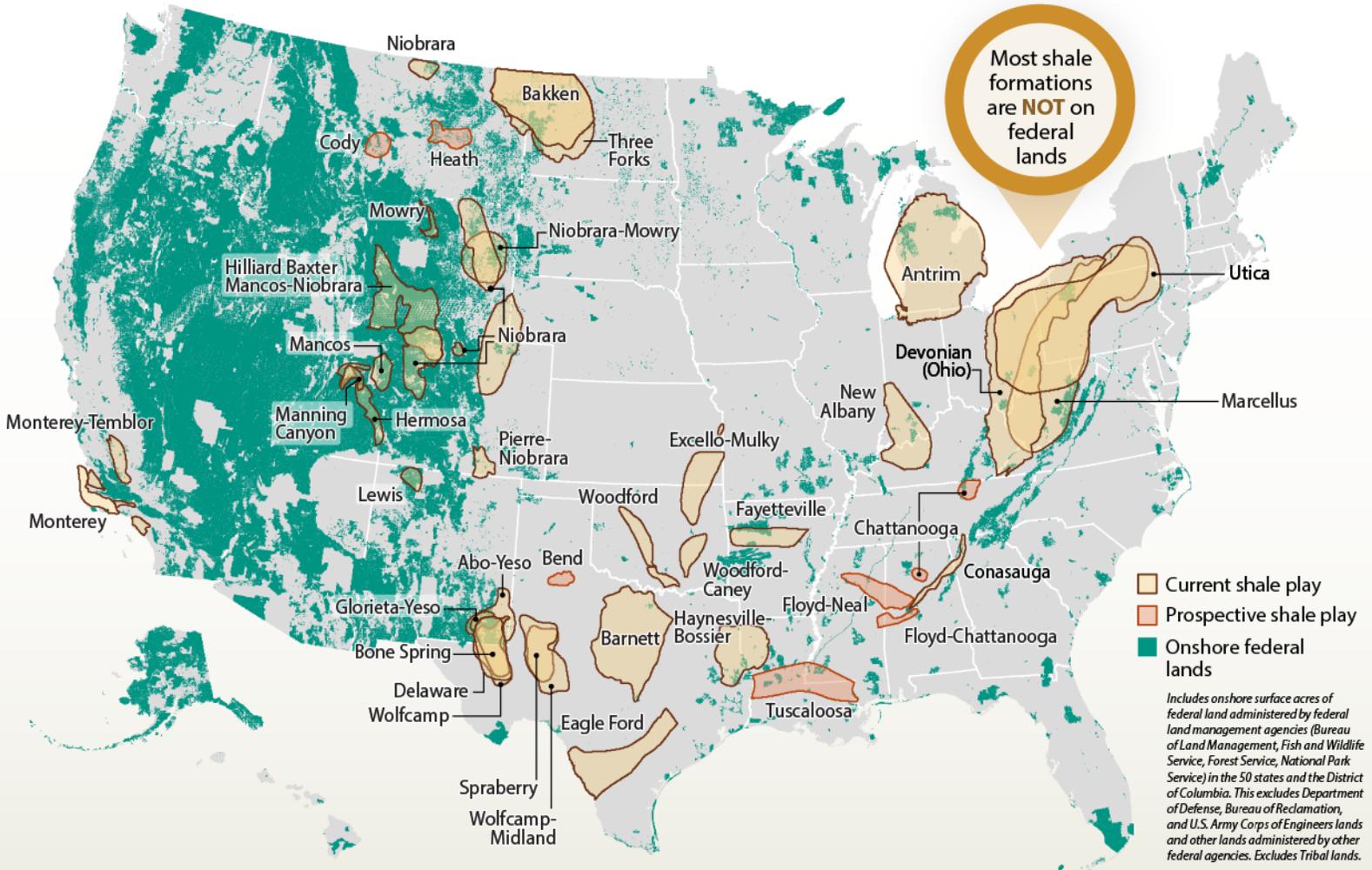
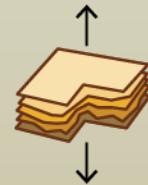


# U.S. Shale Gas and Onshore Federal Lands

The United States has been the largest producer of natural gas since the advent of shale gas development in the early 2000s. Shale gas production has mostly taken place on private lands, with the largest contribution coming from the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio. Of the top five states for natural gas production and revenue generation from federal lands, only New Mexico is also among the top five producers of gas overall. Given that most of the rise in U.S. production has been on private lands, federal revenues from natural gas have not increased as rapidly as gas production on nonfederal lands.



Shale gas production is 81% of onshore U.S. gross natural gas production



Plays that overlap are at different geologic depths



**Total Gross Natural Gas Production\*<sup>1</sup>**

**43,564 bcf**

2024 U.S. Total

Top 5 States % Total U.S.

69%



**Natural Gas Production on Federal Lands<sup>2</sup>**

**4,160 bcf**

96%



**Production on Federal Lands as % of Total Gross Production, by State**

**10%<sup>3</sup>**

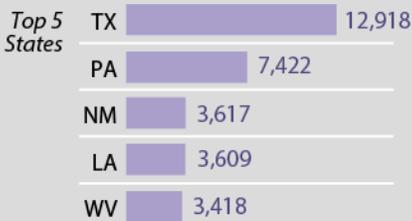


**U.S. Federal Natural Gas Revenue<sup>2</sup>**

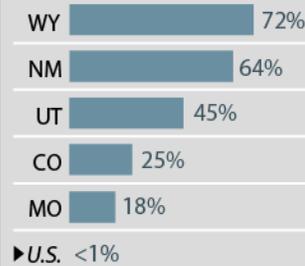
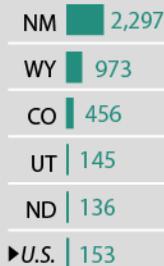
**\$1.4 billion**

96%

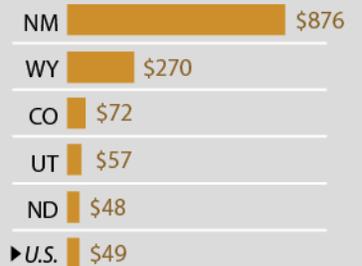
bcf



bcf



\$ in millions



Western states account for most natural gas production and revenues on federal lands. Data are from 2024, the latest year of available data for all categories. Data from these four graphs are for natural gas from all sources, including shale and non-shale.

bcf = billion cubic feet

\* **Gross production** = Full well-stream volume, including all natural gas plant liquids and all nonhydrocarbon gases, but excluding lease condensate. Also includes amounts delivered as royalty payments or consumed in field operations.

Notes: 1. U.S. Energy Information Administration, Natural Gas Gross Withdrawals and Production, Natural Gas Gross Withdrawals (eia.gov).

2. Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR), Query Natural Resources Revenue Data (revenue.data.doi.gov). Excludes Tribal lands.

3. In 2024, production of natural gas on federal lands accounted for 10% of total U.S. gross natural gas production. Map geography created by CRS using data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, U.S. Geological Survey, and ESRI.

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