## ERCOT MONTHLY

A RECAP OF KEY INFORMATION FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTH, A LOOK AT THE UPCOMING MONTH, AND A SNAPSHOT OF ADDITIONAL KEY ITEMS

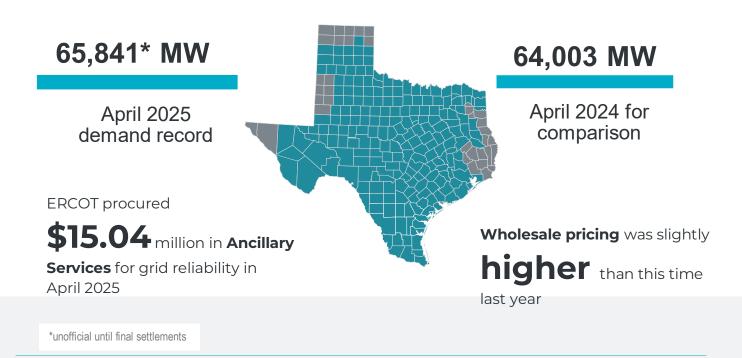
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MAY 2025

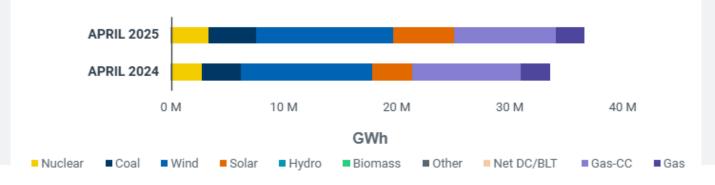
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### April 2025 Look Back





#### April 2025 vs. 2024 Energy Generation Comparison



## Summer Outlook

#### Monthly Outlook for Resource Adequacy (MORA) Reports

The June and July MORA probabilistic modeling shows a less than 1% chance of having to declare an Energy Emergency Alert (EEA). The highest-risk hours are from 8 to 10 p.m. CDT. Relative to June, July is expected to have significantly higher battery storage availability during the highest-risk hours as well as additional expected operational capacity (453 MW). Under typical grid conditions, there should be sufficient generating capacity available. The full reports can be found on the <u>Resource Adequacy</u> page of ERCOT's website.

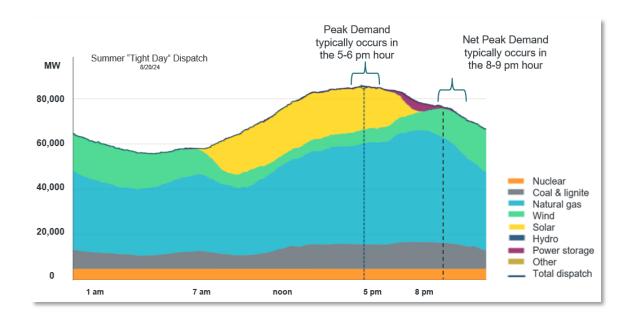
August risk is moderated due to lowered expectations for new large loads (e.g., data centers) being connected to the grid this summer, as well as anticipated additions of new battery storage. Typical August wind generation is lower relative to July; and solar generation is lower for the late afternoon into evening hours due to shorter days.

Extremely high net loads (the amount of demand not served by wind or solar resources for a given interval of time) in the early evening hours may necessitate curtailing generation exported from South Texas into the San Antonio region to avoid line overloads. This risk is accounted for in the July MORA and NERC Seasonal Resource Adequacy reports.

#### Summer Peak Demand vs. Peak Net Demand

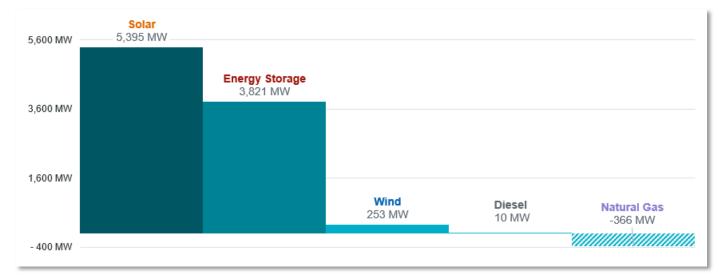
The ERCOT grid has seen a significant shift in the evening hours with solar generation being such a prominent resource during the day. The tightest time on the grid during summer used to be between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. Today, the ramp down of solar generation in the evenings becomes the tightest time to manage the grid. If an EEA were to be issued, it is likely to occur in the evening hours between 8 and 9 p.m. during the summer monthly peak load days. Peak demand still typically occurs between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., but net peak load now occurs between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m.





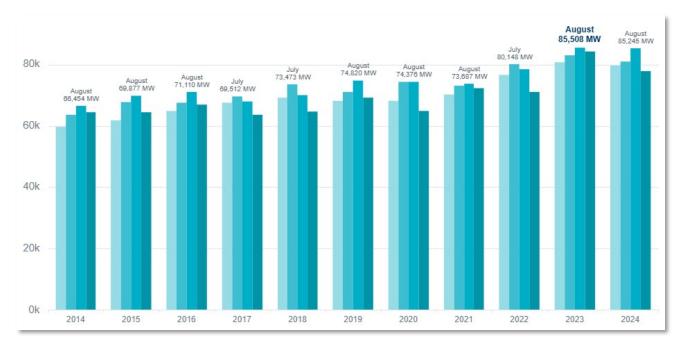
#### Capacity Growth Since Last Summer (October 1, 2024 – May 31, 2025)

While the ERCOT grid has seen the addition of more than 9,645 MW of new generation resources since summer 2024, natural gas generation has a net loss of 366 MW due to retirements, derates, and indefinite mothballs. Energy storage resources will play an important role as solar generation ramps down each night.



#### **Summer Demand Over the Last 10 Years**

The current ERCOT all-time peak demand of 85,508 MW occurred in August 2023. The summer of 2024 did not set any new peak demand records; however, we did come close with 85,245 on August 20, 2024. When looking at peak demand by month during the heat of June, July, August, and September, since 2014, the demand growth in ERCOT is easy to see.



#### 2025 Hurricane Season (June 1 – November 30)

Forecasters within NOAA's National Weather Service <u>predict</u> above-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic basin this year. According to ERCOT's <u>Seasonal Updates</u>, the normal number of named storms in the Atlantic Basin each season is 14, seven of which are hurricanes, with three of those hurricanes considered major (category 3 or greater).

The forecast for this year's hurricane season is 14 to 19 total named storms, 7 to 10 of those will reach hurricane strength, and 2 to 5 of the hurricanes will be major hurricanes of category 3 or greater. This would qualify as another above-normal season. Regarding the Gulf, the forecast is for 3 to 6 named storms.

While the indicators for a Texas landfalling storm aren't quite as strong as a year ago, the potential for Gulf activity is high enough to warrant Texans remaining alert to a potential tropical storm or hurricane landfall. In fact, the Gulf is nearly as warm as it was a year ago, when it was at record levels. The probability of Texas landfall is in the 30 to 40% range.

ERCOT has performed summer preparation and EEA drills with the ERCOT System Operators this year. Also, we are conducted the SB3 Load Shed Workshop June 2. ERCOT's official

Severe Weather Drill is June 5 with Market Participants.

#### **ERCOT Meteorology Seasonal Update**

While the summer temperature <u>outlook</u> calls for another above-normal, very hot summer for Texas, this isn't a guarantee. 2011 and 2023 were the two hottest summers in Texas weather history.

Recent weeks have likely been too wet for a large portion of the state for Summer 2025 to push into top 2 territory. However, indicators still suggest a good chance for a top 10 hottest summer, with a probability of occurrence in the 40 to 50% chance range. 2022 and 2012 are two recent years with similarities to 2025. Those were the 3rd and 17th hottest summers on record for Texas.

Also, this year is showing some similarities with 2020, which was the 29th hottest summer on record. There is 70 to 80% probability that Summer 2025 will rank within the 30 hottest. While the lean is toward another very hot summer, ranking among the hottest in Texas weather history, a milder (and possibly wetter) scenario does exist (with more potential than the last few years). 2017 and 2021 are tied for the 55th hottest summer, and 2025 does have some similarities to those years. As previously mentioned, some portion of the eastern half of the U.S. is likely to experience relatively milder conditions. There's about a 30% chance that the milder air will expand to include more than just the eastern fringes of Texas.

#### Stay Up to Date in Real-Time

ERCOT has a variety of ways to stay up to date on grid conditions.

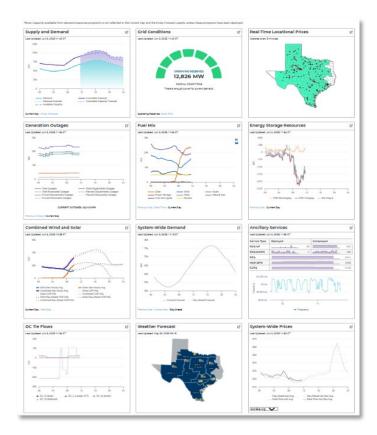
#### The Texas Advisory and Notification System

**(TXANS)** provides earlier notification of periods of higher demand with the potential for lower reserves due to weather conditions, such as extreme heat and winter storms. Sign-up to receive emails on the <u>TXANS</u> web page and follow us on social media.

View ERCOT's grid condition <u>levels</u> for more information, and <u>sign-up</u> for Emergency Grid Alerts, which are sent separately form TXANS.

ERCOT also has a variety of **dashboards** on our <u>Grid and Market Conditions</u> page, including:

- Operating reserves and physical responsive capability <u>dashboard</u>
- Current-day view and 6-day supply and demand <u>forecast</u>



Find the latest grid information, updates, and more on our social media channels.



# Additional Items of Note

#### **Legislative Update**

ERCOT continues to serve as a resource to legislative offices and committees during the 89th Texas Legislative Session, offering technical expertise on issues and legislation relevant to the ERCOT electric grid. Throughout the month of May, members of the ERCOT Executive Team and other subject matter experts served as resource witnesses on multiple pieces of grid-related legislation. These efforts included testimony and availability before the House Committee on State Affairs and the Senate Committee on Business and Commerce. ERCOT remains committed to supporting policymakers at all levels as they consider legislation impacting the reliability and resiliency of the electric grid.

Additionally, ERCOT continues to implement the various provisions from previous legislative sessions. A full listing of the legislative provisions currently undergoing the implementation process can be found in the most recent edition of the ERCOT <u>Legislative Status Report</u>.

#### Life Cycle Mobile Generation

On June 4, 2025, ERCOT executed an Emergency Generation Service Agreement (Agreement) with Prime Power Solutions, LLC, d/b/a Life Cycle Power, to provide additional generation capacity to mitigate significant risks to the reliability of the ERCOT System. Under this Agreement, Life Cycle Power will move 15 of its mobile generators (each capable of providing approximately 30 MW of power) from the Houston area to the San Antonio area this summer, interconnect them to CPS Energy distribution system facilities, and make them available for ERCOT emergency commitment and dispatch.

The generators will be available for ERCOT dispatch only during an actual or anticipated Emergency Condition. If conditions warrant using these units, ERCOT will issue a Reliability Unit Commitment (RUC) instruction to bring the units online for dispatch via Security-Constrained Economic Dispatch (SCED). ERCOT will dispatch the units only if the condition cannot be fully resolved through the use of other ERCOT Resources and only for as long as ERCOT determines that is necessary to address the Emergency Condition.

The mobile generators are currently under lease to CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric (CenterPoint). CenterPoint has made the generators available to ERCOT through March 31, 2027, without requiring ERCOT to provide any compensation to CenterPoint for the use of the generators. ERCOT retains the flexibility to terminate the Agreement earlier if ERCOT determines that the units are no longer necessary. For more information, read the <u>Market Notice</u> or <u>Trending Topic</u>.

#### **NERC Summer Reliability Assessment Report**

NERC's 2025 Summer Reliability Assessment (SRA) <u>report</u>, published May 14, covers the upcoming four-month (June – September) summer period and evaluates generation resource and transmission system adequacy as well as energy sufficiency to meet projected summer peak demands and operating reserves. The report highlights that "an additional 7 GW of installed solar PV resource capacity and nearly 7.5 GW in new battery storage is helping ERCOT meet rising summer peak demand," and that "ERCOT is projected to have sufficient operating reserves for the August peak load hour given normal summer system conditions". (\*attributed to the NERC Summer Reliability Assessment report, from page 6)

#### Subchapter M Refinance Update

House Bill 4492, 87<sup>th</sup> R.S. (2021) allowed the creation the Texas Stabilization Series 2021 M Bonds (M Bonds), \$800 million to repay the "default balance of amounts owed by and to competitive wholesale market participants (MPs) related to Winter Storm Uri.

The M Bonds were issued to the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company (TTSTC) on November 12, 2021. The current outstanding M Bonds principal is approximately \$383 million, and the M Bonds have a contractual interest-rate-reset feature. Effective January 31, 2025, the reset interest rate for the M Bonds held by the TTSTC increased to 6.07%.

Because it seemed possible that the Texas Legislature may take action in 2025 affecting the M Bonds, TTSTC agreed not to transfer the M Bonds until the earlier of (i) the effective date of legislation affecting the Bonds; or (ii) September 1, 2025. However, ultimately, there was no legislation introduced that affected the M Bonds in this session, so ERCOT Staff will be requesting a vote at the June Finance and Audit (F&A) Committee to recommend that the Board authorize ERCOT staff to prepare, document, and consummate a placement – under SEC Rule 144A – of a *2025* series of bonds to replace the existing M Bonds (the Board had previously authorized a *2024* series of bonds as a replacement). ERCOT Staff expects the refinancing under SEC Rule 144A to be completed by this fall.

#### May 2025 Capacity, Demand and Reserves (CDR)

Earlier this month, ERCOT released the May 2025 Report on Capacity, Demand and Reserves (CDR) providing a snapshot of potential supply resource availability and demand over the next five years (2026-2030). The CDR signals an indicative trend of diminishing resource adequacy (planning reserve margins) in the absence of major mitigating factors.

The CDR includes varying load and supply resource scenarios that illustrate alternative planning reserve margin outcomes over the five-year horizon. It is not intended to represent expected real-time operations scenarios. The CDR incorporates several methodology changes including utilizing spring and fall season data and a new status designation (unconfirmed planned fuel conversion for an operating unit or OPER-UNFC). The CDR is based on the new ERCOT Adjusted Forecast prepared in March-April 2025. The report is attached and available under the <u>Resource Adequacy</u> section of ERCOT's website.

#### 2025 Innovation Summit recap

ERCOT's second Innovation Summit, held May 6, attracted attention and interest from around the globe, with almost 450 attending in person and 400 live streaming. The event creates a space to showcase not just ERCOT's innovative efforts, but the broader transformation happening across the entire energy ecosystem, which is happening at an unprecedented pace. This rapid change demands new thinking, smarter tools, and bolder innovation. Some of the discussions centered around key topics in four main areas – demand, supply, transmission and distribution, and the markets:

- On the demand side, data centers and skyrocketing demand projections, which bring opportunities in modeling, forecasting, interconnection, situational awareness, flexibility, and tooling
- On the supply side, the changing resource mix calls for innovation across the board: from reliability services and forecasting to resource adequacy and market integration
- The transmission and distribution sectors are also evolving quickly with an intense focus on increasing transfer capability to meet growing demand and endless opportunities in areas like DER flexibility, weather resilience, congestion management, and tooling
- The electricity markets themselves are developing new flexibility and reliability products to enhancing Ancillary Services

You can <u>view a video recap</u> of the conference on the Innovation Summit page of ERCOT's website.

