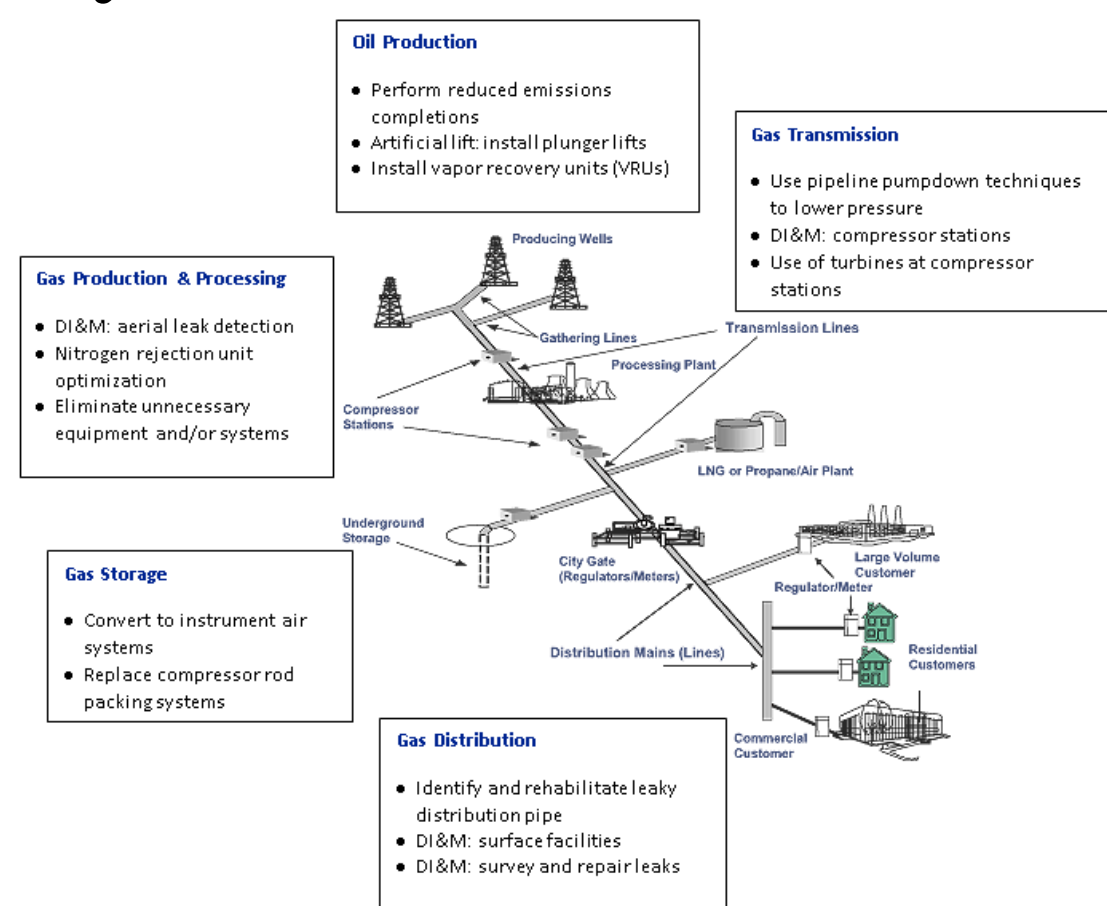


## How is the methane leakage rate estimated?

1. EIA bottom up approach based on sample measurements and activity inventory data



2. EPA GHG emission inventory says 360BCF annually

Table ES-2: Recent Trends in U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks (MMT CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)

CH <sub>4</sub>	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Natural Gas Systems	773.9	717.4	722.4	717.4	714.4	721.5	730.8
Enteric Fermentation	206.8	177.3	166.2	170.1	172.6	175.6	176.1
Landfills	164.2	168.9	171.3	168.9	166.7	165.5	164.3
Petroleum Systems	179.6	154.0	142.1	144.4	142.3	144.3	148.0
Coal Mining	38.7	48.8	34.1	36.3	38.4	64.7	68.1
Coal Mining	96.5	64.1	82.3	71.2	66.5	64.6	67.6
Manure Management	37.2	56.3	60.9	61.5	63.7	61.4	61.2
Wastewater Treatment	15.7	15.9	15.5	15.3	15.0	14.8	14.7
Rice Cultivation	13.1	13.0	11.9	11.8	11.9	11.9	11.9
Stationary Combustion	8.5	7.4	7.1	7.1	6.6	8.0	8.1
Abandoned Underground Coal							
Mines	7.2	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.3
Composting	0.4	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1
Mobile Combustion	5.6	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
Field Burning of Agricultural Residues	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Petrochemical Production	0.2	0.1	+	+	0.1	0.1	0.1
Ferrous Production	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Silicon Carbide Production and Consumption	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Iron and Steel Production & Metallurgical Coke Production	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Incineration of Waste	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
International Airports <sup>a</sup>	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

3. EIA says Natural Gas Production in the US was ~23,000 BCF

**Natural Gas Gross Withdrawals and Production**  
(Volumes in Million Cubic Feet)

Area: U.S. Period: Annual

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Gross Withdrawals	26,056,893	26,810,085	26,479,026	29,542,313	30,005,254	31,895,427	30,836,204
From Gas Wells	14,414,287	13,247,498	12,291,070	12,504,227	11,255,616	11,255,616	11,255,616
From Oil Wells	5,674,120	5,834,703	5,907,919	4,965,833	5,427,876	5,427,876	5,427,876
From Shale Gas Wells	3,986,315	5,617,122	6,900,983	10,532,858	11,896,204	12,211,935	12,211,935
From Coalbed Gas Wells	2,010,171	1,916,762	1,779,056	1,539,396	1,425,737	1,425,737	1,425,737
Repressuring	3,522,090	3,431,587	3,385,313	3,277,588	3,331,456	3,331,456	3,331,456
Vented and Flared	165,360	165,928	209,430	212,848	260,394	260,394	260,394
Nonhydrocarbon Gases	721,507	698,898	687,922	768,598	722,527	722,527	722,527
Manufacture Production	21,647,338	22,361,873	24,008,352	25,283,276	25,696,878	27,271,326	27,271,326
Dry Production	20,623,854	21,316,507	22,901,879	24,033,366	24,333,709	25,718,440	25,718,440

4. Divide!

$$\frac{360}{23,000} = 1.5\%$$

## What do Independent Studies Say?

1. Estimation methodology (top down vs bottom up analysis). In top down takes atmospheric samples, some sources not in the GHI inventory, such as abandoned gas wells<sup>1</sup> (Mary Kang Thesis 2014).
2. Sampling error. EPA is ignoring a small group of superemitters (Brand et al. 2014)
3. EPA might be underestimating leakage by 20-40%
4. Leakage rate is likely **1.85% - 2.95%** in natural gas systems

**Methane Research: The 16 Study Series**  
AN UNPRECEDENTED LOOK AT METHANE FROM THE NATURAL GAS SYSTEM

Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) is a growing environmental concern. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that is contributing to climate change. Science confirms methane is a problem that requires urgent attention. Reducing emissions of both methane and carbon dioxide is critical to slowing the rate of earth's warming and limiting peak warming.

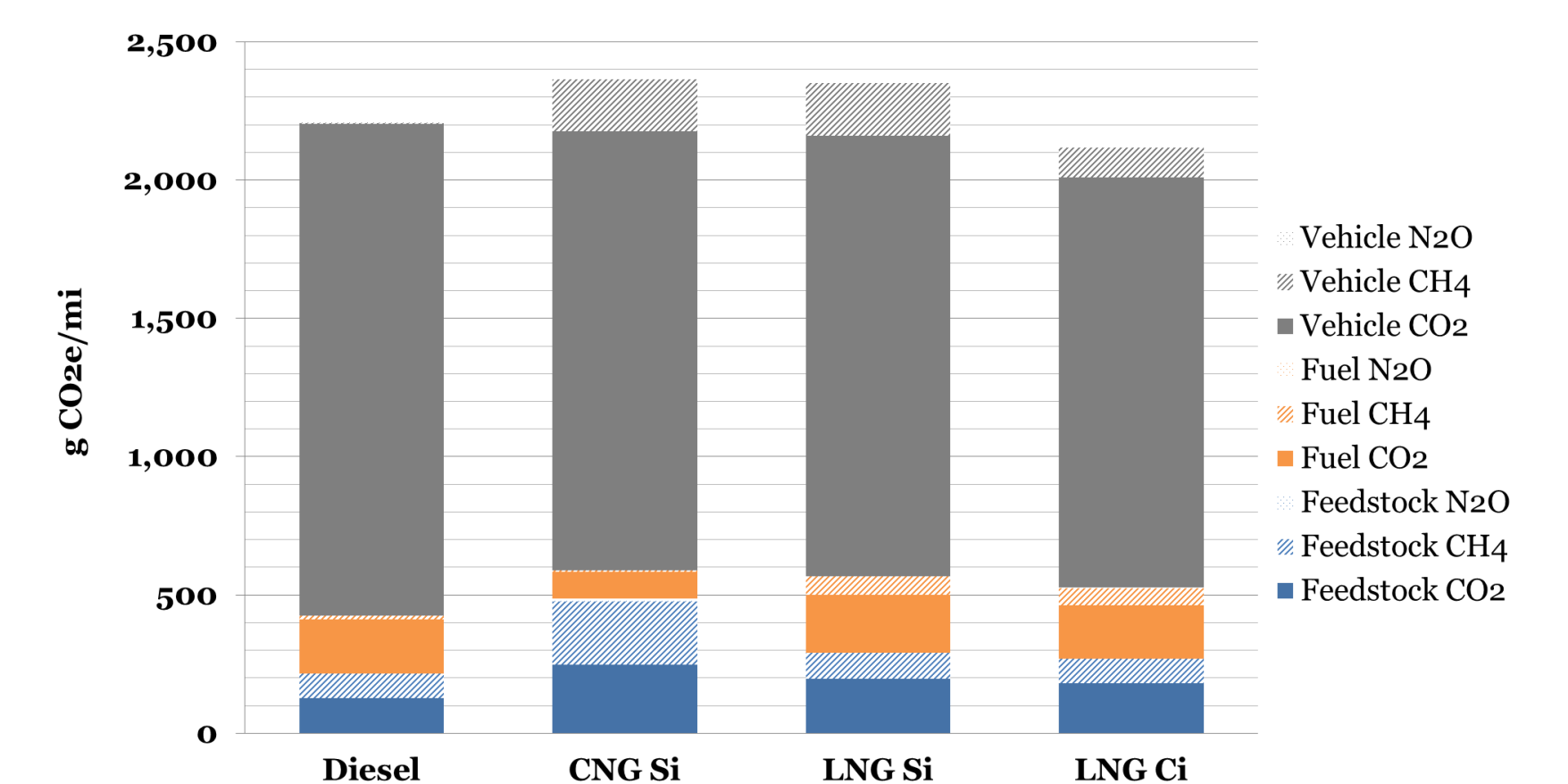
### Recent findings

- Barnett Study**  
July 2015  
Scientists estimated regional and facility level methane emissions in the Texas Barnett Shale, collecting data using aircraft, vehicular, and other ground-based platforms. Researchers estimate regional methane emissions are 50 percent higher than estimates based on the Environmental Protection Agency's Greenhouse Gas Inventory. [Learn more](#)
- UT Study, Phase 2**  
December 2014  
The study found that emissions from two sources—pneumatics and liquids unloadings—were responsible for a significant portion of methane emissions from the production sector. [Learn more](#)
- Gathering and Processing Study**  
February 2015  
Initial findings from the measurement report show wide variations in the amount of methane leaking at U.S. gathering and processing facilities. Researchers with the study suggest leak detection and repair policies can be effective at minimizing emissions from these sources. [Learn more](#)
- HARC/EPA Study**  
November 2014  
A statistical analysis of national production data suggests unpredictable events, such as malfunctions and maintenance, have a strong influence on emission rates. [Learn more](#)
- Local Distribution Study**  
March 2015  
The study shows that methane emissions from local natural gas distribution system are significant, especially in regions such as the Northeast where distribution infrastructure is older, but that progress being made in reducing emissions from
- Transmission and Storage Study**  
February 2015  
The paper confirms compressors and equipment leaks are two primary sources for the sector's methane emissions. [Learn more](#)
- Methane Maps Release**  
July 2014  
EDF and Google Earth Outreach released an interactive map that shows methane
- Denver-Julesburg Flyover Study**  
May 2014  
The study estimated methane emissions that were three times higher than estimates derived from EPA data. The study also found that levels of smog-forming VOCs were twice as high as EPA estimates, and Benzene levels were 7 times higher than previously estimated. [Learn more](#)
- Utah Study**  
January 2015  
Lower tower-based measurements, the study found methane emissions were are more than two times higher than inventory would suggest, with a yearly average increase rate between 2.1 and 3.3 percent. [Learn more](#)

### References

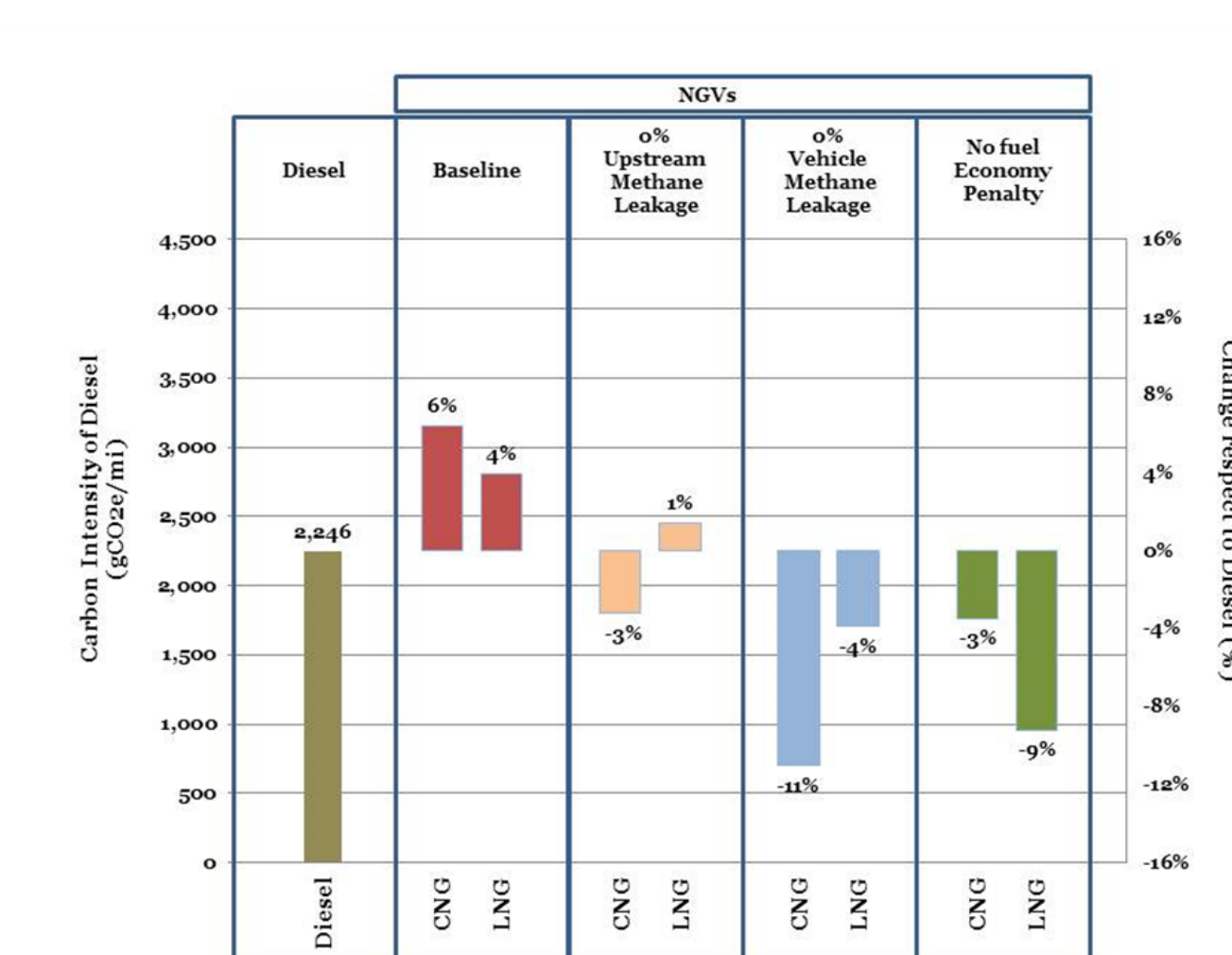
- Karion A et al. (2013) Methane emissions estimate from airborne measurements over a western United States natural gas field. *Geophys Res Lett* 40:4393–4397.
- Miller SM et al. (2013) Anthropogenic emissions of methane in the United States. *PNAS* 110:20018–20022.
- O'Sullivan F, Paltsev S (2012) Shale gas production: potential versus actual greenhouse gas emissions. *Environ Res Lett* 7:044030.
- Allen DT et al. (2013) Measurements of methane emissions at natural gas production sites in the United States. *PNAS* 110:17768–17773.
- Brandt AR et al. (2014) Methane Leaks from North American Natural Gas Systems. *Science* 343 733-735
- Kang M, Nanno C., Reid M.C., Zhang X., Mauzeralla D.L., Celia M.A., Chen Y., Onstott T.C. "Direct measurements of methane emissions from abandoned oil and gas wells in Pennsylvania." *PNAS* | December 23, 2014 | vol. 111 | no. 51 | 18173–18177

## How does it affect the WTW of natural gas fuels?



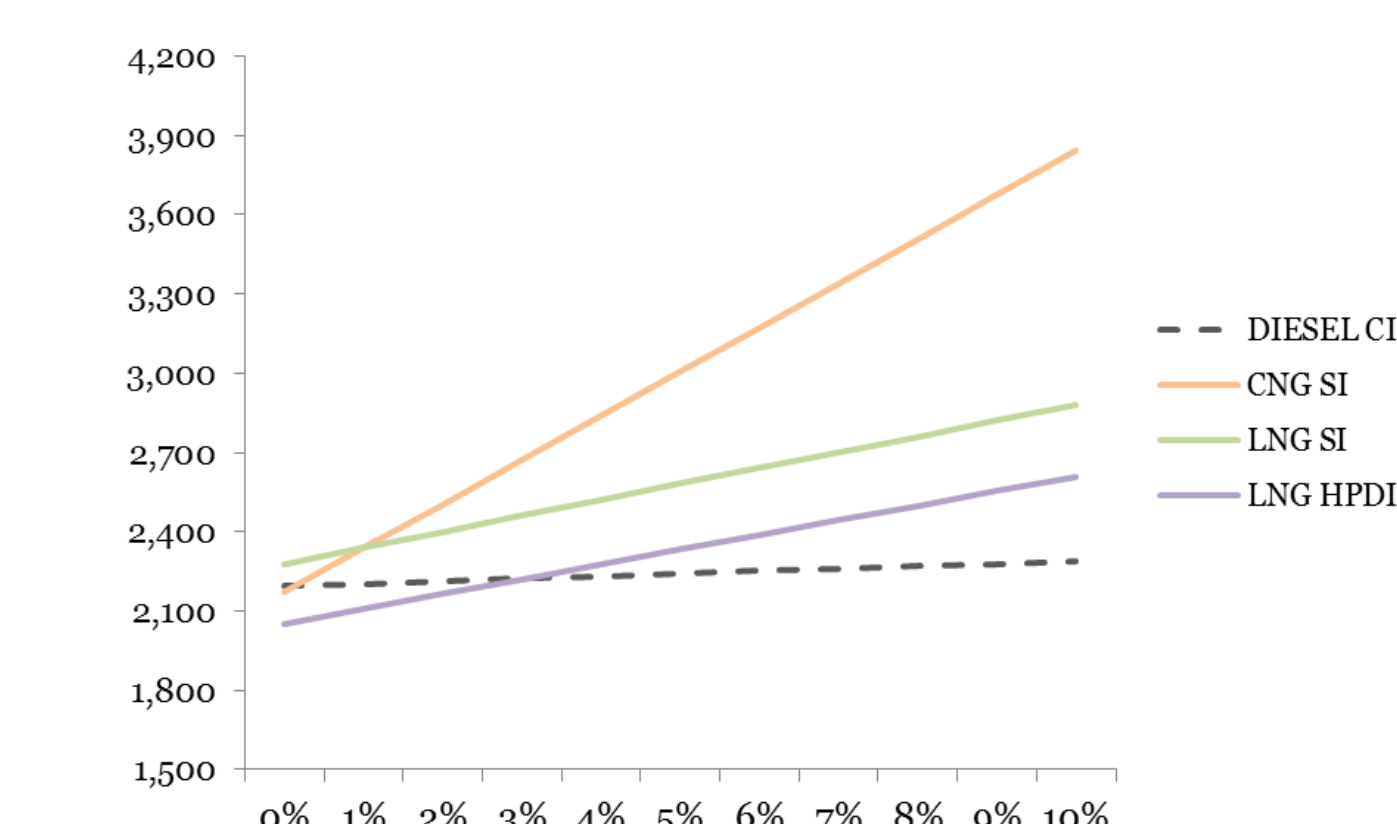
### WTW CI at 1.5% Leakage

- We can see majority of emissions come from the vehicle (grey).
- Methane in the vehicle (methane slip) contributes as much as upstream methane



### Sensitive parameters

- 1.5% leakage not a large contributor to the WTW
- Vehicle slip and lower fuel economy are major aspects



### WTW CI at different leakages

- Leakage affects CNG more than LNG
- Even at low upstream methane leakage, natural gas vehicles more carbon intensive than diesel due to relative lower engine efficiency and higher vehicle methane slip