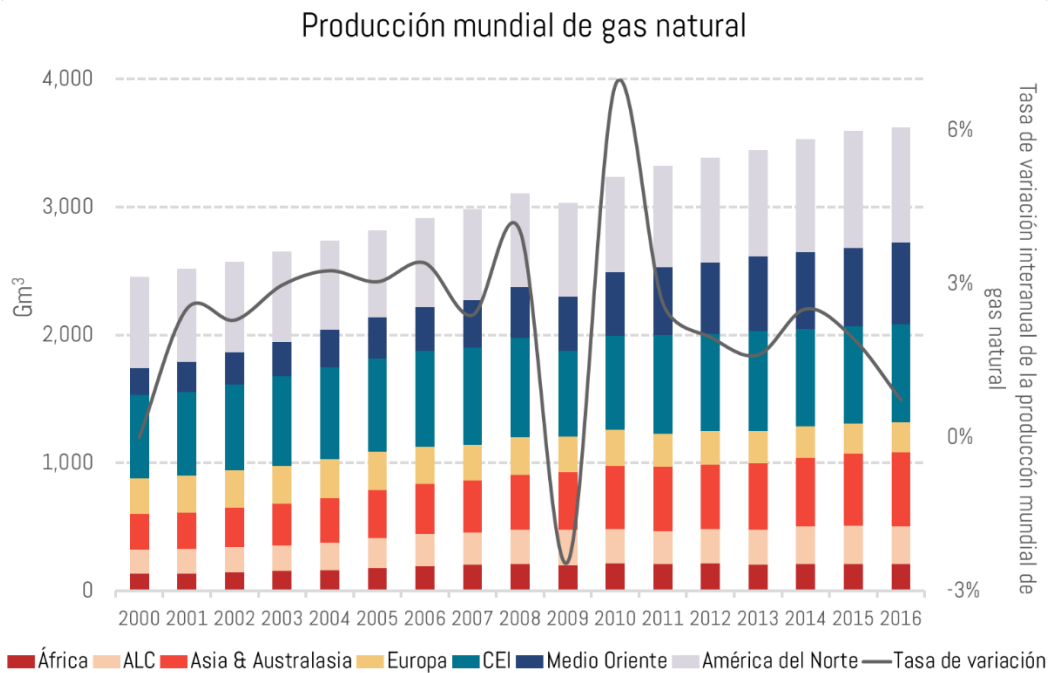


### Global and regional production of natural gas

World production of natural gas in 2016 reached 3,623 Gm<sup>3</sup>, 0.73% more than the previous year; approximately a quarter of total production is registered in North America (the United States produced 751 Gm<sup>3</sup>).

The production of this resource at a global level has increased gradually, for the period 2000 - 2016 increased by 48%, with Ireland standing out from 0.13 Gm<sup>3</sup> in 2015 to 3 Gm<sup>3</sup> in 2016.

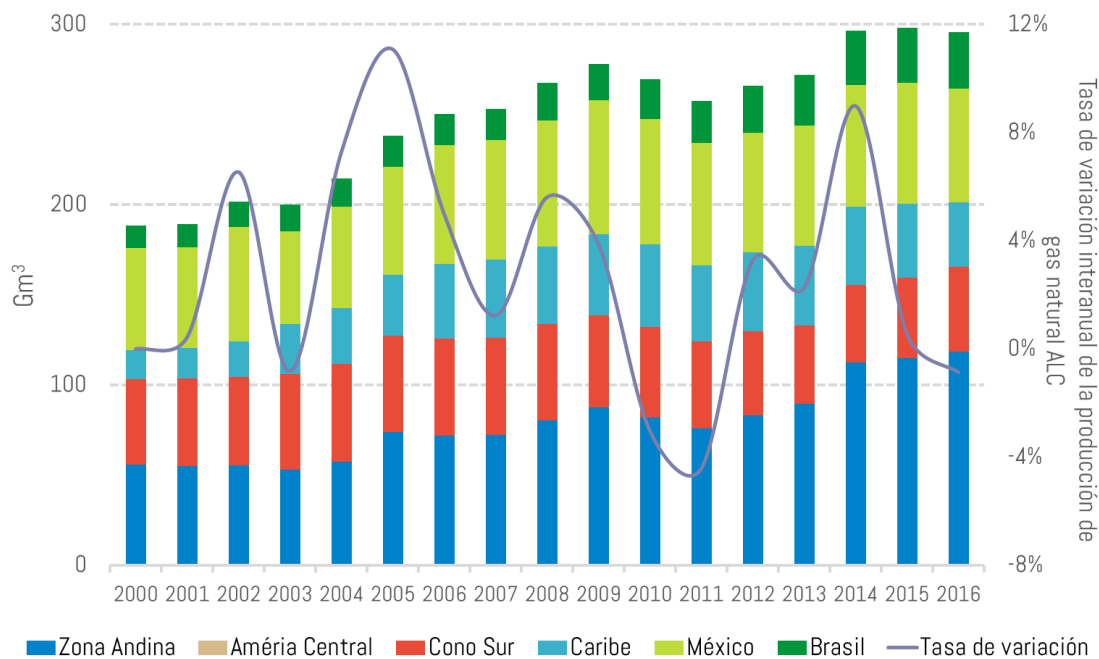


**Source:** OLADE, Energy Information System of Latin America and the Caribbean (sieLAC), <http://sielac.olade.org/>

Latin America and the Caribbean has maintained a relatively constant share of world production since 2005, accounting for 8% of total production. Mexico is the largest producer of natural gas in the region, with 63 Gm<sup>3</sup> in 2016; in 2007 the largest production was recorded, reaching 75 Gm<sup>3</sup>.

Brazil contributes approximately 11% of the region's production, which has increased 2.5 times compared to 2000.

### Producción de gas natural ALC por subregiones

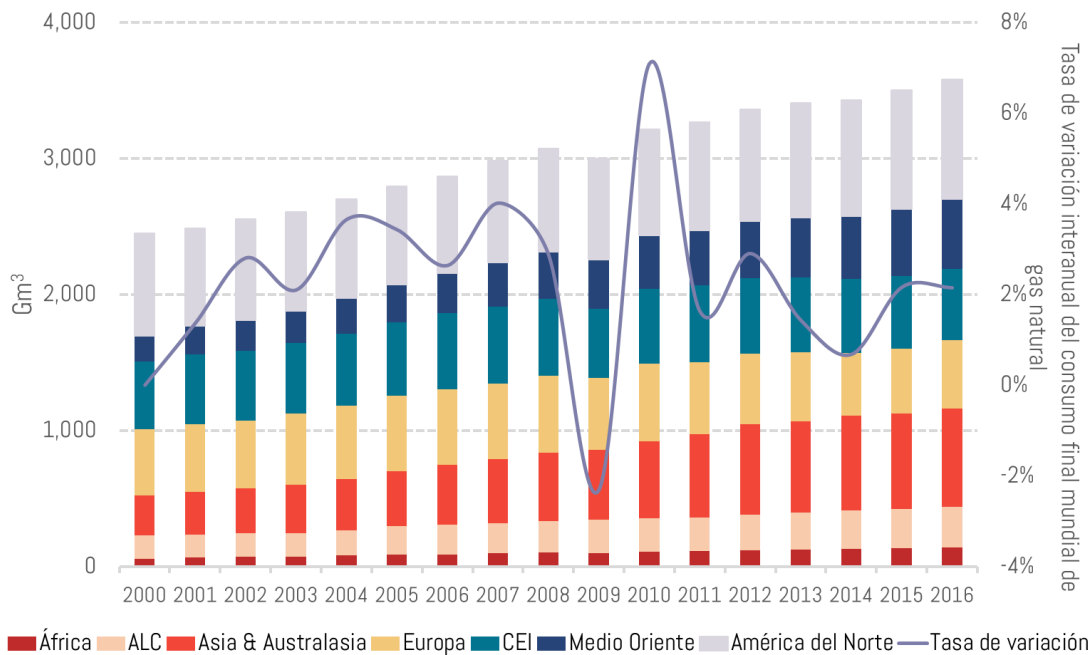


**Source:** OLADE, Energy Information System of Latin America and the Caribbean (sieLAC), <http://sielac.olade.org/>

#### Global and regional natural gas consumption

The final consumption of natural gas in 2016 reached 3,579 Gm<sup>3</sup>, increasing by 2.15% compared to 2015. The United States, Russia, China, Iran and Japan together account for 51% of total demand. The trend in the use of this energy source is increasing, with the exception of Europe, where it has been decreasing, mainly due to competition from coal from the United States, which is used for electricity generation.

### Consumo final mundial de gas natural



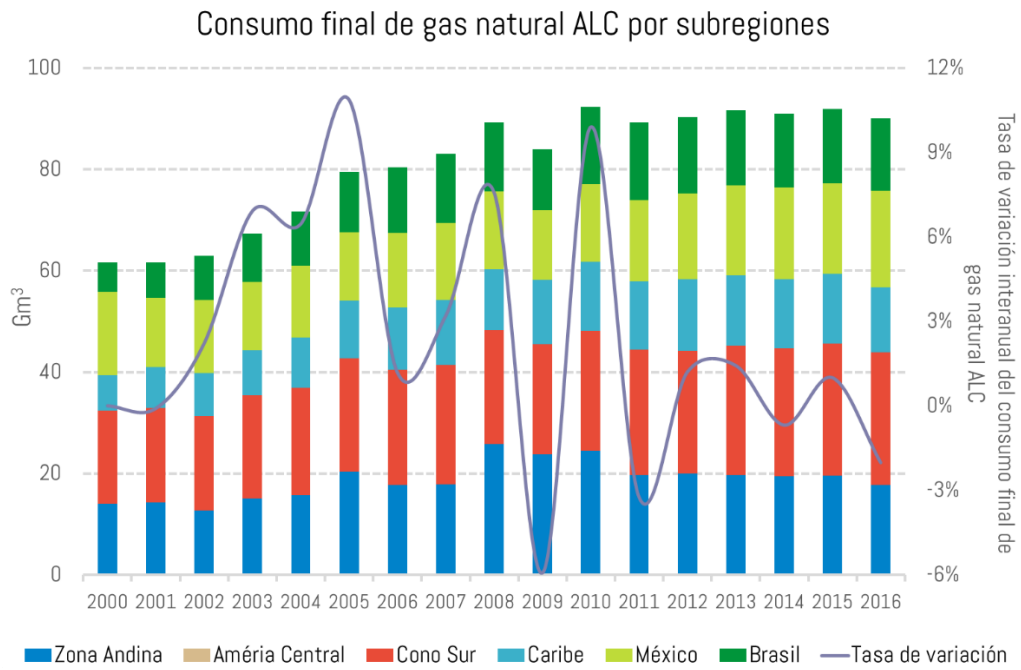
**Source:** OLADE, Energy Information System of Latin America and the Caribbean (sIELAC), <http://sielac.olade.org/>

In Latin America and the Caribbean, natural gas consumption went from 55 million tons of oil equivalent (Mtep) in 2000 to 80 Mtep in 2016 and participates with 13% of total final energy consumption.

Natural gas in the region has a greater penetration in the different uses and in the energy matrix. 61% of the gas produced is used in the industrial sector; the most representative final consumptions are concentrated in Argentina (whose diffusion includes the mainly industrial, residential and electricity generation sectors), Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela (concentration in industry, petrochemicals and electricity generation) and Trinidad and Tobago (mainly for the production of liquefied natural gas, positioning itself as the largest exporter in LAC, in 2016 registered 14.3 Gm<sup>3</sup>).

At the subregional level, it is worth highlighting the efforts being made by Central America to diversify its matrix through natural gas, especially for electricity generation, as a strategy to reduce the vulnerability of its capacity for hydroelectric generation and dependence on oil. The supply of this resource will be made through gas pipelines and liquefied natural gas vessels.

In 2016, Panama began the construction of the first natural gas-fired power plant, which will have 3 gas turbines and a steam turbine and will be upgraded to become operational in May 2018, which will allow the incorporation of 381 MW according to the "National Energy Plan 2015-2050", becoming the first Central American country to generate with natural gas.



**Source:** OLADE, Energy Information System of Latin America and the Caribbean (siELAC), <http://sielac.olade.org/>