

Characteristics of pipelines

	Transmission lines	Distribution mains	Service laterals
Function	Deliver large volumes of processed natural gas at high pressures over long distances	Deliver gas at lower pressure than transmission lines	Last section of pipe that carries natural gas from the distribution main to the customer's meter
Size	Typically 2-36 inches in diameter	Range from 1-48 inches in diameter	Vary in size but are typically a smaller diameter pipe
Material	High-strength carbon steel	Cast iron, wrought iron, steel or plastic	Steel, plastic or copper
Position	Typically placed 3-9 feet below ground	Generally placed below ground with 3 feet of cover, although some gas mains are above ground. Some examples are: city gate stations, bridge piping and large customer meter runs	Typically placed about 1-2 feet below ground
Pressure	125 to 1440 psi	.25 to 125 psi	.25 to 120 psi