

Table 5.2 Crude Oil and Natural Gas Exploratory and Development Wells

	Wells Drilled												Total Footage Drilled Thousand Feet
	Exploratory				Development				Total				
	Crude Oil	Natural Gas	Dry	Total	Crude Oil	Natural Gas	Dry	Total	Crude Oil	Natural Gas	Dry	Total	
	Number												
1973 Total	642	1,067	5,952	7,661	9,525	5,866	4,368	19,759	10,167	6,933	10,320	27,420	138,223
1975 Total	982	1,248	7,129	9,359	15,966	6,879	6,517	29,362	16,948	8,127	13,646	38,721	180,494
1980 Total	1,777	2,099	9,081	12,957	31,182	15,362	11,704	58,248	32,959	17,461	20,785	71,205	316,943
1985 Total	1,680	1,200	8,954	11,834	33,581	13,124	12,257	58,962	35,261	14,324	21,211	70,796	314,409
1990 Total	778	812	3,648	5,238	11,696	10,296	4,569	26,561	12,474	11,108	8,217	31,799	155,253
1995 Total	570	557	2,023	3,150	7,345	7,412	2,764	17,521	7,915	7,969	4,787	20,671	116,590
1996 Total	489	576	1,955	3,020	8,122	8,367	2,915	19,404	8,611	8,943	4,870	22,424	125,971
1997 Total	491	561	2,108	3,160	10,553	10,874	3,740	25,167	11,044	11,435	5,848	28,327	161,215
1998 Total	327	566	1,585	2,478	7,229	10,944	3,160	21,333	7,556	11,510	4,745	23,811	137,048
1999 Total	196	565	1,157	1,918	4,538	11,334	2,360	18,232	4,734	11,899	3,517	20,150	102,594
2000 Total	288	657	1,333	2,278	7,698	16,278	2,784	26,760	7,986	16,935	4,117	29,038	143,947
2001 Total	353	1,046	1,714	3,113	8,452	20,913	2,825	32,190	8,805	21,959	4,539	35,303	179,624
2002 Total	255	843	1,271	2,369	6,469	16,382	2,435	25,286	6,724	17,225	3,706	27,655	144,640
2003 Total	349	991	1,285	2,625	7,677	19,596	2,613	29,886	8,026	20,587	3,898	32,511	176,557
2004 Total	386	1,653	1,331	3,370	8,290	22,075	2,644	33,009	8,676	23,728	3,975	36,379	202,813
2005 Total	515	2,087	1,431	4,033	9,866	25,693	3,081	38,640	10,381	27,780	4,512	42,673	237,214
2006 January	64	170	91	325	940	2,257	299	3,495	1,004	2,427	390	3,821	21,611
February	51	176	107	334	843	2,176	263	3,282	894	2,353	370	3,617	20,211
March	41	193	91	325	944	2,437	300	3,681	985	2,630	391	4,006	23,170
April	44	165	120	329	936	2,197	289	3,422	980	2,362	409	3,751	21,449
May	60	210	130	400	1,004	2,393	254	3,650	1,064	2,602	384	4,050	23,318
June	77	217	128	422	1,090	2,567	316	3,973	1,167	2,783	444	4,395	24,628
July	36	202	122	360	1,087	2,327	282	3,696	1,123	2,529	404	4,056	22,338
August	59	260	126	445	1,058	2,841	291	4,190	1,117	3,101	417	4,636	25,514
September	54	210	125	389	1,027	2,528	258	3,812	1,081	2,737	383	4,201	23,818
October	59	225	117	401	1,062	2,631	300	3,993	1,121	2,856	417	4,394	24,953
November	58	252	103	413	1,049	2,444	314	3,807	1,107	2,696	417	4,220	24,476
December	34	219	140	393	1,016	2,301	247	3,563	1,050	2,519	387	3,956	22,710
Total	637	2,498	1,400	4,535	12,056	29,098	3,412	44,566	12,693	31,597	4,812	49,101	278,197
2007 January	55	236	111	401	955	2,248	266	3,469	1,010	2,484	377	3,871	23,006
February	59	211	86	356	869	2,070	214	3,153	928	2,281	300	3,510	22,072
March	61	276	106	444	970	2,285	264	3,519	1,031	2,561	370	3,962	25,014
April	56	260	117	433	926	2,129	226	3,280	982	2,388	343	3,713	23,332
May	54	293	138	485	1,019	2,350	284	3,653	1,073	2,643	422	4,138	26,012
June	76	259	107	442	1,051	2,509	248	3,808	1,127	2,769	355	4,250	25,338
July	75	297	120	492	1,003	2,369	287	3,659	1,078	2,666	407	4,151	25,796
August	58	282	109	449	1,041	2,598	340	3,979	1,099	2,881	449	4,429	27,452
September	72	273	128	474	934	2,334	253	3,521	1,007	2,607	380	3,994	24,561
October	70	334	143	546	1,084	2,609	319	4,012	1,154	2,943	461	4,558	27,577
November	54	310	179	544	963	2,373	261	3,597	1,018	2,683	441	4,141	25,550
December	56	275	111	442	981	2,121	238	3,341	1,037	2,397	349	3,783	24,580
Total	747	3,307	1,455	5,509	11,796	27,996	3,200	42,992	12,543	31,303	4,655	48,501	300,290
2008 January	73	278	132	483	1,089	2,164	248	3,501	1,162	2,442	380	3,984	25,909
February	72	291	86	449	1,117	2,076	247	3,441	1,189	2,367	333	3,889	26,478
March	69	238	134	441	1,215	2,384	297	3,896	1,284	2,622	431	4,337	25,582
April	72	241	136	449	1,269	2,412	304	3,985	1,341	2,653	440	4,434	26,154
May	76	243	139	458	1,328	2,441	311	4,080	1,404	2,684	450	4,538	26,768
June	77	249	142	468	1,357	2,493	318	4,168	1,434	2,742	460	4,636	27,346
July	77	254	144	475	1,346	2,548	322	4,216	1,423	2,802	466	4,691	27,670
August	80	260	148	488	1,407	2,611	332	4,350	1,487	2,871	480	4,838	28,537
September	84	261	150	495	1,478	2,617	338	4,433	1,562	2,878	488	4,928	29,068
9-Month Total	680	2,314	1,211	4,205	11,606	21,747	2,717	36,070	12,286	24,061	3,928	40,275	243,512
2007 9-Month Total	567	2,388	1,022	3,977	8,768	20,892	2,381	32,042	9,335	23,280	3,403	36,018	222,583
2006 9-Month Total	486	1,803	1,040	3,329	8,929	21,722	2,551	33,202	9,415	23,525	3,591	36,531	206,058

Notes: • Prior to 1990, these well counts include only the original drilling of a hole intended to discover or further develop already discovered crude oil or natural gas resources. Other drilling activities, such as drilling an old well deeper, drilling of laterals from the original well, drilling of service and injection wells, and drilling for resources other than crude oil or natural gas are excluded. After 1990, a new well is defined as the first hole in the ground whether it is lateral or not. Due to the methodology used to estimate ultimate well counts from the available partially reported data, the counts shown on this page are frequently revised. See Note,

"Crude Oil and Natural Gas Exploratory and Development Wells," at end of section.
 • Geographic coverage is the 50 States and the District of Columbia.
 Web Page: See <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/mer/resource.html> for all available data beginning in 1973.
 Sources: • **1973-1989:** Energy Information Administration (EIA) computations based on well reports submitted to the American Petroleum Institute. • **1990 forward:** EIA computations based on well reports submitted to the Information Handling Services Energy Group, Inc.