

**Table 4. U.S. Exploratory and Development Well Completions,<sup>a</sup> 1973-2005**

Year	Exploratory				Total Exploratory and Development			
	Oil	Gas	Dry	Total	Oil	Gas	Dry	Total
1973	642	1,067	5,952	7,661	10,167	6,933	10,320	27,420
1974	859	1,190	6,833	8,882	13,647	7,138	12,116	32,901
1975	982	1,248	7,129	9,359	16,948	8,127	13,646	38,721
1976	1,086	1,346	6,772	9,204	17,688	9,409	13,758	40,855
1977	1,164	1,548	7,283	9,995	18,745	12,122	14,985	45,852
1978	1,171	1,771	7,965	10,907	19,181	14,413	16,551	50,145
1979	1,321	1,907	7,437	10,665	20,851	15,254	16,099	52,204
1980 R	1,777	2,099	9,081	12,957	32,959	17,461	20,785	71,205
1981 R	2,651	2,522	12,400	17,573	43,887	20,250	27,953	92,090
1982 R	2,437	2,133	11,307	15,877	39,459	19,076	26,379	84,914
1983 R	2,030	1,605	10,206	13,841	37,366	14,684	24,355	76,405
1984 R	2,209	1,528	11,321	15,058	42,906	17,338	25,884	86,128
1985 R	1,680	1,200	8,954	11,834	35,261	14,324	21,211	70,796
1986 R	1,084	797	5,567	7,448	19,213	8,599	12,799	40,611
1987 R	926	756	5,052	6,734	16,210	8,096	11,167	35,473
1988 R	855	747	4,711	6,313	13,646	8,578	10,119	32,343
1989 R	607	706	3,934	5,247	10,230	9,522	8,236	27,988
1990 R	664	693	3,793	5,150	12,445	11,126	8,496	32,067
1991 R	601	544	3,390	4,535	12,035	9,611	7,882	29,528
1992 R	498	427	2,550	3,475	9,019	8,305	6,284	23,608
1993 R	509	541	2,509	3,559	8,764	10,174	6,513	25,451
1994 R	579	740	2,465	3,784	7,001	9,739	5,515	22,255
1995 R	549	583	2,279	3,411	7,827	8,454	5,319	21,600
1996 R	496	591	2,246	3,333	8,760	9,539	5,587	23,886
1997 R	434	543	2,178	3,155	10,445	11,186	5,955	27,586
1998 R	286	510	1,649	2,445	6,979	11,127	4,805	22,911
1999 R	156	519	1,167	1,842	4,314	11,121	3,504	18,939
2000 R	267	615	1,349	2,231	7,585	16,242	4,046	27,873
2001 R	330	972	1,716	3,018	8,186	21,403	4,432	34,021
2002 R	239	701	1,283	2,223	6,226	16,728	3,610	26,564
2003 R	326	892	1,266	2,484	7,465	19,522	3,688	30,675
2004 R	353	1,323	1,200	2,876	7,703	21,816	3,474	32,993
2005	429	1,452	1,577	3,458	9,833	27,397	4,644	41,874

<sup>a</sup>Excludes service wells and stratigraphic and core testing.

R = Revised Data.

Notes: Estimates include only the original drilling of a hole intended to discover or further develop already discovered oil or 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 oil and gas are excluded.

Source: Table 5.2, EIA *Monthly Energy Review October 2006*, DOE/EIA-0035(2006/10).