

Table 3. U.S. Average Annual Domestic First Purchase Prices for Crude Oil, Wellhead Prices for Natural Gas, and the Average Number of Active Rotary Drilling Rigs, 1977-2006

Year	Crude Oil		Natural Gas		Number of Rigs
	Current	2006 Constant	Current	2006 Constant	
	(dollars per barrel)		(dollars per thousand cubic feet)		
1977	8.57	22.22	0.79	2.05	2,001
1978	9.00	21.78	0.91	2.20	2,259
1979	12.64	28.24	1.18	2.64	2,177
1980	21.59	44.16	1.59	3.25	2,909
1981	31.77	59.45	1.98	3.70	3,970
1982	28.52	50.23	2.46	4.33	3,105
1983	26.19	44.38	2.59	4.39	2,232
1984	25.88	42.28	2.66	4.35	2,428
1985	24.09	38.15	2.51	3.97	1,980
1986	12.51	19.38	1.94	3.01	964
1987	15.40	23.17	1.67	2.51	936
1988	12.58	18.30	1.69	2.46	936
1989	15.86	22.23	1.69	2.37	869
1990	20.03	27.01	1.71	2.31	1,010
1991	16.54	21.53	1.64	2.13	860
1992	15.99	20.32	1.74	2.21	721
1993	14.25	17.68	2.04	2.53	754
1994	13.19	16.03	1.85	2.25	775
1995	14.62	17.39	1.55	1.84	723
1996	18.46	21.54	2.17	2.53	779
1997	17.23	19.72	2.32	2.66	943
1998	10.87	12.29	1.96	2.22	827
1999	15.56	17.35	2.19	2.44	625
2000	26.72	29.17	3.68	4.02	918
2001	21.84	23.29	4.00	4.27	1,156
2002	22.51	23.74	2.95	3.11	830
2003	27.56	28.60	4.88	5.06	1,032
2004	36.77	38.16	5.46	5.67	1,192
2005	January	40.18	5.80	5.95	1,255
	February	42.19	5.74	5.88	1,276
	March	47.56	5.95	6.09	1,306
	April	47.26	6.58	6.72	1,334
	May	44.03	6.24	6.37	1,320
	June	49.83	6.09	6.21	1,355
	July	53.35	6.71	6.83	1,398
	August	58.90	6.48	6.59	1,436
	September	59.64	8.96	9.10	1,452
	October	56.99	10.35	10.49	1,479
	November	53.20	9.91	10.03	1,486
	December	53.24	9.08	9.17	1,470
2005	Average	50.28	7.33	7.46	1,381
2006	January	57.85	8.66	8.73	1,473
	February	55.69	7.28	7.33	1,533
	March	55.64	6.52	6.55	1,551
	April	62.52	6.59	6.61	1,597
	May	64.40	6.19	6.20	1,635
	June	64.65	5.80	5.81	1,665
	July	67.71	5.82	5.82	1,681
	August	67.21	6.51	6.50	1,738
	September	59.37	5.51	5.49	1,739
	October	53.26	5.03	5.00	1,734
	November	52.42	6.43	6.39	1,706
	December	55.03	6.65	6.59	1,718
2006	Average	59.69	6.42	6.42	1,649

Sources: Crude oil first purchase prices, natural gas wellhead prices, and number of rigs: Tables 9.1, 9.11, and 5.1, *Monthly Energy Review October 2007*, DOE/EIA-0035(2007/10). 2006 constant dollars: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Gross Domestic Product Implicit Price Deflators, October 2007.