

Table 4. U.S. Exploratory and Development Well Completions^a, 1973-2007

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	1,777	2,099	9,081	12,957	32,959	17,461	20,785	71,205
1981	2,651	2,522	12,400	17,573	43,887	20,250	27,953	92,090
1982	2,437	2,133	11,307	15,877	39,459	19,076	26,379	84,914
1983	2,030	1,605	10,206	13,841	37,366	14,684	24,355	76,405
1984	2,209	1,528	11,321	15,058	42,906	17,338	25,884	86,128
1985	1,680	1,200	8,954	11,834	35,261	14,324	21,211	70,796
1986	1,084	797	5,567	7,448	19,213	8,599	12,799	40,611
1987	926	756	5,052	6,734	16,210	8,096	11,167	35,473
1988	855	747	4,711	6,313	13,646	8,578	10,119	32,343
1989	607	706	3,934	5,247	10,230	9,522	8,236	27,988
1990	664	693	3,793	5,150	12,445	11,126	8,496	32,067
1991	601	544	3,390	4,535	12,035	9,611	7,882	29,528
1992	498	427	2,550	3,475	9,019	8,305	6,284	23,608
1993	509	541	2,509	3,559	8,764	10,174	6,513	25,451
1994	579	740	2,465	3,784	7,001	9,739	5,515	22,255
1995	549	583	2,279	3,411	7,827	8,454	5,319	21,600
1996	496	591	2,246	3,333	8,760	9,539	5,587	23,886
1997 R	491	561	2,108	3,160	11,044	11,435	5,848	28,327
1998 R	327	566	1,585	2,478	7,556	11,510	4,745	23,811
1999 R	196	565	1,157	1,918	4,734	11,899	3,517	20,150
2000 R	288	657	1,333	2,278	7,986	16,935	4,117	29,038
2001 R	353	1,046	1,714	3,113	8,805	21,959	4,539	35,303
2002 R	255	843	1,271	2,369	6,724	17,225	3,706	27,655
2003 R	349	991	1,285	2,625	8,026	20,587	3,898	32,511
2004 R	386	1,652	1,331	3,370	8,676	23,728	3,975	36,379
2005 R	515	2,087	1,431	4,033	10,381	27,780	4,512	42,673
2006 R	637	2,498	1,400	4,535	12,693	31,597	4,812	49,101
2007	747	3,307	1,455	5,509	12,543	31,303	4,655	48,501

^aExcludes 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 2008*, DOE/EIA-0035(2008/10).