

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	65	176	95	336	952	2,267	307	3,526	1,017	2,443	402	3,862	21,910
February	51	192	112	355	852	2,192	269	3,313	903	2,384	381	3,668	20,559
March	42	209	96	347	955	2,456	306	3,717	997	2,665	402	4,064	23,649
April	44	167	128	339	950	2,212	299	3,461	994	2,379	427	3,800	21,796
May	61	211	138	410	1,018	2,409	271	3,698	1,079	2,620	409	4,108	23,801
June	78	217	139	434	1,106	2,571	336	4,013	1,184	2,788	475	4,447	25,102
July	37	223	134	394	1,105	2,332	301	3,738	1,142	2,555	435	4,132	22,889
August	62	277	142	481	1,080	2,854	317	4,251	1,142	3,131	459	4,732	26,300
September	57	226	139	422	1,049	2,553	289	3,891	1,106	2,779	428	4,313	24,665
October	61	250	129	440	1,090	2,674	336	4,100	1,151	2,924	465	4,540	26,002
November	60	285	119	464	1,079	2,466	338	3,883	1,139	2,751	457	4,347	25,427
December	35	251	156	442	1,039	2,314	273	3,626	1,074	2,565	429	4,068	23,509
Total	653	2,684	1,527	4,864	12,275	29,300	3,642	45,217	12,928	31,984	5,169	50,081	285,609
2007													
January	59	274	122	455	977	2,253	295	3,525	1,036	2,527	417	3,980	23,821
February	62	242	100	404	893	2,077	247	3,217	955	2,319	347	3,621	22,989
March	66	313	117	496	990	2,298	294	3,582	1,056	2,611	411	4,078	25,965
April	60	298	128	486	947	2,143	250	3,340	1,007	2,441	378	3,826	24,272
May	58	331	153	542	1,034	2,370	309	3,713	1,092	2,701	462	4,255	27,085
June	84	290	118	492	1,071	2,555	274	3,900	1,155	2,845	392	4,392	26,524
July	83	335	133	551	1,023	2,424	311	3,758	1,106	2,759	444	4,309	27,168
August	66	322	123	511	1,051	2,688	359	4,098	1,117	3,010	482	4,609	29,002
September	80	302	141	523	958	2,462	280	3,700	1,038	2,764	421	4,223	26,449
October	79	367	159	605	1,132	2,698	339	4,169	1,211	3,065	498	4,774	29,383
November	63	338	189	590	1,032	2,523	291	3,846	1,095	2,861	480	4,436	27,955
December	63	303	127	493	1,043	2,275	268	3,586	1,106	2,578	395	4,079	27,205
Total	823	3,715	1,610	6,148	12,151	28,766	3,517	44,434	12,974	32,481	5,127	50,582	317,818
2008													
January	85	299	145	529	1,140	2,320	275	3,735	1,225	2,619	420	4,264	26,434
February	85	293	100	478	1,172	2,197	274	3,643	1,257	2,490	374	4,121	25,512
March	78	267	137	482	1,173	2,293	310	3,776	1,251	2,560	447	4,258	27,024
April	74	215	142	431	1,276	2,311	310	3,897	1,350	2,526	452	4,328	27,858
May	106	233	124	463	1,324	2,443	305	4,072	1,430	2,676	429	4,535	28,988
June	66	253	145	464	1,370	2,522	322	4,214	1,436	2,775	467	4,678	29,506
July	82	261	143	486	1,361	2,630	323	4,314	1,443	2,891	466	4,800	29,912
August	84	265	157	506	1,415	2,775	347	4,537	1,499	3,040	504	5,043	31,870
September	99	256	156	511	1,507	2,722	350	4,579	1,606	2,978	506	5,090	32,012
October	101	251	154	506	1,520	2,686	344	4,550	1,621	2,937	498	5,056	31,768
November	93	241	152	486	1,543	2,574	341	4,458	1,636	2,815	493	4,944	31,050
December	85	228	139	452	1,426	2,366	308	4,100	1,511	2,594	447	4,552	28,692
Total	1,038	3,062	1,694	5,794	16,227	29,839	3,809	49,875	17,265	32,901	5,503	55,669	350,626
2009													
January	74	200	122	396	1,199	2,085	273	3,557	1,273	2,285	395	3,953	24,873

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.