

**Table 4.5 Crude Oil and Natural Gas Exploratory and Development Wells, Selected Years, 1949-2010**

Year	Wells Drilled				Successful Wells	Footage Drilled <sup>1</sup>				Average Footage Drilled			
	Crude Oil <sup>2</sup>	Natural Gas <sup>3</sup>	Dry Holes <sup>4</sup>	Total		Crude Oil <sup>2</sup>	Natural Gas <sup>3</sup>	Dry Holes <sup>4</sup>	Total	Crude Oil <sup>2</sup>	Natural Gas <sup>3</sup>	Dry Holes <sup>4</sup>	Total
	Number					Percent	Thousand Feet				Feet per Well		
1949	21,352	3,363	12,597	37,312	66.2	79,428	12,437	43,754	135,619	3,720	3,698	3,473	3,635
1950	23,812	3,439	14,799	42,050	64.8	92,695	13,685	50,977	157,358	3,893	3,979	3,445	3,742
1955	30,432	4,266	20,452	55,150	62.9	121,148	19,930	85,103	226,182	3,981	4,672	4,161	4,101
1960	22,258	5,149	18,212	45,619	60.1	86,568	28,246	77,361	192,176	3,889	5,486	4,248	4,213
1965	18,065	4,482	16,226	38,773	58.2	73,322	24,931	76,629	174,882	4,059	5,562	4,723	4,510
1970	12,968	4,011	11,031	28,010	60.6	56,859	23,623	58,074	138,556	4,385	5,860	5,265	4,943
1975	16,948	8,127	13,646	38,721	64.8	66,819	44,454	69,220	180,494	3,943	5,470	5,073	4,661
1976	17,688	9,409	13,758	40,855	66.3	68,892	49,113	68,977	186,982	3,895	5,220	5,014	4,577
1977	18,745	12,122	14,985	45,852	67.3	75,451	63,686	76,728	215,866	4,025	5,254	5,120	4,708
1978	19,181	14,413	16,551	50,145	67.0	77,041	75,841	85,788	238,669	4,017	5,262	5,183	4,760
1979	20,851	15,254	16,099	52,204	69.2	82,688	80,468	81,642	244,798	3,966	5,275	5,071	4,689
1980	32,959	17,461	20,785	71,205	70.8	125,262	92,106	99,575	316,943	3,801	5,275	4,791	4,451
1981	43,887	20,250	27,953	92,090	69.6	172,167	108,353	134,934	415,454	3,923	5,351	4,827	4,511
1982	39,459	19,076	26,379	84,914	68.9	149,674	107,149	123,746	380,569	3,793	5,617	4,691	4,482
1983	37,366	14,684	24,355	76,405	68.1	136,849	78,108	105,222	320,179	3,662	5,319	4,320	4,191
1984	42,906	17,338	25,884	86,128	69.9	162,653	91,480	119,860	373,993	3,791	5,276	4,631	4,342
1985	35,261	14,324	21,211	70,796	70.0	137,728	76,293	100,388	314,409	3,906	5,326	4,733	4,441
1986	19,213	8,599	12,799	40,611	68.5	76,825	45,039	60,961	182,825	3,999	5,238	4,763	4,502
1987	16,210	8,096	11,167	35,473	68.5	66,358	42,584	53,588	162,530	4,094	5,260	4,799	4,582
1988	13,646	8,578	10,119	32,343	68.7	58,639	45,363	52,517	156,519	4,297	5,288	5,190	4,839
1989	10,230	9,522	8,236	27,988	70.6	43,266	49,081	42,099	134,446	4,229	5,154	5,112	4,804
1990	R12,839	R11,246	R8,245	R32,330	74.5	R56,611	R57,075	R42,538	R156,224	R4,409	R5,075	R5,159	R4,832
1991	R12,588	R9,793	R7,481	R29,862	74.9	R56,259	R51,081	R37,857	R145,197	R4,469	R5,216	R5,060	R4,862
1992	R9,402	R8,163	R5,862	R23,427	75.0	R45,817	R44,813	R29,477	R120,107	R4,873	R5,490	R5,028	R5,127
1993	R8,856	R9,839	R6,096	R24,791	75.4	R44,324	R58,384	R31,117	R133,825	R5,005	R5,934	R5,104	R5,398
1994	R7,348	R9,375	R5,096	R21,819	76.6	R38,675	R58,439	R27,828	R124,942	R5,263	R6,233	R5,461	R5,726
1995	R8,248	R8,082	R4,814	R21,144	77.2	R41,146	R49,840	R26,397	R117,383	R4,989	R6,167	5,483	R5,552
1996	R8,836	R9,027	4,890	R22,753	78.5	R42,517	R56,250	R27,884	R126,651	R4,812	R6,231	R5,702	R5,566
1997	R11,206	R11,498	5,874	R28,578	79.4	R56,451	R71,551	R33,741	R161,743	R5,038	R6,223	R5,744	R5,660
1998	R7,682	R11,639	R4,761	R24,082	80.2	R38,683	R70,375	R28,585	R137,643	R5,036	R6,046	R6,004	R5,716
1999	R4,805	R12,027	R3,550	R20,382	R82.6	R22,025	R60,382	R20,659	R103,066	R4,584	R5,021	R5,819	R5,057
2000	R8,090	R17,051	R4,146	R29,287	85.8	R36,798	R83,697	R24,101	R144,596	R4,549	R4,909	R5,813	R4,937
2001	R8,888	R22,072	R4,598	R35,558	87.1	R43,213	R110,787	R26,279	R180,279	R4,862	R5,019	R5,715	R5,070
2002	R6,775	R17,342	R3,754	R27,871	R86.5	R30,981	R93,174	R21,221	R145,376	R4,573	R5,373	R5,653	R5,216
2003	R8,129	R20,722	R3,982	R32,833	87.9	R38,690	R116,140	R22,762	R177,592	R4,760	R5,605	R5,716	R5,409
2004	R8,789	R24,186	R4,082	R37,057	89.0	R42,290	R138,774	R23,761	R204,825	R4,812	R5,738	R5,821	R5,527
2005	R10,779	R28,584	R4,653	R44,016	89.4	R51,681	R164,184	R25,070	R240,935	R4,795	R5,744	R5,388	R5,474
2006 <sup>E</sup>	R13,224	R32,760	R5,138	R51,122	89.9	R63,085	R191,716	R27,531	R282,332	R4,770	R5,852	R5,358	R5,523
2007 <sup>E</sup>	R13,341	R32,852	R4,940	R51,133	R90.3	R65,305	R210,318	R27,632	R303,255	R4,895	R6,402	R5,594	R5,931
2008 <sup>E</sup>	R16,791	R33,339	R5,398	R55,528	R90.3	R85,143	R231,847	R28,858	R345,848	R5,071	R6,954	R5,346	R6,228
2009 <sup>E</sup>	R11,610	R19,054	R3,748	R34,412	R89.1	R61,851	R147,505	R20,015	R229,371	R5,327	R7,741	R5,340	R6,665
2010 <sup>E</sup>	19,375	19,059	4,870	43,304	88.8	110,406	158,045	25,296	293,747	5,698	8,292	5,194	6,783

<sup>1</sup> See "Footage Drilled" in Glossary.

<sup>2</sup> See "Crude Oil Well" in Glossary.

<sup>3</sup> See "Natural Gas Well" in Glossary.

<sup>4</sup> See "Dry Hole" in Glossary.

R=Revised, E=Estimate.

Notes: • Data are for exploratory and development wells combined; see Table 4.6 for exploratory wells only, and Table 4.7 for development wells only. • Service wells, stratigraphic tests, and core tests are excluded. • For 1949-1959, data represent wells completed in a given year. For 1960-1969, data are for well completion reports received by the American Petroleum Institute during the reporting year. For 1970 forward, the data represent wells completed in a given year. The as-received well completion data for recent years are incomplete due to delays in the reporting of wells drilled. The U.S. Energy Information

Administration (EIA) therefore statistically imputes the missing data. • Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. Average depth may not equal average of components due to independent rounding.

Web Pages: • See <http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/annual/#resources> for all data beginning in 1949. • For related information, see <http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/>.

Sources: • 1949-1965—Gulf Publishing Company, *World Oil*, "Forecast-Review" issue. • 1966-1969—American Petroleum Institute (API), *Quarterly Review of Drilling Statistics for the United States*, annual summaries and monthly reports. • 1970-1989—EIA computations based on well reports submitted to the API. • 1990 forward—EIA computations based on well reports submitted to IHS, Inc., Denver, CO. For current data see the EIA, *Monthly Energy Review*, Table 5.2.