



Independent Statistics & Analysis

U.S. Energy Information
Administration

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U.S. crude oil production expected to top 9 million barrels per day in December

U.S. crude oil production is expected to continue to increase through next year, despite the outlook for lower crude oil prices.

In its new short-term forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said monthly average oil production is on track to surpass 9 million barrels per day in December for the first time since 1986 and then rise to an average 9.4 million barrels a day next year.

Even though that's down about 80,000 barrels from EIA's previous forecast annual production would still be the highest since 1972.

Because of lower crude oil prices, EIA expects there will be a reduction in drilling activity in some mature U.S. production areas where new wells would be too costly.

However, oil prices should be strong enough to support most drilling in North Dakota's Bakken shale formation and in the tight oil basins of Texas which account for the majority of the growth in U.S. oil production.

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