



Independent Statistics & Analysis

U.S. Energy Information
Administration

January 10, 2017

U.S. crude oil production increasing again

The general decline in U.S. crude oil production that began almost two years ago is likely over, as output is on the rise again as a result of more rigs drilling for oil and improved efficiencies from those rigs.

In its new short-term forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration estimates that domestic oil production began increasing during the last three months of 2016. If confirmed when the final data are in, it would mark the first quarterly production increase since the first three months of 2015.

Most of the growth in oil output during the last quarter of 2016 came from drilling in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico, according to EIA.

Higher average oil prices in 2017 compared with last year are expected to support more production in the coming months.

U.S. oil production is expected to average 9 million barrels per day in 2017, up slightly from last year, and then keep rising to 9.3 million barrels per day in 2018.

Jonathan Cogan, for EIA, Washington