

Table 4.7 Crude Oil and Natural Gas Development Wells, Selected Years, 1949-2008

Year	Wells Drilled				Successful Wells	Footage Drilled ¹				Average Depth			
	Crude Oil ²	Natural Gas ³	Dry Holes ⁴	Total		Crude Oil ²	Natural Gas ³	Dry Holes ⁴	Total	Crude Oil ²	Natural Gas ³	Dry Holes ⁴	Total
	Number					Percent	Thousand Feet				Feet per Well		
1949	19,946	2,939	5,369	28,254	81.0	73,478	10,028	17,315	100,821	3,684	3,412	3,225	3,568
1950	22,229	3,008	6,507	31,744	79.5	85,833	11,329	20,020	117,183	3,861	3,766	3,077	3,691
1955	28,196	3,392	8,620	40,208	78.6	110,374	14,718	31,883	156,976	3,915	4,339	3,699	3,904
1960	20,937	4,281	8,697	33,915	74.4	79,739	22,780	33,826	136,345	3,809	5,321	3,889	4,020
1965	17,119	3,967	8,221	29,307	71.9	67,956	21,174	36,548	125,678	3,970	5,337	4,446	4,288
1970	12,211	3,534	4,869	20,614	76.4	52,130	19,945	22,951	95,026	4,269	5,644	4,714	4,610
1971	11,194	3,501	4,357	19,052	77.1	45,323	19,850	20,186	85,358	4,049	5,670	4,633	4,480
1972	10,693	4,784	4,757	20,234	76.5	45,241	25,159	22,475	92,875	4,231	5,259	4,725	4,590
1973	9,525	5,866	4,368	19,759	77.9	40,408	31,007	21,190	92,605	4,242	5,286	4,851	4,687
1974	12,788	5,948	5,283	24,019	78.0	46,996	30,766	24,296	102,059	3,675	5,173	4,599	4,249
1975	15,966	6,879	6,517	29,362	77.8	61,013	36,032	28,772	125,817	3,821	5,238	4,415	4,285
1976	16,602	8,063	6,986	31,651	77.9	62,365	39,992	31,008	133,365	3,756	4,960	4,439	4,214
1977	17,581	10,574	7,702	35,857	78.5	68,581	53,431	35,905	157,917	3,901	5,053	4,662	4,404
1978	18,010	12,642	8,586	39,238	78.1	69,936	64,043	39,493	173,472	3,883	5,066	4,600	4,421
1979	19,530	13,347	8,662	41,539	79.1	74,747	67,825	39,130	181,702	3,827	5,082	4,517	4,374
1980	31,182	15,362	11,704	58,248	79.9	115,085	78,244	49,326	242,655	3,691	5,093	4,214	4,166
1981	41,236	17,728	15,553	74,517	79.1	156,652	91,274	65,720	313,646	3,799	5,149	4,226	4,209
1982	37,022	16,943	15,072	69,037	78.2	136,261	92,386	63,066	291,713	3,681	5,453	4,184	4,225
1983	35,336	13,079	14,149	62,564	77.4	126,412	67,844	56,233	250,489	3,577	5,187	3,974	4,004
1984	40,697	15,810	14,563	71,070	79.5	150,359	81,545	61,236	293,140	3,695	5,158	4,205	4,125
1985	33,581	13,124	12,257	58,962	79.2	127,874	68,149	52,784	248,807	3,808	5,193	4,306	4,220
1986	18,129	7,802	7,232	33,163	78.2	70,246	39,638	30,636	140,520	3,875	5,080	4,236	4,237
1987	15,284	7,340	6,115	28,739	78.7	60,706	37,520	26,842	125,068	3,972	5,112	4,390	4,352
1988	12,791	7,831	5,408	26,030	79.2	53,353	40,371	25,438	119,162	4,171	5,155	4,704	4,578
1989	9,623	8,816	4,302	22,741	81.1	39,607	44,417	20,152	104,176	4,116	5,038	4,684	4,581
1990	R11,701	R10,300	R4,576	R26,577	R82.8	R50,623	R51,064	R21,759	R123,447	R4,326	R4,958	R4,755	R4,645
1991	R11,479	R8,890	R4,272	R24,641	R82.7	R50,899	R45,623	R19,774	R116,296	R4,434	R5,132	R4,629	R4,720
1992	R8,423	R7,479	R3,466	R19,368	R82.1	R41,077	R40,758	R16,404	R98,238	R4,877	R5,450	R4,733	R5,072
1993	R8,079	R9,150	R3,747	R20,976	R82.1	R40,285	R54,183	R17,625	R112,093	R4,986	R5,922	R4,704	R5,344
1994	R6,505	R8,484	R2,823	R17,812	R84.2	R34,330	R52,988	R14,468	R101,786	R5,278	R6,246	R5,125	R5,714
1995	R7,349	R7,418	R2,781	R17,548	R84.2	R36,734	R46,111	R14,473	R97,317	R4,998	R6,216	R5,204	R5,546
1996	R8,123	R8,367	R2,922	R19,412	R84.9	R38,460	R52,149	R15,694	R106,302	R4,735	R6,233	R5,371	R5,476
1997	R10,555	R10,879	R3,744	R25,178	R85.1	R52,188	R67,384	R20,236	R139,808	R4,944	R6,194	R5,405	R5,553
1998	R7,232	R10,946	R3,166	R21,344	R85.2	R35,731	R65,990	R17,752	R119,473	R4,941	R6,029	R5,607	R5,598
1999	R4,542	R11,337	R2,362	R18,241	R87.1	R20,473	R56,133	R12,946	R89,551	R4,507	R4,951	R5,481	R4,909
2000	R7,703	R16,284	R2,791	R26,778	R89.6	R34,607	R78,579	R14,866	R128,052	R4,493	R4,826	R5,326	R4,782
2001	R8,456	R20,926	R2,831	R32,213	91.2	R40,514	R103,204	R14,684	R158,402	R4,791	R4,932	R5,187	R4,917
2002	R6,474	R16,394	R2,446	R25,314	R90.3	R29,104	R87,156	R12,466	R128,726	R4,496	R5,316	R5,096	R5,085
2003	R7,695	R19,630	R2,637	R29,962	R91.2	R36,042	R109,263	R13,777	R159,082	R4,684	R5,566	R5,224	R5,309
2004	R8,319	R22,379	R2,677	R33,375	R92.0	R38,892	R128,505	R14,219	R181,615	R4,675	R5,742	R5,311	R5,442
2005 ^E	R10,119	R26,297	R3,193	R39,609	R91.9	R47,249	R152,006	R15,758	R215,014	R4,669	R5,780	R4,935	R5,428
2006 ^E	R12,462	R29,888	R3,703	R46,053	R92.0	R58,651	R178,650	R18,466	R255,768	R4,706	R5,977	R4,987	R5,554
2007 ^E	R12,184	R29,236	R3,557	R44,977	R92.1	R60,256	R192,771	R18,650	R271,676	R4,945	R6,594	R5,243	R6,040
2008 ^E	16,401	29,737	3,860	49,998	92.3	80,993	195,013	20,149	296,155	4,938	6,558	5,220	5,923

¹ See "Footage Drilled" in Glossary.

² See "Crude Oil Well" in Glossary.

³ See "Natural Gas Well" in Glossary.

⁴ See "Dry Hole" in Glossary.

R=Revised. E=Estimate.

Notes: • Revisions 1990-2007 result from updates in the data source files through September 2008, including the addition of new wells that are classified as horizontal or lateral, which previously were not included in these tables. • Data are for development wells only; see Table 4.5 for exploratory and development wells combined, and Table 4.6 for exploratory 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 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: • For all data beginning in 1949, see <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/aer/resource.html>.

• For related information, see http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/info_glance/petroleum.html.

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.