

Table 5.1 Crude Oil and Natural Gas Drilling Activity Measurements
(Number of Rigs)

| | Rotary Rigs in Operation ^{a,b} | | | | | | | Active Well Service Rig Count ^d | |
|----------------------|---|----------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------|--|--------------------|
| | By Location ^c | | By Type ^c | | By Trajectory ^c | | | | |
| | Onshore | Offshore | Crude Oil | Natural Gas | Horizontal | Directional | Vertical | | Total ^c |
| 1950 Average | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2,154 | NA |
| 1955 Average | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2,686 | NA |
| 1960 Average | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1,748 | NA |
| 1965 Average | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1,388 | NA |
| 1970 Average | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1,028 | NA |
| 1975 Average | 1,554 | 106 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1,660 | 2,486 |
| 1980 Average | 2,678 | 231 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2,909 | 4,089 |
| 1985 Average | 1,774 | 206 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1,980 | 4,716 |
| 1990 Average | 902 | 108 | 532 | 464 | NA | NA | NA | 1,010 | 3,658 |
| 1995 Average | 622 | 101 | 323 | 385 | 52 | 145 | 526 | 723 | 3,041 |
| 2000 Average | 778 | 140 | 197 | 720 | 55 | 217 | 645 | 918 | 2,692 |
| 2005 Average | 1,290 | 93 | 194 | 1,186 | 181 | 341 | 862 | 1,383 | 2,222 |
| 2006 Average | 1,559 | 90 | 274 | 1,372 | 285 | 384 | 980 | 1,649 | 2,364 |
| 2007 Average | 1,695 | 72 | 297 | 1,466 | 393 | 376 | 999 | 1,768 | 2,388 |
| 2008 Average | 1,814 | 65 | 379 | 1,491 | 553 | 372 | 954 | 1,879 | 2,515 |
| 2009 Average | 1,046 | 44 | 278 | 801 | 456 | 201 | 433 | 1,090 | 1,722 |
| 2010 Average | 1,514 | 31 | 591 | 943 | 822 | 222 | 501 | 1,546 | 1,854 |
| 2011 Average | 1,846 | 32 | 984 | 887 | 1,074 | 230 | 574 | 1,879 | 2,075 |
| 2012 Average | 1,871 | 48 | 1,357 | 558 | 1,151 | 216 | 552 | 1,919 | 2,113 |
| 2013 Average | 1,705 | 56 | 1,373 | 383 | 1,102 | 224 | 435 | 1,761 | 2,064 |
| 2014 Average | 1,804 | 57 | 1,527 | 333 | 1,275 | 211 | 376 | 1,862 | 2,024 |
| 2015 Average | 943 | 35 | 750 | 226 | 744 | 95 | 139 | 978 | 1,481 |
| 2016 Average | 486 | 23 | 408 | 100 | 400 | 49 | 60 | 509 | 1,061 |
| 2017 Average | 856 | 20 | 703 | 172 | 737 | 70 | 70 | 876 | 1,187 |
| 2018 Average | 1,013 | 19 | 841 | 190 | 900 | 69 | 63 | 1,032 | 1,292 |
| 2019 Average | 920 | 23 | 774 | 169 | 826 | 63 | 54 | 943 | 1,253 |
| 2020 Average | 417 | 15 | 345 | 85 | 384 | 28 | 20 | 433 | 738 |
| 2021 Average | 464 | 14 | 380 | 98 | 431 | 25 | 22 | 478 | 949 |
| 2022 January | 583 | 18 | 490 | 111 | 543 | 35 | 23 | 601 | 995 |
| February | 622 | 14 | 514 | 121 | 578 | 32 | 26 | 636 | 1,000 |
| March | 649 | 12 | 525 | 135 | 605 | 34 | 24 | 662 | 1,035 |
| April | 677 | 13 | 546 | 142 | 632 | 32 | 25 | 690 | NA |
| May | 701 | 17 | 568 | 149 | 657 | 37 | 25 | 719 | NA |
| June | 723 | 16 | 583 | 153 | 673 | 39 | 27 | 738 | NA |
| July | 740 | 16 | 599 | 154 | 687 | 41 | 29 | 757 | NA |
| August | 746 | 18 | 601 | 160 | 695 | 39 | 30 | 764 | NA |
| September | 747 | 16 | 598 | 162 | 694 | 44 | 24 | 762 | NA |
| October | 754 | 14 | 609 | 157 | 704 | 42 | 23 | 768 | NA |
| November | 763 | 16 | 621 | 156 | 711 | 45 | 23 | 779 | NA |
| December | 763 | 16 | 623 | 155 | 708 | 45 | 26 | 780 | NA |
| Average | 708 | 15 | 574 | 147 | 659 | 39 | 25 | 723 | NA |
| 2023 January | 756 | 16 | 616 | 155 | 701 | 47 | 24 | 772 | NA |
| February | 742 | 16 | 604 | 153 | 698 | 42 | 18 | 758 | NA |
| March | 736 | 17 | 591 | 158 | 691 | 47 | 14 | 752 | NA |
| April | 733 | 19 | 590 | 159 | 685 | 48 | 19 | 752 | NA |
| May | 707 | 21 | 580 | 144 | 657 | 52 | 19 | 728 | NA |
| June | 667 | 20 | 551 | 131 | 617 | 51 | 18 | 687 | NA |
| July | 654 | 19 | 534 | 132 | 602 | 52 | 18 | 672 | NA |
| August | 629 | 18 | 521 | 121 | 576 | 52 | 19 | 647 | NA |
| September | 613 | 19 | 510 | 116 | 561 | 55 | 15 | 631 | NA |
| October | 600 | 23 | 501 | 118 | 556 | 52 | 15 | 623 | NA |
| November | 599 | 20 | 498 | 117 | 552 | 54 | 13 | 619 | NA |
| December | 603 | 20 | 501 | 119 | 561 | 49 | 13 | 623 | NA |
| Average | 669 | 19 | 549 | 135 | 620 | 50 | 17 | 687 | NA |
| 2024 January | 601 | 20 | 499 | 119 | 561 | 48 | 12 | 620 | NA |
| February | 603 | 20 | 500 | 120 | 560 | 50 | 13 | 622 | NA |
| 2-Month Average | 602 | 20 | 499 | 119 | 560 | 49 | 12 | 621 | NA |
| 2023 2-Month Average | 749 | 16 | 610 | 154 | 700 | 45 | 21 | 765 | NA |
| 2022 2-Month Average | 603 | 16 | 502 | 116 | 560 | 34 | 24 | 618 | 998 |

^a Data are for rigs drilling for crude oil, rigs drilling for natural gas, and other rigs (not shown separately) drilling for miscellaneous purposes, such as service wells, injection wells, and stratigraphic tests.

^b Rotary rigs in operation are reported weekly on Fridays. Monthly data are averages of 4- or 5-week reporting periods. Multi-month data are averages of the reported weekly data over the covered months. Annual data are averages of 52- or 53-week reporting periods. Published data are rounded to the nearest whole number.

^c Not shown under "By Type" are other rigs drilling for miscellaneous purposes, such as service wells, injection wells, and stratigraphic tests. Therefore, the sum of "Crude Oil" and "Natural Gas" may not equal "Total" values. In addition, for "By Location," "By Type," and "By Trajectory," the sum of the components in each category may not equal "Total" values due to independent rounding.

^d The number of rigs doing true workovers (where tubing is pulled from the well), or doing rod string and pump repair operations, and that are, on average, crewed and working every day of the month.

NA=Not available.

Note: Geographic coverage is the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Web Page: See <http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/monthly/#crude> (Excel and CSV files) for all available annual data beginning in 1949 and monthly data beginning in 1973.

Sources: • **Rotary Rigs in Operation:** Baker Hughes, Inc., Houston, TX, "North America Rig Count," used with permission. See <http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=79687&p=irol-reports>. • **Active Well Service Rig Count:** Energy Workforce & Technology Council, Houston, TX.

Data after March 2022 from the Energy Workforce & Technology Council were not available in time for this publication.