

Table 5.2 Crude Oil and Natural Gas Wells Drilled
(Number of Wells)

| | Exploratory | | | | Development | | | | Total | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|--------|-------------|-------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------------|--------|--------|
| | Crude Oil | Natural Gas | Dry | Total | Crude Oil | Natural Gas | Dry | Total | Crude Oil | Natural Gas | Dry | Total |
| 1973 Total | 642 | 1,067 | 5,952 | 7,661 | 9,525 | 5,866 | 4,368 | 19,759 | 10,167 | 6,933 | 10,320 | 27,420 |
| 1974 Total | 859 | 1,190 | 6,833 | 8,882 | 12,788 | 5,948 | 5,283 | 24,019 | 13,647 | 7,138 | 12,116 | 32,901 |
| 1975 Total | 982 | 1,248 | 7,129 | 9,359 | 15,966 | 6,879 | 6,517 | 29,362 | 16,948 | 8,127 | 13,646 | 38,721 |
| 1976 Total | 1,086 | 1,346 | 6,772 | 9,204 | 16,602 | 8,063 | 6,986 | 31,651 | 17,688 | 9,409 | 13,758 | 40,855 |
| 1977 Total | 1,164 | 1,548 | 7,283 | 9,995 | 17,581 | 10,574 | 7,702 | 35,857 | 18,745 | 12,122 | 14,985 | 45,852 |
| 1978 Total | 1,171 | 1,771 | 7,965 | 10,907 | 18,010 | 12,642 | 8,586 | 39,238 | 19,181 | 14,413 | 16,551 | 50,145 |
| 1979 Total | 1,321 | 1,907 | 7,437 | 10,665 | 19,530 | 13,347 | 8,662 | 41,539 | 20,851 | 15,254 | 16,099 | 52,204 |
| 1980 Total | 1,764 | 2,081 | 9,039 | 12,884 | 30,875 | 15,252 | 11,599 | 57,726 | 32,639 | 17,333 | 20,638 | 70,610 |
| 1981 Total | 2,636 | 2,514 | 12,349 | 17,499 | 40,962 | 17,652 | 15,440 | 74,054 | 43,598 | 20,166 | 27,789 | 91,553 |
| 1982 Total | 2,431 | 2,125 | 11,247 | 15,803 | 36,768 | 16,854 | 14,972 | 68,594 | 39,199 | 18,979 | 26,219 | 84,397 |
| 1983 Total | 2,023 | 1,593 | 10,148 | 13,764 | 35,097 | 12,971 | 14,005 | 62,073 | 37,120 | 14,564 | 24,153 | 75,837 |
| 1984 Total | 2,198 | 1,521 | 11,278 | 14,997 | 40,407 | 15,606 | 14,403 | 70,416 | 42,605 | 17,127 | 25,681 | 85,413 |
| 1985 Total | 1,679 | 1,190 | 8,924 | 11,793 | 33,439 | 12,978 | 12,132 | 58,549 | 35,118 | 14,168 | 21,056 | 70,342 |
| 1986 Total | 1,084 | 793 | 5,549 | 7,426 | 18,013 | 7,723 | 7,129 | 32,865 | 19,097 | 8,516 | 12,678 | 40,291 |
| 1987 Total | 925 | 754 | 5,049 | 6,728 | 15,239 | 7,301 | 6,063 | 28,603 | 16,164 | 8,055 | 11,112 | 35,331 |
| 1988 Total | 855 | 743 | 4,693 | 6,291 | 12,781 | 7,812 | 5,348 | 25,941 | 13,636 | 8,555 | 10,041 | 32,232 |
| 1989 Total | 607 | 705 | 3,924 | 5,236 | 9,597 | 8,834 | 4,264 | 22,695 | 10,204 | 9,539 | 8,188 | 27,931 |
| 1990 Total | 654 | 689 | 3,715 | 5,058 | 11,544 | 10,355 | 4,598 | 26,497 | 12,198 | 11,044 | 8,313 | 31,555 |
| 1991 Total | 592 | 534 | 3,314 | 4,440 | 11,178 | 8,992 | 4,282 | 24,452 | 11,770 | 9,526 | 7,596 | 28,892 |
| 1992 Total | 493 | 423 | 2,513 | 3,429 | 8,264 | 7,786 | 3,605 | 19,655 | 8,757 | 8,209 | 6,118 | 23,084 |
| 1993 Total | 502 | 548 | 2,469 | 3,519 | 7,905 | 9,469 | 3,859 | 21,233 | 8,407 | 10,017 | 6,328 | 24,752 |
| 1994 Total | 570 | 726 | 2,405 | 3,701 | 6,151 | 8,812 | 2,902 | 17,865 | 6,721 | 9,538 | 5,307 | 21,566 |
| 1995 Total | 542 | 570 | 2,198 | 3,310 | 7,085 | 7,784 | 2,877 | 17,746 | 7,627 | 8,354 | 5,075 | 21,056 |
| 1996 Total | 483 | 570 | 2,136 | 3,189 | 7,831 | 8,732 | 3,146 | 19,709 | 8,314 | 9,302 | 5,282 | 22,898 |
| 1997 Total | 428 | 536 | 2,110 | 3,074 | 10,008 | 10,791 | 3,592 | 24,391 | 10,436 | 11,327 | 5,702 | 27,465 |
| 1998 Total | 291 | 504 | 1,647 | 2,442 | 6,773 | 10,640 | 3,193 | 20,606 | 7,064 | 11,144 | 4,840 | 23,048 |
| 1999 Total | 157 | 539 | 1,195 | 1,891 | 4,019 | 10,338 | 2,217 | 16,574 | 4,176 | 10,877 | 3,412 | 18,465 |
| 2000 Total | 264 | 602 | 1,288 | 2,154 | 7,094 | 15,853 | 2,737 | 25,684 | 7,358 | 16,455 | 4,025 | 27,838 |
| 2001 Total | 322 | 988 | 1,669 | 2,979 | 7,738 | 21,095 | 2,415 | 31,248 | 8,060 | 22,083 | 4,084 | 34,227 |
| 2002 January | 15 | 60 | 108 | 183 | 513 | 1,328 | 207 | 2,048 | 528 | 1,388 | 315 | 2,231 |
| February | 16 | 72 | 103 | 191 | 418 | 1,231 | 148 | 1,797 | 434 | 1,303 | 251 | 1,988 |
| March | 19 | 62 | 96 | 177 | 416 | 1,126 | 185 | 1,727 | 435 | 1,188 | 281 | 1,904 |
| April | 29 | 39 | 94 | 162 | 459 | 1,142 | 182 | 1,783 | 488 | 1,181 | 276 | 1,945 |
| May | 24 | 48 | 103 | 175 | 447 | 1,287 | 199 | 1,933 | 471 | 1,335 | 302 | 2,108 |
| June | 18 | 49 | 86 | 153 | 529 | 1,310 | 222 | 2,061 | 547 | 1,359 | 308 | 2,214 |
| July | 22 | 45 | 97 | 164 | 522 | 1,323 | 214 | 2,059 | 544 | 1,368 | 311 | 2,223 |
| August | 14 | 59 | 105 | 178 | 540 | 1,530 | 200 | 2,270 | 554 | 1,589 | 305 | 2,448 |
| September | 18 | 61 | 106 | 185 | 440 | 1,349 | 203 | 1,992 | 458 | 1,410 | 309 | 2,177 |
| October | 13 | 58 | 123 | 194 | 572 | 1,300 | 186 | 2,058 | 585 | 1,358 | 309 | 2,252 |
| November | 23 | 56 | 97 | 176 | 516 | 1,252 | 158 | 1,926 | 539 | 1,308 | 255 | 2,102 |
| December | 20 | 50 | 122 | 192 | 455 | 1,318 | 187 | 1,960 | 475 | 1,368 | 309 | 2,152 |
| Total | 231 | 659 | 1,240 | 2,130 | 5,827 | 15,496 | 2,291 | 23,614 | 6,058 | 16,155 | 3,531 | 25,744 |
| 2003 January | 23 | 49 | 106 | 178 | 528 | 1,326 | 202 | 2,056 | 551 | 1,375 | 308 | 2,234 |
| February | 27 | 35 | 68 | 130 | 434 | 1,113 | 157 | 1,704 | 461 | 1,148 | 225 | 1,834 |
| March | 22 | 46 | 68 | 136 | 493 | 1,423 | 160 | 2,076 | 515 | 1,469 | 228 | 2,212 |
| April | 21 | 65 | 92 | 178 | 621 | 1,458 | 211 | 2,290 | 642 | 1,523 | 303 | 2,468 |
| May | 22 | 53 | 91 | 166 | 627 | 1,601 | 197 | 2,425 | 649 | 1,654 | 288 | 2,591 |
| June | 35 | 53 | 98 | 186 | 632 | 1,690 | 184 | 2,506 | 667 | 1,743 | 282 | 2,692 |
| July | 17 | 76 | 133 | 226 | 444 | 1,694 | 255 | 2,393 | 461 | 1,770 | 388 | 2,619 |
| August | 17 | 77 | 134 | 228 | 444 | 1,708 | 257 | 2,409 | 461 | 1,785 | 391 | 2,637 |
| September | 17 | 77 | 131 | 225 | 447 | 1,716 | 256 | 2,419 | 464 | 1,793 | 387 | 2,644 |
| October | 18 | 78 | 132 | 228 | 458 | 1,724 | 258 | 2,440 | 476 | 1,802 | 390 | 2,668 |
| November | 18 | 78 | 134 | 230 | 458 | 1,745 | 260 | 2,463 | 476 | 1,823 | 394 | 2,693 |
| December | 17 | 79 | 134 | 230 | 444 | 1,758 | 260 | 2,462 | 461 | 1,837 | 394 | 2,692 |
| Total | 254 | 766 | 1,321 | 2,341 | 6,030 | 18,956 | 2,657 | 27,643 | 6,284 | 19,722 | 3,978 | 29,984 |
| 2004 January | 16 | 79 | 132 | 227 | 415 | 1,750 | 256 | 2,421 | 431 | 1,829 | 388 | 2,648 |
| February | 17 | 79 | 134 | 230 | 444 | 1,762 | 261 | 2,467 | 461 | 1,841 | 395 | 2,697 |
| March | 21 | 80 | 136 | 237 | 473 | 1,774 | 266 | 2,513 | 494 | 1,854 | 402 | 2,750 |
| April | 17 | 82 | 138 | 237 | 453 | 1,826 | 270 | 2,549 | 470 | 1,908 | 408 | 2,786 |
| May | 20 | 81 | 137 | 238 | 487 | 1,848 | 270 | 2,605 | 507 | 1,929 | 407 | 2,843 |
| June | 20 | 81 | 139 | 240 | 511 | 1,855 | 273 | 2,639 | 531 | 1,936 | 412 | 2,879 |
| July | 20 | 83 | 141 | 244 | 493 | 1,911 | 278 | 2,682 | 513 | 1,994 | 419 | 2,926 |
| August | 20 | 85 | 144 | 249 | 493 | 1,951 | 282 | 2,726 | 513 | 2,036 | 426 | 2,975 |
| September | 18 | 81 | 135 | 234 | 453 | 1,848 | 266 | 2,567 | 471 | 1,929 | 401 | 2,801 |
| 9-Month Total | 169 | 731 | 1,236 | 2,136 | 4,222 | 16,525 | 2,422 | 23,169 | 4,391 | 17,256 | 3,658 | 25,305 |
| 2003 9-Month Total | 201 | 531 | 921 | 1,653 | 4,670 | 13,729 | 1,879 | 20,278 | 4,871 | 14,260 | 2,800 | 21,931 |
| 2002 9-Month Total | 175 | 495 | 898 | 1,568 | 4,284 | 11,626 | 1,760 | 17,670 | 4,459 | 12,121 | 2,658 | 19,238 |

Notes: • These well counts include only the original drilling of a hole intended to discover or further develop already discovered crude oil or natural gas resources. Other drilling activities, such as drilling an old well deeper, drilling of laterals from the original well, drilling of service and injection wells, and drilling for resources other than crude oil or natural gas are excluded. Due to the methodology used to estimate ultimate well counts from the available partially reported data, the counts shown on this page are frequently

revised. See notes at end of section. • Geographic coverage is the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

Web Page: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/mer/resource.html>.
Sources: • 1973-1994: Energy Information Administration (EIA), computations based on well reports submitted to the American Petroleum Institute. • 1995 forward: EIA computations based on well reports submitted to the Information Handling Services Energy Group, Inc.