

Louisiana Energy Facts

Highlights

May 2026

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Highlights
page 1

Oil and Gas Drilling
Permits Issued by The
State of Louisiana
page 1

Current Oil & Gas Data
page 2

2025 Louisiana State
Producing Oil and Gas
Wells, by production rate
page 3

Quick Facts
page 4



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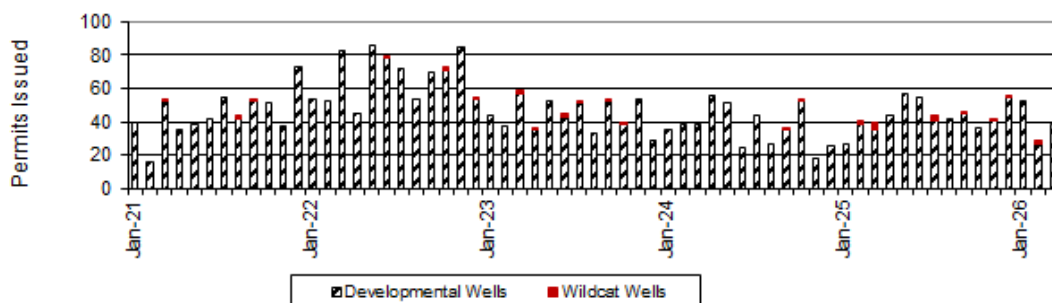
In the first quarter of 2026, Louisiana issued 124 permits for drilling oil and gas. It was 33.3% higher than the number issued for the first quarter last year. The 2026 first quarter drilling permits issued reflects the uptick in exploration and production in Louisiana due to higher overall prices. The 2026 first quarter average LLS crude oil price was \$74.33 per barrel, or 0.1% lower than the 2025 first quarter. The 2026 first quarter average spot natural gas price was \$4.80 per MMBTU, or 15.1% higher than the first quarter 2025 price of \$4.17. The 2026 first quarter average listed 34 active drilling on state lands and over state waters according to Baker Hughes reports. It represents a 6.25% increase over the 2025 first quarter.

Oil and Gas Drilling Permits Issued by The State of Louisiana

Permits Issued

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	% Change	
							24/25	25/26
January	40	54	44	35	27	52	-22.86%	92.59%
February	16	53	37	39	41	29	5.13%	-29.27%
March	53	83	59	39	40	43	2.56%	7.50%
April	35	45	36	56	44		-21.43%	
May	38	86	52	51	57		11.76%	
June	42	79	45	25	55		120.00%	
July	55	72	52	44	44		0.00%	
August	44	54	33	27	42		55.56%	
September	53	70	54	36	46		27.78%	
October	51	73	40	54	36		-33.33%	
November	37	85	54	18	42		133.33%	
December	73	55	29	26	56		115.38%	
Year Average	45	67	45	38	44	41		

* Partial Year



Current Oil & Gas Data

Louisiana DC&E Technology Assessment Division

	NOV 25	OCT 25	SEP 25	NOV 24
PRODUCTION				
GOM CENTRAL FEDERAL OFFSHORE ^F (OCS)				
Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	48	51	40	48
Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	79	87	57	48
THE UNITED STATES TOTAL				
Crude Oil & Condensate ^C (MMB)	414	429	415	401
Natural Gas & Casinghead ^C (BCF)	3,308	3,329	3,248	3,090
IMPORTS				
U.S. Crude Oil ^C (MMB)	173	182	192	197
U.S. Natural Gas ^C (BCF)	264	233	226	270
BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS				
U.S. Gas ^A	128	121	118	101
U.S. Oil ^A	421	427	424	483
U.S. Offshore ^A	19	17	13	14
U.S. Total ^A	549	548	542	584
PRICES				
CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel)				
OPEC Average ^C (F.O.B.)	64.13	63.46	W	71.65
U.S. Imports Average ^C (F.O.B.)	52.73	53.17	57.18	65.17
U.S. Wellhead Average ^C	58.09	58.89	62.23	68.19
Gulf OCS Wellhead Average ^C	57.93	58.94	63.50	69.37
State Severance Wellhead Average ^E	61.52 *	60.78	63.75	69.66
NATURAL GAS (\$/MCF)				
U.S. City Gates Average ^C	4.76	4.34	5.11	3.99
U.S. Imports Average ^C (F.O.B.)	2.82	1.92	1.73	1.92
U.S. Spot Market Average ^D	3.81	3.00	1.28	2.56
State Royalty Wellhead Average	3.34	2.70	2.68	1.48
NYMEX Henry Hub End of the Month Settle Gas Price ^B (\$/MMBTU)	3.38	2.84	2.87	2.35

Key

1	Estimated	MCF	Thousand Cubic Feet
2	Revised	MMB	Million Barrels
BCF	Billion Cubic Feet	N/A	Not Available
BTU	British Thermal Unit	OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
F.O.B	Free on Board	MMBTU	Million British Thermal Units

Data Sources

A	Oil & Gas Journal	D	Natural Gas Week
B	Wall Street Journal	E	LA Dept of Revenue
C	U. S. Dept. of Energy	F	BOEM

Note: Unless otherwise specified, data is from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and excludes Federal OCS.

Note from the Editors

Louisiana Energy Facts is published monthly by the Louisiana Department Conservation & Energy, Office of Energy, as a public service to individuals interested in Louisiana energy activities. Content includes recent oil, gas and other energy statistics and a brief analysis of current trends.

Louisiana Energy Facts articles provide insight and information on subjects of special interest to our readers, and may announce relevant, forthcoming publications.

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Louisiana Energy Facts

2025 LOUISIANA STATE PRODUCING OIL WELLS, BY PRODUCTION RATE OCS Wells Excluded

<u>PRODUCTION BRACKET</u>	<u># OF WELLS</u>	<u>TOTAL ANNUAL PRODUCTION</u>	
<u>BARRELS/DAY</u>	<u>WELLS</u>	<u>BARRELS/YEAR</u>	<u>% TOTAL PRODUCTION</u>
Less than or equal 10	17,117	5,761,684	21.39%
Between 10 - 15	376	1,734,090	6.44%
Between 15 - 20	213	1,367,445	5.08%
Between 20 - 30	379	3,397,825	12.61%
Between 30 - 40	130	1,649,183	6.12%
Between 40 - 50	95	1,606,508	5.96%
Between 50 - 75	121	2,683,892	9.96%
Between 75 - 100	83	2,697,307	10.01%
Between 100 - 150	39	1,895,414	7.04%
Between 150 - 200	14	846,582	3.14%
Between 200 - 300	12	1,214,863	4.51%
Between 300 - 500	4	772,833	2.87%
Between 500 - 1,000	6	1,313,407	4.88%
Between 1,000 - 2,000	0	0	0.00%
Between 2,000 - 5,000	0	0	0.00%
Over 5000	0	0	0.00%

2025 LOUISIANA STATE PRODUCING GAS WELLS, BY PRODUCTION RATE OCS Wells Excluded

<u>PRODUCTION BRACKET</u>	<u># OF WELLS</u>	<u>TOTAL ANNUAL PRODUCTION</u>	
<u>MCF/DAY</u>	<u>WELLS</u>	<u>MCF/YEAR</u>	<u>% TOTAL PRODUCTION</u>
Less than or equal 50	10,466	41,716,173	1.15%
Between 50 - 60	442	9,046,725	0.25%
Between 60 - 70	387	9,129,228	0.25%
Between 70 - 80	502	13,798,018	0.38%
Between 80 - 90	374	11,558,342	0.32%
Between 90 - 100	246	8,489,170	0.23%
Between 100 - 250	2,283	130,583,004	3.59%
Between 250 - 400	956	111,234,263	3.06%
Between 400 - 800	1,370	292,081,981	8.02%
Between 800 - 1,600	1,324	561,448,746	15.42%
Between 1,600 - 3,200	912	740,423,995	20.34%
Between 3,200 - 6,400	595	949,551,252	26.08%
Between 6,400 - 12,800	195	565,602,582	15.53%
Between 12,800 - 25,600	16	103,124,753	2.83%
Over 25,600	5	93,225,847	2.56%

Quick Facts

May 2026

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SPOT MARKET PRICES

Louisiana Natural Gas^D (\$/MMBTU)
NYMEX Henry Hub Last Settle Gas Price^B(\$/MMBTU)
Louisiana Sweet Crude - St. James^B (\$/Barrel)

BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS

North Louisiana^A
South Louisiana Inland Waters^A
South Louisiana Inland^A
Louisiana State Offshore
Louisiana Federal OCS Offshore
Total Louisiana^A (OCS included)

PRODUCTION (State Jurisdiction Only)

Louisiana Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)
Louisiana Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)

DRILLING PERMITS (State Jurisdiction Only)

Total Louisiana Oil and Gas
Louisiana Wildcats
Louisiana Offshore (Wildcats included)

	Apr 26	Mar 26	Apr 25
Louisiana Natural Gas ^D (\$/MMBTU)	2.48	2.96	3.28
NYMEX Henry Hub Last Settle Gas Price ^B (\$/MMBTU)	2.77	3.06	3.41
Louisiana Sweet Crude - St. James ^B (\$/Barrel)	103.51	95.04	63.30
	Mar 26	Feb 26	Mar 25
North Louisiana ^A	27	28	17
South Louisiana Inland Waters ^A	2	2	2
South Louisiana Inland ^A	5	5	2
Louisiana State Offshore	0	0	1
Louisiana Federal OCS Offshore	8	8	10
Total Louisiana ^A (OCS included)	42	43	32
	Mar 26	Feb 26	Mar 25
Louisiana Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	2.6 ¹	2.4 ¹	2.4 ²
Louisiana Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	302.0 ¹	284.2 ¹	303.4 ²
	Mar 26	Feb 26	Mar 25
Total Louisiana Oil and Gas	43	29	41
Louisiana Wildcats	0	2	5
Louisiana Offshore (Wildcats included)	0	0	0

