

Crude Oil Production in North Dakota: 2008

Crude oil production in North Dakota rose to nearly 63 million barrels in 2008, an increase of 39.3 percent from 2007 - the largest gain in North Dakota's history.

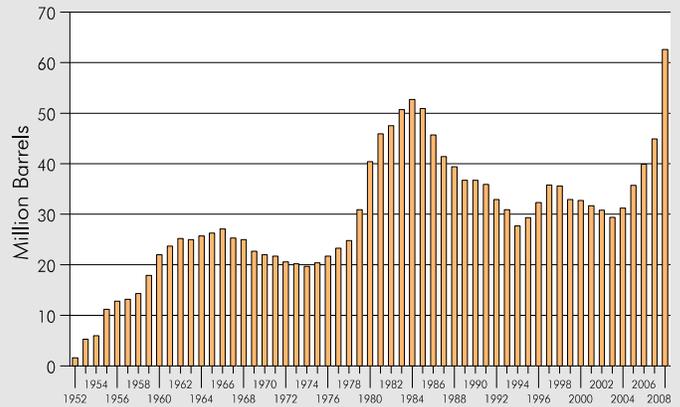
North Dakota's oil production increased sharply in the late 1970s and peaked in 1984 at just less than 53 million barrels. Production declined throughout the late 1980s and early 1990s. After a small rise in the mid 1990s, production slowed again. Production dropped to 29 million barrels by 2003. Since 2004, crude oil production in North Dakota has grown an average of 16.9 percent per year and reached nearly 63 million barrels in 2008 (Figure 1).

Total crude oil production in the U.S. (1.8 billion barrels of oil in 2008) has declined every year since 1985, except for a slight growth in 1991. From 1985 to 2008, nationwide crude oil production decreased an average of 2.5 percent per year.

In 2008, North Dakota ranked 7th in crude oil production out of 31 oil-producing states and two federal offshore areas. North Dakota produced an average of 171,989 barrels of oil per day in 2008 and comprised 3.5 percent of the nation's total production.

Sixteen of North Dakota's 53 counties produced oil in 2008. Bowman County was North Dakota's largest crude oil producer in 2008 (16.4 million barrels), followed by Mountrail (15.9 million barrels), McKenzie (7.6 million barrels), Dunn (5.6 million barrels), Williams (5.1 million barrels), Billings (4.4 million barrels), and Bottineau (2.0 million barrels). An additional nine counties produced the remaining 5.6 million barrels of the state's overall crude oil in 2008.

Figure 1. Crude Oil Production in North Dakota
1952 to 2008



Source: North Dakota Industrial Commission, Oil and Gas Division, <http://www.dmr.nd.gov/oilgas/>

Figure 2. Percent Change in Crude Oil Production by State: 2007 to 2008

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Petroleum Supply Monthly, http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/petroleum_supply_monthly/psm.html

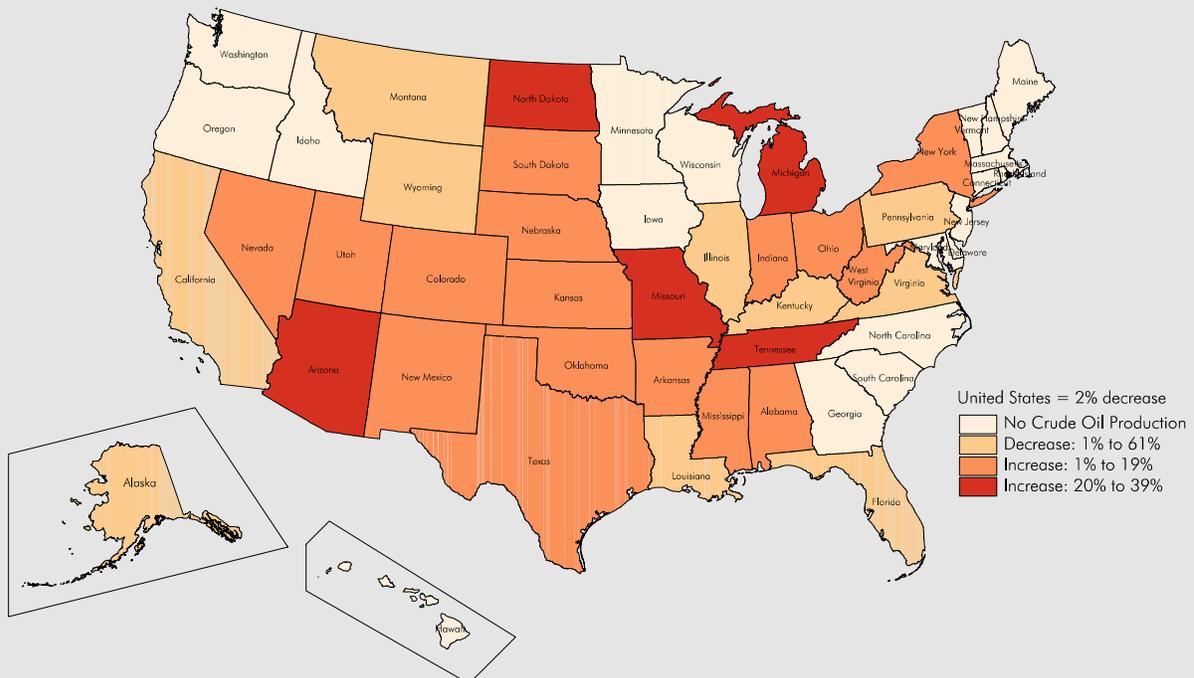


Table 1. Crude Oil Production by State and Federal Offshore Area: 1998 to 2008

Note: Data are in thousands of barrels of oil. For example, 62,776 equals 62,776,000 barrels of oil. Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Petroleum Supply Monthly, http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/petroleum_supply_monthly/psm.html

Area	Crude Oil Production (thousands of barrels)										
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Alabama	12,397	11,125	10,458	9,333	8,631	7,877	7,443	7,861	7,531	7,173	7,546
Alaska	428,851	383,198	355,198	351,412	359,335	355,582	332,465	315,420	270,486	263,595	249,874
Arizona	78	66	57	60	63	47	52	50	55	43	52
Arkansas	7,998	7,154	7,153	7,591	7,344	7,226	6,732	6,344	6,104	6,031	6,079
California	283,628	273,019	271,132	260,665	258,010	250,000	240,206	230,294	223,449	216,778	214,544
Colorado	22,365	18,468	18,479	16,518	17,734	21,109	22,097	22,823	23,390	23,237	24,054
Connecticut	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delaware	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	5,971	4,895	4,625	4,426	3,656	3,262	2,875	2,585	2,360	2,078	1,956
Georgia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hawaii	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Idaho	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Illinois	13,732	12,065	12,206	10,092	12,051	11,696	10,984	10,207	10,323	9,609	9,423
Indiana	2,210	1,964	2,098	2,022	1,962	1,865	1,755	1,727	1,731	1,727	1,858
Iowa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kansas	35,541	29,046	34,463	33,942	32,721	33,944	33,858	33,823	35,651	36,490	39,582
Kentucky	2,919	2,777	3,467	2,970	2,679	2,538	2,548	2,535	2,340	2,666	2,645
Louisiana	134,219	120,008	105,424	104,608	93,477	90,111	83,411	75,483	73,876	76,651	73,011
Maine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maryland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Massachusetts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Michigan	8,995	7,835	7,907	7,374	7,219	6,524	6,409	5,549	5,093	5,201	6,223
Minnesota	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mississippi	22,031	17,949	19,843	19,530	18,015	16,593	17,153	17,695	17,356	20,396	22,102
Missouri	93	92	95	90	95	82	88	85	87	80	99
Montana	16,483	14,939	15,427	15,919	16,855	19,320	24,724	32,855	36,262	34,829	31,545
Nebraska	3,176	2,661	2,955	2,922	2,779	2,755	2,507	2,413	2,313	2,334	2,394
Nevada	799	706	621	571	553	493	463	447	426	408	436
New Hampshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Jersey	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Mexico	72,328	64,377	67,198	68,001	67,041	66,130	64,236	60,660	59,818	58,831	59,403
New York	217	205	210	166	165	144	170	197	319	380	386
North Carolina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
North Dakota	35,562	32,883	32,718	31,691	30,993	29,406	31,154	35,660	39,911	45,058	62,776
Ohio	6,541	5,968	6,574	6,050	6,004	5,647	5,785	5,652	5,422	5,455	5,715
Oklahoma	77,577	70,557	69,976	68,531	66,642	65,356	62,502	62,142	62,841	60,952	64,065
Oregon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pennsylvania	1,978	1,470	1,500	1,620	2,233	2,425	2,538	3,947	3,626	3,653	3,611
Rhode Island	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Carolina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Dakota	1,206	1,100	1,170	1,255	1,214	1,237	1,357	1,469	1,394	1,665	1,697
Tennessee	287	345	346	349	275	311	361	324	192	284	344
Texas	504,661	449,233	443,396	424,295	411,985	405,801	392,867	387,680	397,220	396,894	398,014
Utah	19,198	16,253	15,636	15,251	13,676	13,096	14,629	16,651	17,910	19,520	21,998
Vermont	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia	6	8	7	12	22	5	19	8	7	18	7
Washington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Virginia	1,470	1,470	1,401	1,225	1,382	1,334	1,339	1,563	1,749	1,574	1,593
Wisconsin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wyoming	64,782	61,127	60,726	57,432	54,717	52,407	51,619	51,626	52,904	54,130	52,943
Federal Offshore											
PAD District 3	448,388	494,066	523,250	560,486	567,810	569,131	531,900	467,776	474,000	466,112	421,697
Federal Offshore											
PAD District 5	46,232	39,703	34,992	31,103	29,783	30,000	27,054	26,554	26,113	24,600	24,147
U.S. Total	2,281,919	2,146,732	2,130,707	2,117,511	2,097,124	2,073,453	1,983,302	1,890,106	1,862,259	1,848,450	1,811,817

Date of Release: August 18, 2009

North Dakota 7th Largest Oil Producer in Nation

Crude oil production in North Dakota rose to nearly 63 million barrels in 2008, an increase of 39.3 percent from 2007 -- the largest production level and percentage gain in the state's history.

This month's "Economic Brief," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on crude oil production throughout North Dakota and the nation.

North Dakota's oil production increased sharply in the late 1970s and peaked in 1984 at just less than 53 million barrels. Production declined throughout the late 1980s and early 1990s. After a small rise in the mid 1990s, production slowed again. Production dropped to 29.4 million barrels by 2003. Since 2004, crude oil production in North Dakota has grown an average of 16.9 percent per year and reached nearly 63 million barrels in 2008.

Total crude oil production in the U.S. (1.8 billion barrels of oil in 2008) has declined every year since 1985, except for a slight growth in production in 1991. From 1985 to 2008, nationwide crude oil production decreased an average of 2.5 percent per year.

"The gains in our state's oil production are in sharp contrast to the national trend. Over the past 10 years, all of the leading oil producing states and off-shore sites have dramatically reduced production including Alaska (-42 percent), California (-24 percent), and Texas (-21 percent). In contrast, North Dakota's production from 1998 to 2008 was up 77 percent," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

In 2008, North Dakota ranked seventh in crude oil production out of 31 oil-producing states and two federal offshore areas. North Dakota produced an average of 171,989 barrels of oil per day in 2008 and comprised 3.5 percent of the nation's total oil production.

Sixteen of North Dakota's 53 counties produced oil in 2008. Bowman County was North Dakota's largest crude oil producer in 2008 (16.4 million barrels), followed by Mountrail County (15.9 million barrels), McKenzie County (7.6 million barrels), Dunn County (5.6 million barrels), Williams County (5.1 million barrels), Billings County (4.4 million barrels), Bottineau County (2.0 million barrels), Stark County (1.4 million barrels), Burke County (1.2 million barrels), and Divide County (1.0 million barrels).

An additional six counties produced the remaining 2.0 million barrels of the state's overall crude oil in 2008.

North Dakota State Data Center

North Dakota State University
PO Box 6050, Dept. 8000
Fargo, North Dakota 58108-6050
Ph: (701) 231-7980 Fax: (701) 231-9730

For more information, contact:

Dr. Richard Rathge, Director
(701) 231-8621
richard.rathge@ndsu.edu

Karen Olson, Information Specialist
(701) 231-1060
k.olson@ndsu.edu

View publication online at:
<http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications.htm>