

# **Alberta Drilling Activity**

Monthly Statistics

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December 2017

## **ALBERTA ENERGY REGULATOR**

Statistical Series 59: Alberta Drilling Activity Monthly Statistics

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## ST-59 Alberta Drilling Activity Monthly Statistics

As of March 2014 (January 2014 data), the Alberta Drilling Activity - Monthly Statistics Report (ST-59) has been revised to incorporate enhancements to the content and report layout. The information contained in this report is obtained from well licence applications submitted to the AER under Directive 056 - Schedule 4.

For questions or concerns regarding the contents of this document, please contact [inquiries@ aer.ca](mailto:inquiries@ aer.ca).

## **Definitions and Notes:**

Coalbed Methane (CBM) is a naturally occurring gas, typically dry in Alberta, composed predominantly of methane, produced during the transformation of organic matter into coal.

Crude Bitumen is a naturally occurring viscous mixture, composed mainly of hydrocarbons heavier than Pentane, that may contain sulphur compounds, and that in its naturally occurring viscous state will not flow to a well.

Crude Oil is a mixture composed mainly of pentanes and some heavier hydrocarbons that may be contaminated with sulphur compounds, which is recovered or is recoverable at a well from an underground reservoir. It is liquid at the conditions under which its volume is measured or estimated and includes all other hydrocarbon mixtures so recovered or recoverable, except is not inclusive of raw gas, condensate, or crude bitumen.

Development Wells include the following Lahee classifications: Development, Development Service, Re-Entry, and Other wells. Exploratory Wells include the following Lahee classifications: Deep Pool Testing, Experimental, New Pool Wildcat, New Field Wildcat, Outpost, and Test Hole wells.

Horizontally drilled wells are identified by the well operator upon fulfilling data filing requirements under AER Directive 059. One of the filing requirements is to report a horizontal drill event for the well when the wellbore path achieves or exceeds an angle of 80 degrees from its vertical trajectory. Wells with one or more reported horizontal drill events are considered to be horizontal for this report. Wells licensed as horizontal are categorized as vertical/directional until well surveys have been received by the AER.

Natural gas is raw gas, marketable gas, or any constituent of raw gas, condensate, crude bitumen, or crude oil that is recovered in processing and is gaseous at the conditions under which its volume is measured or estimated.

Oil sands Evaluation Wells are wells drilled in a defined oil sands area for the purpose of evaluating oil sands deposits. These wells are drilled without the intention to produce hydrocarbons.

Other Wells include water, waste, brine, and miscellaneous wells.

Successful Wells are considered to be wells that are drilled and cased and not abandoned at the time of drilling.

# Drilling Activity in Alberta

Year 2017

\*Monthly drilling data is subject to industry submitted amendments to the AER.  
\*\*Please see the cell comments for more information.



2017	DEVELOPMENT WELLS																								MONTHLY TOTAL				TOTAL							
	NATURAL GAS						COALBED METHANE						CRUDE OIL						CRUDE BITUMEN						OTHER						Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total Wells	Total Metres
	Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total Wells	Total Metres						
Successful Wells	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres						
January	9	20,989	118	570,044	127	591,033	1	722	0	0	1	722	22	28,224	205	563,968	227	592,192	33	20,901	57	128,550	90	149,451	68	46,665	11	18,828	79	65,493	133	117,501	391	1,281,389	524	1,398,891
February	7	21,600	111	546,176	118	567,776	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	32,360	190	508,809	215	541,169	49	29,990	57	110,233	106	140,222	74	45,361	2	4,025	76	49,386	155	129,311	360	1,169,243	515	1,298,554
March	8	17,543	107	527,900	115	545,443	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	23,964	103	310,009	118	333,973	59	35,008	83	179,744	142	214,752	41	39,626	20	34,328	61	73,954	123	116,140	313	1,051,981	436	1,168,121
April	1	2,888	67	339,475	68	342,363	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	128,766	38	128,766	9	6,282	93	195,667	102	201,949	9	14,132	20	36,010	29	50,142	19	23,302	218	699,918	237	723,220
May	2	8,744	58	297,634	60	306,378	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	533	36	123,342	37	123,875	3	1,257	78	143,338	81	144,595	1	1,649	14	23,487	15	25,136	7	12,183	186	587,800	193	599,983
June	3	7,177	59	279,397	62	286,574	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	39,726	104	249,392	126	289,118	24	16,923	49	92,055	73	108,978	2	4,420	20	33,889	22	38,309	51	68,246	232	654,734	283	722,980
July	5	12,234	83	377,991	88	390,224	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	9,149	174	477,589	179	486,738	30	20,793	45	83,714	75	104,506	5	7,434	26	46,859	31	54,293	45	49,610	328	986,152	373	1,035,762
August	9	28,060	86	395,656	95	423,716	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	31,230	159	439,415	170	470,645	51	32,362	80	159,908	131	192,270	5	11,052	15	25,013	20	36,065	76	102,704	340	1,019,992	416	1,122,696
September	8	24,540	93	441,075	101	465,615	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	17,953	131	361,869	142	379,822	66	44,166	78	147,099	144	191,265	15	15,539	14	27,112	29	42,651	100	102,197	316	977,155	416	1,079,352
October	12	35,405	94	449,342	106	484,747	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	16,725	139	398,139	147	414,864	52	35,774	108	202,034	160	237,808	8	8,304	15	24,647	23	32,951	80	96,208	356	1,074,161	436	1,170,369
November	9	17,138	89	434,717	98	451,855	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	11,230	139	399,357	144	410,586	54	38,400	63	140,763	117	179,163	7	13,097	34	55,102	41	68,199	75	79,864	325	1,029,939	400	1,109,803
December	11	14,228	78	381,031	89	395,258	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	13,399	134	392,083	146	405,482	28	18,883	59	127,679	87	146,562	10	11,803	25	46,778	35	58,581	61	58,313	296	947,571	357	1,005,884
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>210,544</b>	<b>1,043</b>	<b>5,040,437</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>5,250,981</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>224,493</b>	<b>1,552</b>	<b>4,352,738</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>4,577,231</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>300,738</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>1,710,783</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>2,011,521</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>219,082</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>376,077</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>595,159</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>955,579</b>	<b>3,661</b>	<b>11,480,034</b>	<b>4,586</b>	<b>12,435,613</b>

2017	EXPLORATORY WELLS																								MONTHLY TOTAL				TOTAL							
	NATURAL GAS						COALBED METHANE						CRUDE OIL						CRUDE BITUMEN						OTHER						Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total Wells	Total Metres
	Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total		Vertical/Directional		Horizontal		Total Wells	Total Metres						
Successful Wells	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres						
January	8	27,256	10	48,094	18	75,350	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	13,606	11	35,396	18	49,002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	40,862	21	83,490	36	124,352
February	2	5,987	11	59,556	13	65,543	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	11,332	10	38,638	17	49,969	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	17,319	21	98,194	30	115,512
March	4	10,915	21	108,876	25	119,791	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	9,355	9	27,402	13	36,757	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	20,270	30	136,278	38	156,547
April	1	3,413	15	84,064	16	87,477	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1,685	2	9,251	3	10,936	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5,098	17	93,315	19	98,413
May	1	3,270	5	25,940	6	29,210	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	980	0	0	1	980	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4,250	5	25,940	7	30,190
June	1	1,904	5	25,571	6	27,475	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8,706	2	8,938	7	17,644	0	0	1	1,253	1	1,253	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	10,610	8	35,762	14	46,372
July	8	19,573	9	46,249	17	65,822	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8,655	16	42,071	21	50,726	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	28,227	25	88,320	38	116,547
August	9	28,448	9	44,507	18	72,955	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8,590	18	49,245	23	57,835	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	37,038	27	93,752	41	130,790
September	1	2,297	6	27,827	7	30,124	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	12,053	12	38,728	18	50,781	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	14,350	18	66,555	25	80,905
October	2	5,933	7	34,159	9	40,092	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	11,473	6	26,465	11	37,938	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	17,406	13	60,624	20	78,030
November	5	15,900	16	83,604	21	99,504	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	7,859	4	17,939	7	25,798	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	23,759	20	101,543	28	125,302
December	5	17,457	7	33,171	12	50,628	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2,251	2	7,170	3	9,421	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	19,708	9	40,341	15	60,049
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>142,352</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>621,617</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>763,969</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>96,544</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>301,242</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>397,787</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,253</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,253</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>238,897</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>924,112</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>1,163,009</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>352,897</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>5,662,054</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>6,014,950</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>321,037</b>	<b>1,644</b>	<b>4,653,980</b>	<b>1,831</b>	<b>4,975,017</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>300,738</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>1,712,035</b>	<b>1,309</b>	<b>2,012,773</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>219,082</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>376,077</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>595,159</b>	<b>1,022</b>	<b>1,194,475</b>	<b>3,875</b>	<b>12,404,146</b>	<b>4,897</b>	<b>13,598,622</b>

# Drilling Activity in Alberta - Oilsands Evaluation Wells

Year 2017

\*Monthly oilsands evaluation well data is subject to industry submitted amendments to the AER.

\*\*Please see the cell comment for more information.

2017	OILSANDS EVALUATION WELLS						MONTHLY TOTAL	
	Cold Lake		Athabasca		Peace River			
Successful Wells	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres
January	5	2,434	137	61,165	4	3,421	146	67,020
February	7	3,419	148	69,679	6	4,309	161	77,407
March	4	1,929	73	27,655	4	2,091	81	31,675
April	1	565	0	0	0	0	1	565
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July	1	714	0	0	0	0	1	714
August	0	0	0	0	1	681	1	681
September	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	20	9,444	0	0	20	9,444
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9,061</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>167,944</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10,502</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>187,507</b>