

# Alberta Drilling Activity

Monthly Statistics

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December 2023

## **ALBERTA ENERGY REGULATOR**

Statistical Series 59: Alberta Drilling Activity Monthly Statistics

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Suite 1000, 250 - 5 Street SW  
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T2P0R4  
[www.aer.ca](http://www.aer.ca)

## 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.

**Oilsands Evaluation Wells** are drilled in an oilsands area to evaluate the oilsands and is not intended to produce hydrocarbons.

**Other** wells includes water, waste, brine, and miscellaneous wells.

**Successful Wells** drilled are cased and not abandoned at the time of drilling.



# Drilling Activity in Alberta - Oilsands Evaluation Wells

Year 2023

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

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

2023	OILSANDS EVALUATION WELLS						MONTHLY TOTAL	
	Cold Lake		Athabasca		Peace River			
Successful Wells	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres	Wells	Metres
January	15	8,568	131	46,404	3	2,383	149	57,355
February	2	971	153	56,356	2	1,241	157	58,568
March	2	1,012	68	28,961	4	2,613	74	32,586
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July	2	1,065	0	0	1	896	3	1,961
August	3	1,791	0	0	0	0	3	1,791
September	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	4	2,386	0	0	0	0	4	2,386
December	1	448	1	589	0	0	2	1,037
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16,241</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>132,310</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7,133</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>155,684</b>