MMS

U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
Engineering & Operations Division
Operations Analysis Branch

Yearend
1999
(Updated January 25, 2001)

Offshore Stats

An update of OCS-related natural gas and oil information

These statistics represent OCS activity as reported in the TIMS data base as of December 31, 1999. All statistics are subject to change.

National Trends

During 1999, the United States imported an average of 10.8 million barrels per day (MMbpd) of petroleum, whereas we exported an average of 940 thousand barrels per day. Over the last 3 years, net imports remained fairly constant with averages of 8.5, 9.2, and 9.8 MMbpd for 1996, 1997, and 1998, respectively. Petroleum products supplied for domestic use during 1999 increased to 19.5 MMbpd compared to the 1998 average of 18.9 MMbpd. *[Source: DOE/EIA, Monthly Energy Review, Dec. 2000 issue, pp. 40, 41.]*

Average weekly prices for crude oil in 1999 show West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude at $18.02 per barrel, Saudi Light (SAL) at $16.75, and Alaska North Slope (ANS) at $10.42. *[Prices based on quotes from Oil & Gas Journal 1998-99 issues.]*

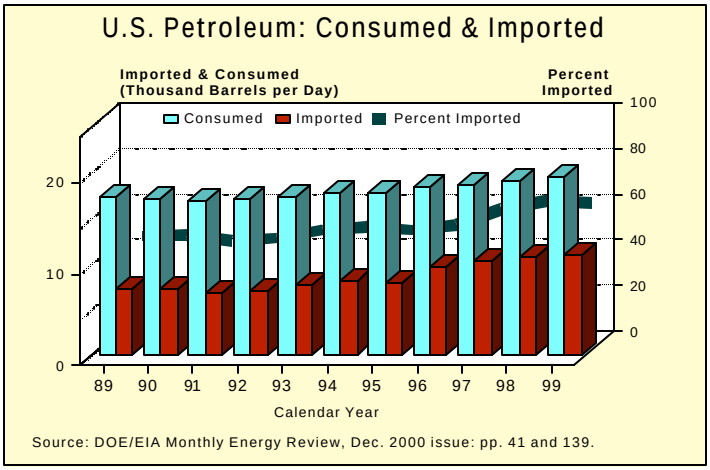
The domestic first purchase price for crude oil in 1999 averaged $15.56 per barrel, up from an $10.87 average for the same period during 1998. The average price for natural gas at the wellhead was up to $2.17 from the $1.94 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf) but down from the 1997 average of $232 per Mcf. *[Source: DOE/EIA, Monthly Energy Review, Dec. 2000 issue, pp. 115, 129.]*

OCS Trends

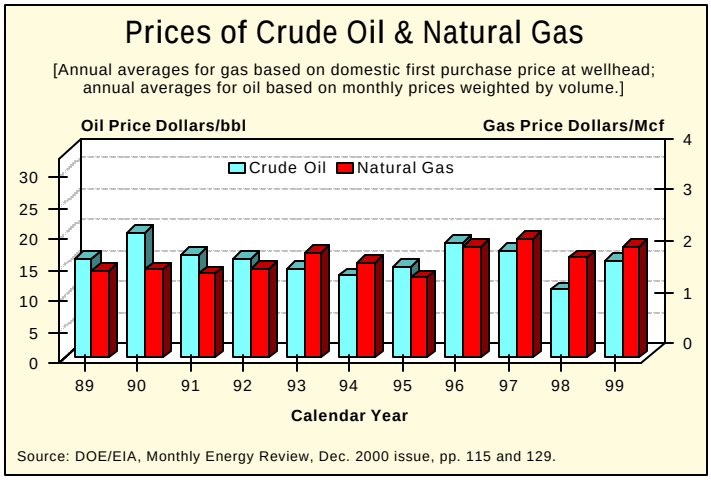
As of December 31, 1999, existing leases totaled 8,131 compared to 8,395 in 1998. About one-fifth of these leases are producing. *(See regional table, p.3.)* Exploratory drilling for 1999 was down by about 20 percent compared to the same period in 1998, averaging 29 wells per month compared to 36 per month in 1998. Development drilling was up by about 10 percent, averaging 51 wells per month compared to 46 in 1998. *(See table on page 2.)*

Platform removals during calendar year 1999 exceeded installations by almost 48 percent, with a total of 98 removals and 66 installations. Installations were down by almost 45 percent from last year, while removals were up by 60 percent, a reversal of the 1998 trend. *(See regional table, p. 3.)*

OCS crude oil production for 1999 is at 534 million barrels, up by about 9 percent from 1998's total volume. OCS gas production is also up with a total of 5,134 billion cubic feet compared to last year's total of 5,117. *(See production table, p. 2.)*



Source: DOE/EIA Monthly Energy Review, Dec. 2000 issue: pp. 41 and 139.



Source: DOE/EIA, Monthly Energy Review, Dec. 2000 issue, pp. 115 and 129.

INSIDE STATS...Data Through Dec. 31, 1999

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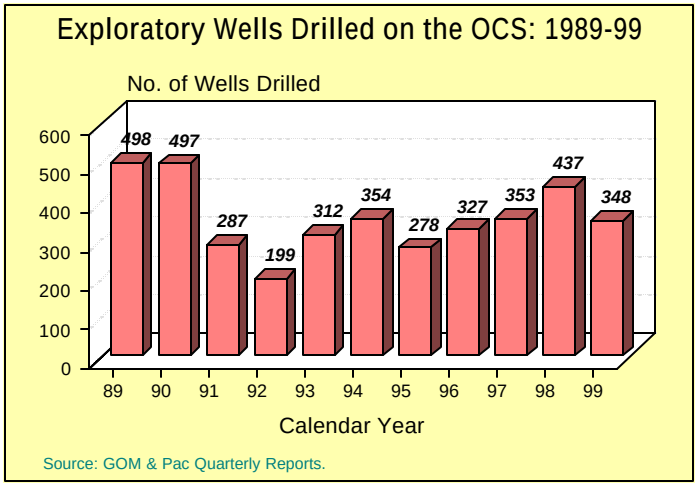
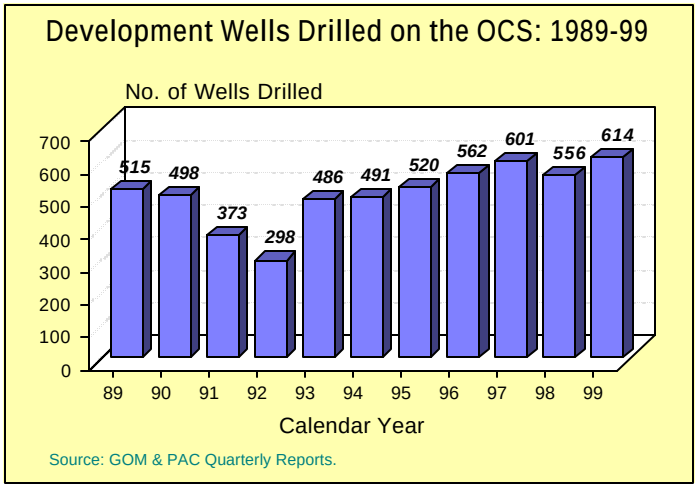
Drilling—OCS Monthly Data

Wells Started	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total
• ***Exploratory:***													
1999	35	24	13	20	30	26	28	24	29	44	41	34	348
1998	49	40	45	45	38	36	43	30	25	27	37	22	437
• ***Development:***													
1999	39	43	28	51	51	50	50	54	57	60	65	66	614
1998	65	72	58	63	38	49	51	58	23	36	23	20	556

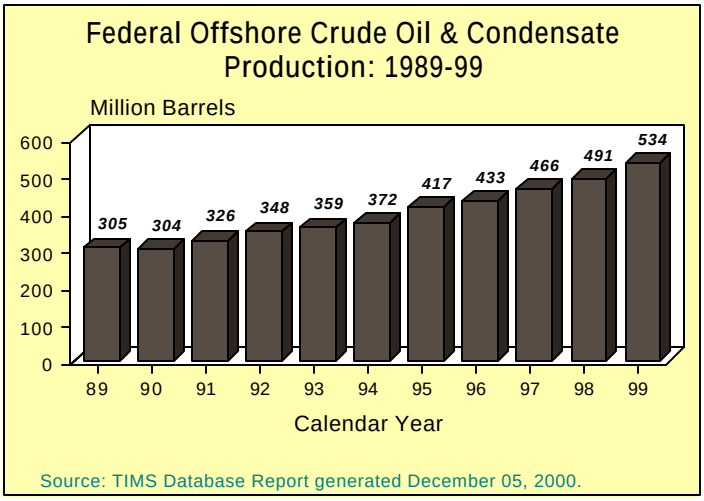


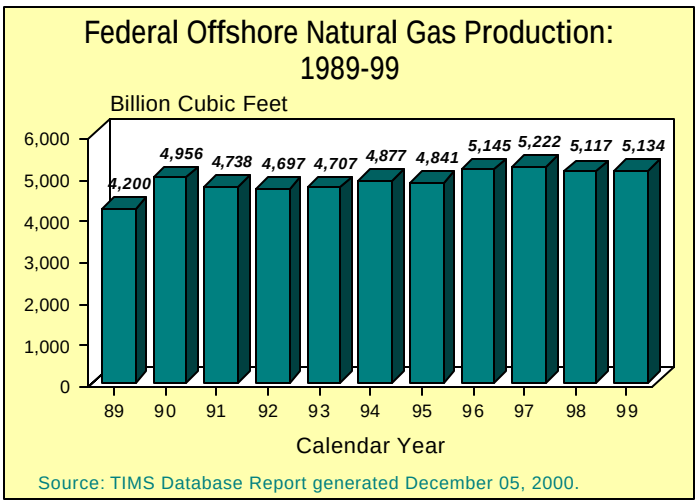


Production *[Total volume]*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total
Crude Oil & Condensate Combined (million barrels)													
1999	43.12	38.74	42.59	43.32	44.98	44.05	46.66	45.42	45.07	47.58	46.76	46.15	534.35
1998	42.96	37.75	42.60	42.67	43.65	41.58	42.41	43.86	31.58	39.93	38.63	42.93	490.55
Gas Well Gas & Casinghead Gas Combined *(billion cubic feet)*													
1999	442.91	401.27	441.44	431.39	439.53	421.17	439.07	431.47	414.90	428.15	416.22	426.24	5,133.76
1998	441.98	396.77	444.54	434.80	455.48	433.19	437.23	441.05	342.77	427.83	420.28	441.32	5,117.24

Source: TIMS database. Monthly totals may change as operators are still reporting.





Regional—OCS Data

	As of December 31, 1999				
	Alaska	Atlantic	Gulf of Mexico	Pacific	Total
Prelease Activities:					
G & G Permits Approved	2	0	80	0	82
Request for Interest	0	0	0	0	0
Call for Information/Comments	1	0	1	0	2
Area Identification	0	0	1	0	1
Draft EIS (Published)	0	0	2	0	2
Final EIS (Published)	0	0	1	0	1
Proposed Notice of Sale	0	0	1	0	1
Notice of Sale	0	0	2	0	2
Sales	0	0	2	0	2
Postlease Activities:					
APD's Approved	0	0	962	2	964
Bore holes Plugged & Aban doned	0	0	517	8	525
Exploration Plans Approved (Initial*)	0	0	231	0	231
Exploration Plans Approved (All)	0	0	402	0	402
Exploration Well Starts	0	0	[b] 348	0	348
Development Plans Approved (Initial*)	0	0	83	0	83
Development Plans Approved (All)	0	0	265	0	265
Development Well Starts	0	0	[c] 604	10	614
Platform Installations	0	0	66	0	66
Platforms—In place	0	0	3,967	23	3,990
Platform Removals	0	0	98	0	98
Platform Approvals	0	0	147	0	147
SOP's Approved	0	0	84	112	196
Current Status of Prelease & Postlease Activities:					
Existing Leases	78	19	[d] 7,921	79	8, 097
<200 meters.	78	0	3,597	31	3,706
201–400 meters of water	0	0	270	26	296
401–900 meters of water	0	5	632	22	659
>901 meters of water	0	14	3,130	0	3144
Acres under lease (millions)	0.31	0.11	40.13	0.40	40.95
Producing Leases	0	0	[d] 1,564	43	1,607
Fields (Total)	0	0	712	36	748
Producing.	0	0	662	12	674
Non-Producing.	0	0	50	26	76

NA = Not applicable--the YTD column does not apply because the number of platforms in place changes monthly.

* Does not include reviews of initial plan submittals, required plan revisions, draft plans before they are officially deemed complete, or requests modify or waive a previously approved plan condition.

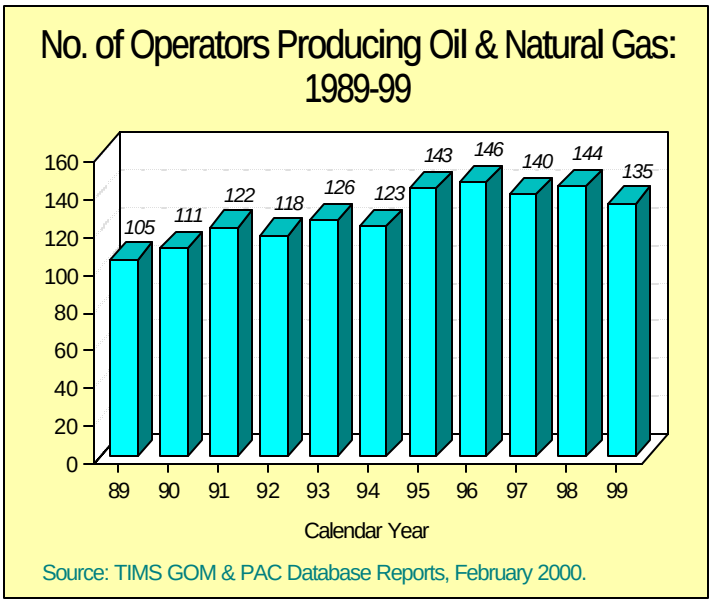
[a] Sales 172 and 174.

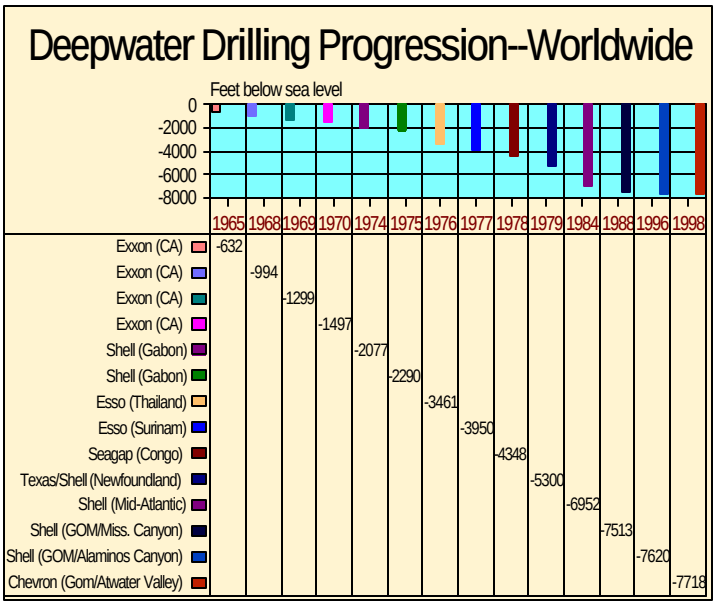
[b] Includes 11 sulfur & salt wells.

[c] Includes 10 sulfur & salt wells.

[d] Includes 2 sulfur lease.

SOURCE: GOM and PAC Quarterly Reports.

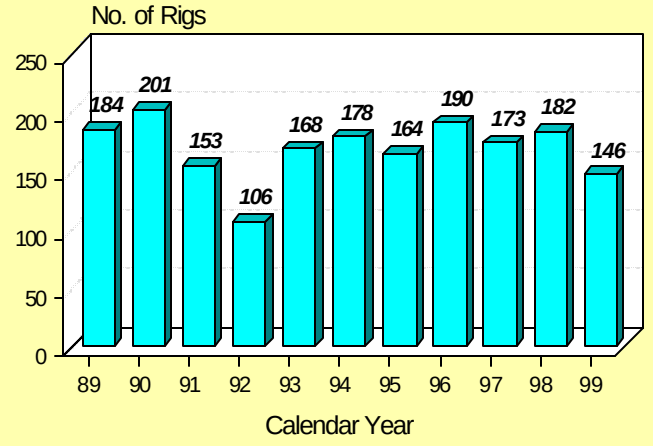




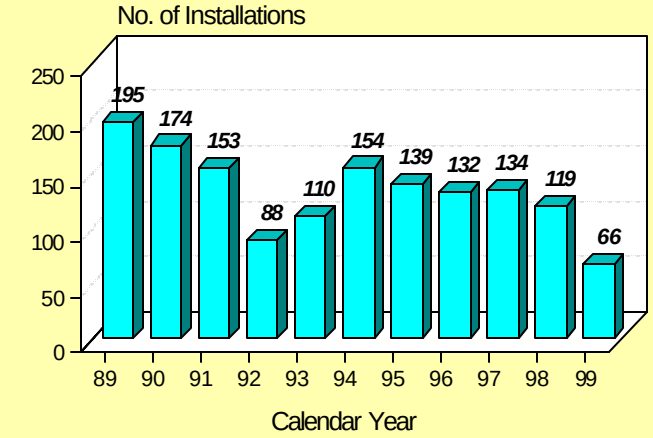
Rigs & Production Platforms

Annual OCS Rig Count: 1988-99

[Based on 52-week average]

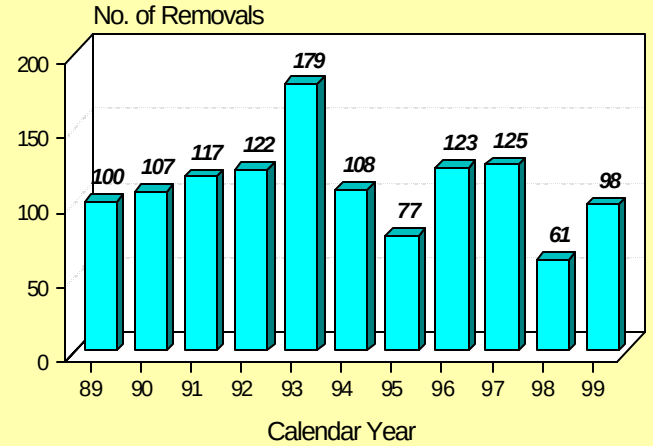


OCS Platform Installations: 1989-99



Source: GOM and PAC Quarterly Reports.

OCS Platform Removals: 1989-99



Source: GOM & PAC Quarterly Reports.

GOM Deepwater Discoveries & Fields

[Asterisk after block number denotes producing field]

Project Name	Area	Block	Depth (ft)/(m)	Operator (Partner)
BAHA	Alaminos Canyon	600	7620/2323	Shell
Coulomb	Mississippi Canyon	657	7500/2286	Shell
Metallica	Mississippi Canyon	911	7000/2128	BP Exploration
Nakika [1]	Mississippi Canyon	383/429/520/522	6950/2134	Shell (Amoco)
King's Peak *(SS)*	Desoto Canyon	133	6530/1990	Amoco
Neptune	Atwater Valley	575	6220/1896	BP Exploration
King	Mississippi Canyon	84	5500/1676	Amoco
Mensa *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	687*	5376/1639	Shell
South Diana *(SS)*	Alaminos Canyon	65	4800/1463	Exxon
Hoover *(Spar)*	Alaminos Canyon	25/26	4785/1458	Exxon (BP)
Diana	East Banks	945	4500/1371	Exxon (BP)
Poseidon	Green Canyon	691	4489/1368	BP
Crosby	Mississippi Canyon	899	4452/1357	BP
Mickey *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	211	4356/1328	Exxon (BP)
Narcissus	Mississippi Canyon	630	4250/1295	Texaco
Fuji	Green Canyon	506	4243/1293	Texaco (Shell)
Ursa (TLP)	Mississippi Canyon	809	3916/1194	Shell (Exxon/BP/Conoco)
Zeus	Mississippi Canyon	941	3905/1190	Exxon
MC 837 *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	837	3900/1189	Walter
Europa *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	935	3870/1179	Shell (BP/Conoco)
King Kong [2]	Green Canyon	472/473/517	3817/1163	Conoco (Shell/British-Borneo)
Boomvang East (SS)	East Banks	688	3737/1139	Reading & Bates
North Boomvang	East Banks	643	3688/1124	Reading & Bates (Norcen)
Macaroni *(SS)*	Garden Banks	602	3600/1097	Shell
Nile	Viosca Knoll	914	3535/1077	Amoco
Nirvana	Mississippi Canyon	162	3414/1041	BP Exploration
Gemini *(Spar)*	Mississippi Canyon	292	3393/1034	Texaco (Chevron)
Glider *(TLP)*	Green Canyon	248	3300/1006	Shell
Ram Powell *(TLP)*	Viosca Knoll	956*	3255/992	Shell(Exxon/Amoco)
King	Mississippi Canyon	764	3250/991	Vastar (Shell/BP)
Marlin *(TLP)*	Viosca Knoll	915	3236/986	Amoco
Sorano *(SS)*	Garden Banks	516	3153/961	Shell
Allegheny *(FPS)*	Green Canyon	254*	3186/971	British-Borneo
No name	Mississippi Canyon	243	3100/945	Conoco (Oryx)
Gomez (Spar/TLP)	Mississippi Canyon	755	3000/914	Union Pacific
Mars *(TLP) (SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	807*	2940/896	Shell(BP)
Brutus *(TLP) (SS)*	Green Canyon	158	2877/877	Shell (Exxon)
Auger *(TLP)*	Garden Banks	426*	2860/872	Shell (BP)
Pluto [3]	Mississippi Canyon	673/674/718	2828/862	Mariner (BP Exploration)
Troika *(SS)*	Green Canyon	244*	2721/828	BP Exp (Shell/Marathon)
Genesis *(SPAR)*	Green Canyon	205*	2597/792	Chevron (Exxon/Fina)
Bison	Green Canyon	166	2518/767	Exxon
Leo	Mississippi Canyon	502/503/546	2500/760	BBEI (Shell)
GB 386 *(SS)*	Garden Banks	386	2300/701	Enserch
Cooper *(FPS)*	Garden Banks	388*	2190/668	Enserch (BP)
Diamond *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	445*	2095/639	Oryx Energy
MC 443 *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	443	2095/639	Walter
Stellaria	Green Canyon	112/113	2045/623	Marathon/Shell
Popeye II *(SS)*	Green Canyon	116*	2000/609	Shell (CNG/Mobil/BP)
Neptune *(SPAR)*	Viosca Knoll	826*	1930/588	Oryx Energy
No name	Garden Banks	254	1920/585	Chevron USA
EW 1006 *(SS)*	Ewing Banks	1006	1884/574	Walter
Pompano II *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	28*	1865/568	BP Exploration (Kerr-McGee)
Black Widow *(SS)*	Ewing Banks	966	1850/564	Mariner
Arnold *(SS)*	Ewing Banks	963*	1800/549	Marathon
Rocky *(SS)*	Green Canyon	110*	1785/544	Shell
Petronius *(CT)*	Viosca Knoll	786	1754/535	Texaco (Marathon)
Knight	Garden Banks	372	1740/530	Santa Fe
Jolliet *(TLP)*	Green Canyon	184*	1720/524	Conoco

See foot notes at end of table on next page.

GOM Deepwater Discoveries & Fields *(cont.)*

[Asterisk after block number denotes producing field]

Project Name	Area	Block	Depth (ft)/(m)	Operator (Partner)
Thor *(SS)*	Viosca Knoll	825*	1720/524	Oryx Energy
Grand Canyon	Green Canyon	141	1715/523	Conoco
No Name *(SS)*	Green Canyon	72	1655/504	Mobil
No Name	Green Canyon	228	1638/499	Texaco
Baldpate *(CT)*	Garden Banks	260*	1641/500	Amerada Hess
Morpeth[4] *(TLP) (SS)*	Ewing Bank	921/964/965	1630/497	British-Borneo
Llano	Garden Banks	386	1526/465	EEX Corp.
MC 411 *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	441	1520/463	Enserch (Agip/Fina)
Conger	Garden Banks	215	1500/457	Amerada Hess (Oryx)
Tahoe *(SS)*	Viosca Knoll	783*	1500/457	Shell (Murphy)
Zinc *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	354*	1478/450	Exxon
Toro	Green Canyon	69	1465/447	Shell
Penn State	Garden Banks	216	1450/442	Amerada Hess (Oryx)
Sunday Silence *(TSpar)*	Ewing Banks	958	1450/442	Tatham Offshore
Ladybug	Garden Banks	409	1355/413	Texaco (Unocal)
Bullwinkle *(FP)*	Green Canyon	62*	1353/412	Shell
Pompano I *(FP) (SS)*	Viosca Knoll	989*	1290/393	BP (Kerr-McGee)

[Asterisk after block number denotes producing field]

Project Name	Area	Block	Depth (ft)/(m)	Operator (Partner)
No Name	Mississippi Canyon	26	1272/388	BP
Oyster (SS)	Ewing Banks	917*	1200/366	Marathon (Texaco)
Salsa	Garden Banks	171	1076/328	Amerada Hess
Virgo	Viosca Knoll	823*	1130/344	Elf Exploration
Dulcimer *(SS)*	Garden Banks	367*	1120/341	Mariner
Mosquito Hawk	Garden Banks	269	1102/336	Texaco
Alabaster *(SS)*	Mississippi Canyon	397*	1059/323	Exxon (Enserch/Walter)
VK 862 *(SS)*	Viosca Knoll	862*	1043/318	Walte
Shasta *(SS)*	Green Canyon	136*	1040/317	Texaco (Hardy/Samedan)
Spirit	Viosca Knoll	780*	1040/317	Shell
Amberjack *(FP)*	Mississippi Canyon	109*	1029/314	BP (Shell, Conoco)
Cognac *(FP)*	Mississippi Canyon	194*	1025/312	Shell
Seattle Slew	Ewing Banks	914*	1019/311	Tathan
Lena *(CT)*	Mississippi Canyon	281*	1018/310	Exxon

FP = Fixed Platform ***FPS*** = Floating Platform System ***CT*** = Compliant Tower ***TLP*** = Tension Leg Platform ***SS*** = Subseas System ***SPAR*** = Unit consisting of single point buoy tanker loading and mooring platform with storage tank TSPAR = Truss Spar

[1] Ariel, Fourier, Herschel, and Kepler renamed to Nakika project. [2] Vancouver renamed to King Kong project [3] Blood Sweat & Tears renamed to Pluto project [4] Klamath renamed to Morpeth.

Inspections, INC's & Enforcements

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total
Inspections:													
Abandonment	5	3	3	2	1	1	3	1	3	6	10	3	41
Accident Investigation	1	0	2	1	2	0	4	0	8	3	6	1	28
Completion	21	15	12	16	20	15	8	18	14	10	8	18	175
Drilling facilities	106	104	115	115	125	138	137	161	139	124	151	140	1,555
Environmental	22	12	41	25	26	47	65	39	38	33	21	13	382
Flaring	19	10	13	14	23	39	47	40	36	30	28	15	314
Hydrogen sulfide	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	4	5	4	6	3	28
Metering	285	256	315	343	358	517	445	419	337	266	322	306	4,169
Other	1	1	1	1	0	3	3	8	5	8	2	9	42
Pipeline	482	686	623	471	915	643	511	958	488	315	342	382	6,816
Production facilities	363	399	326	303	511	450	426	584	397	398	372	294	4,823
Workover	8	15	18	16	12	12	16	27	27	18	31	23	223
Total Inspections	1,313	1,501	1,469	1,307	1,994	1,868	1,667	2,259	1,497	1,215	1,299	1,207	18,596
Incidents of Noncompliance (INC's):	346	367	619	520	506	495	428	465	275	317	338	227	4,903
Enforcements:*													
Platform Component Shut-Ins	189	163	263	212	293	249	235	242	154	137	129	108	2,374
Platform Shut-Ins	14	14	18	16	20	16	4	14	8	30	13	11	178
Platform Warnings	126	173	333	269	177	220	168	190	101	136	179	89	2,161
Rig Component, Shut-Ins, Warnings	14	12	4	20	14	8	20	18	9	8	14	7	148
Pipeline Component, Shut-Ins, Warnings	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
Well Component, Shut-Ins, Warnings	3	5	1	3	1	2	0	1	2	6	3	12	39
Total Enforcements	346	367	619	520	506	495	428	465	275	317	338	227	4,903

OCS Oil Spill Data 1988–99

Year	GULF OF MEXICO REGION (No. Spills by Volume)			PACIFIC REGION (No. Spills by Volume)			Total OCS Spillage (barrels)
	>1–50 barrels	>50 barrels	Total Spillage (bbl)	>1–50 barrels	>50 barrels	Total Spillage (bbl)	
1989	24	1	476	3	0	8	484
1990	36	3	19,356	0	1	100	19,456
1991	32	1	642	3	0	61	703
1992	28	2	2,332	0	0	0	2,332
1993	24	0	147	0	0	0	147
1994	21	4	5,052	3	0	83	5,135
1995	30	4	1,344	** 1	0	1	1,345
1996	38	3	523	1	1	155	678
1997	27	3	556	1	1	164	720
1998	35	8	10,932	0	0	0	10,932
1999	18	2	*** 3,408	1	0	10	3,418

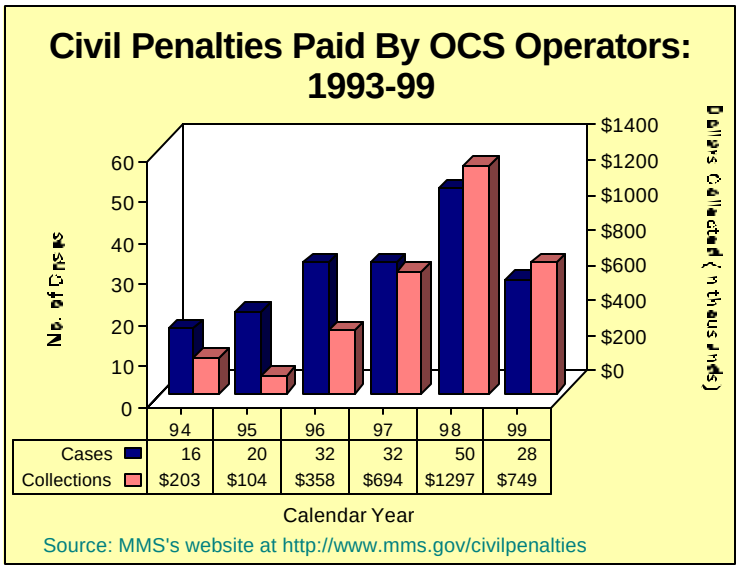
* Includes one spill of 5 barrels on the Alaska OCS. ** 1.4 barrels rounded to 1 barrel. *** Includes spill under investigation estimated as 3,188 barrels.
Note: In 1995, three spills were greater than 50 barrels: East Cameron 219 (75 bbls condensate), High Island A371 (89 bbls diesel fuel), and West Cameron 198 (435 bbbls condensate).

OCS Civil Penalties

The goal of the MMS OCS Civil/Criminal Penalties Program is to assure safe and clean operations on the OCS. By pursuing, assessing, and collecting civil penalties, the program encourages compliance with OCS statutes and regulations.

In the chart at right, civil penalties paid in 1999 are down for the year compared to that in 1998. Please note that this is not a reflection of the year's activity. The program has a backlog of cases that are now being processed; these will be reflected in next year's total.

For a complete listing of civil penalties paid, see our website at *http://www.mms.gov/civilpenalties*.



OCS Safety

Operators working on the OCS are required to report all serious accidents associated with operations on a lease. These reports are entered into a database. MMS closely monitors and analyzes incident data for trends that may need attention to ensure that all OCS operations continue in a safe and environmentally sound manner. The graph at right shows the number of incidents that occurred from 1995 through 1999 by category. Notice the significant drop in fatalities in 1999.

For more safety-related information concerning safety alerts, accident investigations, notices to lessees, and other safety-related issues, visit our website at *http://www.mms.gov/offshoresafety*.

For more information on incidents and other OCS-related statistics, please visit our website at *http://www.mms.gov/stats.*

OCS Events by Category: 1995-1999

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Blowouts	1	4	5	7	5
Collisions	6	5	10	5	10
Explosions	0	8	10	4	7
Fatalities	8	10	11	14	5
Fires	42	87	125	90	75
Injuries	31	62	83	66	47

SOURCE: TIMS database as of January 17, 2001.

OCS Revenues—Rents & Royalties *[in millions of dollars]*

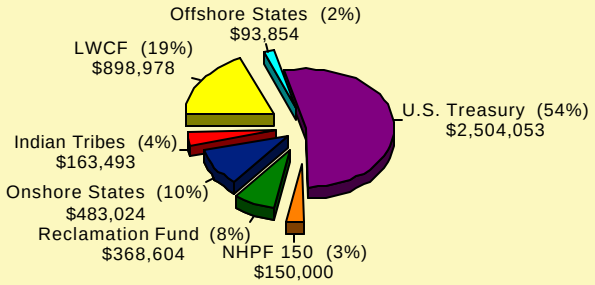
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total
• ***Rental:***													
1999	9.47	1.08	0.76	23.70	9.70	33.22	31.75	17.16	7.08	21.29	30.2	22.22	207.45
1998	20.28	1.41	1.41	23.75	31.09	38.71	35.46	17.60	12.25	24.37	22.63	29.53	268.49
• ***Royalty:***													
1999	175.56	197.42	189.65	185.74	195.43	177.49	192.84	323.65	235.26	260.33	326.00	233.95	2,693.32
1998	240.37	312.53	231.99	217.70	238.62	228.70	295.50	177.13	255.25	197.83	180.29	180.93	2,756.94

Disbursements—Section 8(g) by State *[in thousands of dollars]*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	1999 Total
• ***AL:***													
1999	733.84	675.23	1,240.74	1,318.79	661.97	821.77	868.45	930.00	1,096.15	1,159.08	1,126.61	1,108.37	11,741
1998	1,696.37	1,351.47	1,083.22	1,545.29	1,030.39	875.61	1,050.85	1,204.47	907.16	980.48	666.46	724.96	15,488.63
• ***AK:***													
1999	0.00	9.07	0.00	13,400.00	0.00	0.00	21.94	0.00	13.14	106.73	79.91	15.13	13,444.15
1998	9.07	0.00	0.00	13,400.00	0.00	0.00	19.97	12.00	10.83	5.55	1,253.37	11.77	14,722.49.
• ***CA:***													
1999	222.31	93.57	64.75	28,944.37	60.14	37.38	196.06	84.64	175.93	103.09	269.66	108.72	30,360.62
1998 . . .	76.91	239.94	212.19	29,027.99	82.67	0.00	0.00	74.73	949.47	106.93	77.33	73.83	1,923.03
• ***FL:***													
1999	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.78
1998	0.00	0.00	0.39	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	97.33	0.00	0.00	99.11
• ***LA:***													
1999	552.91	882.92	298.47	9,043.08	515.29	665.74	6,823.00	621.84	562.01	703.18	749.63	818.86	21,636.93
1998	1,198.85	945.72	883.78	9,057.70	1,209.47	781.01	1,992.70	643.68	661.75	629.37	390.42	438.88	14,076.53
• ***MS:***													
1999	11.29	40.36	40.65	231.27	56.07	26.85	34.53	21.93	20.65	25.76	23.68	20.67	553.71
1998	85.99	76.26	38.25	238.28	368.61	68.92	244.08	278.41	35.03	43.60	26.75	7.74	876.31
• ***TX:***													
1999	749.74	743.39	631.45	13,985.34	615.11	632.06	666.96	820.15	771.65	1,215.80	1,454.28	513.12	22,799.05
1998	2,861.52	1,089.97	807.11	14,203.96	742.13	891.29	720..00	754.52	698.89	653.65	502.68	1,663.01	20,595.98

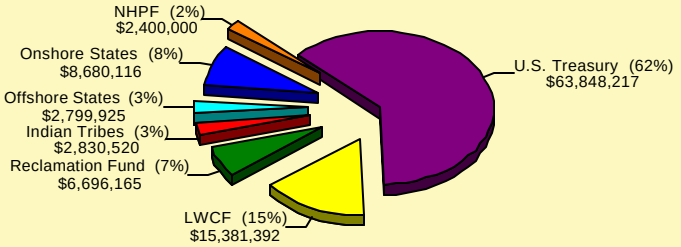
Other Disbursements and OCS Revenue Contributions

Fiscal Year 1999 Disbursements
[In thousands]



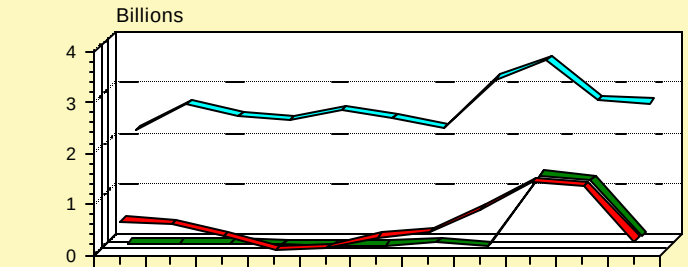
LWCF = Land & Water Conservation Fund
NHPF = National Historic Preservation Fund
Source:MMS Royalty Management Program website @ http://www.rmp.mms.gov/disburse.htm as of March 2, 2000.

FY 1982-99: Cumulative Disbursements
[In thousands]



LWCF = Land & Water Conservation Fund
NHPF = National Historic Preservation Fund
Source: MMS Royalty Management Program website @ http://www.rmp.mms.gov/disburse.htm as of March 2, 2000.

Royalties vs. Bonus Payments: 1989-99
[Rents for Calendar Year 1999 were $207,452,954]

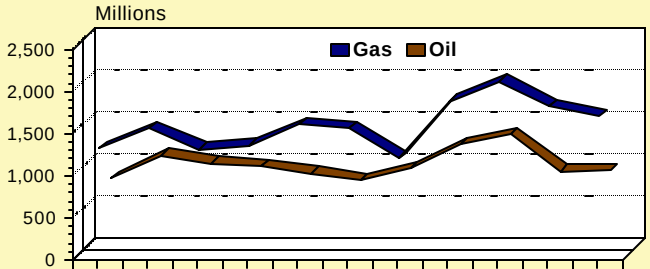


	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
Bonuses	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.9	1.4	1.3	0.2
Rental	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.1	0	1.4	1.3	0.2
Royalties	2.2	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.2	3.2	3.5	2.8	2.7

Calendar Year

Source: MMS Royalty Management Program website as of March 2, 2000.

OCS Production Royalties: 1989-99



	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
Gas	1,300	1,539	1,287	1,334	1,592	1,545	1,178	1,866	2,101	1,795	1,689
Oil	819	1,091	997	968	885	799	948	1,220	1,344	909	923

Calendar Year

Source: MMS Royalty Management Program website, March 2, 2000.

Historical Firsts—Onshore & Offshore

- First well drilled specifically for oil (Titusville, PA) 1859
- First jack-up drillship patent (Samuel Lewis) 1869
- First over-water well drilled (Summerland, CA) 1896
- First drilling mud used (Spindletop) 1900
- First GOM well drilled (Creole Field) 1938
- First GOM OCS exploratory well drilled 1946
- First offshore lease sale 1954
- Production from water depths exceeding 100 ft. 1955
- World's first drillship *(Cuss I)* (Santa Barbara Channel) 1956
- First subsea well drilled 1961
- First Pacific OCS exploratory well drilled 1963
- Birth to North Sea oil and gas industry with Ekofisk Field discovery 1969
- World's first offshore concrete gravity base structure (Beryl platform) 1975
- First Alaska OCS exploratory well drilled 1976
- First Atlantic OCS exploratory well drilled 1977
- First fixed platform installed beyond 1,000 ft. water depth 1979
- First artificial island built in the Arctic 1982
- First compliant guy-towered platform (in GOM) 1983
- First oil produced from beneath 2,000 ft. of water 1984
- First horizontal wells drilled offshore 1991
- 3D seismic data acquisition set global trend 1992
- First sub-salt discoveries in the U.S. GOM 1993
- First production SPAR in the world installed in Central GOM 1996
- First royalty relief granted under the Deepwater Royalty Relief Act 1997

Sources: Pennwell Publishing Company and MMS.

Chronology of OCS-Related Laws

1953	Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
1969	National Environmental Policy Act
1970	Clean Air Act
1972	Coastal Zone Management Act
1973	Endangered Species Act
1977	Clean Water Act
1978	OCS Lands Act Amendments
1982	Federal Oil & Gas Royalty Management Act
1984	National Fishing Enhancement Act
1985	OCS Lands Act Amendment to Section 8(g)
1990	Clean Air Act Amendments Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) North Carolina Outer Banks Protection Act OCS Lands Act Amendment to Section 8(j)
1995	Deepwater Royalty Relief Act
1996	OPA 90 Amendments

MMS Offshore Stats is now published on the Internet only, on a semiannual basis, by the Operations Analysis Branch (OAB) of MMS's Engineering&Operations Division. This edition will be updated as revisions occur within the TIMS database, especially the production data as operators are still reporting (as of today July 06, 2000) their 1999 production volumes.

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