

# LOUISIANA ENERGY FACTS

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources  
Technology Assessment Division

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## Highlights

**MARCH 2006**

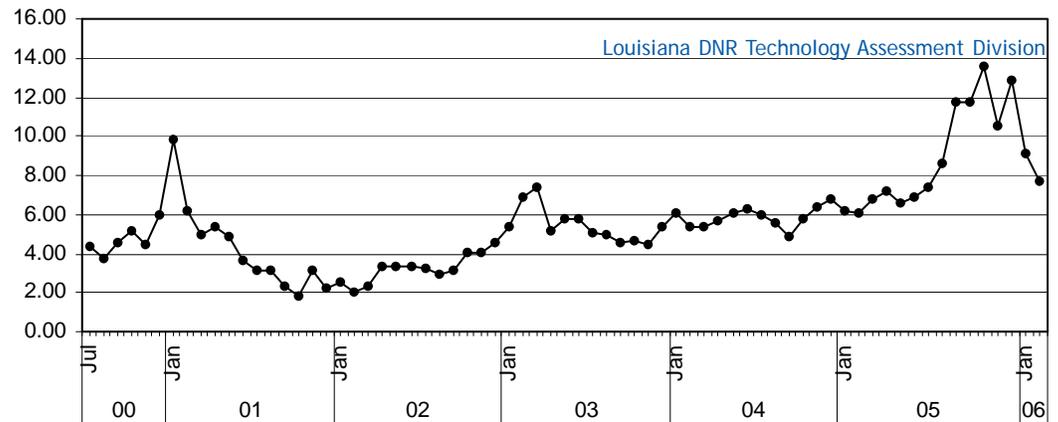
Oil prices are expected to remain around \$60 per barrel in the near future despite the high geo-political risks of Iran threatening to hold production to counter UN Security Council sanctions, a possibility of civil war in Iraq, Nigerian rebels attacking production facilities, and Venezuela making headline news with real or perceived threats to oil supplies due to disputes between its president and President Bush. Were it not for such headlines, oil prices should be in the mid or low \$50s by now because world crude oil stocks are rising, the strength of the world demand is uncertain, and the other OPEC members pledge to produce their quotas or more to maintain supply security as long as oil prices are above \$60 per barrel.

### Louisiana Natural Gas Average Spot Prices

Dollars per MMBTU

Month							% Change	
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	04/05	05/06
January	9.84	2.56	5.33	6.07	6.18	9.11	1.82%	47.41%
February	6.19	1.98	6.89	5.38	6.10	7.72	13.54%	26.50%
March	4.94	2.36	7.35	5.32	6.76		27.16%	
April	5.32	3.35	5.19	5.67	7.18		26.82%	
May	4.84	3.31	5.74	6.10	6.55		7.45%	
June	3.69	3.35	5.73	6.33	6.89		8.95%	
July	3.13	3.21	5.02	5.94	7.39		24.29%	
August	3.13	2.91	4.95	5.55	8.65		55.87%	
September	2.28	3.18	4.60	4.91	11.70		138.49%	
October	1.78	4.03	4.62	5.80	13.61		134.76%	
November	3.09	4.08	4.44	6.33	10.55		66.69%	
December	2.26	4.58	5.41	6.76	12.86		90.22%	
<b>Year Average</b>	<b>4.21</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>5.44</b>	<b>5.85</b>	<b>8.70</b>	<b>8.42</b>		

\*\* Partial Year



## Current Oil & Gas Data

Louisiana DNR Technology Assessment Division

PRODUCTION	SEP 05	AUG 05	JUL 05	SEP 04
<b>LOUISIANA FEDERAL OFFSHORE (OCS)</b>				
Crude Oil & Condensate <sup>C</sup> (MMB)	9	35 <sup>2</sup>	39 <sup>2</sup>	31 <sup>2</sup>
Natural Gas & Casinghead <sup>C</sup> (BCF)	70	186 <sup>2</sup>	203 <sup>2</sup>	182 <sup>2</sup>
<b>THE UNITED STATES TOTAL</b>				
Crude Oil & Condensate <sup>C</sup> (MMB)	126	163	163	153
Natural Gas & Casinghead <sup>C</sup> (BCF)	1,377	1,546	1,539	1,487 <sup>2</sup>
<b>IMPORTS</b>				
U.S. Crude Oil <sup>C</sup> (MMB)	272	321	318	290
U.S. Natural Gas <sup>C</sup> (BCF)	345	343	351	345 <sup>2</sup>
<b>BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS</b>				
U.S. Gas <sup>A</sup>	1,236	1,227	1,189	1,073
U.S. Oil <sup>A</sup>	210	206	145	166
U.S. Offshore <sup>A</sup>	91	102	94	92
U.S. Total <sup>A</sup>	1,452	1,436	1,398	1,240
<b>PRICES</b>				
<b>CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel)</b>				
OPEC Average <sup>C</sup> (F.O.B.)	60.86	59.86	53.46	40.58 <sup>2</sup>
U.S. Imports Average <sup>C</sup> (F.O.B.)	57.93	57.10	51.87	38.82 <sup>2</sup>
U.S. Wellhead Average <sup>C</sup>	59.60	58.79	53.31	40.62 <sup>2</sup>
Gulf OCS Wellhead Average <sup>C</sup>	59.19	57.37	53.14	40.81
State Severance Wellhead Average <sup>E</sup>	60.39	65.05	53.34	41.24
<b>NATURAL GAS (\$/MCF)</b>				
U.S. City Gates Average <sup>C</sup>	10.26	8.16	7.62	6.07
U.S. Imports Average <sup>C</sup> (F.O.B.)	8.80	7.12	6.78	4.96 <sup>2</sup>
U.S. Wellhead Average <sup>C</sup>	9.50	7.68	6.69	4.86
State Royalty Wellhead Average	11.95	8.72	7.48	5.12
NYMEX Henry Hub End of the Month Settle Gas Price <sup>B</sup> (\$/MMBTU)	10.85	7.65	6.98	5.20

### Key

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

### Data Sources

<b>A</b>	Oil & Gas Journal	<b>D</b>	Natural Gas Week
<b>B</b>	Wall Street Journal	<b>E</b>	LA Dept. of Revenue
<b>C</b>	U. S. Dept. of Energy		

**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 of Natural Resources, Technology Assessment Division 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.

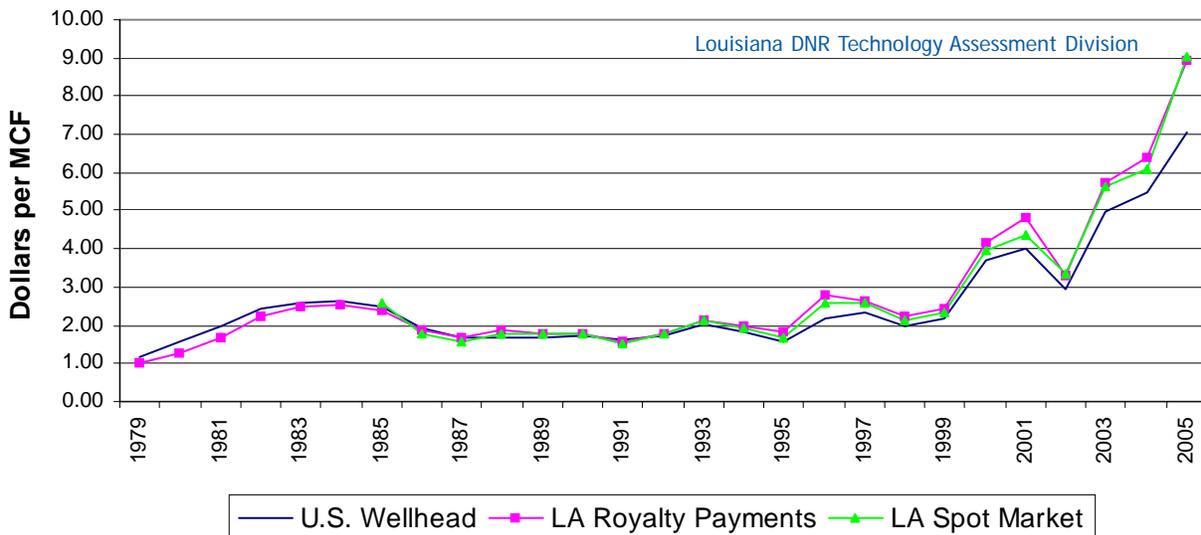
These documents are available on the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Technology Assessment Division home page: <http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/tad>. From the menu, select **Energy Data & Reports**; choose **Louisiana Energy Facts Newsletter**. Our current online holdings include issues dating from 1998 through the present. If the issue you are seeking is unavailable, please contact us.

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## NATURAL GAS AVERAGE PRICES 1982 - 2005

(Dollars per MCF)

	<b>UNITED STATES</b>			<b>LOUISIANA</b>	
	<u>Wellhead</u> <sup>C</sup>	<u>Foreign Imports</u> <sup>C</sup>	<u>City Gate</u> <sup>C</sup>	<u>Royalty Payments</u>	<u>Spot Market</u> <sup>D</sup>
1982	2.46	4.94	3.60	2.21	N/A
1983	2.59	4.51	4.04	2.48	N/A
1984	2.66	4.08	3.95	2.56	N/A
1985	2.51	3.19	3.75	2.37	2.61
1986	1.94	2.53	3.22	1.87	1.76
1987	1.67	2.17	2.87	1.65	1.55
1988	1.69	2.00	2.92	1.86	1.79
1989	1.69	2.04	3.01	1.77	1.76
1990	1.71	1.94	3.03	1.79	1.77
1991	1.64	1.83	2.90	1.57	1.50
1992	1.74	1.85	3.01	1.77	1.80
1993	2.04	2.03	3.21	2.14	2.15
1994	1.85	1.87	3.07	1.98	1.91
1995	1.55	1.49	2.78	1.82	1.65
1996	2.17	1.97	3.27	2.78	2.60
1997	2.32	2.15	3.66	2.62	2.60
1998	1.96	1.97	3.07	2.22	2.14
1999	2.19	2.23	3.10	2.42	2.31
2000	3.69	3.88	4.62	4.16	3.98
2001	4.02	4.36	5.24	4.80	4.38
2002	2.95	3.14	4.10	3.30	3.37
2003	4.98	5.18	5.84	5.74	5.66
2004	5.49	5.78	6.60	6.38	6.08
2005	7.05	6.55	8.21	8.92	9.05



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## Quick Facts

**MARCH 2006**

Louisiana DNR Technology Assessment Division

### SPOT MARKET PRICES

	Feb 06	Jan 06	Feb 05
Louisiana Natural Gas <sup>D</sup> (\$/MMBTU)	7.72	9.11	6.10
NYMEX Henry Hub Last Settle Gas Price <sup>B</sup> (\$/MMBTU)	8.40	11.43	6.29
Louisiana Sweet Crude - St. James <sup>B</sup> (\$/Barrel)	62.22	66.01	47.67 <sup>2</sup>

### BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS

	Jan 06	Dec 05	Jan 05
North Louisiana <sup>A</sup>	52	49	39
South Louisiana Inland Waters <sup>A</sup>	18	19	21
South Louisiana Inland <sup>A</sup>	33	35	26
Louisiana State Offshore	5	5	4
Louisiana Federal OCS Offshore	58	59 <sup>2</sup>	73
Total Louisiana <sup>A</sup> (OCS included)	166	167	163

### PRODUCTION (State Jurisdiction Only)

	Jan 06	Dec 05	Jan 05
Louisiana Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	4.3	3.4	7.0 <sup>2</sup>
Louisiana Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	86.7	73.9	111.7 <sup>2</sup>

### DRILLING PERMITS (State Jurisdiction Only)

	Jan 06	Dec 05	Jan 05
Total Louisiana Oil and Gas	157	146	171
Louisiana Wildcats	7	6	10
Louisiana Offshore (Wildcats included)	4	2	7