

Table 3.3 Exploration and Drilling Activity (Oil and Gas) in Utah, 1960-2020

| Year | Drilling Permits ¹ | Well Spudded ¹ | Rotary Rigs ² | Development ³ | New Field Wildcat ³ | Extension ³ | Total ³ |
|------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | Average Active Rigs | | | | |
| 1960 | 262 | na | 29 | na | 85 | 21 | na |
| 1961 | 302 | na | 33 | na | 101 | 46 | na |
| 1962 | 298 | na | 29 | na | 91 | 50 | na |
| 1963 | 270 | na | 22 | na | 100 | 34 | na |
| 1964 | 203 | na | 17 | na | 76 | 39 | na |
| 1965 | 248 | na | 14 | na | 50 | 29 | na |
| 1966 | 201 | na | 14 | na | 57 | 24 | na |
| 1967 | 173 | na | 15 | na | 59 | 22 | na |
| 1968 | 169 | na | 12 | na | 57 | 24 | na |
| 1969 | 127 | na | 12 | na | 52 | 15 | na |
| 1970 | 99 | na | 12 | na | 35 | 15 | na |
| 1971 | 137 | na | 17 | na | 55 | 15 | na |
| 1972 | 207 | na | 34 | na | 65 | 28 | na |
| 1973 | 273 | na | 38 | na | 51 | 44 | na |
| 1974 | 283 | na | 42 | na | 46 | 13 | na |
| 1975 | 200 | na | 26 | na | 61 | 5 | na |
| 1976 | 236 | na | 19 | na | 36 | 5 | na |
| 1977 | 374 | na | 30 | na | 88 | 15 | na |
| 1978 | 438 | na | 32 | na | 77 | 19 | na |
| 1979 | 393 | na | 29 | na | 70 | 24 | na |
| 1980 | 529 | na | 43 | na | 91 | 45 | na |
| 1981 | 681 | na | 68 | na | 156 | 81 | na |
| 1982 | 658 | na | 41 | na | 128 | 46 | na |
| 1983 | 588 | na | 36 | na | 120 | 38 | na |
| 1984 | 622 | 478 | 46 | na | 112 | 14 | na |
| 1985 | 393 | 319 | 28 | na | 46 | 16 | na |
| 1986 | 224 | 152 | 13 | na | 36 | 11 | na |
| 1987 | 195 | 137 | 8 | na | 33 | 16 | na |
| 1988 | 166 | 114 | 6 | na | 33 | 13 | na |
| 1989 | 97 | 96 | 5 | na | 17 | 9 | na |
| 1990 | 253 | 107 | 5 | na | 22 | 12 | na |
| 1991 | 401 | 257 | 11 | 195 | 11 | 16 | 222 |
| 1992 | 372 | 382 | 13 | 318 | 15 | 10 | 343 |
| 1993 | 171 | 137 | 6 | 187 | 19 | 2 | 208 |
| 1994 | 306 | 222 | 7 | 179 | 20 | 9 | 208 |
| 1995 | 305 | 239 | 8 | 212 | 13 | 12 | 237 |
| 1996 | 371 | 280 | 9 | 257 | 13 | 5 | 275 |
| 1997 | 527 | 430 | 14 | 388 | 6 | 4 | 398 |
| 1998 | 655 | 430 | 12 | 458 | 13 | 12 | 483 |
| 1999 | 339 | 283 | 9 | 257 | 6 | 2 | 265 |
| 2000 | 673 | 540 | 16 | 436 | 6 | 0 | 442 |
| 2001 | 880 | 632 | 21 | 619 | 11 | 7 | 637 |
| 2002 | 628 | 392 | 13 | 418 | 12 | 9 | 439 |
| 2003 | 838 | 480 | 14 | 402 | 8 | 6 | 416 |
| 2004 | 1,102 | 660 | 22 | 601 | 7 | 3 | 611 |
| 2005 | 1,630 | 889 | 28 | 762 | 16 | 9 | 787 |
| 2006 | 2,060 | 1,065 | 40 | 992 | 24 | 9 | 1,025 |
| 2007 | 1,553 | 1,140 | 42 | 900 | 40 | 22 | 962 |
| 2008 | 1,360 | 1,144 | 42 | 1,092 | 61 | 84 | 1,237 |
| 2009 | 1,171 | 515 | 18 | 559 | 36 | 41 | 636 |
| 2010 | 1,185 | 973 | 27 | 722 | 34 | 155 | 911 |
| 2011 | 1,515 | 986 | 28 | 685 | 62 | 144 | 891 |
| 2012 | 2,105 | 1,105 | 37 | 837 | 124 | 121 | 1,082 |
| 2013 | 1,613 | 1,005 | 29 | 751 | 118 | 143 | 1,012 |
| 2014 | 1,389 | 899 | 25 | 736 | 101 | 95 | 932 |
| 2015 | 570 | 155 | 7 | 253 | 24 | 37 | 314 |
| 2016 | 212 | 84 | 3 | 97 | 5 | 7 | 109 |
| 2017 | 374 | 199 | 9 | 118 | 13 | 26 | 157 |
| 2018 | 290 | 204 | 7 | 127 | 12 | 22 | 161 |
| 2019 | 263 | 154 | 6 | 121 | 3 | 40 | 164 |
| 2020 | 391 | 46 | 3 | 54 | 1 | 8 | 63 |

Source: [1 - Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining](#)
 2 - American Petroleum Institute, Basic Petroleum Data Book for 1960-1986;
[and Baker-Hughes Inc. for 1987-2020](#)
 3 - Petroleum Information Corporation, Drilling Success Summary for 1960-1989 data;

