Kansas Oil & Gas Industry Statistics

The Kansas oil and gas industry is nearly a $2.6 billion industry that puts tens of thousands of people to work each day and pumps hundreds of millions of dollars into the state’s economy each year, money that helps support families, fund schools, and build roads. The Kansas oil and gas industry is a dependable and stable element of the Kansas economy today and will be a critical part of the economy going forward. Oil and gas is produced in 89 of Kansas’ 105 counties and the average well depth is about 3,500 feet. The Kansas oil and gas industry does more than fuel Kansas and help the Kansas economy. The industry fuels America and makes significant positive contributions to our way of life.

Date First Oil Well Drilled ....................................................1860 in Miami County
Date First Gas Well Drilled....................................1873 in Montgomery County
Date of First Oil Production.................................................................................1889
Date of First Natural Gas Production...............................................................1882
Current Number of Oil Wells............................................................................40,850
Average daily oil well production...............................................................2.5 bbls.
Current Number of Natural Gas Wells..........................................................18,639
Average daily natural gas well production................................................32 Mcf
Current Number of Class II Injection Wells.................................................15,428
Current Number of Licensed Operators (Oil &/or Gas Producers)  ..................2,113
Current Oil Production Level....................35.3 million barrels of oil per year
97,000 barrels of oil per day
Ranked 9th among the 31 oil producing states
Current Natural Gas Production Level.......185 billion cubic feet per year
507 million cubic feet per day
Ranked 14th among 32 gas producing states
Permits to Drill in 2018: 1,903
(2017: 1,941, 2016: 2,234, 2015: 2,324, 2014: 7,100)
Drilling Permits Increased 29% in 2018
Drilling Permits still 65% below 2014 level
Number of Drilling Rigs Running in Kansas in 2018: 28-49

Stable and Dependable Element of the Kansas Economy
Supports approximately 118,000 Kansas jobs
Supports $3.0 billion in family income in Kansas
Contributed over $152 million in taxes during calendar year 2018
Contributed over $440 million in taxes during calendar year 2014
Contributes over $1.4 billion in state and local tax revenue annually.
Severance tax collections rose by 13% in 2018 but remains 62% below 2014 levels
Ad valorem tax collections stayed flat in 2018 but remains 63% below 2014 levels

• Kansas crude oil production fell by 1.5% in 2018, which followed a 5.5% drop in 2017 and 16.7% drop 2016
• State crude oil production has declined by 28.6% since 2014
• Kansas crude oil prices fell by 33% in the last quarter of 2018

• Kansas natural gas production fell by 14.1% in 2018, which followed a 12.2 % drop in 2017
• State natural gas production has declined by 35% since 2015

Founded in 1937, the Kansas Independent Oil & Gas Association (KIOGA) is a nonprofit member organization representing oil and gas producers in Kansas, as well as allied service and supply companies. The purpose of KIOGA, as stated in the original articles of incorporation, is “...to improve the market for oil and gas produced in Kansas and to promote the welfare of the oil and gas industry in the State of Kansas.”

With over 4,000 members, KIOGA is the lead state and national advocate for independent oil and gas producers in Kansas. The challenges facing the Kansas oil and gas industry continue to increase, in both number and complexity. Because of the efforts of KIOGA members, voters and policymakers in Kansas are learning that the oil and gas industry is working for them, the economy, and the environment.
late 2018, greenhouse gas emissions, mostly CO2, fell 2.7% in 2017. According to EPA data released in What about the environment? There is vigorous debate about increase by 27%, and 77% of that demand will be supplied by fossil fuels. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports that oil and gas supplied 66% of our nation’s energy in 2018. By 2040, the U.S. energy supply. As the public debate focuses on how to move to a vibrant energy future, we must recognize that oil and gas will continue to serve as the principal component of our economy for many years to come. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports that oil and gas supplied 86% of our nation’s energy in 2018. By 2040, the EIA estimate that oil and gas will supply more than 50% of U.S. energy needs. Globally, the EIA projects that by 2040, world energy demand will increase by 27%, and 77% of that demand will be supplied by fossil fuels.

What about the environment? There is vigorous debate about the effects of carbon emissions. According to EPA data released in late 2018, greenhouse gas emissions, mostly CO2, fell 2.7% in 2017. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports that U.S. carbon emissions today are the lowest they have been in nearly seven decades. This downward trend is occurring even as U.S. oil and gas production grows dramatically. The oil and gas industry played a significant role in reducing U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by over 20% over the last decade. The oil and natural gas industry has proven that over the long-term it is possible to lead in energy production AND in environmental stewardship.

How is petroleum created? Petroleum originated from marine plants and animals that decayed over time under ocean silt, sand or other materials. Millions of years, extreme pressure and heat transformed the biotic material into petroleum. When was the first oil well discovered? In August of 1859, at Titusville, Pennsylvania, Col. Edwin Drake drilled the first oil well. The discovery at 60.5 feet in the Oil Creek formation was significant in that it demonstrated the practicality in drilling. Oil was first discovered in Kansas in 1860 in Miami County. Are we running out of oil? Today, fossil fuels supply nearly 80% of the U.S. energy supply. As the public debate focuses on how to move to a vibrant energy future, we must recognize that oil and gas will continue to serve as the principal component of our economy for many years to come. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports that oil and gas supplied 66% of our nation’s energy in 2018. By 2040, the EIA estimate that oil and gas will supply more than 50% of U.S. energy needs. Globally, the EIA projects that by 2040, world energy demand will increase by 27%, and 77% of that demand will be supplied by fossil fuels.

What is oil? Oil, commonly referred to as petroleum, is a naturally occurring substance made up of a mixture of hydrogen and carbon compounds. Hydrocarbons occur as liquids, gases or solids.

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