



Coastal resources: facts about California's offshore oil and gas industry

The offshore oil and gas industry provides an essential energy resource for the California economy and lifestyle.

- *Offshore oil production in California was responsible for approximately 20 percent of the 331.2 million barrels of crude oil produced in California in 1998. 21.1 million barrels of crude oil were produced from offshore sources in state waters and 46.3 million barrels of crude oil were produced from sources in federal waters in 1998.*
- *There are 27 platforms and five man-made islands off the coast of California. Four platforms and all five man-made islands are in state waters that extend up to three miles off the shoreline. Twenty-three platforms are in federal waters that extend from three miles off the coast. The majority of offshore facilities (20 platforms and one man-made island) are off Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.*
- *Six platforms have been removed from state waters off the coast of Santa Barbara since 1988. One island is being removed from offshore Orange County.*
- *Total 1998 production was 22 percent less than the 423.9 million barrels of oil produced in California in 1985, the peak of the state's production. Offshore production is down 27 percent from the 1995 peak. At the same time reductions in production have been occurring, demand for oil has been increasing steadily.*
- *If California production continues to decline and demand continues to rise, more and more foreign or Alaskan oil must be found and brought to California in oil tankers.*
- *In its 1999 Fuels Report, the California Energy Commission estimated that about 80 percent of petroleum refined in California is used for transportation, such as gasoline, diesel, or aviation fuel.*