

Canadian Oil and Gas Production

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Updates From Last Publication on April 11th, 2025

- 🚩 Production data is updated to Mar 2025 unless otherwise noted.
- 🚩 **Slide 7:** Updated to reflect the latest Energy Institute Statistical Review of World Energy (2025)
- 🚩 **Slide 19:** Updated to reflect the latest Energy Institute Statistical Review of World Energy (2025)

Canadian Oil and Gas Production Definitions

Oil Sands

About 58% of Canada's total oil production is from oil sands. The extra heavy crude produced from the oil sands formation is called bitumen. Oil sands can be produced by mining or in-situ:

- **Mined.** The bitumen is extracted from the surface using traditional mining techniques and then physically separated from the sand in a processing plant. Mined bitumen is either upgraded into a lighter crude oil, called Synthetic Crude Oil (SCO), or diluted with light liquids (often condensates) so that it can be thinned and transported by pipeline.
- **In-situ.** Relies on high-pressure steam to recover bitumen from underground reservoirs. The most common method is steam-assisted gravity drainage (SAGD); the other is cyclic steam stimulation (CSS).

Conventional Oil and Gas

Roughly 40% of Canada's oil and almost all of Canada's natural gas is called conventional production. Traditionally, oil and gas were produced from vertical wells, but today, horizontal wells and hydraulic fracturing are the dominant methods. While it is not always in shale formations, this new production technique is often called shale gas or shale oil. The Montney and the Duvernay are two dominant Canadian shale plays. Condensates and pentanes plus, as well as natural gas liquids (NGLs), are also categorized as conventional production in this chapter book:

- **NGLs.** Often, light liquids are a byproduct of producing natural gas, including molecules like ethane, propane, and butane.
- **Condensate and Pentanes Plus.** These light liquids are heavier than NGLs and similar in quality to naphtha from a refinery. They are a byproduct of natural gas production, often from shale gas and oil wells. The light liquids are often used to dilute bitumen for pipeline transportation.

East Coast Production

About 4% of Canada's oil production comes from four offshore developments in Newfoundland and Labrador; Hibernia, Terra Nova, White Rose, and Hebron.

Summary of Canadian Oil and Gas Production

Canada is a significant supplier of oil and gas. Canada is the fourth-largest producer of oil in the world and the fifth-largest producer of natural gas.

Natural Gas Highlights

- Competition from US shale gas starting in 2008 led to a decline in Canadian production. In 2012-13, the trend reversed with the discovery of shale gas in BC and Alberta. Canadian production has now recovered to a record high of 19.2 Bcf/d (YTD average in 2025 from Jan-Mar).
- Shale gas has also shifted the dominant location for natural gas production; from southern Alberta to northeast BC and northern Alberta.

Crude Oil Highlights

- As of 2025 YTD*, Canadian oil production includes oil sands at 3.5 MMB/d (58%), conventional (excluding offshore) at 1.0 MMB/d (17%), east coast offshore at 0.2 MMB/d (4%), NGLs at 0.7 MMB/d (12%), and condensates & pentanes plus at 0.6 MMB/d (9%). Condensate and pentanes plus production has doubled since 2014. The growth of light liquids is a byproduct of the prolific shale gas and oil wells.
- Since 2005, oil sands production has tripled, but after 2018, production growth has moderated.

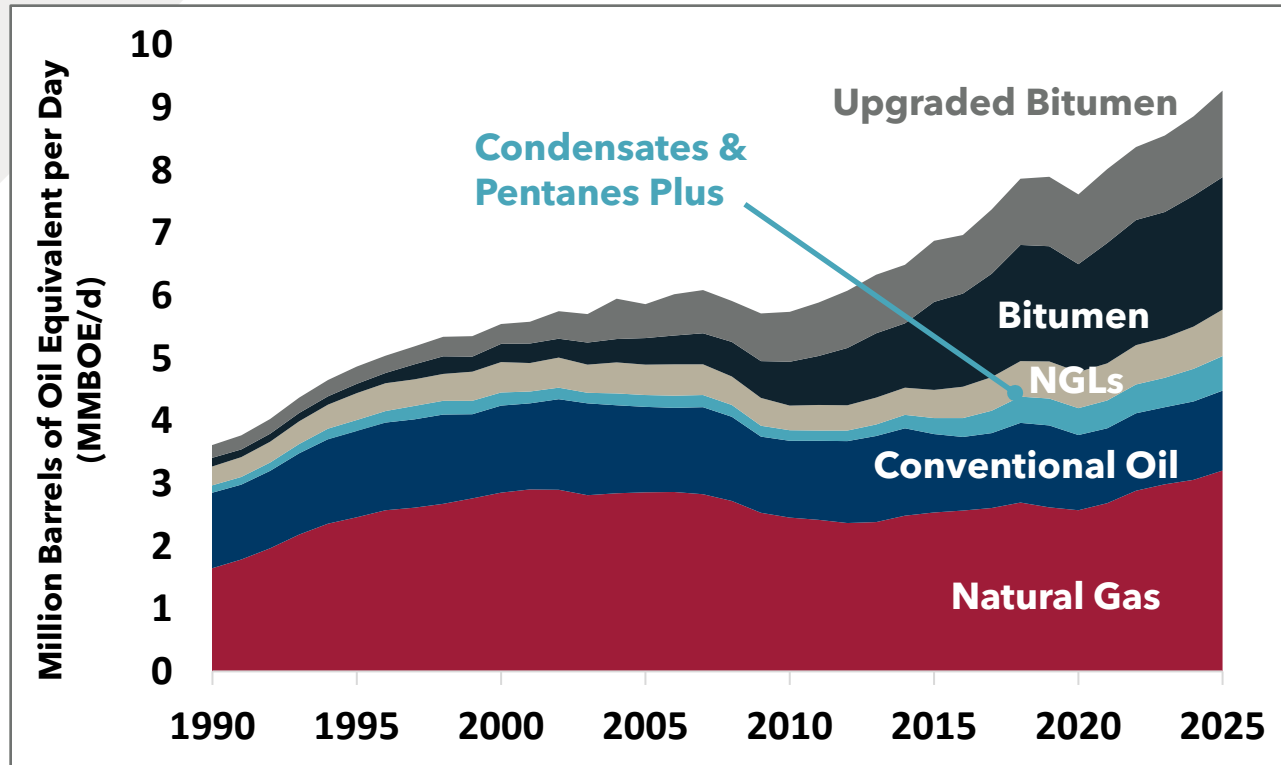
**Canadian Oil and Gas
Production
(2025 YTD*)**

19.2 Bcf/d
Natural Gas

6.0 MMB/d
Crude Oil*

* Includes crude oil, shale oil, oil sands, condensates & pentanes plus, and NGLs.

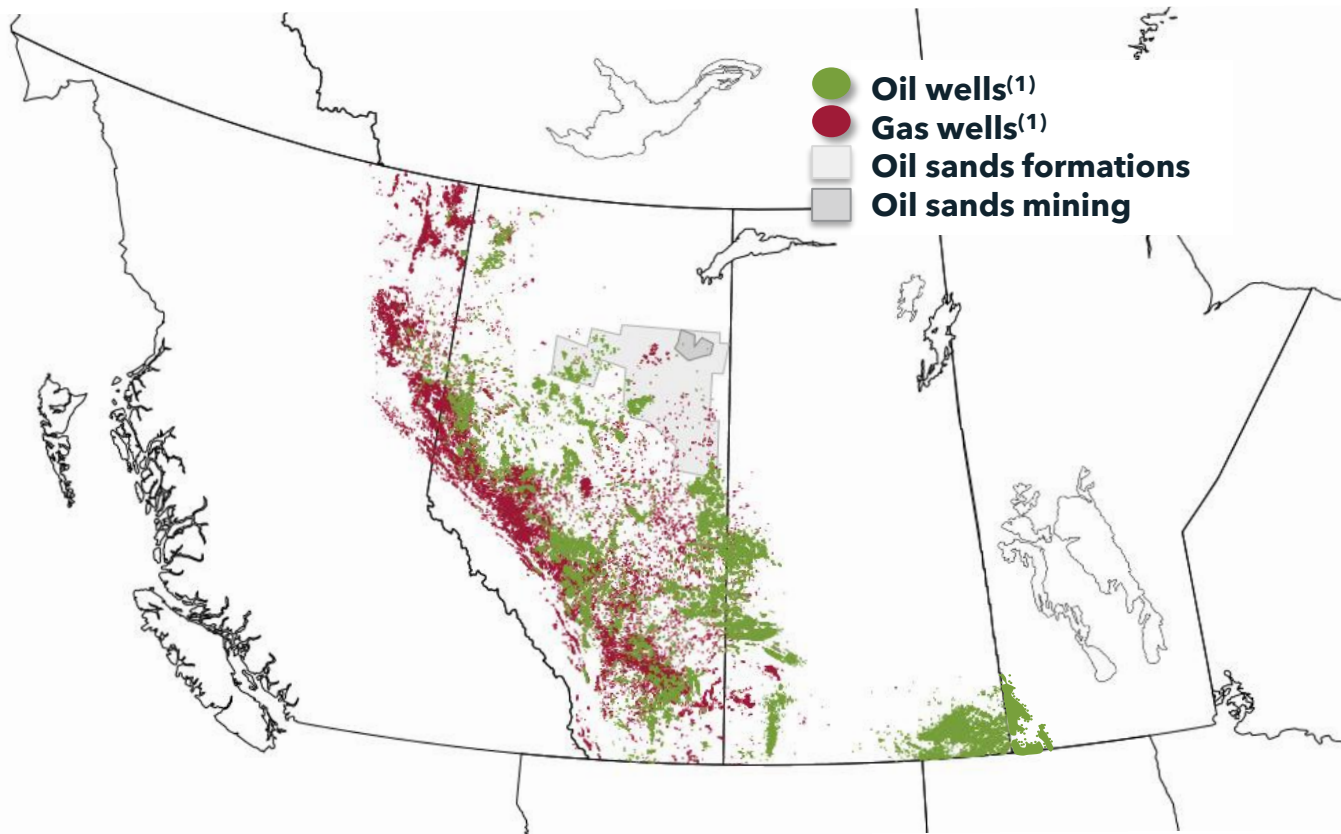
Annual Canadian Total Hydrocarbon Production by Type | 1990 to 2025*



- 2025 YTD*, Canada's total oil and gas production has averaged roughly 9.3 MMBOE/d, a record-high.
- NGLs include ethane, propane, and butane.

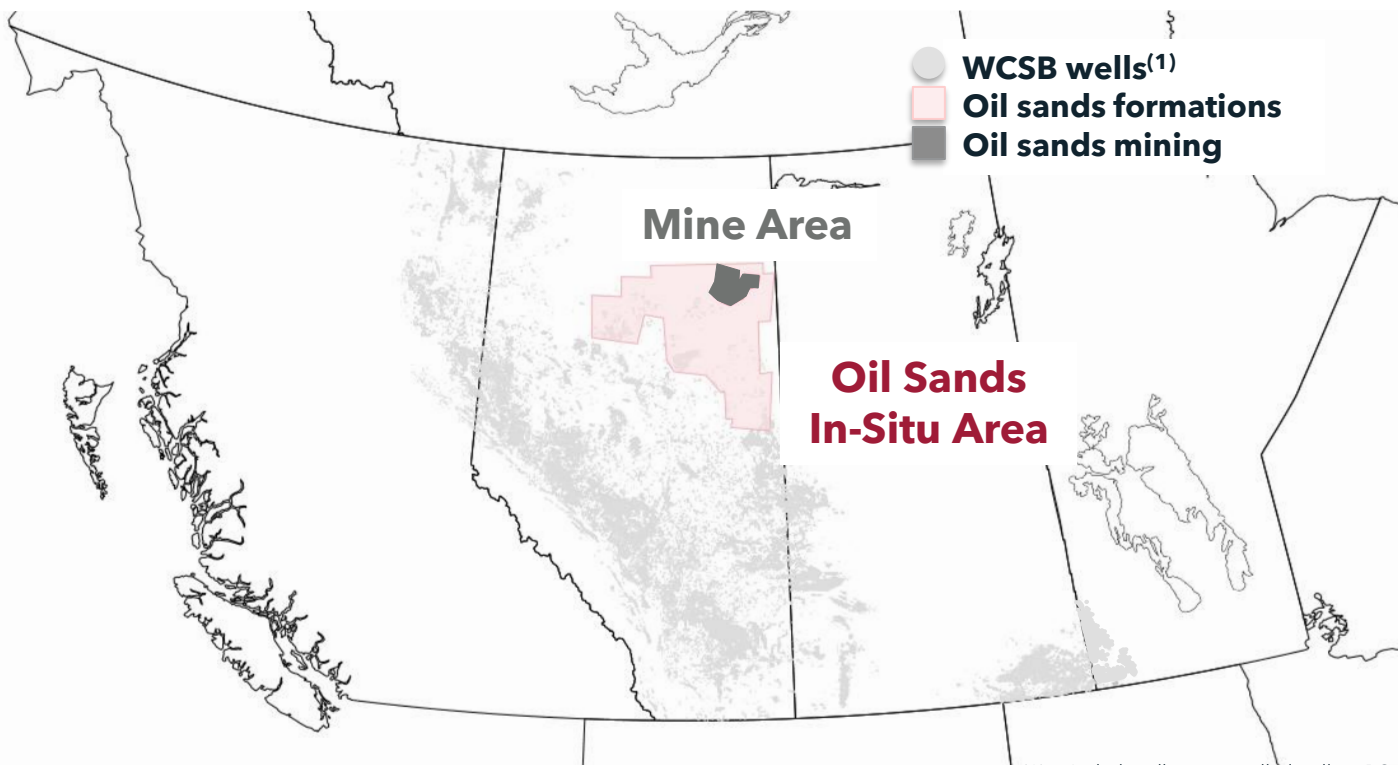
Western Canada Sedimentary Basin (WCSB)

The Western Canada Sedimentary Basin (WCSB)



- 95% of Canada's oil production and all its marketable gas is produced in the WCSB.
- The WCSB is a large, well-explored basin with 100+ years of history, spanning four provinces.
- The WCSB has over 850,000 wells drilled (oil and gas) since 1901, creating a wealth of data on the basin.
- The total area is ~1.4 million km², about two times larger than the state of Texas⁽²⁾.

The Western Canada Sedimentary Basin (WCSB) | Oil Sands



- Oil sands reserves are estimated at 159 billion barrels, ranking 4th largest after Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, and Iran⁽²⁾.
- The oil sands region covers 140,000 km² a smaller area than the Permian Basin⁽³⁾.
- Oil sands are mined and produced by wells (in-situ). The minable area is a relatively small part.
- The active mined area is about 1,100 km²; a footprint that is 1.5X larger than the city of Calgary⁽⁴⁾.

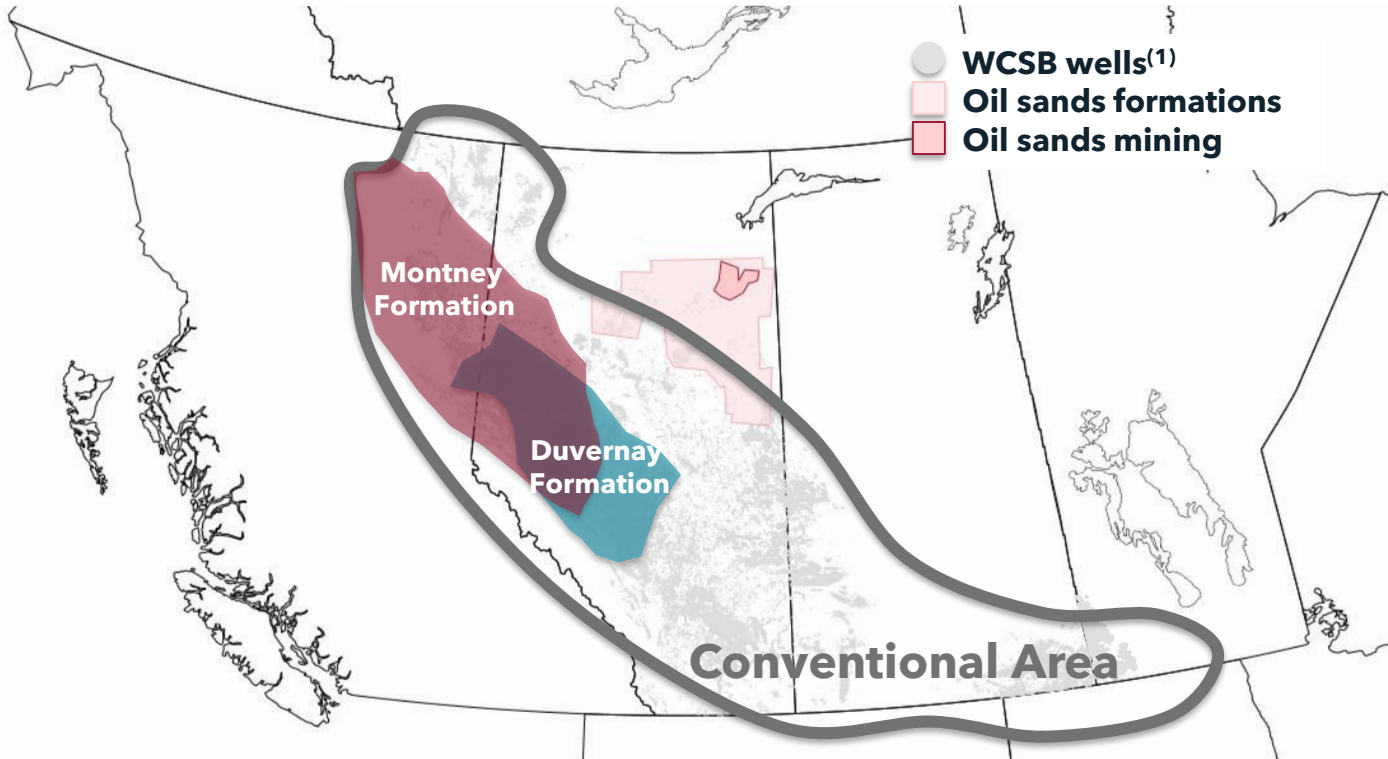
(1) Includes all non-cancelled wells in BC, AB, SK, and MB (~850,000 wells)

(2) [Natural Resources Canada - Energy Fact Book 2024-2025](#)

(3) Alberta Government

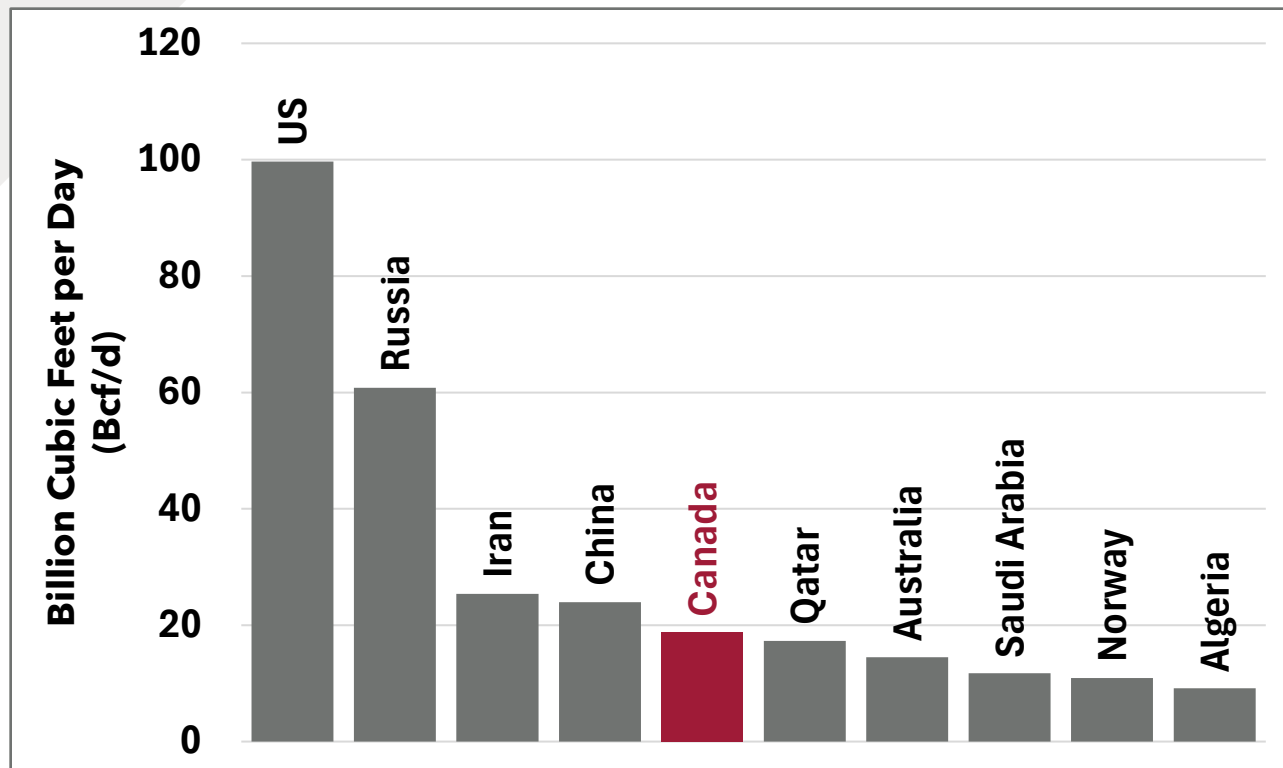
(4) [Government of Alberta - Oil Sands Mine Reclamation and Disturbance Tracking by Year](#)

The Western Canada Sedimentary Basin (WCSB) | Conventional



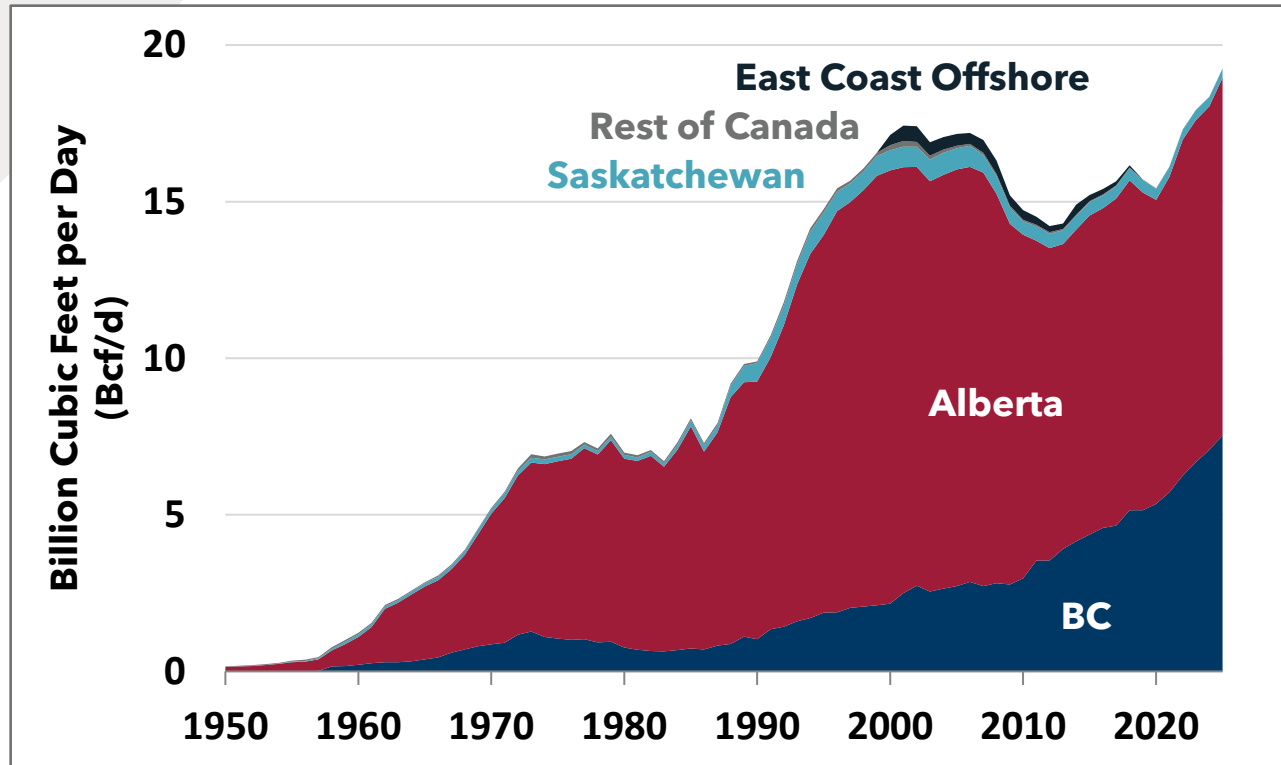
- Conventional WCSB production makes up roughly 40% of Canada's total oil production and almost all of its natural gas production.
- Conventional oil and gas is produced from a large area, spanning four provinces.
- Since the early 2010s, the Montney and Duvernay have become important plays that are attracting new investment. They are shale plays that use horizontal wells and hydraulic fracturing to liberate the gas and light oil.

Canada is the World's Fifth Largest Natural Gas Producer | 2024



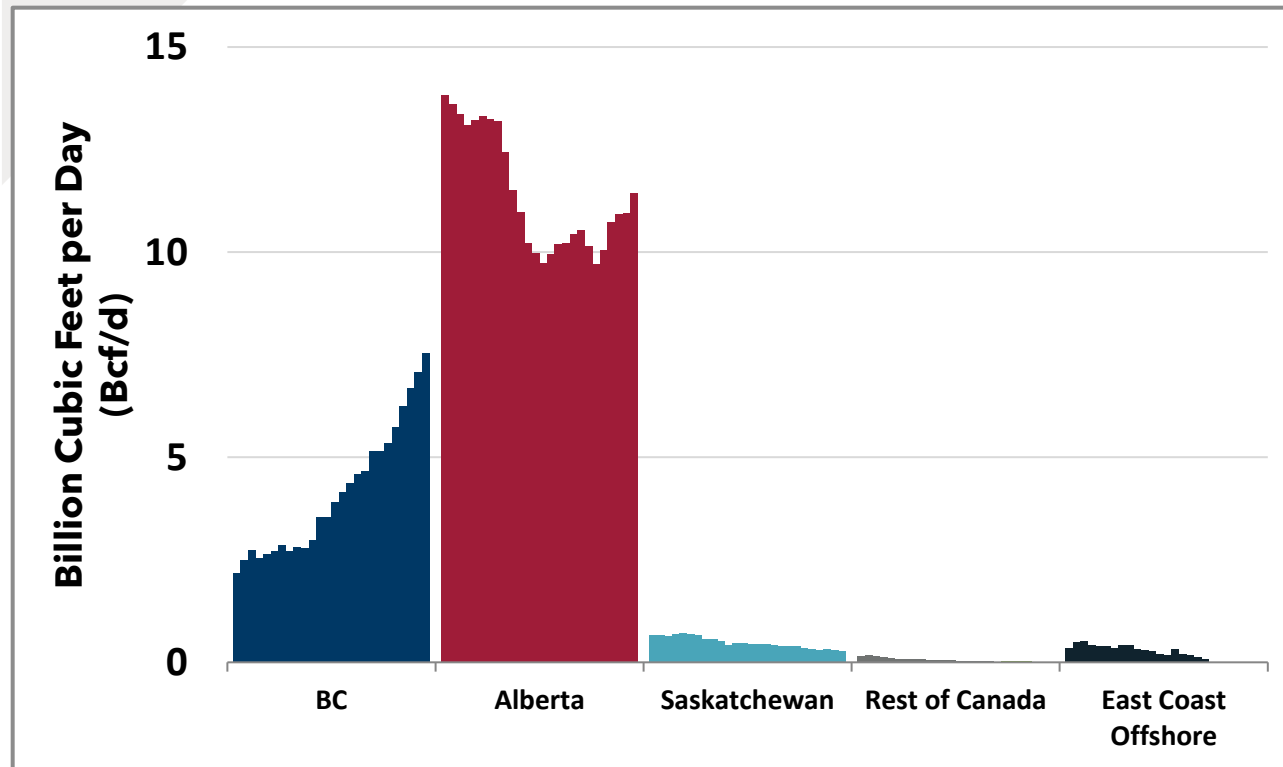
- In 2024, the US and Russia together made up approximately 40% of the world's natural gas production.
- By comparison, in 2024, Canada accounted for 5% of the world's natural gas production.

Annual Marketable Natural Gas Production | 1950 to 2025*



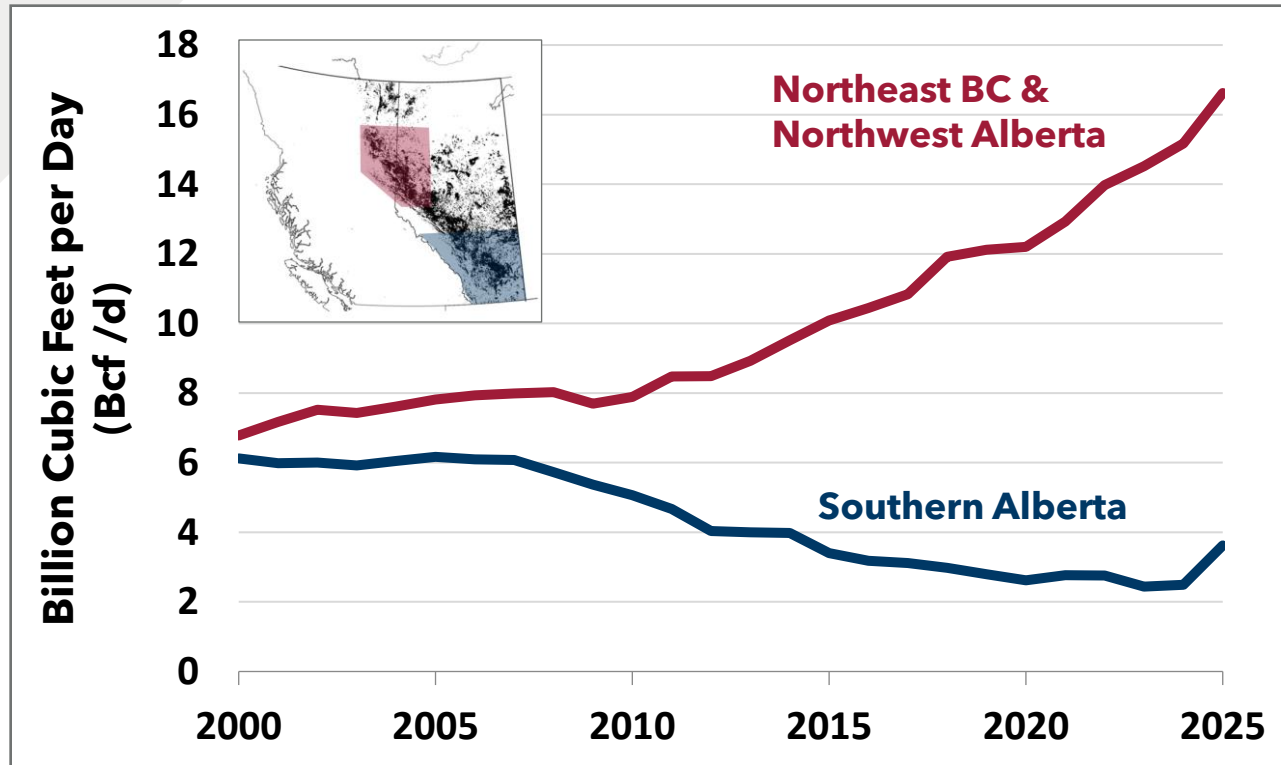
- The surge of US shale gas starting in 2008 led to a collapse in Canadian natural gas prices and a decline in production and exports.
- Alberta and BC regained competitiveness when shale gas was discovered in these provinces.
- Canadian natural gas production averaged 18.4 Bcf/d in 2024, and has averaged 19.2 Bcf/d in 2025*, up 5% Y/Y.

Annual Marketable Natural Gas Production by Province | 2000 to 2025*



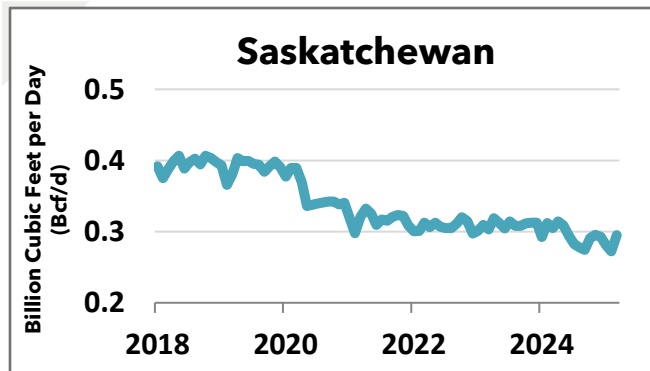
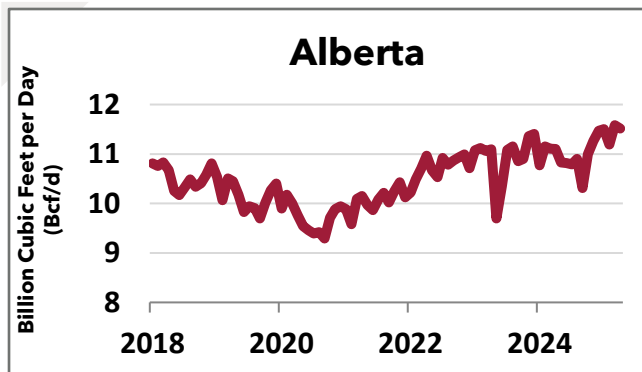
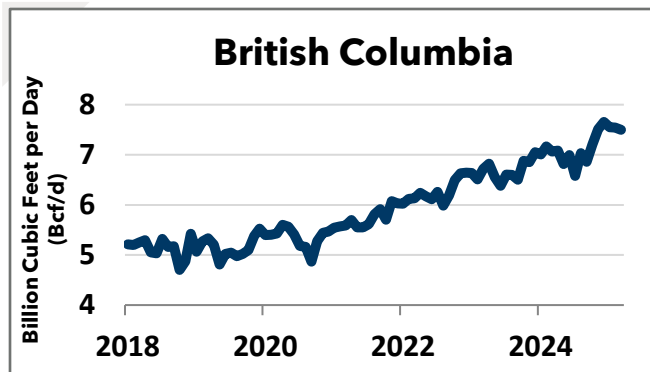
- With the proliferation of shale gas production in BC, Alberta's gas production as a percentage of total Canadian natural gas production decreased from 80% in 2000 to 60% in 2024.
- Meanwhile, BC's share of Canadian natural gas production increased from roughly 13% in 2000 to 39% in 2024, more than doubling production since 2010.
- The discovery of shale gas boosted both BC and Alberta's production.

Avg. Annual Raw Natural Gas Production by Select Region | 2000 to 2025*



- Since 2010, the discovery of shale gas plays in northeast BC and into Alberta has attracted capital investment and created strong production growth.
- Certain conventional gas regions have declined as they cannot compete with shale gas economics.
- Shale gas wells are also a source of liquids, including NGLs, condensates and pentanes plus, primarily, but not exclusively used in oil sands operations.

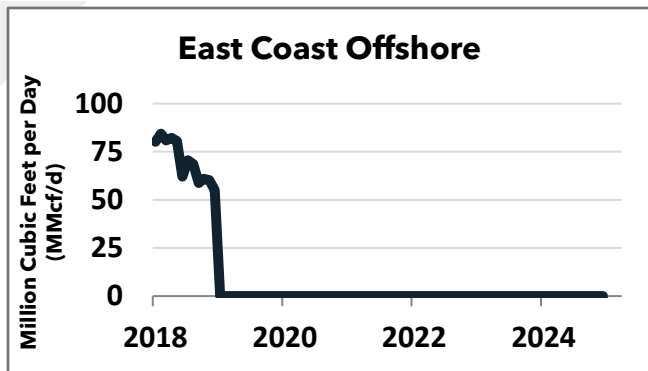
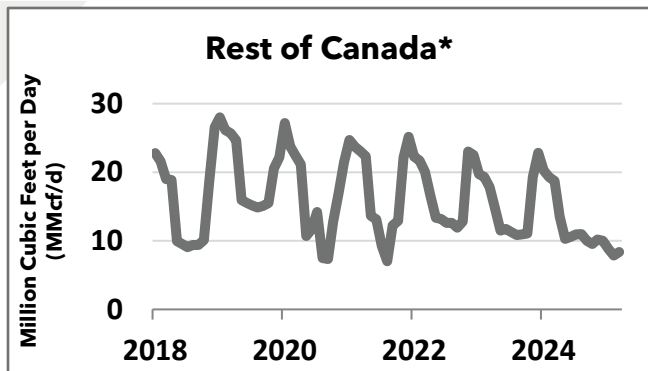
Monthly Marketable Natural Gas Production by Province | Jan 2018 to Mar 2025



Manitoba does not have any marketable natural gas production.

- Since January 2018, BC production has grown by over 2 Bcf/d. The BC Montney will be the primary supply source for LNG exports off the BC coast. As a result, BC production is expected to grow in tandem with LNG exports.
- Alberta natural gas production hit a record-high of 11.6 Bcf/d in March 2025.
- Saskatchewan's natural gas production is largely a byproduct of oil production.

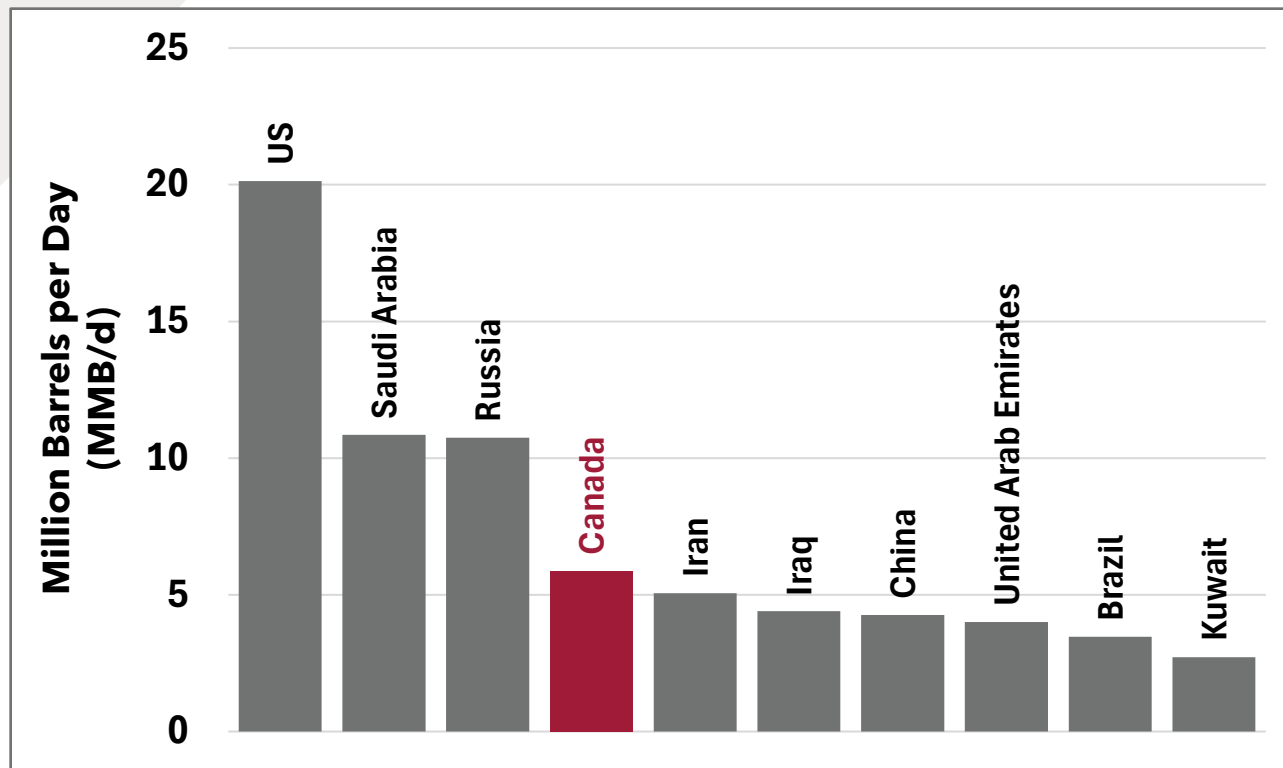
Monthly Marketable Natural Gas Production by Province | Jan 2018 to Mar 2025



- Due to lower production levels, the scaling for these graphs is in MMcf/d, not Bcf/d as in the previous slide.
- Rest of Canada is comprised of Ontario, Northwest Territories, and New Brunswick.
- Currently, marketable natural gas production outside the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin (WCSB) is approximately 10 MMcf/d.
- East Coast Offshore includes production from Nova Scotia only. Nova Scotia currently has no producing natural gas projects.
- Encana's Deep Panuke field was permanently shuttered in May 2018.
- After almost 20 years of producing natural gas, the Sable Offshore Energy Project (SOEP) ceased production in December 2018.

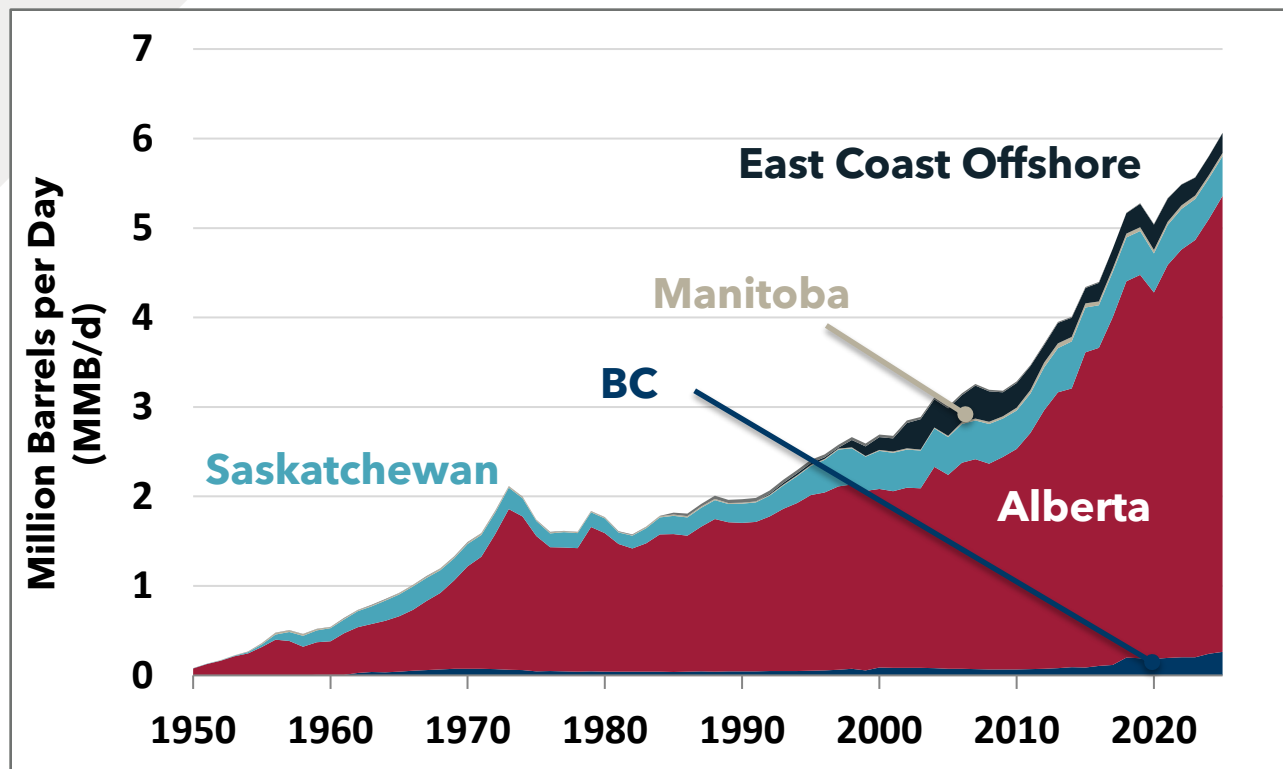
Crude Oil

Canada is the World's Fourth Largest Oil Producer | 2024



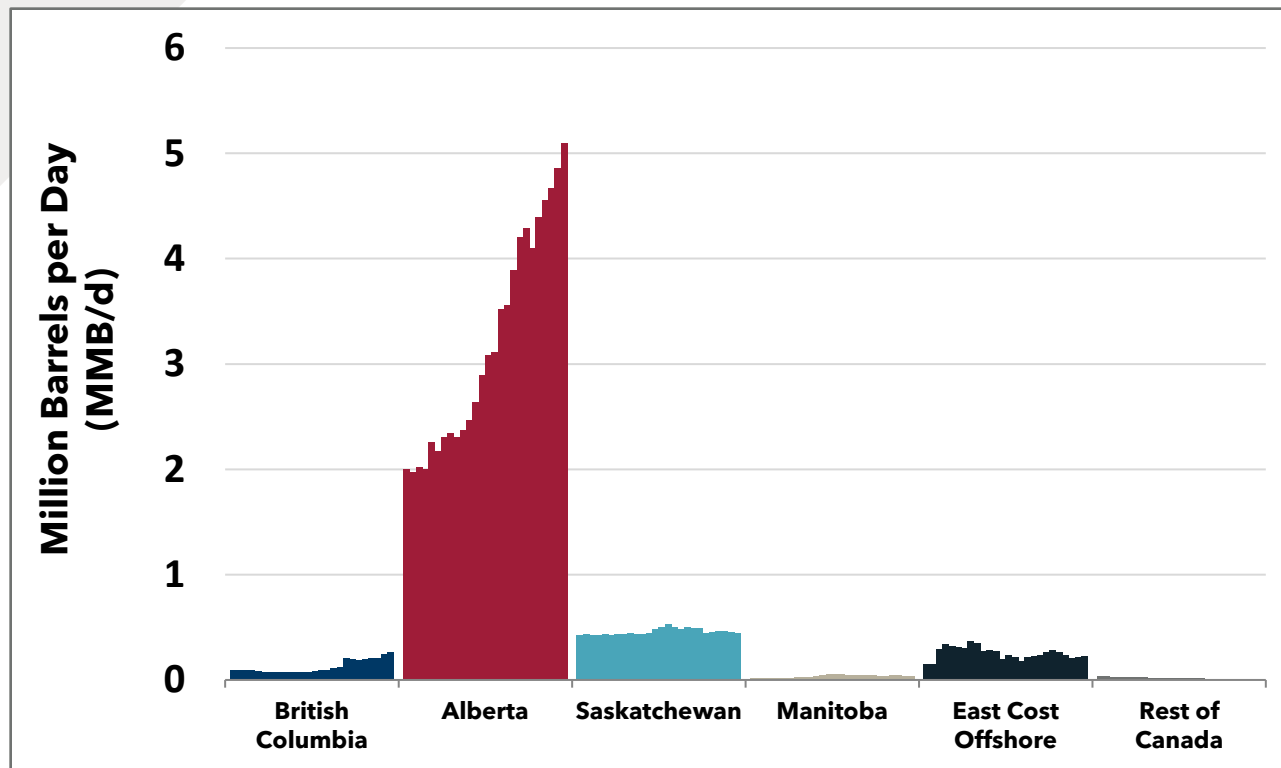
- In 2018, the US passed Saudi Arabia and Russia as the largest producer of oil in the world.
- US production doubled between 2009 and 2019 driven by the shale oil boom.
- Canada is a major supplier of secure, reliable oil and accounts for 6% of world supply.
- The oil sands have been the main source of Canadian production growth since the mid-2000s.

Annual Oil Production by Province | 1950 to 2025*



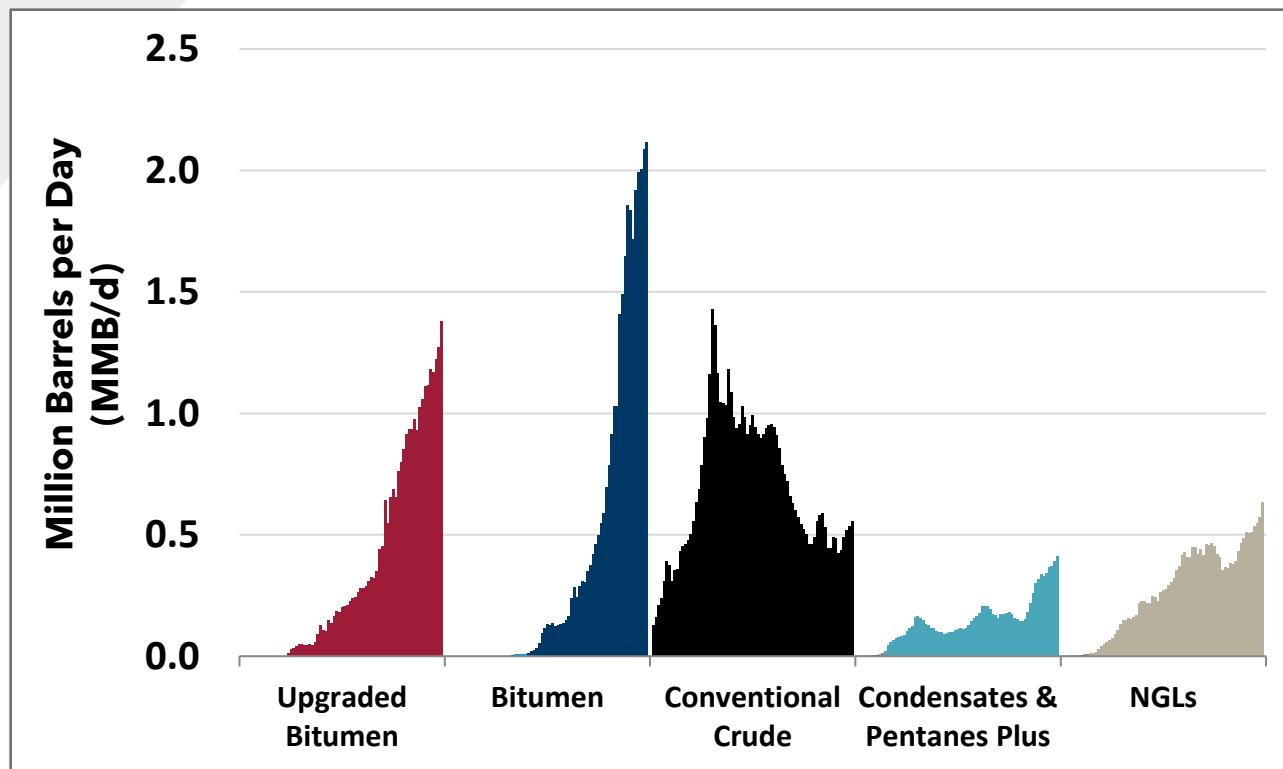
- Although there have been occasional declines, the overall trend in Canada's oil production has been upward.
- The 'Rest of Canada' only adds up to less than 10,000 B/d and is too small to see on the graph.

Annual Oil Production by Province | 2000 to 2025*



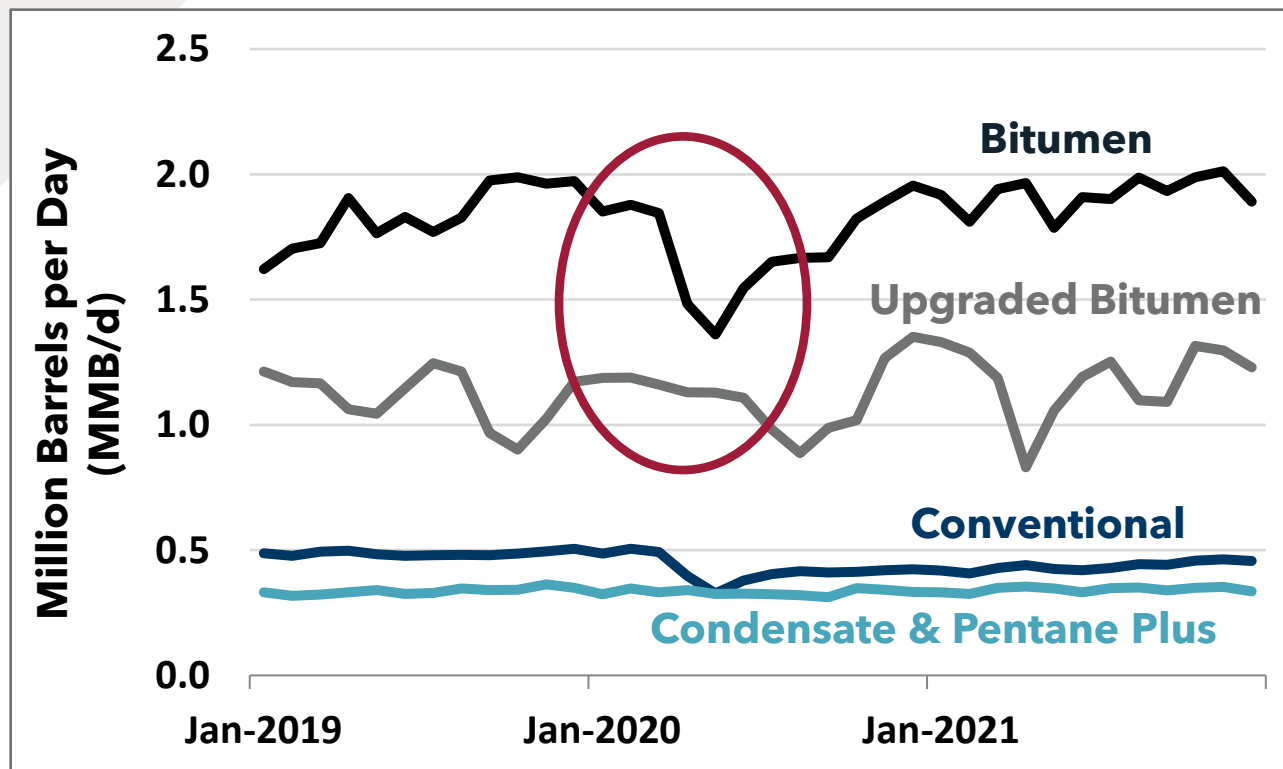
- As of 2025*, roughly 85% of Canada's oil production comes from Alberta.
- Since 2005, oil sands production has tripled to 3.5 MMB/d. Growth moderated after 2018, with production relatively stable in 2021 and 2022, with growth picking back up in 2023.
- Saskatchewan is the 2nd largest in Canada producing just under 0.5 MMB/d.
- All of Canada's East Coast Offshore production comes from Newfoundland and Labrador.

Alberta | Annual Oil Production | 1950 to 2025*



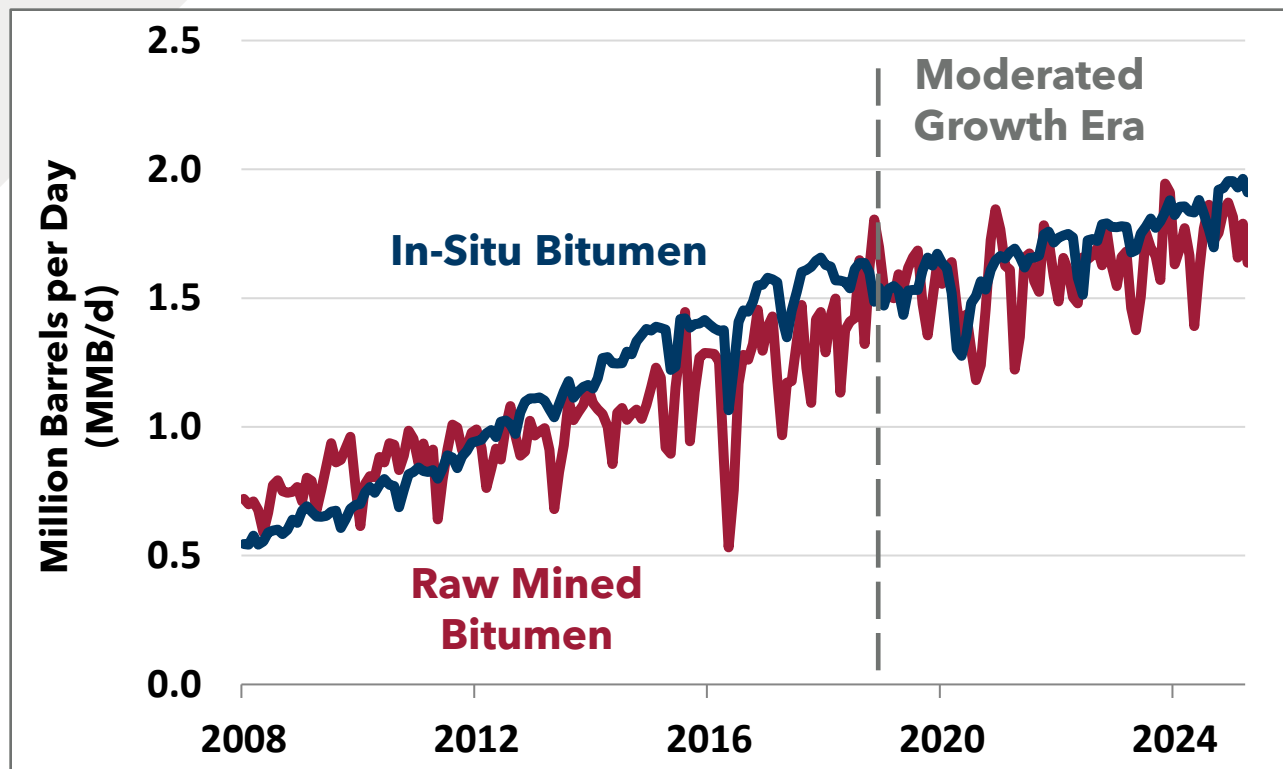
- ▶ Alberta production growth has been dominated by the oil sands. The oil sands are reflected in the 'Upgraded Bitumen' and 'Bitumen' categories.
- ▶ Alberta's conventional production has been in decline. The loss has partly been offset by growth in NGLs, condensates, and pentanes plus, which have grown with the development of shale oil and shale gas.

Alberta | Monthly Oil Production During COVID | 2019 to December 2021



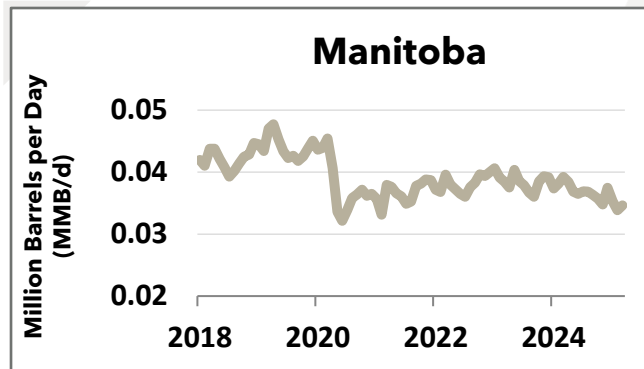
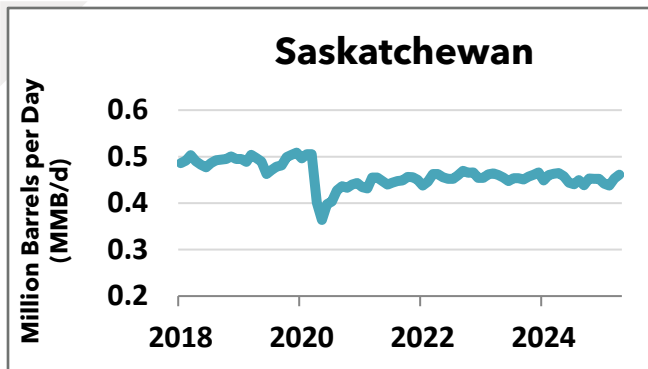
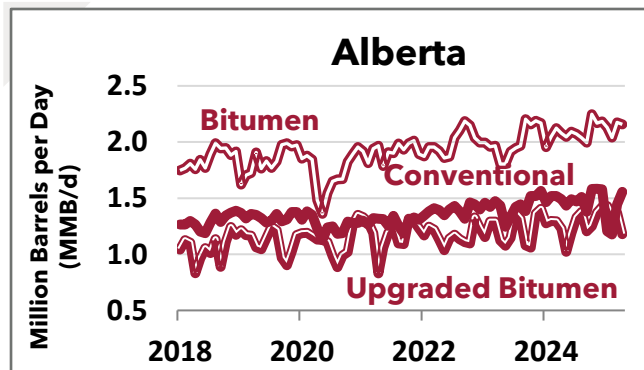
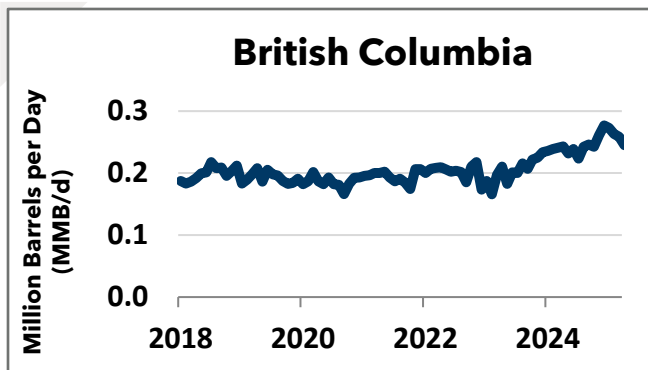
- Due to lower demand during COVID, Canada's oil output was temporarily cut by 850,000 B/d, or 20%.
- This was the single largest contraction in Canada's oil-producing history.
- By the end of 2020, oil sands had recovered to pre-COVID levels; total production from conventional, condensates, and pentane plus took until the second half of 2022 to recover.
- US oil declined 25% from COVID and took until summer 2023 to return to those levels.
- By comparison, Canada's relatively fast COVID recovery shows greater resiliency vs. the US, partly driven by lower base declines associated with oil sands production.

Alberta | Monthly Raw Bitumen Production | Jan 2008 to Mar 2025



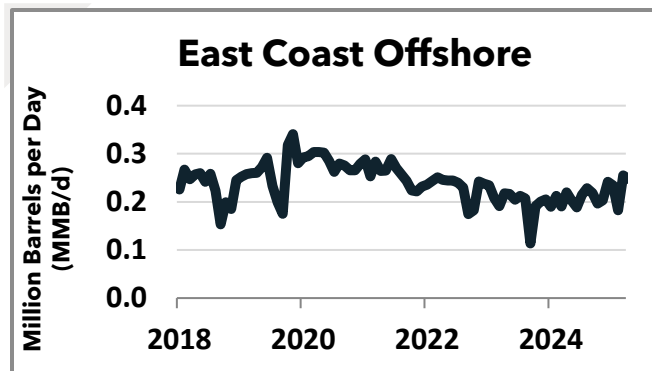
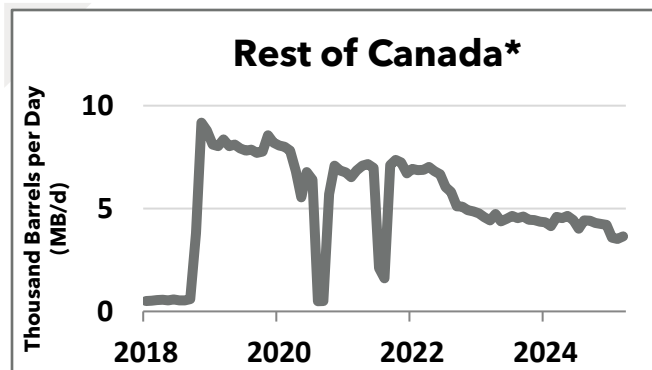
- ▶ Bitumen is mined or, for deep reserves, it is produced from wells using steam (in-situ).
- ▶ Both production types have grown in tandem since 2008. However, a leveling out of production began in 2018 due to the lack of new projects and egress out of the basin.
- ▶ Production (before upgrading) is about equal, with 1.8 MMB/d (mined) and 1.9 MMB/d (in-situ) in 2025 (YTD avg to March).

Monthly Oil Production by Province | Jan 2018 to Mar 2025



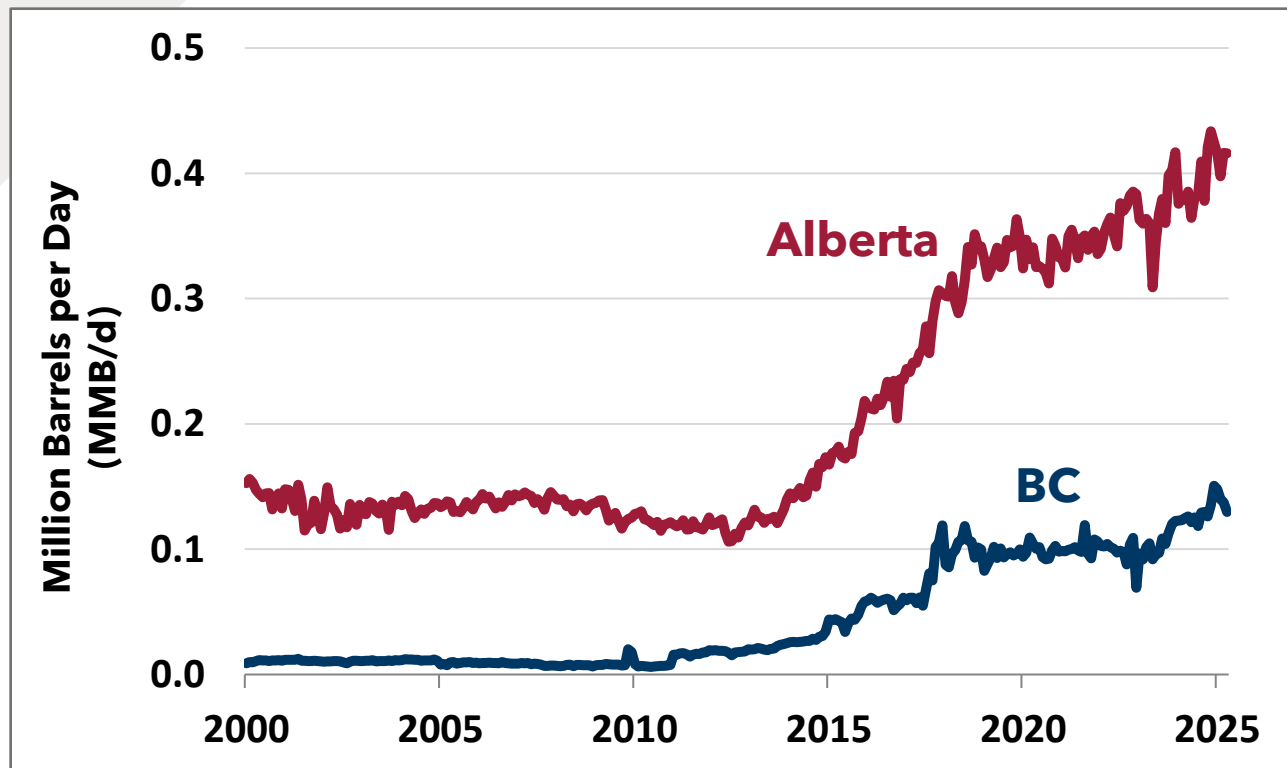
- BC's oil production is mostly from NGLs and condensates & pentanes plus, primarily byproducts from natural gas production.
- Saskatchewan and Manitoba's oil production have not yet recovered to pre-COVID levels.
- Saskatchewan production averaged 452 MB/d in 2024. The province has stated a goal to reach 600 MB/d by 2030.⁽¹⁾ This would represent over a 30% increase relative to 2024 levels.

Monthly Oil Production by Province | Jan 2018 to Mar 2025



- Due to lower production levels, the scaling for 'Rest of Canada' is in MB/d, not MMB/d.
- 'Rest of Canada' is comprised of Ontario, New Brunswick, and Northwest Territories. Production is minimal at less than ~5,000 B/d and mainly from the Northwest Territories.
- East Coast Offshore includes production from Newfoundland and Labrador. Production from the Terra Nova floating oil production and storage offloading (FPSO) vessel was restarted in November 2023.

Monthly Condensate and Pentanes Plus Production | 2000 to 2025*



- ▶ Shale plays produce condensates & pentanes plus, primarily byproducts from natural gas production.
- ▶ As shale gas and shale oil output have grown, so has the production of these light liquids.
- ▶ Condensates & pentanes plus are sources of diluent for Canada's oil sands, among other uses.
- ▶ Revenue from condensate has also greatly helped the economics of Canadian shale gas.