

BY THE NUMBERS:

United States of Oil

by Jeffrey Winters



Petroleum production in the U.S. has skyrocketed since 2000. But just six states account for more than three-quarters of that oil.

Some revolutions come in with a roar, while others are whisper quiet. But you would be excused if you didn't realize that the U.S. oil industry had soared to never-before-seen heights. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, which keeps track of petroleum production, more than 12 million barrels of oil per day were produced in the United States from April through June 2019.

Not every state can take credit for that record, however. Six states—Texas, Alaska, California, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and New Mexico—together produced 9.2 million barrels a day in July 2019, some 78 percent of the national total. That's been a consistent trend for decades, as those six states cumulatively produced 73 percent of the nation's oil since January 2000.

While North Dakota, Oklahoma, and New Mexico are newly booming thanks to hydraulic fracturing technology, and Texas is a world of its own (it produces more than 40 percent of the national total), Alaska and California have declined considerably in the past 20 years. In fact, Colorado's oil production surpassed California's starting in 2018. As "fracking" continues to revolutionize the petroleum industry, more states may rise toward the top of the oil charts.

Texas



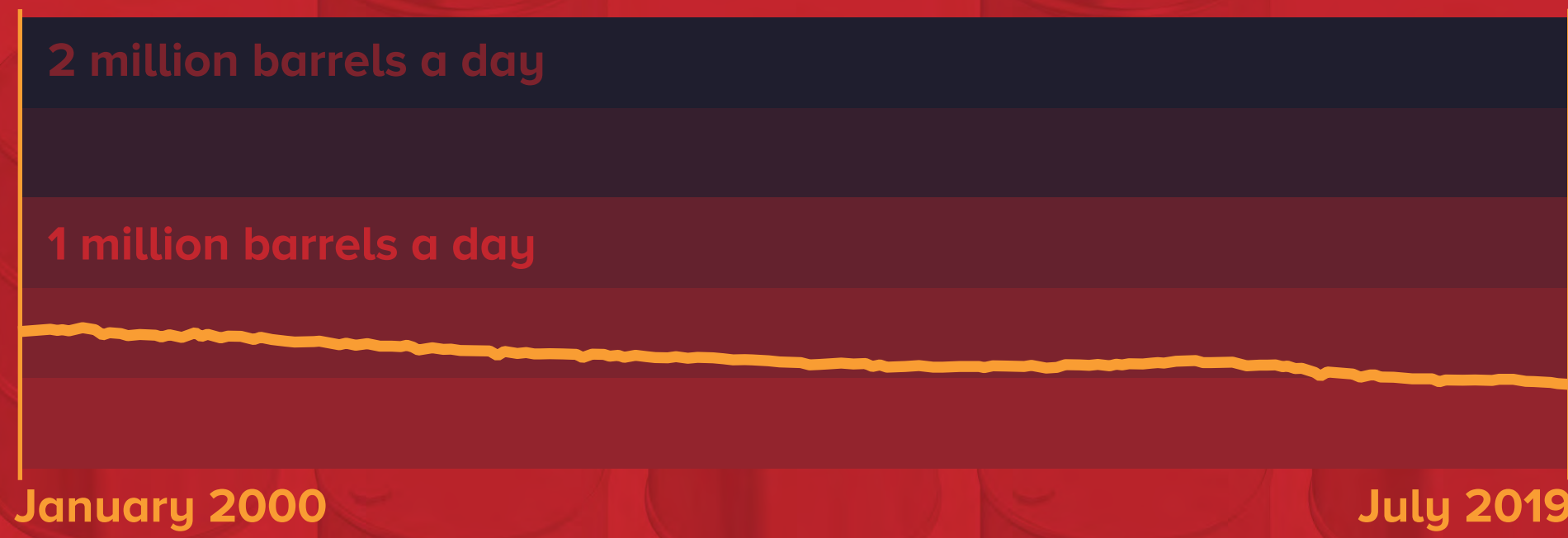
January 2000 Production
1,234,000 barrels a day
 July 2019 Production
5,021,000 barrels a day
 Cumulative Production
14.1 billion barrels

Alaska



January 2000 Production
2,048,000 barrels a day
 July 2019 Production
896,000 barrels a day
 Cumulative Production
9.8 billion barrels

California



January 2000 Production
735,000 barrels a day
 July 2019 Production
442,000 barrels a day
 Cumulative Production
4.2 billion barrels

North Dakota



January 2000 Production
89,000 barrels a day
 July 2019 Production
1,414,000 barrels a day
 Cumulative Production
3.6 billion barrels

Oklahoma



January 2000 Production
189,000 barrels a day
 July 2019 Production
567,000 barrels a day
 Cumulative Production
2.0 billion barrels

New Mexico



January 2000 Production
189,000 barrels a day
 July 2019 Production
888,000 barrels a day
 Cumulative Production
2.0 billion barrels

Rest of United States



January 2000 Production
1,300,000 barrels a day
 July 2019 Production
2,578,000 barrels a day
 Cumulative Production
13.1 billion barrels