



# Hydraulic fracturing is a well stimulation technique used in wells located gas fields in Mexico

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Number of wells utilizing hydraulic fracturing and the number of fields where they are located

- Hydraulic fracturing is a technique that has been used in Mexico, principally in wells located in gas fields<sup>1</sup>.
- To date, 30,558 wells have been drilled onshore in Mexico, of which there is information available regarding drilling and well finishing for 19,563 wells<sup>2</sup>.
- Using information available at the National Center of Hydrocarbons Information (“CNIH” for its initials in Spanish), **8,457 onshore wells have been identified where hydraulic fracturing has been utilized during the period from 1994 to 2016<sup>2</sup>**, which represents 43% of all onshore wells. Of these, 27 wells have been drilled with unconventional objectives<sup>3</sup>.
- 80% of the wells with hydraulic fracturing activities are located in three Mexican states: Tamaulipas (2,734), Veracruz (2,270) and Nuevo León (1,776).
- **60%** of the fields with hydraulic fracturing activities are gas fields<sup>4</sup>.
- To date, **these 8,457 wells have produced** 1.476 billion barrels of oil and 12.038 billion cubic feet of gas<sup>5</sup>, equaling 3.884 billion barrels of crude oil equivalent. This production represents **7% of past production in the country**.
- When hydraulic fracturing was utilized in these wells, the field operator was Petróleos Mexicanos. Currently, **695** of these wells are located in the contractual areas of **31** contracts, operated by **23** contractors, none of which is Pemex.

<sup>1</sup> The goal of hydraulic fracturing is to increase the productivity of a producing well or the injectability of an injection well. This is achieved by creating a highly-permeable canal that connects the well to the deposit, extending its area of influence and reducing drops in pressure associated with production.

<sup>2</sup> National Hydrocarbons Commission, using information from well interventions from 1994-2016.

<sup>3</sup> CNH (2019). *Exploration and Production of Oil and Gas in Shale*, available in Spanish at: <https://hidrocarburos.gob.mx/media/2773/exploración-y-extracción-de-petróleo-y-gas-en-lutitas.pdf>. In addition to this total, the following wells have been identified as having an unconventional objective: Chaxan-1EXP, Kaneni-1EXP, Maxochitl-1EXP, Pankiwi-1EXP and Semillal-1EXP.

<sup>4</sup> Gas fields are those fields whose original reserves (cumulative production plus 2P reserves, through January 1, 2019) are comprised of at least 70% gas volume in millions of barrels of crude oil equivalent.

<sup>5</sup> Note that the cumulative production of these wells does not indicate production obtained exclusively via hydraulic fracturing. This information is currently being updated and is subject to revision.