

# THE TOP



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The spotlight often shines on the public E&Ps and major oil companies, while the private independent producers toil in the shadows. But no more. *Oil and Gas Investor* partnered with Drillinginfo Inc. to generate a ranking of private independents to show which ones—on a gross throughput at least—rise to the top in volumes produced. And not all of them, not most even, are old behemoths. Many of the names on our list are less than a decade old, illustrating how an entrepreneurial team with a plan, good assets and financial backing can rise to the top in short order.

The order of rank is based on publicly reported data of daily gross barrels of oil equivalent (boe) production, averaged over the trailing 12 months. Gas is converted 6 thousand cubic feet (Mcf) to 1 boe.

So which are the top 100 private U.S. E&Ps based on production? Read on to find out.

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**Escondido Resources**

**Daily boe:** 25,191

**HQ:** Katy, Texas

**CEO:** William E. Deupree

Fourteen-year-old Escondido focuses on the Eagle Ford Shale and the Escondido/Olmos formations in Webb and La Salle counties in South Texas, where it holds 40,000-plus acres and more than 300 drilling locations. Current net production exceeds 100 MMcf/d of natural gas.

# Top 100 U.S. Private E&P Operators

Rankings and chart data provided by Drillinginfo Market Intelligence

Rank	Company	Daily Production (boe/d)	Daily Oil Production (bbl/d)	Daily Gas Production (Mcf/d)	% Oil	Well Count	Wells online in 2018	Drillinginfo Rig Count 4-11-2019	Largest U.S. Region
1	HILCORP ENERGY	506,651	77,884	2,572,601	15%	14,945	190	5	NORTH SLOPE BASIN
2	ASCENT RESOURCES	283,788	16,758	1,602,179	6%	624	108	6	APPALACHIAN
3	TERRA ENERGY PARTNERS	226,914	3,035	1,343,278	1%	7,671	153	2	PICEANCE
4	INDIGO NATURAL RESOURCES LLC	218,668	448	1,309,317	0%	897	40	6	EAST TEXAS
5	CHIEF OIL & GAS	205,338	-	1,232,028	0%	328	40	1	APPALACHIAN
6	FLYWHEEL ENERGY	179,257	-	1,075,544	0%	3,679	2	0	ARKOMA
7	MEWBOURNE OIL CO.	169,495	98,482	426,078	58%	2,061	169	8	DELAWARE
8	LEWIS ENERGY LLC	165,616	3,768	971,087	2%	1,479	68	0	GULF COAST WEST
9	VINE OIL & GAS LP	161,307	-	967,840	0%	283	30	3	EAST TEXAS
10	COVEY PARK ENERGY	155,008	76	929,589	0%	608	36	4	EAST TEXAS
11	AETHON ENERGY MANAGEMENT LLC	154,959	985	923,843	1%	1,627	41	7	EAST TEXAS
12	LLOG EXPLORATION	133,470	88,650	268,920	66%	29	1	1	LOUISIANA COASTAL
13	FIELDWOOD ENERGY	126,487	81,628	269,155	65%	590	21	1	GULF OF MEXICO BASIN
14	MERIT ENERGY CO.	120,894	29,514	548,280	24%	4,784	47	1	GULF COAST WEST
15	ENDEAVOR ENERGY RESOURCES	120,498	96,215	145,699	80%	2,917	125	9	MIDLAND
16	JONAH ENERGY	113,174	6,570	639,621	6%	2,278	100	4	GREEN RIVER - OVERTHRUST
17	GEP HAYNESVILLE LLC	107,730	-	646,382	0%	321	29	4	EAST TEXAS
18	PENNENERGY RESOURCES	103,874	3,535	602,032	3%	341	53	1	APPALACHIAN
19	FOURPOINT ENERGY	101,435	19,597	491,031	19%	2,809	47	3	ANADARKO
20	CAERUS OIL & GAS	96,097	837	571,557	1%	4,352	139	2	PICEANCE
21	ENERVEST	84,831	4,014	484,902	5%	11,891	84	0	FORT WORTH
22	HG ENERGY	82,130	7,355	448,648	9%	266	11	1	APPALACHIAN
23	SURGE ENERGY	81,174	69,413	70,568	86%	515	107	4	MIDLAND
24	OAK RIDGE NATURAL RESOURCES	77,102	3,337	442,587	4%	1,178	30	1	GREEN RIVER - OVERTHRUST
25	CRESTONE PEAK RESOURCES	76,922	40,900	216,129	53%	1,937	127	2	DENVER-JULESBURG
26	TRINITY OPERATING	76,573	7,995	411,470	10%	635	75	5	ARKOMA
27	BRUIN E&P PARTNERS	75,596	59,122	98,843	78%	406	24	0	WILLISTON
28	SLAWSON EXPLORATION	74,786	64,210	63,456	86%	425	39	1	WILLISTON
29	CROWNQUEST	71,108	54,627	98,887	77%	893	85	8	MIDLAND
30	ALTA RESOURCES	70,627	-	423,760	0%	343	18	1	APPALACHIAN
31	ROCKCLIFF ENERGY LLC	70,528	678	419,099	1%	877	33	4	EAST TEXAS
32	ARENA ENERGY	69,004	38,952	180,312	56%	255	29	2	LOUISIANA COASTAL
33	PETRO-HUNT	64,877	50,644	85,398	78%	572	30	2	WILLISTON
34	COX OIL	62,300	29,874	194,558	48%	395	25	1	LOUISIANA COASTAL
35	HUNT OIL CO.	62,107	48,452	81,929	78%	508	84	7	MIDLAND
36	FLEUR DE LIS ENERGY	61,025	17,676	260,092	29%	2,544	35	1	MIDLAND
37	KRAKEN OIL & GAS	57,886	49,939	47,681	86%	177	64	1	WILLISTON
38	GREAT WESTERN OIL & GAS	56,769	38,753	108,093	68%	336	88	1	DENVER-JULESBURG
39	SABINE OIL & GAS	56,475	2,043	326,594	4%	1,001	34	2	EAST TEXAS
40	SABLE PERMIAN RESOURCES	54,202	24,919	175,699	46%	554	58	5	MIDLAND
41	CASTLETON COMMODITIES INTERNATIONAL	53,074	336	316,429	1%	1,047	18	1	EAST TEXAS
42	LIME ROCK RESOURCES	52,267	30,243	132,145	58%	2,017	51	2	CENTRAL BASIN PLATFORM
43	WALTER OIL & GAS CORP.	50,123	27,605	135,107	55%	43	4	3	LOUISIANA COASTAL
44	TANOS EXPLORATION	48,817	1,350	284,801	3%	1,055	29	2	EAST TEXAS
45	ENCINO ENERGY PARTNERS	43,629	4	261,752	0%	42	2	1	APPALACHIAN
46	TAPSTONE ENERGY	43,352	11,724	189,769	27%	541	50	3	ANADARKO
47	SOUTHLAND ROYALTY CO.	43,026	4,443	231,495	10%	1,513	18	3	GREEN RIVER - OVERTHRUST
48	BLUESTONE NATURAL RESOURCES	42,667	637	252,177	1%	1,448	3	0	GULF COAST WEST
49	CARBON CREEK ENERGY	42,369	1	254,210	0%	3,832	0	0	POWDER RIVER
50	SHERIDAN PRODUCTION PARTNERS	41,642	17,321	145,926	42%	3,753	29	0	CENTRAL BASIN PLATFORM
51	SEM OPERATING COMPANY LLC	41,467	20,592	125,251	50%	325	36	1	MIDLAND

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52	BKV OPERATING LLC	40,792	-	244,754	0%	118	9	1	APPALACHIAN
53	FASKEN OIL AND RANCH LTD.	39,562	22,779	100,698	58%	1,135	60	3	GULF COAST WEST
54	BEACON OFFSHORE ENERGY	37,963	31,774	37,133	84%	8	8	0	LOUISIANA COASTAL
55	BTA OIL PRODUCERS	36,937	20,941	95,975	57%	280	26	2	DELAWARE
56	MAVERICK NATURAL RESOURCES	33,579	9,222	146,143	27%	1,795	68	0	EAST TEXAS
57	CAPITAN ENERGY INC.	32,642	14,172	110,821	43%	54	14	1	DELAWARE
58	BEDROCK ENERGY PARTNERS	31,507	368	186,836	1%	1,121	3	0	FORT WORTH
59	ENVEN ENERGY CORP.	30,822	22,383	50,633	73%	39	5	3	LOUISIANA COASTAL
60	ENDURING RESOURCES LLC	30,594	12,808	106,713	42%	797	7	0	SAN JUAN
61	URSA OPERATING CO. LLC	28,041	524	165,103	2%	805	51	0	PICEANCE
62	JKLM ENERGY	27,011	-	162,068	0%	30	20	1	APPALACHIAN
63	ADMIRAL PERMIAN RESOURCES	26,586	9,218	104,209	35%	40	0	1	DELAWARE
64	TECOLOTE ENERGY LLC	26,156	4,379	130,660	17%	713	6	1	ANADARKO
65	EAGLERIDGE ENERGY	26,074	329	154,471	1%	944	1	0	FORT WORTH
66	JAY-BEE OIL & GAS INC.	26,027	950	150,459	4%	391	14	1	APPALACHIAN
67	DISCOVERY NATURAL RESOURCES LLC	25,336	12,124	79,274	48%	1,027	89	2	MIDLAND
68	BCE-MACH	25,258	7,771	104,923	31%	746	26	2	ANADARKO
69	ARSENAL RESOURCES	25,213	-	151,277	0%	79	0	1	APPALACHIAN
<b>70</b>	<b>ESCONDIDO RESOURCES</b>	<b>25,191</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>149,497</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>GULF COAST WEST</b>
71	NORTHEAST NATURAL ENERGY LLC	24,795	-	148,767	0%	181	21	2	APPALACHIAN
72	GBK CORP.	24,780	14,619	60,968	59%	493	13	1	DELAWARE
73	PA GEN ENERGY	24,396	38	146,145	0%	163	14	1	APPALACHIAN
74	RED WILLOW PRODUCTION	24,048	-	144,285	0%	433	9	0	SAN JUAN
75	CANTIUM	23,598	20,704	17,362	88%	253	10	1	LOUISIANA COASTAL
76	FELIX ENERGY HOLDINGS II LLC	23,177	17,947	31,378	77%	76	16	7	DELAWARE
77	RIMROCK OIL & GAS	22,761	19,663	18,585	86%	115	14	1	WILLISTON
78	SENTINEL PEAK RESOURCES	22,717	21,285	8,590	94%	1,579	91	2	CA COAST
79	GREYLOCK ENERGY	22,708	-	136,245	0%	112	12	0	APPALACHIAN
80	SNYDER BROTHERS INC.	22,177	16	132,963	0%	2,735	13	0	APPALACHIAN
81	PATRIOT RESOURCES INC.	22,047	18,246	22,808	83%	102	23	5	DELAWARE
82	CASSILLAS PETROLEUM	21,979	8,109	83,220	37%	160	26	4	ANADARKO
83	HAWKWOOD ENERGY	21,144	18,792	14,112	89%	306	58	2	GULF COAST CENTRAL
84	TEXAS PETROLEUM INVESTMENT CO.	21,058	12,068	53,942	57%	479	5	0	GULF COAST EAST
85	PRIMEXX ENERGY PARTNERS LTD.	20,688	15,239	32,696	74%	91	26	1	DELAWARE
86	SCOUT ENERGY PARTNERS	20,678	7,378	79,799	36%	2,433	14	1	ANADARKO
87	LOGOS OPERATING	20,407	4,305	96,609	21%	1,121	13	0	SAN JUAN
88	NADEL AND GUSSMAN	20,157	691	116,793	3%	90	1	2	ARKLA
89	SAGE NATURAL RESOURCES	20,118	129	119,934	1%	370	0	1	FORT WORTH
90	GULFTEX ENERGY	20,089	16,979	18,657	85%	33	21	1	GULF COAST WEST
91	LARIO OIL & GAS CO.	20,026	16,795	19,388	84%	188	28	2	MIDLAND
92	BRAVO NATURAL RESOURCES	19,523	38	116,910	0%	145	6	1	ARKOMA
93	MDC TEXAS OPERATOR LLC	19,447	12,330	42,703	63%	49	23	6	DELAWARE
94	NINE POINT ENERGY	18,619	14,798	22,927	79%	160	13	1	WILLISTON
95	ZAVANNA LLC	18,574	10,998	45,454	59%	110	1	1	WILLISTON
96	VERDUN OIL & GAS LLC	18,431	12,843	33,529	70%	179	7	1	GULF COAST WEST
97	GEOSOUTHERN OPERATING II LLC	18,362	1,959	98,419	11%	26	10	1	GULF COAST CENTRAL
98	VALENCE OPERATING COMPANY	17,996	2,989	90,043	17%	536	11	1	EAST TEXAS
99	PALOMA RESOURCES	17,887	5,000	77,261	28%	27	20	2	ANADARKO
100	CAMINO NATURAL RESOURCES LLC	17,791	4,656	78,809	26%	163	22	3	ANADARKO

Notes:

- Daily BOE6 is trailing 12 months data as measured on a gross operated basis by operator. Gas converted to boe at 6 Mcf = 1 boe and 1 bbl = 1 boe.
- Production data screened by operator; active wells and last reported production by state or federal agency for each active well.
- Current rig count as of April 11, 2019; Source: Drillinginfo Rig Count
- Region: U.S. region where the largest portion of each operator's production is located.
- Well count is active wells associated with the daily BOE6 data.
- Company name per Drillinginfo Proprietary Protocol