



REGION 6–GULF COAST

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Province and Play Descriptions

(PDF Files)

[Province 47](#)

[Province 48](#)

[Province 49](#)

[Province 50](#)

Province Names and Codes

WESTERN GULF PROVINCE (047) [\[view Stratigraphic Column\]](#)

EAST TEXAS BASIN PROVINCE (048) [\[view Stratigraphic Column\]](#)

LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI SALT BASINS PROVINCE (049) [\[view Stratigraphic Column\]](#)

FLORIDA PENINSULA PROVINCE (050) [\[view Stratigraphic Column\]](#)

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GEOLOGIC FRAMEWORK

By Christopher J. Schenk

Region 6, the U.S. Gulf Coast, comprises Province 047 (Western Gulf), Province 048 (East Texas Basin), Province 049 (Mississippi-Louisiana Salt Basins), and Province 050 (Florida Peninsula). This region is the largest and most prolific oil and gas producing region in the United States.

The seaward boundaries of the region are the limits of State waters beyond the shoreline; Texas at 3 leagues, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama at 3 miles, and Florida at 10 miles. The regional boundary in the southwest is the Texas-Mexico border. The boundary to the west and northwest is the Ouachita Fold Belt, to the north is the Ouachitas and the Black Warrior Basin. To the east the regional boundary is the Appalachian front. Many of the assessed hydrocarbon plays extend into the Federal waters beyond the State waters, but the Federal waters portion was excluded from this assessment.

Region 6 comprises Texas Railroad Districts 1 through 6, southern Arkansas, Louisiana, southern Mississippi, southwestern Alabama, and Florida. The total area in the province is about 352,500 sq mi.

For the 1995 National Assessment, 101 hydrocarbon plays were identified and defined. Of these 101 plays, 48 plays are in Province 47, 47 plays are in Provinces 48 and 49, and 6 plays are in Province 50. Plays range from Triassic to Pleistocene in age. All but four of the plays are conventional.

Exploration in this region has been heavy. Drilling data available for this project involve 226,921 dry holes, 235,304 oil wells, and 105,625 gas wells, for a total of 567,850 wells, all of which were mapped. This level of exploration has resulted in the discovery of 3,497 significant oil and gas fields, and 5,368 significant oil and gas reservoirs. 3,497 significant oil and gas fields, and 5,368 significant oil and gas reservoirs.