

Assessment of Undiscovered Oil and Gas Resources in Central and South America



Figure 1.
Map of Central and South America showing assessed provinces (red areas), province boundaries (red), and country boundaries (black).

Table 1. South and Central America Assessment Results

[MMBO, million barrels of oil; BCFG, billion cubic feet of gas; MMBNGL, million barrels of natural gas liquids. Results shown are fully risked estimates. For gas fields, all liquids are included under the NGL (natural gas liquids) category. Undiscovered gas resources are the sum of non-associated and associated gas. F95 represents a 95 percent chance of at least the amount tabulated. Other fractiles are defined similarly. Fractiles are additive under the assumption of perfect positive correlation. [See USGS (2000) for details.]]

Provinces	Total undiscovered resources												
	Oil (MMBO)				Gas (BCFG)				NGL (MMBNGL)				
	F95	F50	F5	Mean	F95	F50	F5	Mean	F95	F50	F5	Mean	
Passive margin provinces	Guyana-Suriname Basin	2,793	13,937	32,582	15,247	7,035	36,802	95,909	42,058	365	1,981	5,555	2,330
	Foz do Amazonas Basin	0	0	0	0	7,628	27,785	58,079	29,840	71	271	620	298
	Sergipe-Alagoas Basin	197	1,271	3,527	1,487	1,368	7,004	19,909	8,334	62	338	1,035	415
	Espirito Santo Basin	304	2,338	7,736	2,959	3,710	27,381	88,581	34,287	165	1,243	4,341	1,612
	Campos Basin	3,442	14,235	36,479	16,293	3,745	16,501	46,667	19,691	101	451	1,357	553
	Santos Basin	4,017	21,963	46,265	23,209	7,600	74,416	163,657	80,547	837	3,763	9,024	4,194
	Pelotas Basin	0	2,548	7,184	2,938	0	19,642	55,792	22,806	0	919	2,838	1,107
	Falklands Plateau	0	3,948	17,274	5,833	0	10,464	51,265	16,581	0	217	1,200	370
	Malvinas Basin	161	900	2,327	1,031	1,675	9,765	26,190	11,327	51	303	870	362
Andean-related provinces	Putumayo-Oriente- Maranon Basin	1,028	2,787	6,066	3,098	236	746	4,604	1,596	4	16	182	55
	Santa Cruz-Tarija Basin	277	1,719	5,548	2,145	0,618	28,401	61,092	31,107	380	1,133	2,802	1,300
	Neuquen Basin	412	1,213	2,413	1,290	3,667	11,582	23,870	12,416	53	182	426	203
	San Jorge Basin	160	470	928	498	1,068	3,491	7,363	3,774	20	68	157	75
	Magallanes Basin	226	665	1,306	704	4,752	13,440	25,380	14,040	101	291	581	310
	Talara Basin	484	1,625	3,214	1,711	1,243	4,404	9,637	4,795	62	227	539	255
	Progreso Basin	47	205	534	237	98	556	1,770	695	4	26	86	33
	Middle Magdalena	220	655	1,373	709	919	2,946	6,861	3,292	32	111	292	130
	Llanos Basin	793	3,180	8,001	3,631	1,089	5,061	15,338	6,217	56	268	853	337
Caribbean plate provinces	East Venezuela Basin	2,155	10,509	26,740	11,875	19,454	84,444	201,516	93,561	842	3,886	10,235	4,465
	Maracaibo Basin	3,133	7,868	14,199	8,183	5,857	16,476	32,854	17,576	307	889	1,928	973
	Tobago Trough	0	0	0	0	4,249	17,908	43,111	20,103	40	173	456	201
	Lesser Antilles Deformed Belt	0	157	6,092	1,536	0	1,238	46,876	11,957	0	57	2,334	582
	North Cuba Basin of Greater Antilles Deformed Belt	142	464	941	494	159	540	1,200	592	9	32	76	35
TOTAL	20,090	92,658	230,727	105,106	96,168	420,994	1,087,521	487,190	3,561	16,843	47,788	20,196	

For more information: Christopher J. Schenk, U.S. Geological Survey, MS 939, Denver Federal Center, Box 25046, Denver, CO 80225; schenk@usgs.gov

Graphic Design by Wayne Husband