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Drilling Activity for U.S. Land, Inland Waters and Gulf of Mexico All Experienced Increases in April

HOUSTON, May 4, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- S&P Global Platts Analytics, today announced the U.S. rig count for April 2018 was 1,147, up 52 (+5%) from March 2018, and up 176 (+18%) from April 2017. This rig count includes U.S. onshore, U.S. inland waters, and U.S. offshore Gulf of Mexico drilling rigs.

- **April U.S. land rig count:** 1,099, up 46 (+4%) from the previous month and up 177 (+19%) from April 2017
- **April U.S. inland waters and Gulf of Mexico rig count:** 48, up 6 (+14%) from the previous month and down 1 (-2%) from April 2017

S&P Global
Platts

"On a month-over-month basis, the incremental growth in April's land rig count was driven entirely by continued ramp-up of drilling in 'traditional' oil formations versus natural gas formations. In fact, we saw that drilling activity that targeted natural gas formations actually fell slightly last month from the prior month," **said S&P Global Platts Senior Industry Analyst Trey Cowan.** "Regionally, the strength in Texas drilling activity came mainly from the Permian basis, though there was also boosted activity for liquids drilling in the Eagle Ford Shale basin."

Regarding non-land rigs**,** the April rise in U.S. inland waters was due in large part to new contracts on barge rigs.

"The Gulf of Mexico rig fleet is benefitting both from additional contracts as well as contract extensions,"**said S&P Global Platts Rig Analyst Trevor Crone**.

S&P Global Platts U.S. Rig Counts

	Apr 2018	Mar 2018	Month over Month Change	% Change		Apr 2017	Variance Year over Year (YOY)	YOY % Variance
Colorado	31	30	1	3%		31	0	0%
Louisiana	41	44	-3	-7%		44	-3	-7%
New Mexico	87	86	1	1%		56	31	55%
North Dakota	55	54	1	2%		47	8	17%
Oklahoma	143	138	5	4%		133	10	8%
Texas	567	531	36	7%		465	102	22%
Rest of U.S. Land	175	170	5	3%		146	29	20%
U.S. Land Subtotal	**1,099**	**1,053**	**46**	**4%**		**922**	**177**	**19%**
U.S. Inland Waters	11	8	3	38%		15	-4	-27%
U.S. Gulf of Mexico	37	34	3	9%		34	3	9%

U.S. Inland and Gulf of Mexico	**48**	**42**	**6**	**14%**		**49**	**-1**	**-2%**
Total U.S. Rig Count	**1,147**	**1,095**	**52**	**5%**		**971**	**176**	**18%**

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