

2022 Well Violations Summary

Of the total 8,010 violations issued in 2022, 2,861 were administrative violations and 5,149 were environmental health and safety violations.

Of the 2,861 administrative violations, 79 were not documented to specific conventional or unconventional wells, while 2,695 were documented to conventional wells and 87 were documented to unconventional wells. The highest incident rates of these categories of violations are characterized as follows:

- Of the 79 administrative violations that were not documented to a specific conventional or unconventional well, 21 were for failure to submit notice of termination (NOT) after site restoration; 14 were for failure of E&S Plan to have required drawings and narrative; 10 were for failure to submit annual mechanical integrity reports. The remaining violations were distributed among 15 other violation categories.
- Of the 2,695 administrative violations documented to conventional wells, 598 were for failure to post the well permit number and the operator's information at the well site during construction of the access road, site preparation and during drilling, operation or alteration of well; 565 were for failure to submit an annual mechanical integrity report; 548 were for failure to submit annual production report; 517 were failure to install in a permanent manner the permit number on the well. The remaining violations were distributed among 30 other violation categories.
- The 87 administrative violations documented to unconventional wells; 16 were failure to meet Emergency Response Sign requirements; 13 were for failure to submit monthly production reports; 12 were for failure to notify DEP 24 hours prior to cementing, pressure testing, stimulation or plugging of well. The remaining violations were distributed among 16 other violation categories.

Of the 5,149 environmental health and safety violations, 1,155 were not documented to a specific conventional or unconventional well, while 2,721 were documented to conventional wells and 1,273 were documented to unconventional wells. The highest incident rates of these categories of violations are characterized as follows:

- Of the 1,155 environmental health and safety violations that were not documented to a specific conventional or unconventional well, 496 were for failure to comply with terms and conditions of an Erosion and Sedimentation Control General Permit categories; 453 were in the categories related to improper waste disposal, reporting releases, discharge requirements, and containment. The remaining violations were distributed among 35 other violation categories.
- Of the 2,721 health and safety violations that were documented to conventional wells, 671 were for failure to plug the well upon abandoning it; 168 were failure of general provisions for well construction and operation; 161 were failure of management of residual waste; 237 were for failure to submit annual mechanical integrity report; 136 were in the category of control, storage and disposal of production fluid; 101 were unlawful conduct of drilling, altering or operating a well without a permit. The remaining health and safety violations were distributed among 85 other violation categories.

- The 1,273 health and safety violations documented to unconventional wells, 208 failed to report and/or correct the improper cementing of a well within prescribed timeframes or submit a plan to correct the defect within prescribed timeframes; 160 were for potential pollution prevention without or contrary to a permit; 156 were for management of residual waste; 138 were for failure to prevent gas flow in the annulus during casing and cementing; 101 were for failure to contain a regulated substances and wastes used or generated at a well site in a storage structure. The remaining health and safety violations were distributed among 66 other violation categories