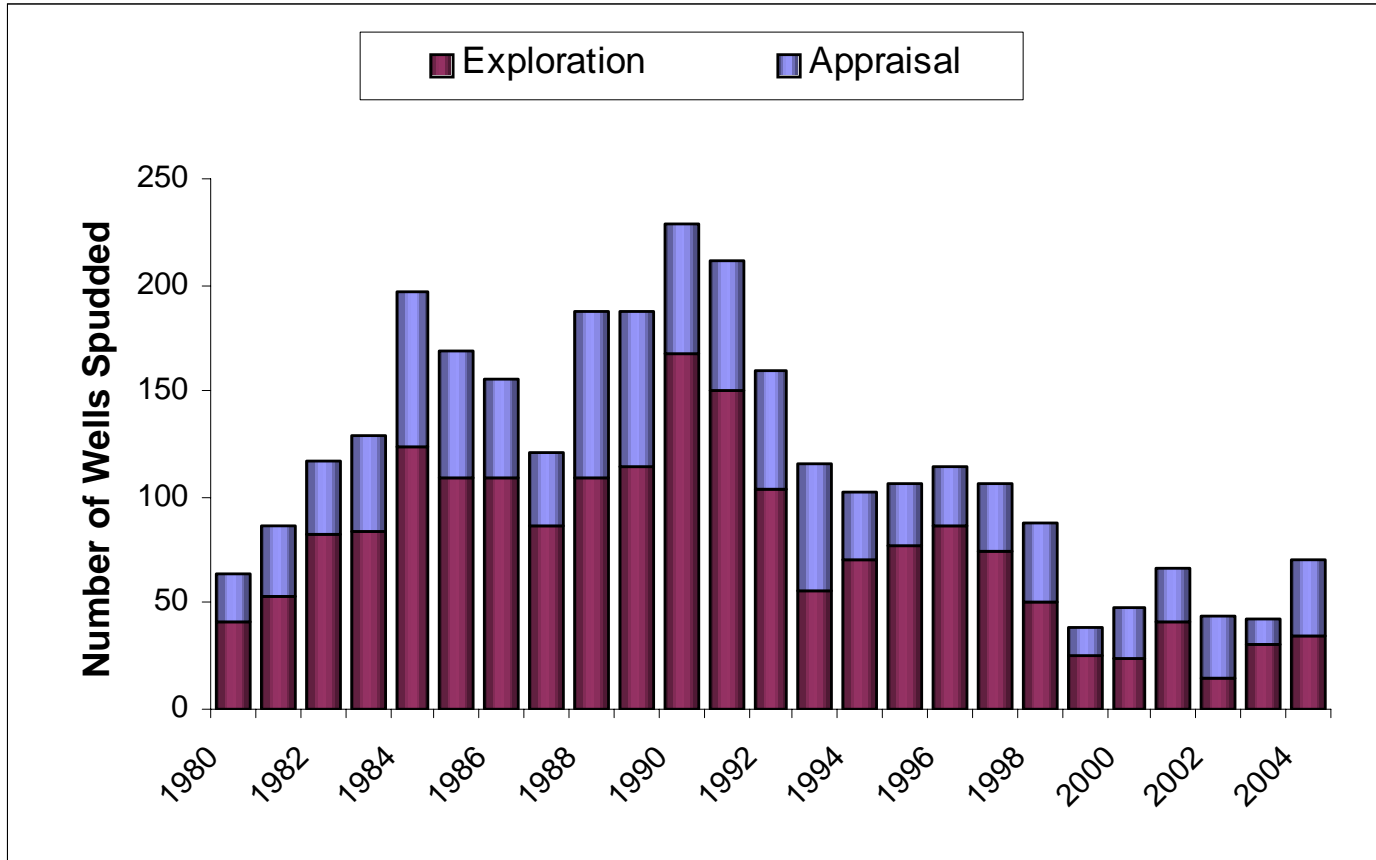


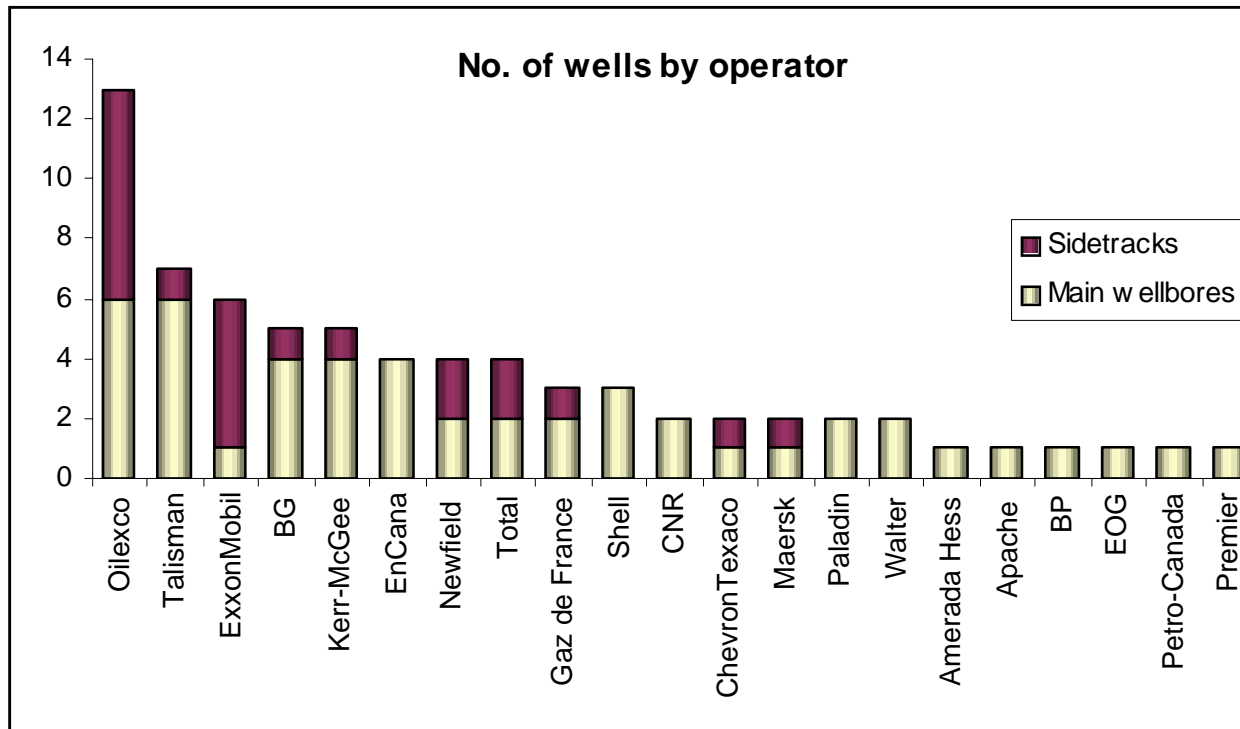


**North Sea Review 2004
EAG/06/05**

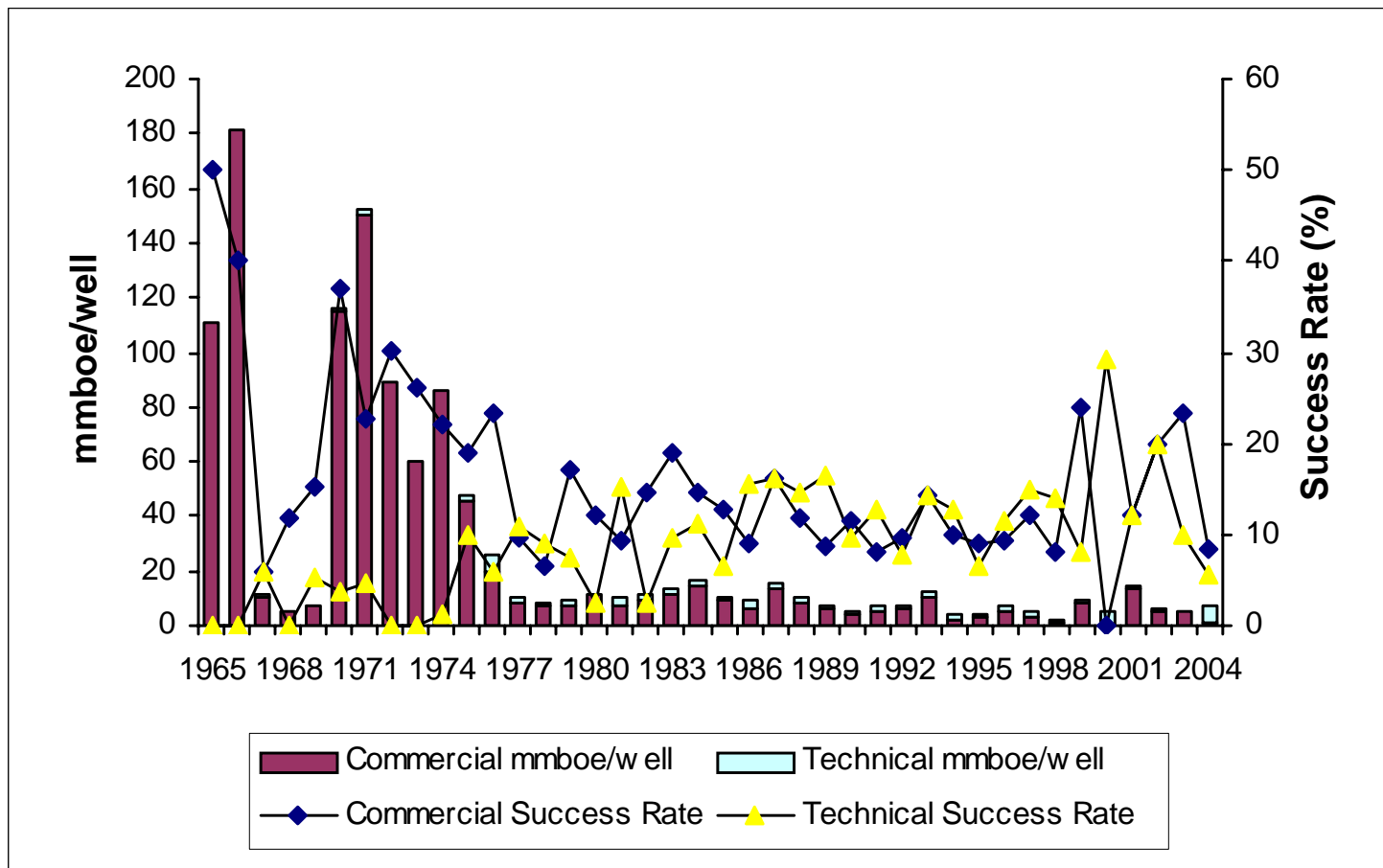
E & A drilling increased significantly but only five new distinct accumulations were discovered



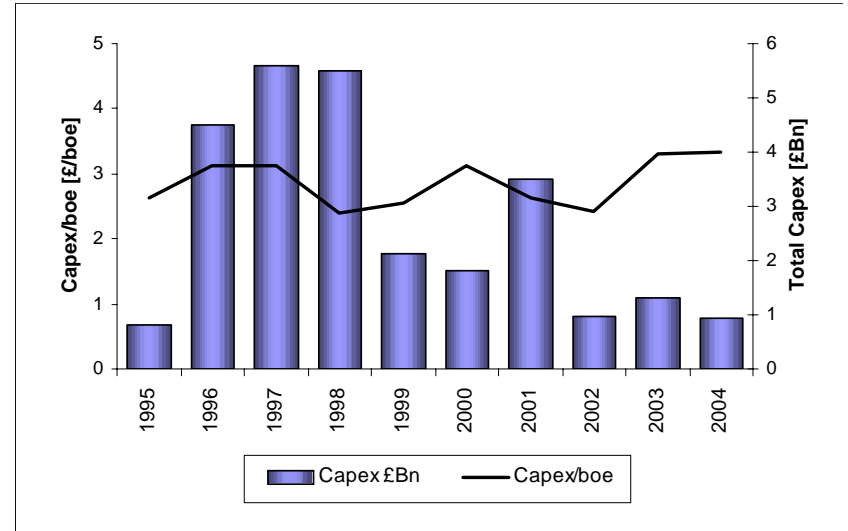
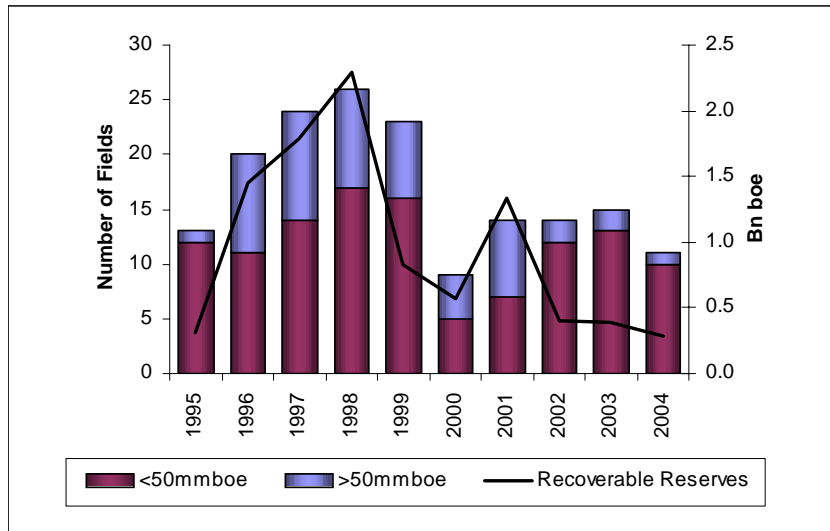
A range of companies operated E & A wells in 2004 with new entrant Oilexco leading the way



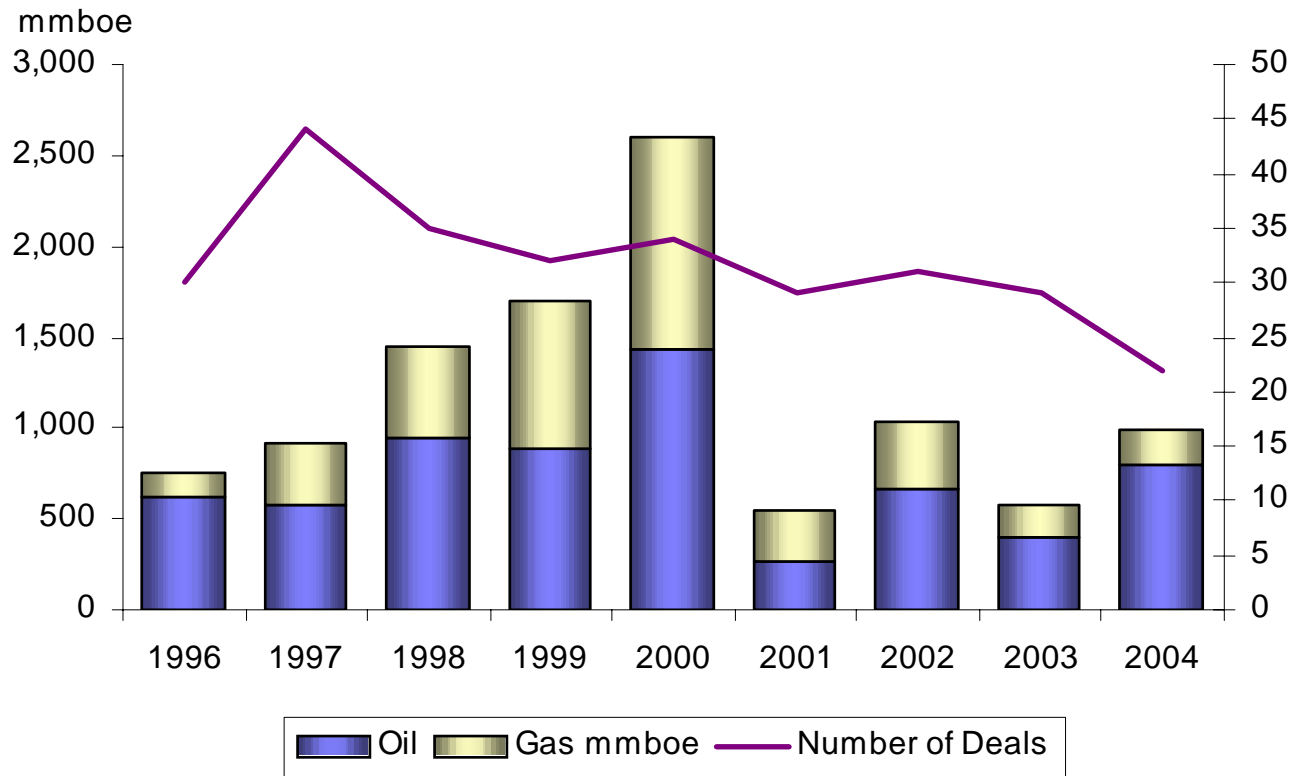
Success rates in discovering new distinct accumulations remained consistent with previous years



The number of fields commencing production has dropped from the last few years and their size remains challenging



The value and volume of deals in 2004 increased but the number of deals dropped significantly



Other key events

- ◆ The Infrastructure Code of Practice
- ◆ 22nd Licensing Round
- ◆ Ongoing activity due to fallow acreage initiative
- ◆ A West of Shetlands revival?