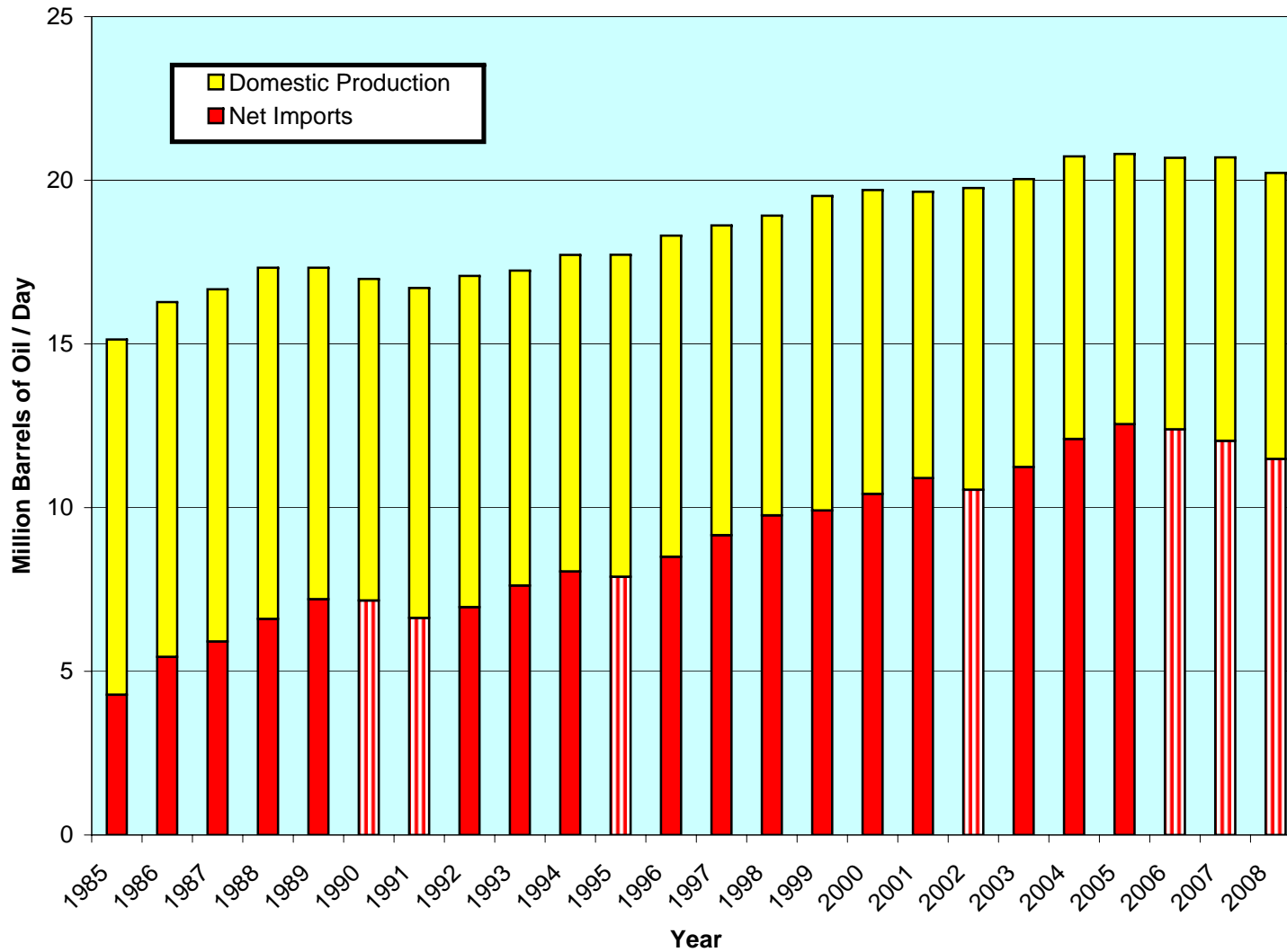


Figure 1.

U.S. Petroleum Production and Net Imports, 1985 - 2008



**Declining Imports:**  
 Between 1985 and 2005, petroleum net imports (the best measure of dependency on foreign oil; shown in red) increased at an average rate of more than 5% per year, increasing 17 times and decreasing only 4 times in 21 years (shown with red & white vertical stripes). If the trend of the first four months of 2008 holds, this will be the first time in the last quarter century that imports have decreased for three consecutive years.

**Source:** U.S. Energy Information Administration, Annual Energy Outlook Retrospective Review, 2006, Tables 5 and 7 (1985-2005) and Monthly Energy Review, May 2008, Table 3.1 (2006 - 2008).