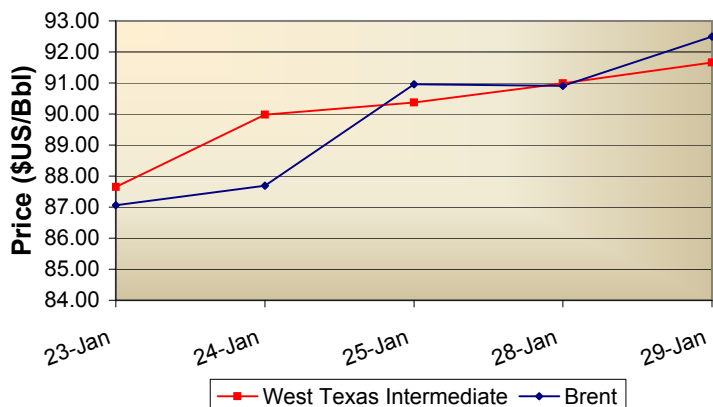


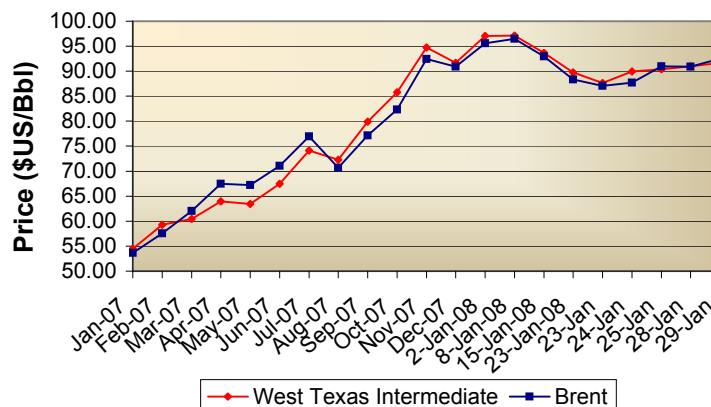
# Weekly Crude Price Report - For the Week Ending January 29, 2008

Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	Week Ended	Current Week					January 23 - January 29 Average	January Month-to-Date	2008 Year-to-Date
	23-Jan-08	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan			
- West Texas Intermediate	89.75	87.65	89.98	90.37	90.99	91.66	90.13	93.07	93.07
- Brent Crude	88.38	87.06	87.69	90.96	90.91	92.49	89.82	92.19	92.19

### This Week's Price Action



### Price Action Over Most Recent 12 Months



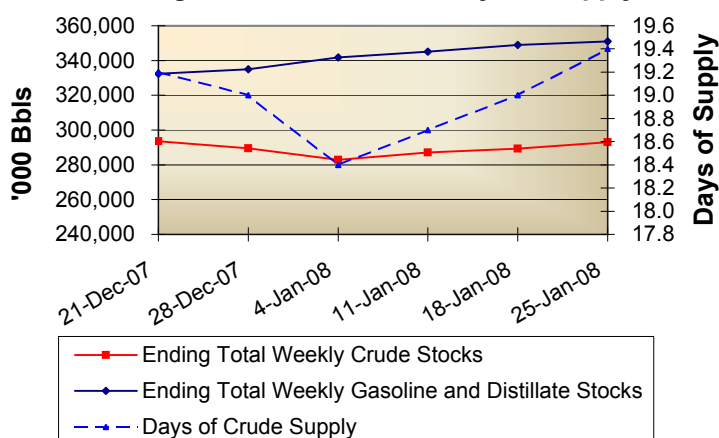
## COMMENTARY:

► For the January 23 - January 29 period, West Texas Intermediate closed higher by \$4.01 week-over-week, ending at \$91.66. Brent gained \$5.43 week-over-week to close at \$92.49.

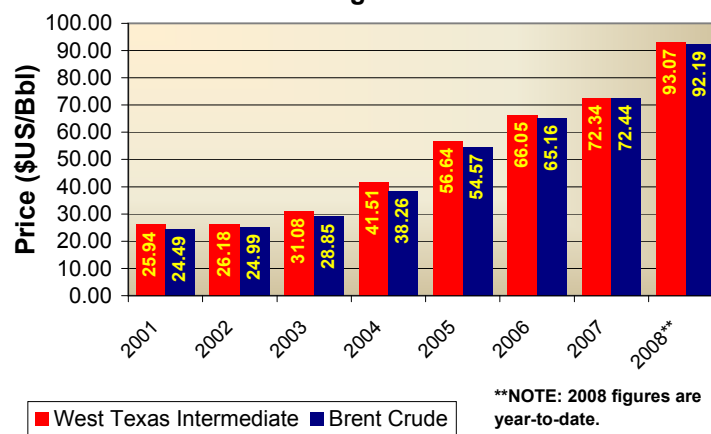
► US Crude stocks increased by 3.6 million bbls. At the same time, days of crude supply increased by 0.4 to 19.4 days of supply. Gasoline and distillate stocks increased by 2.0 million bbls.

► Both WTI and Brent reversed the downward move they have been making since the beginning of January, with both fully recouping all declines from last week and some from the week previous. The US Federal Reserve has moved strongly to shore up the American economy, having lowered its benchmark overnight rate by a full 1.25 percentage points in the last two weeks. While this has injected much-needed liquidity into credit markets, it has the added short-term effect of weakening the US dollar. This makes dollar-denominated crude relatively cheaper in foreign markets and has led naturally to an uptick in demand and prices this week. In addition to this development, OPEC meets on February 1st. A month ago, most analysts felt that if prices stayed near the \$100 mark, OPEC would announce production increases. This seems far less likely now with lower prices and a steady stream of weak economic data coming from all corners.

### Ending US Crude Stocks & Days of Supply



### Annual Average Crude Prices



## Sources/Notes:

1. West Texas Intermediate and Brent Crude prices are spot prices as reported weekly by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the Department of Energy (DOE) in the United States.
2. Inventory stocks are reported weekly by the EIA and include all inventories held with "primary" enterprises such as refiners and wholesalers of crude. Secondary and tertiary inventories held by retailers or end users are not included. Crude stocks include all unrefined crude; gasoline stocks include all grades of gasoline; and distillate stocks include all grades of distillates (including home heating fuel and diesel fuel).
3. Annual and monthly average prices for spot WTI and Brent crude from 2001 to 2008 are simple averages calculated from daily prices as reported by EIA.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
 Department of Natural Resources  
 Energy Branch  
 Energy Economics Division

