

Weekly Crude Price Report - For the Week Ending March 4, 2008

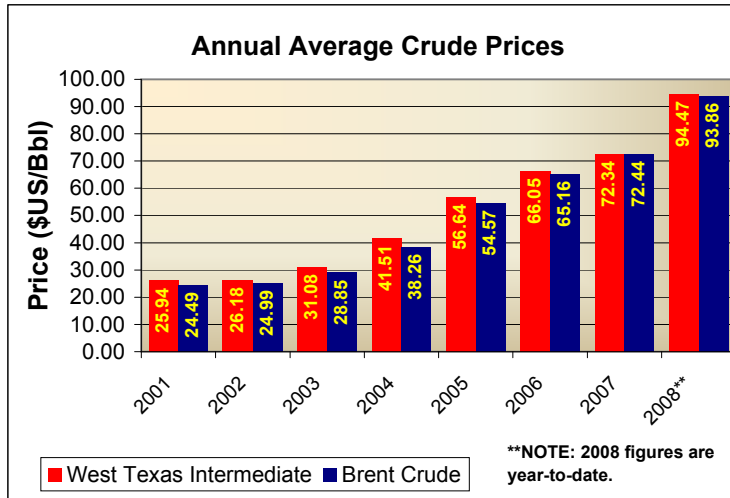
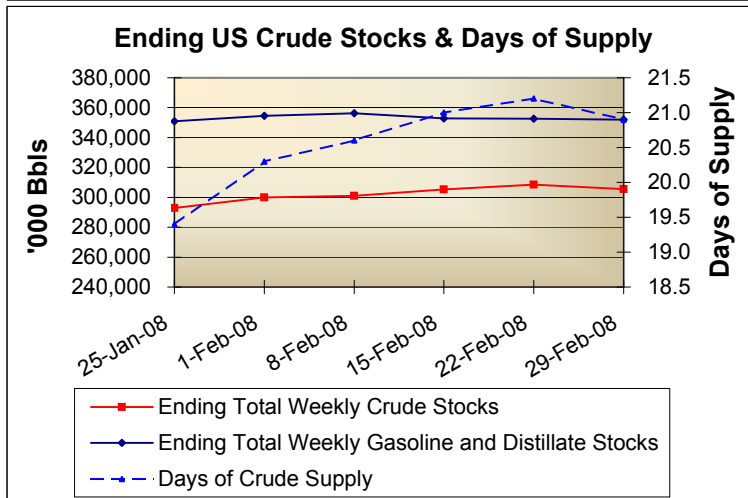
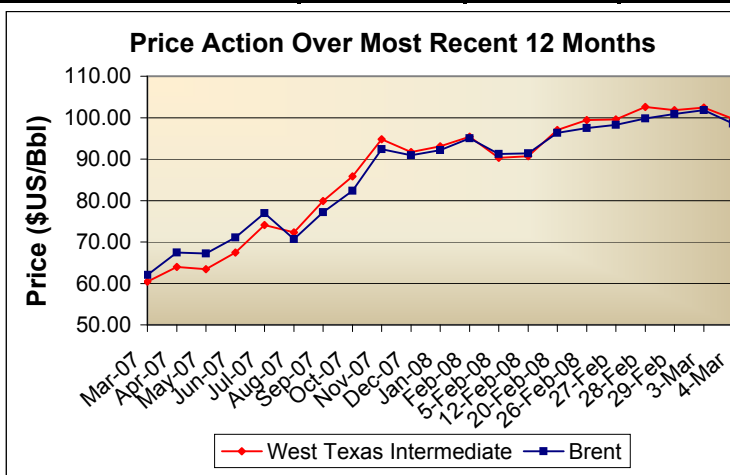
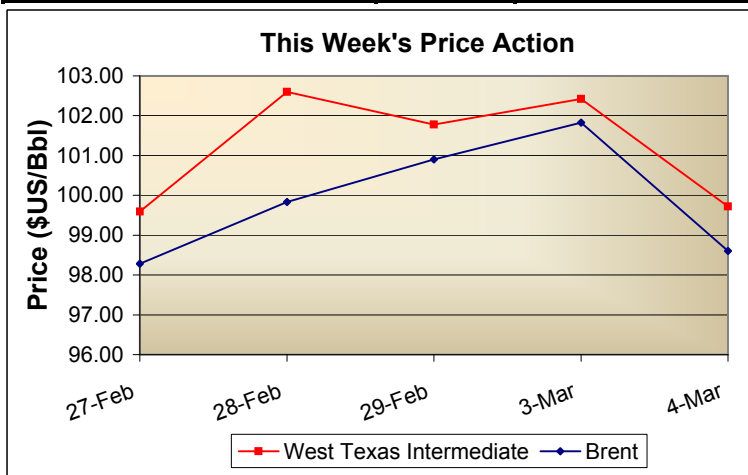
Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	Week Ended	Current Week					February 27 - March 4 Average	March Month-to-Date	2008 Year-to-Date
	26-Feb-08	27-Feb	28-Feb	29-Feb	3-Mar	4-Mar			
- West Texas Intermediate	99.46	99.59	102.60	101.78	102.42	99.72	101.22	101.07	94.47
- Brent Crude	97.52	98.28	99.83	100.90	101.83	98.60	99.89	100.22	93.86

COMMENTARY:

► For the February 27 - March 4 period, West Texas Intermediate closed lower by \$1.11 week-over-week, ending at \$99.72. Brent lost \$0.45 week-over-week to close at \$98.60.

► US Crude stocks decreased by 3.1 million bbls. At the same time, days of crude supply decreased by 0.3 to 20.9 days of supply. Gasoline and distillate stocks decreased by 0.7 million bbls.

► WTI and Brent continue to flirt with the \$100 level, although both eased slightly (around 1%) on the week. Economic data is uniformly weak leading to relatively weak demand as well. While this would typically result in lower prices, it appears that the weak US dollar, aggressive interest rate cuts in both the US and Canada over the last month, and turmoil in debt and equity markets are all drawing net cash inflows from speculators, investors, and funds as they seek to hedge their US dollar holdings in hard assets such as gold and crude, as well as achieve some level of returns in their portfolios. On the geopolitical front, tensions are high in a number of hot spots including Venezuela, Iraq, Iran and Western Africa, however no actual production has been lost to the market as of yet. All this has added up to choppy sideways trade between \$90 and \$100 since January with no indication that prices are ready to break out of this range either to the upside or downside.



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.

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