

# Weekly Crude Price Report - For the Week Ending May 28, 2008

Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	May 14 - May 20 Average	Current Week					May 21 - May 28 Average	May Month-to-Date	2008 Year-to-Date
		21-May	22-May	23-May	27-May	28-May			
- West Texas Intermediate	126.21	132.99	130.04	131.58	128.81	131.00	130.88	125.23	106.16
- Brent Crude	122.65	127.28	129.04	129.72	128.92	128.93	128.78	122.19	104.22

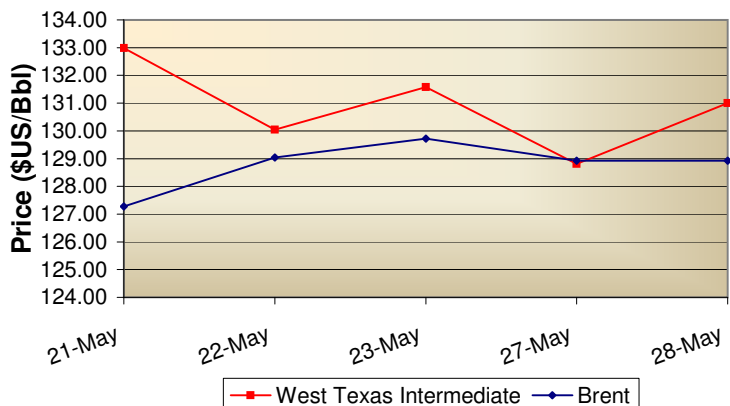
## COMMENTARY:

► For the May 21 - May 28 period, the average price for West Texas Intermediate was higher by \$4.68 week-over-week, at \$130.88. Brent prices gained \$6.13 week-over-week, averaging \$128.78.

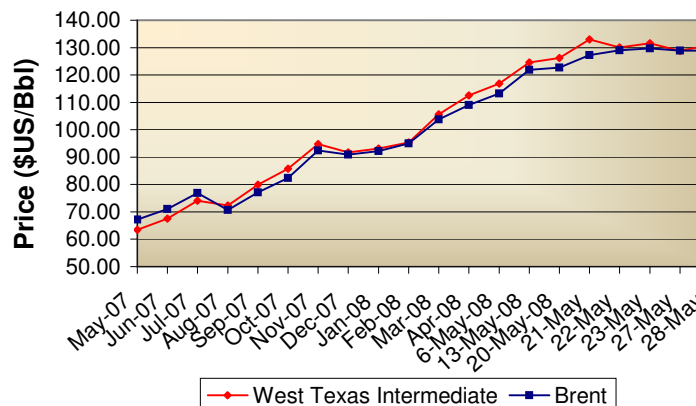
► US Crude stocks decreased by 8.88 million bbls this week. At the same time, days of crude supply decreased by 0.8 to 20.7 days of supply. Gasoline and distillate stocks decreased by 1.62 million bbls.

► WTI and Brent averages were higher again this week, although the daily trading was a volatile with substantial up and down swings throughout the week. US crude inventories turned in a very surprising 8.88 million bbl decline, causing crude futures this afternoon to initially jump sharply higher on fears of inadequate US supply. These concerns seemed to subside to a large extent as analysts and traders digested a rare accompanying explanatory note issued by the EIA with today's data release. It essentially attributed the stock draw to temporary delays in tanker unloadings on the US Gulf Coast caused by recent fog-related port closures. Notwithstanding this issue, while it appears to be a widely held belief that prices have far outpaced anything that can be justified by supply-demand fundamentals, market players still seem unable to decide whether a price correction is imminent or if financial speculators will continue to pour money into futures markets, overpowering the typical supply-demand fundamentals and pushing prices even higher.

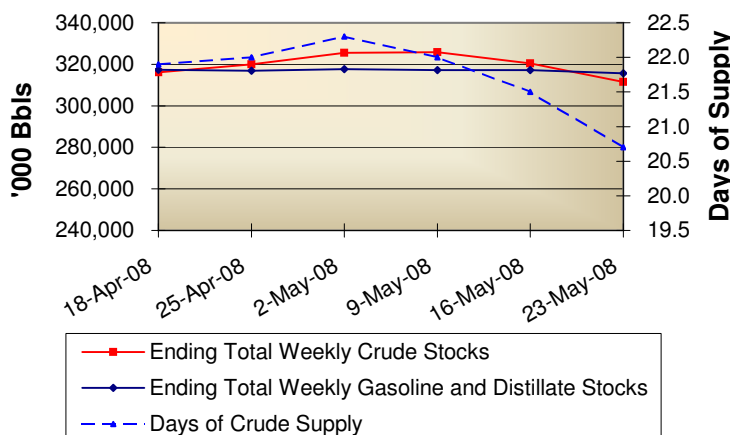
### This Week's Price Action



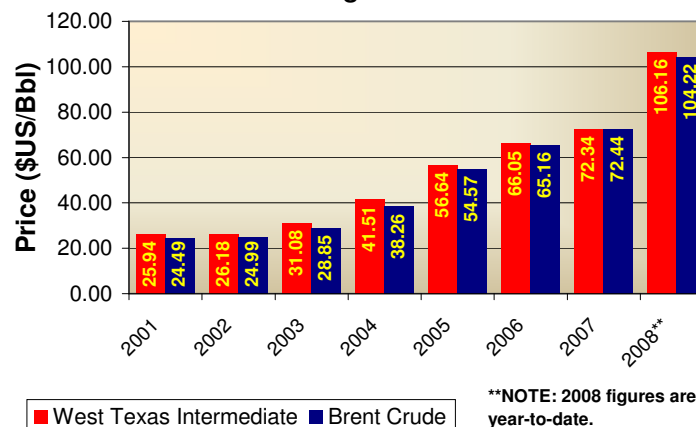
### Price Action Over Most Recent 12 Months



### 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.