

# Weekly Crude Price Report - For the Week Ending September 16, 2008

Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	September 3 - September 9 Average	Current Week					September 10 - September 16 Average	September Month-to-Date	2008 Year to-Date
		10-Sep	11-Sep	12-Sep	15-Sep	16-Sep			
- West Texas Intermediate	106.01	102.66	100.95	101.19	95.52	91.49	98.36	103.17	114.00
- Brent Crude	101.49	96.00	96.01	94.37	90.45	85.85	92.54	97.95	111.92

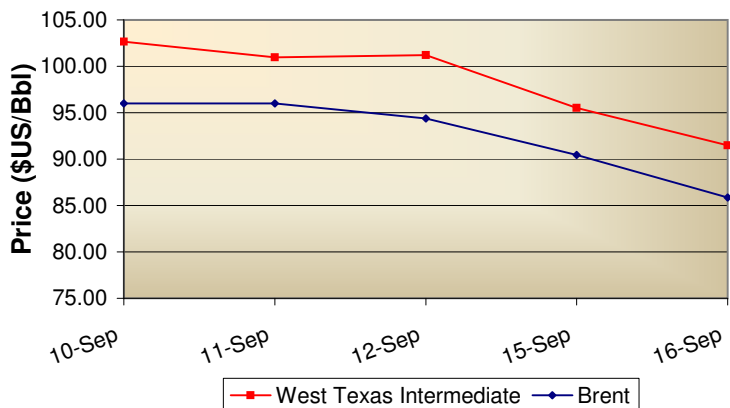
## COMMENTARY:

► For the September 10 - September 16 period, the average price for West Texas Intermediate was lower by \$7.65 week-over-week, at \$98.36. Brent prices lost \$8.95 week-over-week, averaging \$92.54.

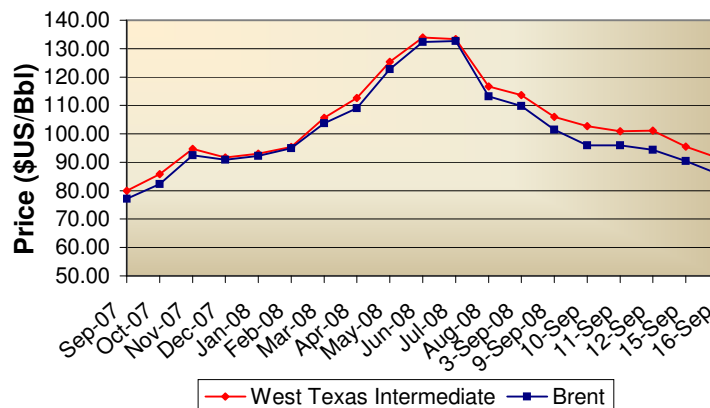
► US Crude stocks decreased by 6.33 million bbls this week. At the same time, days of crude supply was higher by 0.1 at 20.4 days of supply. US gasoline and distillate stocks decreased by 4.14 million bbls.

► Prices were lower this week with WTI now near \$98 and Brent now near \$92. While still elevated by long-term historical standards, this represents a drop of more than \$43 or 31% for WTI (\$47 or 34% for Brent) from highs seen earlier in the summer. Widespread economic turmoil in global financial markets is continuing to play havoc with investors, who have invested more heavily in gold in recent weeks as a safe haven for investment capital. While crude oil markets also saw inflows of investment capital earlier in the year, the same is not happening now and crude prices have continued to slide. The outlook for economic growth in many large economies remains poor, and this is especially true in the US where a number of major financial firms are on the verge of bankruptcy due to exposure to the US subprime mortgage lending crisis. The combination of poor economic growth, recent high prices for gasoline, a strengthening US dollar and other factors have all led to declining demand for crude oil and ultimately lower prices.

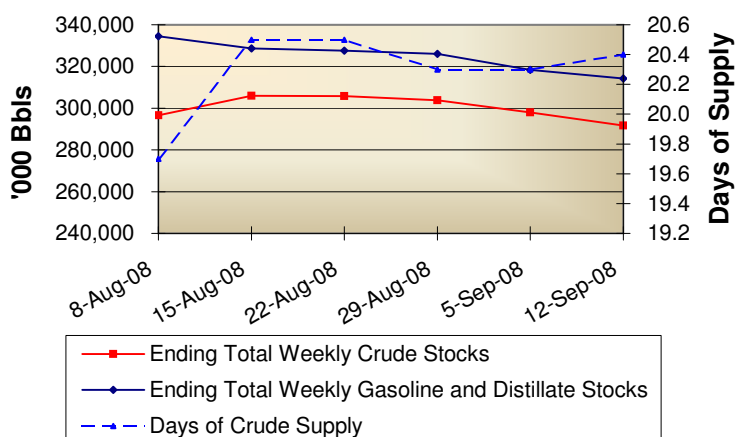
### This Week's Price Action



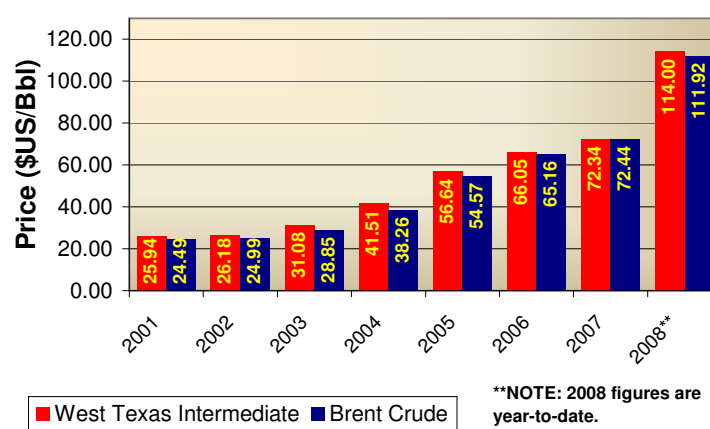
### Price Action Over Most Recent 12 Months



### 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.

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 Energy Branch  
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