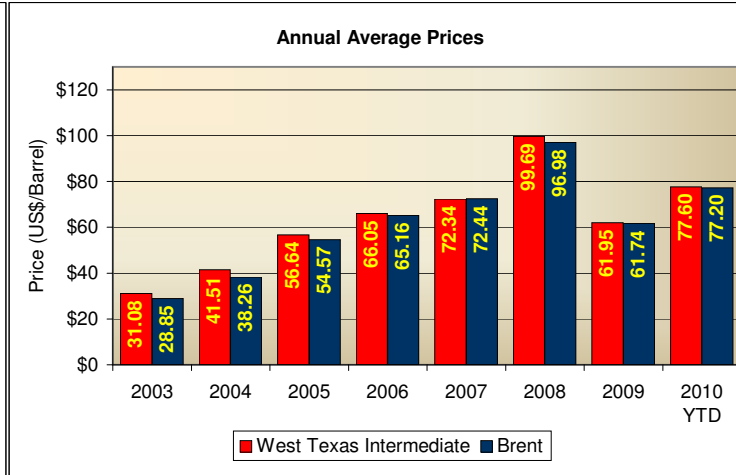
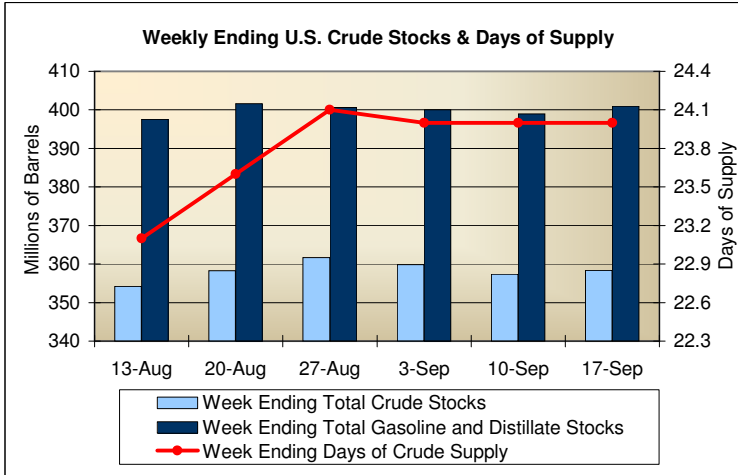
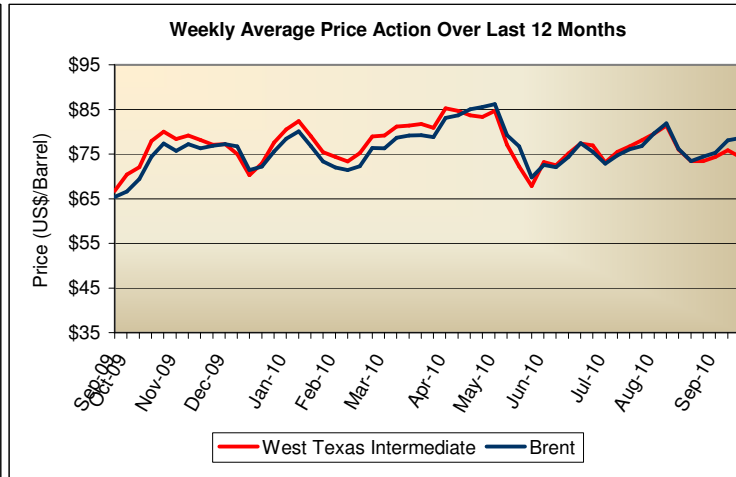
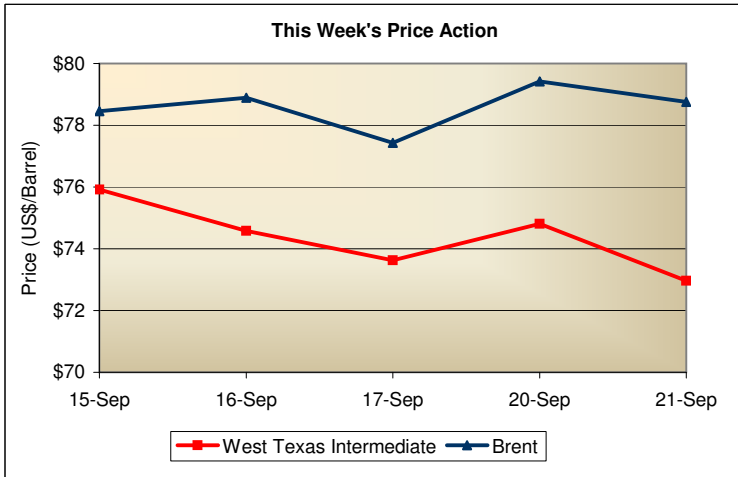


## Crude Price Report - For the Period September 15, 2010 to September 21, 2010

Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	September 8 - September 14 Average	Current Period					September 15 - September 21 Average	September Month-to-Date	2010 Year-to-Date
		15-Sep	16-Sep	17-Sep	20-Sep	21-Sep			
West Texas Intermediate	\$75.85	\$75.92	\$74.58	\$73.63	\$74.81	\$72.96	\$74.38	\$74.90	\$77.60
Brent	\$78.06	\$78.46	\$78.89	\$77.43	\$79.42	\$78.76	\$78.59	\$77.47	\$77.20



### COMMENTARY:

► For the September 15 - September 21 period, the average price for West Texas Intermediate was down by \$1.47 week-over-week, at \$74.38. Brent prices were up by \$0.53 week-over-week, averaging \$78.59.

► WTI began the period at \$75.92, ending lower at \$72.96 on September 21. Brent prices began the period at \$78.46, ending higher at \$78.76 on September 21.

► The average crude prices for 2010 year-to-date for WTI decreased from the previous period with WTI down \$0.09 to \$77.60. Brent increased from the previous period up \$0.04 to \$77.20.

► US crude stocks increased by 0.970 million bbls this period. The days of crude supply remained unchanged from the previous period at 24.0. US gasoline and distillate stocks increased by 1.937 million bbls.

► On September 17, the American Petroleum Institute (API) indicated that U.S. gasoline demand during the peak summer driving season (June through August) was at its lowest since 2008 at 9.22 million barrels per day (mb/d), with summer 2010 gasoline deliveries 0.25% lower than 2009, and 1% higher than 2008. The previous summer low was 8.8 mb/d in 2000. Ultra-low sulfur diesel (used for on-highway driving) demand, which closely mirrors economic activity, was also lower than last year reflecting a slowing economy. August deliveries averaged 2.898 mb/d, down 0.1% from August 2008. Overall, August U.S. petroleum deliveries experienced a year-to-year increase of 0.4%, the smallest this year with the exception of January. According to the API Chief Economist, the lower summer driving demand showed a lack of consumer confidence as fewer Americans took to the road for summer vacations.

► According to Reuters on September 17, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said that Russia will work more closely with the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), although did not specify how Russia would collaborate or whether it plans to attend OPEC's next meeting. OPEC ministers have voiced its frustration with Russia as it has produced at full capacity, while leaving the work of supporting oil prices by reducing output to members of OPEC. Russia sent high-level delegations to attend OPEC meetings as observers when the oil price was crashing to just above \$30 a barrel in late 2008, but has not joined in with production cuts. OPEC's compliance with its output goals has slipped recently, but only after the market rallied to the roughly \$70-\$80 a barrel range its members have said is acceptable for consumers and producers. Given the resilience of the oil price, analysts do not expect OPEC to change its supply policy when it next meets in Vienna on October 14.

### 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 2003 to 2010 are simple averages calculated from daily prices as reported by EIA.