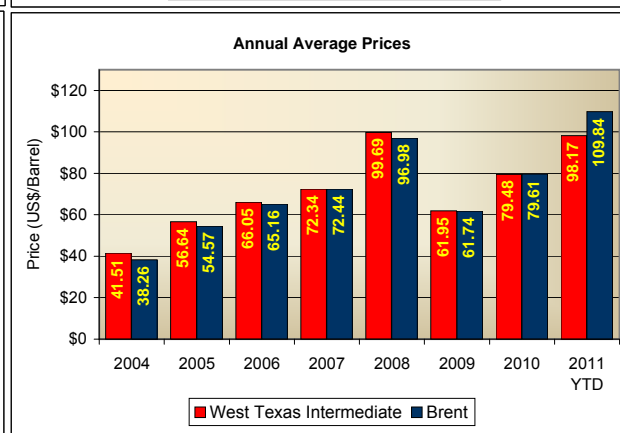
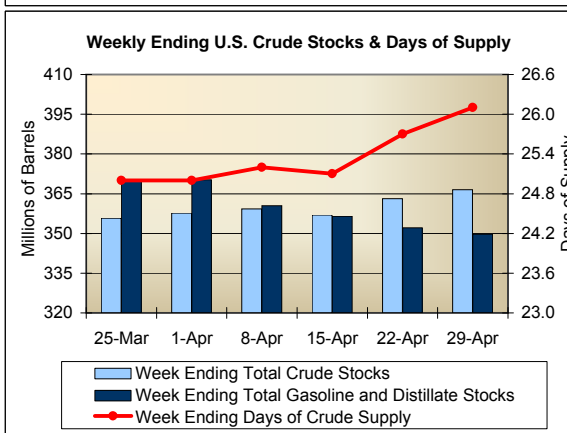
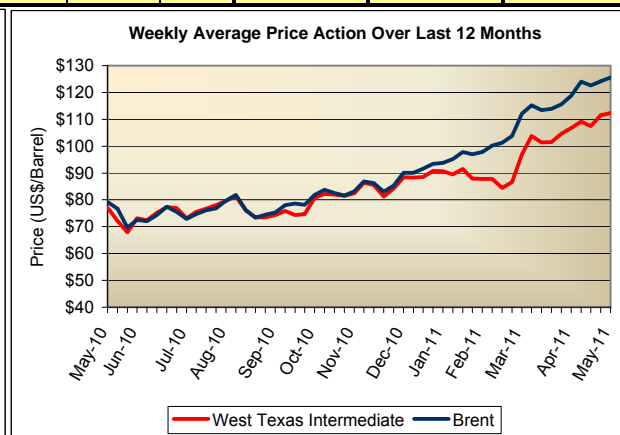
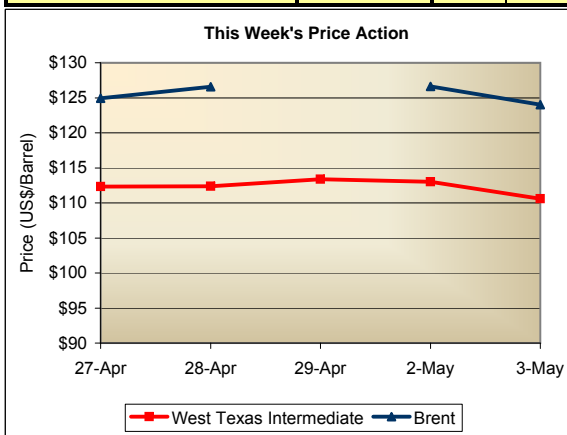


Crude Price Report - For the Period April 27, 2011 to May 3, 2011

Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	April 20- April 26 Average	Current Period					April 27- May 3 Average	May Month-to-Date	2011 Year-to-Date
		27-Apr	28-Apr	29-Apr	2-May	3-May			
West Texas Intermediate	\$111.49	112.31	112.38	113.39	113.03	110.60	\$112.34	\$111.82	\$98.17
Brent	\$124.15	124.94	126.59	N/A	126.64	124.01	\$125.55	\$125.33	\$109.84



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 2004 to 2011 are simple averages calculated from daily prices as reported by EIA.

COMMENTARY:

► For the April 27 - May 3 period, the average price of West Texas Intermediate was up by \$0.85 week-over-week, at \$112.34/bbl. The average price of Brent was up by \$1.40 week-over-week, at \$125.55/bbl. The U.S. Energy Information Administration did not report Brent price data for April 29 due to the observation of the Royal Wedding Bank holiday.

► WTI began the period at \$112.31/bbl and ended lower at \$110.60/bbl on May 3. Brent began the period at \$124.94/bbl and ended lower at \$124.01/bbl on May 3.

► The average crude price for 2011 year-to-date for WTI increased from the previous period up \$0.90 to \$98.17/bbl. Brent increased from the previous period up \$0.80 to \$109.84/bbl.

► U.S. crude oil stocks increased by 3.421 million bbls this period. The days of crude supply increased by 0.4 days to 26.1 days from 25.7 days in the previous period. U.S. gasoline and distillate stocks decreased by 2.444 million bbls.

► On April 30, 2011, Bloomberg reported that President Barack Obama reiterated his call to end billions of dollars in tax breaks for oil companies and instead invest in alternative energy sources. The president said the U.S. should not be granting \$4 billion in tax breaks to oil companies at a time when they are receiving tens of billions of dollars in profit and gasoline prices have risen above \$4 per gallon in much of the country. With the U.S. projected to run deficits of more than \$1 trillion this year and next, Obama has been seeking to protect his initiatives on energy research from calls by Republicans and some Democrats in Congress to cut federal spending. Obama said the government should be spending money on developing new energy sources, such as solar and wind power, and encouraging the development of energy-efficient technologies. Obama's fiscal 2012 budget plan, unveiled on February 14, proposes eliminating oil and gas tax breaks estimated at \$46.2 billion over 10 years. They include \$11.2 billion from the stated percentage depletion deduction for oil and natural gas wells, which benefits small producers. He made a similar proposal the year before that was not acted on by Congress. In the Republican address, Representative James Lankford countered that suspending the tax breaks is the same as raising taxes on energy producers and instead the federal government should focus on encouraging domestic oil production. The Republican representative said Obama's plan would hurt consumers by forcing the price of gasoline higher. Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives, where they hold the majority, plan to move ahead on a package of legislation intended to open more areas of Alaska to oil and gas production and spur production on the U.S. outer continental shelf, including the Gulf of Mexico.

► On May 2, 2011, Reuters reported that Russia produced 10.24 million barrels per day (mmbbls/d) of oil in April, up 0.5% from 10.19 mmbbls/d in March and short of a post-Soviet record of 10.26 mmbbls/d in October 2010. The Russian government is working on a new tax regime to stimulate investments in new Arctic and east Siberian oil and gas deposits as the country targets to keep its oil production steady at approximately 10.1 mmbbls/d during the next decade. Russia has remained the only country to produce more than 10 mmbbls/d of oil as firmer prices stimulated output. In April, Russia exported around 5.59 mmbbls/d of crude oil. Earlier in the month, authorities increased the gasoline export duty by around 44% starting from May to fight a fuel shortage at home as companies preferred to sell gasoline overseas due to capped domestic prices. Gas production stood at 1.91 billion cubic metres per day (bcm/d) in April, down from 1.99 bcm in March, as output at Gazprom fell by 4.5% to 1.47 bcm on the back of seasonal decline in demand. Gazprom expects a substantial rise in its gas exports this year compared with 2010 due to the nuclear crisis in Japan and unrest in the Arab world.