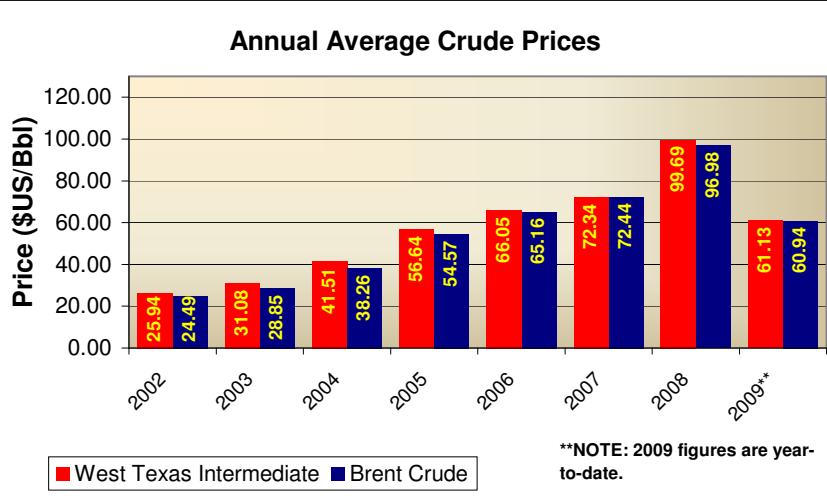
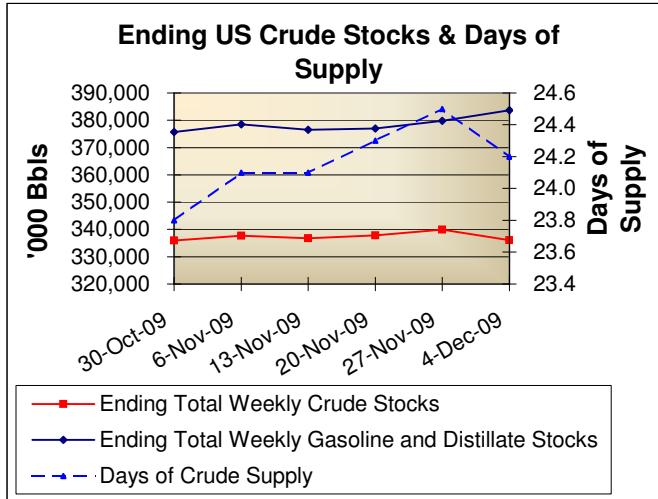
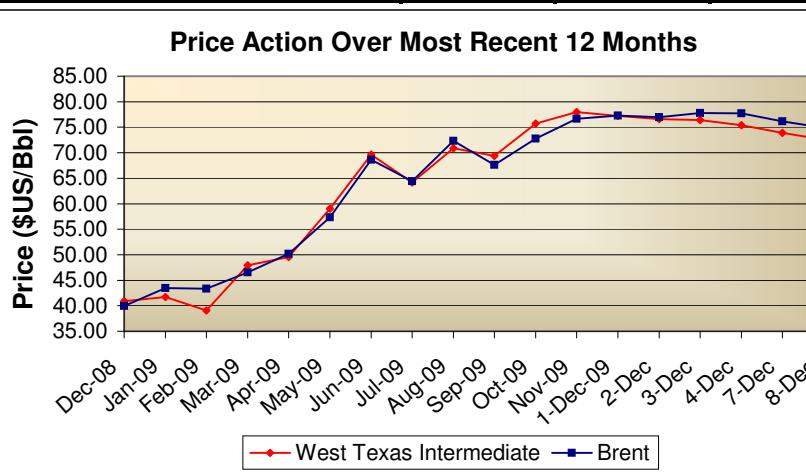
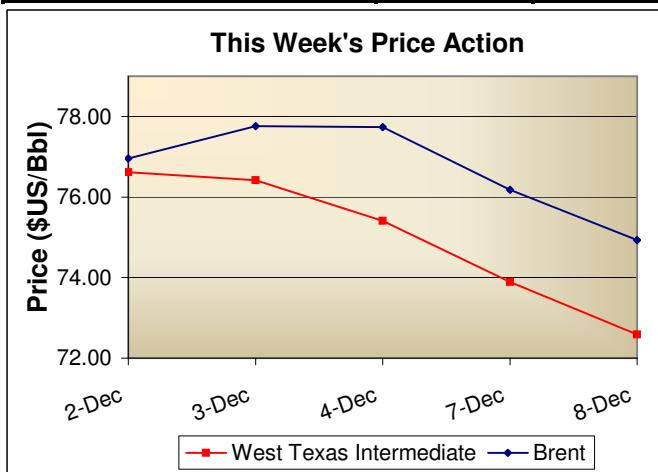


Weekly Crude Price Report - For the Week Ending December 8, 2009

Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	November 25 - December 1 Average	Current Week					December 2 December 8 Average	December Month-to-Date	2009 Year-to-Date
		2-Dec	3-Dec	4-Dec	7-Dec	8-Dec			
- West Texas Intermediate	77.20	76.62	76.42	75.41	73.89	72.59	74.99	75.55	61.13
- Brent Crude	77.26	76.96	77.76	77.74	76.18	74.93	76.71	77.04	60.94



COMMENTARY:

- For the December 2 - December 8 period, the average price for West Texas Intermediate was lower by \$2.21 week-over-week, at \$74.99. Brent prices were lower by \$0.54 week-over-week, averaging \$76.71.
- US crude stocks decreased by 3.823 million bbls this week. At the same time, days of crude supply decreased by 0.3 from the previous week at 24.5 days of supply. US gasoline and distillate stocks increased by 3.872 million bbls.
- On December 8, 2009 the EIA released its Short-Term Energy Outlook. The EIA expects WTI to average around \$76 per barrel through the winter (October '09 to March '10). The forecast for the monthly average WTI price dips to \$75 early next year then rises to \$82 per barrel by December 2010, assuming U.S. and world economic conditions continue to improve. EIA forecasts that world oil consumption will grow in 2010 by 1.1 million bbl/d to 85.2 million bbl/d, down slightly from last month's Outlook. Countries outside of the OECD are expected to account for almost all of this growth. Next Short-Term Energy Outlook released is scheduled for January 12, 2010.

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 2002 to 2009 are simple averages calculated from daily prices as reported by EIA.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
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Energy Branch
Energy Economics Division

