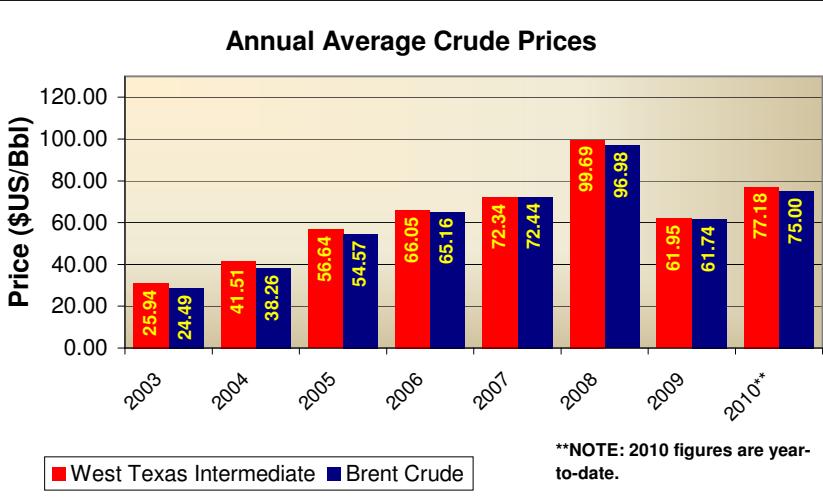
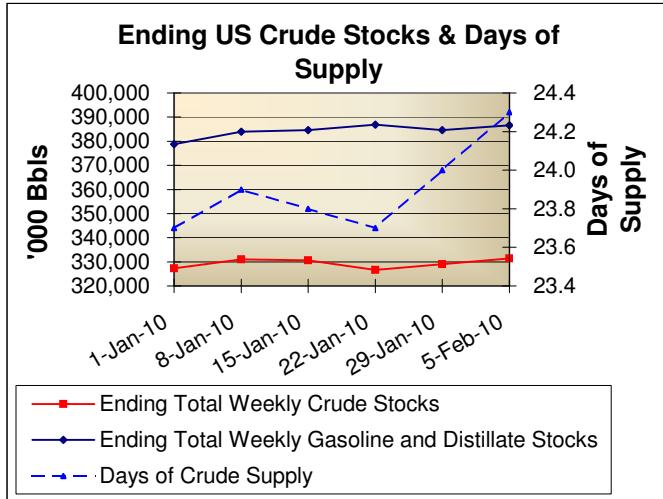
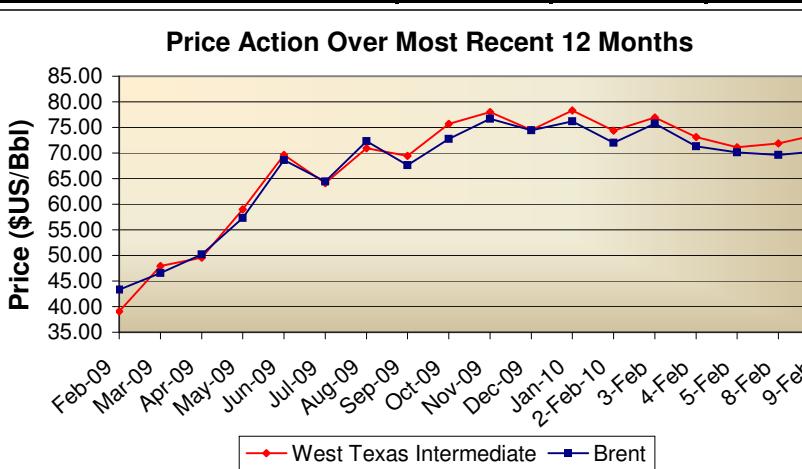
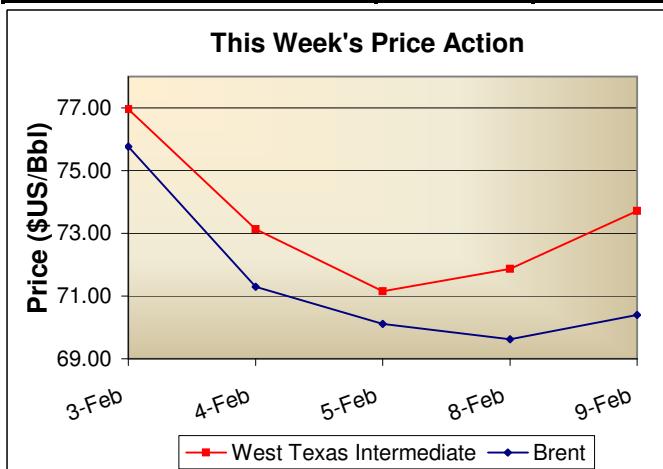


Weekly Crude Price Report - For the Week Ending February 9, 2010

Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	January 27 - February 2 Average	Current Week					February 3 - February 9 Average	February Month-to-Date	2010 Year-to-Date
		3-Feb	4-Feb	5-Feb	8-Feb	9-Feb			
- West Texas Intermediate	74.35	76.96	73.13	71.15	71.87	73.71	73.36	74.06	77.18
- Brent Crude	72.02	75.77	71.30	70.11	69.62	70.40	71.44	71.82	75.00



COMMENTARY:

- For the February 3 - February 9 period, the average price for West Texas Intermediate was lower by \$0.98 week-over-week, at \$73.36. Brent prices were lower by \$0.58 week-over-week, averaging \$71.44.
- WTI began the week at \$76.96 decreasing to \$73.71 by February 9. Brent prices began the week at \$75.77 decreasing to \$70.40 by February 9.
- The average crude prices for 2010 year-to-date decreased from the previous week with WTI down \$0.91 to \$77.18 and Brent down \$0.85 to \$75.00
- US crude stocks increased by 2.424 million bbls this week. At the same time, days of crude supply increased by 0.3 from the previous week at 24.0 days of supply. US gasoline and distillate stocks increased by 1.968 million bbls.
- EIA released its February 2010 Short-Term Energy Outlook. EIA expects the crude oil market to strengthen this spring with WTI averaging of about \$81 per barrel over the second half of 2010 and \$84 per barrel in 2011. Continuation of the production targets set by OPEC and lower overall growth in non-OPEC supply over the 2010-2011 forecast period, would also contribute to a firming of crude oil prices to above \$80 per barrel this summer. EIA expects the world oil market to gradually tighten in 2010 and 2011, as the global economic recovery continues and world oil demand begins to grow again. High commercial inventories among members of the OECD and OPEC surplus production capacity should help dampen any large upward swings in prices. The next EIA Short-Term Energy Outlook is to be released on March 9, 2010
- On February 9, the media reported Kazakhstan halted crude oil supplies to Slovakia and Hungary via the Druzhba pipeline amid a trade dispute with Ukraine, prompting Russian oil firm LUKOIL to intervene. Sources say the development followed a move by Ukraine to scrap a crude transit deal with Kazakhstan for 2010 in retaliation for Kazakhstan suspending crude deliveries via Ukraine's Odessa Black Sea port last year

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

