

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Sunday, July 19, 2026 · As of Jul 18, 2026 19:11 SGT · Sentiment: Bullish

Global crude oil prices surged on Friday, driven by escalating US-Iran hostilities and concerns over Red Sea shipping, while refined products also saw gains. The tanker market, particularly VLCCs, experienced unprecedented strength in both spot rates and secondhand values due to geopolitical risks and tight supply. In the natural gas sector, Henry Hub prices edged higher ahead of storage data, even as multiple LNG projects reached final investment decisions, signaling future...

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	75,000	65,000
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	58,000	52,000

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	35,000	32,000
MR, 37	USG-UKC	28,000	25,000

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	95,000	129.0	138.0
Suezmax, 150	60,000	90.0	98.0

LNG (\$/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	28,000	Firm	50,000
174M3 MEGI (Atlantic)	32,000	Stable	55,000

LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	45,000
VLGC, 44 (USG-Japan)	52,000

BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	769.5	552.0	1,119.5
Rotterdam	755.0	540.0	1,090.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	5,350.20	-15.50
FTSE 100 United Kingdom	7,980.50	-25.30

DEVELOPMENTS

US-Iran Hostilities Escalate, Driving Crude Prices Higher and Threatening Red Sea Shipping

Renewed hostilities between the US and Iran, including reported attacks on Kuwaiti infrastructure and near-paralysis of tanker traffic through the Strait of Hor...

Reuters/Investing.com · Jul 18, 2026

VLCC Tanker Rates and Secondhand Values Soar Amid Geopolitical Tensions and Tight Supply

The VLCC market is experiencing unprecedented strength, with spot charter rates reaching record highs and secondhand vessel prices commanding significant premium...

gCaptain/Seatrade Maritime News · Jul 17, 2026

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	88.10	+3.87
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	84.50	+3.50

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	339.27	+10.80
ULSD Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	315.50	+8.20

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.92	+0.02
TTF (Europe) ICE	EUR/MWh	32.50	+0.80

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	375.76	+19.80
US Mont Belvieu Ethane NYMEX	\$/gal	0.35	+0.01

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	19.32	-0.10
Gasoil/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	25.80	+0.15

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	78.50	78.60
California Carbon Allowances (Spot)	USD/ton	38.20	38.30

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.14	0.00
\$/JPY	157.20	+0.15

Multiple LNG Projects Reach Final Investment Decisions, Boosting Future Supply Outlook

Several liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects, including Delfin LNG's first floating facility in the US, Texas LNG Brownsville, and Shell's regasification termin...

LNG Prime/Offshore-energy.biz · Jul 15, 2026

Henry Hub Natural Gas Prices Edge Up Ahead of Storage Data, Despite Mild Weather Forecasts

US Henry Hub natural gas prices saw a modest increase on Friday, trading at \$2.924/MMBtu for the August contract, ahead of fresh storage data. This rise comes d...

YCharts/CME Group · Jul 18, 2026