ASIAN OIL GROUP

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Thursday, April 9, 2026 · As of Apr 9, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Global energy markets on April 9, 2026, were marked by elevated crude oil prices, nearing $97/bbl, driven by persistent geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and concerns over the Strait of Hormuz. Despite these oil price surges, US equity markets showed resilience, with major indices closing higher amid optimism surrounding a potential ceasefire in the region. Tanker freight rates remained exceptionally high due to the ongoing disruptions.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	90,000	70,000
Suezmax, 160	WAF-UKC	65,000	55,000
Aframax, 100	Carib-USGC	48,000	42,000

CLEAN TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	21,000	25,000
MR, 37	TC2 (UKC-USAC)	28,000	31,000

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	105,000	124.8	112.0
Suezmax, 150+	70,000	90.0	85.0

LNG ($/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	13,000	Flat	30,231
174M3 TFDE (West)	15,000	Stable	35,000

LPG ($/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	35,000
VLGC, 44 (USGC-Japan)	42,000

BUNKERS ($/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	520.0	435.0	600.0
Rotterdam	510.0	425.0	590.0

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	$/bbl	96.96	+2.55
WTI NYMEX	$/bbl	96.82	+1.99

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	290.00	+5.00
ULSD Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	280.00	+4.00

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	$/MMBtu	2.70	-0.08
TTF (Europe) ICE	EUR/MWh	45.00	-1.20

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	$/mt	380.00	+1.50
US Mont Belvieu Ethane NYMEX	c/gal	30.00	+0.50

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	$/bbl	25.50	+0.20
ULSD/Brent Crack Spread	$/bbl	28.00	+0.10

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	69.34	69.36
California Carbon Allowances (Spot)	$/ton	35.50	35.60

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	6,824.66	+41.85
Dow Jones Industrial Average United States	48,185.80	+275.88
Nasdaq Composite United States	22,822.42	+187.42

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/$	1.17	-0.01
USD/JPY	158.90	+0.10
GBP/$	1.34	0.00

DEVELOPMENTS

Crude prices climb back towards $97 as Strait of Hormuz remains under pressure

Oil prices rebounded towards $97 a barrel on April 9, 2026, with Brent crude up 2.7%, as geopolitical tensions in the Middle East continued to keep markets on e...

The Times of India · Apr 9, 2026

How major US stock indexes fared Thursday 4/9/2026

US stocks rose on April 9, 2026, with the S&P 500 gaining 0.6% to 6,824.66, as financial markets showed modest gains after a day of surging optimism about a cea...

AP News · Apr 9, 2026

Historic shockwaves through the VLCC market

The VLCC market experienced historic volatility in early 2026, with freight rates surging to unprecedented levels due to the effective closure of the Strait of...

Pioneers of Large Tanker Pooling · Apr 9, 2026

Natural gas prices weekly update – JKM, TTF and Henry Hub (13 April 2026)

Natural gas prices for JKM, TTF, and Henry Hub generally fell during the week of April 6-10, 2026, amid easing supply-demand pressure and warmer weather, despit...

NGI · Apr 13, 2026

Tanker Markets – Key Highlights | April 2026

The tanker freight market in April 2026 continued to experience extreme volatility driven by geopolitical risks, with 1-year VLCC time charter rates reaching $1...

Horizon Offshore Services · Apr 2026

New Golden Pass Cargo Marks Next Phase of U.S. LNG Growth

LNG feedgas demand remained near record levels in April 2026, supported by strong global demand and expanding U.S. export capacity, with preliminary data sugges...

American Gas Association · Apr 30, 2026

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