



Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Monday, July 20, 2026 · As of Jul 20, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Global energy markets saw a significant surge in crude oil prices on Monday, driven by escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and disruptions to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. This bullish sentiment for crude was somewhat tempered by a slight pullback later in the day as peace talks emerged, while major equity markets experienced declines.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS			
DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	45,000	40,000
CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	20,500	26,400
TIME CHARTER (KDWT)			
Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	49,000	129.0	112.0
LNG (\$/DAY)			
Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	13,000	Flat	30,231
LPG (\$/DAY)			
VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)			34,643
BUNKERS (\$/MT)			
Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	765.0	552.0	1,300.3

COMMODITIES & MARKETS			
EQUITIES			
Index	Last	Chg	
S&P 500 United States	7,443.28	-14.41	

ENERGY PRICES			
CRUDE			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	90.79	+2.69
PRODUCTS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	338.90	-0.37
NATURAL GAS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.92	-0.05
NGL			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	388.43	-1.05
PRICE SPREADS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	51.55	-2.85
CARBON MARKET DAILY			
Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	79.50	79.55
CURRENCIES			
Pair	Last	Chg	
EUR/\$	1.11	-0.01	

DEVELOPMENTS	
Oil prices surge as US and Iran exchange attacks, disrupting Strait of Hormuz shipments Brent crude futures jumped over 3% to \$90.79 a barrel on Monday, driven by intensified military actions in the Middle East and concerns over energy shipments th... The Economic Times / LiquidityFinder · Jul 20, 2026	Crude oil futures fluctuate amid rising tensions and negotiation hopes After an initial surge, crude oil futures experienced a pullback as Iran's Foreign Ministry indicated a willingness to negotiate with the U.S., with mediators p... GuruFocus · Jul 20, 2026
EU unveils major carbon market overhaul to keep industry competitive and net zero on track The European Commission proposed significant reforms to the EU Emissions Trading System, aiming to strengthen climate protection while providing flexibility for... CarbonCredits.com / advantag.de · Jul 20, 2026	Five-year-old VLCC fetches \$112m, highlighting strong secondhand tanker market A five-year-old VLCC was sold for approximately \$112 million to Greek interests, reflecting the active secondhand tanker market and tightening availability of m... Splash247 · Jan 28, 2026
S&P 500 falls as AI stocks trim losses and rising bond yields pressure broad market The S&P 500 declined 0.2% on Monday, with Wall Street drifting through a quiet trading day as AI stocks pared some recent gains and higher bond yields weighed 0... Associated Press / Morningstar · Jul 20, 2026	Natural gas futures fall on Monday despite varied regional weather The August NYMEX natural gas futures contract fell 5.1 cents on Monday, influenced by varied weather conditions, a hit to LNG volumes, and robust supply. NGI · Jul 20, 2026
China's crude oil imports fall sharply, signaling softer domestic demand Crude oil imports into China dropped to their lowest level in nearly a decade, suggesting refiners are cautious about inventory accumulation amid geopolitical d... Sirius Wealth Management · Jul 20, 2026	