

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Wednesday, July 22, 2026 · As of Jul 22, 2026 10:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Global crude oil markets surged today as escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, particularly renewed US strikes against Iran and Houthi threats to shipping, fueled significant supply disruption fears. Equity markets saw a rebound, while major currencies experienced mixed movements. Tanker newbuilding orders continue at a record pace, reflecting strong investor confidence despite rising asset values.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	41,000	39,900
Suezmax, 140	WAF-UKC	30,500	29,900
Aframax, 80	Cross-Med	22,300	22,000

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	20,700	26,600
MR, 37	TC2	18,600	19,300

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	50,000	132.5	172.0

LNG (\$/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	14,000	Firm	30,500
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (West)	13,000	Firm	30,000

LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	35,000
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BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	515.0	430.0	590.0
Rotterdam	510.0	425.0	585.0
Fujairah	517.0	432.0	592.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,509.20	+65.92
Dow Jones Industrial Average United States	52,225.00	+385.74
FTSE 100 United Kingdom	10,585.91	+61.15

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	95.16	+4.60
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	88.18	+4.56

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	216.17	+2.50
Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	207.00	+2.00
Gasoil ICE	\$/mt	610.00	+10.00

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.87	+0.07
TTF ICE	EUR/MWh	35.50	+0.60

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	385.00	+2.50
US Mont Belvieu Ethane NYMEX	\$/gal	0.29	+0.01

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	24.00	+0.81
Gasoil/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	28.50	+1.00

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	70.00	70.05

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.14	+0.00
\$/JPY	163.11	-0.08
GBP/\$	1.34	+0.00

DEVELOPMENTS

Oil Price Touches \$95 as US-Iran Conflict Escalates; UK Inflation Cools Faster Than Expected

Brent crude surged to \$95.16/bbl, its highest in six weeks, as US military strikes against Iran continued for the eleventh night and Iran-backed Houthis threate...

NDTV Profit / The Guardian · Jul 22, 2026

WTI Crude Rises on Shipping Risks, Hits Ceiling Amid Middle East Tensions

West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude traded around \$84.90/bbl in early European dealings, advancing due to escalating instability in the Middle East and disrupti...

TradingPedia · Jul 22, 2026

Brent Crude Surges as Ceasefire Hopes Fade Again Amid US-Iran Strikes

The front-month ICE Brent contract gained over \$5/bbl, trading at \$94.29/bbl, as hopes for a temporary US-Iran ceasefire diminished after President Trump ruled...

engine.online · Jul 22, 2026

Tankers Loaded with Saudi Oil Do U-Turn After Houthi Blockade Threats, Ukrainian Attacks Snarl Pipeline Operations

Geopolitical risks are intensifying with reports of Saudi oil tankers reversing course in the Red Sea following Houthi blockade threats, while Ukrainian attacks...

Morningstar · Jul 21, 2026

VLCC Newbuilding Orders on Course for Record-Breaking Year

Shipowners placed orders for 183 VLCCs in the first half of 2026, a tenfold increase from the previous year, driven by growing investor confidence, rising asset...

Riviera Maritime Media / Ocean Economist · Jul 08, 2026

US Stock Markets Rebound as Chip Stocks Lead Gains Ahead of Tech Earnings

US equities closed higher on Tuesday, with the S&P 500 rising 0.89% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average adding 0.74%, as chip stocks staged a strong recovery a...

TheStreet / Morningstar · Jul 21, 2026