



Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 · As of May 13, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bearish

Global energy markets on May 13, 2026, were characterized by persistent geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, leading to significant supply disruptions and elevated crude oil prices. Despite a forecast for contracting world oil demand, refining margins remained strong, particularly for middle distillates. Shipping markets saw surging secondhand tanker prices due to a scramble for prompt tonnage, while container rates also climbed amidst tightening capacity and early peak...

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	120,000	80,000
Suezmax, 150	WAF-UKC	70,000	55,000
Aframax, 100	Carib-USGC	50,000	40,000

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	35,000	30,000
MR, 37	TC2 (UKC-USAC)	28,000	25,000

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	47,763	129.0	138.0
Suezmax, 150	35,000	88.0	88.0

LNG (\$/DAY)

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

LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	34,643
VLGC, 84 (USGC-Japan)	45,000

BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	700.0	600.0	800.0
Rotterdam	680.0	580.0	780.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,444.25	+43.29
Dow Jones Industrial Average United States	49,693.20	-67.36

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	115.00	+1.50
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	105.00	+1.20

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	320.00	+3.50
Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	350.00	+0.05

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	3.22	+0.08

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	439.04	-14.70

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	35.00	+0.50
Gasoil/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	40.00	+0.75

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	76.50	76.55

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.17	0.00
USD/JPY	155.00	+0.20

DEVELOPMENTS

IEA May 2026 Oil Market Report Forecasts Demand Contraction Amid Supply Pressures

The International Energy Agency's May 2026 report projected a contraction in world oil demand for the year, revising forecasts downwards due to higher prices, a...
IEA · May 13, 2026

Middle East Tensions Drive VLCC Secondhand Prices Above Newbuild Costs

Geopolitical risks in the Middle East, including the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz, have led to a surge in secondhand VLCC prices, with 5-year-old v...
iMarine / Seatrade Maritime News · May 09, 2026

US Inflation Jumps Higher Than Expected, Fueling Market Concerns

US stock markets reacted to hotter-than-expected inflation data, with the headline consumer price index (CPI) and wholesale inflation (PPI) showing significant...
Zacks Investment Research / AP News · May 13, 2026

European Commission Publishes Draft CBAM Carbon Price Legislation

The European Commission released draft implementing legislation for its Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) on May 13, 2026, outlining rules for recognizi...
Fastmarkets · May 19, 2026

Container Shipping Market Tightens with Rising Rates and Capacity Constraints

The global ocean freight market is experiencing tightening capacity and rising spot rates, particularly on Asia-Europe and Transpacific trades, driven by early...
Bertling Group / SeaVantage · May 12, 2026

Navios Maritime Partners Orders New VLCCs with Long-Term Charters

Navios Maritime Partners announced an order for up to eight new Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs) in May 2026, with the first batch of four vessels secured unde...
iMarine · May 25, 2026