

## Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 · As of May 19, 2026 09:30 ET · Sentiment: Neutral

Crude oil prices dipped on May 19, 2026, following news of a called-off US strike on Iran, easing immediate geopolitical tensions. However, natural gas prices saw an uptick, and tanker freight rates remained elevated, reflecting persistent supply concerns and strong demand in other segments. U.S. equities continued their downward trend.

### SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

#### DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	60,000	58,000
Suezmax, 130	WAFR-UKC	45,000	42,000

#### CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	19,000	22,000
MR, 37	ARA-USAC	15,600	18,000

#### TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	65,000	130.0	139.0
Suezmax, 150+	48,000	85.0	85.0

#### LNG (\$/DAY)

Type	Spot Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	100,000 Firm	70,000
174M3 TFDE (Atlantic)	90,000 Firm	65,000

#### LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	35,000
VLGC, 44 (USGC-Japan)	60,000

#### BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	750.0	650.0	850.0
Rotterdam	760.0	660.0	860.0

### COMMODITIES & MARKETS

#### EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,353.61	-49.44
Dow Jones Industrial Average United States	49,363.88	-322.24

### ENERGY PRICES

#### CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	109.15	-2.35
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	107.28	-1.38

#### PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	364.24	-9.87
Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	350.50	-7.50

#### NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	3.11	+0.03

#### NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	465.98	-0.99

#### PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	59.50	-2.00
WTI/Brent Spread	\$/bbl	-1.87	+0.97

### CARBON MARKET DAILY

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

### CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.16	-0.01
JPY/\$	155.20	+0.30

### DEVELOPMENTS

#### Oil Prices On May 19: Brent Crude Dips Below \$110 As Trump Calls Off Planned Strike On Iran

Oil prices declined after US President Donald Trump announced he had called off a planned military strike on Iran, fostering hopes for de-escalation and potenti...

NDTV Profit · May 19, 2026

#### Stock Market Today (May 19, 2026): S&P 500 falls for third consecutive day as Treasuries take off

U.S. equities continued their decline, with the S&P 500 falling for the third straight day, as rising U.S. Treasury yields and inflation fears weighed on the ma...

TheStreet / Associated Press · May 19, 2026

#### Henry Hub natural gas prompt month rose to \$3.11 per MMBtu on May 19, highest price since mid-March

Henry Hub natural gas futures saw a notable increase, with the prompt month reaching \$3.11/MMBtu, marking its highest level since mid-March amid sustained produ...

EIA (via DeGolyer & MacNaughton) · May 19, 2026

#### Tanker Earnings Remain Elevated in Late May Amid Hormuz Disruption

Average tanker earnings stood at \$60,791/day in late-May, remaining elevated despite some easing, as transits through the Strait of Hormuz remained very limited...

Clarksons Research (via Shipping Intelligence Network) · May 19, 2026

#### Middle East tensions have Asian gas buyers looking to Australia

Geopolitical tensions in the Middle East are prompting Asian gas buyers to seek alternative supplies, with increased interest directed towards Australia, impact...

Reuters (via LNG Global) · May 19, 2026

#### US-Israeli war on Iran disrupts global LNG market forecasts, driving up prices

The ongoing US-Israeli conflict with Iran has significantly disrupted global LNG market forecasts, leading to increased prices, damage to export facilities in Q...

Reuters (via Maaal) · May 19, 2026