

MarketWatch | Refined Products

Thursday, March 13, 2025

Market Commentary

Recap: The oil market rallied higher Wednesday as it continued to retrace some of its recent sell off. The market, which posted a low of \$66.15 in overnight trading, found some support on the dollar's recent weakness. The crude market found some support from a lower than expected U.S. inflation reading, with the CPI increasing by 0.2% in February. The market was further supported by the EIA's weekly petroleum stocks report, which showed a larger than expected draw in gasoline stocks of over 5.7 million barrels on the week. The oil market rallied to a high of \$67.88 before it retraced some of its gains and traded sideways ahead of the close. The April WTI contract settled up at \$1.43 at \$67.68 and the May Brent contract settled up \$1.39 at \$70.95. The product markets ended the session higher, led by the RB market, which settled up 4.51 cents at \$2.1501, while the heating oil market settled up 95 points at \$2.2063.

Technical Analysis: The crude market is seen remaining in its sideways trading range as the market weighs the EIA's weekly petroleum stocks report and the latest CPI report, which showed lower inflation, against the concerns over global economic growth and oil demand amid the chaotic rollout of tariffs by the Trump administration. The market is seen finding resistance at its high of \$67.88-\$67.91, \$68.22, \$68.56 and \$70.60. Meanwhile, support is seen at \$66.15, \$65.29, \$65.22 followed by \$63.95 and \$63.61.

Fundamental News: OPEC kept its forecast for relatively strong growth in global oil demand in 2025, saying air and road travel would support consumption, and reported that Kazahkstan led an increase in February OPEC+ output despite an ongoing production pact. In its monthly report, OPEC said world oil demand will increase by 1.45 million bpd in 2025 and by 1.43 million bpd in 2026. Both forecasts were unchanged from last month. OPEC also reported that OPEC+ crude output averaged 41.01 million bpd in February, up 363,000 bpd on the month, led by an increase in Kazakhstan which is lagging in its adherence to OPEC+ output quotas. Kazakhstan contributed more than a half of overall OPEC+ oil production increase in February.

U.S. President Donald Trump's increased tariffs on all U.S. steel and aluminum imports took effect on Wednesday, U.S. Commerce Secretary, Howard Lutnick, said nothing would stop President Donald Trump's expanded 25% tariffs on steel and aluminum until U.S. domestic production is strengthened and that President Trump will add copper to his trade protections. The European Commission responded swiftly, saying it would impose counter tariffs on 26 billion euros or \$28 billion worth of U.S. goods starting next month. China's Foreign Ministry said Beijing would take all necessary measures to safeguard its rights and interests, while Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary, Yoshimasa Hayashi, said the move could have a major impact on U.S.-Japan economic ties. Meanwhile, close allies Canada, Britain and Australia criticized the blanket tariffs, with Canada stating it will announce C\$29.8 billion in retaliatory tariffs on the United States. Britain's Trade Minister, Jonathan Reynolds, said "all options were on the table" to respond in the national interest, while Australia's Prime Minister, Antony Albanese, said the move was "against the spirit of our two nations' enduring friendship" but ruled out tit for-tat duties. Mexico's President Claudia Sheinbaum said her government will not immediately retaliate to new 25% tariffs and instead will wait for a possible resolution in the coming weeks.

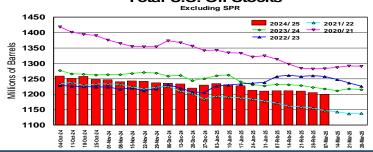
Kazakhstan's Energy Ministry said Kazakhstan will quickly adjust its oil output in order to get back in line with its OPEC+ quota after exceeding the limit in February. It reiterated Kazakhstan's full commitment to its agreement with OPEC+.

IIR Energy said U.S. oil refiners are expected to shut in about 711,000 bpd of capacity in the week ending March 14th, increasing available refining capacity by 330,000 bpd.

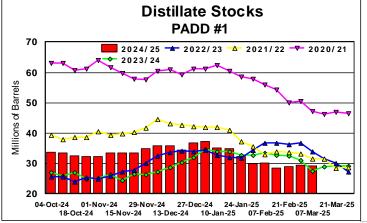
Early Market Call - as of 8:25 AM EDT WTI - Apr \$67.35, down 33 cents RBOB - Apr \$2.1507, up 6 points HO - Apr \$2.1976, down 87 points

		ULSD (HO)	Prior Settle	Change In	
		Close	Change	One Week	
Apr-25		2.2063	0.0095	-0.0345	
May-25		2.1788	0.0177	-0.0056	
Jun-25		2.1551	0.0245	0.0085	
Jul-25		2.1484	0.0272	0.0156	
Aug-25		2.1487	0.0281	0.0186	
Sep-25		2.1565	0.0275	0.0167	
Oct-25		2.1645	0.0269	0.0139	
Nov-25		2.1674	0.0265	0.0114	
Dec-25		2.1661	0.0262	0.0090	
Jan-26		2.1676	0.0261	0.0072	
Feb-26		2.1633	0.0257	0.0062	
Mar-26		2.1524	0.0250	0.0057	
Apr-26		2.1362	0.0243	0.0054	
May-26		2.1283	0.0234	0.0046	
Jun-26		2.1231	0.0219	0.0037	
Jul-26		2.1262	0.0215	0.0041	
Aug-26		2.1299	0.0215	0.0045	
Sprague HeatCurve October 2025-April 2026 \$2.1612					
Close					
Crude - WTI	May Brent-	\$67.380	DC	\$1.4500	
Crude - Brent	WTI Spread	\$70.9500 \$1.3			
Natural Cas	\$2.57	¢4.004/	`	¢0.0000	





Weekly EIA Petroleum Status Report for the Week Ending February 28, 2025



Overall U.S. Stats

Crude Oil Stocks(excluding SPR) Up 3.614 million barrels Cushing, OK Crude Stocks Up 1.124 million barrels Gasoline Stocks Down 1.433 million barrels Distillate Stocks Down 1.318 million barrels Refinery % Operated 85.9%, down 0.6%

	PADD #1				
Distillate Stocks	Week Ending	Week Ending	Week Ending		
(in million bbl)	Feb. 28, 2025	Feb. 21, 2024	Feb. 23, 2024		
New England	4.0	4.3	4.8		
Central Atlantic	14.9	13.6	16.1		
Total PADD #1	29.4	28.8	31.1		
Distillate Imports					
(thousands b/d)	245	342	162		
Total PADD #1 Distillate Imports	29.4	28.8	31.1		

This market update is provided for information purposes only and is not intended as advice on any transaction nor is it a solicitation to buy or sell commodities. Sprague makes no representations or warranties with respect to the contents of such news, including, without limitation, its accuracy and completeness, and Sprague shall not be responsible for the consequence or reliance upon any opinions, statements, projections and analyses presented herein or for any omission or error in fact.

All NYMEX | Prior Settlements