MarketWatch | Refined Products

Wednesday, November 25, 2026

Market Commentary

Recap: The crude market on Tuesday continued to trend lower and ended the session lower amid signs of increasing supply, while the market also seemed to price out some near term geopolitical risk despite the continuing strikes against tankers traveling through the Strait of Hormuz. According to tanker data and industry insiders, China and India were on track for record Russian oil imports this year, plugging a supply gap caused by the Iran war. The oil market sold off to a low of $79.07 in overnight trading before it retraced its previous losses. The market extended its gains to $1.96 as it posted a high of $82.13 ahead of the close. The January WTI contract settled up $1.88 at $82.05 and the January Brent contract settled up $2.03 at $91.40. The product markets ended the session in positive territory, with the heating oil market settling up 38 points at $3.7030 and the RB market settling up 4.89 cents at $2.4543.

Technical Analysis: The oil market on Wednesday will likely trend sideways as traders square positions ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. The market will continue to weigh the signs of increasing supply against the risks to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz and the conflict between Saudi Arabia and the Houthis. The crude market is seen finding support at $79.07, $78.80 to $78.34, $77.31, $76.45 and $75.92. Meanwhile, resistance is seen at $82.13, $83.95, $84.07, $84.77, $85.97, $88.21 and $88.49.

Fundamental News: Iran's Revolutionary Guards navy said three "violating" oil tankers caught fire after hitting naval mines in the Strait of Hormuz on Monday. The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations said three vessels were struck by unidentified projectiles on Monday as they sailed east through the Strait of Hormuz. It said all three vessels continued their journeys and all crew members were accounted for.

Bloomberg reported that the oil markets are back to focusing on an oversupply, with the IEA earlier this month projecting a 2 million bpd surplus for this quarter. Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase and other firms have followed suit. Persian Gulf producers are exporting crude near prewar levels, not just via tankers but also by pipeline. Also, production from U.S. shale fields, as well as from Canada and Latin America, has also increased this year to help fill the supply gap. Meanwhile, global oil demand has declined because of the war -driven price spike and is set to fall more than 2% this year, according to the IEA. Bloomberg noted that while flows have increased, inventories remain severely depleted.

According to sources, Iraq is urging OPEC+ to increase its estimate of the country's crude oil production capacity, raising tensions over a review that will help determine how much group members are allowed to pump next year. The review, the first ever by OPEC, aims to independently assess how much oil each member can produce and help the group set production targets for 2027. Iraq is dissatisfied with preliminary findings of the review. The review assessed Iraq's production capacity at 4.9 million bpd. OPEC+ is scheduled to hold a meeting on November 29th and is expected to decide on its 2027 output policy.

A spokesperson for Norway's Equinor said that production at the Johan Castberg oilfield in the Barents Sea had been temporarily reduced to a minimum level due to an issue with the hose reel in the offloading system.

According to tanker data and industry sources, China and India are on track for record Russian oil imports this year, offsetting a supply gap caused by the Iran war. Vortexa Analytics said seaborne Russian oil supplies to the world's two most populous countries averaged 3.4 million bpd this year through mid-November, up about 530,000 bpd from a year earlier.

Early Market Call - as of 8:30 AM EDT

WTI - Jan $82.48, up 42 cents

RBOB - Dec $2.4466, down 76 points

HO - Dec $3.6799, down 1.89 cents

All NYMEX | Prior Settlements

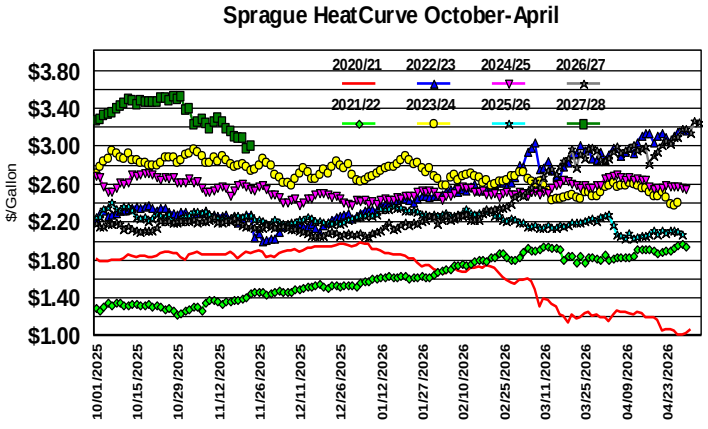
	ULSD (HO) Close	Prior Settle Change	Change In One Week
Dec-26	$3.7030	$0.0055	-$0.3445
Jan-27	$3.6588	$0.0142	-$0.3070
Feb-27	$3.6165	$0.0170	-$0.2784
Mar-27	$3.5499	$0.0192	-$0.2586
Apr-27	$3.4643	$0.0219	-$0.2418
May-27	$3.3873	$0.0231	-$0.2262
Jun-27	$3.3190	$0.0247	-$0.2100
Jul-27	$3.2751	$0.0253	-$0.1984
Aug-27	$3.2378	$0.0252	-$0.1888
Sep-27	$3.2065	$0.0239	-$0.1817
Oct-27	$3.1759	$0.0231	-$0.1753
Nov-27	$3.1322	$0.0233	-$0.1700
Dec-27	$3.0748	$0.0250	-$0.1620
Jan-28	$3.0187	$0.0285	-$0.1496
Feb-28	$2.9611	$0.0303	-$0.1417
Mar-28	$2.9017	$0.0298	-$0.1381
Apr-28	$2.8268	$0.0303	-$0.1369
Sprague HeatCurve October 2027-April 2028			**$3.0071**

		Close	Change
Crude - WTI	Jan Brent-WTI Spread $9.35	$82.0500	$1.8800
Crude - Brent		$91.4000	$2.0300
Natural Gas		$3.3230	$0.1390
Gasoline		$2.4543	$0.0489

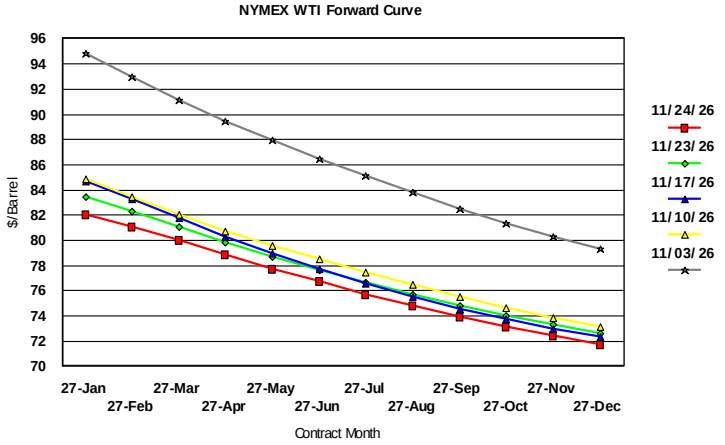
API Report for the Week Ending November 20, 2026

	Actual	Mkt Expectations
Crude Oil Stocks(exl SPR)	Up 126,000 barrels	Up 1.52 million barrels
Gasoline Stocks	Up 1.65 million barrels	Up 1.72 million barrels
Distillate Stocks	Down 47,000 barrels	Up 1.34 million barrels
Refinery Runs		Up 0.1% at 95.7%

Sprague HeatCurve



WTI Forward Curve



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