



Standard Chartered: Oil Price Correction May Be Overstated

Description

Oil prices have dropped significantly, marking the largest decline since the Iran war began in late February. Brent crude for June delivery and WTI for May delivery have fallen to the mid-\$90s per barrel, alongside a decrease in prices for refined products. A temporary two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran was agreed on Wednesday, allowing safe passage for ships through the Strait of Hormuz. This ceasefire aims to create a period for finalising a permanent settlement, with formal negotiations due to start in Pakistan.

Analysts at Standard Chartered warn that this price drop might be too steep, suggesting that any signs of escalating conflict could quickly raise prices again. The firm had previously forecast Brent crude at \$98 per barrel and WTI at \$92.50. As of 14:30 ET, Brent was trading at \$95.57 and WTI at \$96.99 per barrel.

Standard Chartered noted that oil prices are influenced by the ongoing Middle East conflict, which has led to reduced shipping through the Strait of Hormuz and limited production in the Gulf. They predict that prices will likely remain \$10-20 per barrel above pre-conflict levels due to strategic stockpiling and production delays.

As the situation develops, Iran continues to control oil transit through the strait, and uncertainty remains about safe passage for vessels. Meanwhile, LNG exports, particularly from the United States, are expected to increase significantly by 2026, potentially offsetting Middle Eastern supply disruptions.

Vocabulary List:

1. **decline** //di'klaɪn// (noun): a fall in amount or level
2. **ceasefire** //si:s,faɪə// (noun): an agreement to stop fighting for some time
3. **transit** //trænzɪt// (noun): movement of goods or people through a place
4. **stockpiling** //stɒk,pɑɪlɪŋ// (noun): keeping large amounts of goods for later
5. **disruptions** //dɪs'rʌpʃənz// (noun): things that stop normal activity or supply
6. **forecast** //fɔ:kæst// (verb): to say what will happen in the future

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What is the current trading price of Brent crude as of 14:30 ET?
 - Option: \$90.00
 - Option: \$92.50
 - Option: \$95.57
 - Option: \$98.00
2. What was the primary reason for the drop in oil prices?
 - Option: Increased supply
 - Option: Ongoing Middle East conflict
 - Option: Temporary ceasefire
 - Option: Reduced demand
3. What is the forecasted price for WTI crude?
 - Option: \$90.00
 - Option: \$92.50
 - Option: \$95.00
 - Option: \$98.00
4. What significant event was agreed on Wednesday between the United States and Iran?
 - Option: Long-term peace treaty
 - Option: Temporary ceasefire
 - Option: Final settlement
 - Option: Trade agreement
5. In which country are formal negotiations expected to start?
 - Option: Iran
 - Option: United States
 - Option: Pakistan
 - Option: Saudi Arabia
6. By what year are LNG exports from the United States expected to increase significantly?
 - Option: 2024
 - Option: 2025
 - Option: 2026
 - Option: 2027



True-False

7. Brent crude has fallen to the mid-\$90s per barrel.
8. The ceasefire between the United States and Iran is expected to last indefinitely.
9. Analysts at Standard Chartered predict prices will remain above pre-conflict levels due to strategic stockpiling.
10. Prices for refined products have increased along with crude oil prices.
11. Iran has lost control of oil transit through the Strait of Hormuz.
12. LNG exports from the United States are expected to decrease by 2026.

Gap-Fill

13. As of 14:30 ET, WTI was trading at \$96.99 per barrel, while Brent was trading at \$ _____ .
14. Brent crude and WTI prices have fallen to the mid-\$ _____ per barrel.
15. A temporary two-week _____ was agreed between the United States and Iran.
16. Prices are likely to remain \$10-20 per barrel above pre-conflict levels due to strategic _____ .
17. The ongoing Middle East conflict has limited _____ through the Strait of Hormuz.
18. Formal negotiations are due to start in _____ .

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. \$95.57 2. Ongoing Middle East conflict 3. \$92.50 4. Temporary ceasefire 5. Pakistan 6. 2026

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. 95.57 14. 90s 15. ceasefire 16. stockpiling 17. production 18. Pakistan



Answer

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL4

POST TAG

1. B2
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Level 4
5. oil price
6. price correction
7. Standard Chartered

Tags

1. B2
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Level 4
5. oil price
6. price correction
7. Standard Chartered

Date Created

2026/04/11

Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM