

Fundamentals:
Oil prices settled lower on Friday, making their weekly finish flat to lower, as indications of strong Russian oil supply offset better-than-expected U.S. economic growth data, strong middle distillate refining margins and hopes of a rapid recovery in Chinese demand.
Brent futures settled down 81 cents, or 0.9%, at \$86.66 per barrel, up just 3 cents from last week's settlement. U.S. crude fell \$1.33, or 1.6 %, to settle at \$79.68, 2% lower on the week.

Oil loadings from Russia's Baltic ports are set to rise by 50% this month from December as sellers try to meet strong demand in Asia and benefit from rising global energy prices, traders said and Reuters calculations showed.

Urals and KEBCO crude oil loadings from Ust-Luga over Feb. 1-10 may rise to 1.0 million tonnes from 0.9 million in the plan for the same period of January, traders also.

U.S. energy firms this week kept oil and natural gas rigs steady at 771, energy services firm Baker Hughes Co said in its closely followed report on Friday.

Meanwhile, OPEC+ delegates meet next week to review crude production levels, with sources from the oil producer group expecting no change to current output policy.

The U.S. Federal Reserve's next decision on interest rates will be made at meeting over Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 against a backdrop of a dip in inflation and gross domestic product that grew by a faster than expected 2.9% in the fourth quarter.

A 4.2 million barrel build this week in stocks at Cushing, the pricing hub for NYMEX oil futures, also weighed on the market.

In China, critically ill COVID-19 cases are down 72% from a peak early this month while daily deaths among COVID-19 patients in hospitals have dropped by 79% from their peak, pointing to a normalisation of the Chinese economy and boosting expectations of a recovery in oil demand.

U.S. natural gas futures jumped about 6% on Friday from a 20-month low in the prior session as late buying during a low-volume day ahead of the expiration of the February contract caused prices to swing wildly from negative to positive several times in the last half hour of trade.

Traders noted this usually happens as some gas sellers seek to exit their front-month futures positions on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) before they expire because they do not want to deliver gas to the Henry Hub in Louisiana.

Volatility often peaks near contract expiration days because trading volumes are usually extremely low since few in the market want to deliver or take gas from the Henry Hub.

There were only about 3,476 front-month contracts traded on the NYMEX on Friday. That compares with an average of 138,000 front-month contracts traded daily on the NYMEX over the past five years (2018 to 2022).

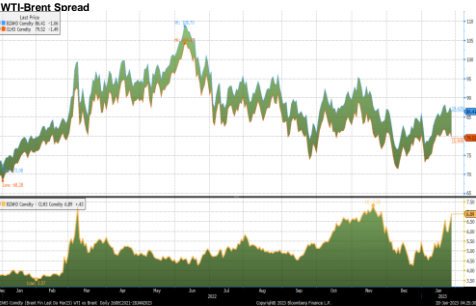
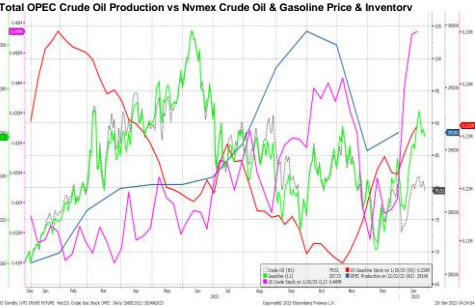
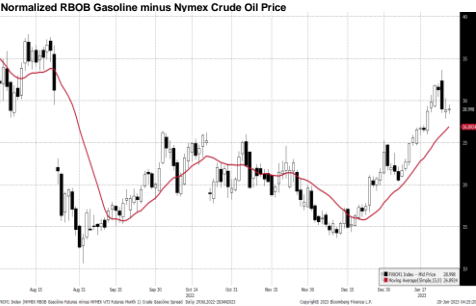
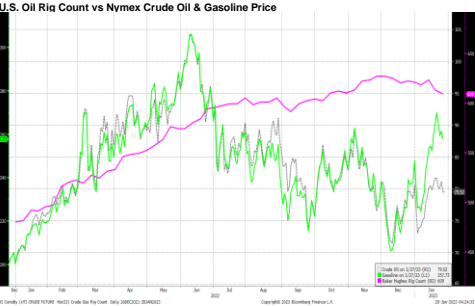
In 2022, gas prices soared by a record 46% on the day the February contract expired before plunging 18% the next day when the March contract became the new front-month.

On its last day as the front-month, gas futures for February delivery rose 16.5 cents, or 5.6%, to settle at \$3.109 per million British thermal units (mmBtu). On Thursday, the contract closed at its lowest since May 2021.

Energy Table					
Contract	Sett	Chg	High	Low	
Nymex Crude Oil MAR 23	79.68	-1.60	82.48	79.04	
Natural Gas MAR 23	2.849	0.018	2.908	2.747	
RB Gasoline FEB 23	258.86	-3.02	264.22	256.36	
Heating Oil FEB 23	326.55	-13.15	343.61	325.00	
Brent Fin Last Day APR 23	86.08	-1.20	88.64	85.53	
US Dollar Index	101.93	0.086	102.189	101.682	

Bloomberg Survey on U.S. Total Change in Inventories						
Date	Crude Oil		Gasoline		Crude Oil	
	Actual	Survey	Actual	Survey	Production	Inventory
20/01/2023	533	1500	1763	1500	12200	448548
13/01/2023	8408	-3000	3483	2400	12200	448015
06/01/2023	18961	-2000	4114	750	12200	439607
30/12/2022	1694	1500	-346	-1000	12100	420646
23/12/2022	718	-1200	-3105	500	12000	418952
16/12/2022	-5895	2500	2530	2000	12100	418234
09/12/2022	10231	-3500	4496	2500	12100	424129
02/12/2022	5319	-3418	5319	2474	12200	413898
25/11/2022	-12581	-3123	2770	2250	12100	419084
18/11/2022	-3690	-2614	3058	1150	12100	431665
11/11/2022	-5400	-1900	2207	200	12100	435355
04/11/2022	3925	250	-900	-1450	12100	440755

Fundamental Data:					
Event	Period	Avg Survey	Actual	Prior	
01/28/2023 02:00	Baker Hughes U.S. Rotary Oil Rigs	Jan-27	616	609	613
01/28/2023 02:00	Baker Hughes U.S. Rotary Gas Rigs	Jan-27	--	160	156
01/28/2023 02:00	Baker Hughes U.S. Rig Count	Jan-27	--	771	771
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE U.S. Crude Oil Inventories	Jan-27	--	--	533k
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE Cushing OK Crude Inventory	Jan-27	--	--	4267k
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE U.S. Gasoline Inventories	Jan-27	--	--	1763k
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE U.S. Distillate Inventory	Jan-27	--	--	-507k
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE U.S. Refinery Utilization	Jan-27	--	--	0.80%
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE Crude Oil Implied Demand	Jan-27	--	--	18029
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE Gasoline Implied Demand	Jan-27	--	--	9034.7
02/01/2023 23:30	DOE Distillate Implied Demand	Jan-27	--	--	4984.4
02/02/2023 23:30	EIA Natural Gas Storage Change	Jan-27	--	--	-91
02/02/2023 23:30	EIA Working Natural Gas Implied Flow	Jan-27	--	--	-91



Source: Bloomberg

Nymex Crude Daily Chart



Nymex RBOB Gasoline Daily Chart



Nymex Natural Gas Daily Chart



Nymex Heating Oil Daily Chart



Nymex Brent Last Day Daily Chart



Technical Analysis

Crude Oil

1st Resistance:	80.88	2nd Resistance:	82.07
1st Support:	78.48	2nd Support:	77.29
MACD:	0.824		
MACD DIFF:	0.224		
RSI:	51.866		

Natural Gas

1st Resistance:	2.892	2nd Resistance:	2.934
1st Support:	2.806	2nd Support:	2.764
MACD:	-0.492		
MACD DIFF:	0.027		
RSI:	27.971		

Gasoline

1st Resistance:	262.74	2nd Resistance:	266.63
1st Support:	254.98	2nd Support:	251.09
MACD:	8.550		
MACD DIFF:	1.107		
RSI:	59.462		

Heating Oil

1st Resistance:	331.45	2nd Resistance:	336.35
1st Support:	321.65	2nd Support:	316.75
MACD:	6.521		
MACD DIFF:	1.071		
RSI:	50.481		

Brent Fin Last Day

1st Resistance:	87.37	2nd Resistance:	88.66
1st Support:	84.79	2nd Support:	83.50
MACD:	1.172		
MACD DIFF:	0.362		
RSI:	55.198		

Strategy

	Long	Profit target	Stop-loss:	Long	Profit target	Stop-loss:	Short	Profit target	Stop-loss:	Short	Profit target	Stop-loss:
Crude Oil	78.45	79.27	78.09	77.29	78.06	76.90	80.88	80.07	81.28	82.07	81.25	82.48
Natural Gas	2.806	2.834	2.792	2.764	2.791	2.750	2.892	2.863	2.906	2.934	2.905	2.949
Gasoline	254.98	257.53	253.70	251.09	253.61	249.84	262.74	260.12	264.06	266.63	263.96	267.96
Heating Oil	321.65	324.87	320.04	316.75	319.92	315.17	331.45	328.13	333.11	336.35	332.98	338.03
Brent Fin Last Day	84.79	85.64	84.36	83.50	84.33	83.08	87.37	86.50	87.81	88.66	87.78	89.11

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