



GREATER HOUSTON  
PARTNERSHIP

# UPDATE



## ENERGY

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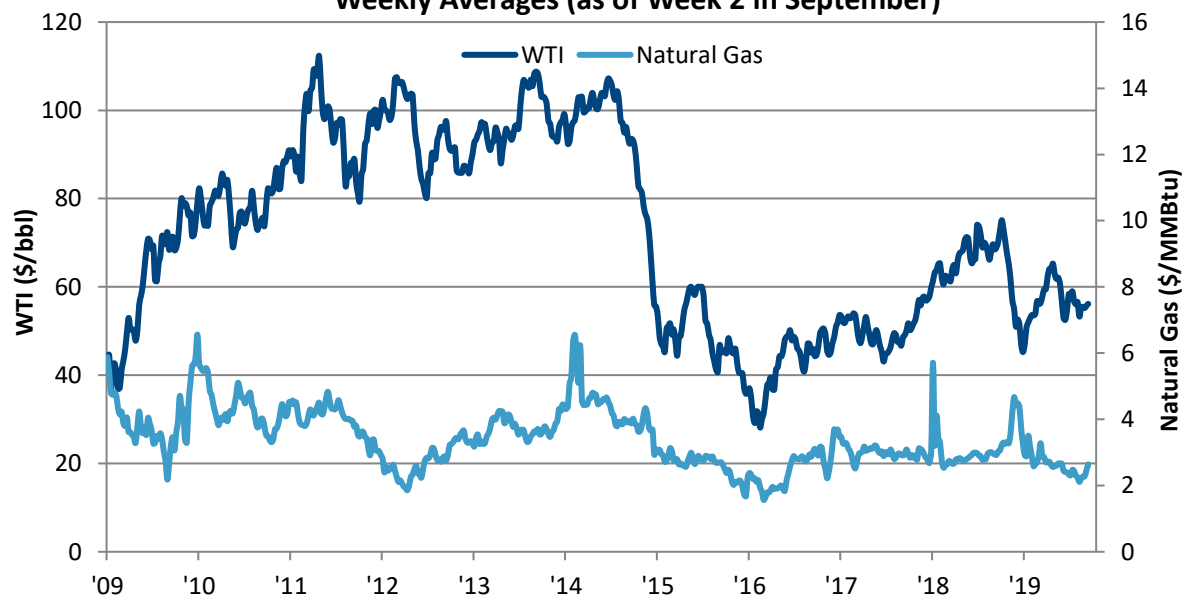
*September 23, 2019*

The closing spot price for a barrel of West Texas Intermediate (WTI), the U.S. benchmark for light, sweet crude, averaged \$56.16 per barrel during the second week of September '19, down 18.6 percent from \$68.96 for the same period in '18, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Despite the recent oil outage in Saudi Arabia due to a drone attack on Abqaiq crude processing facilities, surging U.S. production and fears of falling oil demand precipitated by a softening global economy have kept prices in the mid-\$50s.

Monthly WTI prices averaged \$54.81 per barrel in August '19. During the 12 months ending August '19, WTI averaged \$58.62 per barrel, a 5.9 percent decrease from \$62.31 over the corresponding period in '18.

During the second week of September '19, Henry Hub natural gas spot prices averaged \$2.64 per million British thermal units (MMBtu). In August '19, monthly natural gas prices averaged \$2.22 per MMBtu, down 25.0 percent from \$2.96 in August last year. For the past 12 months, gas prices averaged \$2.95 per MMBtu, compared to \$2.94 for the same period in '18.

**Spot Crude and Natural Gas Prices**  
Weekly Averages (as of Week 2 in September)



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects WTI to average \$62 per barrel in the second half of '19 and \$63 in '20. EIA expects Henry Hub natural gas spot prices to average \$2.50/MMBtu in the second half of '19 and \$2.77 in '20.

Prepared by Greater Houston Partnership Research Department

Patrick Jankowski, CERP  
Senior Vice President, Research  
713-844-3616  
[pjankowski@houston.org](mailto:pjankowski@houston.org)

Roel Gabe Martinez, GISP, CERP  
Director, Research  
713-844-3619  
[rmartinez@houston.org](mailto:rmartinez@houston.org)