Global Oil Market Outlook Brace for Turbulence

Connor J. Wiik

Senior Oil Analyst
Hartree Partners
cwiik@hartreepartners.com

IATA Aviation Energy Forum

Baku, Azerbaijan May 2025

Fundamentals on sound footing to start the year but the skies ahead are far from clear



New tariffs and trade disputes have escalated uncertainties

- With ever-evolving policies, investment decisions and sure guidance are incredibly challenging
- Tariffs impacts apparent in "soft data" but not yet "hard data"



Global growth expectations have softened but path is still unclear

- Demand started the year on strong footing keeping cracks robust
- What should we be watching with demand growth expected to weaken?



Supply outlook muddied by questions on OPEC+ quotas and compliance

- How will OPEC+ manage the return of supply to a shaky market?
- Besides OPEC+, how does US shale respond to a lower price environment?



Refining is in a state of flux

- How does the balance of new start-ups and closures shake out?
- What does this balance entail for cracks?



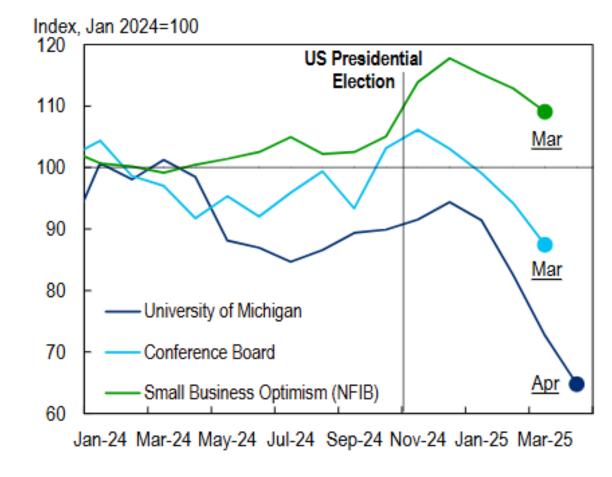
New US trade policies under Trump 2.0 have roiled global markets and introduced historic uncertainty

US Economic Policy Uncertainty Index



Tariffs have pushed US policy uncertainty to early 2020 highs, and negative impacts are emerging through lower consumer and business confidence

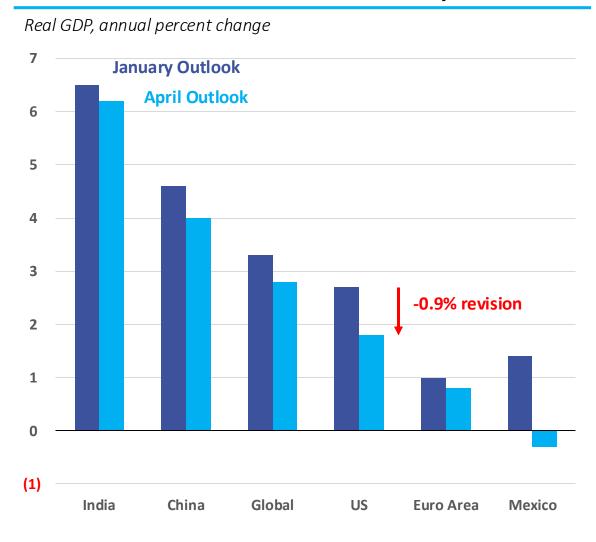
US Consumer & Business Sentiment



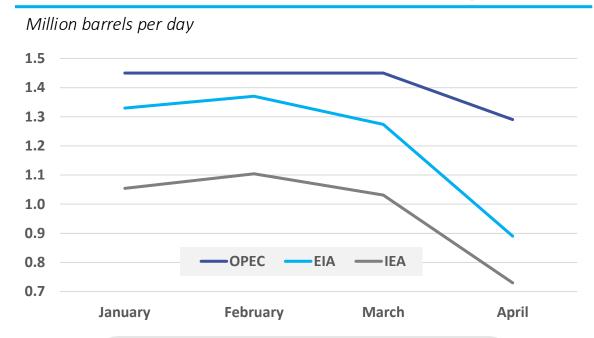


After starting the year optimistic, forecasters have trimmed economic and oil demand growth projections

IMF World Economic Outlook Growth Projections



2025 Annual Global Oil Demand Growth Projections

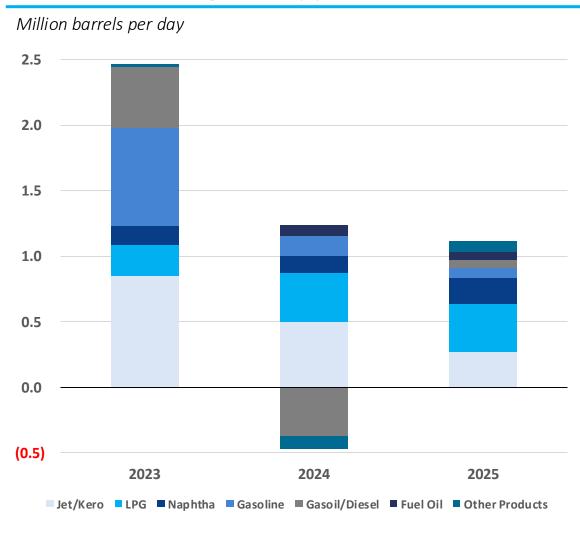


While forecasts have been pared back, they reflect growth expectations well in excess of the recession calls from some analysts in the immediate aftermath of the April tariff announcements

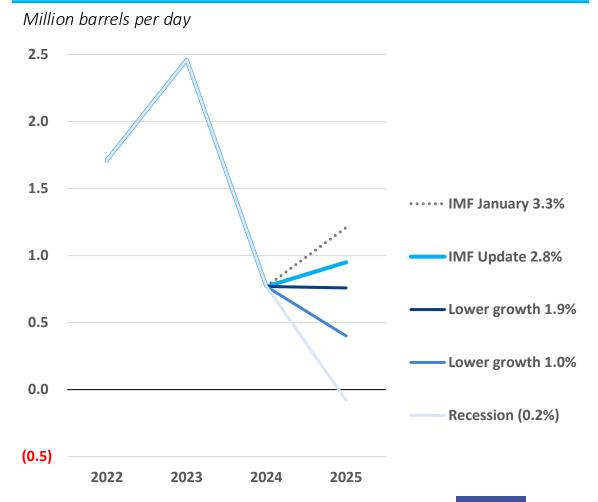


Still much uncertainty around demand growth for this year, but jet and petchems play a large role

Global oil demand growth by product



Demand projections under various growth scenarios



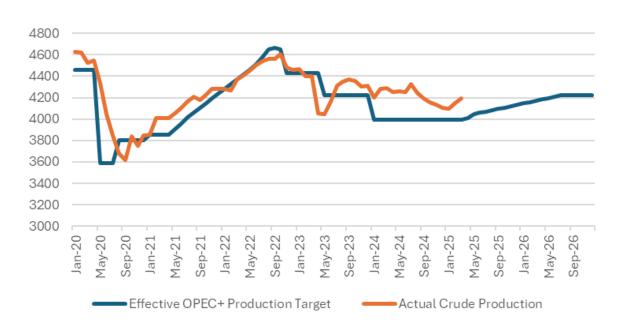


Source: Hartree

OPEC+ adding supply to the market as quotas unwind and compliance remains a concern

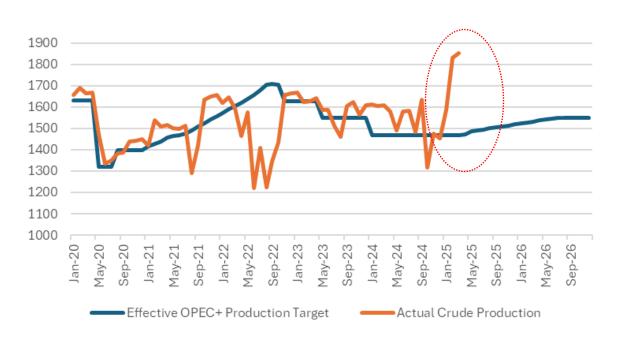
Iraq quota compliance

Thousand barrels per day



Kazakhstan quota compliance

Thousand barrels per day

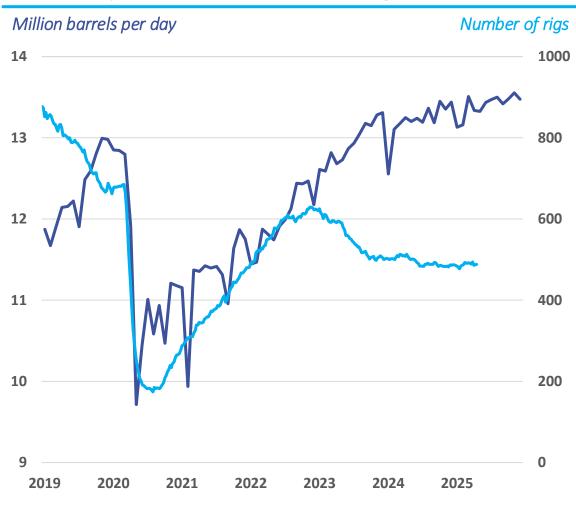


- OPEC+ will continue to manage the market but as non-compliance persists and worsens, Saudi Arabia is showing less willingness to carry the load
- The recent front-loading of supply increases allows for some market share recapture while steering clear of a volume and price war, as in early 2020

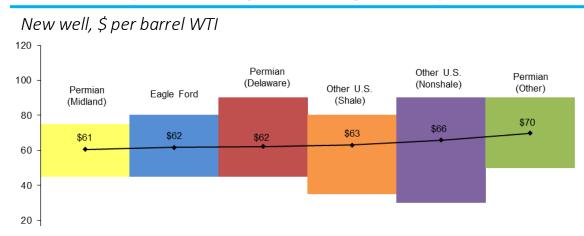


US shale shifting into low gear as weaker prices drive producers to curtail field activity

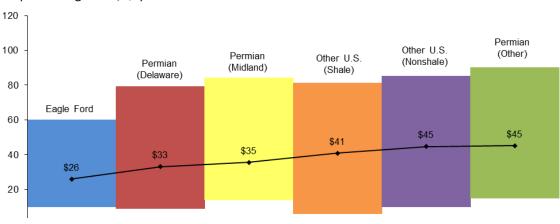
US crude production and active oil rigs



Breakeven price average and range of responses



Operating cost, \$ per barrel WTI

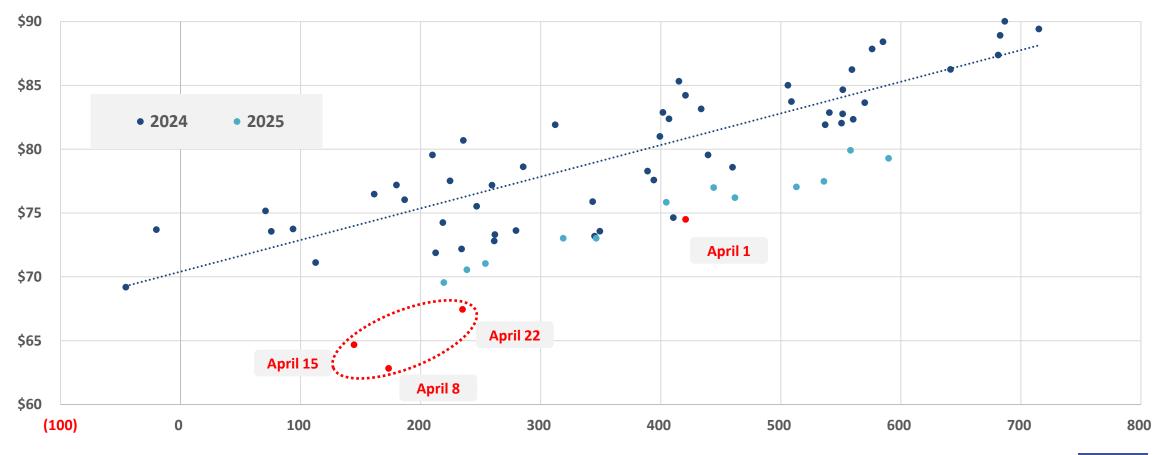




Trade policy uncertainty, economic concerns, and OPEC+ all weighing on sentiment

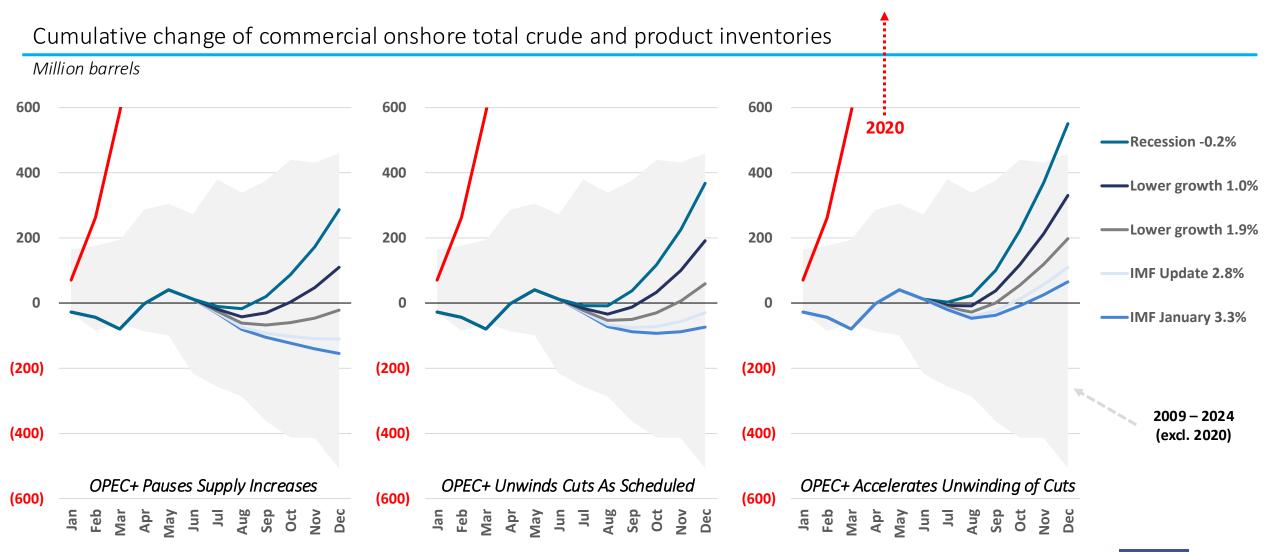
Brent price versus total petroleum managed money net length

\$ per barrel and thousand contracts





With so many uncertain variables, we forecast inventories under various supply and demand scenarios

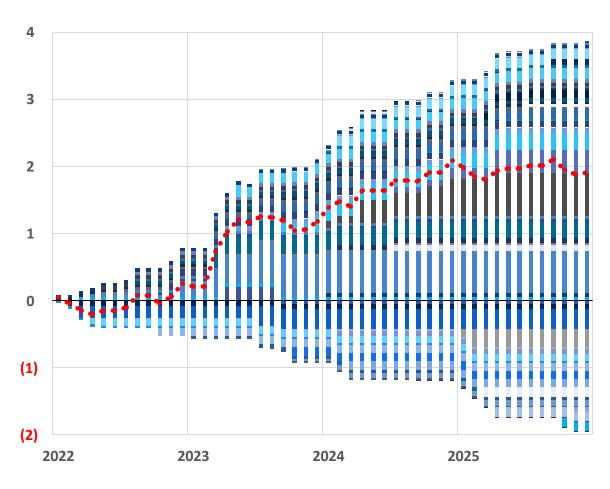




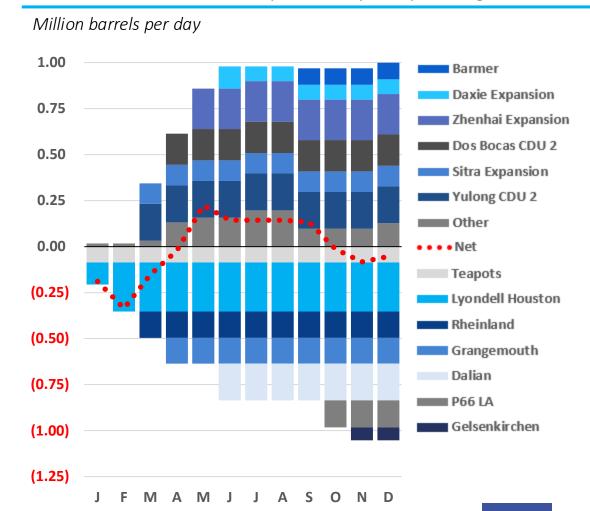
Refinery closures this year offset added capacity from new starts and expansions

Net CDU Capacity change since end-2021, excl. China

Million barrels per day

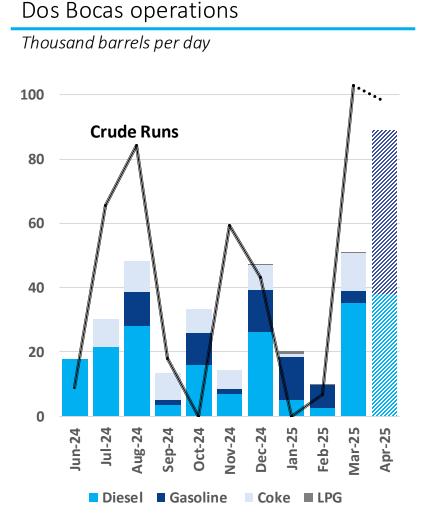


2025 Global net refinery CDU capacity change

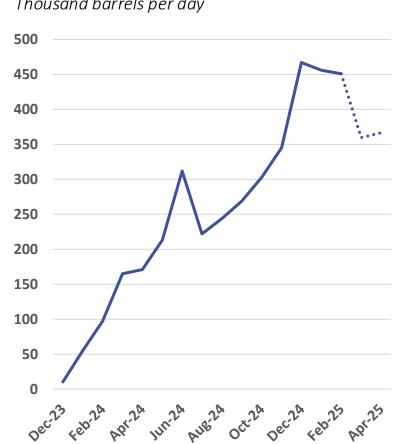




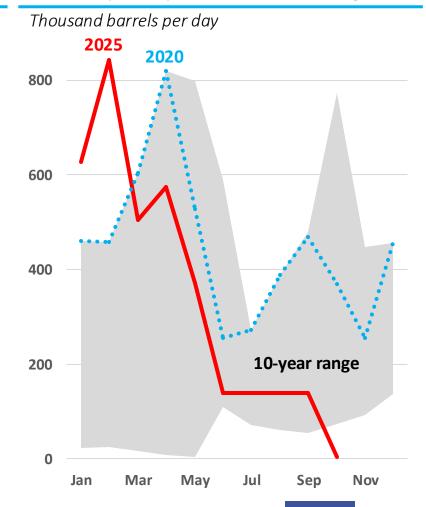
Additional capacity does not always mean new runs, while the existing kit faces issues of its own





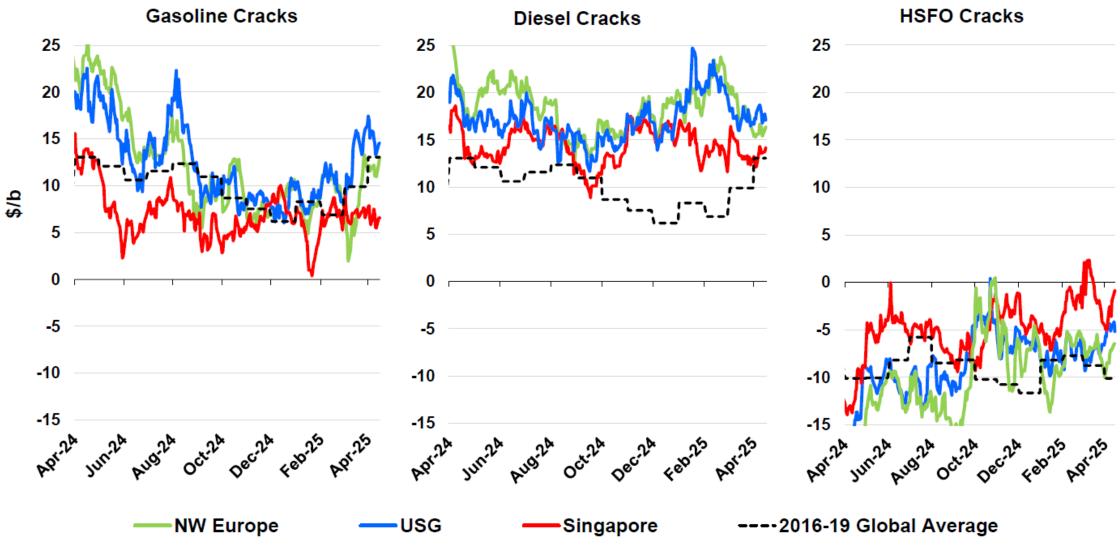


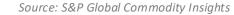
W. Europe unplanned CDU outages





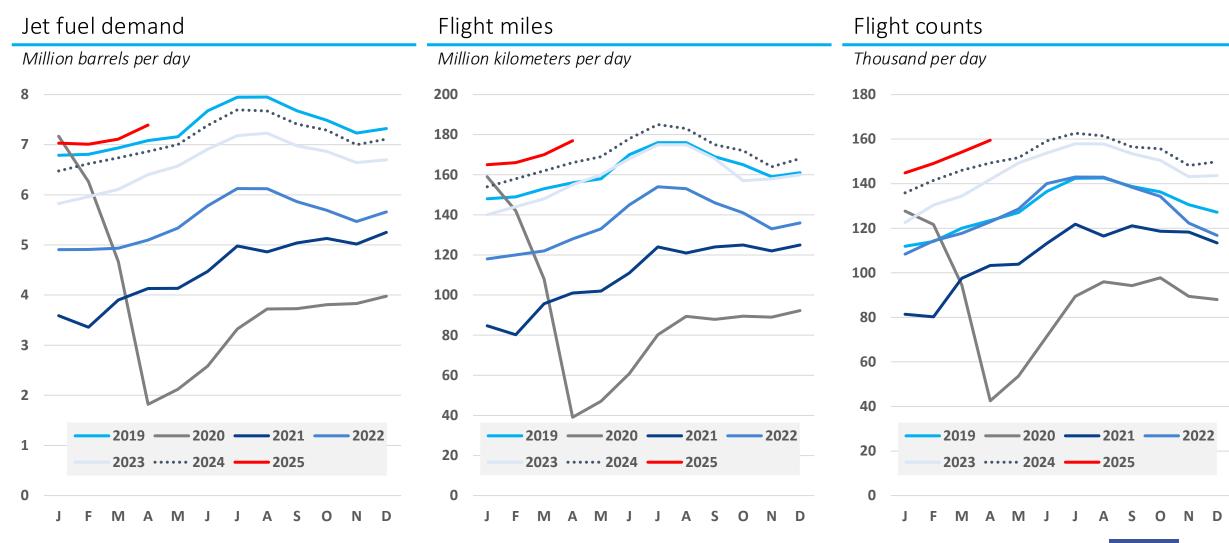
Despite concerns about future demand, cracks have been robust to start the year







This year we have finally seen jet fuel demand complete the recovery from 2020...

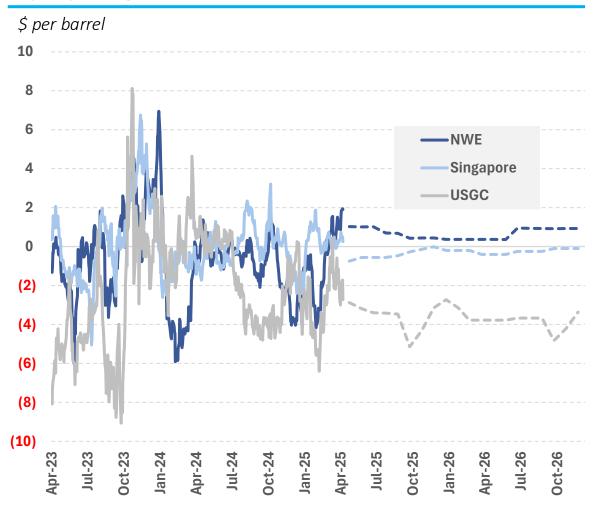




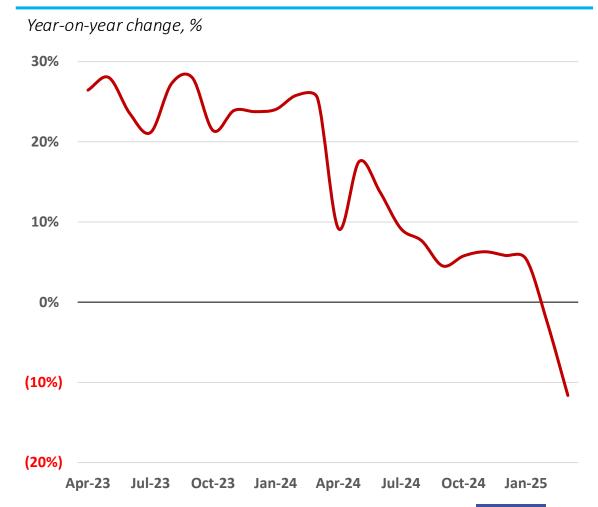


...but there are new risks as we head into summer that the market is not yet pricing

Spot jet regrades / differentials



Overseas visitors to the US







We are certainly living in uncertain times

- The trajectory will clarify as deals are forged but headline bingo will linger for some time
- Much of the economic destruction is already irreversible even if we see a policy shift from the US



Global growth slower but not derailed

- Economic downshift and consumer fears should weigh on distillates
- Near-shoring and national security priorities could lead to some pockets of outperformance



OPEC+ will manage the market but not yield share

- Compliance will be a major focus but management may become more difficult after the summer
- US production growth to slow down but the impact of lower prices will be gradual



Refining will stay tight but respond to lower demand in later months

- Capacity additions and closures nearly balance out in 2025 before accounting for hiccups
- Cracks should hold up heading into summer demand but later slowdown could lead to curtailments



Hartree

Hartree Oil Analytics

New York Edward L. Morse Connor J. Wiik Nancy Song

Singapore Seto Zhenqiang

IATA Annual Energy Forum

May 2025

Disclosure

The views and opinions expressed reflect the personal views of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the opinion, view, policy or position of Hartree Partners, LP or any of its subsidiaries and affiliates (collectively "Hartree Partners"). All views and opinions are subject to change without notice and are provided without legal responsibility.

All information as well as any document and its contents has been provided to you for informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute investment advice or form the basis of any investment decision. Further, this information does not constitute an offer or invitation or purport to be all inclusive or to contain all the information that may be required by the recipient or any other person in connection with any investment decision or any decision for the purchase of an assets or business described.

Neither the author(s) nor Hartree Partners make any representations or warranties express or implied, regarding the accuracy, adequacy, reasonableness, fairness or completeness of the information, assumptions or analysis contained herein or in any supplemental material and neither Hartree Partners or the author(s) accept any liability in connection therewith. The author(s) and Hartree Partners may deal and trade in the products or related products discussed herein and may have positions consistent with or different from those discussed herein.

In addition, the information provided as well as any document and its content may include certain statements with respect to future expectations or other forward-looking statements. Such statements, estimates, targets and projections reflect significant assumptions and subjective judgments concerning anticipated results as at the date of such projections and forecasts, assumptions or estimates. These assumptions and judgments may not prove to be correct, and there can be no assurance that any estimates, targets or projections are attainable or will be realised. Any such estimate, projection, forward-looking statements or forecast must not be regarded as a representation or assurance, express or implied as to the achievability or the reasonableness of such estimates or assumptions or of any projection or forecasts contained in the document, or of the accuracy of any such statements or projections. Unless referenced as a third party source, any estimates, targets, projections and forecasts, assumptions or estimates in this document are based on the internal and proprietary data and analysis of the author(s) or Hartree Partners. Neither the author(s) nor Hartree Partners assume responsibility for verifying any statements, targets and projections. Statements contained in this document regarding, or based on, past trends or activities should not be taken as a representation that such trends or activities will continue in the future. There is no obligation on the author(s) or Hartree Partners to update or revise any forward-looking statements in this document, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.