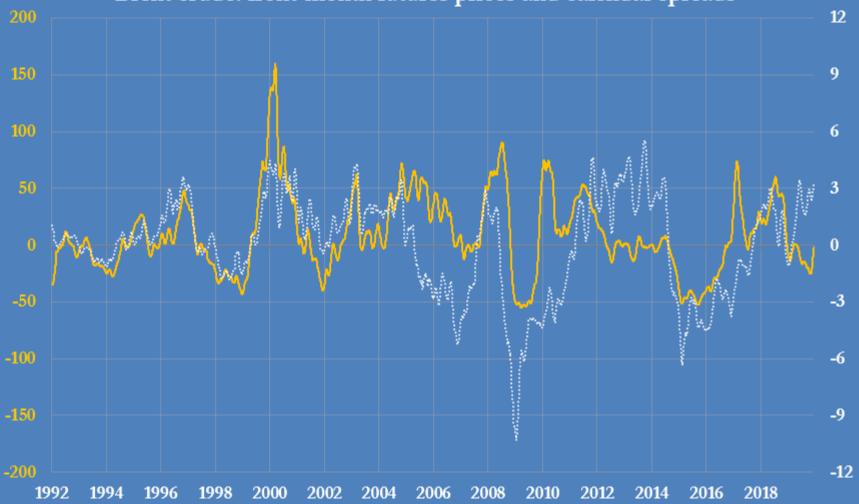
Oil prices and the economic outlook Selected indicators

JOHN KEMP REUTERS 17 December 2019

## Cyclical indicators in the oil market, 1992-2019 Brent crude: front-month futures prices and calendar spreads



L-axis: Brent front-month futures prices (percent change year-on-year)

······· R-axis: Brent calendar spread (1st month - 7th month future price, U.S.\$ per bbl)

Both series are averaged over 30 trading days to smooth short-term volatility

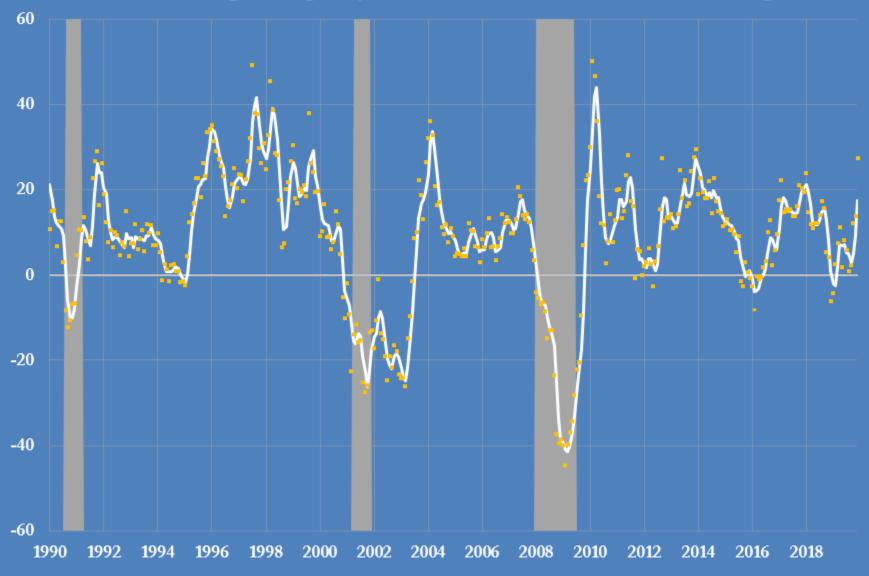
Brent spot price, 1990-2019
Percent change from year earlier, monthly and 3-month average
NBER U.S. recession dates shown



Source: ICE Futures Europe, National Bureau of Economic Research

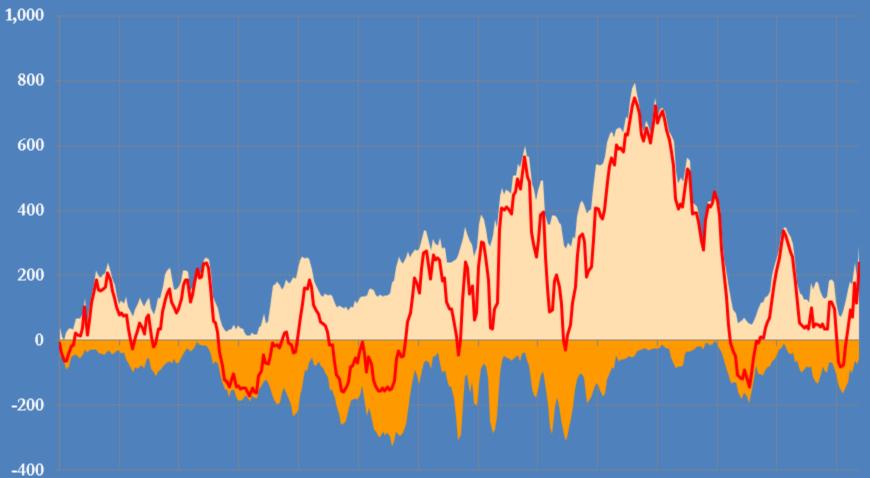
S&P500 equity index, 1990-2019

Percent change from prior year, individual months and 3-month average



Source: Refinitiv Eikon

## Money managers' long and short positions in the three main crude oil futures and options contracts (million barrels) (minus "structural" long and short positions)



Apr 13 Oct 13 Apr 14 Oct 14 Apr 15 Oct 15 Apr 16 Oct 16 Apr 17 Oct 17 Apr 18 Oct 18 Apr 19 Oct 19

Gross Long Positions
Gross Short Positions
Net Long (+) or Short (-) Position

Source: CME Group, ICE Futures Europe @JKempEnergy

Volume of World Trade, 1993-2019 Percent change from prior year, monthly and three-month average



Source: Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis, World Trade Monitor

## Saudi Arabia output restraint and Brent spread, 1985-2019 Calendar spread from month 1 to month 7, U.S.\$ per barrel, contango (-) or backwardation (+)



Saudi Arabia output restraint (from OPEC Statistical Bulletin)

—Brent calendar spread (U.S.\$ per bbl M1-M7)

Sources: OPEC, ICE Futures Europe @JKempEnergy