Tanker Ship Transit Calls - Hormuz Strait 2025

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Forecast

– **Question:** Before 1 January 2026, will tanker ship daily transit calls for the Strait of Hormuz be below 15 for two consecutive days, according to the IMF? GJ Open Link

– **Forecasted Outcome:** 0% Yes / 100% No.

– **Time Horizon:** 15/01/2025 - 01/01/2026

Analysis

Key Factors

- Base Rate: Historically, the number of tanker ships has never fallen below 15, providing a strong base rate. This analysis spans five years, from January 2019 to January 5, 2025, with the lowest recorded value being 27 in 2019. Even during challenging periods, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the Israel-Gaza conflict, the numbers remained above the required threshold. This leads us to the next point.

- At the time of this forecast, a ceasefire between Israel and Gaza was in place, indicating a relatively calmer situation in the Middle East.

- Previously, I had made a forecast on a similar question regarding the Hormuz Strait, which involved predicting whether total transit calls would fall below 25. Using a similar base rate approach, the calls did not drop below 25 in that instance. Hormuz 2024 Blog Post

Methodology

The data was sourced from PortWatch PortWatch and then analyzed using a simple python script (attached in appendix).

Assumptions

- This forecast assumes that the geopolitical situation in the Middle East, particularly involving Iran, will remain stable enough to avoid any actions that could disrupt shipping activity in the region, such as blocking the Strait of Hormuz. It presumes that no significant escalation or conflict will occur that might severely impact tanker ship transit, ensuring that the base rate remains a reliable indicator.
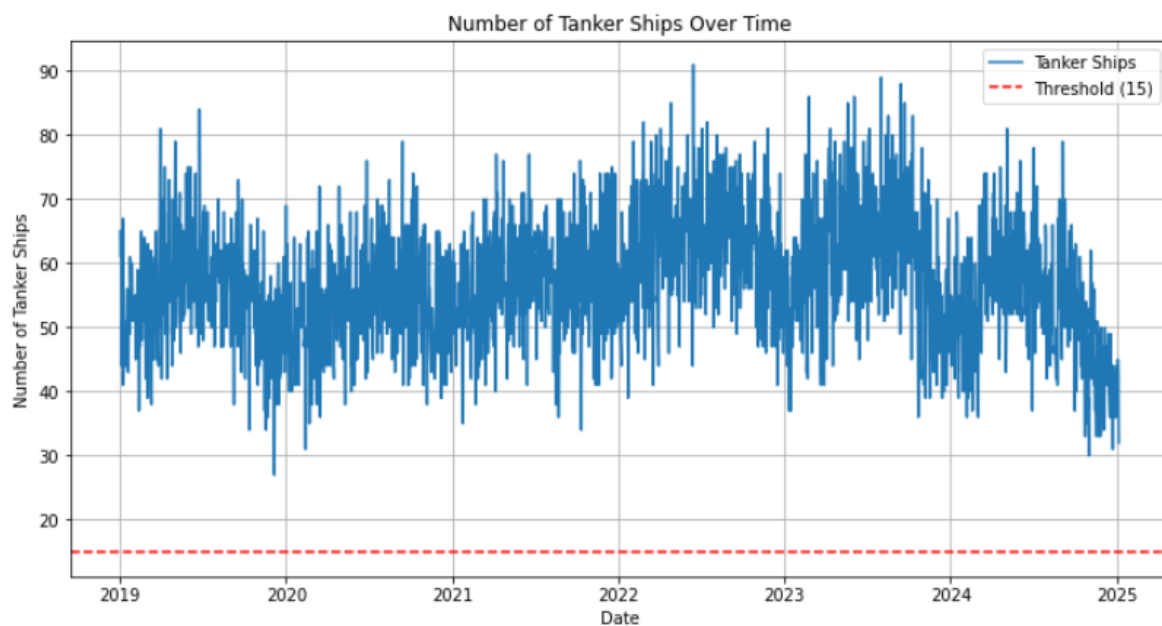
Appendix

Figure 1: Number of Tanker Ships Over Time with Threshold Line

Python Code

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np

# Load data from CSV file.
df = pd.read_csv('straitofhormuz.csv')
df.head()

# Count the number of times tanker ships fall below or equal to 15.
count = 0
for i in range(len(df)):
    if df['Number of Tanker Ships'][i] <= 15:
        print(df['Number of Tanker Ships'])
        count += 1

# Output results.
```

```
print(count)
print(min(df['Number of Tanker Ships']))

# Visualizing the data.
df['Date'] = pd.to_datetime(df['DateTime'])
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
plt.plot(df['Date'], df['Number of Tanker Ships'], label='Tanker Ships')
plt.axhline(y=15, color='r', linestyle='--', label='Threshold (15)')
plt.title('Number of Tanker Ships Over Time')
plt.xlabel('Date')
plt.ylabel('Number of Tanker Ships')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()
```

References

References

[1] *Strait of Hormuz Transit Calls 2024.* Blog. Accessed: 2025-01-15.