LNG Market Tracker
LNG JOURNAL'S WEEKLY LNG MARKET TRENDS REPORT 20 MARCH 2023

Malaysia Seeks to Increase LNG Supply to Japan

Malaysia's national hydrocarbons champion Petronas has announced it is ready to not only maintain its LNG supply to Japan but also to increase it. Several contracts between Petronas and Japanese utilities are due to expire by the end of next year. Notably, Petronas managed to increase and sustain production after it had warned at the end of 2021 it may have to cut cargoes for some time. Petronas' president and group CEO Taufik and Japanese Economy and Trade Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura concurred at an AZEC meeting last week that Asia's path to carbon neutrality should not emulate Europe's 'absolute' stance towards cutting the use of fossil fuel.

Petronas – Malaysia's national oil company that also operates the country's LNG capacity –announced last week it wants to extend its long-term LNG contracts with Japanese buyers. Speaking after an AZEC (Asia Zero Emission Community) meeting with Asian state energy executives and government officials, Petronas' vice president of LNG marketing and trading Shamsairi Ibrahim also said that Petronas is ready to increase LNG sales to Japan, Reuters reported. "Our wish is to continue to supply our LNG to Japan," he said, adding that "for those contracts that are expiring, we'd like to continue, and if possible, to increase the volume." Petronas currently has long-term supply contracts with Japanese gas distributors such as Tokyo Gas and Osaka Gas, some of which are expiring this year and next.

Production growth

Japan is Malaysia's most significant LNG offtaker, importing around 40pct of Malaysian exports each year. Notably, Malaysia managed to boost LNG production since the second half of last year, our data show. This stands in contrast to Petronas' warning at the end of 2021 that it may have to defer or even cancel between 15 and 20 LNG cargoes (or more) that would otherwise have had delivery horizons ranging from December 2021 to March 2022. Platts reported at the time that Petronas had issued notices of intent to exercise downward quantity tolerance, or DQT, from the MLNG Satu and Dua projects at the Bintulu LNG complex.

DQT

DQT is the right exercised by a supplier to reduce contracted volumes by a fixed percentage, which usually is around 10pct, in the event of unusual circumstances. The DQT notices also suggest that Petronas thought it would be unable to bridge any shortcomings with alternative supplies.

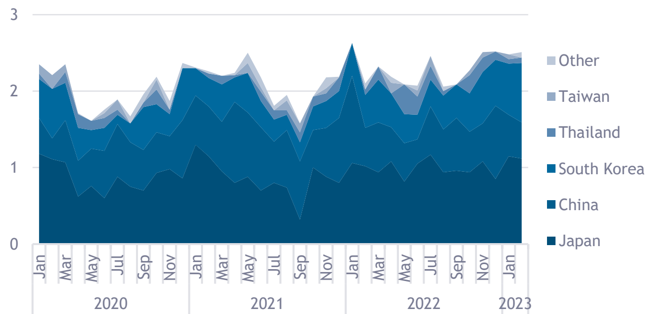
Call for moderation

At the AZEC meeting, Petronas' president and group chief executive officer, Tengku Muhammad Taufik, called for a transition to cleaner power generation that balances decarbonisation pressures with economic needs. According to reporting by Nikkei, he highlighted that Asia's energy transition differs from that pursued in Europe, where the deployment is pursued more rapidly. Instead of Europe's 'extreme' stance of calling for an 'absolute end' to fossil fuels, Taufik envisioned a more moderate approach that factored in higher degrees of energy security. Japanese Economy and Trade Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura also called for moderation.

Carbon neutrality by 2050

Petronas' ambition to increase LNG exports to Japan coincides with the company's plans to enter the Japanese renewable power market, in particular wind power. In September last year, Petronas signed a memorandum of cooperation with Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) as well as a memorandum of understanding with Japan Bank for International Cooperation to pursue energy sustainability goals for achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 ♦

Malaysian LNG Exports (MMt)



Source: LNG Journal

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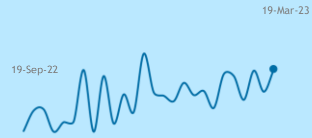
LNG EXPORTS (MMT)

Pacific Basin

Week-on-Week	0.33	-10pct
Six-month change	0.41	-13pct

Atlantic



Week-on-Week	0.33	11pct
Six-month change	0.91	36pct

Middle East

Week-on-Week	0.12	7pct
Six-month change	0.18	11pct

LNG IMPORTS (MMT)

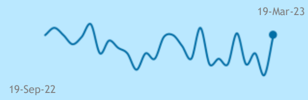
Pacific Basin

Week-on-Week	0.29	6pct
Six-month change	1.05	24pct

Atlantic Basin

Week-on-Week	0.41	17pct
Six-month change	0.20	8pct

Middle East



Week-on-Week	0.22	367pct
Six-month change	0.00	0pct

Expected Deliveries this Week

Japan leading imports with 1.37mmt at current market visibility

Pacific Basin

LNG Imports in the Pacific Basin are likely to amount to 4.39mmt, according to our data at the time of writing, constituting a modest decrease of 1pct compared to the previous week's total of 5.49mmt. The Pacific's imports this week are likely going to be led by Japan (1.37mmt), South Korea (0.88mmt) and China (0.73mmt) whilst six cargoes totalling 0.38mmt had yet to confirm their destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

Japan

Current market visibility indicates the largest share of LNG destined to arrive in Japan by Sunday is derived from Australia via ten cargoes totalling 0.69mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to Japan have sailed via, inter alia, the Enshu Maru, the John A. Angelicoussis and the Energy Advance. Our analysis indicates these deliveries to have been completed by Saturday. Concurrently, our market visibility highlights that the Sodegaura and Senboku terminals will be Japan's busiest this week on imports of 0.34mmt (33pct) and 0.13mmt (13pct), respectively. In addition to Australia's shipments, we are also expecting Japan to receive 12 cargoes totalling 0.68mmt from, inter alia, Malaysia, Qatar and the United States. Our data thus indicate Japan's expected cumulative LNG imports of 1.37mmt this week are likely to have remained broadly steady compared to last week and remain broadly steady year-on-year.

China

Meanwhile, the largest share of expected deliveries to China is also coming from Australia via six cargoes totalling 0.39mmt this week. Most of Australia's volumes have sailed, inter alia, from Australia Pacific LNG via the CESI LianYungAng. We expect these China-bound shipments to arrive by Saturday. We are also expecting nine cargoes totalling 0.49mmt from, inter alia, Qatar, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea to arrive in China this week, with the Guangdong Dapeng LNG and Qingdao LNG terminals set to be the busiest on imports of 0.22mmt (25pct) and 0.14mmt (16pct), respectively. Based on our market visibility, we expect the country's weekly imports to have decreased by 0.63mmt (-42pct) from 1.51mmt last week and decreased by 0.25mmt (-22pct) from 1.13mmt year-on-year.

South Korea

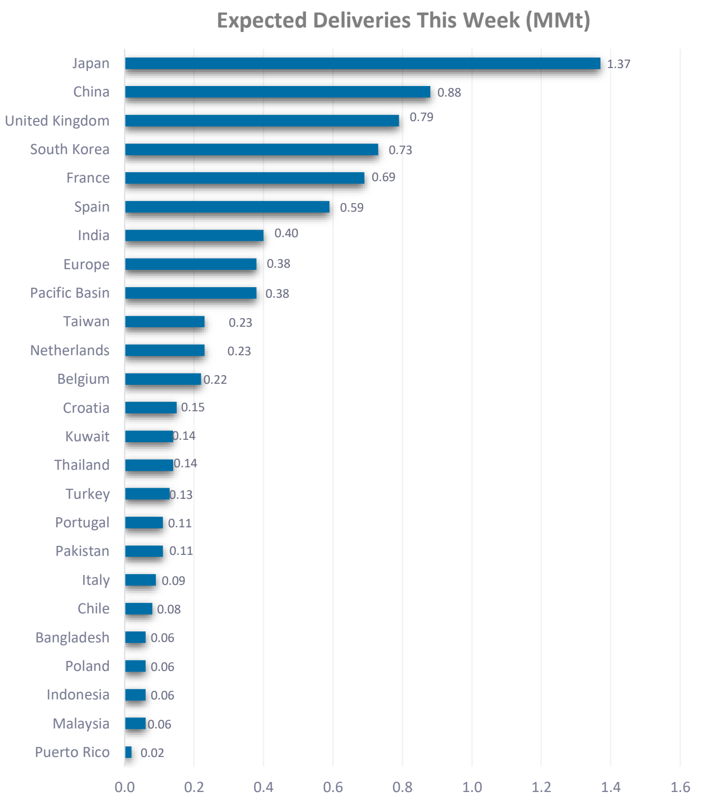
The most significant origin of LNG destined to arrive in South Korea by volume this week is Malaysia via three cargoes totalling 0.20mmt. Malaysia's shipments to South Korea have sailed from Malaysia LNG (0.13mmt, 65pct) and PFLNG 1 (0.07mmt, 35pct), inter alia, via the Seri Camellia, the Trinity Glory and the Seri Cemara. We are currently expecting these shipments to arrive by Wednesday, with the Samcheok and Pyeongtaek terminals set to be South Korea's busiest this week on imports of 0.24mmt (41pct) and 0.20mmt (34pct), respectively. In addition to Malaysia's shipments, we are currently tracking nine cargoes totalling 0.53mmt led by Oman, Qatar and Australia, which we expect to arrive in South Korea by Sunday. We, therefore, think South Korea's weekly LNG offtake is likely to have decreased by 0.36mmt (-33pct) from 1.09mmt last week and decreased by 0.35mmt (-32pct) from 1.08mmt year-on-year.

Atlantic Basin

Demand in the Atlantic Basin is likely to reach 3.46mmt this week, our data indicated at the time of writing, constituting an increase of 22pct from the 2.83mmt of regional imports last week. At least 67pct are destined for the United Kingdom (0.79mmt), France (0.69mmt) and Spain (0.59mmt) whilst 0.38mmt remain without a confirmed destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

The United Kingdom

Our market visibility indicates the most prominent origin of LNG destined to arrive in the United Kingdom this week is the United States, based on eight cargoes totalling 0.61mmt. The bulk of these shipments have sailed from Sabine Pass LNG (0.38mmt, 48pct) and Calcasieu Pass LNG (0.08mmt, 10pct) via, inter alia, the Castillo de Merida and the GasLog Westminster. Our data peg their delivery horizon at 26 March. Apart from the United States' exports, we are also expecting the United Kingdom to receive two additional cargoes totalling 0.18mmt from Qatar by the end of the week. Concurrently, our market visibility indicates the Isle of Grain and South Hook LNG terminals will be the United Kingdom's busiest this week on imports of 0.38mmt (48pct) and 0.33mmt (42pct), respectively. Our data thus suggest the United Kingdom's cumulative LNG offtake this week is likely to have increased by 0.27mmt (52pct) week-on-week and by 0.37mmt (88pct) year-on-year.



Source: LNG Journal

France

Our current market visibility further indicates the most significant source of supply of LNG to France this week is also the United States via five cargoes totalling 0.39mmt. The United States' volumes shipped from Cameron LNG via the Qogir and the BW Tulip as well as from Calcasieu Pass LNG, Corpus Christi LNG and Freeport LNG via the Maran Gas Andros, the Elisa Larus and the Cool Voyager, respectively. They are due at the Fos-sur-Mer, Dunkerque Le Clipton and Montoir-de-Bretagne terminals, respectively. In addition to the US cargoes, we are expecting 0.30mmt to arrive from Qatar, Russia, Angola and Norway. Accordingly, France is likely to see week-on-week offtakes increase by 0.55mmt (393pct) from 0.14mmt as well as increase by 0.19mmt (38pct) year-on-year from 0.50mmt this time last year.

Spain

Meanwhile, our data indicate the largest single share of expected deliveries to Spain is going to be coming from Nigeria via five cargoes totalling 0.31mmt this week. Nigeria's shipments sailed from Bonny Island via, inter alia, the Maran Gas Hydra and the LNG Ondo. The two vessels are due to arrive at the Cartagena terminal whilst the remaining three Nigerian shipments were headed for Barcelona, Sagunto and Huelva. Spain is also scheduled to receive four additional cargoes via the Yamal LNG-derived Georgiy Ushakov, the Sabine Pass LNG-sailed Castillo de Caldelas, the Oman LNG-derived Salalah LNG and the Arzew LNG-sailed Tessala. These shipments amounted to 0.28mmt. We are expecting the Barcelona and Cartagena terminals to lead Spain's imports this week with 0.19mmt (32pct) and 0.14mmt (24pct), respectively. Our data thus indicate Spanish LNG demand this week is going to increase by 0.06mmt (11pct) week-on-week following imports of 0.53mmt last week, and by 0.29mmt (97pct) year-on-year, the country having imported only 0.30mmt this time last year.

Middle East

Our data also indicate demand in the Middle East is likely to reach 0.25mmt this week via four cargoes, constituting a decrease of 11pct from the 0.28mmt of regional imports last week.

Pakistan is looking to lead regional demand with expected imports of 0.11mmt via two cargoes aboard the Ras Laffan-derived Al Areesh and Broog. These anticipated deliveries indicate Pakistan is likely to see weekly demand decrease by 0.08mmt (-42pct) from 0.19mmt last week and by 0.06mmt (-35pct) from 0.17mmt year-on-year.

In addition, our data point to Kuwait's Al Zour terminal receiving two shipments totalling 0.14mmt via the Atlantic LNG-derived Sestao Knutsen and the Coral Sul FLNG-sailed British Listener this week. Kuwait is thereby likely to see a 0.05mmt increase from its single 0.09mmt offtake last week and a 0.08mmt (133pct) increase from 0.06mmt year-on-year ◆

LNG in Transit

Currently, 15.84mmt of LNG have a delivery horizon of 25 April

Total LNG volumes currently in transit amount to 15.84mmt, representing a decrease of 1.74mmt (-10pct) week-on-week. Current market visibility pegs the delivery horizon at 25 April.

Pacific Basin

Our current market visibility indicates 7.34mmt are destined for the Pacific Basin, whereby South Korea's Incheon terminal is in the lead with 0.51mmt and a delivery horizon of 6 April currently set by the Shagra. Of the 7.34mmt currently in transit, 2.36mmt (32pct) have yet to have a firm destination, which are broadly destined for the Pacific region by 23 April.

At the time of writing, Gorgon LNG topped the list of export plants in the Pacific with 0.56mmt currently in transit, followed by NWS LNG with 0.52mmt and Wheatstone LNG with 0.49mmt via, inter alia, the Asia Excellence, the Celsius Copenhagen and the Asia Vision, respectively. The delivery horizon for Pacific in-transit exports by the Basin's leading three plants was 25 April at the time of writing.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin, meanwhile, is due to receive 3.91mmt by 31 March, our data indicates. Firmed-up Atlantic deliveries are led by 0.53mmt destined for United Kingdom's Isle of Grain terminal with a delivery horizon of 31 March.

As with the Pacific Basin, there remain 2.30mmt of in-transit LNG cargoes that have yet to confirm their destinations. Around 2.28mmt are currently broadly destined for Europe by 15 April.

Among Atlantic exporters with LNG deliveries currently pending, Sabine Pass LNG was the lead with 2.02mmt, followed by Cameron LNG with 0.86mmt and Bonny Island with 0.78mmt. These cargoes are aboard, inter alia, the Castillo de Caldelas, the BW Tulip and the Catalunya Spirit. The delivery horizon for all in-transit exports by Atlantic Basin plants was 23 April at the time of writing.

Middle East

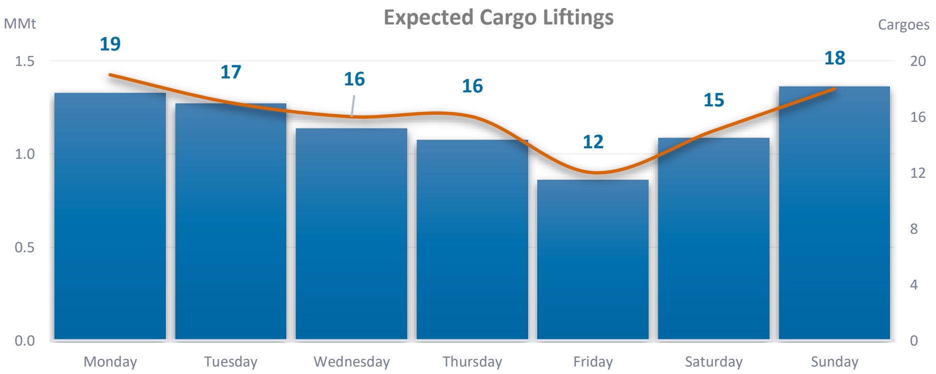
Meanwhile, our data indicate there is a total of six cargoes – 0.36mmt – currently headed for Kuwait and Pakistan. In addition to the cargoes scheduled for arrival this week as outlined above, Pakistan's Port Qasim LNG terminal is expecting one cargo of 0.06mmt aboard the Bonny Island-sailed LNG Borno, which had a delivery horizon of 13 April at the time of writing. Kuwait's Al Zour terminal, meanwhile, was scheduled to receive Nigerian cargo aboard the LNG Bayelsa on 1 April.

In terms of Middle Eastern cargoes underway to destinations outside the Basin, 3.69mmt have a delivery horizon of 22 April, including 2.83mmt that originated in Qatar, with a further 0.50mmt coming from Oman's Qalhat terminal and 0.24mmt from the UAE's Das Island facility. Egypt's Idku LNG plant, meanwhile, had one1 cargo of 0.06mmt via the GasLog Geneva underway at the time of writing. Neighbouring Damietta LNG had one cargo of 0.06mmt underway via the Ob River at the time of writing ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings

113 cargo liftings estimated this week

Based on our shipping data and nominal vessel capacities, we are currently expecting 113 cargo liftings amounting to 8.12mmt by the end of this week.



Source: LNG Journal

Pacific Basin

Our data indicate the Pacific Basin will account for 43 of this week's liftings, meaning that roughly 2.93mmt are exported throughout the Basin by Sunday.

In Australia, we are expecting Ichthys LNG to lead the continent's exports with five cargoes amounting to 0.35mmt, according to nominal vessel capacity. Concurrently, LNG Journal data points to Gorgon LNG shipping three cargoes (0.21mmt), followed by two cargoes (0.15mmt) from Australia Pacific LNG. Meanwhile, Queensland Curtis LNG, Pluto LNG, Wheatstone LNG, NWS LNG and Prelude FLNG are expected to ship a total of 11 cargoes amounting to 0.78mmt by the end of the week.

In Southeast Asia, our shipping data points to Malaysia LNG exporting up to nine cargoes amounting to 0.55mmt. In neighbouring Indonesia, we think this week's exports will amount to four cargoes totalling 0.26mmt from its Tangguh and Bontang plants. Additionally, based on our market visibility, we are expecting Brunei LNG to ship one cargo of 0.07mmt via the Amani this week.

The remaining LNG export plants within the Pacific, namely Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG at Prigorodnoye on Sakhalin Island and PNG LNG in Papua New Guinea are going to export up to six cargoes totalling 0.42mmt, according to our market visibility.

Atlantic Basin

Meanwhile, our analysis indicates the Atlantic Basin will see 41 cargo loadings, with around 2.93mmt exported throughout the Basin.

In the United States, we are expecting a total of 22 cargoes (1.66mmt) to be lifted. These exports are likely to be led by Sabine Pass LNG with 0.67mmt, inter alia via the Aristarchos (0.08mmt), the Castillo de Villalba (0.06mmt) and the Clean Copano (0.08mmt). Concurrently, Freeport LNG is going to ship 0.47mmt via six cargo liftings, our data suggests, whilst we expect Corpus Christi LNG, Cameron LNG, Elba Island LNG and Cove Point LNG to ship a total of 0.52mmt via seven cargo liftings.

In South America and the Caribbean, market visibility indicated three cargo liftings totalling 0.21mmt at Trinidad's Atlantic LNG via the Cadiz Knutsen, the Hoegh Giant and the Pan Asia this week.

On the other side of the Atlantic, we think up to 23 cargoes (1.34mmt) will be lifted by Sunday. In West- and North Africa, we are expecting Nigeria's Bonny Island facility to export five cargoes amounting to 0.35mmt whilst our market visibility further suggests Algeria will ship up to five cargoes amounting to 0.25mmt from its Arzew and Skikda plants by Sunday. We are also expecting Angola's Soyo plant to export one cargo whilst our data point to an export from Equatorial Guinea's EG LNG. We are, however, not expecting a shipment from Cameroon's FLNG facility offshore Kribi this week.

In the Arctic, we are currently anticipating Norway's Snøhvit LNG to ship a cargo via the Arctic Princess. Meanwhile, our shipping data suggests Novatek's Yamal LNG is going to load up to three cargoes amounting to 0.24mmt by Sunday.

Middle East

Finally, we are expecting a total of 29 Middle Eastern cargo liftings totalling 2.25mmt by the end of the week, most of which (1.71mmt) would take place at Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, inter alia via the Al Aamriya and the Al Bidda. Market visibility currently also suggests to us Oman is looking to load up to two cargoes amounting to 0.14mmt via the Hyundai Aquapia and the LNG Juno. In addition, we are expecting ADNOC's Das Island plant in the UAE to ship three cargoes totalling 0.19mmt via the Golar Glacier, the Mraweh and the Mubaraz. Finally, our shipping data indicate two shipments from Egypt's Damietta LNG plant as well as one export from Idku LNG this week.

The current schedule therefore suggests peak loading activity of 19 cargoes on Monday, followed by 18 on Sunday, whilst Friday is looking to be the least active with 12 liftings ◆

Estimated Cargo Liftings (MMt)

Country	Plant	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	Arzew	-	-	-	-	0.08	-	-
	Skikda	0.03	-	-	0.14	-	-	-
Angola	Angola LNG	-	-	-	-	0.07	-	-
Australia	Australia Pacific LNG	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	0.08
	Darwin LNG	0.07	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Gladstone LNG	-	-	0.06	-	-	-	-
	Gorgon LNG	-	0.08	-	0.07	-	0.06	-
	Ichthys LNG	0.07	0.06	-	0.08	-	0.07	0.07
	NWS LNG	-	0.06	-	-	-	0.06	-
	Pluto LNG	-	-	-	0.07	0.08	-	-
	Queensland Curtis	-	-	-	-	0.08	0.08	-
	Wheatstone LNG	0.07	-	-	-	0.07	-	-
	Prelude FLNG	-	-	-	-	0.08	-	-
Brunei	Brunei LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	Cameroon FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E. Guinea	EG LNG	-	-	0.08	-	-	-	-
Egypt	Damietta SEGAS LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	0.07	-
	Idku LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	Bontang	-	-	0.06	-	-	-	-
	Donggi-Senoro LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Tangguh	-	-	0.06	-	0.07	0.07	-
Malaysia	Malaysia LNG	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.12	-	0.12	0.06
	PFLNG Satu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PFLNG Dua	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mozambique	Coral Sul FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.08
Nigeria	Bonny Island	0.08	0.13	-	0.08	-	-	0.06
Norway	Snøhvit LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oman	Oman LNG	0.08	-	0.06	-	-	-	-
Peru	Pampa Melchorita	-	-	-	-	-	0.08	-
PNG	PNG LNG	0.07	-	-	0.08	0.08	-	-
Qatar	Ras Laffan	0.31	0.34	0.37	-	0.06	0.19	0.43
Russia	Sakhalin-2 LNG	0.06	-	-	0.07	0.06	-	-
	Yamal LNG	-	-	0.08	0.08	-	-	0.08
	Portovaya LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Singapore	Singapore LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trin. & Tobago	Atlantic LNG	0.08	-	-	0.14	-	-	-
UAE	Das Island	0.07	-	-	-	-	-	0.12
United States	Elba Island LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
	Cove Point LNG	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
	Cameron LNG	-	-	-	-	0.07	-	0.08
	Freeport LNG	0.07	0.08	0.08	-	-	0.08	0.16
	Sabine Pass LNG	0.08	0.08	0.14	0.08	0.08	0.22	-
	Corpus Christi LNG	0.08	0.08	-	-	-	-	0.07
	Calcasieu Pass LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1.33	1.27	1.14	1.07	0.86	1.08	1.29

Source: LNG Journal

Trade Last Week

Global LNG trade stood at 8.17mmt last week

Last week's global LNG flows stood at 8.17mmt, having thus increased by 0.12mmt (1pct) from 8.05mmt the week prior.

Pacific Basin

The Pacific ended last week with 2.84mmt in exports, resulting in a 0.33mmt (-10.4pct) trade decrease from 3.17mmt recorded for the week before last. This, in turn, translated into capacity utilisation of 89pct. Meanwhile, week-on-week demand in the Pacific region – including domestic re-exports in Malaysia, Indonesia and China – grew by 0.29mmt (6pct) from 5.20mmt to 5.49mmt. As a result, last week's Pacific import capacity utilisation expanded by 3pp to 62pct.

Atlantic Basin

Concurrently, trade in the Atlantic Basin had amounted to 3.46mmt by midnight on Sunday, an 0.33mmt (11pct) increase compared to the 3.13mmt recorded for the prior week. This in turn translated into regional export capacity utilisation of 99pct for last week, an increase of 9pp week-on-week. The Basin's imports, meanwhile, had increased by 0.41mmt (17pct) to 2.83mmt by Sunday. As a result, Atlantic import capacity utilisation stood at 51pct for the week, an increase of 7pp over the week prior.

Middle East

As for the Middle East, the region's exports had seen positive weekly trade growth of 0.12mmt to 1.87mmt by midnight on Sunday. This represented a 7pct increase from the 1.75mmt seen the week before last. As such, regional export capacity utilisation also grew to 85pct for the week, up 5pp over the week before. Meanwhile, Middle Eastern imports saw positive weekly growth, increasing by 0.22mmt (367pct) to 0.28mmt. The region's import capacity utilisation thus stood at 25pct for the week, constituting an increase of 20pp over the prior week.

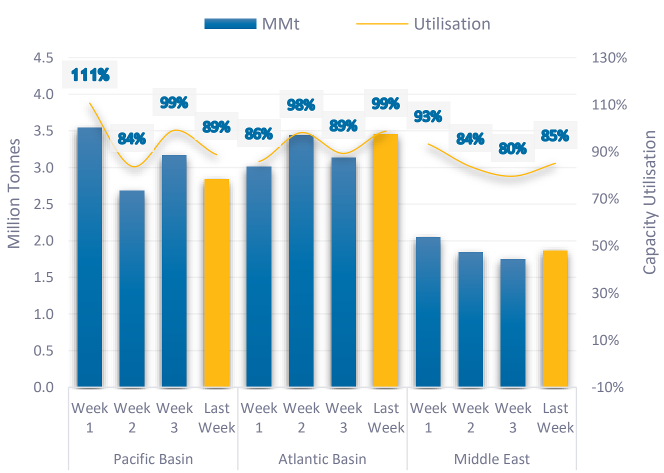
Pacific Exports – Australia

The Pacific Basin's most significant exporter by volume – Australia – shipped 1.46mmt last week, decreasing exports by 0.23mmt (-14pct) from the 1.69mmt shipped the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country thus also reduced LNG shipments by 0.09mmt (-6pct) from 1.55mmt.

Southeast Asia

Meanwhile, the Pacific's second-largest exporter by capacity – Malaysia – shipped 0.41mmt last week, and thereby decreased exports by 0.21mmt (-34pct) week-on-week, whilst its neighbour Indonesia saw an increase of 0.05mmt (20pct) to 0.30mmt over the same period. On a year-on-year basis, however, Malaysia's exports thus also decreased by 0.15mmt (-27pct) from 0.56mmt whilst Indonesia's year-on-year shipments by 0.02mmt (7pct) from 0.28mmt. Elsewhere in the region, in the north of Kalimantan, there were two LNG shipments totalling 0.13mmt from Brunei LNG. The plant thus increased exports by 0.08mmt (160pct) from 0.05mmt the week prior whilst on a year-on-year basis it increased exports by 0.01mmt (8pct).

Exports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Other Pacific Exporters

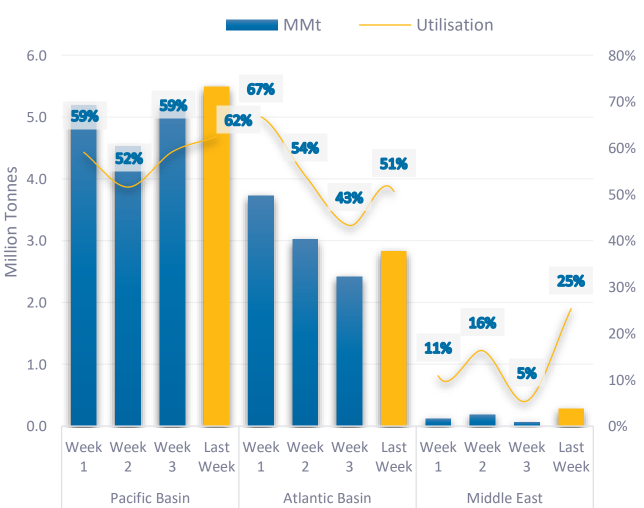
The remaining Pacific LNG exports had amounted to 0.46mmt by the end of last week compared to 0.40mmt the week prior, resulting in a 0.06mmt (15pct) increase in weekly exports. This was mainly due to Singapore's LNG terminal showing an export of 0.07mmt, having shipped no LNG the week prior. Singapore's shipment compensated for a 0.07mmt (-28pct) reduction in exports by Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG. Concurrently, Peru's Pampa Melchorita LNG reappeared in the market with a 0.06mmt cargo whilst Papua New Guinea's PNG LNG saw steady weekly exports of 0.15mmt.

Far Eastern Demand

In line with lower weekly Pacific In contrast to lower weekly Pacific exports, Pacific demand increased by 0.29mmt (6pct) last week, which was led by a 0.02mmt (2pct) offtake increase from 1.07mmt to 1.09mmt in South Korea. Consequently, the country's demand was also up by 0.01mmt (1pct) year-on-year. South Korea's busiest LNG terminal last week was the Tongyeong facility with 0.06mmt, followed by the Incheon terminal with 0.29mmt. Concurrently, LNG demand in Taiwan grew by 0.24mmt week-on-week, which also meant that on an annual basis the country's offtake was up by 0.13mmt (34pct). Taiwan's offtakes were led by the Yung-An terminal with 0.40mmt, followed by the Taichung facility with 0.11mmt. Moreover, India saw weekly demand decline of 8pct, down by 0.04mmt to 0.44mmt from 0.48mmt the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country's imports were nonetheless up by 0.11mmt (33pct) from 0.33mmt. In Japan, weekly imports decreased by 0.12mmt (-8pct) from 1.50mmt to 1.38mmt whilst the country's imports had remained steady year-on-year. Meanwhile, we recorded a significant demand increase in China last week, where offtakes went up by 0.23mmt (18pct) to 1.51mmt from 1.28mmt the week prior. Accordingly, China's imports had also increased by 0.38mmt (34pct) year-on-year from 1.13mmt.

Concurrently, the roster of smaller Pacific Basin buyers typically consisting of Chile, Singapore, Mexico, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar and Bangladesh decreased its collective weekly imports by 0.04mmt (-7pct) to 0.56mmt. The demand decrease was driven by a demand reduction of 0.06mmt (-21pct) to 0.22mmt in Thailand following imports of 0.28mmt the week prior. Malaysia also cut LNG offtkaes by 0.04mmt (-67pct) to 0.02mmt. Concurrently, Mexico was not seen in the market after it had imported 0.05mmt the week prior. Similarly, Singapore did not repeat its prior-week import of 0.08mmt. These decreases were only cushioned by import increases totalling 0.19mmt

Imports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



in Chile, Indonesia and Bangladesh. Myanmar continued its market absence.

Atlantic Exports – West Africa

In the Atlantic Basin, West In the Atlantic Basin, West African exporters boosted their overall shipped volumes by 0.55mmt (138pct) last week. Algeria increased shipments by 0.19mmt (173pct) to 0.30mmt from 0.11mmt the week prior alongside a week-on-week increase of 0.13mmt (59pct) to 0.35mmt in Nigeria. Angola, meanwhile, doubled weekly exports to 0.14mmt. Equatorial Guinea and Cameroon, on the other hand, were again seen in the market last week with an export of 0.08mmt each.

United States

In the United States, export plants saw the total of shipped LNG volumes expand by 0.05mmt (3pct) to 1.80mmt from 1.75mmt last week. US LNG export performance was mainly due to strong growth in shipments by 0.25mmt (41pct) to 0.86mmt at Sabine Pass LNG. The plant had shipped 0.61mmt the week prior. This was compounded by an increase in exports of 0.10mmt (83pct) to 0.22mmt at Freeport LNG. Cameron LNG, however, decreased weekly exports by 0.09mmt (-30pct) to 0.21mmt whilst Elba Island LNG cut its shipped volumes by 0.08mmt week-on-week as did not export a cargo. Concurrently, Calcasieu Pass LNG reduced LNG exports by 0.07mmt (-33pct) to 0.14mmt from 0.21mmt the week prior. Corpus Christi LNG cut weekly exports more moderately by 0.05mmt (-18pct) to 0.23mmt whilst Cove Point LNG kept shipments broadly steady at 0.14mmt. As such, US LNG shipments outperformed their year-on-year equivalent of 1.73mmt, showing a net improvement of 0.07mmt (4pct) year-on-year.

Other Atlantic Exporters

Further south, Atlantic LNG on Trinidad saw three exports totalling 0.17mmt. Concurrently, in the Arctic, Novatek's fleet lifted 0.35mmt via five shipments from Yamal LNG. Russian LNG exports in the Atlantic Basin thereby increased by 0.13mmt (59pct) from 0.52mmt the week prior. Snøhvit LNG in Norway shipped one LNG cargo of 0.06mmt last week, down 0.07mmt week-on-week.

European Demand

European buyers increased imports by 0.46mmt (14.3pct) to 2.75mmt last week. Notably, the United Kingdom, Spain and Turkey saw a combined weekly demand increase of 0.34mmt (33pct) to 1.38mmt. Concurrently, there were resumed offtakes in Poland, Greece and Portugal totalling 0.20mmt following no demand the week prior. Belgium and Lithuania, meanwhile, only increased their weekly imports moderately in volume terms by 0.01mmt, respectively. These increases were only tempered by decreases totalling 0.10mmt (-16pct) to 0.51mmt in the Netherlands, France and Croatia. Malta was not seen in the market. Among European terminals, imports in northern Europe were led by the South Hook LNG terminal in the United Kingdom with 0.22mmt whilst in southern Europe, Spain's Cartagena LNG terminal was in the lead with 0.22mmt.

Other Atlantic Buyers

Meanwhile, Atlantic buyers in North- and South America, as well as the Caribbean, saw steady weekly aggregate demand of 0.08mmt. Both Puerto Rico and Argentina were once again seen in the market with imports of 0.02mmt each. Neither had shown LNG demand the week prior. Panama also took in a moderate 0.01mmt via a partial discharge. These week-on-week increments were offset, however, by a demand cut of 0.05mmt (-63pct) to 0.03mmt in the Dominican Republic. The country had imported 0.08mmt the week prior. We did not record LNG demand elsewhere in the Americas last week.

Middle Eastern Exports

In the Middle East, Qatar shipped 1.50mmt last week and thereby saw robust week-on-week export growth of 0.12mmt (9pct) from the 1.38mmt seen the week prior. The country also increased exports by 0.24mmt (19pct) from the 1.26mmt shipped this time last year. Meanwhile, Oman decreased weekly exports by 0.13mmt (-52pct) to 0.12mmt whilst the UAE doubled exports to 0.12mmt. On a year-on-year basis, Oman also decreased shipments by 0.11mmt (-48pct) whilst the UAE's shipments were up by 0.07mmt (140pct). Egypt, meanwhile, increased shipped volumes by 0.07mmt (117pct) to 0.13mmt last week whilst also showing a 0.12mmt (-48pct) export decrease year-on-year.

Middle Eastern Demand

Completing the Middle East's LNG trade picture last week were Kuwait and Pakistan, which together imported 0.28mmt via four cargoes. These shipments were supplied from Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex and Bonny Island LNG in Nigeria. As such, the region's week-on-week demand had increased by 0.22mmt (367pct) from 0.06mmt the week prior. Regional demand was nevertheless still down slightly by 0.01mmt (-3pct) year-on-year ♦