

Recent international and domestic gas price movements

9 April 2026

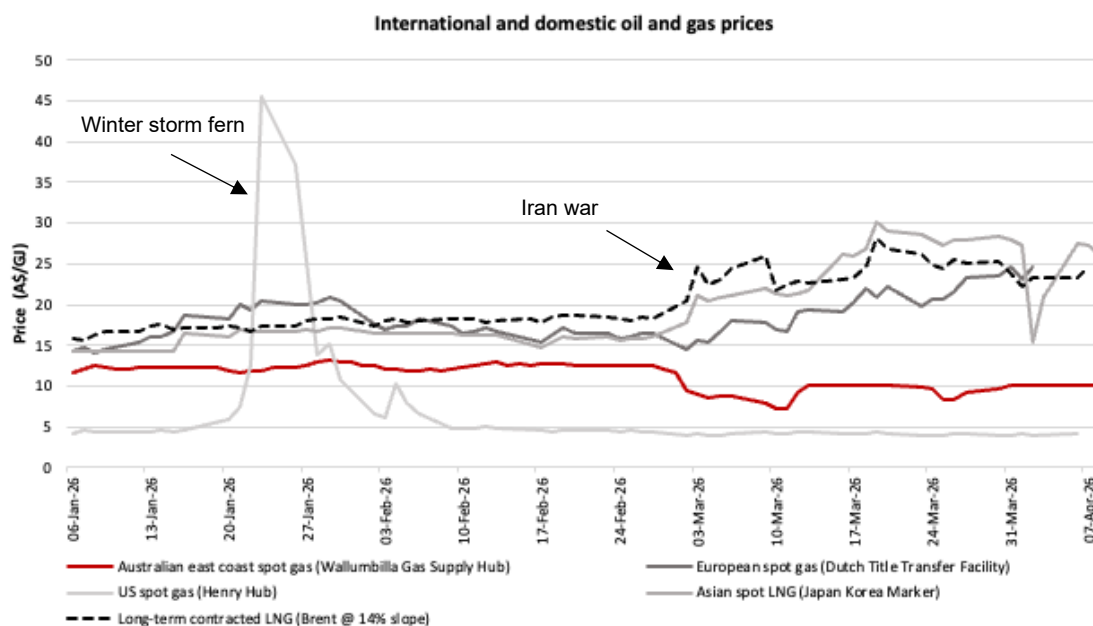
Summary

The conflict between the United States, Israel and Iran that commenced 28 February 2026 is impacting a significant proportion of global oil and LNG supply as ships are unable to transit the Strait of Hormuz. Approximately 34% of global seaborne oil trade normally transits the Strait along with almost 20% of global LNG exports.¹ A notional ceasefire has been announced but the flow of traffic through the Strait remains disrupted.²

The lack of supply via the Strait has resulted in global oil prices increasing sharply and entering a period of volatility. Global gas price measures that are influenced by LNG markets have also risen. However, Australian east coast domestic spot prices at the Wallumbilla Gas Supply Hub (**WGS**H) fell significantly as global prices rose indicating that the spot market was not being impacted by the conflict in Iran. WGS prices have risen in recent days but remain below price levels observed in recent months.

Key international and domestic prices are shown in Figure 1 which includes global and domestic price series for which recent daily price data is available. Prices in Figure 1 are shown in the same unit and currency basis - \$/GJ³ - to enable comparison.

Figure 1 International and domestic oil and gas prices



Source: EnergyQuest

Australian domestic gas price

Most Australian domestic gas is transacted under longer-term contracts with short-term supply available from spot markets on the east and west coast.

¹ International Energy Agency, 'Strait of Hormuz', February 2026

² Wall Street Journal, 'Iran Tightens Its Grip on Hormuz Despite Cease-Fire', 8 April 2026

³ This brief uses exchange rates in place on the dates quoted.



ENERGY QUEST

The WGSB is the major east coast spot market. WGSB prices have not moved in line with global oil and gas prices in recent weeks and have in fact fallen significantly. The WGSB price fell to A\$7.17/GJ on 10 March – the lowest level since September 2019 and 36% lower than a month prior – but has since risen to A\$10.00/GJ as at 8 April 2026.

There is no identifiable specific reason for the fall in WGSB prices observed in recent weeks.

Total east coast gas production was 159 PJ in March 2026, essentially flat year-on-year.

Queensland LNG exports were marginally higher in March 2026 year-on-year with exports totalling 2.2 Mt in March 2026, an increase of 0.3 Mt (+1%), with 34 LNG cargoes shipped.

Demand from gas-fired power generation (**GPG**) in the National Electricity Market (**NEM**) was lower year-on-year by 1.3 PJ (-14%) year-on-year. Large gas user demand was down 0.7 PJ (-13%) in March 2026 year-on-year.

Price data for the Western Australian spot market is not yet available for the period since the outbreak of war in Iran. However, domestic gas prices in Western Australia have historically been significantly lower than netback LNG prices.⁴

Global oil and gas prices

Brent oil price

The Brent oil price is the benchmark price for most globally traded crude oil.

Brent was below US\$70/bbl (\$A99/bbl) for much of the past 12 months. With the outbreak of war in Iran and closure of the Strait of Hormuz, Brent peaked at over US\$110/bbl (A\$155/bbl) on 9 March 2026 but is currently approximately \$US97/bbl (A\$138/bbl).

European Dutch TTF

The Dutch Title Transfer Facility (**TTF**) is the main reference price for gas trading in Europe. Europe has become more reliant on LNG imports due to reduced pipeline gas supply from Russia after the outbreak of war in Ukraine in 2022. The TTF is therefore, to some extent, linked to global LNG markets.

The TTF rose sharply in recent weeks peaking at A\$27.61/GJ as concerns surrounding LNG supply rose with the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. On 2 April 2026 the TTF was A\$24.62/GJ, 70% higher than a month prior.

Asian JKM

The JKM is the benchmark spot price for LNG cargoes in northeast Asia.

The JKM ranged between A\$14.86-16.35/GJ through January and most of February before rising sharply with the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. On 8 April 2026 the JKM was A\$26.12/GJ, an increase of 64% compared to a month prior.

Henry Hub

The Henry Hub price is the wholesale spot price for gas in the US.

Henry Hub prices were below \$A6.00/GJ in early January before spiking to A\$45.65/GJ – a record Henry Hub price – on 23 January 2026. Prices have since fallen and were A\$5.68/GJ on 6 April 2026.

The Henry Hub price has not been disturbed by the Iran conflict.

⁴ An LNG netback price is a measure of an export parity price that a gas supplier can expect to receive for exporting its gas. It is calculated by taking the price that could be received for LNG and subtracting or 'netting back' the costs incurred by the supplier to convert the gas to LNG and ship it to the destination port.



Differences between recent price movements and 2022

Australian gas price decreases in recent weeks and the price increases seen in 2022 were not related to global price levels.

EnergyQuest analysis indicates that east coast domestic gas price increases in 2022 were driven by high electricity prices in the NEM. Electricity prices increased from April to August 2022 as there was significantly lower coal-fired power generation (**CPG**) due to several CPG facilities being offline due to flooding and other issues.

The lack of CPG was offset to some degree by variable renewable energy, but this was insufficient to meet demand resulting in significantly increased demand for GPG (being the only remaining generation source in the NEM). GPG increased up to 58% in May 2022 compared to May 2021 and this priority to maintain electricity generation supply was a major contributor to the gas price increases in April 2022 (up 52% on March) and May 2022 (up 75% on April).

The domestic gas price rises seen in 2022 were therefore driven by domestic factors.

The Ukraine war was not a factor in east coast gas price rises in 2022. JKM prices were already at high levels before the outbreak of the Ukraine war due to a cold winter and low gas stocks in Asia. WGSHP prices were falling in the latter half of 2022 while the JKM reach new peaks. Queensland LNG shipped volumes were relatively low in the period when WGSHP prices were peaking, meaning LNG exports were not a cause of the high prices.

Global prices and the war in Iran are not influencing east coast domestic spot prices, which have been falling in recent weeks while global oil and gas prices linked to LNG markets have risen sharply. Some Australian domestic gas contracts have prices linked to the JKM or Brent oil prices, and prices under these contracts rise and fall in line with those measures.

Risks of elevated domestic prices in coming weeks

The war in Iran has brought significant uncertainty and price rises to global oil and gas markets.

East coast Australian gas spot market prices have not been affected. As noted above, some Australian domestic gas contracts have prices linked to the JKM or Brent oil price and prices under these contracts rise and fall in line with those price measures. There is currently no public data available on domestic contracted price movements for the relevant period.

With regard to international markets, the International Energy Agency announced the largest ever oil stock release to address oil market disruptions.⁵ Increased supply from emergency stocks place downwards pressure on oil prices.

Futures prices represent a market view on expected price levels in coming months. Futures markets indicate an expectation that global oil and gas prices will fall by the end of 2026. Brent futures indicate an increase to US\$109.27/bbl (A\$155.187/bbl) in June 2026 and then a progressive decline to \$US81.80/bbl (A\$116.17/bbl) by the end of 2026. JKM futures indicate increasing prices to A\$28.21/GJ in May 2026 before declining A\$25.44/GJ by end 2026.⁶ Futures prices were last updated on 7 April 2026 for Brent and 8 April for JKM, meaning that the announced ceasefire and other recent events are not yet fully reflected in futures pricing.

⁵ International Energy Agency, '[IEA Member countries to carry out largest ever oil stock release amid market disruptions from Middle East conflict](#)', 11 March 2026

⁶ CME Group, '[Energy Markets](#)', accessed on 11 March 2026