

Weekly Gasoline Report



The Gasoline Report is a roundup of consumer gasoline prices from across Ontario and Canada. The graph shows price trends for three

Ontario cities for the previous 12 month period. The report and graph are updated weekly.

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This week's Gasoline Report is for the week ending April 3, 2006

The Ontario average retail price of regular unleaded gasoline increased by 4.4 cents to 100.6 cents a litre, a six-month high, as wholesale prices jumped sharply in response to falling U.S. gasoline inventories and concerns about U.S. gasoline supplies this summer.

Prices rose by 6.2 cents in North Bay (to a six-month high), 5.5 cents in Toronto (to a six-month high), 5.1 cents in Windsor, 4.2 cents in London (to a six-month high), 4.0 cents in Timmins (to a three-month high), 3.7 cents in Ottawa (to a six-month high), 2.4 cents in Sault Ste. Marie (to a six-month high), 1.2 cents in Thunder Bay, and 0.4 cents in Sudbury (to a six-month high). The Ontario average retail diesel price increased by 2.5 cents to 95.0 cents, a three-month high.

The Canadian average retail gasoline price increased for the seventh straight week, by 2.4 cents to 101.9 cents, a six-month high. Prices rose by 10.6 cents in Charlottetown, 6.0 cents in Regina, 5.1 cents in Winnipeg, 4.8 cents in Vancouver, 4.5 cents in Edmonton, 4.0 cents in Quebec City, 3.1 cents in Halifax, 2.9 cents in Saint John, 2.5 cents in Toronto, and 2.3 cents in Calgary. Prices in all these markets were at six-month highs except in Toronto, which were at a three-month high. Prices fell by 0.2 cents in Montreal (from a three-month high). The Canadian average retail diesel price increased for the sixth straight week, by 1.3 cents to 97.3 cents, a four-month high.

Gasoline marketing margins increased in the first quarter of 2006 from the same period a year ago in Toronto and Hamilton, but declined in other markets, according to a Ministry of Energy analysis.

Margins in Toronto rose from 4.6 cents a litre a year ago to 5.4 cents in the first quarter, but were down from 6.1 cents in the fourth quarter of 2005, while in Hamilton they rose from 4.2 cents to 4.4 cents, but were down from 5.2 cents the previous quarter. Margins in Ottawa fell from 5.5 cents a year ago to 4.3 cents, and were also lower than the 6.0 cents recorded in the fourth quarter, while in Thunder Bay they dropped from 8.9 cents to 6.0 cents, and were lower than the previous quarter's 8.6 cents. Only in London and Sault Ste. Marie did margins increase from the fourth quarter. In London they rose from 3.1 cents to 4.1 cents, although they were lower than the 5.0 cents recorded a year earlier, and in Sault Ste. Marie they increased from 5.5 cents to 7.0 cents, but were down from 7.5 cents a year ago. Margins, defined as the pump price minus the wholesale or rack price, are the amount available to the dealer to cover operating costs and provide a return on investment (Ministry of Energy).

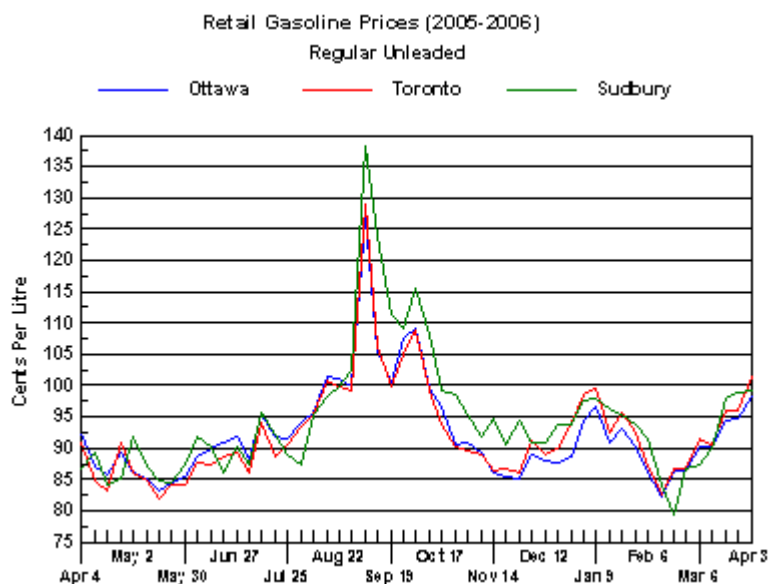
The table and graphic below show this week's gasoline price trends.

Market	March 27	April 3	+ / -
Ottawa	94.6	98.3	3.7
Toronto West	96.0	101.3	5.3
Toronto East	96.2	101.8	5.6
Windsor	90.7	95.8	5.1
London	95.4	99.6	4.2
Sudbury	98.9	99.3	0.4
S. Ste. Marie	100.4	102.8	2.4

Thunder Bay	102.2	103.4	1.2
North Bay	97.1	103.3	6.2
Timmins	101.9	105.9	4.0
Ontario Average	96.2	100.6	4.4

Market	March 28	April 4	+ / -
St John's NF	109.6	109.6	0.0
Charlottetown	97.3	107.9	10.6
Halifax	106.8	109.9	3.1
Saint John NB	106.9	109.8	2.9
Quebec City	105.4	109.4	4.0
Montreal	106.4	106.2	-0.2
Toronto	96.0	98.5	2.5
Winnipeg	96.6	101.7	5.1
Regina	99.5	105.5	6.0
Edmonton	91.9	96.4	4.5
Calgary	93.2	95.5	2.3
Vancouver	102.8	107.6	4.8
Canada Average	99.5	101.9	2.4

Source: Ontario Ministry of Energy; [MJ Ervin & Associates](#)



Still seeing last week's chart? Refresh your browser (CTRL-R)

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