

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.

This week's Gasoline Report is for the week ending April 7, 2008

Higher world crude oil and North American wholesale gasoline prices caused the Ontario average retail price of regular unleaded gasoline to increase for the second straight week, by 2.9 cents to 111.8 cents a litre, its highest level since September 2005.

Prices rose by 3.5 cents in London and Toronto (both to a 31-month high), 2.9 cents in Windsor (to a ten-month high), 2.2 cents in Ottawa (to a 31-month high), 2.0 cents in both Thunder Bay (to a ten-month high) and Timmins (to a nine-month high), 1.0 cents in Sudbury (to a 30-month high), and 0.9 cents in North Bay (to a 30-month high). Prices fell by 0.6 cents in Sault Ste. Marie (to a four-week low). Windsor had the lowest average price for the tenth straight week. The average price gap between northern and southern Ontario narrowed from a two-month high of 7.9 cents to 5.9 cents, a four-week low. The Ontario average retail diesel price declined by 0.3 cents to 122.7 cents.

The Canadian average retail gasoline price increased for the third straight week, by 2.1 cents to 116.2 cents, its highest level since September 2005. Prices rose by 5.6 cents in Toronto (to a 31-month high), 5.0 cents in Regina (to a record high of 123.9 cents), 4.0 cents in Winnipeg (to a record high of 118.6 cents), 2.9 cents in Calgary (to a ten-month high), 1.2 cents in Vancouver (to an 11-month high), and 0.9 cents in Saint John. Prices fell by 4.9 cents in Montreal (from a 31-month high) and 0.2 cents in Edmonton (from a ten-month high). The Canadian average retail diesel price declined for the second straight week, by 0.3 cents to 126.8 cents.

Regular unleaded gasoline marketing margins in Ontario showed mixed results in the first three months of the year, rising in two southern cities, falling in two northern cities, and remaining unchanged in two other southern cities, according to a Ministry of Energy analysis.

Margins in Ottawa rose from 6.3 cents a litre in the fourth quarter of 2007 to 6.7 cents in the first quarter of 2008, and in Hamilton they edged up from 5.0 cents to 5.1 cents. Margins in Sault Ste. Marie declined from 8.8 cents to 8.3 cents, and in Thunder Bay they dropped from 9.1 cents to 5.9 cents. Margins in Toronto and London were unchanged at 5.1 cents and 5.4 cents, respectively. Compared with the first quarter of 2007, margins declined very slightly in Ottawa and London, rose by one cent in Toronto, 1.3 cents in Hamilton, and 3.4 cents in Sault Ste. Marie, and dropped by 5.0 cents in Thunder Bay. Margins (pump price minus wholesale or "rack" price) are the amount available to the dealer to cover costs and provide a return on investment (Ministry of Energy).

The table and graphic on the next pages show this week's gasoline price trends.

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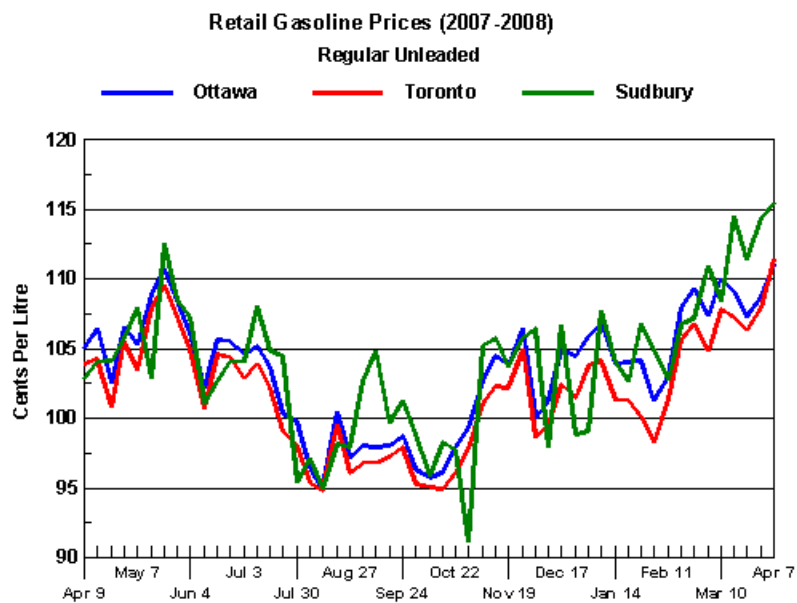
Market	March 31	April 7	+/-
Ottawa	108.8	111.0	2.2
Toronto West	107.9	111.4	3.5
Toronto East	108.0	111.4	3.4
Windsor	106.5	109.4	2.9
London	108.3	111.8	3.5
Sudbury	114.4	115.4	1.0
S. Ste. Marie	113.1	112.5	-0.6
Thunder Bay	119.2	121.2	2.0
North Bay	114.8	115.7	0.9
Timmins	117.9	119.9	2.0
Ontario Average	108.9	111.8	2.9

Market	April 1	April 8	+/-
St John's NF	120.6	120.6	0.0
Charlottetown	111.9	111.9	0.0
Halifax	118.2	118.2	0.0
Saint John NB	111.4	112.3	0.9
Quebec City	117.4	117.4	0.0
Montreal	123.4	118.5	-4.9
Toronto	106.5	112.1	5.6
Winnipeg	114.6	118.6	4.0
Regina	118.9	123.9	5.0
Edmonton	111.9	111.7	-0.2
Calgary	112.4	115.3	2.9
Vancouver	120.7	121.9	1.2
Canada Average	114.1	116.2	2.1

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

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