# 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 6, 2009

**Lower wholesale prices and price wars in some northern markets caused the Ontario average retail price of regular unleaded gasoline, after increasing two straight weeks, to decline by 0.6 cents from a four-week high to 85.1 cents a litre.**

Prices fell by 6.3 cents in Sault Ste. Marie (from a five-month high), 5.0 cents in North Bay (from a five-month high), 4.9 cents in Sudbury (from a five-month high), 2.0 cents in Timmins, and less than a cent in Ottawa, Toronto, and London. Prices rose by 1.4 cents in Thunder Bay and 0.4 cents in Windsor (the latter to a two-month high). The average price gap between northern and southern Ontario, after widening two straight weeks, narrowed from 4.8 cents to 2.2 cents, a two-month low. The Ontario average retail diesel price declined by 0.1 cents from a six-week high to 84.5 cents.

The Canadian average retail gasoline price increased by 0.3 cents to 88.7 cents. Prices rose by 2.4 cents in Charlottetown (to a five-month high), 1.6 cents in Toronto, and less than a cent in Vancouver, Saint John (to a five-month high), and Montreal. Prices fell by 4.0 cents in Quebec City, 2.6 cents in Halifax (from a five-month high), 2.0 cents in Regina (from a five-month high), 1.9 cents in Calgary, 1.8 cents in Edmonton, and 0.2 cents in Winnipeg (from a five-month high). The Canadian average retail diesel price increased for the third straight week, by 0.4 cents to 87.3 cents, a two-month high.

**Gasoline marketing margins in the first three months of 2009 increased in southern Ontario but fell in the north, according to a Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure analysis.**

Margins in Toronto increased from 6.3 cents a litre in the fourth quarter of 2008 to 7.8 cents in the first quarter of 2009, in Ottawa they rose from 4.4 cents to 5.0 cents, in Hamilton they grew from 4.9 cents to 7.1 cents, and in London they increased from 5.7 cents to 7.3 cents. Margins fell from 9.9 cents to 6.2 cents in Sault Ste. Marie, and from 13.7 cents to 6.0 cents in Thunder Bay. The situation was similar with respect to the first quarter last year, with margins rising in the southern markets (except in Ottawa, where they fell) and falling in the northern ones. Margins (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.

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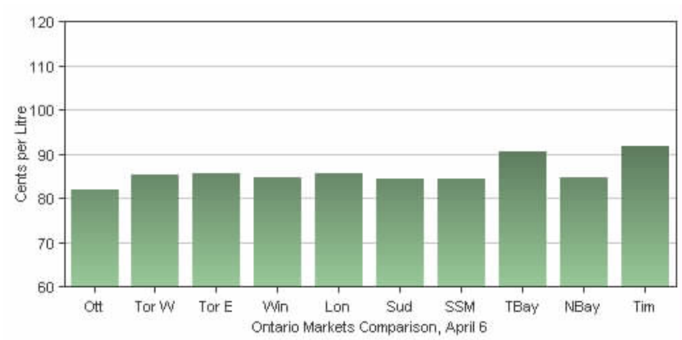
The table and graphic below show this week's gasoline price trends.

**Ontario Prices**

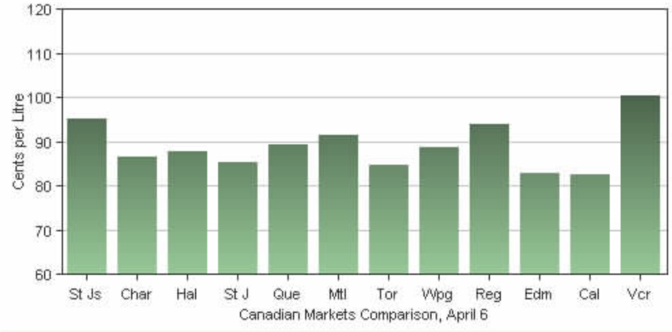
| Market | March 30 | April 6 | +/- |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ottawa | 82.5 | 82.0 | -0.5 |
| Toronto West | 85.9 | 85.5 | -0.4 |
| Toronto East | 86.1 | 85.7 | -0.4 |
| Windsor | 84.5 | 84.9 | 0.4 |
| London | 85.9 | 85.6 | -0.3 |
| Sudbury | 89.4 | 84.5 | -4.9 |
| S. Ste. Marie | 90.9 | 84.6 | -6.3 |
| Thunder Bay | 89.3 | 90.7 | 1.4 |
| North Bay | 89.7 | 84.7 | -5.0 |
| Timmins | 93.9 | 91.9 | -2.0 |
| **Ontario Average** | **85.7** | **85.1** | **-0.6** |



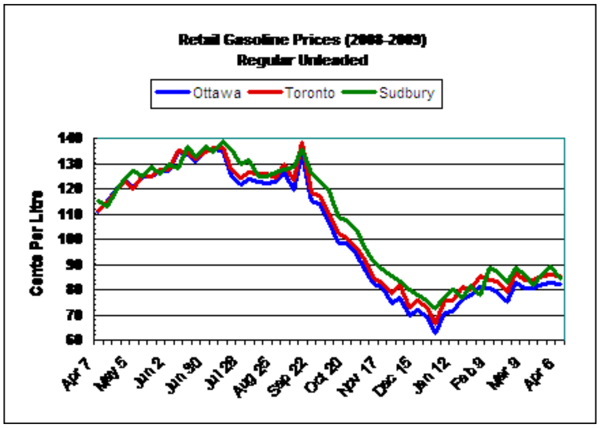

**Canada Prices**

| Market | March 31 | April 7 | +/- |
|---|---|---|---|
| St John's NF | 95.1 | 95.1 | 0.0 |
| Charlottetown | 84.3 | 86.7 | 2.4 |
| Halifax | 90.3 | 87.7 | -2.6 |
| Saint John NB | 85.1 | 85.4 | 0.3 |
| Quebec City | 93.4 | 89.4 | -4.0 |
| Montreal | 91.4 | 91.5 | 0.1 |
| Toronto | 83.3 | 84.9 | 1.6 |
| Winnipeg | 88.9 | 88.7 | -0.2 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Regina | 95.9 | 93.9 | -2.0 |
| Edmonton | 84.8 | 83.0 | -1.8 |
| Calgary | 84.4 | 82.5 | -1.9 |
| Vancouver | 99.7 | 100.4 | 0.7 |
| **Canada Average** | **88.4** | **88.7** | **0.3** |




*Source: Ontario Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure; MJ Ervin & Associates*

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