



MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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OIL AND GAS

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 13, 2009

The Ontario average retail price of regular unleaded gasoline declined for the second straight week, by 0.2 cents to 84.9 cents a litre, a four-week low, reflecting lower wholesale prices.

Prices fell by 2.9 cents in North Bay (to a two-month low), 2.7 cents in Sudbury (to a four-week low), 1.6 cents in Thunder Bay, and less than a cent in Windsor, London (to a four-week low), and Toronto (to a four-week low). Prices rose by 2.9 cents in Sault Ste. Marie. The average price gap between northern and southern Ontario narrowed for the second straight week, from 2.2 cents to 1.1 cents, a two-month low. The Ontario average retail diesel price declined for the second straight week, by 0.8 cents to 83.7 cents.

The Canadian average retail gasoline price was unchanged at 88.7 cents. Prices rose by 2.7 cents in Halifax (to a five-month high) and less than a cent in St. John's (to a five-month high), Toronto, Winnipeg (to a five-month high), and Calgary. Prices fell by 1.1 cents in Montreal (to a six-week low) and less than a cent in Saint John (from a five-month high) and Vancouver. The Canadian average retail diesel price, after increasing three straight weeks, declined by 1.3 cents from a two-month high to 86.0 cents.

Ontario motorists spent \$16.2-billion buying gasoline in 2008, up \$1.6-billion or 11% from 2007 and the sixth consecutive annual record, according to a Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure analysis.

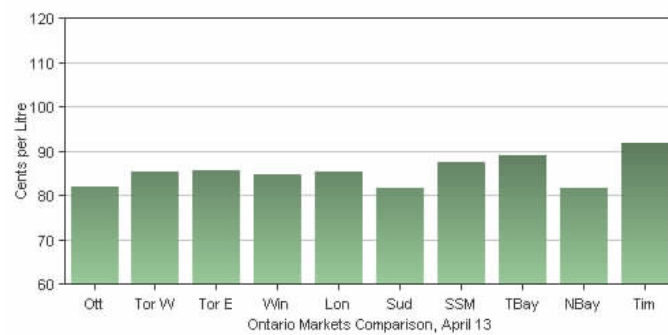
The increase in spending was due to higher pump prices, which offset lower gasoline consumption and a higher Canadian dollar. The volume of Ontario retail gasoline sales declined by 0.7% from 2007's record 14.6-billion litres, to 14.5-billion litres. The Ontario average retail price of all three grades of gasoline in 2008 was 112.2 cents a litre, up 12% from 2007 and the fifth consecutive annual record. The increase in pump prices reflected higher crude oil prices and higher retail margins, which offset lower wholesale (refining) margins. The increase in crude costs, 17.1 cents a litre, cost Ontario motorists \$2.46-billion,

while higher retail margins (up 1.7 cents a litre) cost Ontario motorists \$246-million. Wholesale margins fell by 6.6 cents a litre, saving motorists \$956-million. Since 1990 there has been a noticeable shift in Ontario gasoline sales from the more expensive, higher-octane grades to cheaper, regular grade, which now accounts for just under 90% of sales compared with just over 76% in 1990. If, last year, Ontario motorists had bought the three grades in the same proportions they did in 1990, they would have paid an extra \$637-million for their gasoline. The higher value of the Canadian dollar, 94.2 cents (U.S.) in 2008 vs. 93.6 cents in 2007, reduced Ontario retail gasoline costs by \$322-million. The exchange rate affects retail gasoline costs through the wholesale gasoline market, which is heavily influenced by developments in the U.S. market.

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

Ontario Prices

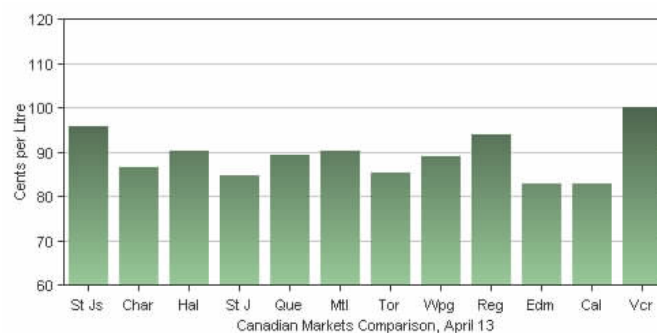
Market	April 6	April 13	+/-
Ottawa	82.0	82.0	0.0
Toronto West	85.5	85.5	0.0
Toronto East	85.7	85.6	-0.1
Windsor	84.9	84.7	-0.2
London	85.6	85.5	-0.1
Sudbury	84.5	81.8	-2.7
S. Ste. Marie	84.6	87.5	2.9
Thunder Bay	90.7	89.1	-1.6
North Bay	84.7	81.8	-2.9
Timmins	91.9	91.9	0.0
Ontario Average	85.1	84.9	-0.2



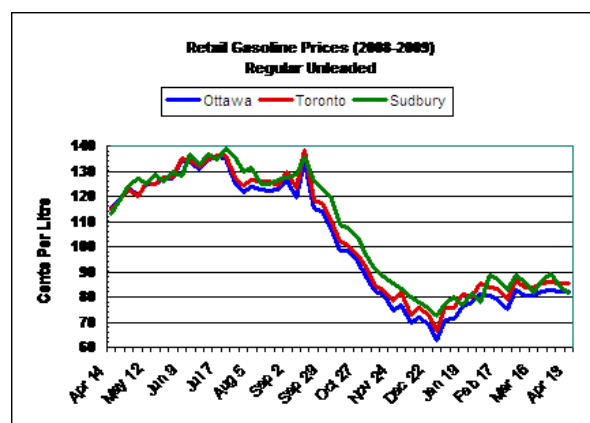
Canada Prices

Market	April 7	April 14	+/-
St John's NF	95.1	95.8	0.7
Charlottetown	86.7	86.7	0.0

Halifax	87.7	90.4	2.7
Saint John NB	85.4	84.9	-0.5
Quebec City	89.4	89.4	0.0
Montreal	91.5	90.4	-1.1
Toronto	84.9	85.3	0.4
Winnipeg	88.7	89.0	0.3
Regina	93.9	93.9	0.0
Edmonton	83.0	83.0	0.0
Calgary	82.5	82.8	0.3
Vancouver	100.4	100.3	-0.1
Canada Average	88.7	88.7	0.0



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



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