Ontario

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

GASOLINE REPORT

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 January 4, 2011.

The Ontario average retail price of regular unleaded gasoline, after increasing two straight weeks, declined by 0.3 cents from a 27-month high to 114.2 cents a litre, reflecting lower domestic wholesale prices.

Prices fell by 1.3 cents in North Bay, 1.0 cents in Sudbury, and less than a cent in Thunder Bay, London, Toronto, Ottawa, and Timmins (all from a 27-month high, except for Thunder Bay). Prices rose by 0.4 cents in Sault Ste. Marie (to a 27-month high). Windsor had the lowest average price for the 26th straight week. The average price gap between northern and southern Ontario narrowed for the second straight week, to 5.6 cents. The Ontario average retail diesel price increased for the fourth straight week, by 0.5 cents to 113.1 cents, its highest level since October 2008.

The Canadian average retail gasoline price increased for the third straight week, by 0.4 cents to 113.3 cents, its highest level since October 2008. Prices rose by 2.7 cents in Saint John and St. John’s (both to a 27-month high), 1.9 cents in Montreal, 1.1 cents in Halifax and Charlottetown (both to a 27-month high), and 0.7 cents in Calgary (to a 27-month high). Prices fell by less than a cent in Toronto and Vancouver (both from a 27-month high). The Canadian average retail diesel price increased for the fifth straight week, by 0.7 cents to 113.7 cents, the highest since November 2008.

Gasoline marketing margins fell in four Ontario cities, rose in one, and stayed the same in another in 2010, according to a Ministry of Energy analysis.

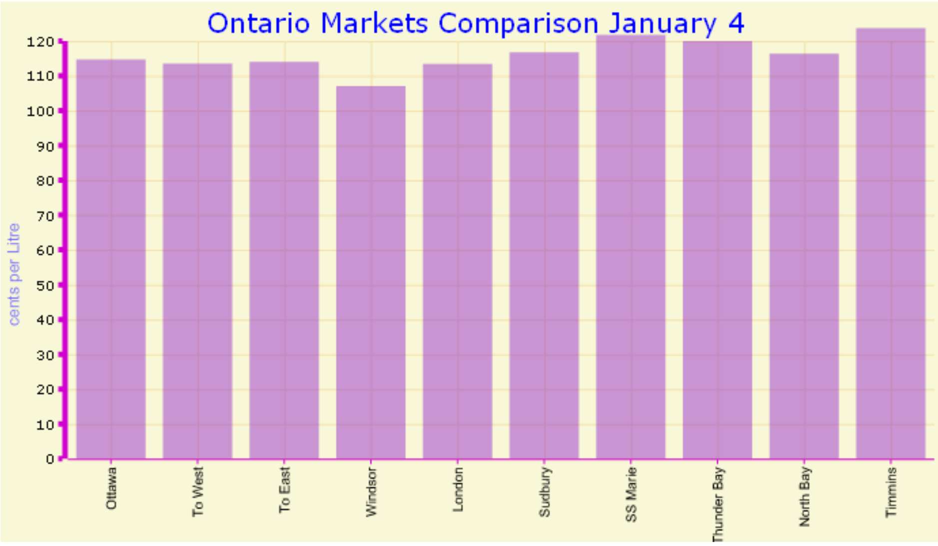
The biggest decline occurred in Toronto, where margins fell from a 21-year high of 7.1 cents a litre in 2009 to 6.7 cents in 2010, ending a string of three consecutive increases. In Thunder Bay, margins fell for the third straight year, from 8.1 cents to 7.9 cents, a six-year low and down from 2007’s peak of 9.9 cents. In Hamilton, margins fell from 6.6 cents (the highest since records began in 2000) to 6.5 cents, and in London they fell from 6.8 cents (the highest since records began in 1994) to 6.7 cents, in both cases ending a string of three consecutive increases. In Sault Ste. Marie, margins were unchanged at 6.8 cents, down from a 2008 peak of 8.8 cents. Only in Ottawa did margins increase, from a five-year low of 4.7 cents to 6.0 cents, ending a string of two consecutive declines. Margins (pump price minus wholesale or “rack” price) are the amount available to the dealer to cover operating costs and provide a return on investment.

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

Ontario Prices

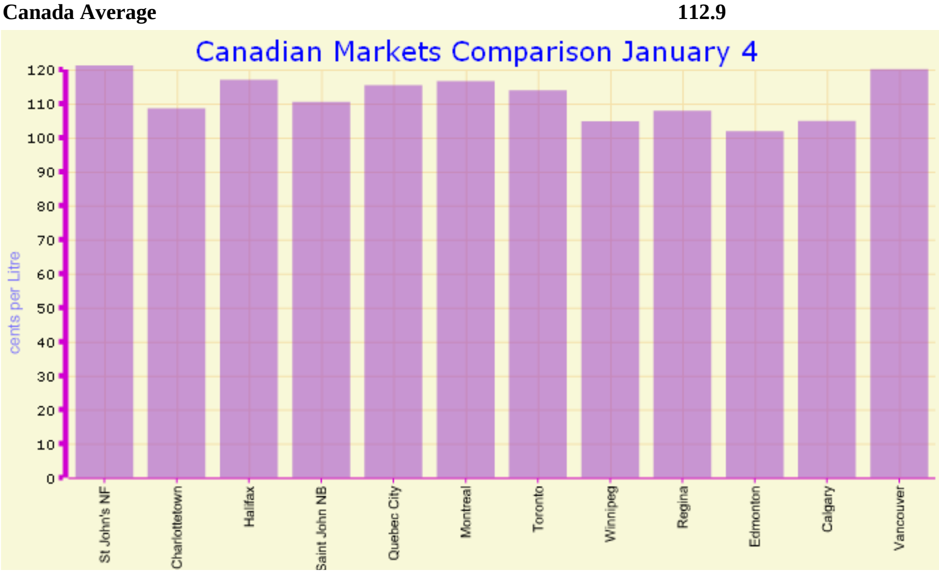
Market	December 29	January 4	+/-
Ottawa	114.9	114.7	-0.2
Toronto West	113.8	113.5	-0.3
Toronto East	114.4	114.0	-0.4
Windsor	107.1	107.1	0.0
London	114.0	113.4	-0.6
Sudbury	117.8	116.8	-1.0
S. Ste. Marie	121.4	121.8	0.4
Thunder Bay	120.9	120.0	-0.9
North Bay	117.7	116.4	-1.3

Timmins	123.8	123.7	-0.1
Ontario Average	**114.5**	**114.2**	**-0.3**

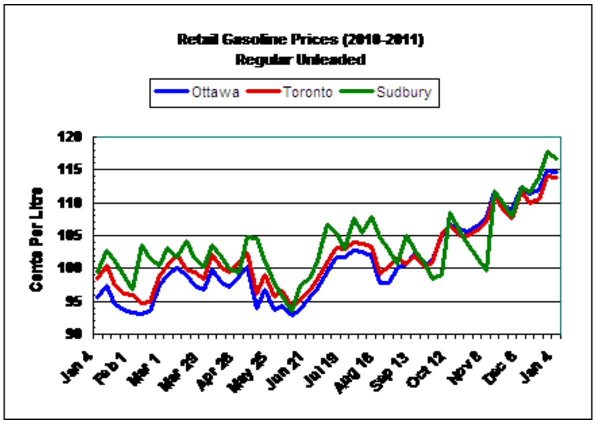


Canada Prices

Market	**December 29**	**January 4**	**+/-**
St John's NF	118.5	121.2	2.7
Charlottetown	107.5	108.6	1.1
Halifax	115.9	117.0	1.1
Saint John NB	107.8	110.5	2.7
Quebec City	115.4	115.4	0.0
Montreal	114.7	116.6	1.9
Toronto	114.3	113.9	-0.4
Winnipeg	104.8	104.8	0.0
Regina	107.9	107.9	0.0
Edmonton	101.9	101.9	0.0
Calgary	104.2	104.9	0.7
Vancouver	120.4	120.1	-0.3
Canada Average	**112.9**	**113.3**	**0.4**



Source: Ontario Ministry of Energy; Kent Marketing Services



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