

# Air fares, third quarter 2017

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Base air fares in Canada, domestic and international combined, averaged \$247.00 in the third quarter, up 1.1% from the same quarter of 2016 and the highest level since the third quarter of 2015.

Base fares do not include the goods and services tax, air transportation taxes or user fees, such as airport improvement fees or fuel surcharges. Average air fares are calculated for each flight stage, that is, when the passenger boards the aircraft at one airport and departs the aircraft at another airport.

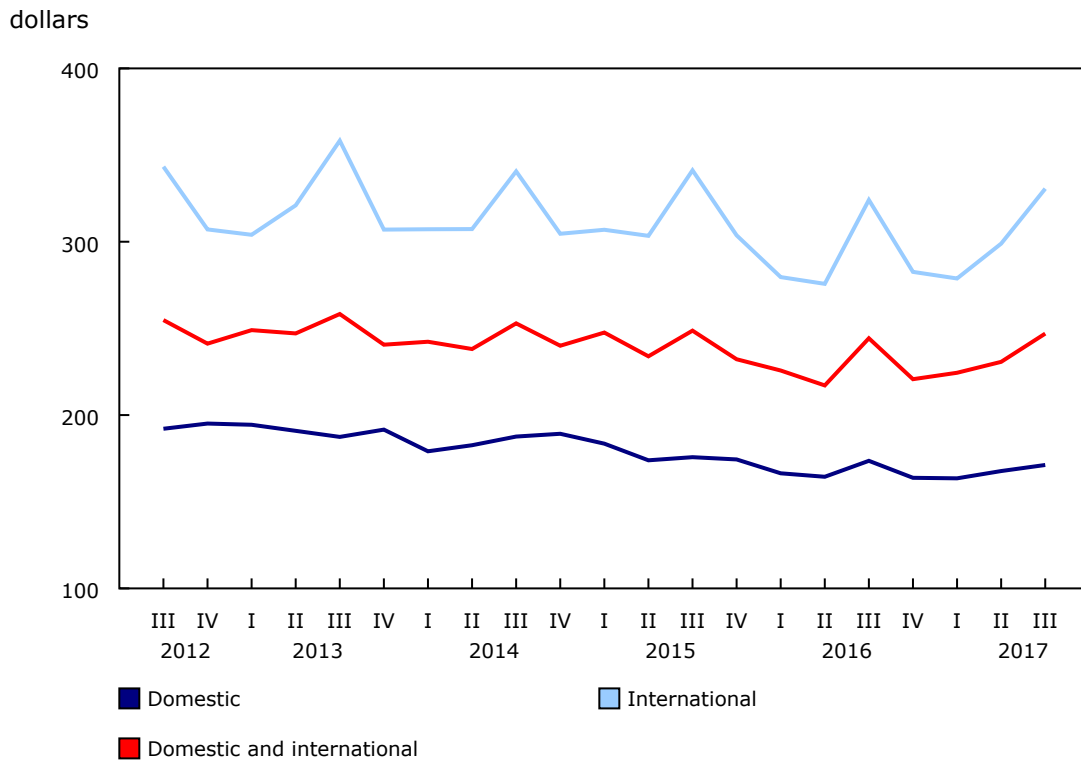
This marked the second straight quarter of growth of base air fares, following eight consecutive year-over-year quarterly declines.

The average domestic fare was down 1.4% from the third quarter of 2016 to \$171.20, while the average international fare rose 2.0% to \$330.60, marking the second consecutive year-over-year quarterly gain.

Of the 10 selected cities where the passenger boarded the plane (enplanement), Vancouver (-3.2%) recorded the largest decline in average domestic air fare. Saskatoon (+5.5%), Ottawa (+5.4%) and Winnipeg (+0.7%) were the only cities to post increases.

Vancouver (\$196.30) remained the city with the highest average domestic air fare, followed by Toronto (\$192.20). These two cities had average domestic fares above the national average. Montréal (\$156.40) posted the lowest average domestic air fare, edging out Saskatoon (\$160.00), which had the lowest fares for the previous 11 quarters.

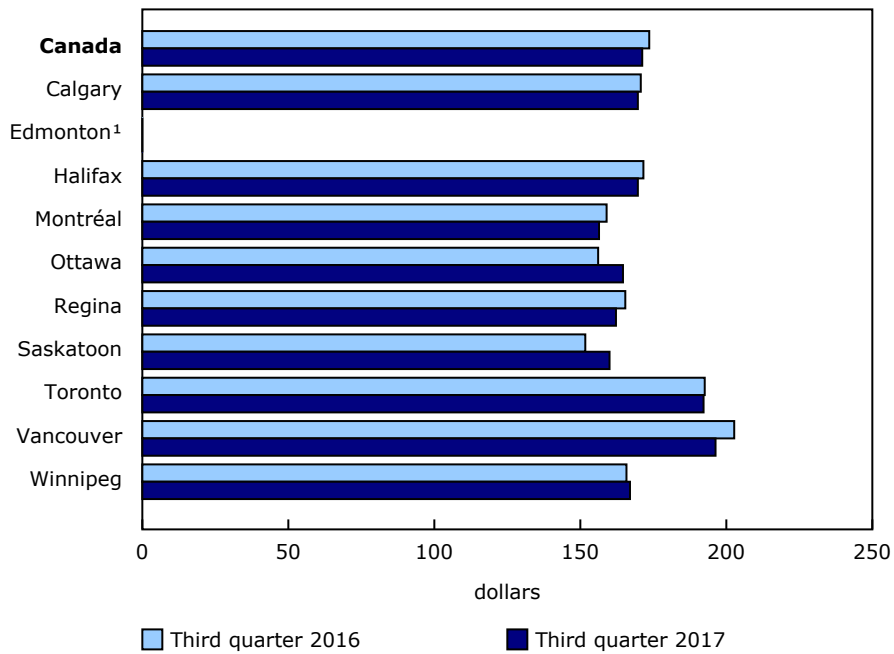
**Chart 1**  
**Average domestic and international air fares**



Source(s): CANSIM table [401-0041](#).



**Chart 2**  
**Average domestic air fares for 10 major Canadian cities**



1. Suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*.  
 Source(s): CANSIM table 401-0003.

**Note to readers**

Average air fares are **base fares** and do not include the goods and services tax, air transportation taxes or user fees, such as airport improvement fees or fuel surcharges. All fares in this release are base fares.

Average air fares are calculated for each flight stage. When the passenger boards the aircraft at one airport and departs the aircraft at another airport, this is considered a flight stage.

The Fare Basis Survey covers Air Canada (including Air Canada rouge, Jazz, Air Canada's Canadian regional code-share partners), Air Transat and WestJet.

The data in this quarterly release are not seasonally adjusted.

Data for the third quarter of 2016 have been revised.

The Fare Basis Survey is being redesigned.

**Table 1**  
**Average domestic air fares for 10 major Canadian cities**

	Third quarter 2016	Third quarter 2017	Third quarter 2016 to third quarter 2017
	dollars		% change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>173.60</b>	<b>171.20</b>	<b>-1.4</b>
Calgary	170.70	169.70	-0.6
Edmonton	x	x	x
Halifax	171.60	169.70	-1.1
Montréal	159.00	156.40	-1.6
Ottawa	156.10	164.60	5.4
Regina	165.40	162.20	-1.9
Saskatoon	151.70	160.00	5.5
Toronto	192.60	192.20	-0.2
Vancouver	202.70	196.30	-3.2
Winnipeg	165.80	167.00	0.7

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*

**Note(s):**

The air carriers included are the Canadian Level I carriers operating scheduled services (Air Canada, including Air Canada rouge, Jazz, Air Canada's Canadian regional code-share partners), Air Transat and WestJet).

All estimates shown above have a coefficient of variation of less than 10% and can be considered reliable from a sampling point of view.

Source(s): CANSIM table [401-0003](#).

**Available in CANSIM: tables [401-0003](#), [401-0041](#) and [401-0042](#).**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2708](#).**

[Summary tables](#) are also available.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; [STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca](mailto:STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca](mailto:STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca)).

For more information on the current definitions, data sources and methods of the Fare Basis Survey, click on the *Related information* tab of this release. Readers who wish to know more, or to consult with Statistics Canada about the redesign of this survey can also contact ([statcan.transportationstats-statistiquesdutransport.statcan@canada.ca](mailto:statcan.transportationstats-statistiquesdutransport.statcan@canada.ca)).