



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

Kristine Cazadd
Interim Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

For Immediate Release
October 29, 2010

Contact: NR 123-10-H
Anita Gore
916-327-8988

California Gasoline Consumption Down 0.8% in July 2010

Jerome E. Horton, Vice Chairperson of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today released gasoline and diesel consumption figures for July 2010. California gasoline demand fell by 0.8 percent in July compared to last year.

In July 2010, Californians used 1.27 billion gallons of gasoline compared to 1.28 billion gallons the same month last year, a decline of 0.8 percent. The average California gasoline price at the pump in July was \$3.17 per gallon compared to \$2.92 in July 2009, an increase of 8.6 percent.

California diesel fuel data show an increase of 1.6 percent in July over last year, which is a slight variation due to refunds for diesel fuel in July 2009. Data show diesel fuel sold in California during July 2010 totaled 219.3 million gallons compared to July 2009's total of 215.8 million gallons, which is an increase of 1.6 percent. California diesel fuel prices were \$3.12 per gallon in July 2010 compared to \$2.73 per gallon in July 2009, an increase of 14.3 percent.

However, while the diesel gallons reflected in the July numbers are up 3.5 million gallons, indicating an increase of 1.6 percent, the consumption change from last July is likely to be less because the July 2009 figures include refunded gallons of 9.6 million gallons. The gallons included in the monthly consumption numbers are always net of audit assessments and refunds. The July 2009 refunds were larger than most and may have skewed the July 2010 percentage change to a 1.6 percent increase from a decline of 2.7 percent.

The BOE is able to monitor gallons through tax receipts paid by fuel distributors. The figures reported monthly are net consumption that includes BOE audit assessments, refunds, amended and late tax returns, and State Controller's Office refunds. Figures for August 2010 are scheduled to be available at the end of November 2010. All monthly, quarterly, and annual figures can be viewed at:

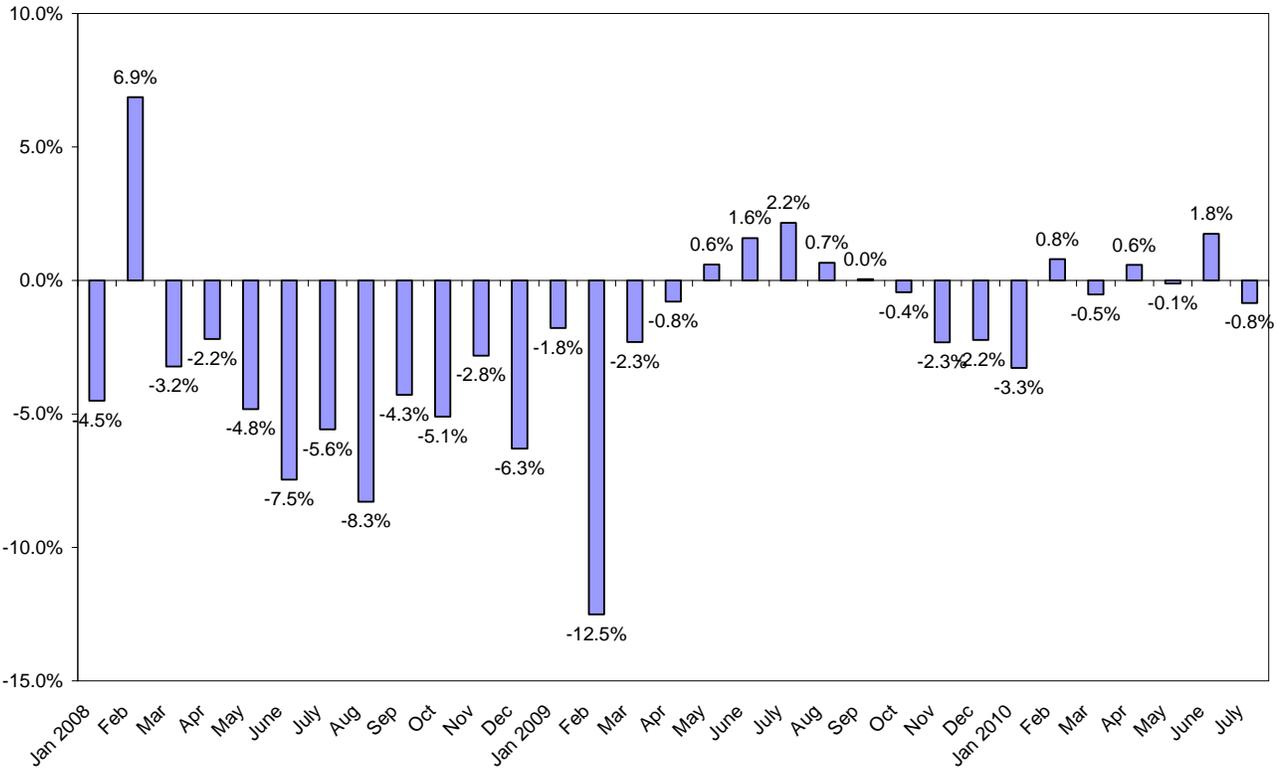
www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm.

Taxable Gasoline Gallons: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/MVF_10_Year_Report.pdf

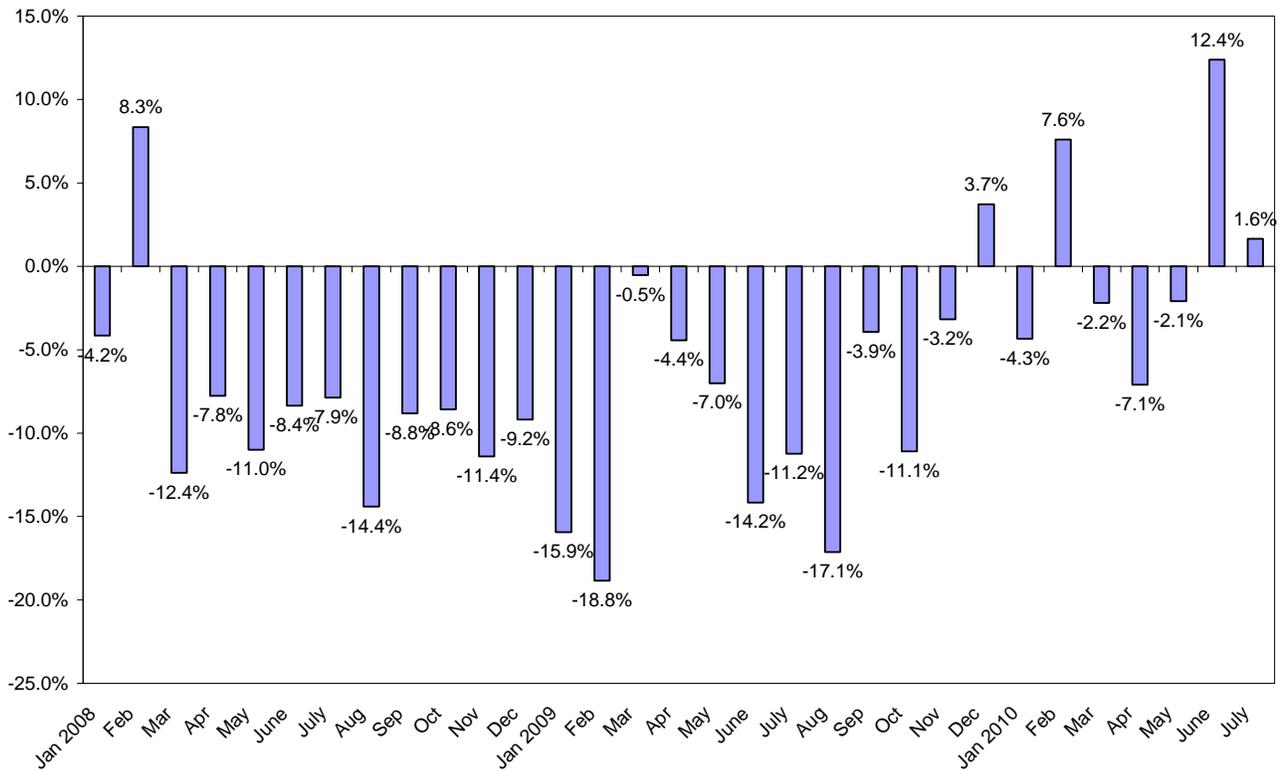
Taxable Diesel Gallons: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/Diesel_10_Year_Report.pdf

Editor's note – please see the two attached charts showing gasoline and diesel consumption comparisons through July 2010.

**Percent Change in Gas Consumption Compared to 12 Months Prior
From January 2008 Through July 2010**



**Percent Change in Diesel Gallons Compared to 12 Months Prior
From January 2008 Through July 2010**



Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton is the 4th District Member of the BOE, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the BOE Legislative Committee chairperson. Horton is the first African American to serve on the BOE since its inception in 1879, and the third African American constitutional officer in California's history. Horton was appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both the Assembly and the Senate in 2009. Horton previously served as an Assembly member from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$48 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

###