



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Vice Chair Michelle Steel

3rd District – Rolling Hills Estates

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www.boe.ca.gov

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California Gasoline Consumption Rose 2.6%, Diesel Increased 4.9%

Michelle Steel, Vice Chair of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), today released California gasoline and diesel consumption figures for November 2010. California gasoline consumption increased 2.6 percent in November 2010, and diesel fuel consumption increased 4.9 percent, compared with November 2009.

In November 2010, gasoline demand rose 2.6 percent when Californians used 1.20 billion gallons of gasoline compared to 1.17 billion gallons in November 2009. The average California gasoline price at the pump in November 2010 was \$3.20 per gallon compared to \$3.01 in November 2009, a 6.3 percent increase. The national average price for gasoline in November 2010 was \$2.91 per gallon compared to \$2.71 a year earlier.

Diesel fuel sold in California during November 2010 totaled 207 million gallons compared to November 2009's total of 198 million gallons, which is an increase of 4.9 percent. California diesel prices were \$3.30 per gallon in November 2010 an increase of 11.5 percent compared to November 2009 when the average diesel price was \$2.96 per gallon. The national average price for diesel fuel in November 2010 was \$3.14 per gallon compared to \$2.80 a year earlier.

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 December 2010 are scheduled to be available at the end of March 2011.

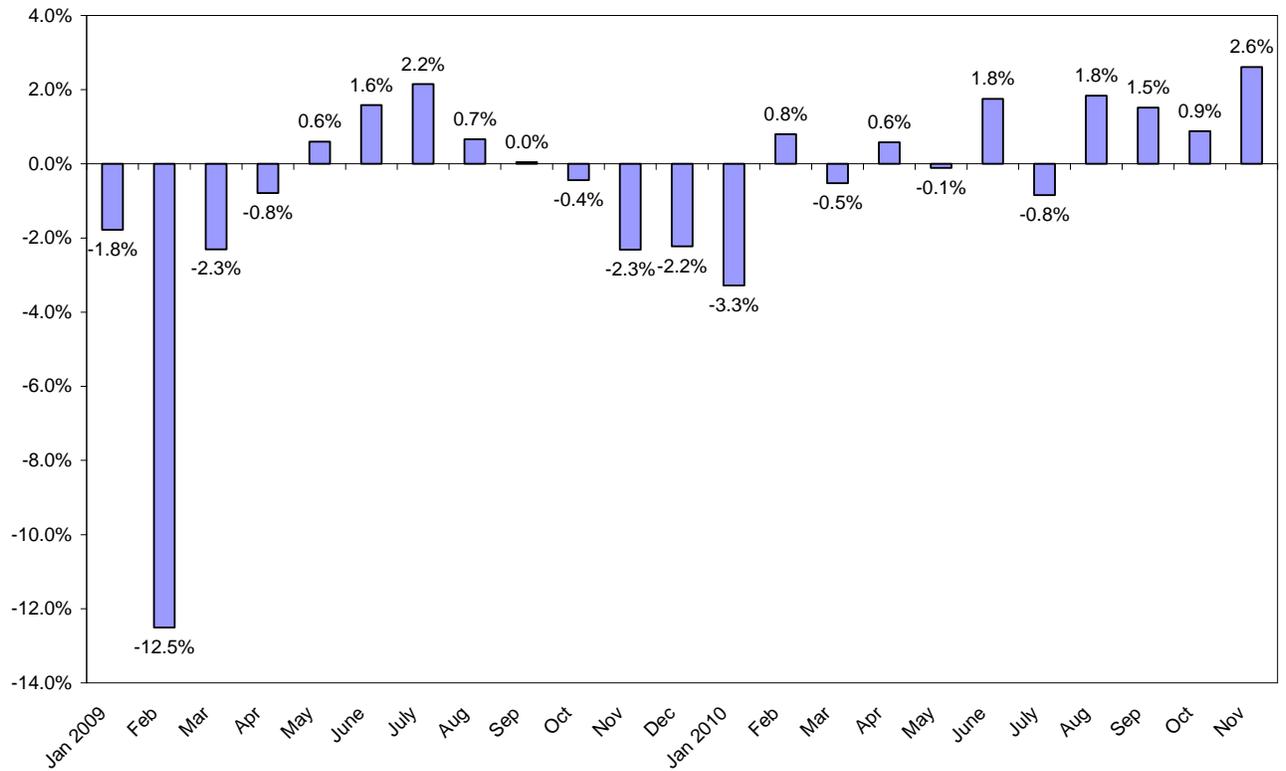
All monthly, quarterly, and annual figures can be viewed at: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm.

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

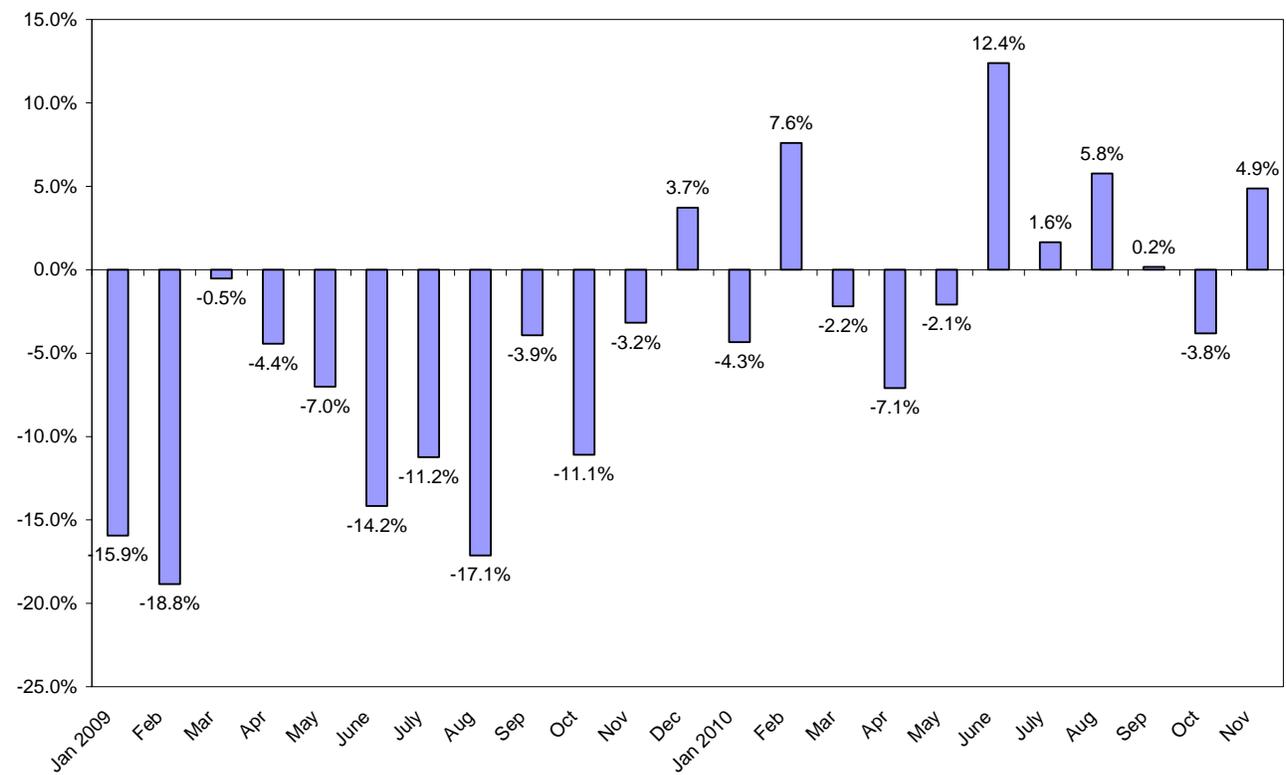
Taxable Diesel Gallons: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/Diesel_10_Year_Report.pdf

Editor's note – please see the two attached charts showing percent change in gasoline and diesel gallons consumption compared to 12 months prior from January 2009 through November 2010.

**Percent Change in Gas Consumption Compared to 12 Months Prior
From January 2009 Through November 2010**



**Percent Change in Diesel Gallons Compared to 12 Months Prior
From January 2009 Through November 2010**



Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) 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.

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