



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**George Runner, Member**

**2<sup>nd</sup> District – Lancaster**

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## **California Gasoline Consumption Up 2.7%, Diesel Up 1.4%**

Senator George Runner, Second District Member of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today released California gasoline and diesel consumption figures for January 2011. California gasoline consumption was up 2.7 percent in January, and diesel consumption rose 1.4 percent, compared with last year.

"Increased fuel use signals California's economic recovery is underway," said Senator Runner. "But rising prices at the pump threaten to slow that recovery. Lawmakers should take immediate action to reduce our dependence on foreign oil by increasing in-state production. Instead they are considering imposing billions in new taxes that will destroy thousands of jobs and increase fuel costs for all Californians."

California's gasoline consumption increased 2.7 percent in January when Californians used 1.20 billion gallons of gasoline, compared to 1.17 billion gallons the same month last year. California's average price of gasoline rose 10.4 percent in January to \$3.39 a gallon, up 32 cents compared to January last year when California gasoline prices averaged \$3.07 per gallon. The U.S. average price for a gallon of gasoline jumped 13.7 percent in January to \$3.15 per gallon, up 38 cents compared to a year earlier when the U.S. average price for gasoline was \$2.77.

Diesel sold in California during January totaled 191 million gallons or 1.4 percent more than the previous January when Californians used 189 million gallons. Diesel prices rose 56 cents higher to \$3.56 per gallon in California during January, or 18.7 percent higher than the previous January when diesel was averaging \$3.00 per gallon. The U.S. average price for a gallon of diesel rose 18.9 percent in January to \$3.39 per gallon, up 54 cents compared to a year earlier when the U.S. average price for diesel was \$2.85.

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 the California State Controller's Office refunds. Figures for February 2011 are scheduled to be available at the end of May 2011.

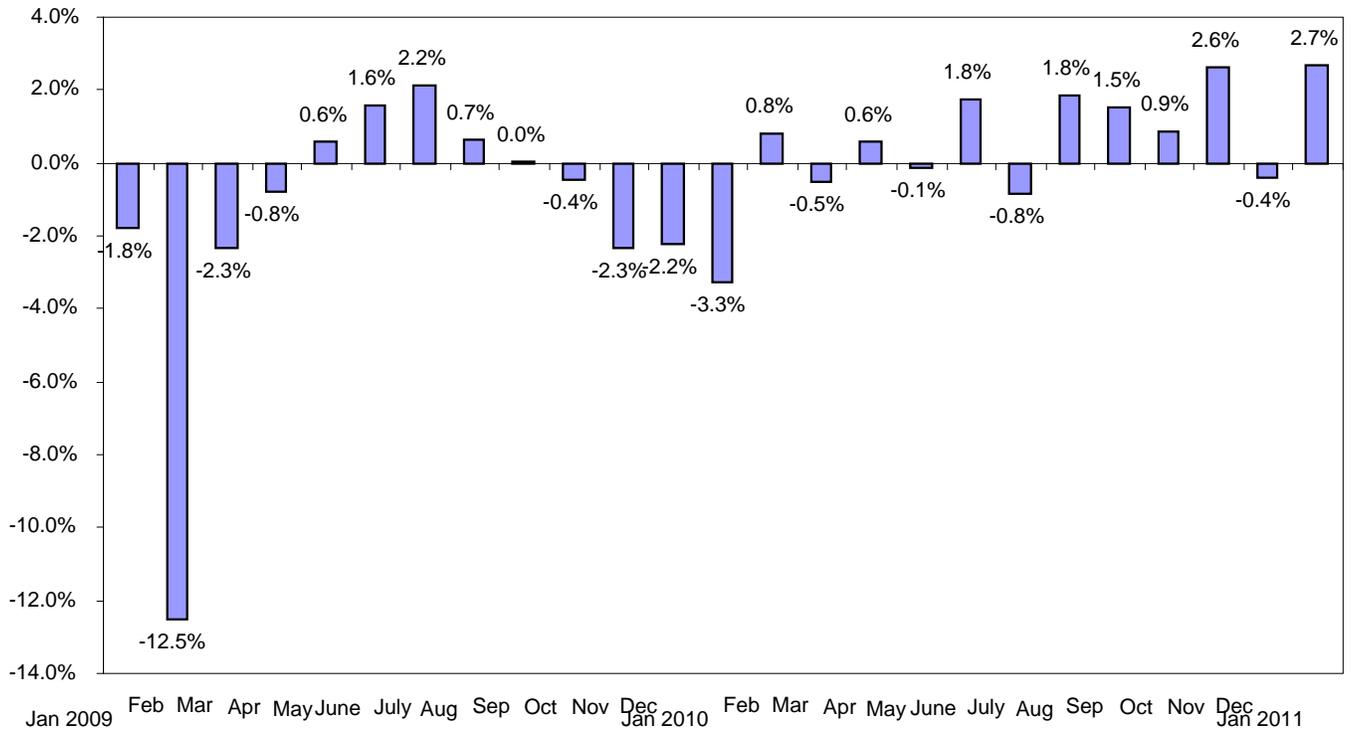
All monthly, quarterly, and annual figures can be viewed at: [www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm).

Taxable Gasoline Gallons: [www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/MVF\\_10\\_Year\\_Report.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/MVF_10_Year_Report.pdf)

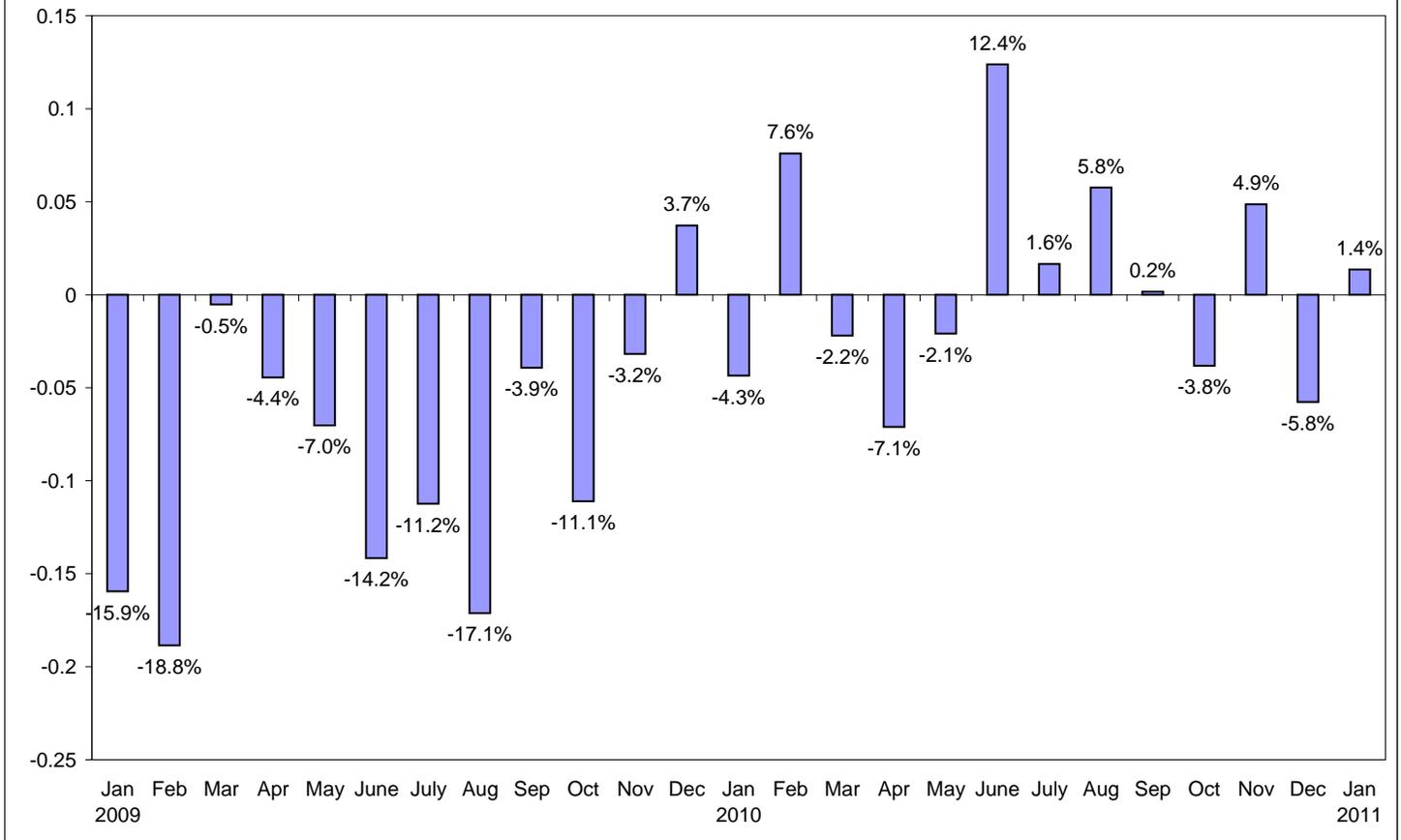
Taxable Diesel Gallons: [www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/Diesel\\_10\\_Year\\_Report.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/Diesel_10_Year_Report.pdf)

*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 January 2011.*

**Percent Change in California Gasoline Consumption Compared to 12 Months Prior  
From January 2009 through January 2011**



**Percent Change in Diesel Gallons Compared to 12 Months Prior  
From January 2009 through January 2011**



Elected in November 2010, taxpayer advocate George Runner represents the Second District of the Board of Equalization. Runner was sworn in as Second District Board Member on January 3, 2011. Prior to his election to the Board, Runner served twelve years in the State Legislature. As a thoughtful conservative, his legislative priorities included improving the economy, business growth, education excellence, and public safety for all Californians. As a member of the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee, Runner consistently led the fight against tax increases and supported tax relief for families and 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](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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