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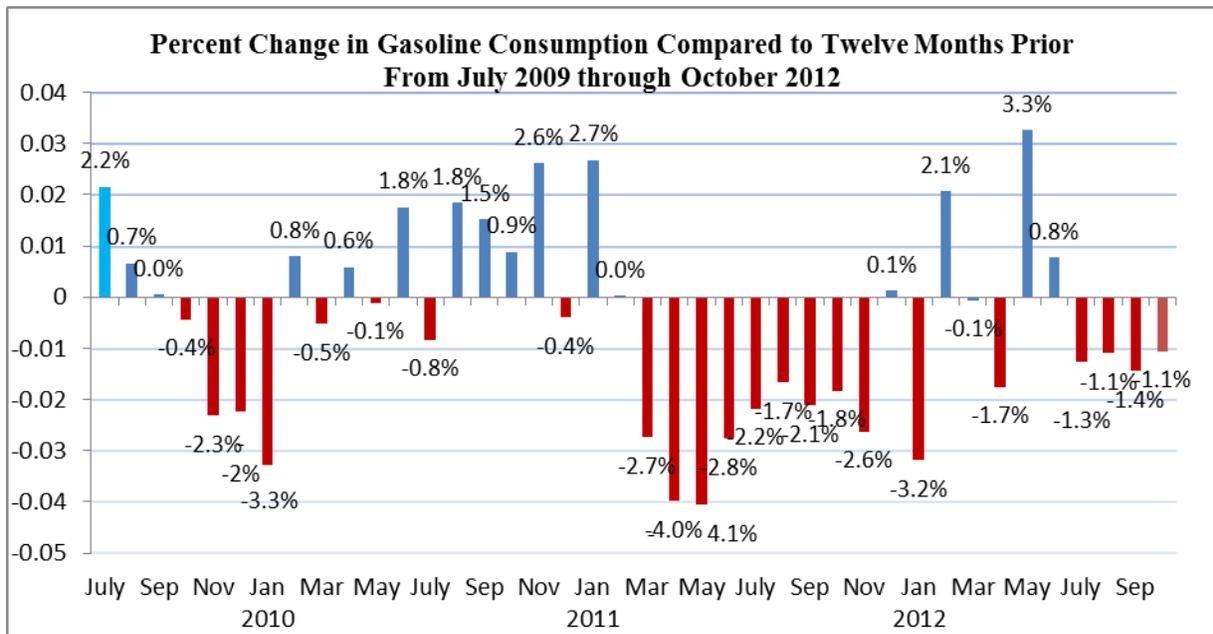
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California Gasoline Consumption Down While Diesel Use Up Gasoline Prices Rose 14.6 Percent in October 2012

Sacramento – California’s gasoline consumption declined 1.1 percent while diesel consumption increased 3.7 percent in October 2012, according to fuel tax data released by Michelle Steel, Third District Member of the State Board of Equalization (BOE).

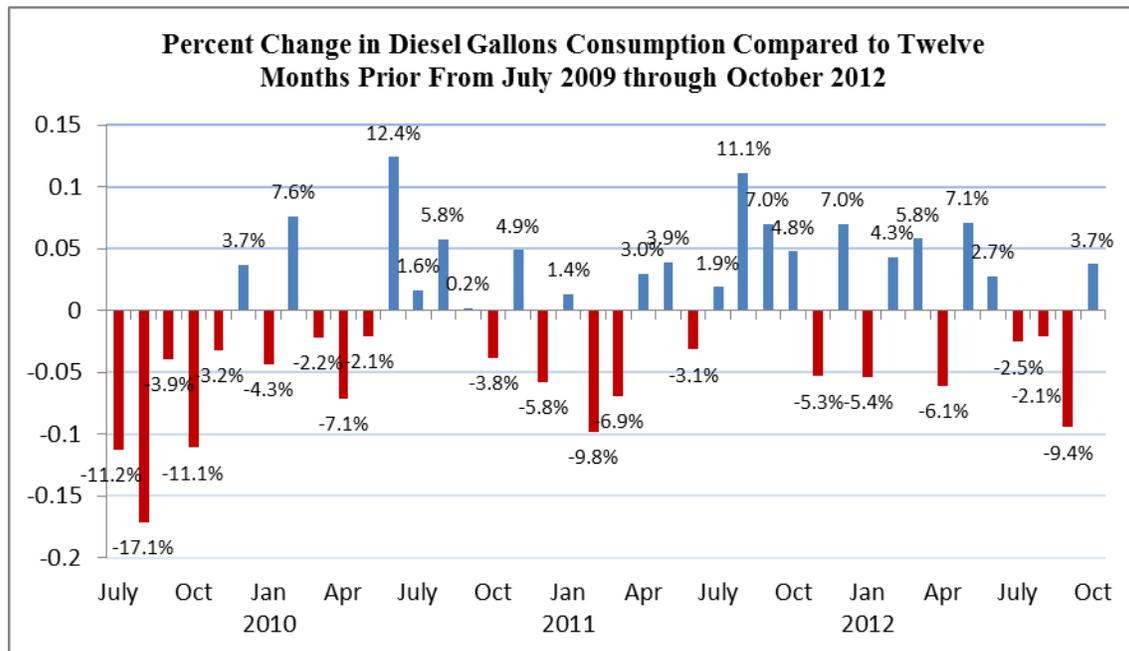
BOE’s fuel tax report shows Californians consumed **1.22 billion gallons of gasoline** in October 2012, a 1.1 percent decline from the 1.23 billion gallons consumed during October 2011. In California, the average price of gasoline in October 2012 was \$4.46 per gallon, a 14.6 percent increase. Nationally, the average price of gasoline in October was \$3.81, according to the **Energy Information Administration (EIA)**, an 8.7 percent increase. BOE estimates statewide gasoline tax-related revenues for October 2012 are about \$165 million in sales taxes and about \$440 million in excise taxes in California.



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California's diesel consumption increased 3.7 percent in October 2012 to **235 million gallons**, compared to 226 million gallons in October 2011. In California, the average price of diesel fuel in October 2012 was \$4.38 per gallon, an increase of 7.8 percent. Nationally, the average price of diesel fuel in October was \$4.09, also an increase of 7.8 percent, according to the EIA. BOE estimates statewide diesel fuel tax-related revenues for October 2012 are about \$93 million in sales taxes and about \$26 million in excise tax in California.



For a more in-depth discussion of gasoline consumption, see the BOE *Economic Perspective* (February 2013) on the BOE website: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/epcont13.htm>

For more information on California fuel statistics or reports based on fuel tax receipts paid by distributors in California, visit: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm

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

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

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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. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$53.7 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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