



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Bill Leonard, Member

2nd District – Sacramento

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Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

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BILL LEONARD SAYS CALIFORNIA GASOLINE CONSUMPTION DOWN

Bill Leonard, Member of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced that California gasoline consumption fell by 0.1 percent in August 2007 compared to August 2006. So far in 2007 California gasoline consumption has declined 0.6 percent compared to January through August of 2006.

Over the past five years, Californians have used an average of 15.77 billion gallons of gasoline annually. During the 2006 calendar year Californians consumed 15.83 billion gallons, down from 15.94 billion a year earlier.

The BOE estimates that nearly twice as much sales tax is generated annually by higher gasoline prices than five years ago. In 2006, sales tax revenues from gasoline sales were estimated to be \$3.3 billion, while 2002's gasoline sales generated \$1.7 billion. The State's excise tax on gasoline, 18 cents collected on every gallon, has remained relatively stable.

The publicly-elected Board of Equalization is able to monitor gallons through tax returns filed by fuel companies. Figures for September 2007 should be available near the end of December.

All monthly, quarterly, and annual figures for taxable gasoline gallons are listed in the BOE 10 Year Report that covers the periods of 2000 through August 2007 and can be viewed on the BOE website:

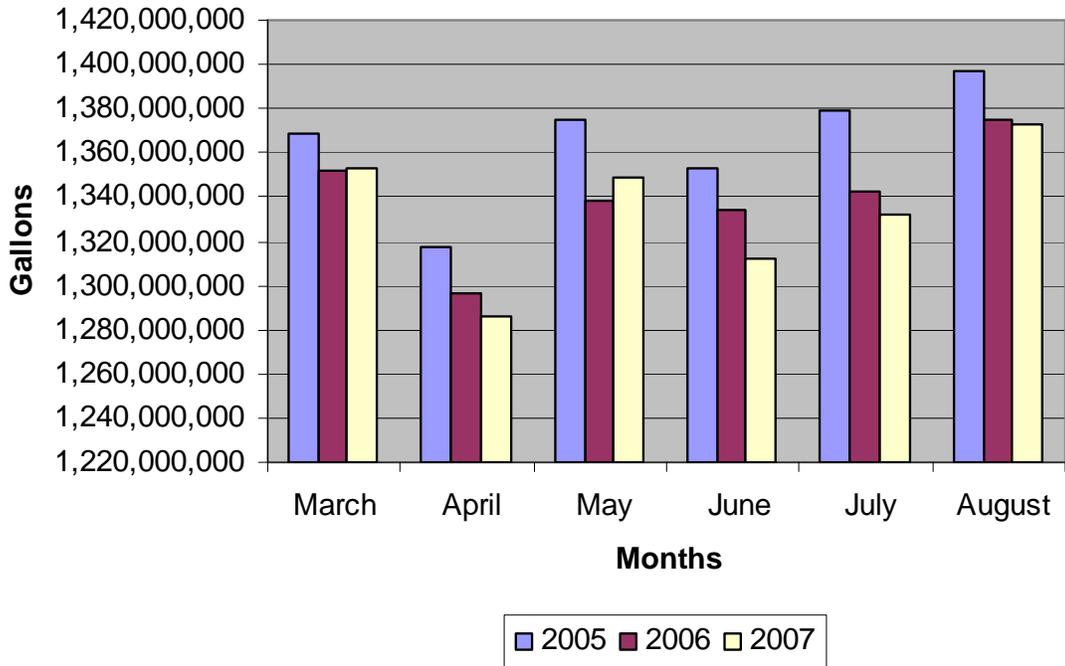
Net Taxable Gasoline Gallons: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/imvf10ynet.pdf>.

Bill Leonard, of Sacramento/Ontario, was elected as the Second District Member of the State Board of Equalization in 2002 and reelected in November 2006. Prior to his election, Bill Leonard served in the State Assembly (1978-1988, 1996-2002) and in the State Senate (1988-1996).

The five-member State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects nearly \$53 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. The BOE hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

**Editor's note – please see chart on second page for year-to-year gasoline consumption comparison.*

Year-to-Year Gasoline Consumption Comparison



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