

**For Immediate Release**  
**October 4, 2012**

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## **California Gasoline and Diesel Demand Rose in Second Quarter, Fuel Tax Data Says Average Gasoline Price Spiked to \$4.26 in Second Quarter 2012**

**Sacramento** – California’s gasoline demand rose 0.8 percent in the second quarter of 2012 with prices hitting \$4.26 per gallon, according to fuel tax data released by George Runner, Second District Member of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE). Diesel consumption increased 1.3 percent in the second quarter of 2012 as prices averaged \$4.25 per gallon. This is the fifth consecutive quarter of rising diesel consumption. Generally, diesel use follows economic activity and is closely related to construction and transportation of goods.

“Rising fuel consumption shows the vitality of California’s private sector, which is persevering despite tremendous obstacles,” said Runner. “However, California’s economic recovery would be far stronger if gas prices were lower and businesses weren’t fleeing our state.”

BOE’s fuel tax report show Californians consumed [3.69 billion gallons of gasoline](#) in the second quarter of 2012, a 0.8 percent increase from the 3.66 billion gallons consumed during the second quarter of 2011. Historically, gasoline consumption has declined for six consecutive years. Since 2005-06, California gasoline consumption has declined by 1.3 billion gallons, an 8.2 percent decline.

California’s average gasoline prices rose 13 cents to \$4.26 in the second quarter of 2012, a 3.1 percent increase compared to last year’s second quarter average price of \$4.13 according to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration \(EIA\)](#). The [U.S. regular gasoline price](#) averaged \$3.78 a gallon down 7 cents in the second quarter of 2012, from same quarter last year.

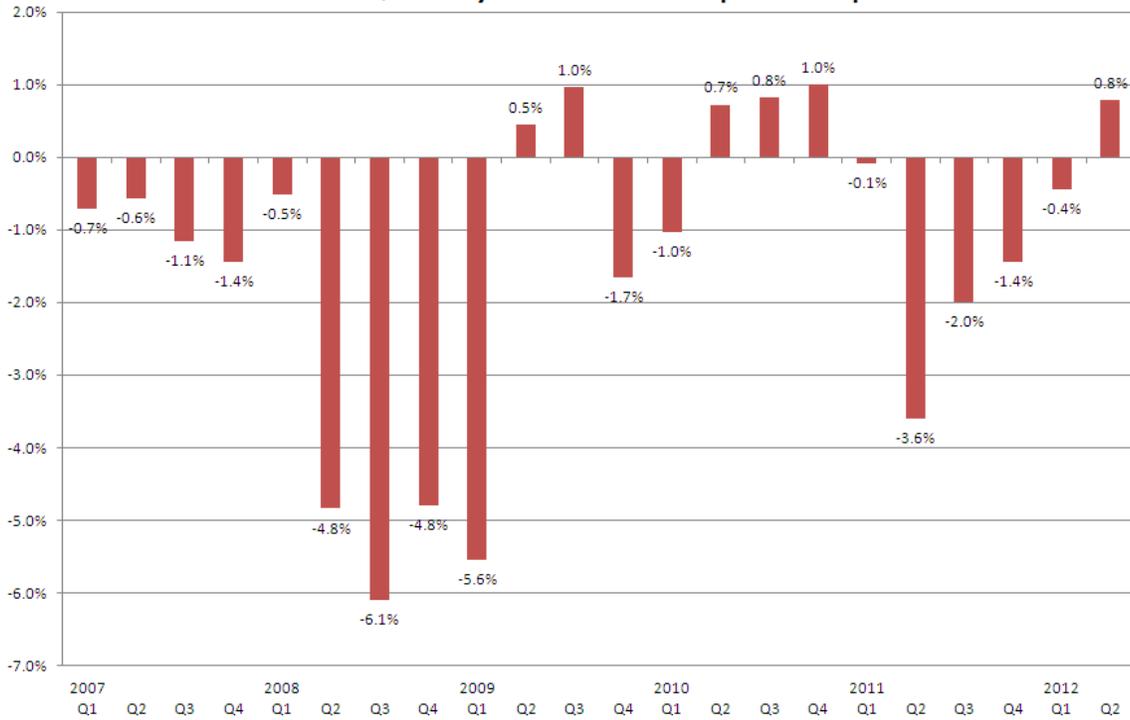
California’s diesel consumption rose 1.3 percent in the second quarter of 2012, up 9 million gallons to [676 million gallons](#) compared to 667 million gallons in the second quarter of 2011. During the second quarter of 2012, [California’s average diesel prices](#) were down 8 cents to \$4.25 per gallon in the second quarter according to the EIA. Nationally, [average diesel retail prices](#) were also down (6 cents) to \$3.95 in the second quarter of 2012 compared to the same quarter in 2011.

*(See below charts for gasoline and diesel consumption that compare one quarter with the same quarter in a previous year. For example, gasoline consumption in the second quarter of 2012 is 0.8 percent higher than the second quarter of 2011.)*

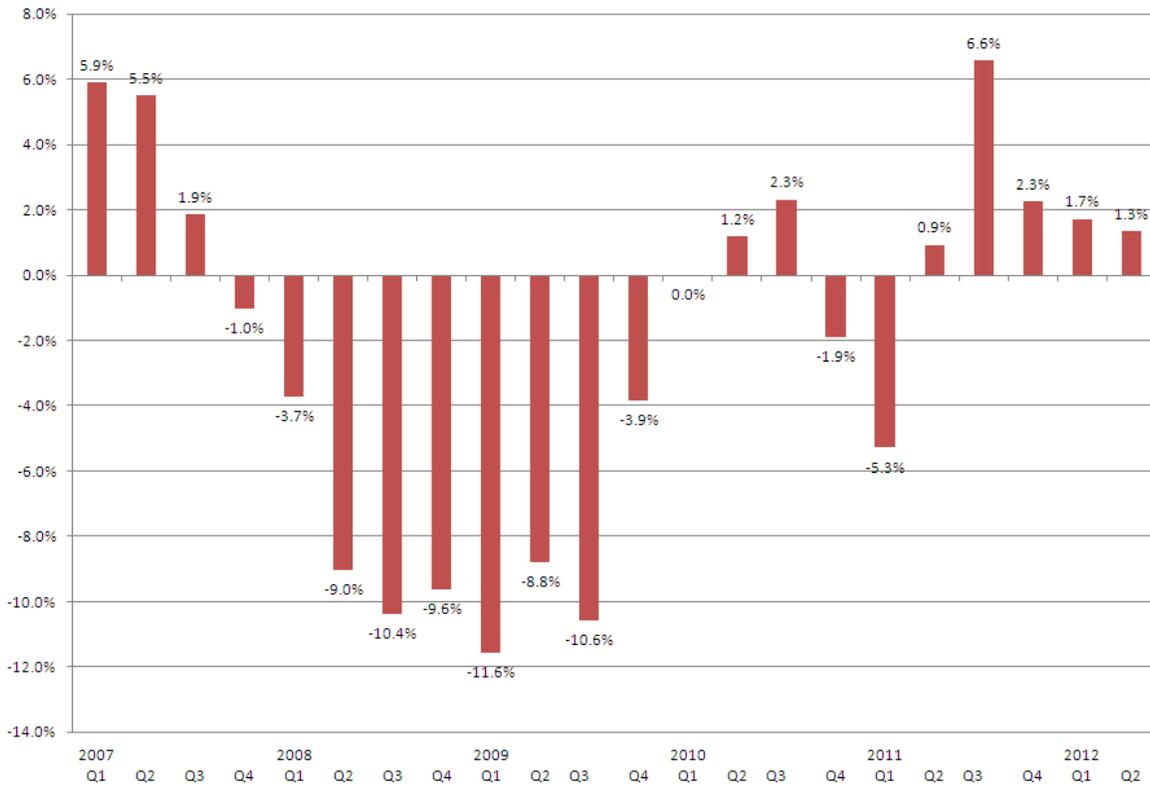
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### Year over Year Quarterly Gasoline Consumption Comparisons



### Year over Year Quarterly Diesel Consumption Comparison



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

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

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Elected in November 2010, George Runner represents the State Board of Equalization's Second District. He is a leading advocate for California taxpayers. Runner has worked to improve California's tax policies and practices and to create and retain more private sector jobs in our state. Prior to his election to the Board, Runner served twelve years in the State Legislature, authoring the well-known California Amber Alert and California's Blue Alert. 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 \$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](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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