



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

Kristine Cazadd
Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

For Immediate Release
April 30, 2012

Contact: NR 42-12-H
Jaime Garza
916-327-8988

Gasoline and Diesel Prices Soar in California; Consumption Drops

Sacramento – Gasoline and diesel prices surged in California in January 2012 while consumption dropped. According to a report released today by Chairman Jerome E. Horton of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), gasoline prices jumped 10.6% to an average of \$3.75 a gallon, while consumption declined 3.2 percent compared to a year ago.

“California families are facing financial hardship caused by high gasoline prices,” Horton said. “Many California consumers simply cannot afford higher gasoline prices.”

In California, diesel fuel prices were up 15.2% to \$4.10 as consumption decreased 5.4% in January from a year earlier. Diesel consumption often reflects the pace of economic activity such as imports and exports through California ports, supply and demand conditions in residential and nonresidential construction, and agriculture.

Nationally, the U.S. [Energy Information Administration](#) (EIA) reports that the average price of a gallon of gasoline was up 9.2% to \$3.44 in January from a year ago. The [EIA](#) also reported that the national average price of a gallon of diesel was up 13.0% to \$3.83 in January from a year earlier.

The high price of gasoline was a primary factor in the rise in consumer prices. The U.S. [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) reported in January 2012 that its consumer price index rose 2.9% in January 2012 from a year earlier.

Consistent with using less gasoline, the [Federal Highway Administration](#) data show a 1.2% decline in vehicle miles traveled by Californians in January 2012 from a year earlier.

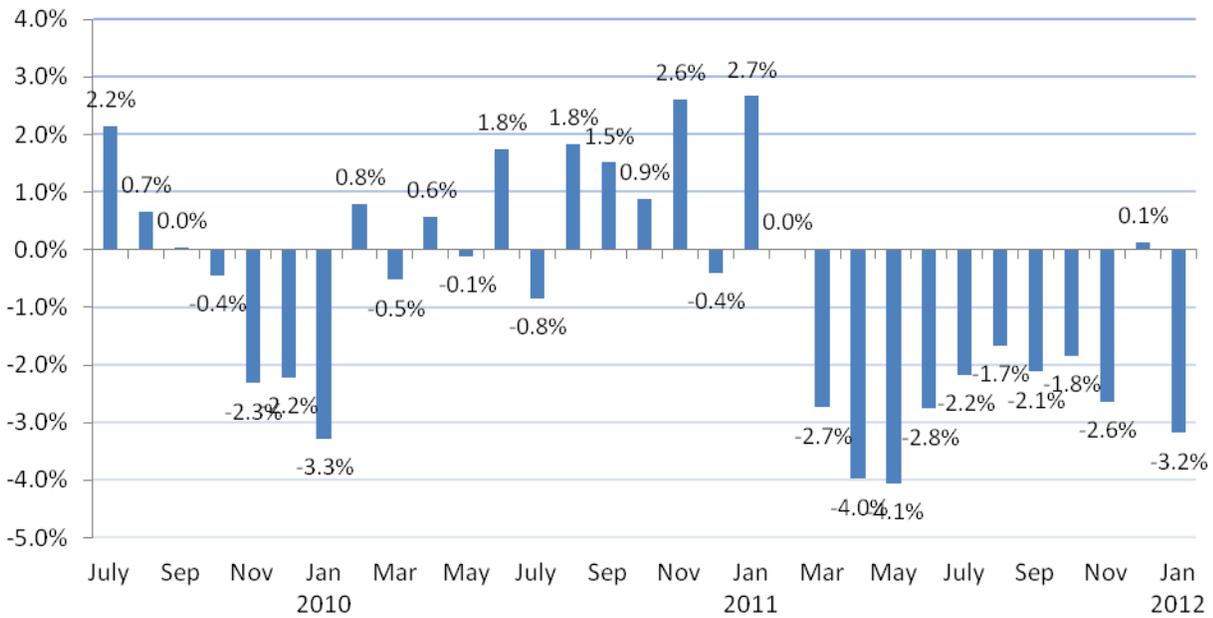
California gasoline and diesel fuel figures are net consumption, including audit assessments, refunds, amended and late tax returns, and the State Controller’s Office refunds. BOE is able to monitor gallons through tax receipts paid by fuel distributors in California. BOE updates the fuel reports at the end of each month.

Fuel Statistics and Reports www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm

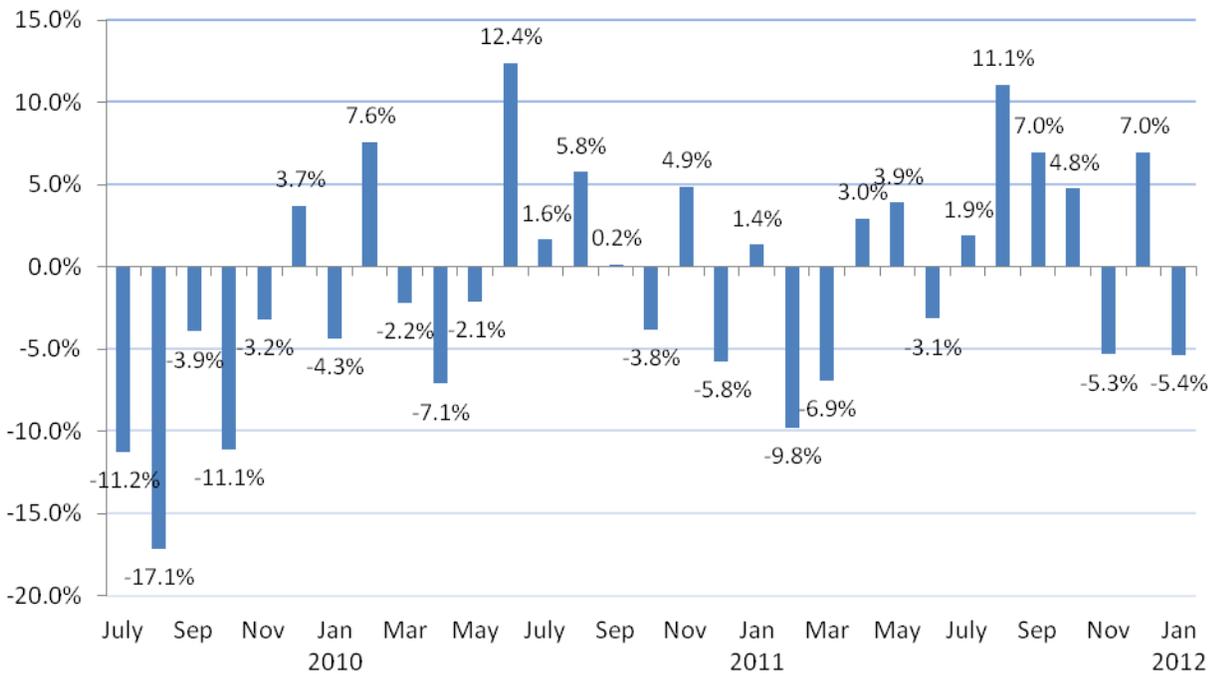
Taxable Gasoline Gallons Report: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/MVF_10_Year_Report.pdf

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

Percent Change in Gas Consumption Compared to Twelve Months Prior From July 2009 Through January 2012



Percent Change in Diesel Gallons Compared to Twelve Months Prior From July 2009 Through January 2012



* * * * *

Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization Legislative Committee's Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$50 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.

###

Connect with Us:

