



State Board of Equalization

News Release

George Runner, Member

2nd District – Lancaster

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California Gasoline and Diesel Consumption Data Declines in Fourth Quarter of 2012

Sacramento – California’s gasoline consumption declined 1.7 percent, while diesel consumption declined 0.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2012, according to fuel tax data released by George Runner, Second District Member of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE).

“Californians are buying less gas but paying more tax,” said Runner. “Even with falling consumption, Californians paid a record \$8.3 billion in fuel taxes last year. That may be good news for government bureaucrats, but it’s a raw deal for overtaxed Californians.”

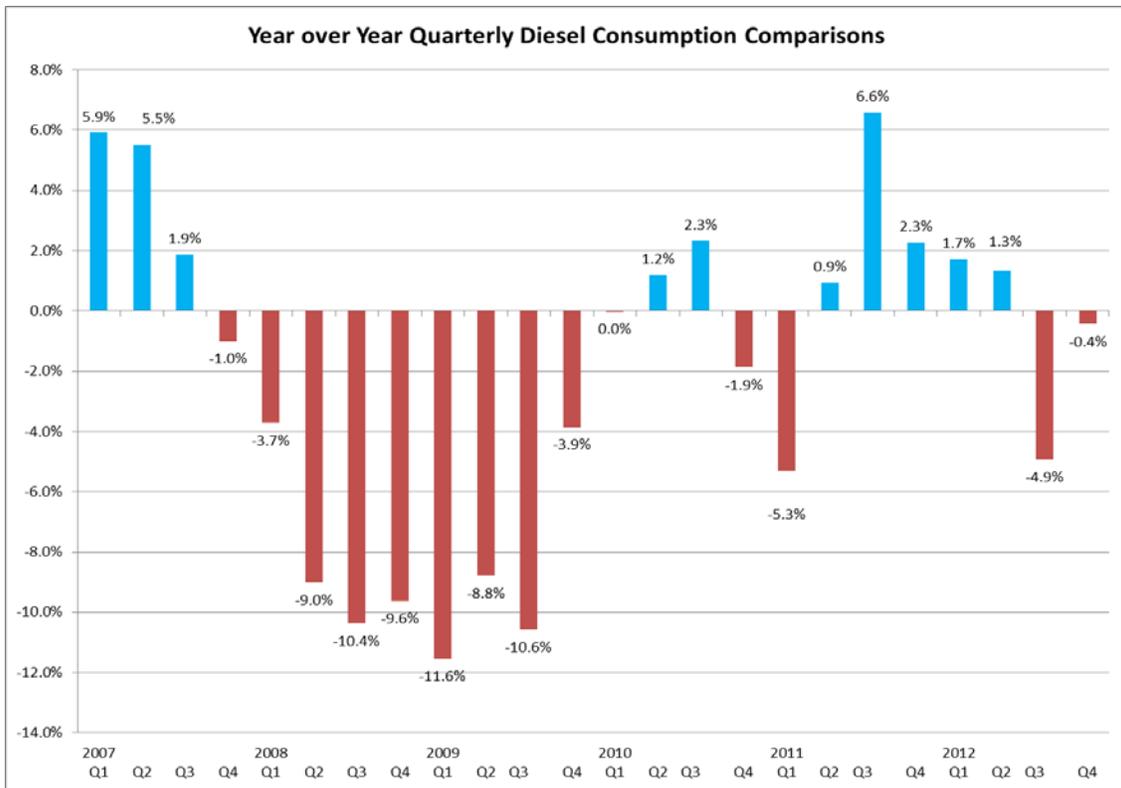
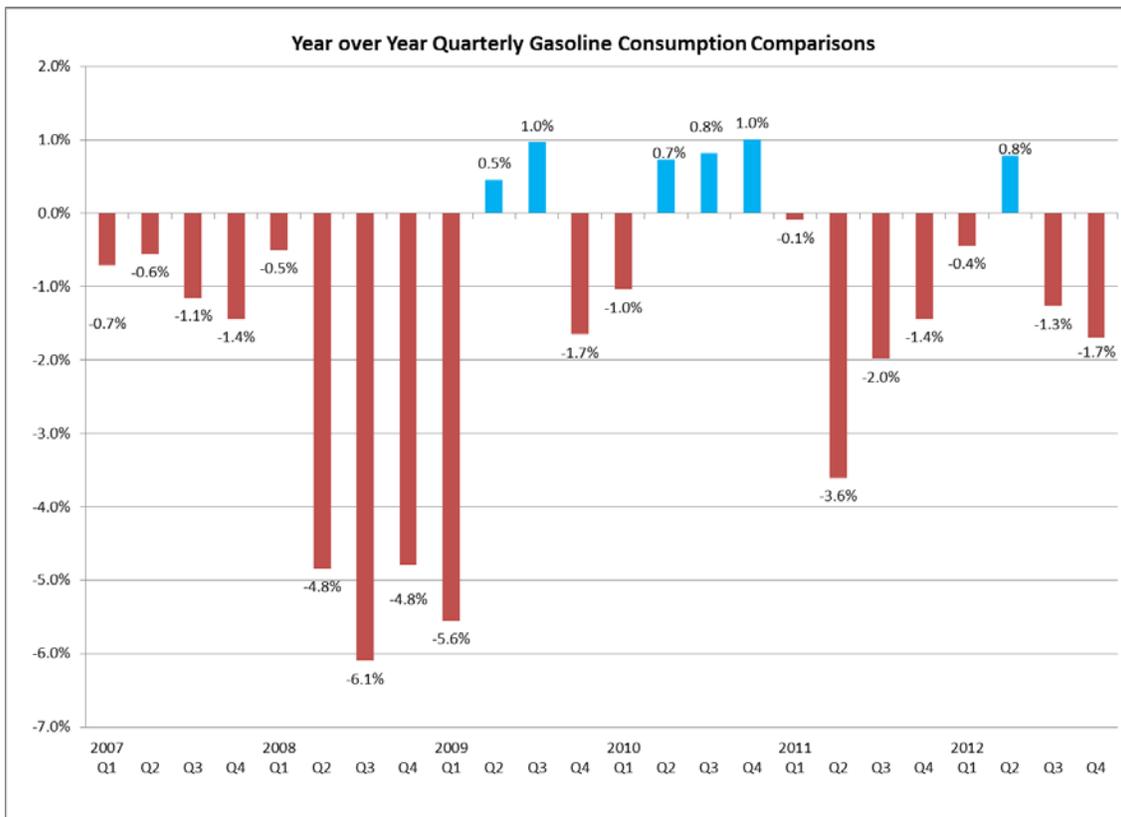
BOE’s [gasoline fuel tax](#) report shows Californians consumed 3.58 billion gallons of gasoline in the fourth quarter of 2012, a 1.7 percent decline from the 3.64 billion gallons consumed during the fourth quarter of 2011. In California, the average price of gasoline in the fourth quarter of 2012 was \$3.99 per gallon, which is a 19 cent increase over the average price of \$3.80 per gallon in the fourth quarter of 2011. Nationally, the average price of gasoline during the fourth quarter of 2012 was \$3.57, according to the [Energy Information Administration](#) (EIA). BOE estimates statewide gasoline tax-related revenues for the fourth quarter of 2012 are \$432 million in sales taxes and \$1.29 billion in excise taxes.

California’s [diesel fuel consumption](#) decreased 0.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2012 to 653 million gallons, compared to 656 million gallons in the fourth quarter of 2011. In California, the average price of diesel fuel in the fourth quarter of 2012 was \$4.21 per gallon, which is an increase of 8 cents over the average price of \$4.13 in the fourth quarter of 2011. Nationally, the average price of diesel fuel in the fourth quarter of 2012 was \$4.02 according to the EIA. BOE estimates statewide diesel fuel tax-related revenues for the fourth quarter of 2012 are \$248 million in sales taxes and \$76 million in excise taxes.

Editor’s Note: Please see charts below comparing year-over-year quarterly gasoline and diesel consumption.

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For a more in-depth discussion of gasoline consumption, see the *Economic Perspective* newsletter on the BOE website at <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 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.

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