



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Vice Chair Michelle Steel

3rd District – Rolling Hills Estates

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www.boe.ca.gov

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California Gasoline Use Rose 0.9%; Diesel Drops 3.8% in October 2010

Michelle Steel, Vice Chair of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), today released California gasoline and diesel consumption figures for October 2010.

California gasoline consumption increased 0.9 percent in October 2010, while diesel fuel consumption declined 3.8 percent, compared with October 2009.

In October 2010, gasoline demand rose 0.9 percent when Californians used 1.257 billion gallons of gasoline compared to 1.246 billion gallons in October 2009. The average California gasoline price at the pump in October 2010 was \$3.15 per gallon compared to \$3.06 in October 2009, a 2.9 percent increase.

Diesel fuel sold in California during October 2010 totaled 216 million gallons compared to October 2009's total of 224 million gallons, which is a decrease of 3.8 percent. California diesel prices were \$3.21 per gallon in October 2010 an increase of 12.2 percent compared to October 2009 when the average diesel price was \$2.86 per gallon.

The BOE is able to monitor gallons through tax receipts paid by fuel distributors. The figures reported monthly are net consumption that includes BOE audit assessments, refunds, amended and late tax returns, and State Controller's Office refunds. Figures for November 2010 are scheduled to be available at the end of February 2011.

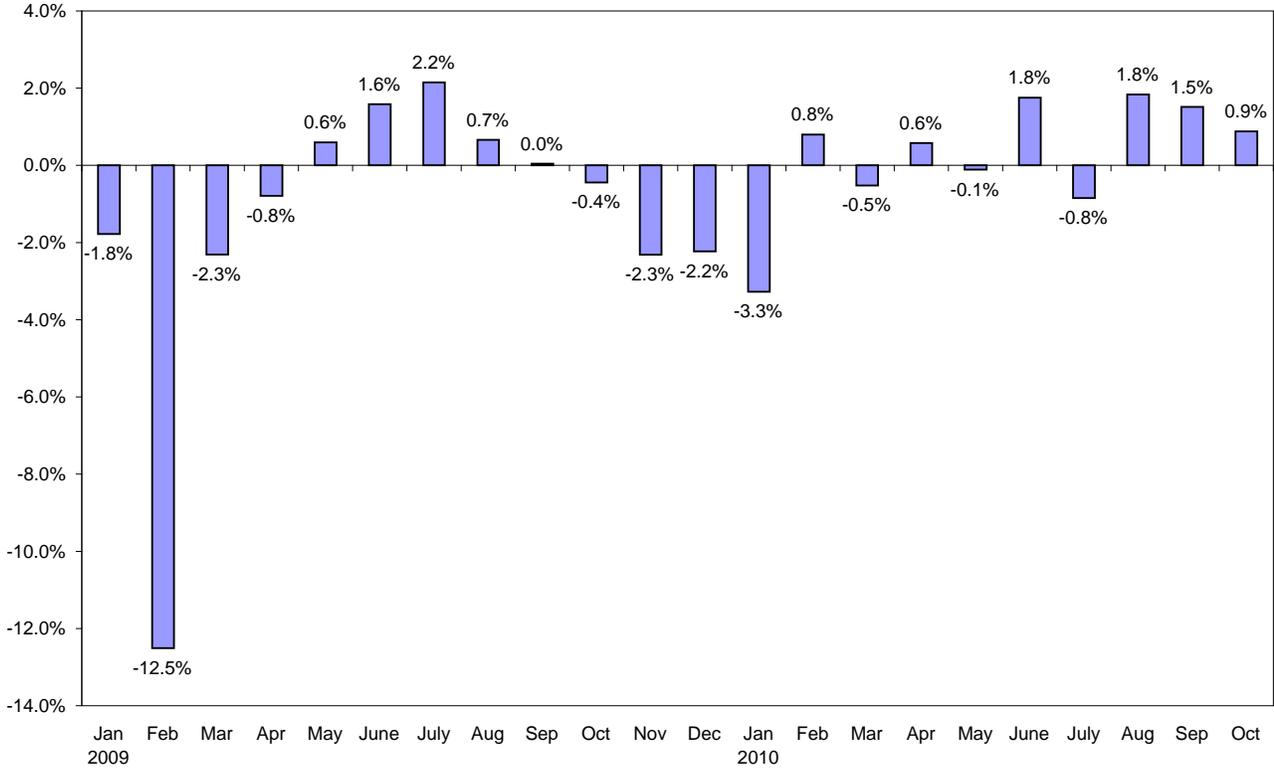
All monthly, quarterly, and annual figures can be viewed at: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm.

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

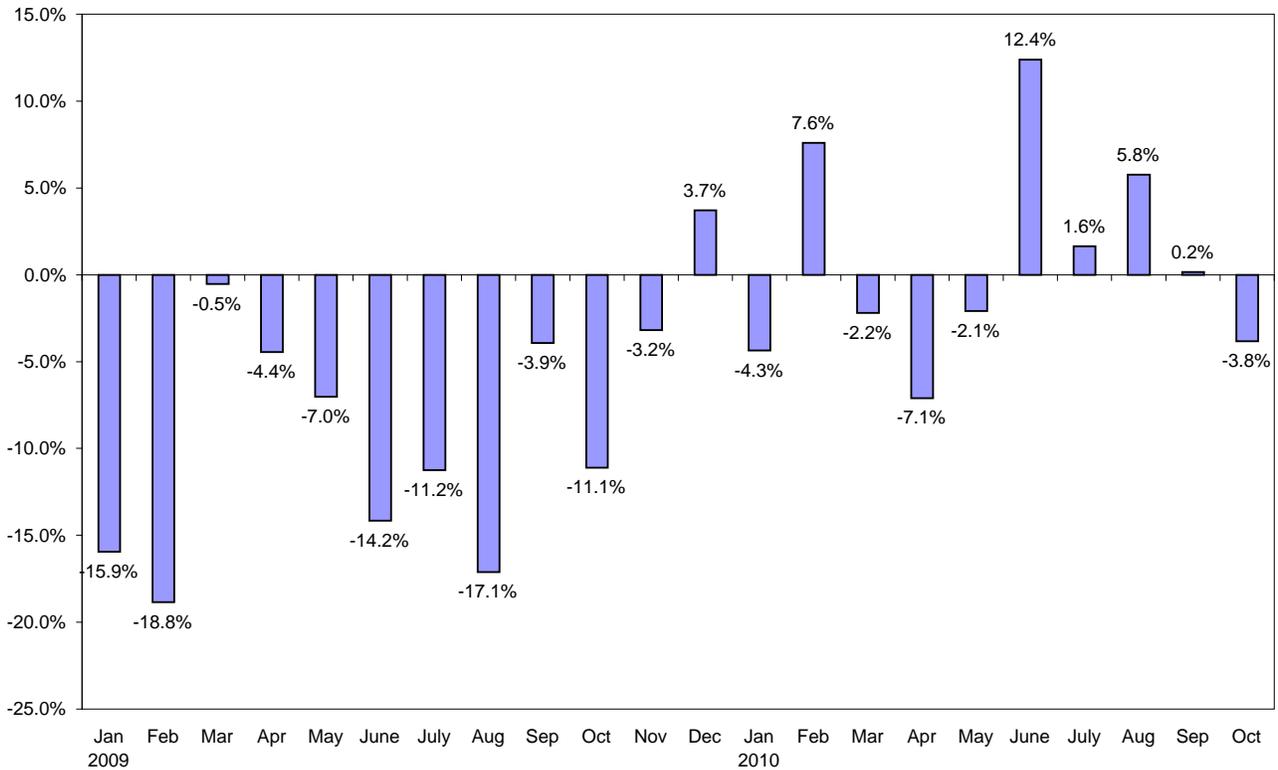
Taxable Diesel Gallons: www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/Diesel_10_Year_Report.pdf

Editor's note – please see the two attached charts showing percent change in gasoline and diesel gallons consumption compared to 12 months from January 2009 through October 2010.

**Percent Change in Gas Consumption Compared to 12 Months Prior
From January 2009 through October 2010**



**Percent Change in Diesel Gallons Compared to 12 Months Prior
From January 2009 through October 2010**



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.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$48 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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