

2009 Q2 Index - Cost of Living Index Comparison Major Texas Markets

Urban Area	Composite Index	Grocery Items	Housing Cost	Utilities	Transportation	Health Care	Misc. Goods & Services
	100.00%	12.49%	29.18%	9.98%	11.10%	4.06%	33.19%
Austin TX	96.6	89.5	83.3	93.0	99.1	95.9	111.4
Dallas TX	92.0	91.2	69.5	111.1	103.6	104.3	100.9
Fort Worth TX	91.1	93.8	75.2	106.5	103.6	94.2	95.0
Houston TX	89.2	83.7	76.6	95.0	98.8	95.7	96.5
Hutto TX	86.7	81.0	67.8	101.9	98.0	103.7	94.9
Round Rock TX	92.4	82.5	79.2	107.5	90.5	102.5	102.7
San Marcos TX	87.4	85.2	84.1	86.4	93.2	94.3	88.7

INTERPRETING THE INDEX: The ACCRA Cost of Living Index measures relative price levels for consumer goods and services in participating areas. The average for all participating places, both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan, equals 100, and each participant's index is read as a percentage of the average for all places.

The Index does not measure inflation (price change over time). Because each quarterly report is a separate comparison of prices at a single point in time, and because both the number and the mix of participants changes from one quarter to the next, Index data from different quarters cannot be compared. For inflation data, contact the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at www.bls.gov.

The Index reflects cost differentials for professional and executive households in the top income quintile. Operationally, this standard of living is set by the weighting structure. Homeownership costs, for example, are more heavily weighted than they would be if the Index reflected a clerical worker standard of living or average costs for all urban consumers. (Weights for component indexes appear above column headings—e.g., 12.49% for Grocery Items.)

Information compiled by C2ER (the Council for Community and Economic Research).

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