



Cost of Living Index Comparison - How does Hutto measure up?

Comparisons From Around the State

Have you ever wondered how the cost of living in Hutto compares to the rest of the state and even the nation? The answer is right at your fingertips; just utilize the [Cost of Living Index Calculator](#) that is on the Hutto Economic Development website. Since January 2008 the Hutto EDC has been participating in the quarterly update which requires the gathering of prices from all categories.

National Comparison						
Category	Hutto	TX	US	TX	US	Hutto
Consumer Price Index	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Food and Alcohol	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Medical	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Shelter	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Transportation	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Entertainment	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Education	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Health Care	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Housing	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Recreation	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Apparel	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Dining	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Gasoline	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Insurance	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Utilities	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Tobacco	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Transportation	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Entertainment	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Education	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Health Care	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Housing	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Recreation	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Apparel	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Dining	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Gasoline	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Insurance	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Utilities	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers - Excl. Tobacco	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

According to Lori Hines, Operations Manager/Research Specialist, "Approximately 300 organizations from all over the country work together to collect the same data during the same time frame. Everything from the cost of a tire rotation, to the cost of housing, to the cost of a pound of bananas is documented and compiled into a national database."

To see how Hutto compares to the rest of the state, check out our comparison worksheet by [clicking here](#). Data and information is compiled by the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER); for information regarding the compilation and methodology, [click here](#).

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Did you Know...

...that Hutto is the second smallest community in the nation to participate in

Eldon Rude to Speak at the May Power Breakfast

Metrostudy Austin Market Manager to address the Hutto Community

On May 14, 2009 the Hutto Economic Development Corporation is pleased to announce that Eldon Rude with Metrostudy will be the featured speaker at the May Power Breakfast.

The May Power Breakfast is open to the public at no charge. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Express located at 323 Ed Schmidt Blvd. in Hutto at 7:30 am.

About Eldon Rude

As manager of Austin operations for Metrostudy, Eldon Rude regularly meets with the firm's builder, developer and lender clients to provide them with the timely and accurate market information on which they can rely to make sound business decisions. Rude also directs Metrostudy's consulting practice in Central Texas and provides a variety of consulting services to clients, including feasibility/absorption studies, builder product studies, and the preparation of municipal utility district compliance documents, as well as consulting for mixed-use and master-planned communities. Rude has been with Metrostudy since 1996. Prior to joining Metrostudy, Rude provided real estate consulting and valuation services in both Austin and San Antonio for over 12 years. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance from the University of Texas at Austin and holds an MAI designation. Rude is a native of Houston, Texas and has lived in Austin for over 20 years.



Metrostudy is the leading provider of primary and secondary market information to the housing and related industries nationwide. In addition to providing information, the company is recognized for its consulting expertise on development, marketing and economic issues, and is a key source of research studies evaluating the marketability of residential and commercial real estate projects. Services are offered through an extensive network of offices strategically located in major metropolitan areas throughout the country. The company is based in Houston, Texas, and was established in 1975 by founders Michael Castleman, Sr. and Michael Inselmann.

the nationwide ACCRA Cost of Living Index?

To see how Hutto compares with the rest of the nation, [click here](#) for a link to the Cost of Living Calculator.



Join Our Mailing List!

The Texas State University Small Business Center

Information and Calendar of Events

The [Texas State University Small Business Development Center](#) (SBDC) works with existing and startup small businesses to help them grow and compete in today's global economy. SBDCs are available to provide assistance during every phase of the business life cycle. The improvements that result from our direct support of our client's activities lead to job creation, investments, and economic growth for communities throughout central Texas.

The SBDC's professional staff of counselors, trainers, and researchers provides comprehensive, confidential business counseling services that are at no cost to the client. The SBDC is funded in part by the U. S. Small Business Administration, Texas State University at San Marcos, and an extensive network of banks, chambers of commerce, and other economic development organizations.

Meet the challenges of starting, owning, and operating a business by attending Texas State SBDC's workshops and seminars! Their training classes provide a quick and easy way for you and your employees to learn new skills. Workshops combine traditional business training with real-world applications that can be readily applied to your business. Classes range in topic from basic start-up seminars to more advanced business management topics. All programs are taught by business owners and staff with practical experience in the topics presented.

For a calendar of courses and events, [click here](#).



Reid Ryan Speaks at the April Power Breakfast

Ryan-Sanders CEO addresses the Hutto Community on the upcoming Express Baseball Season



To coincide with the Opening Day of the 10th season at the Dell Diamond, the Hutto Economic Development Corporation was pleased to have Reid Ryan, CEO of Ryan-Sanders Baseball, L.P., as the featured speaker at the April Power Breakfast. Ryan gave an update of the 2009 Round Rock Express and talked

about the enhancements this season at the Dell Diamond.

About Reid Ryan

A graduate of Texas Christian University, Reid is credited with the idea of creating the Round Rock Express and Corpus Christi Hooks baseball clubs. He is actively involved in both of the Houston Astros top farm clubs, serving as Founder & CEO. for both the Express and the Hooks.

Hutto Police Department Utilizes Innovative GIS Technology

Online Crime Mapping let's you track what's happening



A recent enhancement on the [Hutto Police Department's](#) webpage is an interactive crime and activity pin map showing selected calls from service and crime categories within the City of Hutto for a selected time frame. This innovative solution for keeping citizens informed is another way that the City of Hutto staff is constantly working for the citizens.

Users can do a customized search by dates, or zoom in on a particular area of the city. This tool which utilizes GIS Mapping, allows the user to see what has been going on within the city limits. The pin mapping capability will provide a "window" for the citizens to view calls for service and crimes.

Hutto consistently has one of the lowest crime rates in the region, and the police department is taking all measures necessary to ensure that Hutto stays a safe and family friendly community. For questions regarding the Crime Mapping feature, please contact the Hutto Police Department by [clicking here](#).

"Hutto Day at the Capitol" a Success

Organizations throughout the city work together to make event a success



On April 1, 2009, representatives from the City of Hutto, the Hutto Economic Development Corporation, Hutto Chamber of Commerce, Hutto Fire and Rescue, and the Hutto Independent School District came together for an all day event that was designed to showcase the Hutto community to the Texas State Legislature and staff. This is the first time that Hutto has sponsored an event at the Capitol.

All parties involved deemed the event a success. "This was one of the most successful events at the capitol I have been to... this just shows what can happen when the Hutto community pulls together. I was proud to be a part of the day," says Scott Martinez, Hutto EDC Executive Director.

The day was kicked off with a breakfast at the Capitol Grill with Senator Steve Ogden and Representative Diana Maldonado, who presented Resolutions in honor of the Texan Cafe and a Hutto ISD Nurse. Following breakfast, delegates visited the Texas Senate and Texas House of Representatives where resolutions were read acknowledging this special day. Delegates then traveled in teams to each legislators' office to present a gift and community information.



The evening reception was held for members of the Legislature, their staff, Hutto delegates, and event sponsors. Event coordinators estimated event attendance to be over 250 throughout the evening. Catering was provided by Mario's Mexican Restaurant and The Texan Cafe donated an array of desserts for the event. Plans are already being made for the 2011 Legislative Day, and participants are looking ahead.

"I was proud to be a part of the event planning committee and it was a joy working with others throughout the community. The next Legislation Day event will be even bigger and better than the 2009 event. We have a lot of ideas and plans, and cannot wait to make it a memorable occasion," said Hutto EDC Executive Assistant Seanna Roysden.



City of Hutto - News

Outside Agency Funding Applications Now Available



Applying for funding does not bind the City in anyway, but does keep the option of receiving state funding open.

The City of Hutto is accepting applications for Outside Agency Funding for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year. Applications and instructions can be downloaded from the City's website www.HuttoTX.gov.

In accordance with the Fiscal and Budgetary Policy adopted by the City Council, the City provides approximately 1% of estimated general fund revenues to other agencies that provide core services for the citizens of Hutto. The City Council sets the annual contribution amount as part of the annual budget process.

Applications must be received no later than May 15, 2009 at 5:00pm.

For questions, contact [Micah Grau](#).

City Manager Edward Broussard Credentialed



Edward Broussard, City Manager of the City of Hutto, Texas, recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from ICMA, the premier local government leadership and management organization. Mr. Broussard is one of more than 1,000 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program.

To receive the prestigious ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government, have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field, and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development.

Edward Broussard is qualified by thirteen years of professional local government executive experience. Prior to his appointment in 2005 as city manager of Hutto, he served as city manager in Navasota, Texas, assistant city manager in Woodway, Texas, assistant to the city manager in College Station, Texas, and management assistant for the Lubbock City/County Library System.

Edward Broussard has also made significant contributions to a number of other organizations, including: newly-elected member of the Texas City Management Association (TCMA) Board of Directors, past regional president of TCMA Region 7, member of TCMA Membership Committee, member of the Williamson County Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors, and member of Hutto Rotary Club.

City Completes Fiscal Year 2009 Audit

During the March 19 City Council Meeting, the City Council was presented the finding of the external financial audit for Fiscal Year 2008. The external financial audit, completed by Brockway, Gersbach, Franklin and Niemeier, P.C., was requested in compliance with the City Charter which requires an independent audit of all accounts of the City at the close of each fiscal year. It was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

If you would like to review a copy of the completed audit, [click here](#). A hard copy may be viewed in the City Secretary's Office located at 401 W. Front Street, Monday - Friday between the hours of 8am - 5pm.

City's Newest On-Line Communication: Facebook and Twitter

During the March 19 City Council Meeting, the City Council was Less than a year after launching a new City website, the City of Hutto finds itself in an entirely new area of on-line communication. In an effort to provide more information to a greater number of people and improve governmental transparency, the City has become involved with two social networks, Facebook and Twitter. With the use of these new tools the City hopes to increase citizen involvement and input.

Facebook is an on-line community of millions of people, businesses and social groups from around the world. Being a part of the Facebook community opens our doors to not just millions of people world-wide, but to groups of people that may want to take an interest in a growing community such as ours. This could include potential investors and vendors looking for brand new opportunities that may be beneficial to the entire community. Residents can log in to see the latest developments and connect with their local government like never before.



The City of Hutto Facebook page, in addition to plenty of photos, will include a discussion board to provide a conduit into city matters and to let the public's voices be heard, and a "Wall" where

people can sign-in, take a quick glance at changes, and opinions and make a comment of their own. An events calendar will be included, which will take note of functions and activities that may interest people around the city. Also, a link to the City of Hutto's official website will be provided. Another level of transparency into the City of Hutto offered by these new communication tools will create a greater trust within local government. Our community will become much in-sync and other cities will take note and follow in our footsteps in helping their townships, councils and neighborhoods become closer, as we usher in a new era of community growth.

You can find the **City of Hutto on Facebook** .

Twitter allows its members to post status updates, known as tweets, throughout the day. You can follow people that you would like to keep up with and others have the option to follow you. Updates are limited to 140 characters and can be sent and received from a phone or computer. Twitter allows its members to keep up with a large amount of information in real time.



The City uses Twitter to promote events, programs and provide information to its followers. In the case of an emergency or a crime the Twitter service can be beneficial for tips, real time updates and spreading information across agencies.

You can find the [City of Hutto on Twitter](#).

On top of these new services, the City continues to improve its website and look for new ways to increase communication by making information readily available and easy to find. With the Citizen Help Center, you can pay your water bill or municipal fee on-line and submit a service request or question. Other services include a number of newsletters, crime mapping, online police report and frequently asked questions. We are always looking for ways to improve, so if you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to send them to [Tim Howell](#).

Community Demographic Information

4A Economic Development Sales Tax Allocation

Fiscal Year	March	April	Total
1997/98	\$ 1,730.68	\$ 1,124.52	\$40,417.02
1998/99	\$ 3,996.65	\$ 1,380.71	\$32,045.20
1999/00	\$ 1,819.40	\$ 3,719.04	\$35,093.61
2000/01	\$ 2,720.66	\$ 4,346.71	\$50,940.93
2001/02	\$ 3,113.69	\$ 4,127.65	\$58,299.83
2002/03	\$ 4,935.68	\$ 4,284.53	\$73,572.84
2003/04	\$ 5,727.65	\$ 5,203.96	\$98,841.25
2004/05	\$16,867.68	\$12,700.25	\$216,990.28
2005/06	\$23,930.39	\$20,865.44	\$336,629.05
2006/07	\$21,218.01	\$26,069.31	\$376,036.41
2007/08	\$33,150.36	\$28,878.89	\$481,309.64
2008/09	\$28,820.17	\$33,722.39	\$282,972.06*

*Cumulative Year-To-Date Data

March 2009 Unemployment Rates

Area	Rate
<i>Austin/Round Rock MSA</i>	6.2%
<i>Williamson County</i>	6.8%
<i>Texas</i>	6.7%
<i>National</i>	9.0%

Single Family Building Permit Requests by Month

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<i>January</i>	63	93	71	64	18
<i>February</i>	51	70	49	49	15
<i>March</i>	56	101	84	47	14
<i>April</i>	67	91	75	46	
<i>May</i>	53	66	37	29	
<i>June</i>	58	68	44	22	
<i>July</i>	61	56	34	32	
<i>August</i>	78	70	25	41	
<i>September</i>	67	66	24	28	
<i>October</i>	65	58	51	5	
<i>November</i>	49	37	60	9	
<i>December</i>	46	46	7	12	

Thank you for taking the time to view our newsletter. Please feel free to contact me with feedback or questions.

Sincerely,

Scott Martinez, CEcD
Hutto Economic Development Corporation
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