



Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff

Room 029 State Capitol, Denver, CO 80203-1784
(303) 866-3521 FAX: 866-3855 TDD: 866-3472

MEMORANDUM

March 25, 2008

TO: Members of the General Assembly
FROM: Deb Godshall, Assistant Director, 303-866-3521
SUBJECT: 2007 School District Cost-of-Living Study

This memorandum provides information on the 2007 school district cost-of-living study. Table 1, attached, presents the results of the study by school district.

Summary

Legislative Council Staff conducts a study of the cost of living in each school district every two years, as required by state law. The results of the 2007 study indicate that the cost of living, adjusted by labor pool areas, increased in 171 of the 178 school districts. In 96 of these districts, the change in cost of living was significant enough to increase district funding through the school finance act. The 2007 study incorporated two changes to methodology: an increase in the size of the home used to determine the housing cost component of the study and an update of the geographic shopping pattern survey of school districts.

The Cost-of-Living Study Is Required by Law

A cost-of-living study is required to be conducted every two years to update the cost-of-living factors used in the state's school finance funding formula.¹ The first study was conducted in 1993; a study has been conducted during the summer and fall of each odd-numbered year since. The 2007 study results are used to determine school district

¹ Section 22-54-104 (5) (c) (III), C.R.S.

cost-of-living factors for FYs 2008-09 and 2009-10. A district's cost-of-living factor is used in calculating its per pupil funding level.

The Results of the Study Are Contained in Table 1

Table 1, attached, shows the results of the 2007 study by school district and by school district labor pool area. The school district labor pool area figures are used to calculate district cost-of-living factors.

Results from the 2007 study indicate that the cost to a typical household of purchasing items consistent with an income of \$44,500 ranges from a low of \$36,642 to a high of \$74,198 in Colorado school districts, after adjusting for labor pool areas. Compared to 2005, the cost of living is higher in 171 of the 178 school districts. Rates of increase range from sixth-tenths of one percent to 19 percent. In order for a school district to realize additional funding as a result of the study, its cost of living must increase by at least 3.5 percent—the percentage by which the \$44,500 income level used in this year's study increased over the 2005 level. The percentage increase in cost of living meets this standard in 96 districts.

The method for calculating changes in district cost-of-living factors—using the cost-of-living dollar amounts contained in this report—is prescribed by state law. When the change in a district's cost of living meets the standard for an increase, its factor is the prior year's factor plus an amount equal to its percentage increase in cost of living divided by 3.5 percent divided by 1,000. Under state law, a district's factor cannot decrease.

The Study Measures the Cost of the Same Items in Each District

The cost-of-living study measures the cost of a similar market basket of housing, goods and services, transportation, and taxes in each school district. The market basket was defined to include items available and affordable to a three-person household with an annual income of \$44,500.

For the 2007 study, the Legislative Council Staff contracted with two private vendors to provide data for computing the cost of a constant market basket in each school district. Goods and services, transportation, income tax, and housing information, with the exception of home values, was collected by Corona Research, Inc. Corona continued the practice of on-site visits to retail outlets in school districts to collect information. Retail outlets were selected for price sampling based on a stratification of outlets in terms of revenue; population of cities within a district—when multiple cities were present—was used to determine the location of outlets sampled. Housing value data was provided by Rocky Mountain Valuation Specialists. The housing value data was forwarded by Legislative Council Staff to Corona. Corona then computed the total cost of the market basket in each district.

Housing. Housing costs include mortgage costs of principal and interest, property taxes, and homeowner's insurance (PITI), as well as the cost of utilities, maintenance, household supplies and operations, and household furnishings. PITI costs are based on the value of a 1,500 square-foot house in each school district. Housing costs account for about 31 percent of expenditures in a three-person household with an income of \$44,500.

Methodology for determining district home value. Rocky Mountain Valuation Specialists analyzed a database of nearly all single-family homes in the state to estimate the market value of a 1,500-square-foot home in each district. The approach used to estimate the value involved a number of steps. Whenever a statistically valid sample of home sales within a 1,400-to-1,600 square-foot range existed, the home value was determined by multiplying the median sales price per square foot of this group of homes by 1,500 square feet. When a school district did not have a statistically valid sample of homes within this square-footage range, the range was expanded until an adequate number of home sales was collected. The value in these districts was determined by multiplying the median sales price per square foot of the number of homes necessary to reach the sample size by 1,500 square feet. In about 50 percent of the districts, the database of homes sold within a district was not sufficient to estimate the value of a 1,500-square-foot house. In these cases, assessor-determined values or sales from surrounding areas were used to supplement the sample of properties within an individual district.

The square footage of the target home increased from 1,300 to 1,500 square feet in 2007, and the 2005 values were recalculated for an "apples-to-apples" comparison for updating district cost-of-living factors. At the request of Legislative Council Staff, Rocky Mountain Valuation Specialists analyzed the size of homes in school districts in Colorado in 2006. The results of the analysis indicated that the average home size in Colorado in that year was 1,647 square feet, while the median home size was 1,483 square feet. Since the inception of the study in 1993, a 1,300-square-foot home has been the basis for calculating the housing component of the cost-of-living study. In an effort to upgrade the study by using more representative data on housing, this year's study was based on a 1,500-square-foot home.

It is important to note that the change in methodology for housing primarily affects districts where home *sales* are the basis for the home value, and particularly districts where a narrow range of square footage for home sales is used to calculate the value. In 27 of the 39 districts where a 200-square-foot range is used to determine the value of a home in a school district, the median size of a home was greater than 1,300 square feet. Certainly there are a number of districts in which the median size of a home is lower than the current year's target of 1,500 square feet and the 1,300 square feet used in previous years' studies. However, as discussed previously, in a number of these districts, square footage is not a basis for selecting the homes used in the study; all home sales are used.

Because the increase in the size of the home is a change in methodology that would affect the calculation of the cost-of-living factor, school district cost-of-living amounts from the 2005 study were recalculated using a 1,500-square-foot home. As a result, the

cost-of-living amounts in Table 1 and the resulting cost-of-living factors are based on an "apples-to-apples" comparison between the two studies.

Goods and services. Items in the goods and services component include groceries, meals away from home, clothing, medical and dental care, recreation, and other day-to-day expenses. Data for the goods and services component was obtained from a combination of school district visits, telephone surveys, and third-party data sources. The goods and services category consumes about 33 percent of expenditures for a three-person household with earnings of \$44,500.

Transportation. The transportation category consists of the annual cost of owning and operating personal vehicles. These costs include maintenance and repairs, gasoline and oil, insurance, and vehicle financing. The transportation component accounts for 20 percent of market-basket expenditures.

Taxation. The taxation component includes federal and state income taxes and local occupation (head) taxes. Sales taxes are included under the goods and services component; property taxes are included in the housing component.

Miscellaneous. A miscellaneous cost component is included for long-term saving, investments, charitable donations, and life insurance, among other things. Using data from the *Consumer Expenditures Survey*, published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, a value of \$6,142 was assigned to all school districts. This amount is 14 percent of the income level used in the study.

The Study Updates School District Geographic Shopping Patterns

The cost-of-living study recognizes that not all items in the market basket are purchased within the school district for which the cost of living is being measured. Individuals travel outside school district boundaries to make purchases for a number of reasons, including availability of goods, price, selection, convenience, and the like. Since FY 1998-99, school district cost-of-living amounts have been based on a geographic shopping pattern survey conducted in 1997. Updating the survey was a high priority for this year's study given the considerable growth and change in the state in the last ten years. In 2007, a total of 2,710 surveys were completed statewide. Survey respondents provided information about geographic purchasing patterns for 18 types of products, including such things as groceries, restaurant meals, clothing, car maintenance and repair services, and day care services. Using the data collected from the surveys, a series of predictive models were developed to estimate geographic shopping patterns in each district for each product category. The models accommodate rural and urban distinctions, taking into account population, the size of communities within a district, the distance and sizes of nearby communities, and information on distance traveled from home.

School District Labor Pool Areas Were Also Updated

Along with pricing data and the shopping pattern survey, the information on school district labor pool areas was updated during the study. The labor pool areas are based on employee district-of-residence data provided by districts to the Colorado Department of Education. Information on where employees live is current to the fall of 2006 for most districts. In three districts, prior-year data on employee district of residence was used because current-year data appeared suspect. The number of employees in each district reflects a full-time equivalent (FTE) count. The data is used to calculate the new labor pool cost-of-living amounts.

Additional Information Is Available on the Internet

The full text of the report submitted by Corona Research, Inc. is available on the internet at http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/schfin/cover.htm. A chart listing the home values provided by Rocky Mountain Valuation Specialists can be found at the same site.

TABLE 1: 2007 SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-OF-LIVING STUDY RESULTS

County School District	Housing Costs ¹	Transportation Costs ²	Goods & Services ³	Other ⁴	Taxes ⁵	2007 District Cost of Living	2005 Recalc District Cost of Living ⁶	Percent Change	2007 Labor Pool Cost of Living	2005 Recalc Labor Pool Cost of Living ⁶	Percent Change
State	\$13,975	\$9,105	\$14,518	\$6,142	\$760	\$44,500	\$43,000	3.49%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Adams Mapleton	\$12,693	\$8,938	\$14,175	\$6,142	\$763	\$42,711	\$42,779	-0.16%	\$44,409	\$43,687	1.65%
Adams Northglenn	13,792	9,267	14,433	6,142	763	44,397	43,932	1.06%	44,852	44,036	1.85%
Adams Commerce City	12,191	9,255	14,051	6,142	763	42,402	42,508	-0.25%	43,903	43,358	1.26%
Adams Brighton	13,699	9,188	13,733	6,142	763	43,525	43,285	0.55%	43,887	43,445	1.02%
Adams Bennett	13,865	9,183	14,340	6,142	763	44,293	45,038	-1.65%	44,320	44,382	-0.14%
Adams Strasburg	13,647	9,040	14,313	6,142	763	43,905	45,065	-2.57%	43,988	44,647	-1.48%
Adams Westminster	13,509	9,309	14,416	6,142	763	44,139	43,456	1.57%	45,331	44,064	2.88%
Alamosa Alamosa	9,922	8,838	14,092	6,142	763	39,757	39,341	1.06%	39,701	39,210	1.25%
Alamosa Sangre de Cristo	10,107	8,777	14,052	6,142	763	39,841	39,016	2.11%	39,841	39,016	2.11%
Arapahoe Englewood	13,904	9,190	14,589	6,142	763	44,588	43,543	2.40%	45,029	43,777	2.86%
Arapahoe Sheridan	13,606	9,181	14,959	6,142	763	44,651	43,881	1.75%	45,047	43,912	2.58%
Arapahoe Cherry Creek	14,279	9,140	14,029	6,142	763	44,353	43,345	2.33%	44,676	43,570	2.54%
Arapahoe Littleton	14,483	9,243	14,485	6,142	763	45,116	44,059	2.40%	45,134	44,021	2.53%
Arapahoe Deer Trail	13,221	9,046	14,244	6,142	763	43,416	42,555	2.02%	43,580	43,075	1.17%
Arapahoe Aurora	13,097	9,113	14,361	6,142	768	43,481	42,906	1.34%	44,313	43,339	2.25%
Arapahoe Byers	13,623	8,977	13,834	6,142	763	43,339	43,618	-0.64%	43,598	43,605	-0.02%
Archuleta Archuleta	13,463	9,089	15,183	6,142	763	44,640	42,441	5.18%	44,640	42,441	5.18%
Baca Walsh	7,594	9,501	13,202	6,142	763	37,202	36,432	2.11%	37,317	36,410	2.49%
Baca Pritchett	7,226	9,123	13,633	6,142	763	36,887	34,927	5.61%	37,138	35,196	5.52%
Baca Springfield	8,260	9,208	13,406	6,142	763	37,779	35,992	4.96%	37,735	36,043	4.69%
Baca Vilas	7,267	9,123	13,149	6,142	763	36,444	35,297	3.25%	40,970	35,885	14.17%
Baca Campo	7,293	9,145	13,279	6,142	763	36,622	35,126	4.26%	37,038	35,360	4.75%
Bent Las Animas	8,150	9,193	13,410	6,142	763	37,658	36,879	2.11%	37,831	36,965	2.34%
Bent McClave	8,380	9,105	13,363	6,142	763	37,753	36,923	2.25%	38,344	37,497	2.26%
Boulder St. Vrain	13,763	9,116	14,459	6,142	763	44,243	43,861	0.87%	44,545	43,926	1.41%
Boulder Boulder	17,292	9,197	14,836	6,142	733	48,200	46,566	3.51%	47,250	46,087	2.52%
Chaffee Buena Vista	12,934	8,814	15,274	6,142	763	43,927	41,591	5.62%	43,951	41,644	5.54%
Chaffee Salida	13,348	8,836	14,704	6,142	763	43,793	41,876	4.58%	43,745	41,864	4.49%
Cheyenne Kit Carson	7,999	9,355	14,509	6,142	763	38,768	37,200	4.22%	38,768	37,200	4.22%
Cheyenne Cheyenne R-5	8,795	9,266	14,169	6,142	763	39,135	38,696	1.13%	39,135	38,696	1.13%
Clear Creek Clear Creek	15,314	9,370	15,388	6,142	763	46,977	46,807	0.36%	46,489	46,152	0.73%
Conejos North Conejos	8,326	8,753	13,852	6,142	763	37,836	37,758	0.21%	38,332	38,096	0.62%

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State	\$13,975	\$9,105	\$14,518	\$6,142	\$760	\$44,500	\$43,000	3.49%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Conejos Sanford	7,917	8,658	14,088	6,142	763	37,568	36,953	1.66%	38,038	37,467	1.52%
Conejos South Conejos	8,273	8,864	14,224	6,142	763	38,266	37,610	1.74%	38,527	37,860	1.76%
Costilla Centennial	7,699	8,944	13,900	6,142	763	37,448	36,865	1.58%	38,248	37,678	1.51%
Costilla Sierra Grande	9,153	8,791	13,715	6,142	763	38,564	37,995	1.50%	39,018	38,485	1.38%
Crowley Crowley	8,437	9,225	13,619	6,142	763	38,186	36,669	4.14%	38,408	36,896	4.10%
Custer Westcliffe	14,370	8,967	14,666	6,142	763	44,908	43,611	2.97%	44,529	43,197	3.08%
Delta Delta	12,054	9,070	13,991	6,142	763	42,020	41,125	2.18%	42,020	41,125	2.18%
Denver Denver	14,491	9,477	15,006	6,142	776	45,892	43,678	5.07%	45,391	43,711	3.84%
Dolores Dolores County RE-	9,234	8,943	14,983	6,142	763	40,065	37,733	6.18%	40,270	37,941	6.14%
Douglas Douglas	15,250	8,824	14,440	6,142	763	45,419	44,609	1.82%	45,113	44,231	1.99%
Eagle Eagle	18,759	9,206	17,071	6,142	722	51,900	48,913	6.11%	51,856	48,888	6.07%
Elbert Elizabeth	17,481	8,900	14,545	6,142	763	47,831	48,858	-2.10%	46,640	46,715	-0.16%
Elbert Kiowa	15,792	8,900	14,647	6,142	763	46,244	46,050	0.42%	45,957	45,636	0.70%
Elbert Big Sandy	11,924	8,939	14,722	6,142	763	42,490	41,991	1.19%	42,558	41,739	1.96%
Elbert Elbert	16,085	8,815	14,675	6,142	763	46,480	46,064	0.90%	46,027	45,645	0.84%
Elbert Agate	13,879	8,927	14,923	6,142	763	44,634	44,028	1.38%	44,165	43,343	1.90%
El Paso Calhan	12,226	8,960	14,503	6,142	763	42,594	40,759	4.50%	42,958	41,104	4.51%
El Paso Harrison	12,329	9,016	13,955	6,142	763	42,205	40,597	3.96%	43,143	41,327	4.39%
El Paso Widefield	12,996	8,889	14,400	6,142	763	43,190	40,268	7.26%	43,191	40,815	5.82%
El Paso Fountain	13,352	9,035	14,289	6,142	763	43,581	40,132	8.59%	43,336	40,845	6.10%
El Paso Colorado Springs	12,625	8,969	13,766	6,142	763	42,265	41,078	2.89%	42,712	41,308	3.40%
El Paso Cheyenne Mountain	16,209	8,953	14,218	6,142	763	46,285	42,520	8.85%	44,484	41,866	6.25%
El Paso Manitou Springs	15,464	8,966	13,809	6,142	763	45,144	43,303	4.25%	43,891	42,226	3.94%
El Paso Academy	14,576	8,897	14,102	6,142	763	44,480	42,508	4.64%	44,069	42,213	4.40%
El Paso Ellicott	12,294	8,923	13,631	6,142	763	41,753	40,432	3.27%	42,617	40,864	4.29%
El Paso Peyton	14,401	8,890	14,635	6,142	763	44,831	43,113	3.98%	44,131	42,277	4.39%
El Paso Hanover	13,576	8,824	13,830	6,142	763	43,135	39,844	8.26%	42,992	40,285	6.72%
El Paso Lewis-Palmer	16,557	8,899	14,087	6,142	763	46,448	44,479	4.43%	45,296	43,378	4.42%
El Paso Falcon	14,170	8,878	14,357	6,142	763	44,310	41,530	6.69%	44,258	41,530	6.57%
El Paso Edison	11,911	8,828	13,928	6,142	763	41,572	40,615	2.36%	41,953	42,150	-0.47%
El Paso Miami-Yoder	11,600	8,831	13,988	6,142	763	41,324	39,881	3.62%	41,788	40,536	3.09%
Fremont Canon City	10,863	8,833	14,324	6,142	763	40,925	39,131	4.58%	41,056	39,215	4.69%

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State	\$13,975	\$9,105	\$14,518	\$6,142	\$760	\$44,500	\$43,000	3.49%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fremont Florence	12,618	8,833	14,043	6,142	763	42,399	38,989	8.75%	41,929	39,191	6.99%
Fremont Cotopaxi	11,333	8,781	14,580	6,142	763	41,599	39,572	5.12%	42,086	39,939	5.38%
Garfield Roaring Fork RE-1	19,708	9,306	15,774	6,142	680	51,610	49,991	3.24%	51,897	49,457	4.93%
Garfield Rifle	13,632	9,347	14,995	6,142	763	44,879	42,718	5.06%	45,017	43,107	4.43%
Garfield Parachute	11,856	9,361	14,851	6,142	763	42,973	41,489	3.58%	43,087	41,591	3.60%
Gilpin Gilpin	14,547	9,258	14,841	6,142	763	45,551	45,034	1.15%	46,306	45,367	2.07%
Grand West Grand	14,423	9,113	15,826	6,142	763	46,267	45,468	1.76%	46,267	45,468	1.76%
Grand East Grand	20,347	9,074	15,950	6,142	669	52,182	48,783	6.97%	52,165	48,747	7.01%
Gunnison Gunnison	14,473	9,357	14,690	6,142	763	45,425	43,040	5.54%	45,425	43,040	5.54%
Hinsdale Hinsdale	15,326	9,139	13,981	6,142	763	45,351	43,696	3.79%	45,351	43,696	3.79%
Huerfano Huerfano	9,640	8,906	14,177	6,142	763	39,628	38,844	2.02%	39,628	38,844	2.02%
Huerfano La Veta	11,794	8,885	14,507	6,142	763	42,091	41,572	1.25%	41,468	41,064	0.98%
Jackson North Park	10,110	9,233	15,537	6,142	763	41,785	41,181	1.47%	41,785	41,181	1.47%
Jefferson Jefferson	14,279	9,210	14,691	6,142	763	45,085	44,033	2.39%	45,129	44,047	2.46%
Kiowa Eads	7,551	9,019	13,266	6,142	763	36,741	37,896	-3.05%	36,873	37,954	-2.85%
Kiowa Plainview	7,246	9,029	13,462	6,142	763	36,642	36,788	-0.40%	36,642	37,041	-1.08%
Kit Carson Arriba-Flagler	9,148	9,177	15,027	6,142	763	40,257	38,533	4.47%	40,244	38,548	4.40%
Kit Carson Hi Plains	9,372	9,214	14,386	6,142	763	39,877	38,195	4.40%	39,934	38,164	4.64%
Kit Carson Stratton	9,537	9,084	14,430	6,142	763	39,956	38,352	4.18%	40,116	38,511	4.17%
Kit Carson Bethune	9,293	9,049	14,288	6,142	763	39,535	37,954	4.17%	40,000	38,405	4.15%
Kit Carson Burlington	10,333	9,196	14,598	6,142	763	41,032	39,223	4.61%	40,979	39,187	4.57%
Lake Lake	12,159	9,453	16,828	6,142	763	45,345	43,058	5.31%	45,343	43,192	4.98%
La Plata Durango	16,267	9,530	16,221	6,142	763	48,923	44,950	8.84%	48,598	44,776	8.54%
La Plata Bayfield	14,146	9,419	16,384	6,142	763	46,854	43,762	7.07%	47,234	44,002	7.35%
La Plata Ignacio	12,621	9,471	16,305	6,142	763	45,302	42,186	7.39%	46,393	42,966	7.98%
Larimer Poudre	13,170	8,973	15,114	6,142	763	44,162	42,213	4.62%	44,085	42,202	4.46%
Larimer Thompson	13,187	8,996	14,453	6,142	763	43,541	42,110	3.40%	43,662	42,137	3.62%
Larimer Estes Park	16,030	9,189	15,332	6,142	763	47,456	47,331	0.26%	46,977	46,576	0.86%
Las Animas Trinidad	10,875	9,071	14,403	6,142	763	41,254	39,863	3.49%	41,205	39,843	3.42%
Las Animas Primero	9,591	8,995	14,092	6,142	763	39,583	38,548	2.68%	40,316	39,147	2.99%
Las Animas Hoehne	10,417	8,799	14,161	6,142	763	40,282	39,473	2.05%	40,597	39,606	2.50%
Las Animas Aguilar	9,099	8,878	14,213	6,142	763	39,095	38,072	2.69%	39,879	38,695	3.06%

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State	\$13,975	\$9,105	\$14,518	\$6,142	\$760	\$44,500	\$43,000	3.49%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Las Animas Branson	8,414	8,854	14,298	6,142	763	38,471	37,520	2.53%	41,881	40,330	3.85%
Las Animas Kim	8,493	8,672	13,916	6,142	763	37,986	37,418	1.52%	37,929	37,291	1.71%
Lincoln Genoa-Hugo	10,154	9,166	14,060	6,142	763	40,285	39,578	1.79%	40,416	39,761	1.65%
Lincoln Limon	11,468	9,162	14,578	6,142	763	42,113	40,367	4.33%	42,126	40,449	4.15%
Lincoln Karval	8,834	9,088	13,847	6,142	763	38,674	37,219	3.91%	39,485	37,772	4.54%
Logan Valley	10,397	8,950	14,499	6,142	763	40,751	39,574	2.97%	40,731	39,528	3.04%
Logan Frenchman	9,317	9,007	14,440	6,142	763	39,669	38,331	3.49%	39,840	38,485	3.52%
Logan Buffalo	9,759	8,917	14,330	6,142	763	39,911	38,410	3.91%	40,306	38,921	3.56%
Logan Plateau	8,487	8,830	14,307	6,142	763	38,529	37,559	2.58%	39,505	38,163	3.52%
Mesa DeBeque	11,358	9,108	14,787	6,142	763	42,158	39,520	6.68%	42,613	39,916	6.76%
Mesa Plateau Valley	12,865	9,130	14,853	6,142	763	43,753	39,934	9.56%	43,553	40,028	8.81%
Mesa Mesa Valley	12,067	8,974	14,895	6,142	763	42,841	40,263	6.40%	42,842	40,268	6.39%
Mineral Creede	13,339	8,747	14,058	6,142	763	43,049	42,949	0.23%	43,049	42,678	0.87%
Moffat Moffat County RE 1	11,762	9,485	15,348	6,142	763	43,500	41,755	4.18%	43,774	42,005	4.21%
Montezuma Montezuma	11,084	9,080	14,689	6,142	763	41,758	39,217	6.48%	42,184	39,675	6.32%
Montezuma Dolores RE-4A	12,167	9,047	14,830	6,142	763	42,949	41,086	4.53%	42,645	40,443	5.44%
Montezuma Mancos	11,987	9,196	15,330	6,142	763	43,418	40,751	6.54%	43,403	41,053	5.72%
Montrose Montrose	12,680	8,923	14,083	6,142	763	42,591	40,937	4.04%	42,605	40,980	3.97%
Montrose West End	11,503	8,993	15,086	6,142	763	42,487	40,337	5.33%	42,500	40,337	5.36%
Morgan Brush	12,010	8,942	14,573	6,142	763	42,430	39,515	7.38%	42,430	39,515	7.38%
Morgan Fort Morgan	11,170	8,996	14,592	6,142	763	41,663	40,706	2.35%	41,802	40,607	2.94%
Morgan Weldon	11,125	8,802	14,196	6,142	763	41,028	39,771	3.16%	41,559	40,108	3.62%
Morgan Wiggins	12,675	8,937	14,771	6,142	763	43,288	42,402	2.09%	43,008	41,869	2.72%
Otero East Otero	8,883	9,109	13,844	6,142	763	38,741	37,230	4.06%	38,691	37,243	3.89%
Otero Rocky Ford	8,634	9,053	13,472	6,142	763	38,064	37,100	2.60%	38,309	37,199	2.98%
Otero Manzanola	8,399	9,012	13,568	6,142	763	37,884	36,418	4.03%	38,171	36,809	3.70%
Otero Fowler	8,915	8,874	13,795	6,142	763	38,489	37,381	2.96%	38,640	37,608	2.74%
Otero Cheraw	8,518	8,819	13,869	6,142	763	38,111	36,669	3.93%	38,295	37,080	3.28%
Otero Swink	9,261	8,891	14,650	6,142	763	39,707	37,841	4.93%	38,996	37,384	4.31%
Ouray Ouray	17,990	9,236	15,127	6,142	749	49,244	46,050	6.94%	48,689	45,830	6.24%
Ouray Ridgway	16,560	9,038	13,948	6,142	763	46,451	46,628	-0.38%	46,019	45,403	1.36%
Park Platte Canyon	17,276	9,074	14,375	6,142	763	47,630	47,133	1.05%	46,953	46,450	1.08%

TABLE 1: 2007 SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-OF-LIVING STUDY RESULTS

County School District	Housing Costs ¹	Transportation Costs ²	Goods & Services ³	Other ⁴	Taxes ⁵	2007 District Cost of Living	2005 Recalc District Cost of Living ⁶	Percent Change	2007 Labor Pool Cost of Living	2005 Recalc Labor Pool Cost of Living ⁶	Percent Change
State	\$13,975	\$9,105	\$14,518	\$6,142	\$760	\$44,500	\$43,000	3.49%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Park Park County	15,080	9,239	14,810	6,142	763	46,034	44,099	4.39%	45,836	44,251	3.58%
Phillips Holyoke	8,787	9,103	14,672	6,142	763	39,467	37,270	5.89%	39,495	37,367	5.69%
Phillips Haxtun	8,740	9,256	14,575	6,142	763	39,476	37,904	4.15%	39,524	37,965	4.11%
Pitkin Aspen	56,597	9,701	17,757	6,142	440	90,637	71,549	26.68%	74,198	62,140	19.40%
Prowers Granada	7,955	9,080	13,433	6,142	763	37,373	37,276	0.26%	37,644	37,218	1.14%
Prowers Lamar	9,886	9,231	13,214	6,142	763	39,236	38,986	0.64%	39,236	38,986	0.64%
Prowers Holly	7,951	9,079	13,408	6,142	763	37,343	36,178	3.22%	37,343	36,178	3.22%
Prowers Wiley	8,992	9,103	13,505	6,142	763	38,505	38,015	1.29%	38,632	38,288	0.90%
Pueblo Pueblo City	11,672	9,030	14,011	6,142	763	41,618	40,679	2.31%	41,768	40,912	2.09%
Pueblo Pueblo Rural	12,363	8,884	14,006	6,142	763	42,158	41,807	0.84%	41,984	41,404	1.40%
Rio Blanco Meeker	11,749	9,304	15,031	6,142	763	42,989	41,332	4.01%	42,989	41,332	4.01%
Rio Blanco Rangely	9,299	9,097	15,509	6,142	763	40,810	39,301	3.84%	40,810	39,301	3.84%
Rio Grande Del Norte	11,924	9,062	14,423	6,142	763	42,314	40,120	5.47%	41,678	39,781	4.77%
Rio Grande Monte Vista	10,439	8,956	14,202	6,142	763	40,502	39,132	3.50%	40,445	39,177	3.24%
Rio Grande Sargent	9,736	8,896	14,107	6,142	763	39,644	38,245	3.66%	39,817	38,523	3.36%
Routt Hayden	14,891	9,132	15,658	6,142	763	46,586	43,954	5.99%	47,378	44,671	6.06%
Routt Steamboat Springs	18,993	9,233	16,189	6,142	706	51,263	48,354	6.02%	51,086	48,112	6.18%
Routt South Routt	15,583	9,197	16,635	6,142	763	48,320	45,399	6.43%	48,624	45,884	5.97%
Saguache Mountain Valley	8,769	8,821	13,778	6,142	763	38,273	37,859	1.09%	38,494	37,859	1.68%
Saguache Moffat 2	11,606	8,589	14,089	6,142	763	41,189	40,698	1.21%	40,159	39,495	1.68%
Saguache Center	8,512	8,899	13,786	6,142	763	38,102	37,503	1.60%	39,361	38,472	2.31%
San Juan Silverton	17,556	9,026	15,352	6,142	763	48,839	46,052	6.05%	48,839	46,052	6.05%
San Miguel Telluride	28,645	9,133	15,152	6,142	435	59,507	57,265	3.92%	57,447	55,221	4.03%
San Miguel Norwood	13,911	9,054	14,067	6,142	763	43,937	43,353	1.35%	44,242	43,824	0.95%
Sedgwick Julesburg	9,720	9,117	14,804	6,142	763	40,546	37,950	6.84%	40,517	37,893	6.92%
Sedgwick Platte Valley RE-3	8,589	9,125	14,757	6,142	763	39,376	37,137	6.03%	39,468	37,215	6.05%
Summit Summit	22,082	9,093	15,568	6,142	608	53,493	51,000	4.89%	53,038	50,517	4.99%
Teller Cripple Creek	12,199	9,047	14,409	6,142	763	42,560	41,093	3.57%	43,016	41,663	3.25%
Teller Woodland Park	14,258	9,030	14,443	6,142	763	44,636	43,508	2.59%	44,442	43,315	2.60%
Washington Akron	8,924	9,257	14,365	6,142	763	39,451	37,995	3.83%	39,496	38,004	3.93%
Washington Arickaree	8,750	9,093	14,596	6,142	763	39,344	37,712	4.33%	39,364	37,740	4.30%
Washington Otis	8,161	9,259	14,635	6,142	763	38,960	37,267	4.54%	38,960	37,267	4.54%

TABLE 1: 2007 SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-OF-LIVING STUDY RESULTS

County School District	Housing Costs ¹	Transportation Costs ²	Goods & Services ³	Other ⁴	Taxes ⁵	2007 District Cost of Living	2005 Recalc District Cost of Living ⁶	Percent Change	2007 Labor Pool Cost of Living	2005 Recalc Labor Pool Cost of Living ⁶	Percent Change
State	\$13,975	\$9,105	\$14,518	\$6,142	\$760	\$44,500	\$43,000	3.49%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Washington Lone Star	8,741	9,357	14,265	6,142	763	39,268	37,383	5.04%	39,524	37,939	4.18%
Washington Woodlin	9,432	9,074	14,783	6,142	763	40,194	37,738	6.51%	40,665	38,100	6.73%
Weld Gilcrest	12,042	8,867	14,338	6,142	763	42,152	40,956	2.92%	42,465	41,303	2.81%
Weld Eaton	13,247	8,827	14,242	6,142	763	43,221	41,791	3.42%	43,103	41,573	3.68%
Weld Keenesburg	12,307	8,950	14,118	6,142	763	42,280	41,672	1.46%	42,704	41,956	1.78%
Weld Windsor	13,508	8,936	14,281	6,142	763	43,630	42,440	2.80%	43,568	42,131	3.41%
Weld Johnstown	13,196	8,915	14,121	6,142	763	43,137	41,868	3.03%	43,180	41,695	3.56%
Weld Greeley	12,692	8,875	14,129	6,142	763	42,601	40,938	4.06%	42,732	41,090	4.00%
Weld Platte Valley RE-7	13,153	8,886	14,190	6,142	763	43,134	42,209	2.19%	42,966	41,641	3.18%
Weld Fort Lupton	12,990	8,982	13,932	6,142	763	42,809	42,805	0.01%	43,419	42,835	1.36%
Weld Ault-Highland	12,475	8,832	14,243	6,142	763	42,455	41,300	2.80%	43,113	41,563	3.73%
Weld Briggsdale	11,191	8,750	14,053	6,142	763	40,899	38,737	5.58%	41,579	39,265	5.89%
Weld Prairie	9,364	8,732	14,414	6,142	763	39,415	37,146	6.11%	40,352	38,250	5.50%
Weld Grover	8,989	8,780	14,835	6,142	763	39,509	37,642	4.96%	40,341	38,438	4.95%
Yuma West Yuma	9,336	9,174	14,288	6,142	763	39,703	38,343	3.55%	39,683	38,265	3.71%
Yuma East Yuma	9,319	9,180	14,632	6,142	763	40,036	37,145	7.78%	39,982	37,209	7.45%
Yuma Idalia	8,507	8,974	14,725	6,142	763	39,111	35,822	9.18%	39,269	36,308	8.16%
Yuma Liberty	8,081	8,852	14,328	6,142	763	38,166	36,907	3.41%	38,491	36,957	4.15%

¹ Housing includes principal, interest, taxes, and insurance (PITI), plus utilities, maintenance, supplies, and furnishings.

² Transportation includes the costs for two vehicles, such as gas, oil, insurance, and maintenance.

³ Goods and services include food, clothing, health care, entertainment, etc., as well as applicable sales taxes.

⁴ Other costs include long term savings, investments, charitable donations, life insurance, etc.

⁵ Taxes include state and federal income taxes and local occupation taxes.

⁶ The 2005 school district and labor pool cost-of-living amounts have been recalculated to reflect a 1,500 square-foot home, the same size home as is used in 2007.