



Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff

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MEMORANDUM

March 15, 2010

TO: Members of the General Assembly
FROM: Todd Herreid, Fiscal Director, 303-866-2633
SUBJECT: 2009 School District Cost-of-Living Study

This memorandum provides information on the 2009 school district cost-of-living study. The attached appendix presents the detailed 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 2009 study indicate that the cost of living, adjusted by labor pool areas, increased in all 178 school districts. In 108 of these districts, the change in cost of living was significant enough to increase district funding through the school finance act.

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, and a study has been conducted during the summer and fall of each odd-numbered year since. The 2009 study results are used to determine school district cost-of-living factors for fiscal years 2010-11 and 2011-12. A district's cost-of-living factor is used in calculating its per pupil funding level.

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

The Results of the Study Are Contained in the Appendix

The attached appendix shows the results of the 2009 study by school district and by school district labor pool area. The latter accounts for where district employees live. The school district labor pool area figures are used to calculate district cost-of-living factors.

Results from the 2009 study indicate that the cost to a typical household of purchasing items consistent with an average teacher salary of \$47,500 ranges from a low of \$39,325 to a high of \$87,790 in Colorado school districts, after adjusting for labor pool areas. Compared to 2007, the cost of living is higher in each of the 178 school districts. Rates of increase range from 0.3 percent to 18.3 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 6.7 percent—the percentage by which the \$47,500 salary level used in this year's study increased over the average teacher salary of \$44,500 in 2007. The percentage increase in cost of living meets this standard in 108 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 6.7 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 to a three-person household with an annual income of \$47,500. The items included were based on the latest Consumer Expenditure Survey, prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Table 1 illustrates the allocation of income for this benchmark household.

Table 1
Market Basket for Benchmark Household Earning \$47,500

Expenditure Category	Items Included	% of Income
Goods and services	Food at home, food away from home, apparel, entertainment, health care, alcohol, cigarettes, personal care products, sales taxes	33.4%
Housing	Mortgage payment, property taxes, interest, home insurance, utilities, household expenses	33.8%
Transportation	Car payment, gasoline, vehicle insurance, car maintenance and repairs	18.1%
Other	Charitable donations, savings, life insurance, federal and state income taxes	14.7%
TOTAL		100.0%

For the 2009 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. Corona Research, Inc. provided data on goods and services, transportation, income taxes, and housing, with the exception of home values. 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 were provided by Wildrose Appraisal, Inc. The housing value data were 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 34 percent of expenditures in a three-person household with an income of \$47,500.

Methodology for determining district home value. Wildrose Appraisal, Inc. 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 were 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.

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 were obtained from a combination of school district visits, telephone surveys, and third-party sources. The goods and services category consumes about 33 percent of expenditures for a three-person household with earnings of \$47,500. The study made minor changes to the market basket of goods and services that were sampled.

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 18 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 \$6,526 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, and convenience. Since FY 1998-99, school district cost-of-living amounts have been based on a geographic shopping pattern survey conducted in 1997. However, given the considerable growth and change in the state, an update of the shopping pattern survey was conducted in 2007, via a random sampling of more than 2,700 households throughout the state. In 2009, an additional 2,700 surveys were completed to enhance the shopping pattern information for more school districts in the state. 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 school district employees live is current to the fall of 2008. The number of employees in each district reflects a full-time equivalent (FTE) count. These data are 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.bit.ly/schoolcostofliving>. A chart listing the home values provided by Wildrose Appraisal, Incorporated can be found at the same site.

**APPENDIX
2009 SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-OF-LIVING STUDY RESULTS**

County School District	Housing Costs/1	Trans- portation Costs/2	Goods & Services/3	Other/4	Taxes/5	2009		2007		2009		2007	
						District Cost of Living	District Cost of Living	District Cost of Living	District Cost of Living	Labor Pool Cost of Living	Labor Pool Cost of Living	Percent Change	Percent Change
State	16,060	8,585	15,852	6,526	477	47,500	44,500	NA /6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Adams Mapleton	13,512	8,679	16,019	6,526	481	45,216	42,711	47,040	44,409	47,040	44,409	5.9%	5.9%
Adams Northglenn	15,328	8,606	15,835	6,526	481	46,776	44,397	47,495	44,852	47,495	44,852	5.4%	5.9%
Adams Commerce City	12,971	8,700	14,948	6,526	481	43,626	42,402	46,177	43,903	46,177	43,903	2.9%	5.2%
Adams Brighton	14,971	8,471	15,660	6,526	481	46,109	43,525	46,614	43,887	46,614	43,887	5.9%	6.2%
Adams Bennett	14,225	8,601	16,179	6,526	481	46,012	44,293	46,390	44,320	46,390	44,320	3.9%	4.7%
Adams Strasburg	15,357	8,149	16,279	6,526	481	46,792	43,905	46,600	43,988	46,600	43,988	6.6%	5.9%
Adams Westminster	14,522	8,633	15,848	6,526	481	46,010	44,139	47,914	45,331	47,914	45,331	4.2%	5.7%
Alamosa Alamosa	11,606	8,511	15,527	6,526	481	42,651	39,757	42,623	39,701	42,623	39,701	7.3%	7.4%
Alamosa Sangre de Cristo	12,402	8,448	15,599	6,526	481	43,455	39,841	43,455	39,841	43,455	39,841	9.1%	9.1%
Arapahoe Englewood	15,680	8,689	15,752	6,526	481	47,128	44,588	47,607	45,029	47,607	45,029	5.7%	5.7%
Arapahoe Sheridan	15,579	8,585	15,712	6,526	485	46,886	44,651	47,569	45,047	47,569	45,047	5.0%	5.6%
Arapahoe Cherry Creek	15,493	8,739	15,861	6,526	484	47,101	44,353	47,221	44,676	47,221	44,676	6.2%	5.7%
Arapahoe Littleton	16,205	8,522	16,270	6,526	481	48,005	45,116	47,893	45,134	47,893	45,134	6.4%	6.1%
Arapahoe Deer Trail	13,467	8,515	15,851	6,526	481	44,840	43,416	45,454	43,580	45,454	43,580	3.3%	4.3%
Arapahoe Aurora	13,538	8,860	15,511	6,526	484	44,919	43,481	46,310	44,313	46,310	44,313	3.3%	4.5%
Arapahoe Byers	14,310	8,044	16,165	6,526	481	45,525	43,339	45,806	43,598	45,806	43,598	5.0%	5.1%
Archuleta Archuleta	16,323	9,002	16,327	6,526	481	48,660	44,640	48,660	44,640	48,660	44,640	9.0%	9.0%
Baca Walsh	9,637	8,364	15,543	6,526	481	40,550	37,202	40,404	37,317	40,404	37,317	9.0%	8.3%
Baca Pritchett	8,701	8,155	15,233	6,526	481	39,095	36,887	39,325	37,138	39,325	37,138	6.0%	5.9%
Baca Springfield	9,254	8,249	15,499	6,526	481	40,009	37,779	40,028	37,735	40,028	37,735	5.9%	6.1%
Baca Vilas	8,935	8,173	15,543	6,526	481	39,658	36,444	41,077	40,970	41,077	40,970	8.8%	0.3%
Baca Campo	8,732	8,206	15,488	6,526	481	39,432	36,622	39,537	37,038	39,537	37,038	7.7%	6.7%
Bent Las Animas	9,417	8,289	14,569	6,526	481	39,283	37,658	39,448	37,831	39,448	37,831	4.3%	4.3%
Bent McClave	9,640	8,213	15,081	6,526	481	39,941	37,753	40,608	38,344	40,608	38,344	5.8%	5.9%
Boulder St. Vrain	15,984	8,323	16,006	6,526	481	47,319	44,243	47,668	44,545	47,668	44,545	7.0%	7.0%
Boulder Boulder	20,611	8,540	16,492	6,526	456	52,624	48,200	51,179	47,250	51,179	47,250	9.2%	8.3%
Chaffee Buena Vista	15,492	8,565	15,786	6,526	481	46,850	43,927	46,922	43,951	46,922	43,951	6.7%	6.8%
Chaffee Salida	15,937	8,592	15,785	6,526	481	47,321	43,793	47,253	43,745	47,253	43,745	8.1%	8.0%
Cheyenne Kit Carson	9,605	8,362	15,363	6,526	481	40,358	38,768	40,358	38,768	40,358	38,768	4.1%	4.1%
Cheyenne Cheyenne R-5	10,087	8,571	16,208	6,526	481	41,873	39,135	42,116	39,135	42,116	39,135	7.0%	7.6%
Clear Creek Clear Creek	19,044	8,783	16,620	6,526	481	51,454	46,977	50,225	46,489	50,225	46,489	9.5%	8.0%
Conejos North Conejos	9,378	8,518	15,854	6,526	481	40,758	37,836	41,368	38,332	41,368	38,332	7.7%	7.9%
Conejos Sanford	9,233	8,523	15,572	6,526	481	40,335	37,568	40,911	38,038	40,911	38,038	7.4%	7.6%
Conejos South Conejos	9,246	8,638	16,031	6,526	481	40,921	38,266	41,257	38,527	41,257	38,527	6.9%	7.1%
Costilla Centennial	9,871	8,713	15,775	6,526	481	41,365	37,448	41,365	38,248	41,365	38,248	10.5%	8.2%
Costilla Sierra Grande	11,829	8,639	15,591	6,526	481	43,067	38,564	42,793	39,018	42,793	39,018	11.7%	9.7%
Crowley Crowley	8,940	8,418	15,063	6,526	481	39,427	38,186	39,618	38,408	39,618	38,408	3.3%	3.1%

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Custer Westcliffe	16,767	8,335	15,959	6,526	481	48,069	44,908	47,803	44,529	7.0%	7.4%		
Delta Delta	14,730	8,526	16,862	6,526	481	47,125	42,020	47,117	42,020	12.2%	12.1%		
Denver Denver	16,694	8,836	16,049	6,526	489	48,593	45,892	48,499	45,391	5.9%	6.8%		
Dolores Dolores County RE	10,867	8,825	17,465	6,526	481	44,163	40,065	44,311	40,270	10.2%	10.0%		
Douglas Douglas	17,000	8,550	15,447	6,526	481	48,004	45,419	47,542	45,113	5.7%	5.4%		
Eagle Eagle	23,298	9,173	17,959	6,526	438	57,393	51,900	57,375	51,856	10.6%	10.6%		
Elbert Elizabeth	19,074	8,693	15,683	6,526	481	50,456	47,831	49,263	46,640	5.5%	5.6%		
Elbert Kiowa	15,695	8,502	15,804	6,526	481	47,008	46,244	47,844	45,957	1.7%	4.1%		
Elbert Big Sandy	12,941	8,418	16,008	6,526	481	44,373	42,490	44,631	42,558	4.4%	4.9%		
Elbert Elbert	18,460	8,571	15,928	6,526	481	49,965	46,480	48,869	46,027	7.5%	6.2%		
Elbert Agate	14,523	8,419	15,973	6,526	481	45,922	44,634	45,726	44,165	2.9%	3.5%		
El Paso Calhan	13,779	8,400	15,387	6,526	481	44,573	42,594	45,095	42,958	4.6%	5.0%		
El Paso Harrison	14,244	8,610	15,151	6,526	481	45,013	42,205	46,017	43,143	6.7%	6.7%		
El Paso Widefield	15,355	8,539	15,490	6,526	481	46,391	43,190	46,301	43,191	7.4%	7.2%		
El Paso Fountain	14,882	8,394	16,639	6,526	481	46,921	43,581	46,418	43,336	7.7%	7.1%		
El Paso Colorado Springs	14,821	8,590	14,756	6,526	481	45,173	42,265	45,656	42,712	6.9%	6.9%		
El Paso Cheyenne Mountai	19,231	8,623	15,200	6,526	481	50,060	46,285	47,689	44,484	8.2%	7.2%		
El Paso Manitou Springs	18,099	8,672	14,990	6,526	481	48,768	45,144	47,263	43,891	8.0%	7.7%		
El Paso Academy	17,398	8,461	15,122	6,526	481	47,988	44,480	47,290	44,069	7.9%	7.3%		
El Paso Ellicott	13,438	8,439	15,029	6,526	481	43,912	41,753	45,006	42,617	5.2%	5.6%		
El Paso Peyton	15,628	8,349	15,418	6,526	481	46,402	44,831	46,360	44,131	3.5%	5.1%		
El Paso Hanover	14,682	8,471	15,252	6,526	481	45,411	43,135	45,551	42,992	5.3%	6.0%		
El Paso Lewis-Palmer	19,201	8,774	15,392	6,526	481	50,374	46,448	48,990	45,296	8.5%	8.2%		
El Paso Falcon	16,161	8,410	15,063	6,526	481	46,641	44,310	46,444	44,258	5.3%	4.9%		
El Paso Edison	14,366	8,318	15,063	6,526	481	44,754	41,572	44,401	41,953	7.7%	5.8%		
El Paso Miami-Yoder	13,354	8,404	14,989	6,526	481	43,753	41,324	44,309	41,788	5.9%	6.0%		
Fremont Canon City	12,927	8,419	15,605	6,526	481	43,957	40,925	44,056	41,056	7.4%	7.3%		
Fremont Florence	13,631	8,633	15,666	6,526	481	44,937	42,399	44,662	41,929	6.0%	6.5%		
Fremont Cotopaxi	13,895	8,344	15,865	6,526	481	45,111	41,599	45,502	42,086	8.4%	8.1%		
Garfield Roaring Fork RE-1	25,707	9,259	18,092	6,526	397	59,981	51,610	60,023	51,897	16.2%	15.7%		
Garfield Rifle	18,814	9,033	16,241	6,526	481	51,096	44,879	51,317	45,017	13.9%	14.0%		
Garfield Parachute	15,878	8,794	16,845	6,526	481	48,524	42,973	48,473	43,087	12.9%	12.5%		
Gilpin Gilpin	16,313	8,708	16,368	6,526	481	48,396	45,551	49,465	46,306	6.2%	6.8%		
Grand West Grand	17,183	8,650	17,133	6,526	481	49,972	46,267	49,991	46,267	8.0%	8.0%		
Grand East Grand	23,109	8,703	17,436	6,526	431	56,205	52,182	56,193	52,165	7.7%	7.7%		
Gunnison Gunnison	18,111	8,880	16,917	6,526	481	50,915	45,425	50,915	45,425	12.1%	12.1%		
Hinsdale Hinsdale	20,020	8,816	15,745	6,526	481	51,588	45,351	51,529	45,351	13.8%	13.6%		
Huerfano Huerfano	10,794	8,285	16,279	6,526	481	42,364	39,628	42,643	39,628	6.9%	7.6%		
Huerfano La Veta	12,842	8,355	16,923	6,526	481	45,127	42,091	44,507	41,468	7.2%	7.3%		
Jackson North Park	12,050	8,712	16,764	6,526	481	44,532	41,785	45,318	41,785	6.6%	8.5%		

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						District Cost of Living	District Cost of Living	Percent Change	Percent Change	Labor Pool Cost of Living	Labor Pool Cost of Living	Percent Change	Percent Change
Jefferson	15,903	8,597	15,764	6,526	481	47,270	45,085	4.8%	47,270	45,129	4.7%		
Kiowa Eads	9,717	8,375	15,376	6,526	481	40,474	36,741	10.2%	40,503	36,873	9.8%		
Kiowa Plainview	9,311	8,278	15,646	6,526	481	40,242	36,642	9.8%	40,242	36,642	9.8%		
Kit Carson Arriba-Flagler	10,677	8,359	16,575	6,526	481	42,617	40,257	5.9%	42,671	40,244	6.0%		
Kit Carson Hi Plains	11,013	8,461	16,674	6,526	481	43,155	39,877	8.2%	43,131	39,934	8.0%		
Kit Carson Stratton	10,696	8,429	16,775	6,526	481	42,907	39,956	7.4%	43,112	40,116	7.5%		
Kit Carson Bethune	11,322	8,509	16,498	6,526	481	43,336	39,535	9.6%	43,875	40,000	9.7%		
Kit Carson Burlington	12,657	8,682	16,770	6,526	481	45,117	41,032	10.0%	44,962	40,979	9.7%		
Lake Lake	15,763	8,687	17,972	6,526	481	49,429	45,345	9.0%	49,431	45,343	9.0%		
La Plata Durango	18,982	8,965	17,119	6,526	481	52,073	48,923	6.4%	51,822	48,598	6.6%		
La Plata Bayfield	16,946	8,900	17,489	6,526	481	50,342	46,854	7.4%	50,622	47,234	7.2%		
La Plata Ignacio	14,855	8,898	17,434	6,526	481	48,194	45,302	6.4%	49,358	46,393	6.4%		
Larimer Poudre	16,138	8,241	15,315	6,526	481	46,701	44,162	5.7%	46,710	44,085	6.0%		
Larimer Thompson	15,361	8,023	15,585	6,526	481	45,975	43,541	5.6%	46,223	43,662	5.9%		
Larimer Estes Park	19,994	8,533	16,868	6,526	470	52,390	47,456	10.4%	51,431	46,977	9.5%		
Las Animas Trinidad	11,572	8,658	17,114	6,526	481	44,351	41,254	7.5%	44,332	41,205	7.6%		
Las Animas Primero	10,980	8,349	16,879	6,526	481	43,215	39,583	9.2%	43,758	40,316	8.5%		
Las Animas Hoehne	11,526	8,356	16,902	6,526	481	43,791	40,282	8.7%	44,069	40,597	8.6%		
Las Animas Aguilar	10,383	8,230	16,793	6,526	481	42,413	39,095	8.5%	43,132	39,879	8.2%		
Las Animas Branson	9,263	8,287	17,084	6,526	481	41,641	38,471	8.2%	44,529	41,881	6.3%		
Las Animas Kim	9,983	8,218	15,099	6,526	481	40,306	37,986	6.1%	40,260	37,929	6.1%		
Lincoln Genoa-Hugo	11,247	8,722	16,147	6,526	481	43,123	40,285	7.0%	43,271	40,416	7.1%		
Lincoln Limon	13,018	8,537	16,113	6,526	481	44,674	42,113	6.1%	44,565	42,126	5.8%		
Lincoln Karval	10,435	8,482	15,262	6,526	481	41,186	38,674	6.5%	42,018	39,485	6.4%		
Logan Valley	12,076	8,546	16,751	6,526	481	44,380	40,751	8.9%	44,293	40,731	8.7%		
Logan Frenchman	10,184	8,277	16,715	6,526	481	42,183	39,669	6.3%	42,386	39,840	6.4%		
Logan Buffalo	10,865	8,546	16,667	6,526	481	43,085	39,911	8.0%	43,759	40,306	8.6%		
Logan Plateau	9,467	8,373	16,605	6,526	481	41,452	38,529	7.6%	42,770	39,505	8.3%		
Mesa DeBeque	13,102	8,517	16,253	6,526	481	44,879	42,158	6.5%	46,488	42,613	9.1%		
Mesa Plateau Valley	15,472	8,388	16,537	6,526	481	47,404	43,753	8.3%	47,260	43,553	8.5%		
Mesa Mesa Valley	15,272	8,393	16,184	6,526	481	46,856	42,841	9.4%	46,856	42,842	9.4%		
Mineral Creede	15,635	8,519	15,478	6,526	481	46,639	43,049	8.3%	46,639	43,049	8.3%		
Moffat Moffat County RE	14,791	8,934	16,133	6,526	481	46,865	43,500	7.7%	47,419	43,774	8.3%		
Montezuma Montezuma	12,959	8,863	16,461	6,526	481	45,290	41,758	8.5%	45,794	42,184	8.6%		
Montezuma Dolores RE-4A	14,631	8,870	16,546	6,526	481	47,054	42,949	9.6%	46,683	42,645	9.5%		
Montezuma Mancos	14,802	8,896	16,713	6,526	481	47,417	43,418	9.2%	47,261	43,403	8.9%		
Montrose Montrose	14,727	8,602	15,807	6,526	481	46,142	42,591	8.3%	46,142	42,605	8.3%		
Montrose West End	14,325	8,919	16,817	6,526	481	47,068	42,487	10.8%	47,653	42,500	12.1%		
Morgan Brush	14,462	8,273	15,892	6,526	481	45,633	42,430	7.5%	45,633	42,430	7.5%		
Morgan Fort Morgan	14,026	8,239	16,341	6,526	481	45,613	41,663	9.5%	45,656	41,802	9.2%		

**APPENDIX
2009 SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-OF-LIVING STUDY RESULTS**

County School District	Housing Costs/1	Trans- portation Costs/2	Goods & Services/3	Other/4	Taxes/5	2009		2007		Percent Change	2009		2007		Percent Change
						District Cost of Living	District Cost of Living	Labor Pool Cost of Living	Labor Pool Cost of Living						
Morgan Weldon	14,329	8,151	16,216	6,526	481	45,703	41,028	45,667	41,559	11.4%	45,667	41,559	9.9%		
Morgan Wiggins	15,133	8,319	16,560	6,526	481	47,019	43,288	46,578	43,008	8.6%	46,578	43,008	8.3%		
Otero East Otero	10,065	8,271	15,134	6,526	481	40,477	38,741	40,476	38,691	4.5%	40,476	38,691	4.6%		
Otero Rocky Ford	9,597	8,316	15,060	6,526	481	39,979	38,064	40,040	38,309	5.0%	40,040	38,309	4.5%		
Otero Manzanola	8,645	8,223	15,074	6,526	481	38,948	37,884	39,678	38,171	2.8%	39,678	38,171	3.9%		
Otero Fowler	9,495	8,353	15,258	6,526	481	40,112	38,489	40,231	38,640	4.2%	40,231	38,640	4.1%		
Otero Cheraw	9,244	8,117	14,987	6,526	481	39,355	38,111	39,800	38,295	3.3%	39,800	38,295	3.9%		
Otero Swink	10,440	8,285	15,041	6,526	481	40,772	39,707	40,390	38,996	2.7%	40,390	38,996	3.6%		
Ouray Ouray	20,057	8,864	16,639	6,526	481	52,566	49,244	52,211	48,689	6.7%	52,211	48,689	7.2%		
Ouray Ridgway	19,934	8,929	16,863	6,526	481	52,732	46,451	51,231	46,019	13.5%	51,231	46,019	11.3%		
Park Platte Canyon	19,560	8,606	15,227	6,526	481	50,400	47,630	49,583	46,953	5.8%	49,583	46,953	5.6%		
Park Platte County	18,678	8,612	15,979	6,526	481	50,276	46,034	50,373	45,836	9.2%	50,373	45,836	9.9%		
Phillips Holyoke	9,699	8,335	16,683	6,526	481	41,723	39,467	41,794	39,495	5.7%	41,794	39,495	5.8%		
Phillips Haxtun	9,983	8,324	16,759	6,526	481	42,072	39,476	42,141	39,524	6.6%	42,141	39,524	6.6%		
Pitkin Aspen	74,252	9,531	19,734	6,526	-	110,043	90,637	87,790	74,198	21.4%	87,790	74,198	18.3%		
Prowers Granada	9,819	8,322	15,167	6,526	481	40,315	37,373	40,494	37,644	7.9%	40,494	37,644	7.6%		
Prowers Lamar	10,982	8,481	15,303	6,526	481	41,772	39,236	41,772	39,236	6.5%	41,772	39,236	6.5%		
Prowers Holly	9,497	8,483	15,203	6,526	481	40,190	37,343	40,216	37,343	7.6%	40,216	37,343	7.7%		
Prowers Wiley	10,801	8,149	15,344	6,526	481	41,300	38,505	41,229	38,632	7.3%	41,229	38,632	6.7%		
Pueblo Pueblo City	12,866	8,620	14,738	6,526	481	43,231	41,618	43,648	41,768	3.9%	43,648	41,768	4.5%		
Pueblo Pueblo Rural	14,210	8,439	15,245	6,526	481	44,901	42,158	44,469	41,984	6.5%	44,469	41,984	5.9%		
Pueblo Pueblo Meeker	15,388	8,729	17,590	6,526	481	48,714	42,989	48,714	42,989	13.3%	48,714	42,989	13.3%		
Rio Blanco Rangely	12,934	8,515	17,906	6,526	481	46,361	40,810	46,361	40,810	13.6%	46,361	40,810	13.6%		
Rio Blanco Rango	13,390	8,603	16,405	6,526	481	45,404	42,314	44,700	41,678	7.3%	44,700	41,678	7.3%		
Rio Grande Del Norte	11,984	8,594	15,766	6,526	481	43,350	40,502	43,256	40,445	7.0%	43,256	40,445	7.0%		
Rio Grande Monte Vista	10,907	8,624	15,809	6,526	481	42,347	39,644	42,648	39,817	6.8%	42,648	39,817	7.1%		
Rio Grande Sargent	18,392	9,189	16,876	6,526	481	51,464	46,586	53,033	47,378	10.5%	53,033	47,378	11.9%		
Routt Hayden	27,237	9,015	17,219	6,526	356	60,353	51,263	59,994	51,086	17.7%	59,994	51,086	17.4%		
Routt Steamboat Springs	21,094	8,996	17,304	6,526	464	54,383	48,320	55,158	48,624	12.5%	55,158	48,624	13.4%		
Routt South Routt	9,866	8,420	16,118	6,526	481	41,410	38,273	41,759	38,494	8.2%	41,759	38,494	8.5%		
Saguache Mountain Valley	12,786	8,540	15,944	6,526	481	44,277	41,189	43,176	40,159	7.5%	43,176	40,159	7.5%		
Saguache Moffat 2	9,681	8,515	15,835	6,526	481	41,037	38,102	42,052	39,361	7.7%	42,052	39,361	6.8%		
Saguache Center	19,524	9,131	18,580	6,526	481	54,241	48,839	54,241	48,839	11.1%	54,241	48,839	11.1%		
San Juan Silverton	37,518	8,917	17,923	6,526	225	71,110	59,507	67,338	57,447	19.5%	67,338	57,447	17.2%		
San Miguel Telluride	17,623	8,922	16,172	6,526	481	49,725	43,937	50,067	44,242	13.2%	50,067	44,242	13.2%		
San Miguel Norwood	9,909	8,627	17,253	6,526	481	42,795	40,546	42,892	40,517	5.5%	42,892	40,517	5.9%		
Sedgwick Julesburg	9,318	8,576	17,199	6,526	481	42,100	39,376	42,146	39,468	6.9%	42,146	39,468	6.8%		
Sedgwick Platte Valley RE-3	29,378	8,797	17,966	6,526	324	62,992	53,493	62,233	53,038	17.8%	62,233	53,038	17.3%		
Summit Summit	14,251	8,252	15,354	6,526	481	44,864	42,560	45,627	43,016	5.4%	45,627	43,016	6.1%		
Teller Cripple Creek	16,451	8,398	15,381	6,526	481	47,237	44,636	47,141	44,442	5.8%	47,141	44,442	6.1%		

**APPENDIX
2009 SCHOOL DISTRICT COST-OF-LIVING STUDY RESULTS**

County School District	Housing Costs/1	Trans- portation Costs/2	Goods & Services/3	Other/4	Taxes/5	2009		2007		2009		2007	
						District Cost of Living	Percent Change	District Cost of Living	Percent Change	Labor Pool Cost of Living	Percent Change	Labor Pool Cost of Living	Percent Change
Washington Akron	11,514	8,711	16,585	6,526	481	43,818	11.1%	39,451	10.9%	43,813	11.1%	39,496	10.9%
Washington Arickaree	10,781	8,574	16,556	6,526	481	42,918	9.1%	39,344	9.0%	42,918	9.1%	39,364	9.0%
Washington Otis	11,007	8,764	16,172	6,526	481	42,950	10.2%	38,960	10.2%	42,950	10.2%	38,960	10.2%
Washington Lone Star	10,035	8,652	16,534	6,526	481	42,228	7.5%	39,268	7.5%	42,937	7.5%	39,524	7.5%
Washington Woodlin	11,259	8,378	16,173	6,526	481	42,816	6.5%	40,194	6.5%	43,020	6.5%	40,665	6.5%
Weid Gilcrest	13,045	8,178	16,231	6,526	481	44,460	5.5%	42,152	5.5%	45,070	5.5%	42,465	5.5%
Weid Eaton	15,200	8,181	16,707	6,526	481	47,095	9.0%	43,221	9.0%	46,491	9.0%	43,103	9.0%
Weid Keenesburg	13,349	8,365	16,489	6,526	481	45,210	6.9%	42,280	6.9%	45,502	6.9%	42,704	6.9%
Weid Windsor	16,296	8,205	17,003	6,526	481	48,511	11.2%	43,630	11.2%	47,463	11.2%	43,568	11.2%
Weid Johnstown	14,690	8,362	16,282	6,526	481	46,340	7.4%	43,137	7.4%	46,177	7.4%	43,180	7.4%
Weid Greeley	13,913	8,241	16,112	6,526	481	45,273	6.3%	42,601	6.3%	45,551	6.3%	42,732	6.3%
Weid Platte Valley RE-7	14,142	8,196	16,389	6,526	481	45,733	6.0%	43,134	6.0%	45,668	6.0%	42,966	6.0%
Weid Fort Lupton	13,522	8,488	16,456	6,526	481	45,472	6.2%	42,809	6.2%	46,174	6.2%	43,419	6.2%
Weid Ault-Highland	13,961	8,197	16,118	6,526	481	45,283	6.7%	42,455	6.7%	46,050	6.7%	43,113	6.7%
Weid Briggsdale	12,608	8,183	16,064	6,526	481	43,862	7.2%	40,899	7.2%	44,628	7.2%	41,579	7.2%
Weid Prairie	10,950	8,227	16,506	6,526	481	42,690	8.3%	39,415	8.3%	43,990	8.3%	40,352	8.3%
Weid Grover	9,945	8,222	16,291	6,526	481	41,465	5.0%	39,509	5.0%	42,707	5.0%	40,341	5.0%
Yuma West Yuma	12,261	8,559	16,140	6,526	481	43,967	10.7%	39,703	10.7%	43,856	10.7%	39,683	10.5%
Yuma East Yuma	11,731	8,143	16,440	6,526	481	43,321	8.2%	40,036	8.2%	43,342	8.2%	39,982	8.4%
Yuma Idalia	9,918	8,353	16,899	6,526	481	42,176	7.8%	39,111	7.8%	42,154	7.8%	39,269	7.3%
Yuma Liberty	9,185	8,440	15,917	6,526	481	40,548	6.2%	38,166	6.2%	41,179	6.2%	38,491	7.0%

/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 Not applicable.