



PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

ACCRA COST OF LIVING INDEX

Among the 290 urban areas participating in the second quarter 2007 *ACCRA Cost of Living Index*, the after-tax cost for a professional/managerial **standard of living ranged from more than twice the national average in New York (Manhattan) NY to over 20 percent below the national average in Joplin MO.** The *ACCRA Cost of Living Index* is compiled and published quarterly by C2ER – The Council for Community and Economic Research.

The Ten Most and Least Expensive Urban Areas in the ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI)

Second Quarter 2007

National Average for 290 Urban Areas = 100

Most Expensive			Least Expensive		
Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index	Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index
1	New York (Manhattan) NY	214.7	1	Joplin MO	80.0
2	San Francisco CA	169.2	2	Lancaster SC	81.9
3	Honolulu HI	161.8	3	Harlingen TX	83.6
4	Nassau County NY	157.2	4	Cookeville TN	83.8
5	Orange County CA	156.6	5	McAllen TX	83.8
6	San Jose CA	153.9	6	Douglas GA	84.0
7	New York (Queens) NY	152.4	7	Pryor Creek OK	84.2
8	Stamford CT	149.2	8	Palestine TX	85.1
9	Oakland CA	147.7	9	Salina KS	85.3
10	San Diego CA	140.6	10	Ardmore OK	85.4

The *ACCRA Cost of Living Index* measures regional differences in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures, for professional and managerial households in the top income quintile. It is based on more than 50,000 prices covering almost 60 different items for which prices are collected quarterly by chambers of commerce, economic development organizations or university applied economic centers in each participating urban area. Small differences should not be interpreted as showing a measurable difference.

The composite index is based on six components – housing, utilities, grocery items, transportation, health care and miscellaneous goods and services.

Where's the most expensive pizza?

Each quarter, C2ER collects more than 50,000 prices from communities across the US for the COLI. This quarter, C2ER features the communities with the most and least expensive pizza. C2ER collected data on 11" to 12" thin crust cheese pizza from Pizza Hut or Pizza Inn.

**The Five Most and Least Expensive Places to Buy Pizza
in the ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI)
Second Quarter 2007
Average for 290 Urban Areas = \$10.48**

Most Expensive			Least Expensive		
Ranking	Urban Areas	Price	Ranking	Urban Areas	Price
1	Honolulu HI	\$15.74	1	Manchester NH	\$8.19
2	Glens Falls NY	\$13.89	2	Dallas TX	\$8.34
3	Gunnison CO	\$13.79	3	Fort Smith AR	\$8.47
4	Spokane WA	\$13.49	4	Joplin MO	\$8.49
5	Austin TX	\$12.99	5	Brownsville TX	\$8.51

A Closer Look at Manchester NH

Manchester is a new urban area that participated in the index. The overall cost of living is 15% above the national average. Here's a snapshot of prices for five selected items:

Quarter 2, 2007	Tuna 6 oz. can Startkist or Chicken of the Sea	Apartment Rent 2 Bedroom 2 baths, 950 sq. ft.	Telephone Residential Line	Optometrist Visit Full vision eye exam	Tennis Balls Can of three Wilson or Penn
Manchester	\$0.98	\$1,055.00	\$29.99	\$82.00	\$2.25
National Average	\$0.75	\$794.00	\$26.08	\$78.84	\$2.32

The quarterly ACCRA Cost of Living Index is available by subscription for \$140 per year (print or PDF version) or \$250 per year (electronic version). Send check, payable to C2ER, P.O. Box 100127, Arlington VA 22210-0407, or subscribe on the Internet at www.coli.org.

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