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ACCRA COST OF LIVING INDEX

Prepared by ACCRA & GFMEDC

PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

Among the 314 urban areas that have participated in the second quarter 2010 *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 more than 18 percent below the national average in Harlingen, TX.** The *ACCRA Cost of Living Index* is published quarterly by C2ER – The Council for Community and Economic Research.

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

Second Quarter 2010
National Average for 314 Urban Areas = 100

Urban Areas with the Most Expensive Cost of Living

Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index
1	New York (Manhattan) NY	209.7
2	New York (Brooklyn) NY	177.7
3	Honolulu HI	166.7
4	San Francisco CA	162.5
5	New York (Queens) NY	155.8
6	San Jose CA	153.5
7	Stamford CT	146.5
8	Orange County CA	144.8
9	Nassau County NY	144.8
10	Truckee-Nevada County CA	143.9

Cost of Living in Select Urban Areas

Urban Areas	COL Index
Omaha NE	88.2
Fargo Moorhead ND-MN	93.3
Davenport, Moline, Rock Island IA-IL	95.3
Rochester MN	98.5
Raleigh-Cary NC	98.5
Denver CO	103.4
Minneapolis MN	110.3
Portland OR	113.0
Chicago IL	116.8
Seattle WA	120.2

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 90,000 prices covering 60 different items for which prices are collected quarterly by chambers of commerce, economic development organizations and 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 component categories – housing, utilities, grocery items, transportation, health care and miscellaneous goods and services.