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#### AREA COST OF LIVING INDEX ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR 2009

The St. Cloud area experienced a 98.8 average cost of living for the year 2009, according to the Cost of Living Index of 322 urban areas. The ACCRA Cost of Living Index is compiled and published quarterly by C2ER - The Council for Community and Economic Research.

The 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 three times a year by the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce. Small differences should not be interpreted as showing any measurable difference, according to ACCRA.

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

The "all items" index for St. Cloud was 98.8 percent compared to the national average (100.0) for the year 2009.

The six component indexes for 2009 for St. Cloud were 101.3 for grocery items, 82.4 for housing, 118.6 utilities, 98.3 for transportation, 101.7 for health care and 106.2 for miscellaneous goods and services.

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ACCRA COST OF LIVING INDEX ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR 2009  
FOR MINNESOTA AND OTHER UPPER MIDWEST CITIES  
OF COMPARABLE SIZE TO ST. CLOUD

	All Items	Grocery Items	Housing	Util- ities	Trans- porta- tion	Health Care	Misc. Goods/ Services
<b>St. Cloud, MN</b>	<b>98.8</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>82.4</b>	<b>118.6</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>106.2</b>
Minneapolis, MN	112.7	117.0	124.7	100.9	101.1	107.7	108.6
St. Paul, MN	91.2	92.2	79.6	90.0	99.5	92.8	97.2
Rochester, MN	99.6	89.6	88.9	119.7	100.6	108.6	105.5
Cedar Rapids, IA	91.2	92.2	79.6	90.0	99.5	102.8	97.2
Eau Claire, WI	93.2	95.4	85.1	86.6	102.3	103.7	96.8
Wausau, WI	97.0	93.0	86.8	132.4	99.6	102.9	94.9

Among the 322 urban areas that have participated in the 2009 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 almost 16 percent below the national average in Pryor Creek, OK..

CITY	ACCRA COST OF LIVING INDEX
New York (Manhattan) NY	217.2
New York (Brooklyn) NY	177.8
Honolulu HI	166.3
San Francisco CA	162.9
New York (Queens) NY	157.2
San Jose CA	155.0
Stamford CT	146.8
Truckee-Nevada County CA	146.6
Orange County CA	146.0
Nassau County NY	144.2