

Dothan MSA

Lowest In State

ACCRA Cost Living Index

First Quarter 2015

Among the 265 urban areas that participated in the first quarter 2015 *ACCRA Cost of Living Index*, the Dothan area came in at **86.7** for its total index. This index represents that the overall cost of living for Dothan is **13.3** percent below the national average.

When compared to the other nine Alabama urban areas that participated in the 2015 first quarter *Index*, the Dothan area was the lowest cost area in the state. Our area also reported the lowest in Miscellaneous Goods and Services (86.8%).

ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI)

First Quarter 2015

National Average for 265 Urban Areas = 100

Five Most Expensive Urban Areas

Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index
1	Manhattan, N.Y.	223.7
2	Honolulu, Hawaii	190.4
3	Brooklyn, N.Y.	175.3
4	San Francisco, Calif.	173.2
5	Truckee-Neva County-Calif.	157.5

Five Least Expensive Alabama Cities

Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index
1	Dothan, Ala.	86.7
2	Anniston-Calhoun County, Ala.	87.2
3	Decatur-Hartselle, Ala.	88.1
4	Florence, Ala.	90.4
5	Birmingham, Ala.	91.7

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.

What Does Breakfast Cost?

Each quarter, C2ER collects more than 90,000 prices from communities across the US for the Cost of Living Index. With food prices a big part of the national media attention, D2ER decided to once again feature those communities with the most and least expensive food costs as measured by the grocery item index number. C2ER collects data on 26 items from a variety of surrogate categories to represent the grocery item component of the index. **Dothan's Grocery Items index was 102.1.**

ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI)

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Alabama Grocery Items by Index Number

Ranking	Urban Areas	Index
1	Anniston-Calhoun County, Ala.	94.2
2	Florence, Ala.	94.4
3	Huntsville, Ala.	94.5
4	Decatur-Hartselle & Huntsville, Ala.	96.4
5	Montgomery, Ala.	98.4
6	Auburn & Mobile, Ala.	102.9
7	Dothan, Ala.	102.1
8	Birmingham, Ala.	102.2
9	Mobile, Ala.	102.6