

**California  
Department of Transportation**

**Price Index for Selected Highway Construction Items**

**SUMMARY**

**Third Quarter Ending September 30, 2008**

<b>Index this quarter</b>	<b>318.4</b>
Point change from last quarter	<b>+ 67.6</b>
Percentage changes from last quarter	<b>+ 27.0 %</b>
<b>Index last 12 months</b>	<b>241.1</b>
Point change from previous report	<b>+ 5.4</b>
Percentage changes from previous report	<b>+ 2.3%</b>

Average number of bidders this quarter	<b>7.5</b>
Change in number of bidders from last quarter	<b>+1.3</b>

NOTE: All information shown in this publication was assembled using 1987 base year.

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California  
Department of Transportation

**Highway Construction Cost Index**  
3rd Quarter Ending September 30, 2008

Prepared by Division of Engineering Services - Office Engineer

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**NOTE:** All information shown in the publication was assembled using 1987 base year.

The California Highway Construction Cost Index for the third quarter of 2008 stands at 318.4, up 67.6 points (27.0 percent) from the second quarter of 2008 index of 250.8 (Revised from 251.5). The Index for the year-to-date (Oct 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008) is 241.1, up 5.4 points (2.3 percent) from the second quarter year-to-date index of 235.7 (Revised from 240.3).

Cost increases were recorded in Roadway Excavation, Aggregate Base, and Bar Reinforcing Steel, while cost decreases were recorded in Asphalt Concrete Pavement, Portland Cement Concrete (Pavement), Portland Cement Concrete (Structure), and Structural Steel in the third quarter.

The average number of bidders per project in the third quarter of 2008 was 7.5, up 1.3 bidders per project as compared to 6.2 for the second quarter of 2008 and up 1.1 as compared to 6.4 for the corresponding quarter of 2007.

**Projects Bid Opened**  
(July 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008)

Range			Number of Projects	%	Amounts of Projects	%
Up to 50,000			0	0	\$0	0
50,000	to	100,000	5	4.55	\$389,355	0.05
100,000	to	250,000	22	20.00	\$3,818,067	0.50
250,000	to	500,000	18	16.36	\$6,440,420	0.85
500,000	to	1,000,000	19	17.27	\$13,149,958	1.73
1,000,000	to	2,500,000	12	10.91	\$18,886,854	2.48
2,500,000	to	5,000,000	9	8.18	\$30,606,130	4.02
5,000,000 and above			25	22.73	\$687,589,339	90.37
<b>Total</b>			<b>110</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>\$760,880,123</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The Engineering News-Record's Construction Cost Index average for the third quarter of 2008 is 782.4 up 24.0 points or 3.2% from 758.4 of the last quarter. The price index uses a 1967 = 100 base.

The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index average for the third quarter 2008 is 219.3, for U. S. City average of All Urban Consumers, up 2.5 points or 1.2% from 216.8 of the last quarter. The price index uses a 1982-84 =100 base.

## **Construction Item Costs Based on English Units**

### Roadway Excavation: \$22.46 per cubic yard

The price increased \$14.36 from the average unit price of \$8.10 per cubic yard last quarter. Unit bid prices ranged from \$4.21 to \$765.00 per cubic yard.

### Aggregate Base: \$18.68 per ton

The price increased \$0.39 from the average unit price of \$18.29 per ton last quarter. Unit bid prices ranged from \$12.47 to \$263.16 per ton.

### Asphalt Concrete Pavement: \$80.17 per ton

The unit price decreased \$4.85 from the average unit price of \$85.02 per ton last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$50.00 to \$131.54 per ton.

### Portland Cement Concrete (Pavement): \$172.03 per cubic yard

The unit price decreased \$28.04 from the average unit price of \$200.07 per cubic yard last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$139.91 to \$501.55 per cubic yard.

### Portland Cement Concrete (Structure): \$515.53 per cubic yard

The unit price decreased \$82.31 from the average unit price of \$597.84 per cubic yard last quarter. Unit prices ranged \$229.37 to \$20,000.00 per cubic yard.

### Bar Reinforcing Steel: \$1.16 per pound

The unit price increased \$0.08 from the average unit price of \$1.08 per pound last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$0.63 to \$3.63 per pound.

### Structural Steel: \$4.00 per pound

The unit price decreased \$0.92 from the average unit price of \$4.92 per pound last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$4.00 to \$4.54 per pound.

## **Construction Item Costs Based on Metric Units**

### Roadway Excavation: \$29.38 per cubic meter

The price increased \$18.78 from the average unit price of \$10.60 per cubic meter last quarter. Unit bid prices ranged from \$5.50 to \$1,000.58 per cubic meter.

### Aggregate Base: \$20.59 per tonn

The price increased \$0.43 from the average unit price of \$20.16 per tonn last quarter. Unit bid prices ranged from \$13.75 to \$290.08 per tonn.

### Asphalt Concrete Pavement: \$88.38 per tonn

The unit price decreased \$5.34 from the average unit price of \$93.72 per tonn last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$55.12 to \$145.00 per tonn.

### Portland Cement Concrete (Pavement): \$225.01 per cubic meter

The unit price decreased \$36.67 from the average unit price of \$261.68 per cubic meter last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$183.00 to \$656.00 per cubic meter.

### Portland Cement Concrete (Structure): \$674.29 per cubic meter

The unit price decreased \$107.66 from the average unit price of \$781.95 per cubic meter last quarter. Unit prices ranged \$300.00 to \$26,159.02 per cubic meter.

### Bar Reinforcing Steel: \$2.57 per kilogram

The unit price increased \$0.20 from the average unit price of \$2.37 per kilogram last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$1.39 to \$8.00 per kilogram.

### Structural Steel: \$8.82 per kilogram

The unit price decreased \$2.03 from the average unit price of \$10.85 per kilogram last quarter. Unit prices ranged from \$8.82 to \$10.00 per kilogram.

EXHIBIT A

**Price Index for Selected  
California Construction Items  
1987 = 100**

<u>YEAR</u>		<u>QTRLY</u>	<u>LAST 12 Months</u>	<u>Annual</u>
1972	.....			30.0
1973	.....			31.2
1974	.....			45.6
1975	.....			46.7
1976	.....			47.7
1977	.....			53.7
1978	.....			62.1
1979	.....			80.1
1980	.....			82.1
1981	.....			90.6
1982	.....			81.3
1983	.....			81.9
1984	.....			93.3
1985	.....			92.7
1986	.....			95.0
1987	.....			100.0
1988	.....			104.4
1989	.....			111.3
1990	.....			113.5
1991	.....			108.2
1992	.....			106.8
1993	.....			113.1
1994	.....			119.0
1995	.....			115.0
1996	.....			119.2
1997	.....			124.8
1998	.....			128.6
1999	.....			139.2
2000	.....			146.2
2001	.....			154.1
2002	.....			142.2
2003	.....			148.6
2004	.....			216.2
2005	(1st Quarter) .....	230.2	214.7	
2005	(2nd Quarter) .....	266.8	230.0	
2005	(3rd Quarter) .....	289.3	240.7	
2005	(4th Quarter) .....	308.1		
	(Year) .....			268.3
2006	(1st Quarter) .....	252.8	243.0	
2006	(2nd Quarter) .....	386.6	265.4	
2006	(3rd Quarter) .....	380.3	276.1	
2006	(4th Quarter) .....	300.1		
	(Year) .....			280.6
2007	(1st Quarter) .....	363.9	335.3	
2007	(2nd Quarter) .....	401.4	341.2	
2007	(3rd Quarter) .....	262.2	309.9	
2007	(4th Quarter) .....	208.5		
	(Year) .....			261.1
2008	(1st Quarter) .....	243.6	249.3	
2008	(2nd Quarter) .....	250.8*	235.7*	
2008	(3rd Quarter) .....	318.4	241.1	

\* Revised

EXHIBIT B

California Department Of Transportation  
Average Highway Contract Prices  
(English Units)

	Roadway Excavation "1" <u>Per Cu Yd</u>	Aggregate Base <u>Per Ton</u>	Asphalt Concrete Pavement <u>Per Ton</u>	PCC Pavement <u>Per Cu Yd</u>	Class "A" PCC Structure <u>Per Cu Yd</u>	Bar Reinforcing Steel <u>Per Lb</u>	Structural Steel "2" <u>Per Lb</u>
1972	0.95	3.21	8.22	19.23	82.08	0.159	0.446
1973	0.75	3.14	9.02	19.24	93.60	0.169	0.635
1974	1.26	4.23	13.01	28.59	115.19	0.329	0.987
1975	1.19	4.70	14.24	30.63	132.10	0.239	0.838
1976	1.32	4.70	13.67	29.64	143.05	0.223	0.504
1977	1.76	5.44	15.15	35.17	150.03	0.239	1.228
1978	1.85	6.18	17.70	41.77	180.77	0.276	0.814
1979	2.36	7.49	22.40	52.39	234.24	0.383	1.960
1980	2.10	8.38	25.51	55.18	235.45	0.378	1.942
1981	3.14	8.63	28.53	59.45	226.84	0.386	2.091
1982	2.58	7.56	24.69	57.10	224.72	0.320	2.155
1983	2.10	9.20	27.57	52.04	225.84	0.335	2.155
1984	3.19	13.67	28.38	55.79	238.48	0.375	2.155
1985	2.77	11.55	30.15	64.13	232.39	0.413	2.288
1986	3.01	12.76	28.82	60.49	249.74	0.412	2.388
1987	2.97	17.57	27.54	70.62	280.40	0.418	2.546
1988	4.16	10.13	27.46	58.66	284.55	0.440	3.956
1989	4.19	10.62	29.43	73.78	303.49	0.483	3.103
1990	4.73	12.05	30.77	68.93	295.24	0.469	2.209
1991	3.08	10.07	33.43	62.64	295.21	0.431	2.284
1992	3.62	9.76	32.46	66.78	265.31	0.419	3.073
1993	4.53	9.89	35.41	66.76	243.79	0.464	2.706
1994	4.68	10.39	37.15	66.45	277.92	0.547	2.334
1995	4.10	10.18	35.29	63.85	298.80	0.499	2.266
1996	3.80	9.74	37.66	65.93	321.88	0.512	2.172
1997	5.25	10.29	36.07	78.48	308.54	0.496	2.337
1998	4.95	11.55	38.78	75.91	319.95	0.553	2.595
1999	6.55	12.86	40.14	77.95	321.22	0.521	3.215
2000	6.21	11.14	45.12	78.14	363.59	0.507	2.754
2001	5.83	14.58	43.89	75.74	425.17	0.612	3.906
2002	4.84	12.42	49.00	74.15	363.50	0.508	3.248
2003	5.05	15.05	48.35	109.96	362.75	0.600	1.710
2004	13.11	16.97	53.55	135.94	399.64	0.947	5.390
1st Quarter 2005	13.77	14.69	57.59	134.04	480.86	0.843	2.312
2nd Quarter 2005	13.86	22.92	73.42	208.28	555.67	0.941	5.048
3rd Quarter 2005	11.81	24.19	74.25	144.10	816.30	1.204	9.883
4th Quarter 2005	17.81	20.71	86.49	199.22	596.78	1.052	5.758
Year 2005	14.13	20.61	75.72	171.22	567.31	0.968	2.666
1st Quarter 2006	9.69	17.45	89.38	163.29	537.89	1.067	4.035
2nd Quarter 2006	26.07	23.21	88.78	324.86	751.93	0.962	3.031
3rd Quarter 2006	23.14	25.80	86.46	290.67	801.89	1.302	9.670
4th Quarter 2006	14.08	23.55	82.36	191.46	751.02	0.968	5.883
Year 2006	12.80	20.26	86.04	179.67	630.16	1.039	3.734
1st Quarter 2007	27.68	25.60	86.94	215.12	542.12	1.145	5.370
2nd Quarter 2007	29.61	27.30	91.46	223.54	742.32	0.974	7.696
3rd Quarter 2007	10.75	21.66	86.91	214.86	523.68	0.892	52.005
4th Quarter 2007	5.86	16.95	74.41	184.66	507.47	0.814	4.552
Year 2007	10.84	20.54	85.48	204.69	566.25	0.935	6.966
1st Quarter 2008	9.45	18.39	78.56	186.38	582.71	0.834	5.300
2nd Quarter 2008	8.10	18.29	85.02	200.07	597.84	1.076	4.923
3rd Quarter 2008	22.46	18.68	80.17	172.03	515.53	1.164	4.001

1. Unclassified
2. Beginning 1st quarter 2003, structural steel includes the furnish and erect structural steel (bridge)

EXHIBIT B

California Department Of Transportation  
Average Highway Contract Prices  
(Metric Units)

	Roadway Excavation "1" <u>Per M3</u>	Aggregate Base <u>Per Tonn</u>	Asphalt Concrete Pavement <u>Per Tonn</u>	PCC Pavement <u>Per M3</u>	Class "A" PCC Structure <u>Per M3</u>	Bar Reinforcing Steel <u>Per Kg</u>	Structural Steel "2" <u>Per Kg</u>
1972	1.24	3.54	9.06	25.15	107.36	0.351	0.983
1973	0.98	3.46	9.94	25.16	122.42	0.373	1.400
1974	1.65	4.66	14.34	37.39	150.66	0.725	2.176
1975	1.56	5.18	15.70	40.06	172.78	0.527	1.847
1976	1.73	5.18	15.07	38.77	187.10	0.492	1.111
1977	2.30	6.00	16.70	46.00	196.23	0.527	2.707
1978	2.42	6.81	19.51	54.63	236.44	0.608	1.795
1979	3.09	8.26	24.69	68.52	306.37	0.844	4.321
1980	2.75	9.24	28.12	72.17	307.96	0.833	4.281
1981	4.11	9.51	31.45	77.76	296.70	0.851	4.610
1982	3.37	8.33	27.22	74.68	293.92	0.705	4.751
1983	2.75	10.14	30.39	68.07	295.39	0.739	4.751
1984	4.17	15.07	31.28	72.97	311.92	0.827	4.751
1985	3.62	12.73	33.23	83.88	303.95	0.911	5.044
1986	3.94	14.07	31.77	79.12	326.65	0.908	5.265
1987	3.88	19.37	30.36	92.37	366.75	0.922	5.613
1988	5.44	11.17	30.27	76.72	372.18	0.970	8.721
1989	5.48	11.71	32.44	96.50	396.95	1.065	6.841
1990	6.19	13.28	33.92	90.16	386.16	1.034	4.870
1991	4.03	11.10	36.85	81.93	386.12	0.950	5.035
1992	4.73	10.76	35.78	87.34	347.01	0.924	6.775
1993	5.93	10.90	39.03	87.32	318.87	1.023	5.966
1994	6.12	11.45	40.95	86.91	363.51	1.206	5.146
1995	5.36	11.22	38.90	83.51	390.82	1.100	4.996
1996	5.09	10.74	41.51	86.23	421.00	1.129	4.788
1997	6.87	11.35	39.76	102.65	403.56	1.094	5.152
1998	6.47	12.73	42.75	99.29	418.48	1.219	5.721
1999	8.57	14.17	44.24	101.95	420.15	1.148	7.088
2000	8.12	12.28	49.73	102.21	475.55	1.118	6.071
2001	7.63	16.07	48.39	99.06	556.10	1.349	8.612
2002	6.32	13.70	54.01	96.99	475.44	1.120	7.160
2003	6.60	16.59	53.30	143.82	474.45	1.313	3.769
2004	17.15	18.70	59.03	177.81	522.71	2.087	11.883
1st Quarter 2005	18.01	16.19	63.48	175.32	628.93	1.859	5.096
2nd Quarter 2005	18.13	25.26	80.94	272.42	726.79	2.074	11.129
3rd Quarter 2005	15.45	26.66	81.84	188.47	1067.69	2.653	21.788
4th Quarter 2005	23.29	22.83	95.33	260.57	780.55	2.319	12.693
Year 2005	18.48	22.72	83.47	223.94	742.02	2.134	5.878
1st Quarter 2006	12.68	19.23	98.53	213.57	703.53	2.353	8.896
2nd Quarter 2006	34.14	25.58	97.86	424.90	983.48	2.121	6.681
3rd Quarter 2006	30.27	28.44	95.31	380.18	1048.83	2.870	21.319
4th Quarter 2006	18.42	25.96	90.78	250.42	982.29	2.134	12.971
Year 2006	16.75	22.34	94.84	235.00	824.21	2.291	8.231
1st Quarter 2007	36.20	28.22	95.84	281.37	709.07	2.524	11.839
2nd Quarter 2007	38.72	30.10	100.82	292.38	970.91	2.146	16.966
3rd Quarter 2007	14.06	23.87	95.81	281.02	684.95	1.966	114.651
4th Quarter 2007	7.66	18.68	82.02	241.53	663.75	1.794	10.036
Year 2007	14.18	22.64	94.23	267.73	740.62	2.062	15.358
1st Quarter 2008	12.36	20.27	86.60	243.78	762.15	1.838	11.685
2nd Quarter 2008	10.60	20.16	93.72	261.68	781.95	2.373	10.853
3rd Quarter 2008	29.38	20.59	88.38	225.01	674.29	2.566	8.822

1. Unclassified
2. Beginning 1st quarter 2003, structural steel includes the furnish and erect structural steel (bridge)

Exhibit C

California Department of Transportation

**Number and Dollar Value of Highway Projects**  
**Total Number of Bids and Average Number of Bidders**  
 (July 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008)

	<b>RANGE 1</b>	<b>RANGE 2</b>	<b>RANGE 3</b>	<b>RANGE 4</b>	<b>RANGE 5</b>	<b>RANGE 6</b>	<b>RANGE 7</b>	<b>RANGE 8</b>	<b>All Projects</b>
	Up to \$50,000	\$50,000 to \$100,000	\$100,000 to \$250,000	\$250,000 to \$500,000	\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	\$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000	\$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000	\$5,000,000 and above	
<b><u>Road Projects</u></b>									
Number of Projects	0	5	18	16	14	9	5	8	75
Total Value*	\$0	\$389,355	\$2,971,623	\$5,612,725	\$9,658,718	\$13,947,918	\$17,284,738	\$128,173,954	\$178,039,031
Number of Bidders	0	48	157	147	102	68	34	48	604
Average No of Bidders	0	9.6	8.7	9.2	7.3	7.6	6.8	6.0	8.1
<b><u>Structure Projects</u></b>									
Number of Projects	0	0	4	2	5	3	3	5	22
Total Value*	\$0	\$0	\$846,444	\$827,695	\$3,491,240	\$4,938,936	\$8,948,017	\$62,883,566	\$81,935,898
Number of Bidders	0	0	22	11	25	28	24	25	135
Average No of Bidders	0	0	5.5	5.5	5.0	9.3	8.0	5.0	6.1
<b><u>Combination Projects</u></b>									
Number of Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	13
Total Value*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,373,375	\$496,531,819	\$500,905,194
Number of Bidders	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	78	84
Average No of Bidders	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.0	6.5	6.5
<b><u>Summary</u></b>									
Number of Projects	0	5	22	18	19	12	9	25	110
Total Value*	\$0	\$389,355	\$3,818,067	\$6,440,420	\$13,149,958	\$18,886,854	\$30,606,130	\$687,589,339	\$760,880,122
Number of Bidders	0	48	179	158	127	96	64	151	823
Average No of Bidders	0	9.6	8.1	8.8	6.7	8.0	7.1	6.0	7.5

\*Bid Items Only

**Average Number of Bidders by Month**

<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>
6.8	6.9	8.4