

PRESS RELEASE

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State Insurance Department Publishes Auto Premium Comparison Survey in English and Spanish

The latest edition of the Arizona Department of Insurance "Automobile Premium Comparison Survey" is available for consumers, Insurance Director Charles R. Cohen announced today. Premiums are quoted for 10 cities throughout the state.

In addition, the Insurance Department has published "A Consumer Guide to Automobile Insurance." Both publications are free, are produced in English and Spanish, and are available on the Insurance Department's web site at www.state.az.us/id or by calling (602) 912-8444 in Phoenix, (520) 628-6370 in Tucson, or statewide (1-800) 325-2548.

"The semi-annual premium comparison survey is intended to encourage consumers to compare prices when purchasing personal automobile insurance," Cohen said. "Price is always an important consideration, but consumers should also consider an insurer's reputation for handling claims and policyholder service, and the specific insurance coverages available."

Approximately 90 percent of the personal automobile insurance market in Arizona is represented by the 73 insurers that provided price quotations contained in the 56-page survey. Premiums are quoted for 12 hypothetical drivers whose ages, driving records and vehicle use vary.

The quotes are for drivers who live in Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, Glendale, Tucson, Casa Grande, Flagstaff, Nogales, Safford, and Yuma. The survey also includes a list of insurer telephone numbers and information describing basic insurance coverage.

"The information on types of coverage is helpful for prospective insurance purchasers, but I strongly recommend that consumers ask their professional insurance agents and brokers about coverage details," Cohen said. "Consumers should read the insurance policy before purchasing it, and should not hesitate to ask questions."