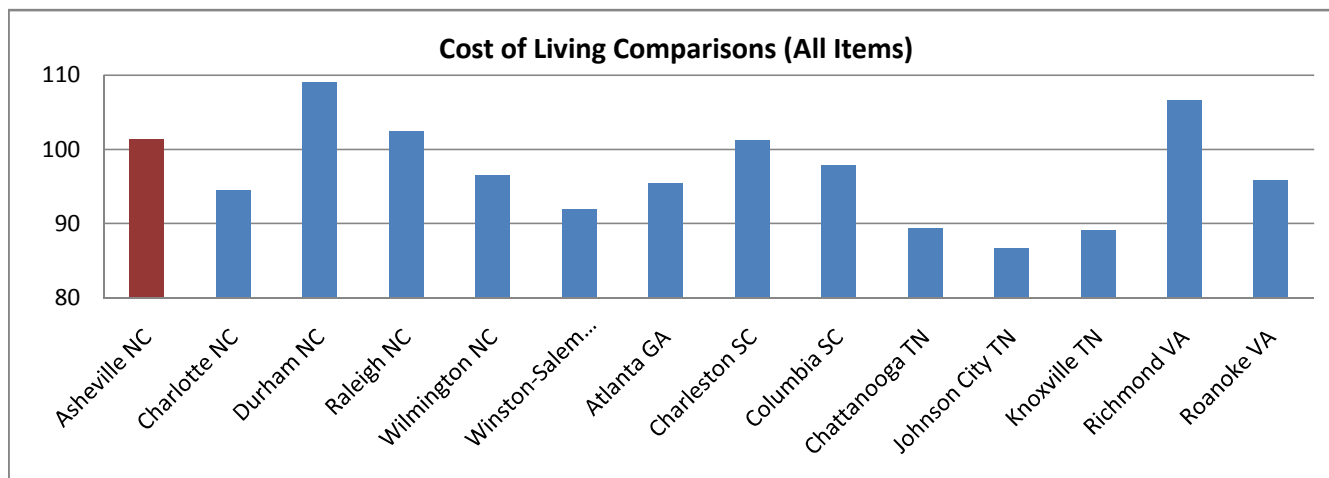


# Cost of Living

Compiled by the *Asheville Metro Business Research Center*

## Cost of Living Index - Third Quarter 2009



Area Metros	All Items	Food	Housing	Utilities	Trans.	Health Care	Misc.
Asheville NC	101.3	102.9	99.6	120.9	95.6	100.5	98.1
Charlotte NC	94.5	96.4	80.4	98.2	99.6	110.1	101.3
Durham NC	109	113.6	117.2	85.2	98.4	106.1	111.2
Raleigh NC	102.4	114.6	89.2	108.5	103.4	106.8	106.7
Wilmington NC	96.5	106.9	89.5	94.7	100.5	99.5	97.5
Winston-Salem NC	92	99.2	82.4	94.1	90.7	100.4	96.4
Atlanta GA	95.4	99.8	90.8	84.3	94.9	105.6	99.9
Charleston SC	101.2	108.3	92	92.1	96.6	109.5	109.8
Columbia SC	97.9	102.4	80.3	102.8	99.4	107.1	108.4
Chattanooga TN	89.3	95.4	82.8	77.9	98.6	92	92.8
Johnson City TN	86.7	91.7	73.1	88.8	87.7	91.3	95.3
Knoxville TN	89.1	91.6	78.6	95.2	85.2	89.7	96.9
Richmond VA	106.6	107	104	107.2	102	111.5	109.6
Roanoke VA	95.8	92.7	94.9	97.7	92.1	95.7	98.5

### Average Housing Costs: Existing Home Sales

	2007	2008
Units Sold	3,325	2,413
Average Cost	\$294,585	\$278,551

Source: North Carolina Association of Realtors, Inc.

### Apartment Rental Rates (Asheville)

Average rental for a 2 bedroom, 1-2 bath, unfurnished, 950-sq.ft. apartment **\$808**

### Average Medical Costs

	Optometrist Visit	Doctor Visit	Dentist Visit
Asheville	\$81.00	\$91.50	\$71.00
Survey Median*	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$75.50
Survey Average*	\$85.81	\$87.02	\$78.23

\* Average/median for participating areas nationwide.

Optometrist, doctor, and dentist office visit costs are for established patients.

Source: ACCRA Cost of Living Index, Third Quarter 2009: 315 Urban Areas participated in the survey.

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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COALITION** for Asheville-Buncombe County