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NEW RESIDENTIAL SALES IN JUNE 2008

Sales of new one-family houses in June 2008 were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 530,000, according to estimates released jointly today by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is 0.6 percent $(\pm 11.3\%)$ * below the revised May rate of 533,000 and is 33.2 percent $(\pm 8.8\%)$ below the June 2007 estimate of 793,000.

The median sales price of new houses sold in June 2008 was \$230,900; the average sales price was \$298,600. The seasonally adjusted estimate of new houses for sale at the end of June was 426,000. This represents a supply of 10.0 months at the current sales rate.

New Residential Sales data for July 2008 will be released on Tuesday, August 26, 2008, at 10:00 A.M. EDT.

Our Internet site is: http://www.census.gov/newhomesales

EXPLANATORY NOTES

These statistics are estimated from sample surveys. They are subject to sampling variability as well as nonsampling error including bias and variance from response, nonreporting, and undercoverage. Estimated average relative standard errors of the preliminary data are shown in the tables. Whenever a statement such as "2.5 percent (±3.2%) above" appears in the text, this indicates the range (-0.7 to +5.7 percent) in which the actual percent change is likely to have occurred. All ranges given for percent changes are 90-percent confidence intervals and account only for sampling variability. If a range does not contain zero, the change is statistically significant; that is, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease. The same policies apply to the confidence intervals for percent changes shown in the tables. Changes in seasonally adjusted statistics often show irregular movement. It takes 5 months to establish a trend for new houses sold. Preliminary new home sales figures are subject to revision due to the survey methodology and definitions used. The survey is primarily based on a sample of houses selected from building permits. Since a "sale" is defined as a deposit taken or sales agreement signed, this can occur prior to a permit being issued. An estimate of these prior sales is included in the sales figure. On average, the preliminary seasonally adjusted estimate of total sales is revised about 4 percent. Changes in sales price data reflect changes in the distribution of houses by region, size, etc., as well as changes in the prices of houses with identical characteristics. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our web site listed above.

^{* 90%} confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

Table 1. New Houses Sold and For Sale

[Thousands of houses. Detail may not add to total because of rounding]

| | | Sold during period ¹ | | | | For sale at end of period | | | | | Median | Average | | |
|--------|--|---------------------------------|--------|---------|----------|---------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | Period | United | North- | Mid- | | | United | North- | Mid- | F | | Months' | sales | sales |
| | | States | east | west | South | West | States | east Seasonally | west | South | West | supply ² | price (\$) | price (\$) |
| | | | | | | | | Seasonany | aujusteu | | | | | |
| 2007: | June | 793 | 64 | 114 | 440 | 175 | 543 | | | | | 8.3 | | |
| | July | 796 | 48 | 105 | 430 | 213 | 539 | | | | | 8.3 | | |
| | August | 702 | 59 | 122 | 365 | 156 | 533 | | | | | 9.2 | | |
| | September | 694 | 63 | 104 | 353 | 174 | 528 | | | | | 9.4 | | |
| | October | 723 | 65 | 128 | 379 | 151 | 513 | | | | | 8.6 | | |
| | November | 629 | 55 | 86 | 339 | 149 | 502 | | | | | 9.5 | | |
| | December | 600 | 56 | 74 | 335 | 135 | 494 | | | | | 9.8 | | |
| 2008: | January | 597 | 55 | 77 | 318 | 147 | 484 | | | | | 9.8 | | |
| | February | 572 | 39 | 77 | 314 | 142 | 477 | | | | | 9.7 | | |
| | March ^r | 513 | 28 | 70 | 293 | 122 | 469 | | | | | 11.2 | | |
| | April ^r | 542 | 41 | 82 | 294 | 125 | 458 | | | | | 10.3 | | |
| | May ^r | 533 | 38 | 81 | 299 | 115 | 450 | | | | | 10.4 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | June ^p | 530 | 40 | 83 | 293 | 114 | 426 | | | | | 10.0 | | |
| Averag | ge RSE (%) ³ | 8 | 21 | 17 | 11 | 12 | 4 | | | | | 7 | | |
| Perce | nt Change: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | June 2008 from May 2008 | -0.6% | 5.3% | 2.5% | -2.0% | -0.9% | -5.3% | | | | | -3.8% | | |
| | 90% Confidence Interval ⁴ | ± 11.3 | ± 44.2 | ± 25.8 | ± 17.2 | ± 22.3 | ± 1.2 | | | | | ± 12.0 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | June 2008 from June 2007 | -33.2% | -37.5% | -27.2% | -33.4% | -34.9% | -21.5% | | | | | 20.5% | | |
| | 90% Confidence Interval ⁴ | ± 8.8 | ± 25.8 | ± 17.4 | ± 11.8 | ± 15.9 | ± 2.8 | | | | | ± 15.8 | | |
| | | | | | | | No | ot seasonal | ly adjusted | l | | T 1 | | |
| 2006: | | 1,051 | 63 | 161 | 559 | 267 | 537 | 54 | 97 | 267 | 119 | (X) | 246,500 | 305,900 |
| 2007: | | 776 | 65 | 118 | 411 | 181 | 496 | 48 | 79 | 248 | 121 | (X) | 247,900 | 313,600 |
| RSE (9 | %) | 3 | 10 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 12 | 8 | 5 | 7 | (X) | 3 | 3 |
| | Year to Date | 448 | 38 | 69 | 236 | 105 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 2008: | Year to Date | 289 | 21 | 41 | 158 | 68 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| RSE (9 | %) | 4 | 10 | 11 | 5 | 6 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| | Year to Date Percent Change 5 | -35.5% | -45.6% | -39.8% | -32.9% | -35.0% | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| | 90% Confidence Interval ⁴ | ± 3.3 | ± 9.2 | ± 6.5 | ± 5.3 | ± 6.1 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| | 90% Confidence Interval | ±3.3 | ± 9.2 | ±0.5 | ± 3.3 | ± 0.1 | (A) | (A) | (A) | (A) | (A) | (A) | (A) | (A) |
| 2007: | June | 73 | 6 | 11 | 41 | 15 | 543 | 51 | 85 | 273 | 134 | 7.5 | 235,500 | 306,500 |
| | July | 60 | 4 | 9 | 26 | 18 | 538 | 52 | 83 | 271 | 131 | 8.0 | 246 200 | 307,100 |
| | August | 68 60 | 5 | 11 | 36 31 | 13 | 538 | 52 | 82 | 271 | 131 | 8.9 | 246,200 236,500 | 301,300 |
| | September | 53 | 5 | 8 | 27 | 14 | 527 | 50 | 80 | 270 | 127 | 9.9 | 240,300 | 292,200 |
| | October | | | 10 | 20 | 10 | 510 | 40 | 70 | 264 | 107 | 0.0 | 224 200 | 210 100 |
| | November | 57 45 | 5 | 10 6 | 30 25 | 12 10 | 518 508 | 49 48 | 79 79 | 264 257 | 127 124 | 9.0 11.2 | 234,300 249,100 | 310,100 316,800 |
| | December | 44 | 4 | 5 | 26 | 8 | 496 | 48 | 79 | 248 | 121 | 11.4 | 227,700 | 284,400 |
| 2000 | Innuary | | _ | _ | | | 100 | | | | | | 222 425 | 201.50 |
| 2008: | January February | 44 48 | 3 | 5 | 24 26 | 11 12 | 488 475 | 46 45 | 78 76 | 246 241 | 117 113 | 11.1 9.9 | 232,400 245,300 | 284,600 301,200 |
| | March ^r | 49 | 2 | 7 | 28 | 12 | 465 | 46 | 74 | 233 | 113 | 9.5 | 229,300 | 287,600 |
| | . T | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | April ^r May ^r | 49 51 | 4 | 8 | 25 28 | 12 11 | 459 448 | 45 43 | 73 72 | 233 229 | 108 105 | 9.4 8.9 | 243,400 227,700 | 314,100 298,900 |
| | | 31 | - | | 20 | 11 | | 4.5 | 12 | 229 | 103 | 6.9 | 227,700 | 270,700 |
| | June ^p | 49 | 4 | 8 | 27 | 10 | 425 | 41 | 67 | 214 | 102 | 8.7 | 230,900 | 298,600 |
| Averag | ge RSE (%) ³ | 8 | 21 | 17 | 11 | 12 | 4 | 15 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 5 |

 $^{^{}p} Preliminary. \hspace{0.5cm} ^{r} Revised. \hspace{0.5cm} RSE \hspace{0.1cm} Relative \hspace{0.1cm} standard \hspace{0.1cm} error. \hspace{0.5cm} X \hspace{0.1cm} Not \hspace{0.1cm} applicable. \hspace{0.5cm} Z \hspace{0.1cm} Less \hspace{0.1cm} than \hspace{0.1cm} 0.5 \hspace{0.1cm} percent.$

Note: The sales price includes the land.

¹Seasonally adjusted houses sold are published at annual rates.

²Ratio of houses for sale to houses sold.

³Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

⁴See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

⁵ Computed using unrounded data.

Table 2. New Houses Sold, by Sales Price

[Thousands of houses. Components may not add to total because of rounding. Percents computed from unrounded figures]

| 2006: | | Total | U 1 5 0 000 | **** | *** | *** | A | A= 10 | _ | | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | \$150,000 | \$199,999 | \$299,999 Number o | \$399,999 of houses ¹ | \$499,999 | \$749,999 | and over | | | | |
| | | 1,051 | 162 | 208 | 300 | 174 | 84 | 80 | 43 | | | | |
| 2007: | | 776 | 106 | 162 | 227 | 121 | 65 | 62 | 32 | | | | |
| RSE (%) |) | 3 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 13 | | | | |
| 2007: | June | 73 | 10 | 18 | 20 | 10 | 5 | 6 | 3 | | | | |
| | July | 68 | 10 | 13 | 22 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 3 | | | | |
| | August | 60 | 9 | 14 | 18 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 2 | | | | |
| | September | 53 | 8 | 10 | 18 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 2 | | | | |
| | October | 57 | 9 | 14 | 13 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| | November | 45 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 2 | | | | |
| | December | 44 | 6 | 9 | 14 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | | | |
| 2008: | January | 44 | 8 | 9 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | | | |
| | February | 48 | 7 | 9 | 16 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | | | | |
| | March ^r | 49 | 7 | 11 | 17 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 2 | | | | |
| | April ^r | 49 | 6 | 10 | 15 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| | May ^r | 51 | 10 | 11 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3 | | | | |
| | June ^p | 49 | 9 | 10 | 15 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | |
| Average | RSE (%) ² | 8 | 19 | 14 | 12 | 16 | 23 | 24 | 30 | | | | |
| | | Percent distribution | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2006: | | 100 | 15 | 20 | 29 | 17 | 8 | 8 | 4 | | | | |
| 2007: | | 100 | 14 | 21 | 29 | 16 | 8 | 8 | 4 | | | | |
| 2007: | June | 100 | 14 | 25 | 28 | 14 | 7 | 8 | 4 | | | | |
| | July | 100 | 15 | 19 | 32 | 15 | 6 | 9 | 4 | | | | |
| | August | 100 | 15 | 23 | 29 | 13 | 9 | 7 | 4 | | | | |
| | September | 100 | 15 | 19 | 34 | 14 | 8 | 7 | 3 | | | | |
| | October | 100 | 16 | 25 | 23 | 16 | 8 | 8 | 4 | | | | |
| | November | 100 | 14 | 21 | 28 | 16 | 9 | 8 | 4 | | | | |
| | December | 100 | 15 | 21 | 33 | 14 | 9 | 6 | 2 | | | | |
| 2008: | January | 100 | 18 | 20 | 33 | 11 | 9 | 5 | 3 | | | | |
| | February | 100 | 14 | 19 | 33 | 16 | 7 | 7 | 4 | | | | |
| | March ^r | 100 | 14 | 23 | 34 | 15 | 5 | 6 | 3 | | | | |
| | April ^r | 100 | 12 | 20 | 31 | 18 | 6 | 10 | 4 | | | | |
| | May ^r | 100 | 19 | 22 | 30 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 6 | | | | |
| | June ^p | 100 | 18 | 21 | 32 | 16 | 4 | 5 | 5 | | | | |

 $^{^{}p}$ Preliminary. r Revised. RSE Relative standard error. X Not applicable. Z Less than 0.5 percent.

Note: The sales price includes the land.

¹Houses for which sales price was not reported have been distributed proportionally to those for which sales price was reported.

²Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

Table 3. New Houses Sold and For Sale by Stage of Construction and Median Number of Months on Sales Market

[Thousands of houses. Detail may not add to total because of rounding]

| | | | Sold duri | ng period | | | Median | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Period | | Total | Not started | Under construction | Completed | Total | Not started | Under construction | Completed | months for sale ¹ |
| 2006: | | 1,051 | 346 | 368 | 337 | 537 | 78 | 285 | 174 | 4.3 |
| 2007: | | 776 | 196 | 255 | 325 | 496 | 69 | 228 | 198 | 6.2 |
| RSE (%) | | 3 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 8 |
| 2007: | June | 73 | 18 | 26 | 29 | 543 | 80 | 281 | 181 | 5.8 |
| | July | 68 | 15 | 23 | 30 | 538 | 77 | 280 | 181 | 6.0 |
| | August | 60 | 14 | 20 | 27 | 538 | 80 | 270 | 187 | 5.7 |
| | September | 53 | 11 | 17 | 26 | 527 | 76 | 261 | 191 | 5.8 |
| | October | 57 | 12 | 18 | 27 | 518 | 73 | 253 | 192 | 5.9 |
| | November | 45 | 9 | 12 | 25 | 508 | 73 | 241 | 194 | 6.0 |
| | December | 44 | 10 | 11 | 22 | 496 | 69 | 228 | 198 | 6.2 |
| 2008: | January | 44 | 10 | 12 | 22 | 488 | 69 | 220 | 199 | 6.7 |
| | February | 48 | 11 | 11 | 25 | 475 | 68 | 214 | 194 | 7.1 |
| | March ^r | 49 | 12 | 12 | 25 | 465 | 66 | 212 | 187 | 7.4 |
| | April ^r | 49 | 13 | 14 | 22 | 459 | 65 | 211 | 183 | 7.8 |
| | May ^r | 51 | 12 | 16 | 22 | 448 | 65 | 202 | 182 | 8.2 |
| | June ^p | 49 | 15 | 13 | 21 | 425 | 63 | 191 | 170 | 8.4 |
| Average RSE (%) ² | | 8 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 5 |

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. RSE Relative standard error. Z Less than 0.5 percent.

¹Median number of months for sale since completion.

²Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.