

November
1999

Issued January 2000

C25/99-11

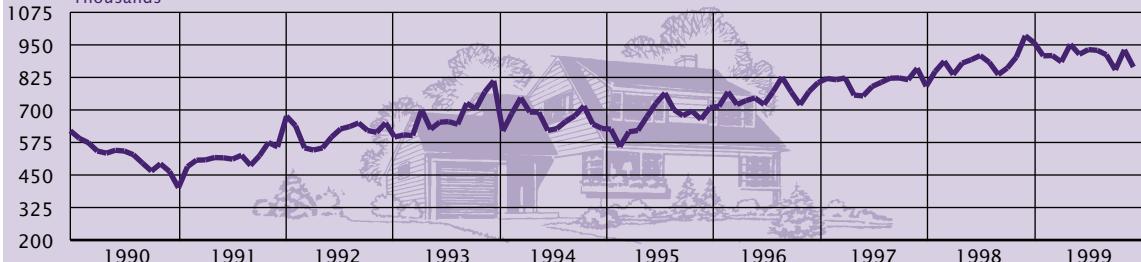
New One-Family Houses Sold

New One-Family Houses Sold and For Sale and Months' Supply at Current Sales Rate

Seasonally adjusted

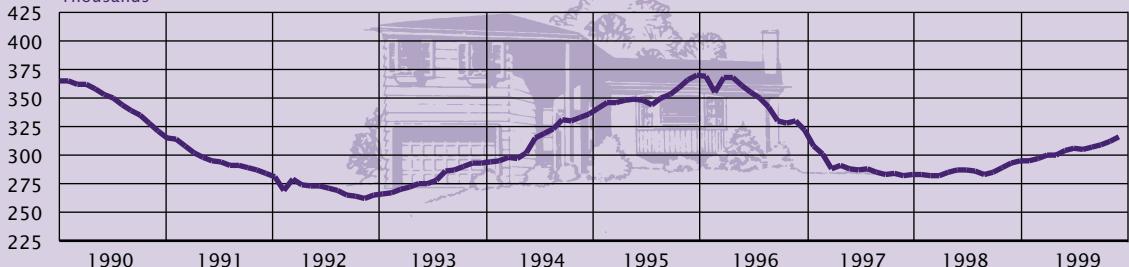
Houses Sold (Annual Rate)

Thousands



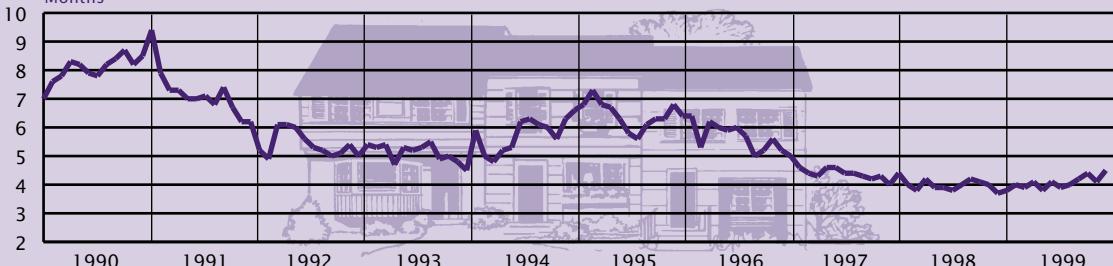
Houses For Sale

Thousands



Number of Months' Supply¹

Months



¹Ratio of houses for sale to houses sold at current sales rate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, New One-Family Houses Sold.

Questions regarding these data may be directed to **Dale R. Jacobson**, Residential Construction Branch, Manufacturing and Construction Division, telephone: 301-457-1321.

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Current Construction Reports

NEW HOUSES SOLD AND FOR SALE

This report provides statistics for new privately owned one-family houses sold and for sale. The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development jointly release this report.

Sales of new one-family houses in November 1999 were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 865,000 compared with the revised October rate of 931,000. The November 1998 rate was 985,000.

The median sales price of new houses sold in November was \$167,400; the mean sales price was \$209,700. Changes in median and average sales prices reflect changing proportions of houses with different locations, sizes, etc., as well as changes in the prices of houses with identical characteristics. For a measure of the change in the sales price of new houses sold which are the same with respect to important characteristics, refer to the price index found in Tables 7a and 8 in the October report. Table 7 in that report presents the Fisher Ideal chain-type annual-weighted index that does not hold any characteristics constant. For a description of these indexes, see the appendix in the March 1997 issue of this report.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of new houses for sale at the end of September was 316,000. This represents a supply of 4.5 months at the current sales rate.

Through November of this year, there were 848,000 houses sold compared with 825,000 for the same period last year.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics in this report are estimated from sample surveys and are subject to sampling variability as well as errors of response and nonreporting. Estimated average relative standard errors for preliminary statistics for houses sold and for sale are shown in the tables. For monthly estimates they are based upon the latest 6-month period ending June or December (January-June or July-December). Quarterly estimates are based upon the more recent of the first 2 quarters or last 2 quarters of the most current year; annual estimates on the last 2 years.

For month-to-month comparisons of total houses sold, the range of the 90-percent confidence interval is ± 9 percentage points from the estimated change. For year-to-date comparisons the range is ± 3 percentage points. When the range of the confidence interval contains zero, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease; that is, the change is not statistically significant.

In interpreting changes in the statistics in this report, note that month-to-month changes in seasonally adjusted statistics often show movements which may be irregular. It takes 4 months to establish an underlying 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 being accepted or a sales contract signed, the sale can occur prior to the 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 ± 3 percent. This does not include the revisions made when new seasonal factors are computed.

HUD-coded manufactured homes are not included in these statistics. Data for these homes can be found on the internet at:

www.census.gov/const/www/index.html.

For further information on these data, contact the Construction Expenditures Branch, Manufacturing and Construction Division. Telephone: 301-457-1605.

Historical statistics on new one-family houses sold and for sale from 1963 to date are available from the Residential Construction Branch, Manufacturing and Construction Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-6900. Telephone: 301-457-1321.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Current Construction Reports, *Characteristics of New Housing: 1998*, C25/98-A, U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC 20233-6900.

Table 1. Houses Sold and for Sale and Months' Supply at Current Sales Rate

| Period | Not seasonally adjusted | | | Seasonally adjusted | | |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| | Number of houses (thousands) | | Months' supply at current sales rate ¹ | Number of houses (thousands) | | Months' supply at current sales rate ¹ |
| | Sold during period | For sale at end of period | | Sold during period ² | For sale at end of period | |
| ANNUAL DATA | | | | | | |
| 1988..... | 676 | 371 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1989..... | 650 | 366 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1990..... | 534 | 321 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1991..... | 509 | 284 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1992..... | 610 | 267 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1993..... | 666 | 295 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1994..... | 670 | 340 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1995..... | 667 | 374 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1996..... | 757 | 326 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1997..... | 804 | 287 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| 1998..... | 886 | 300 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| MONTHLY DATA | | | | | | |
| 1996: January..... | 54 | 370 | 6.9 | 714 | 369 | 6.4 |
| February..... | 68 | 362 | 5.3 | 769 | 355 | 5.3 |
| March..... | 70 | 362 | 5.2 | 721 | 368 | 6.2 |
| April..... | 70 | 366 | 5.2 | 736 | 368 | 6.0 |
| May..... | 69 | 360 | 5.2 | 746 | 361 | 5.9 |
| June..... | 65 | 355 | 5.5 | 721 | 355 | 6.0 |
| July..... | 66 | 351 | 5.3 | 770 | 350 | 5.7 |
| August..... | 73 | 342 | 4.7 | 826 | 342 | 5.0 |
| September..... | 62 | 332 | 5.3 | 770 | 330 | 5.2 |
| October..... | 56 | 332 | 6.0 | 720 | 328 | 5.6 |
| November..... | 54 | 330 | 6.1 | 771 | 330 | 5.2 |
| December..... | 51 | 326 | 6.4 | 805 | 322 | 5.0 |
| 1997: January..... | 61 | 309 | 5.1 | 821 | 308 | 4.6 |
| February..... | 69 | 296 | 4.3 | 816 | 301 | 4.4 |
| March..... | 81 | 284 | 3.5 | 823 | 288 | 4.3 |
| April..... | 70 | 289 | 4.1 | 757 | 291 | 4.6 |
| May..... | 71 | 286 | 4.0 | 754 | 288 | 4.6 |
| June..... | 71 | 288 | 4.0 | 790 | 287 | 4.4 |
| July..... | 69 | 289 | 4.2 | 806 | 288 | 4.4 |
| August..... | 72 | 284 | 4.0 | 822 | 285 | 4.3 |
| September..... | 67 | 285 | 4.3 | 823 | 283 | 4.2 |
| October..... | 62 | 287 | 4.6 | 816 | 284 | 4.3 |
| November..... | 61 | 281 | 4.6 | 860 | 282 | 4.0 |
| December..... | 51 | 287 | 5.7 | 791 | 283 | 4.4 |
| 1998: January..... | 64 | 282 | 4.4 | 848 | 282 | 4.0 |
| February..... | 75 | 277 | 3.7 | 887 | 282 | 3.8 |
| March..... | 81 | 281 | 3.5 | 836 | 285 | 4.2 |
| April..... | 82 | 286 | 3.5 | 880 | 287 | 3.9 |
| May..... | 82 | 284 | 3.5 | 893 | 287 | 3.9 |
| June..... | 83 | 287 | 3.4 | 909 | 286 | 3.8 |
| July..... | 75 | 284 | 3.8 | 883 | 283 | 4.0 |
| August..... | 75 | 283 | 3.8 | 836 | 285 | 4.2 |
| September..... | 68 | 291 | 4.3 | 861 | 289 | 4.1 |
| October..... | 69 | 296 | 4.3 | 903 | 293 | 4.0 |
| November..... | 70 | 292 | 4.2 | 985 | 292 | 3.7 |
| December..... | 61 | 300 | 4.9 | 958 | 295 | 3.8 |
| 1999: January..... | 67 | 294 | 4.4 | 908 | 295 | 4.0 |
| February..... | 78 | 291 | 3.7 | 909 | 297 | 3.9 |
| March..... | 86 | 296 | 3.4 | 885 | 300 | 4.1 |
| April..... | 88 | 299 | 3.4 | 952 | 300 | 3.8 |
| May..... | 83 | 302 | 3.6 | 914 | 304 | 4.1 |
| June..... | 86 | 307 | 3.6 | 932 | 306 | 3.9 |
| July..... | 80 | 305 | 3.8 | 929 | 305 | 4.0 |
| August ^r | 81 | 305 | 3.8 | 912 | 307 | 4.2 |
| September ^r | 67 | 311 | 4.7 | 854 | 309 | 4.4 |
| October ^r | 70 | 314 | 4.5 | 931 | 312 | 4.1 |
| November ^p | 63 | 319 | 5.1 | 865 | 316 | 4.5 |
| AVERAGE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS | | | | | | |
| Annual.....(percent)..... | 2 | 3 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Monthly.....(percent)..... | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 |

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. ^XNot applicable.

¹Ratio of houses for sale to houses sold.

²Annual rate.

Table 2. Houses Sold and for Sale by Region

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

| Period | Sold during period | | | | | | | | | | For sale at end of period (not seasonally adjusted) | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------|----------|-------|------|---------------------------------|------------|----------|-------|------|--|------------|----------|-------|------|
| | Not seasonally adjusted | | | | | Seasonally adjusted annual rate | | | | | United States | North-east | Mid-west | South | West |
| | United States | North-east | Mid-west | South | West | United States | North-east | Mid-west | South | West | | | | | |
| ANNUAL DATA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1988 | 676 | 101 | 97 | 276 | 202 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 371 | 112 | 43 | 133 | 82 |
| 1989 | 650 | 86 | 102 | 260 | 202 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 366 | 108 | 41 | 123 | 93 |
| 1990 | 534 | 71 | 89 | 225 | 149 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 321 | 77 | 42 | 105 | 97 |
| 1991 | 509 | 57 | 93 | 215 | 144 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 284 | 62 | 41 | 97 | 83 |
| 1992 | 610 | 65 | 116 | 259 | 170 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 267 | 48 | 41 | 104 | 74 |
| 1993 | 666 | 60 | 123 | 295 | 188 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 295 | 53 | 48 | 121 | 73 |
| 1994 | 670 | 61 | 123 | 295 | 191 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 340 | 55 | 63 | 140 | 82 |
| 1995 | 667 | 55 | 125 | 300 | 187 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 374 | 62 | 69 | 158 | 86 |
| 1996 | 757 | 74 | 137 | 337 | 209 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 326 | 38 | 67 | 146 | 74 |
| 1997 | 804 | 78 | 140 | 363 | 223 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 287 | 26 | 65 | 127 | 69 |
| 1998 | 886 | 81 | 164 | 398 | 243 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 300 | 28 | 63 | 142 | 68 |
| MONTHLY DATA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1996: January..... | 54 | 3 | 10 | 24 | 17 | 714 | 47 | 146 | 307 | 213 | 370 | 61 | 66 | 158 | 85 |
| February..... | 68 | 5 | 11 | 31 | 21 | 769 | 57 | 137 | 346 | 228 | 362 | 58 | 66 | 157 | 81 |
| March..... | 70 | 4 | 13 | 32 | 20 | 721 | 51 | 132 | 329 | 209 | 362 | 59 | 66 | 159 | 79 |
| April..... | 70 | 6 | 13 | 30 | 21 | 736 | 60 | 128 | 326 | 222 | 366 | 59 | 67 | 163 | 77 |
| May..... | 69 | 5 | 14 | 32 | 19 | 746 | 54 | 141 | 354 | 198 | 360 | 61 | 67 | 158 | 74 |
| June..... | 65 | 7 | 12 | 28 | 18 | 721 | 77 | 122 | 320 | 202 | 355 | 59 | 66 | 156 | 74 |
| July..... | 66 | 7 | 12 | 29 | 18 | 770 | 84 | 133 | 343 | 209 | 351 | 56 | 65 | 155 | 75 |
| August..... | 73 | 8 | 14 | 33 | 19 | 826 | 82 | 173 | 364 | 207 | 342 | 51 | 64 | 153 | 74 |
| September..... | 62 | 9 | 10 | 27 | 17 | 770 | 89 | 130 | 343 | 208 | 332 | 45 | 65 | 148 | 73 |
| October..... | 56 | 6 | 9 | 26 | 15 | 720 | 77 | 117 | 334 | 191 | 332 | 42 | 68 | 147 | 76 |
| November..... | 54 | 6 | 9 | 25 | 14 | 771 | 77 | 127 | 354 | 213 | 330 | 41 | 69 | 147 | 73 |
| December..... | 51 | 6 | 9 | 23 | 13 | 805 | 88 | 148 | 350 | 220 | 326 | 38 | 67 | 146 | 74 |
| 1997: January..... | 61 | 7 | 9 | 29 | 15 | 821 | 108 | 138 | 374 | 200 | 309 | 34 | 65 | 137 | 73 |
| February..... | 69 | 9 | 10 | 33 | 18 | 816 | 100 | 124 | 387 | 205 | 296 | 30 | 63 | 132 | 71 |
| March..... | 81 | 8 | 13 | 36 | 24 | 823 | 92 | 125 | 370 | 236 | 284 | 28 | 63 | 126 | 67 |
| April..... | 70 | 8 | 14 | 30 | 19 | 757 | 85 | 133 | 335 | 204 | 289 | 28 | 65 | 129 | 67 |
| May..... | 71 | 8 | 13 | 31 | 18 | 754 | 81 | 141 | 339 | 192 | 286 | 26 | 64 | 127 | 68 |
| June..... | 71 | 7 | 15 | 31 | 19 | 790 | 67 | 150 | 355 | 218 | 288 | 27 | 62 | 129 | 69 |
| July..... | 69 | 6 | 13 | 30 | 21 | 806 | 66 | 149 | 352 | 239 | 289 | 28 | 63 | 130 | 68 |
| August..... | 72 | 7 | 12 | 34 | 19 | 822 | 76 | 140 | 382 | 224 | 284 | 28 | 62 | 127 | 68 |
| September..... | 67 | 6 | 10 | 31 | 20 | 823 | 67 | 133 | 378 | 244 | 285 | 27 | 65 | 125 | 68 |
| October..... | 62 | 5 | 11 | 28 | 18 | 816 | 71 | 143 | 371 | 229 | 287 | 27 | 66 | 126 | 68 |
| November..... | 61 | 6 | 12 | 27 | 16 | 860 | 85 | 164 | 382 | 229 | 281 | 26 | 64 | 124 | 67 |
| December..... | 51 | 5 | 9 | 24 | 13 | 791 | 78 | 147 | 355 | 211 | 287 | 26 | 65 | 127 | 69 |
| 1998: January..... | 64 | 5 | 10 | 32 | 17 | 848 | 73 | 156 | 398 | 221 | 282 | 27 | 62 | 126 | 67 |
| February..... | 75 | 8 | 15 | 30 | 22 | 887 | 94 | 199 | 354 | 240 | 277 | 25 | 61 | 128 | 63 |
| March..... | 81 | 8 | 18 | 34 | 21 | 836 | 91 | 172 | 351 | 223 | 281 | 24 | 59 | 132 | 67 |
| April..... | 82 | 8 | 16 | 37 | 22 | 880 | 89 | 155 | 413 | 222 | 286 | 24 | 61 | 133 | 68 |
| May..... | 82 | 9 | 14 | 34 | 25 | 893 | 97 | 145 | 380 | 271 | 284 | 23 | 61 | 134 | 65 |
| June..... | 83 | 8 | 17 | 39 | 21 | 909 | 75 | 167 | 427 | 239 | 287 | 23 | 63 | 134 | 68 |
| July..... | 75 | 6 | 13 | 35 | 20 | 883 | 72 | 156 | 420 | 235 | 284 | 23 | 61 | 130 | 70 |
| August..... | 75 | 7 | 13 | 34 | 21 | 836 | 74 | 157 | 370 | 234 | 283 | 23 | 60 | 131 | 69 |
| September..... | 68 | 7 | 13 | 30 | 18 | 861 | 77 | 178 | 385 | 221 | 291 | 24 | 61 | 137 | 69 |
| October..... | 69 | 6 | 13 | 31 | 20 | 903 | 76 | 176 | 393 | 259 | 296 | 25 | 64 | 138 | 69 |
| November..... | 70 | 7 | 12 | 31 | 20 | 985 | 91 | 161 | 438 | 295 | 292 | 25 | 62 | 137 | 67 |
| December..... | 61 | 5 | 11 | 29 | 15 | 958 | 84 | 177 | 438 | 259 | 300 | 28 | 63 | 142 | 68 |
| 1999: January..... | 67 | 5 | 10 | 32 | 20 | 908 | 83 | 149 | 408 | 268 | 294 | 27 | 61 | 140 | 66 |
| February..... | 78 | 7 | 14 | 38 | 19 | 909 | 79 | 178 | 440 | 212 | 291 | 24 | 60 | 141 | 66 |
| March..... | 86 | 6 | 16 | 38 | 26 | 885 | 77 | 158 | 395 | 255 | 296 | 25 | 60 | 145 | 67 |
| April..... | 88 | 7 | 17 | 38 | 25 | 952 | 81 | 177 | 422 | 272 | 299 | 25 | 59 | 148 | 67 |
| May..... | 83 | 6 | 17 | 38 | 22 | 914 | 70 | 178 | 422 | 245 | 302 | 25 | 60 | 149 | 68 |
| June..... | 86 | 6 | 17 | 39 | 24 | 932 | 65 | 167 | 430 | 270 | 307 | 26 | 60 | 150 | 71 |
| July..... | 80 | 7 | 15 | 37 | 21 | 929 | 84 | 176 | 425 | 245 | 305 | 26 | 61 | 147 | 72 |
| August ^r | 81 | 8 | 16 | 34 | 22 | 912 | 85 | 193 | 384 | 250 | 305 | 26 | 62 | 148 | 70 |
| September ^r | 67 | 7 | 12 | 30 | 18 | 854 | 78 | 166 | 384 | 227 | 311 | 25 | 62 | 152 | 72 |
| October ^r | 70 | 5 | 16 | 30 | 20 | 931 | 73 | 204 | 392 | 261 | 314 | 26 | 64 | 153 | 70 |
| November ^r | 63 | 4 | 13 | 28 | 17 | 865 | 50 | 188 | 380 | 247 | 319 | 28 | 65 | 155 | 70 |
| AVERAGE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual.....(percent) .. | 2 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 4 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 3 | 10 | 6 | 4 | 6 |
| Monthly (percent) .. | 4 | 19 | 12 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 19 | 12 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 11 | 7 | 5 | 4 |

^pPreliminary.

^rRevised.

X Not applicable.

Table 3. Houses Sold and for Sale by Stage of Construction

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

| Period | Sold during period | | | | For sale at end of period | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|
| | Total | Completed | Under construction | Not started | Total | Completed | Under construction | Not started |
| ANNUAL DATA | | | | | | | | |
| 1988..... | 676 | 213 | 286 | 177 | 371 | 111 | 204 | 57 |
| 1989..... | 650 | 215 | 263 | 172 | 366 | 109 | 188 | 69 |
| 1990..... | 534 | 193 | 199 | 142 | 321 | 119 | 145 | 57 |
| 1991..... | 509 | 184 | 172 | 154 | 284 | 104 | 130 | 51 |
| 1992..... | 610 | 196 | 211 | 202 | 267 | 86 | 135 | 46 |
| 1993..... | 666 | 198 | 225 | 243 | 295 | 83 | 166 | 47 |
| 1994..... | 670 | 220 | 230 | 220 | 340 | 108 | 189 | 42 |
| 1995..... | 667 | 238 | 223 | 205 | 374 | 123 | 199 | 52 |
| 1996..... | 757 | 275 | 254 | 228 | 326 | 101 | 185 | 40 |
| 1997..... | 804 | 236 | 295 | 273 | 287 | 92 | 161 | 34 |
| 1998..... | 886 | 228 | 334 | 324 | 300 | 72 | 185 | 43 |
| MONTHLY DATA | | | | | | | | |
| 1996: January..... | 54 | 19 | 17 | 18 | 370 | 122 | 196 | 51 |
| February..... | 68 | 21 | 21 | 26 | 362 | 120 | 192 | 50 |
| March..... | 70 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 362 | 120 | 189 | 53 |
| April..... | 70 | 22 | 27 | 22 | 366 | 119 | 195 | 51 |
| May..... | 69 | 25 | 24 | 20 | 360 | 114 | 195 | 52 |
| June..... | 65 | 24 | 21 | 20 | 355 | 113 | 193 | 48 |
| July..... | 66 | 27 | 21 | 18 | 351 | 111 | 191 | 49 |
| August..... | 73 | 26 | 27 | 20 | 342 | 106 | 192 | 44 |
| September..... | 62 | 23 | 22 | 17 | 332 | 103 | 185 | 43 |
| October..... | 56 | 21 | 19 | 15 | 332 | 103 | 186 | 43 |
| November..... | 54 | 20 | 17 | 17 | 330 | 101 | 189 | 40 |
| December..... | 51 | 20 | 15 | 17 | 326 | 101 | 185 | 40 |
| 1997: January..... | 61 | 22 | 20 | 19 | 309 | 97 | 174 | 38 |
| February..... | 69 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 296 | 95 | 165 | 37 |
| March..... | 81 | 25 | 29 | 27 | 284 | 91 | 158 | 35 |
| April..... | 70 | 21 | 24 | 26 | 289 | 91 | 165 | 33 |
| May..... | 71 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 286 | 90 | 163 | 33 |
| June..... | 71 | 19 | 30 | 22 | 288 | 89 | 163 | 36 |
| July..... | 69 | 20 | 26 | 22 | 289 | 88 | 165 | 36 |
| August..... | 72 | 19 | 28 | 25 | 284 | 87 | 163 | 34 |
| September..... | 67 | 18 | 26 | 22 | 285 | 90 | 164 | 31 |
| October..... | 62 | 18 | 24 | 20 | 287 | 91 | 163 | 33 |
| November..... | 61 | 18 | 24 | 19 | 281 | 92 | 158 | 31 |
| December..... | 51 | 14 | 17 | 19 | 287 | 92 | 161 | 34 |
| 1998: January..... | 64 | 18 | 22 | 25 | 282 | 86 | 161 | 35 |
| February..... | 75 | 19 | 26 | 30 | 277 | 85 | 157 | 35 |
| March..... | 81 | 20 | 30 | 31 | 281 | 81 | 164 | 36 |
| April..... | 82 | 20 | 31 | 31 | 286 | 80 | 168 | 38 |
| May..... | 82 | 17 | 34 | 31 | 284 | 81 | 166 | 37 |
| June..... | 83 | 21 | 31 | 31 | 287 | 77 | 173 | 37 |
| July..... | 75 | 21 | 30 | 24 | 284 | 75 | 171 | 39 |
| August..... | 75 | 19 | 32 | 25 | 283 | 74 | 172 | 37 |
| September..... | 68 | 18 | 26 | 25 | 291 | 75 | 177 | 39 |
| October..... | 69 | 19 | 27 | 23 | 296 | 76 | 181 | 39 |
| November..... | 70 | 20 | 26 | 23 | 292 | 73 | 185 | 34 |
| December..... | 61 | 17 | 23 | 21 | 300 | 72 | 185 | 43 |
| 1999: January..... | 67 | 14 | 27 | 26 | 294 | 72 | 182 | 39 |
| February..... | 78 | 19 | 29 | 30 | 291 | 70 | 182 | 39 |
| March..... | 86 | 19 | 35 | 31 | 296 | 71 | 187 | 38 |
| April..... | 88 | 18 | 36 | 34 | 299 | 73 | 183 | 44 |
| May..... | 83 | 19 | 34 | 30 | 302 | 76 | 186 | 40 |
| June..... | 86 | 21 | 34 | 31 | 307 | 76 | 181 | 50 |
| July..... | 80 | 20 | 32 | 28 | 305 | 73 | 183 | 49 |
| August ^r | 81 | 21 | 32 | 28 | 305 | 71 | 188 | 46 |
| September ^r | 67 | 16 | 28 | 22 | 311 | 75 | 189 | 47 |
| October ^r | 70 | 19 | 31 | 21 | 314 | 74 | 195 | 44 |
| November ^p | 63 | 16 | 27 | 19 | 319 | 78 | 197 | 43 |
| AVERAGE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS | | | | | | | | |
| Annual.....(percent)..... | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| Monthly.....(percent)..... | 4 | 7 | 5 | 11 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 |

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

6 Table 4. Houses Sold by Sales Price

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

| Period | Total | Number of houses ¹ | | | | | | | Percent distribution ² | | | | | | | Median sales price (dollars) | Average sales price (dollars) | |
|---|-------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | Under \$80,000 | \$80,000 to \$99,999 | \$100,000 to \$119,999 | \$120,000 to \$149,999 | \$150,000 to \$199,999 | \$200,000 and over | Under \$80,000 | \$80,000 to \$99,999 | \$100,000 to \$119,999 | \$120,000 to \$149,999 | \$150,000 to \$199,999 | \$200,000 and over | | | | | |
| ANNUAL DATA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1994..... | 670 | 72 | 108 | 93 | 140 | 129 | 127 | 11 | 16 | 14 | 21 | 19 | 19 | 130,000 | 154,500 | | | |
| 1995..... | 667 | 58 | 101 | 99 | 144 | 127 | 138 | 9 | 15 | 15 | 22 | 19 | 21 | 133,900 | 158,700 | | | |
| 1996..... | 757 | 59 | 104 | 101 | 159 | 160 | 175 | 8 | 14 | 13 | 21 | 21 | 23 | 140,000 | 166,400 | | | |
| 1997..... | 804 | 51 | 93 | 103 | 173 | 177 | 207 | 6 | 12 | 13 | 21 | 22 | 26 | 146,000 | 176,200 | | | |
| 1998..... | 886 | 41 | 91 | 112 | 183 | 208 | 251 | 5 | 10 | 13 | 21 | 23 | 28 | 152,500 | 181,900 | | | |
| MONTHLY DATA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1997: January | 61 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 13 | 15 | 6 | 13 | 13 | 22 | 21 | 25 | 145,000 | 171,900 | | | |
| February | 69 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 15 | 14 | 18 | 7 | 13 | 13 | 21 | 20 | 26 | 143,000 | 171,100 | | | |
| March..... | 81 | 7 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 19 | 20 | 8 | 11 | 14 | 18 | 23 | 25 | 148,000 | 172,700 | | | |
| April..... | 70 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 16 | 19 | 7 | 10 | 13 | 20 | 23 | 28 | 150,000 | 179,500 | | | |
| May..... | 71 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 15 | 15 | 17 | 6 | 13 | 13 | 22 | 22 | 24 | 141,000 | 170,700 | | | |
| June..... | 71 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 17 | 14 | 19 | 5 | 12 | 12 | 24 | 20 | 27 | 145,000 | 179,400 | | | |
| July..... | 69 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 15 | 15 | 18 | 6 | 12 | 13 | 21 | 22 | 26 | 145,900 | 175,500 | | | |
| August..... | 72 | 5 | 9 | 10 | 15 | 17 | 17 | 6 | 13 | 14 | 21 | 24 | 23 | 144,000 | 170,700 | | | |
| September..... | 67 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 14 | 15 | 17 | 6 | 12 | 12 | 21 | 23 | 25 | 146,300 | 177,500 | | | |
| October..... | 62 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 13 | 15 | 5 | 11 | 15 | 23 | 21 | 24 | 141,500 | 172,900 | | | |
| November..... | 61 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 13 | 13 | 16 | 6 | 13 | 12 | 22 | 22 | 25 | 145,000 | 175,400 | | | |
| December..... | 51 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 12 | 11 | 13 | 7 | 10 | 11 | 23 | 23 | 25 | 145,900 | 175,800 | | | |
| 1998: January | 64 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 14 | 17 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 21 | 22 | 27 | 148,000 | 178,600 | | | |
| February | 75 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 13 | 18 | 23 | 4 | 10 | 15 | 17 | 23 | 31 | 156,000 | 181,600 | | | |
| March..... | 81 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 4 | 10 | 12 | 21 | 25 | 27 | 152,700 | 178,500 | | | |
| April..... | 82 | 4 | 9 | 11 | 19 | 18 | 22 | 5 | 11 | 13 | 23 | 22 | 26 | 148,000 | 176,700 | | | |
| May..... | 82 | 4 | 9 | 11 | 15 | 20 | 23 | 5 | 11 | 13 | 19 | 24 | 28 | 153,200 | 183,500 | | | |
| June..... | 83 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 18 | 19 | 21 | 6 | 12 | 12 | 22 | 22 | 26 | 148,000 | 175,900 | | | |
| July..... | 75 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 16 | 21 | 6 | 10 | 14 | 20 | 21 | 28 | 149,900 | 179,800 | | | |
| August..... | 75 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 16 | 17 | 23 | 5 | 10 | 12 | 21 | 22 | 30 | 154,900 | 186,500 | | | |
| September..... | 68 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 14 | 18 | 18 | 3 | 10 | 12 | 21 | 27 | 26 | 155,000 | 182,700 | | | |
| October..... | 69 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 16 | 21 | 5 | 11 | 13 | 18 | 23 | 30 | 154,500 | 182,800 | | | |
| November..... | 70 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 16 | 17 | 19 | 4 | 9 | 12 | 23 | 24 | 27 | 151,000 | 178,600 | | | |
| December..... | 61 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 14 | 15 | 17 | 6 | 8 | 11 | 23 | 24 | 28 | 152,500 | 183,300 | | | |
| 1999: January | 67 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 15 | 17 | 18 | 4 | 11 | 11 | 23 | 25 | 27 | 152,500 | 182,800 | | | |
| February | 78 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 17 | 17 | 26 | 4 | 7 | 13 | 21 | 21 | 33 | 159,900 | 191,400 | | | |
| March..... | 86 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 18 | 21 | 26 | 3 | 9 | 13 | 21 | 24 | 30 | 155,000 | 189,400 | | | |
| April..... | 88 | 2 | 10 | 9 | 18 | 21 | 28 | 3 | 11 | 11 | 20 | 23 | 32 | 160,000 | 191,400 | | | |
| May..... | 83 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 19 | 18 | 26 | 4 | 8 | 13 | 23 | 21 | 31 | 154,800 | 188,200 | | | |
| June..... | 86 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 18 | 20 | 28 | 4 | 7 | 12 | 21 | 23 | 33 | 158,300 | 193,400 | | | |
| July..... | 80 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 15 | 19 | 26 | 4 | 9 | 13 | 18 | 24 | 32 | 157,900 | 188,800 | | | |
| August ^r | 81 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 20 | 18 | 25 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 25 | 23 | 30 | 154,900 | 193,300 | | | |
| September ^r | 67 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 14 | 16 | 22 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 21 | 25 | 33 | 160,100 | 193,900 | | | |
| October ^r | 70 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 17 | 17 | 22 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 25 | 24 | 31 | 159,000 | 201,300 | | | |
| November ^p | 63 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 13 | 15 | 22 | 5 | 6 | 10 | 20 | 24 | 35 | 167,400 | 209,700 | | | |
| AVERAGE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual.....(percent) | 2 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Monthly.....(percent) | 4 | 24 | 16 | 13 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 24 | 15 | 12 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 2 | | | |

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.¹Houses for which sales price was not reported have been distributed proportionally to those for which sales price was reported.²Total equals 100 percent.

Note: The sales price includes the land.

Table 5. Current Seasonal Factors

| Month and year | New houses sold | | | | | New houses for sale | Months' supply at current sales rate | Median months from start to— | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------|-------|-------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| | United States implicit factor | Northeast | Midwest | South | West | | | Sale | End of month |
| 1999: August ^r | 106.3 | 119.7 | 101.4 | 107.0 | 104.4 | 99.5 | 90.7 | 89.6 | 92.0 |
| September ^r | 93.5 | 102.4 | 86.2 | 93.4 | 96.0 | 100.6 | 105.0 | 90.6 | 93.1 |
| October ^r | 90.6 | 80.7 | 92.1 | 91.0 | 91.6 | 100.4 | 108.4 | 94.4 | 95.0 |
| November ^p | 86.9 | 93.8 | 86.0 | 88.1 | 84.4 | 100.8 | 113.8 | 101.4 | 96.4 |

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

Note: These are the seasonal factors used to adjust the most current preliminary and revised estimates. The factors are produced by running each series through the Census Method II X-12 version seasonal adjustment program. For new houses sold, only the four regional series are run through this X-12 program. The resulting seasonally adjusted estimates are then added to produce an estimate for the United States. The implicit factor is the result of dividing the unadjusted estimate by the seasonally adjusted estimate. It provides an indication of the overall seasonality for the particular month.

Table 6. Median Number of Months on Sales Market

[Houses not started are excluded. Medians computed from unrounded figures]

| Period | Houses sold, measured from month of start | | Houses for sale | | Period | Houses sold, measured from month of start | | Houses for sale | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------|---|---------------------|------------------------------|---|-----|-----|
| | | | Measured from month of start | | | | | Measured from month of start | Measured from month of completion (not seasonally adjusted) | | |
| | Not seasonally adjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Not seasonally adjusted | Seasonally adjusted | | Not seasonally adjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Not seasonally adjusted | Seasonally adjusted | | |
| ANNUAL DATA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1988 | 4.0 | (X) | 5.9 | (X) | 4.7 | August | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.4 | 4.8 | 4.2 |
| 1989 | 4.3 | (X) | 6.5 | (X) | 5.5 | September | 3.2 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 4.7 | 4.2 |
| 1990 | 4.5 | (X) | 7.8 | (X) | 5.7 | October | 3.4 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 4.7 | 4.0 |
| 1991 | 4.4 | (X) | 6.8 | (X) | 6.9 | November | 3.8 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 3.9 |
| 1992 | 3.5 | (X) | 5.2 | (X) | 6.3 | December | 3.8 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 4.3 |
| 1993 | 3.6 | (X) | 4.4 | (X) | 4.6 | 1998 | | | | | |
| 1994 | 3.8 | (X) | 4.9 | (X) | 4.1 | January | 4.3 | 3.7 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 4.9 |
| 1995 | 4.3 | (X) | 5.3 | (X) | 5.5 | February | 4.2 | 3.8 | 5.3 | 4.8 | 5.3 |
| 1996 | 4.2 | (X) | 4.8 | (X) | 4.6 | March | 3.6 | 3.5 | 5.1 | 4.6 | 5.8 |
| 1997 | 3.7 | (X) | 4.9 | (X) | 4.3 | April | 3.9 | 3.8 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 5.9 |
| 1998 | 3.5 | (X) | 4.0 | (X) | 5.0 | May | 2.7 | 2.7 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 5.5 |
| | | | | | | June | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 4.1 | 5.3 |
| MONTHLY DATA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1996 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 4.7 | 4.1 | 5.5 | 5.1 | 5.7 | July | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 5.1 |
| February | 4.5 | 3.9 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 5.7 | August | 3.1 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 5.2 |
| March | 4.4 | 4.4 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 5.5 | September | 3.5 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 5.2 |
| April | 4.2 | 4.0 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 5.7 | October | 3.1 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.8 |
| May | 4.4 | 4.5 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 5.8 | November | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| June | 4.3 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 5.4 | December | 3.8 | 3.6 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| July | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 1999 | | | | | |
| August | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.4 | 4.8 | 5.0 | January | 3.3 | 2.8 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 5.1 |
| September | 4.1 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 4.8 | February | 4.0 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 5.1 |
| October | 4.0 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 4.4 | March | 3.1 | 3.1 | 4.4 | 3.9 | 5.0 |
| November | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.6 | April | 3.6 | 3.4 | 4.2 | 4.0 | 4.8 |
| December | 4.4 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.6 | May | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 4.8 | 4.2 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 4.9 | June | 3.1 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 3.9 |
| February | 4.5 | 4.1 | 5.3 | 4.8 | 4.8 | July | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 4.2 |
| March | 3.9 | 3.8 | 5.4 | 4.8 | 4.8 | August ^r | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 4.4 |
| April | 4.1 | 4.1 | 5.2 | 4.8 | 4.6 | September ^r | 3.0 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 4.1 |
| May | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.7 | October ^r | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 4.4 |
| June | 2.7 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 4.7 | 4.6 | November ^p | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.5 |
| July | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.3 | 4.7 | 4.6 | AVERAGE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Annual ... (percent) .. | 3 | (X) | 5 | (X) | 7 |
| | | | | | | Monthly ... (percent) .. | 11 | 11 | 6 | 6 | 13 |

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. X Not applicable.