# U.S. Census Bureau News Joint Release U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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# **NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION IN FEBRUARY 2012**

The U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development jointly announced the following new residential construction statistics for February 2012:

## **BUILDING PERMITS**

Privately-owned housing units authorized by building permits in February were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 717,000. This is 5.1 percent ( $\pm$ 1.2%) above the revised January rate of 682,000 and is 34.3 percent ( $\pm$ 3.1%) above the February 2011 estimate of 534,000.

Single-family authorizations in February were at a rate of 472,000; this is 4.9 percent ( $\pm 1.2\%$ ) above the revised January figure of 450,000. Authorizations of units in buildings with five units or more were at a rate of 219,000 in February.

## HOUSING STARTS

Privately-owned housing starts in February were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 698,000. This is 1.1 percent  $(\pm 15.9\%)^*$  below the revised January estimate of 706,000, but is 34.7 percent  $(\pm 16.7\%)$  above the February 2011 rate of 518,000.

Single-family housing starts in February were at a rate of 457,000; this is 9.9 percent  $(\pm 11.4\%)^*$  below the revised January figure of 507,000. The February rate for units in buildings with five units or more was 233,000.

## HOUSING COMPLETIONS

Privately-owned housing completions in February were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 568,000. This is 6.2 percent  $(\pm 15.8\%)^*$  above the revised January estimate of 535,000, but is 7.0 percent  $(\pm 14.1\%)^*$  below the February 2011 rate of 611,000.

Single-family housing completions in February were at a rate of 421,000; this is 8.2 percent  $(\pm 18.9\%)^*$  above the revised January rate of 389,000. The February rate for units in buildings with five units or more was 144,000.

## New Residential Construction data for March 2012 will be released on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, at 8:30 A.M. EDT. Our Internet site is:

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

http://www.census.gov/newresconst

In interpreting changes in the statistics in this release, note that month-to-month changes in seasonally adjusted statistics often show movements which may be irregular. It may take 2 months to establish an underlying trend for building permit authorizations, 4 months for total starts, and 5 months for total completions. The statistics in this release are estimated from sample surveys and are subject to sampling variability as well as nonsampling error including bias and variance from response, nonreporting, and undercoverage. Estimated relative standard errors of the most recent data are shown in the tables. Whenever a statement such as "2.5 percent ( $\pm 3.2\%$ ) 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. If it does contain zero, the change is not 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. On average, the preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates of total building permits, housing starts and housing completions are revised about three percent or less. 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 Privately-Owned Housing Units Authorized in Permit-Issuing Places

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

		ļ,		States		Northeast		Midwest		Sou	uth	West	
	Period		In st	tructures wi									
		Total	1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total 97 124 126 139 141 133 144 130 131 160 154 125 141 2 12.8% ±1.8 45.4% ±2.9 128.2 131.9 2 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% ±2.9 128.2 131.9 2 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% ±2.5 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 11.4 10.9 13.9 11.4 10.5 8.2 10.8	1 u
						Sea	sonally adju	isted annua	l rate			$97 \\ 124 \\ 126 \\ 139 \\ 141 \\ 133 \\ 144 \\ 130 \\ 131 \\ 160 \\ 154 \\ 125 \\ 141 \\ 2 \\ 128 \\ 45.4\% \\ \pm 2.9 \\ 128.2 \\ 131.9 \\ 2 \\ 14.3 \\ 19.0 \\ 1 \\ 32.8\% \\ \pm 2.5 \\ 7.1 \\ 11.6 \\ 11.2 \\ 12.8 \\ 14.4 \\ 10.9 \\ 10.9 \\ 10.$	
	-												
:011:	February March	534 574	382 392	15 16	137 166	63 60	39 37	86 94	59 64	288 296			
		574	572	10	100	00	57	74	04	270	215	Total 97 124 126 139 141 133 144 130 131 160 154 125 141 2 128% ±1.8 45.4% ±2.9 128.2 131.9 2 143 19.0 1 32.8% ±2.5 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 1.4 10.9 13.9 1.4 10.5 8.2 10.8	
	April	563	395	21	147	59	38	94	64	284	210	126	
	May	609	406	20	183	80	36	97	67	293	218	Total 97 124 126 139 141 133 144 130 131 160 154 125 141 2 12.8% $\pm 1.8$ 45.4% $\pm 2.9$ 128.2 131.9 2 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% $\pm 2.5$ 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% $\pm 2.5$ 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% $\pm 2.5$ 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% $\pm 2.5$ 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% $\pm 2.5$ 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 14.3 19.0 1 32.8% $\pm 2.5$ 7.1 11.6 11.2 12.8 14.4 10.9 13.9 14.5 14	
	June	617	402	21	194	71	35	99	68	306	217	141	
	July	601	403	21	177	60	37	96	68	312	214	133	
	August	625	418	25	182	61	34	107	74	313	224	144	
	September	589	413	20	156	64	36	107	74	288	221	130	
	October	644	428	23	193	61	39	107	71	345	232	131	
	November	680	436	23	223	77	41	107	70	339	232	$\begin{array}{c} 97\\ 124\\ 126\\ 139\\ 141\\ 133\\ 144\\ 130\\ 154\\ 125\\ 141\\ 2\\ 125\\ 141\\ 2\\ 125\\ 141\\ 2\\ 128\\ 141\\ 2\\ 128\\ 141\\ 2\\ 128\\ 141\\ 2\\ 128\\ 141\\ 190\\ 1\\ 1\\ 32.8\%\\ \pm 2.9\\ 128.2\\ 131.9\\ 2\\ 14.3\\ 19.0\\ 1\\ 32.8\%\\ \pm 2.5\\ 7.1\\ 11.6\\ 11.2\\ 12.8\\ 14.4\\ 10.9\\ 13.9\\ 11.4\\ 10.1\\ 11.3\\ 11.3\\ 10.1\\ 11.3\\ 11.3\\ 10.1\\ 10.1\\ 11.3\\ 10.1\\ 10.1\\ 11.3\\ 10.1\\ 10.1\\ 10.1\\ 11.3\\ 10.1\\ 1$	
	December	671	441	24	206	72	37	107	75	338	238	154	
)12:	January (r)	682	450	20	212	77	35	102	73	378	247	125	
	February (p)	717	472	26	219	88	44	117	75	371			
vera	ge RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>	1	1	9	1	3	3	2	2	1	1	2	
erce	nt Change:		4.004	20.00/	2.24	1400	25.50		2.5%	1.00/		12.004	
	February 2012 from January 2012	5.1%	4.9%	30.0%	3.3%	14.3%	25.7%	14.7%	2.7%	-1.9%			-3
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>3</sup>	±1.2	±1.2	± 8.0	±2.7	± 3.6	±5.4	±6.7	± 8.0	±1.7			±
	February 2012 from February 2011	34.3%	23.6%	73.3%	59.9%	39.7%	12.8%	36.0%	27.1%	28.8%			22
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>3</sup>	± 3.1	±1.1	±11.9	±11.6	± 7.1	± 10.7	± 8.0 ally adjuste	± 9.6	±4.6	± 5.4	±2.9	±
)10: )11:	(r)	604.6 610.7	447.3 413.6	22.0 20.7	135.3 176.4	73.8 67.2	49.1 38.4	103.5 101.0	75.4 69.8	299.1 310.6	232.3 221.7		:
SE (	%)	1	1	4	(Z)	3	3	1	1	1	1	2	
	2												
	Year to Date <sup>2</sup>	73.4	53.0	2.4	18.0	8.4	5.1	8.7	6.0	42.0			
12:	Year to Date <sup>2</sup>	98.6	64.5	3.2	30.9	10.6	4.8	11.3	7.7	57.7	39.2	19.0	
SE (1	%)	1	1	10	(Z)	5	3	2	2	1	1	1	
	Year to Date Percent Change <sup>4</sup>	34.3%	21.7%	33.3%	71.8%	26.3%	-5.4%	30.0%	27.2%	37.4%	209       1         210       1         210       1         211       1         212       1         214       1         214       1         214       1         213       1         214       1         221       1         232       1         236       1         237       12.8         247       1         261       1         1       2         232.3       12.8 $\pm 2.0$ $\pm 1$ 24.9%       45.8 $\pm 5.4$ $\pm 2$ 232.3       12.2         232.3       12.2         232.3       12.4         232.3       12.2         1       1         39.2       1         1       1         31.2       1         1       1         39.2       1         19.2       1         21.3       1         18.3       1         16.3       1         18.3       1	32.8%	19
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>3</sup>	± 2.5	±1.5	$\pm 22.2$	±6.0	± 9.5	±14.1	±5.4	±6.5	$\pm 3.0$	± 3.6	$\pm 2.5$	±
11:	February	37.2	26.5	1.0	9.7	3.6	2.0	4.5	3.3	22.0	15.9	7.1	
	March	53.7	37.6	1.4	14.7	4.7	3.0	8.0	6.0	29.4			
	A1	10.0	260	1.0		10			6.0		10.0		
	April May	49.9 56.3	36.9 39.2	1.8 1.8	11.2 15.3	4.9 7.2	3.3 3.5	9.0 9.6	6.8 7.1	24.8 26.6			
	June	62.4	40.9	2.0	19.6	8.2	3.6	9.9	7.3	29.9		$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	
	July August	51.2 60.9	35.3 40.8	1.8 2.5	14.2 17.6	5.0 5.8	3.3 3.3	8.9 11.1	6.3 7.6	26.5 30.1			
	September	51.8	35.6	1.8	14.5	5.8	3.5	10.3	6.8	24.3			
	October	50.5	33.6	1.9	15.0	5.6	3.4	9.9	6.4	24.9	17.2	10.1	
	November	50.3	30.9	1.9	13.0	6.3	3.4	8.3	5.2	24.9			
	December	49.9	29.1	1.7	19.1	5.6	2.7	7.0	4.1	25.8		$126$ $139$ $141$ $133$ $144$ $130$ $131$ $160$ $154$ $125$ $141$ $2$ $12.8\%$ $\pm 1.8$ $45.4\%$ $\pm 2.9$ $128.2$ $131.9$ $2$ $14.3$ $19.0$ $1$ $32.8\%$ $\pm 2.5$ $7.1$ $11.6$ $11.2$ $12.8$ $14.4$ $10.9$ $13.9$ $11.4$ $10.1$ $11.3$	
)12:	January (r)	46.3	29.9	1.3	15.1	4.8	2.2	5.0	3.3	28.4	18.3	8.2	
	February (p)	52.3	34.6	1.8	15.8	5.9	2.6	6.3	4.4	29.3	20.9	10.8	
vera	ge RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>	1	1	9	1	3	3	2	2	1	1	2	

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards. X Not applicable. Z Relative standard error is less than 0.5 percent.

<sup>1</sup>Average RSE for the latest 6-month period. <sup>2</sup>Reflects revisions not distributed to months.

<sup>3</sup> See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

<sup>4</sup> Computed using unrounded data.

## Table 2. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Authorized, but Not Started, at End of Period

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

			United States			North	neast	Midwest		South		West	
	Period		In structures with										
	i chidu			2 to 4	5 units								
		Total	1 unit	units	or more	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
							Not season	ally adjusted	1				
2011:	February	79.3	46.3	2.0	30.9	11.0	7.6	6.9	4.8	38.8	23.7	22.6	10.3
	March	81.9	48.6	1.8	31.5	10.1	7.3	8.3	6.0	38.8	24.6	24.6	10.7
	April	81.8	48.2	2.1	31.5	9.7	6.8	8.8	6.9	38.5	23.9	24.8	10.6
	May	82.6	47.6	1.8	33.2	11.1	6.5	7.9	6.0	39.4	24.3	24.2	10.8
	June	84.7	45.5	1.7	37.5	11.7	6.2	5.7	4.5	42.4	23.5	24.9	11.2
	July	00.7	12.4	1.0	25.5		5.0		1.0	12.2	22.6	22.1	
	August	80.7 87.4	43.4 45.5	1.9 2.5	35.5 39.4	8.3 8.7	5.8 5.9	6.2 7.8	4.2 5.9	43.2 46.2	23.6 23.6	23.1 24.8	9.8 10.1
	September	87.4 79.9	45.5 45.0	2.5 3.5	39.4 31.4	8.7 8.9	5.9	7.8 7.9	5.9 5.9	40.2 41.6	23.8	24.8 21.5	9.5
	eepenieer .	1).)	45.0	5.5	51.4	0.7	5.0	1.9	5.7	41.0	25.0	21.5	2.5
	October	75.3	42.8	3.0	29.5	8.0	5.6	7.0	4.9	39.9	22.8	20.3	9.4
	November	73.8	43.6	3.1	27.1	6.8	4.9	8.9	6.9	39.8	22.4	18.3	9.4
	December (r)	78.1	42.3	2.4	33.3	7.8	4.9	6.2	3.9	43.3	23.3	20.9	10.3
2012:	January (r)	76.7	41.0	1.9	33.9	8.1	5.0	5.6	3.7	43.1	22.2	20.0	10.1
	February (p)	80.5	44.7	2.3	33.5	9.8	5.1	6.2	4.0	43.0	24.7	21.6	10.9
Avera	ge RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>	5	7	19	9	15	18	15	17	7	9	12	17
Perce	nt Change: <sup>2</sup>												
	February 2012 from January 2012	5.0%	9.2%	22.8%	-1.1%	21.6%	2.5%	12.2%	8.2%	-0.3%	11.5%	7.6%	7.7%
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>3</sup>	± 5.7	±4.7	$\pm 30.4$	±11.1	$\pm 16.4$	$\pm 12.5$	$\pm 15.8$	±21.7	$\pm 8.7$	±6.1	$\pm 8.0$	$\pm 5.7$
	February 2012 from February 2011	1.6%	-3.5%	13.9%	8.4%	-10.9%	-32.7%	-9.3%	-15.6%	10.8%	4.4%	-4.8%	5.4%
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>3</sup>	± 8.5	$\pm 8.3$	± 42.3	± 18.1	±14.8	± 12.5	± 22.1	$\pm 26.5$	±12.8	$\pm 12.0$	± 18.1	$\pm 16.9$

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards.

<sup>1</sup>Average RSE for the latest 6-month period. <sup>2</sup> Computed using unrounded data.

<sup>3</sup> See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

Note: These data represent the number of housing units authorized in all months up to and including the last day of the reporting period and not started as of that date without regard to the months of original permit issuance. Cancelled, abandoned, expired, and revoked permits are excluded.

#### Table 3. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Started

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

		ļ,	United			North	heast	Mid	west	So	uth	W	est
	Period		In s	tructures wi									
		Total	1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 uni
						Sea	sonally adju	isted annua	l rate				
2011:	February March	518 593	388 418	(S)	112 164	55 61	34 38	63 81	61 68	310 337	221 229		72 83
	watch	595	418	(S)	164	61	28	81	08	557	229	114	63
	April	549	411	(S)	124	60	47	96	65	274	221	119	78
	May	553	416	(S)	131	56	38	99	72	264	221	134	85
	June	615	449	(S)	160	68	38	126	85	288	239	133	87
	July	615	430	(S)	176	85	40	90	74	306	227	134	89
	August	585	425	(S)	153	57	36	86	51	301	246	141	92
	September	646	422	(S)	218	59	41	98	75	327	219	$\begin{array}{c} 90\\ 114\\ 119\\ 134\\ 133\\ 134\\ 141\\ 162\\ 132\\ 167\\ 125\\ 135\\ 127\\ 11\\ .$	87
	October	628	437	(S)	175	64	41	110	78	322	235	132	83
	November	702	458	(S)	235	96	55	96	72	343	239		92
	December (r)	681	505	(S)	152	62	44	167	127	327	248	125	86
2012:	January (r)	706	507	(S)	181	73	44	100	79	398	288	135	96
	February (p)	698	457	(S)	233	64	49	103	90	404	238	127	80
Avera	e RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>	6	5	(X)	15	16	14	12	11	8	6	11	10
	nt Change:												
Ferce	nt Change: February 2012 from January 2012	-1.1%	-9.9%	(S)	28.7%	-12.3%	11.4%	3.0%	13.9%	1.5%	-17.4%	-5.9%	-16.7%
		±15.9	±11.4	(X)	± 57.6	±41.3	± 37.1	±31.7	± 44.3	±23.3	± 12.4		±24.1
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup>	34.7%	17.8%		108.0%		44.1%	63.5%		30.3%	7.7%		11.1%
	February 2012 from February 2011	± 16.7	± 10.9	(S)	± 88.0	<b>16.4%</b> ± 67.3		± 54.7	<b>47.5%</b> ±46.8	±21.1	± 10.6		±35.4
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup>	±10.7	± 10.9	(X)	± 00.0		± 77.2 Not season			±21.1	± 10.0	140.0	± 33.4
2010		586.9	471.2	11.4	104.3	71.6	52.3	97.9	79.2	297.5	247.1	110.0	92.6
2010: 2011:	(r)	608.8	471.2	11.4	167.3	67.7	41.2	100.9	79.2	307.8	247.1		92.0 85.7
RSE (	%)	1	1	14	3	4	4	2	3	2	2	2	2
2011	Year to Date	75.7	53.3	2.0	20.4	8.9	4.3	8.6	6.5	44.0	31.3	14.1	11.2
	Year to Date	94.6	64.5	1.7	28.4	8.3	5.2	10.3	8.0	58.1	39.3		12.0
RSE (S	%)	4	3	24	9	12	14	10	10	5	3	8	7
	Year to Date Percent Change <sup>3</sup>	25.1%	21.1%	-13.7%	39.2%	-7.5%	21.9%	19.5%	22.8%	32.1%	25.5%	27.2%	7.6%
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup>	$\pm 8.8$	±6.7	± 74.8	$\pm 30.7$	±22.9	±31.3	±22.8	±23.2	±13.1	± 7.2	±25.1	±17.1
2011:	February	35.4	26.6	1.2	7.6	3.1	1.7	3.1	2.9	22.8	16.8	65	5.2
	March	49.9	36.3	0.9	12.6	5.0	3.2	5.9	4.9	29.2	20.8		7.4
	A1	10.0			10.0					24.0	20.6	90 114 119 134 133 134 141 162 132 167 125 135 <b>127</b> 11 $\pm 31.5$ <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 <b>41.1%</b> $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 132.5 13.5 14.1 17.9 132.5 13.5 12.7 11.5 13.5 12.7 13.5 13.5 12.7 13.5 12.7 13.5 12.7 13.5 13.5 12.7 13.5 12.7 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.1 13.0 13.1 13.0 13.1 13.0 12.7 13.4 14.6 13.1 13.0 12.7 13.4 14.6 13.6 13.1 13.0	
	April May	49.0 54.0	37.7 40.9	1.1 0.6	10.2 12.5	5.2 5.6	4.2 3.9	8.3 10.8	5.7 8.2	24.9 24.5	20.6 20.4		7.2 8.5
	June	60.5	44.8	0.6	15.2	6.9	4.0	13.2	9.3	27.5	22.8		8.7
	July	57.6	41.0	0.8	15.8	8.0	4.0	9.1	7.7	27.7	20.6	127	8.7
	August	54.5	39.4	0.6	14.5	5.2	3.2	8.6	5.3	27.2	20.0		8.8
	September	58.8	37.3	0.6	20.9	5.2	3.5	9.5	7.2	29.4	19.0	14.6	7.5
	October	53.2	36.2	1.4	15.6	5.8	3.8	10.0	7.2	26.7	19.0	10.6	6.3
	November	53.0	32.7	0.7	19.6	7.6	4.2	7.2	5.3	25.7	17.0	114 119 134 133 134 141 162 132 167 125 135 <b>127</b> 11 -5.9% $\pm 31.5$ 41.1% $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 8 <b>27.2%</b> $\pm 25.1$ 6.5 9.8 10.6 13.1 13.0 12.7 13.4 14.6 10.6 12.6 7.9	6.3
	December (r)	42.7	31.0	1.6	10.1	4.2	3.0	9.7	7.0	20.9	15.6	114 119 134 133 134 134 134 135 125 135 127 11 -5.9% $\pm 31.5$ 41.1% $\pm 45.8$ 119.9 132.5 2 14.1 17.9 8 27.2% $\pm 25.1$ 6.5 9.8 10.6 13.1 13.0 12.7 13.4 14.6 10.6 12.6	5.3
2017	January (r)	46.5	33.0	1.2	12.3	4.6	2.6	5.1	3.6	28.2	20.7	8.7	6.1
2012:													
2012:	February (p)	48.1	31.5	0.5	16.1	3.7	2.6	5.3	4.4	30.0	18.5	9.2	5.9

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards. X Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

 $^{2}$  See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

<sup>3</sup> Computed using unrounded data.

## Table 4. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Under Construction at End of Period

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

			United	States		North	heast	Mid	west	So	uth	W	est
	Period		In structures with										
	Tenda			2 to 4	5 units								
		Total	1 unit	units	or more	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
							Seasonal	ly adjusted					
2011:	February	423	252	(S)	160	99	38	66	47	171	113	87	54
	March	420	252	(S)	156	99	37	66	47	169	114	86	54
	April	418	250	(S)	157	96	38	67	45	169	114	86	53
	May	415	236	(S)	157	94	36	66	45	170	114		51
	June	415	245	(S)	160	92	35	66	45	170	114	87	5
	July	417	243	(S)	164	95	35	66	46	166	110	90	52
	August	411	238	(S)	163	93	33	61	43	166	111	91	5
	September	418	238	(S)	171	91	34	63	44	169	110	95	50
	October	421	235	(S)	176	88	34	65	44	171	108		49
	November December (r)	433	237	(S)	186	92	35	66	44	174	109		49
	December (I)	434	236	(S)	188	91	35	68	46	174	107	101	48
2012:	January (r)	439	240	(S)	188	89	36	68	46	179	110	103	48
				(-)									
	February (p)	444	242	<b>(S)</b>	191	87	36	67	46	186	112	4     85       4     87       0     90       1     91       0     95       8     97       9     101       7     101       0     103       2     104       4     6       %     ±2.3       %     ±9.5%       1     ±11.9       3     84.3       4     83.7       0     86.1       6     86.3       8     92.9	48
Avera	ge RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>	3	4	(X)	4	7	8	6	8	4	4	6	9
Perce	ent Change:												
	February 2012 from January 2012	1.1%	0.8%	(S)	1.6%	-2.2%	0.0%	-1.5%	0.0%	3.9%	1.8%	1.0%	0.0%
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup>	± 1.3	$\pm 1.4$	(X)	± 2.5	±2.7	± 2.5	±1.7	±1.9	±2.4	±1.8	+ 2.3	± 3.5
	February 2012 from February 2011	5.0%	-4.0%	(S)	19.4%	-12.1%	-5.3%	1.5%	-2.1%	8.8%	-0.9%		-11.1%
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup>	±4.8	±4.6	(X)	±11.1	$\pm 8.4$	± 9.1	± 8.3	±13.1	± 7.9	± 7.1	±11.9	± 5.9
							Not season	ally adjusted	1				
2011.	February	100.0	<b>2</b> 20 /		150.4	0.5.5	260		12.0	1.55.0	100.0		
2011.	March	408.2 410.6	238.4 243.6	11.4 11.9	158.4 155.0	96.5 97.2	36.0 35.9	61.6 62.3	42.8 43.1	165.8 167.4	108.3 112.4		51.3 52.1
	mach	410.0	243.0	11.9	155.0	91.2	55.9	02.5	45.1	107.4	112.4	65.7	52.1
	April	414.9	246.7	11.5	156.7	95.0	36.7	65.0	43.1	168.9	114.0	86.1	52.8
	May	419.6	249.7	11.0	158.8	94.7	36.3	65.9	44.9	172.7	116.6	86.3	51.9
	June	426.2	253.4	10.2	162.6	93.9	35.8	68.7	47.5	174.5	117.8	89.1	52.4
	July	428.7	253.9	9.9	164.9	96.5	36.0	68.5	48.8	170.8	114.8		54.3
	August	424.7	250.6	9.8	164.3	94.8	34.4	65.2	46.8	170.8	115.5		53.9
	September	429.1	248.2	9.3	171.7	92.1	34.7	66.3	47.3	172.7	113.8	98.0	52.4
	October	429.5	241.6	9.8	178.2	89.9	35.0	67.7	46.3	173.4	109.9	98.5	50.3
	November	433.3	234.9	9.9	188.5	93.6	35.3	66.2	44.2	172.9	107.4	100.7	48.1
	December (r)	417.7	221.6	10.3	185.9	89.6	34.1	66.1	44.1	165.1	99.1	96.9	44.4
2012.	January (r)	424.9	227.9	10.5	196.5	97 /	24.6	65.2	12 6	172.4	104.0	14       85         14       87         10       90         11       91         10       95         08       97         09       101         07       101         10       103         12       104         4       6 $96$ 1.0% $\pm 2.3$ 19.5% $4$ 6 $8.3$ 84.3         8.4       83.7         4.0       86.1         5.6       86.3         8.8       92.9         5.5       93.9         9.8.8       98.0         9.9       98.5         7.4       100.7         9.6       99.9	15 4
2012.		424.8			186.5	87.4	34.6	65.2	43.6	172.4	104.0		45.0
	February (p)	430.2	229.8	10.7	189.7	85.3	34.6	63.6	42.7	179.6	106.6	101.7	46.0
	ge RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>	3	4	10	4	7	8	6	8	4	4	6	9

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards. X Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

 $^2$  See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

#### Table 5. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Completed

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

			United	States		North	heast	Mid	west	So	uth	W	est
	Period		In s	tructures wi									
		Total	1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
						Sea	sonally adju	isted annua	l rate				
2011.	February	611	482	(5)	121	69	52	06	79	325	250	121	101
2011.	March	611 597	482 374	(S) (S)	121 215	69 69	52 42	96 94	65	325 342	250 198	92	101 69
	April May	543 549	426 441	(S) (S)	100 103	67 69	41 54	98 106	76 74	277 243	226 214	101	83 99
	June	574	441	(S)	103	83	49	111	74	243	214	99	99 84
	July August	641 621	487 481	(S) (S)	145 136	68 65	49 50	116 123	78 80	355 296	276 243		84 108
	September	608	431	(S)	171	99	32	93	68	301	245	115	92
	October November	576 569	445 451	(S) (S)	124 114	88 50	36 41	94 93	82 76	283 307	238 233		89 101
	December (r)	599	458	(S)	132	78	39	104	78	294	233	123	97
	•												
2012:	January (r)	535	389	(S)	138	90	38	84	61	279	218	82	72
	February (p)	568	421	( <b>S</b> )	144	85	39	105	83	273	215	105	84
Averas	ge RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>	7	6	(X)	19	24	17	13	13	7	8	11	11
Perce	nt Change:	6.2%	8.2%	(5)	1 20/	-5.6%	2.6%	25.0%	36.1%	-2.2%	1 40/	28.0%	16.7%
	February 2012 from January 2012	6.2% ±15.8	8.2% ±18.9	(S) (X)	<b>4.3%</b> ± 32.7	-3.0% ±39.6	±42.6	±31.2	±41.2	-2.2% ±20.4	-1.4% ±23.8		± 25.4
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup> February 2012 from February 2011	±15.8	± 18.9	(A) (S)	± 32.7 19.0%	± 39.0 23.2%	±42.0	±31.2 9.4%	±41.2 5.1%	±20.4	±25.0		±25.4
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup>	±14.1	± 12.6	(3) (X)	± 55.0	± 74.3	±41.5	± 39.0	± 37.4	±14.5	-14.0%		±21.5
	90% Confidence Interval	-14.1	±12.0	(11)	100.0			ally adjuste		14.5	±14.2	±24.0	221.5
2010: 2011:	(r)	651.7 584.9	496.3 446.6	8.9 8.4	146.5 129.9	80.4 72.5	54.0 44.0	106.9 103.0	81.9 75.9	316.7 295.5	257.6 235.6	147.7	102.8 91.2
RSE (9	%)	2	2	18	7	5	4	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Year to Date	77.0	61.3	1.0	14.7	8.6	6.1	12.7	10.3	40.4	32.9	15.2	12.0
2012:	Year to Date	75.3	54.6	0.8	19.9	11.7	4.8	12.8	9.6	38.5	30.0	12.2	10.1
RSE (%	%)	5	5	27	12	19	16	8	9	5	7	11	10
	Year to Date Percent Change <sup>3</sup>	-2.3%	-11.0%	-16.4%	35.1%	35.6%	-21.7%	1.0%	-6.2%	-4.8%	-8.7%	-19.6%	-16.1%
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>2</sup>	±9.8	± 8.7	± 70.3	±38.2	± 50.7	±26.1	± 22.7	±23.3	±10.6	±10.2	±18.8	±17.4
2011:	February	42.0	32.9	0.5	8.5	4.4	3.2	6.4	5.2	23.1	17.8	8.1	6.7
	March	43.8	28.2	0.5	15.1	4.5	2.6	6.5	4.5	25.4	15.3	7.4	5.8
	April	42.2	33.3	1.3	7.7	5.2	3.2	7.4	5.7	21.9	18.0	7.7	6.3
	May	45.4	36.6	0.4	8.4	5.6	4.4	8.7	6.1	20.0	17.6	11.1	8.4
	June	50.5	39.7	1.4	9.4	7.5	4.5	9.6	6.3	24.6	21.4	8.8	7.4
	July	53.6	40.2	0.8	12.6	5.8	4.2	9.7	6.4	29.6	22.7	8.5	6.9
	August	57.3	42.1	0.5	14.7	6.3	4.6	11.8	7.1	26.9	21.1	12.4	9.3
	September	54.7	38.4	0.9	15.3	8.9	2.9	8.6	6.4	26.5	20.6	10.7	8.6
	Öctober	52.1	41.3	0.5	10.3	7.7	3.4	9.0	8.0	25.6	21.9	9.8	8.0
	November	50.1	40.7	0.4	9.0	4.7	4.1	8.8	7.5	26.0	20.1	10.5	9.1
	December (r)	58.3	44.8	0.8	12.6	7.8	4.0	10.0	7.6	28.6	23.8	$121 \\ 92 \\ 101 \\ 131 \\ 99 \\ 102 \\ 137 \\ 115 \\ 111 \\ 119 \\ 123 \\ 82 \\ 105 \\ 11 \\ 28.0\% \\ \pm 32.2 \\ -13.2\% \\ \pm 24.6 \\ 147.7 \\ 113.9 \\ 3 \\ 15.2 \\ 12.2 \\ 11 \\ -19.6\% \\ \pm 18.8 \\ 8.1 \\ 7.4 \\ 7.7 \\ 11.1 \\ 8.8 \\ 8.5 \\ 12.4 \\ 10.7 \\ 9.8 \\ 10.5 \\ 11.9 \\ 5.4 \\ 10.5 \\ 11.9 \\ 10.5 \\ 10$	9.4
2012:	January (r)	36.3	26.0	0.6	9.8	5.9	2.3	5.8	4.1	19.2	14.9	5.4	4.7
	February (p)	38.9	28.6	0.2	10.1	5.8	2.5	7.1	5.5	19.2	15.1	6.8	5.4
	1	7	6	45	19	24	17	13	13	7	8	11	11
Avera	ge RSE (%) <sup>1</sup>												

(p) Prelminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards. X Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

 $^{2}$  See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

<sup>3</sup> Computed using unrounded data.