



## PRESS RELEASE



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### September Housing Starts

**OTTAWA, Ontario, October 08, 2009** — The seasonally adjusted annual rate<sup>1</sup> of housing starts reached 150,100 units in September compared to 157,300 units in August, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

“The decline in housing starts in September is attributable to the volatile multiple starts segment,” said Bob Dugan, Chief Economist at CMHC’s Market Analysis Centre. “However, starts of single homes, which are a barometer of the trend in housing markets, climbed in September to reach their highest level so far this year. The rebound in existing home sales and the upward trend in new home construction, support our expectation that housing demand has strengthened and that housing starts will be stronger in the second half of 2009.”

The seasonally adjusted annual rate of urban starts declined by 5.2 per cent to 131,500 units in September. Urban multiple starts decreased by 21.4 per cent to 62,700 units, while urban single starts moved up 16.8 per cent to 68,800 units in September.

September’s seasonally adjusted annual rate of urban starts increased by 11.8 per cent in Ontario, decreased by 20.2 per cent in Quebec, by 18.1 per cent in British Columbia, and by 4.7 per cent in the Atlantic, and was unchanged in the Prairies.

Rural starts were estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 18,600 units in September<sup>2</sup>.

As Canada’s national housing agency, CMHC draws on more than 60 years of experience to help Canadians access a variety of quality, environmentally sustainable and affordable homes. CMHC also provides reliable, impartial and up-to-date housing market reports, analysis and knowledge to support and assist consumers and the housing industry in making vital decisions.

For more information, call 1-800-668-2642.

<sup>1</sup> All starts figures in this release, other than actual starts, are seasonally adjusted annual rates (SAAR) — that is, monthly figures adjusted to remove normal seasonal variation and multiplied by 12 to reflect annual levels.

<sup>2</sup> CMHC estimates the level of rural starts for each of the three months of the quarter, at the beginning of each quarter. During the last month of the quarter, CMHC conducts the survey in rural areas and revises the estimate.

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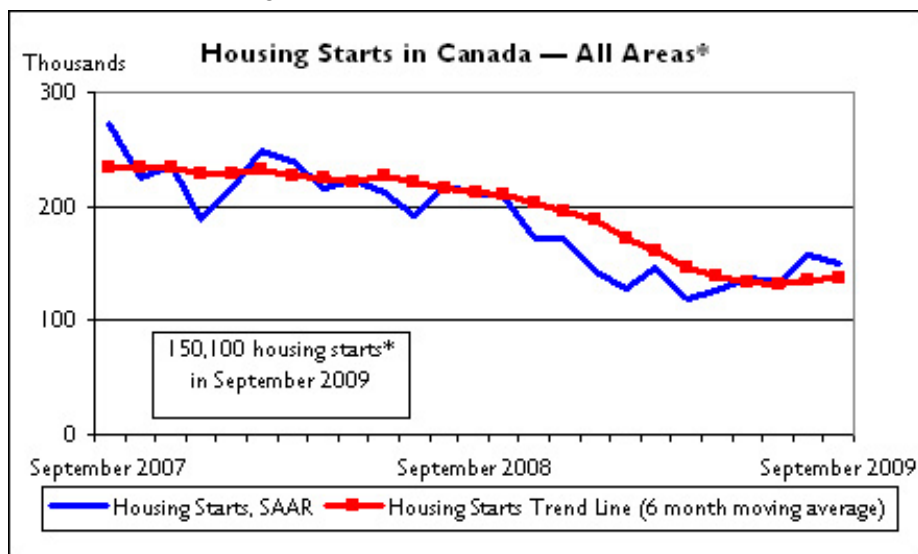
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### Housing Starts, Actual and SAAR\*

	Actual		SAAR	
	September 2008	September 2009	August 2009	September 2009
	Final	Preliminary	Final	Preliminary
<b>Canada, all areas</b>	20,179	14,801	157,300	150,100
Canada, rural areas	2,518	1,777	18,600	18,600
Canada, urban centres**	17,661	13,024	138,700	131,500
Canada, singles, urban centres	6,309	6,741	58,900	68,800

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Canada, multiples, urban centres	11,352	6,283	79,800	62,700
Atlantic region, urban centres	1,030	970	8,500	8,100
Quebec, urban centres	3,575	3,169	43,600	34,800
Ontario, urban centres	7,305	4,798	43,200	48,300
Prairie region, urban centres	2,625	2,620	26,300	26,300
British Columbia, urban centres	3,126	1,467	17,100	14,000