



PRESS RELEASE



Canadian Mortgage News - National Archive 2010

January Housing Starts

OTTAWA, Ontario, February 08, 2010 — The seasonally adjusted annual rate¹ of housing starts reached 186,300 units in January 2010. This is an increase from an annual rate of 176,100 units in December 2009, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). According to final figures, actual housing starts for 2009 totalled 149,081 units, with activity improving as the year progressed.

“Housing starts improved in both the singles and multiples segments in January,” said Bob Dugan, Chief Economist at CMHC’s Market Analysis Centre. “These increases are similar to the ones that occurred in December.”

The seasonally adjusted annual rate of urban starts increased by 4.4 per cent to 165,200 units in January. Urban multiple starts increased by 5.7 per cent to 76,300 units while single urban starts increased by 3.3 per cent to 88,900 units.

January’s seasonally adjusted annual rate of urban starts increased by 19.8 per cent in British Columbia, by 7.3 per cent in Quebec, by 2.3 per cent in Atlantic Canada, and by 1.5 per cent in the Ontario. In the Prairie region, the seasonally adjusted annual rate of urban starts decreased by 4.8 per cent.

Rural starts were estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 21,100 units in January².

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.

¹ 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.

² 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.

Information on this release:

Charles Sauriol
CMHC
Media Relations
613-748-2799
csauriol@cmhc-schl.gc.ca

Canadian Mortgage News - January Housing Starts

For regional starts information contact:

Atlantic provinces:

Alex MacDonald
 CMHC
 902-426-8964
amacdona@cmhc-schl.gc.ca

Quebec:

Kevin Hughes
 CMHC
 514-283-4488
khughes@cmhc-schl.gc.ca

Ontario:

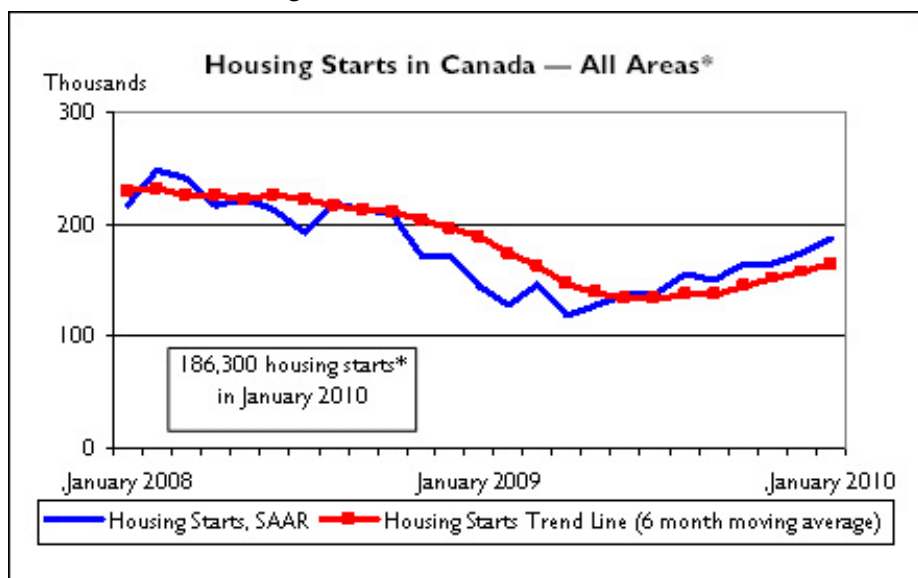
Ted Tsiakopoulos
 CMHC
 416-218-3407
ttsiakop@cmhc-schl.gc.ca

Prairie provinces:

Lai Sing Louie
 CMHC
 403-515-2991
llouie@cmhc-schl.gc.ca

British Columbia:

Robyn Adamache
 CMHC
 604-737-4144
radamach@cmhc-schl.gc.ca



| Housing Starts, Actual and SAAR* | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Actual | | SAAR | |
| | January 2009 | January 2010 | December 2009 | January 2010 |
| | Final | Preliminary | Final | Preliminary |
| Canada, all areas | 8,096 | 10,952 | 176,100 | 186,300 |
| Canada, rural areas | 787 | 734 | 17,800 | 21,100 |
| Canada, urban centres** | 7,309 | 10,218 | 158,300 | 165,200 |
| Canada, singles, urban centres | 2,605 | 4,723 | 86,100 | 88,900 |
| Canada, multiples, urban centres | 4,704 | 5,495 | 72,200 | 76,300 |

Canadian Mortgage News - January Housing Starts

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Atlantic region, urban centres | 355 | 424 | 8,800 | 9,000 |
| Quebec, urban centres | 1,997 | 2,911 | 45,100 | 48,400 |
| Ontario, urban centres | 2,892 | 3,330 | 52,500 | 53,300 |
| Prairie region, urban centres | 1,143 | 1,854 | 31,200 | 29,700 |
| British Columbia, urban centres | 922 | 1,699 | 20,700 | 24,800 |