



NEWS SERVICE

TO: All News Media #14-06
FROM: Darlene Breen, President
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614/228-6675 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 28, 2006
RE: Ohio's Home Sale Activity Report - January 2006

Home sales have gotten off to a solid start in 2006, with activity in January posting record marks, reports the Ohio Association of REALTORS®.

"Sales activity was solid in January, with consumers continuing to take advantage of favorable interest rates and an ample supply of housing in all price categories," said OAR President Darlene Breen. "We remain optimistic that Ohio's real estate market, which has posted five consecutive years of record-shattering sales, will continue to enjoy solid activity in 2006. However, we're fully aware that many housing experts are projecting that the trend of record sales levels is not expected to continue throughout the year."

Statewide sales of new and existing homes in January totaled 7,406, a 3.2 percent increase from the prior best-ever of 7,175 sales posted during the month a year ago.

The state's average sale price in January of \$147,915 marks a 0.9 percent increase from the \$146,531 average posted during the month a year ago. The total dollar volume of \$1.1 billion during January is 4.2 percent ahead of the \$1 billion level set in 2005.

The 35,000-member Ohio Association of REALTORS®, the largest professional trade organization in the state, calculates its home sale figures based on statistics provided by the Multiple Listing Services (MLS) throughout Ohio. Participating MLSes include: Ashland, Athens, Cincinnati, Columbus, Centralized Real Estate Information Services, Dayton, Firelands, Greater Portsmouth, Heartland, Knox, Lancaster, Licking, Mansfield, Marion, Northern Ohio Regional Multiple Listing Service, Scioto Valley, Toledo, West Central, Western Regional Information Systems & Technology and Zanesville. Figures include both new and existing home sales, including single-family and condominiums.

{NOTE: There might be a slight variance between the reported number of sales contained in this release and actual activity in the various markets due to OAR's early reporting requirement. Check with contacts in the particular market.}

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Statewide Totals

	<u>Sales</u>	<u>Average Price</u>
January '06	7,406	\$147,915
January '05	7,175	\$146,531
% Change	3.2%	0.9%

Local Market Activity Report

January

		<u>Sales</u>	<u>Avg. Price</u>
Ashland	2006	32	\$114,748
	2005	20	\$125,715
	% Change	60.0%	-8.7%
Athens	2006	32	\$99,182
	2005	24	\$95,740
	% Change	33.3%	3.6%
Cincinnati Area	2006	1,378	\$176,122
	2005	1,376	\$170,212
	% Change	0.1%	3.5%
Columbus Area	2006	1,346	\$172,267
	2005	1,252	\$167,888
	% Change	7.5%	2.6%
Centralized Regional Information Systems	2006	993	\$124,559
	2005	1,085	\$119,297
	% Change	-8.5%	4.4%
<i>(Summit, Portage, Trumbull, Stark, Mahoning, Columbiana, Carroll, Tuscarawas & part of Coshocton)</i>			
Dayton Area	2006	773	\$129,044
	2005	706	\$129,430
	% Change	9.5%	-0.3%
Firelands	2006	137	\$136,065
	2005	99	\$120,827
	% of Change	38.4%	12.6%
Greater Portsmouth	2006	32	\$75,550
	2005	27	\$67,383
	% of Change	-18.5%	12.1%
Heartland	2006	86	\$120,020
	2005	79	\$120,724
	% Change	8.9%	-0.6%
<i>(Hancock County)</i>			
Knox	2006	41	\$142,069
	2005	32	\$117,465
	% Change	28.1%	20.9%
Lancaster	2006	61	\$131,611
	2005	54	\$114,195
	% Change	13.0%	15.3%
Licking	2006	68	\$150,363
	2005	61	\$133,145
	% Change	11.5%	12.9%
Mansfield	2006	68	\$97,953
	2005	57	\$105,745
	% Change	19.3%	-7.4%
Marion	2006	55	\$74,914
	2005	49	\$92,126
	% Change	12.2%	-18.7%
Northern Ohio Regional MLS	2006	1,337	\$160,093
	2005	1,360	\$165,383
	% Change	-1.7%	-3.2%
<i>(Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Medina & Lorain)</i>			
Scioto Valley	2006	72	\$133,096
	2005	41	\$95,726
	% Change	75.6%	39.0%
Toledo Area	2006	460	\$121,482
	2005	420	\$129,113
	% Change	9.5%	-5.9%
Wayne Holmes	2006	42	\$122,792
	2005	54	\$129,487
	% Change	-22.2%	-5.2%
West Central/Lima	2006	89	\$79,515
	2005	62	\$100,208
	% Change	43.5%	-20.6%
Western Regional Information Systems & Technology	2006	242	\$106,717
	2005	247	\$103,526
	% Change	-2.0%	3.1%
<i>(Clark, Miami, Champaign, Logan, Shelby, Auglaize & Mercer)</i>			
Zanesville	2006	62	\$109,633
	2005	70	\$108,123
	% Change	-11.4%	1.4%

OAR Home Sales Stats/Add Two

For more information on home sales activity in a particular marketplace, contact one of the following Local Boards/Associations of REALTORS®:

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