



NEWS SERVICE

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RE: Ohio's Home Sale Activity Report - Year end 2006

Home sales activity throughout Ohio in 2006 fell just shy of the record-breaking results posted during the preceding year, reports the Ohio Association of REALTORS®.

"The overall performance of our housing market last year was, by any standard of measure, remarkable...as we were able to post our second-best activity levels ever in less than ideal conditions," said OAR President Pat O'Neil. "While we're disappointed that Ohio's housing market ended a five-year string of record sales levels, the good news is that the marketplace displayed tremendous resiliency with robust sales and solid price retention."

"With favorable interest rates, a solid supply of housing in all price categories and improving housing affordability conditions...the current marketplace provides would-be buyers with a solid foundation upon which they can make their American Dream of homeownership a reality in 2007."

The 2006 sales total of new and existing homes (January through December) totaled 142,416, a 3.1 percent decrease from the record mark of 146,988 sales posted in 2005.

The state's average sales price (January-December) of \$153,456 marks a 2.1 percent decrease from the \$156,716 average posted in 2005. Total dollar volume reached \$21.9 billion, a 5.1 percent decrease from the prior best of \$23 billion posted during 2005.

Sales in December 2006 reached 9,710, a 5.1 percent decrease from the best-ever mark of 10,228 sales posted during the month 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. The report reflects reported closings by MLSes, including new and existing single-family homes and condominiums/co-ops.

{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>		<u>Sales</u>	<u>Average Price</u>
December '06	9,710	\$149,711	Jan.-Dec. '06	142,416	\$153,456
December '05	10,228	\$154,231	Jan.-Dec. '05	146,988	\$156,716
% Change	-5.1%	-2.9%	% Change	-3.1%	-2.1%

Local Market Activity Report

		December		January – December	
		Sales	Avg. Price	Sales	Avg. Price
Ashland	2006	32	\$95,778	527	\$114,243
	2005	35	\$112,376	480	\$112,844
	% of Change	-8.6%	-14.8%	9.8%	1.2%
Athens	2006	31	\$113,776	471	\$118,115
	2005	23	\$116,904	404	\$122,031
	% of Change	34.8%	-2.7%	16.6%	-3.2%
Cincinnati Area	2006	1,668	\$174,830	25,204	\$178,298
	2005	1,772	\$179,980	26,553	\$179,488
	% Change	-5.9%	-2.9%	-5.1%	-0.7%
Columbus Area	2006	1,658	\$168,863	25,464	\$174,882
	2005	1,817	\$173,782	26,366	\$178,297
	% Change	-8.8%	-2.8%	-3.4%	-1.9%
Centralized Regional Information Systems <i>(Summit, Portage, Trumbull, Stark, Mahoning, Columbiana, Carroll, Tuscarawas & Coshocton)</i>	2006	1,535	\$131,507	20,530	\$131,744
	2005	1,530	\$133,414	21,192	\$133,959
	% Change	0.3%	-1.4%	-3.1%	-1.7%
Dayton Area	2006	895	\$128,481	14,478	\$136,008
	2005	937	\$127,195	14,618	\$136,433
	% Change	-4.5%	1.0%	-1.0%	-0.3%
Firelands	2006	179	\$124,443	2,465	\$137,905
	2005	169	\$131,492	2,282	\$141,505
	% Change	5.9%	-5.4%	8.0%	-2.5%
Greater Portsmouth	2006	32	\$77,102	553	\$84,362
	2005	47	\$85,282	547	\$91,599
	% Change	-31.9%	-9.6%	1.1%	-7.9%
Heartland <i>(Hancock County)</i>	2006	88	\$122,489	1,629	\$109,674
	2005	114	\$117,435	1,615	\$126,629
	% Change	-22.8%	4.3%	0.9%	-13.4%
Knox	2006	44	\$109,502	738	\$131,709
	2005	27	\$114,578	722	\$136,700
	% Change	63.0%	-4.4%	2.2%	-3.7%
Lancaster	2006	78	\$120,019	1,090	\$126,858
	2005	89	\$137,274	1,091	\$130,049
	% Change	-12.4%	-12.6%	-0.1%	-2.5%
Licking	2006	56	\$159,252	1,280	\$159,277
	2005	108	\$142,090	1,391	\$154,254
	% Change	-48.1%	12.1%	-8.0%	3.3%
Mansfield	2006	122	\$99,853	1,442	\$105,390
	2005	91	\$107,089	1,458	\$109,315
	% Change	34.1%	-6.8%	-1.1%	-3.6%
Marion	2006	59	\$78,414	917	\$89,522
	2005	50	\$85,393	779	\$94,159
	% Change	18.0%	-8.2%	17.7%	-4.9%
Northern Ohio Regional MLS <i>(Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Medina & Lorain)</i>	2006	1,999	\$172,038	27,786	\$170,178
	2005	2,130	\$175,073	29,099	\$175,225
	% Change	-6.2%	-1.7%	-4.5%	-2.9%
Scioto Valley	2006	87	\$104,399	1,176	\$111,249
	2005	98	\$109,595	1,147	\$105,517
	% Change	-11.2%	-4.7%	2.5%	5.4%
Toledo Area	2006	588	\$122,864	8,513	\$129,983
	2005	625	\$128,919	9,088	\$133,816
	% Change	-5.9%	-4.7%	-6.3%	-2.9%
Wayne Holmes	2006	45	\$136,257	718	\$131,124
	2005	56	\$135,919	721	\$141,237
	% of Change	-19.6%	0.2%	-0.4%	-7.2%
West Central/Lima	2006	103	\$92,434	1,619	\$103,250
	2005	106	\$106,106	1,463	\$102,739
	% Change	-2.8%	-12.9%	10.7%	0.5%
Western Regional Information Systems & Technology <i>(Clark, Miami, Champaign, Logan, Shelby, Auglaize & Mercer)</i>	2006	322	\$103,637	4,657	\$114,590
	2005	324	\$117,846	4,856	\$115,510
	% Change	-0.6%	-12.1%	-4.1%	-0.8%
Zanesville	2006	89	\$100,862	1,159	\$102,049
	2005	80	\$91,378	1,116	\$105,116
	% of Change	11.3%	10.4%	3.9%	-2.9%

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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