



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: All News Media
RE: September 2017 Pending Home Sales Index for Ohio
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Ohio REALTORS reports the number of single-family homes and condominiums put under agreement in September 2017 reached a best-ever level for the month, increasing a slight 0.4 percent from the level posted during the month a year ago.

Ohio's September Pending Home Sales Index of 174.0, a forward-looking indicator based on contract signings, increased 0.4 percent from September 2016 (173.4). Activity in September rose 6.7 percent from the pace of agreements reached in August 2017 (163.2).

The pending sale index during the third quarter 2017 (169.0) is a 1.9 percent improvement from the level posted during the three-month period a year ago and attained the highest level recorded for the third quarter since OAR began recording statewide data in 2008. Additionally, purchase contract signings in the third quarter bested the level reached in the first quarter (147.3) and second quarter (160.4) this year.

"The Ohio housing marketplace is continuing to display tremendous resiliency, as the rate of homes put under contract reached all-time high in both September and during the third quarter," said Ohio REALTORS President Pete Kopf. "While the challenge of fewer homes being marketed for sale persists, the strong pace of contract signings is a clear indication that consumer confidence in the marketplace remains upbeat."

Compared to 2008, a historically healthy market that marked the end of five consecutive record years for existing home sales and the onset of the recession, September's Index score of 174.0 marks a 74 percent increase.

A pending sale or a sale "under agreement" is when the buyer and seller agree on terms of the sale of a home and have a signed purchase and sale agreement, but have yet to close and be recorded as such. Refer to the following report to view the pending home sales index and methods.

Ohio REALTORS, the largest professional trade association in the state with more than 31,000 members, is the only organization that compiles this state wide information from selected Multiple Listing Services each month. The tracking of "pending sales" provides reliable information about where the market is heading in coming months.

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**Ohio Association of REALTORS®
Ohio Pending Home Sales Index
September 2017**

		Index*	
Year	Month	Seasonally Adjusted	Not Seasonally
		Annual Rate	Adjusted
2016	Sep	173.4	175.8
2016	Oct	171.1	166.8
2016	Nov	179.8	196.0
2016	Dec	163.4	153.8
2017	Jan	146.0	133.1
2017	Feb	144.3	133.5
2017	Mar	161.8	168.3
2017	Apr	163.2	152.8
2017	May	162.4	169.4
2017	Jun	163.2	168.7
2017	Jul	153.5	150.4
2017	Aug	163.2	171.2
2017	Sep	174.0	175.2
% change last month:		6.7%	
% change last year:		0.4%	-0.4%
Year-end			
	2015	153.4	152.8
	2016	162.0	161.8
	2017p	160.8	172.0

**The Pending Home Sales Index (PHSI) provides advanced information on future home-sales activity. Specifically, pending home sales become existing-home sales one-to-two months later so the PHSI can be used to predict actual home sales activity. The index is based on a sampling of Multiple Listing Service pending sales activity in Ohio, typically representing slightly above or slightly below 68 percent of transactions for existing-home sales. The index is seasonally adjusted to smooth out fluctuations that typically exist from month to month. To create the index, current pending home sales are compared to pending home sales in 2008. 2008 is used as a base year because it marks the end of five consecutive record years for existing home sales and the onset of the recession. 2008 home sales activity coincides with a level that is historically healthy. A PHSI score of 100 is equal to the average level of contract activity during 2008.*