# U.S. Census Bureau News <br> Joint Release <br> U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development <br> U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233 <br> FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2014 AT 10:00 A.M. EST 

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## NEW RESIDENTIAL SALES IN JANUARY 2014

Sales of new single-family houses in January 2014 were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 468,000, according to estimates released jointly today by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is 9.6 percent ( $\pm 17.9 \%)^{*}$ above the revised December rate of 427,000 and is 2.2 percent ( $\left.\pm 20.2 \%\right)^{*}$ above the January 2013 estimate of 458,000.

The median sales price of new houses sold in January 2014 was $\$ 260,100$; the average sales price was $\$ 322,800$. The seasonally adjusted estimate of new houses for sale at the end of January was 184,000 . This represents a supply of 4.7 months at the current sales rate.

New Residential Sales data for February 2014 will be released on Tuesday, March 25, 2014, at 10:00 A.M. EDT. Our Internet site is: http://www.census.gov/newhomesales

To learn more about this release and the other indicators the U.S. Census Bureau publishes, join us for the 2013 Economic Indicator Webinar Series. For more information go to www.census.gov/econ/webinar.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES


#### Abstract

These statistics are estimated from sample surveys. They are subject to sampling variability as well as nonsampling error including bias and variance from response, nonreporting, and undercoverage. Estimated average relative standard errors of the preliminary data are shown in the tables. Whenever a statement such as " 2.5 percent $( \pm 3.2 \%)$ above" appears in the text, this indicates the range ( -0.7 to +5.7 percent) in which the actual percent change is likely to have occurred. All ranges given for percent changes are 90 -percent confidence intervals and account only for sampling variability. If a range does not contain zero, the change is statistically significant. If it does contain zero, the change is not statistically significant; that is, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease. The same policies apply to the confidence intervals for percent changes shown in the tables. Changes in seasonally adjusted statistics often show irregular movement. It takes 3 months to establish a trend for new houses sold. Preliminary new home sales figures are subject to revision due to the survey methodology and definitions used. The survey is primarily based on a sample of houses selected from building permits. Since a "sale" is defined as a deposit taken or sales agreement signed, this can occur prior to a permit being issued. An estimate of these prior sales is included in the sales figure. On average, the preliminary seasonally adjusted estimate of total sales is revised about 3 percent. Changes in sales price data reflect changes in the distribution of houses by region, size, etc., as well as changes in the prices of houses with identical characteristics. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our web site listed above.


[^0]Table 1. New Houses Sold and For Sale
[Thousands of houses. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.]


[^1]Table 2. New Houses Sold, by Sales Price
[Thousands of houses. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.]


[^2]${ }^{1}$ Houses for which sales price was not reported have been distributed proportionally to those for which sales price was reported
${ }^{2}$ Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

Table 3. New Houses Sold and For Sale by Stage of Construction and Median Number of Months on Sales Market
[Thousands of houses. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.]

| Period | Sold during period |  |  |  | For sale at end of period |  |  |  | Median months for sale ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Not started | Under construction | Completed | Total | Not started | Under construction | Completed |  |
| 2012: | 368 | 112 | 125 | 131 | 148 | 22 | 83 | 43 | 3.2 |
| 2013: (r) | 428 | 136 | 156 | 136 | 184 | 33 | 108 | 43 | 3.1 |
| RSE (\%) | 3 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| 2013: January | 32 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 148 | 22 | 84 | 43 | 3.3 |
| February | 36 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 150 | 23 | 85 | 43 | 3.6 |
| March | 41 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 152 | 24 | 87 | 42 | 3.7 |
| April | 43 | 16 | 15 | 13 | 159 | 26 | 94 | 40 | 4.0 |
| May | 40 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 162 | 29 | 97 | 36 | 4.5 |
| June | 43 | 14 | 17 | 13 | 161 | 28 | 98 | 35 | 4.2 |
| July | 33 | 10 | 13 | 9 | 172 | 32 | 103 | 36 | 3.7 |
| August | 31 | 8 | 13 | 10 | 177 | 32 | 106 | 39 | 2.9 |
| September | 31 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 185 | 36 | 109 | 40 | 3.0 |
| October (r) | 36 | 10 | 15 | 12 | 187 | 38 | 108 | 41 | 2.9 |
| November (r) | 32 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 185 | 35 | 109 | 42 | 3.2 |
| December (r) | 30 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 184 | 33 | 108 | 43 | 3.1 |
| 2014: January (p) | 34 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 184 | 36 | 103 | 45 | 3.3 |
| Average RSE (\%) ${ }^{2}$ | 8 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 10 |

[^3]${ }^{1}$ Median number of months for sale since completion.
${ }^{2}$ Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.


[^0]:    * $90 \%$ confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

[^1]:    (p) Prelminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. (X) Not applicable. (Z) Less than 500 units or less than 0.5 percent.
    ${ }^{1}$ Seasonally adjusted houses sold are published at annual rates. $\quad$ 2Ratio of houses for sale to houses sold
    ${ }^{3}$ Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.
    ${ }^{4}$ See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of $90 \%$ confidence intervals. ${ }^{5}$ Computed using unrounded data.

    Note: The sales price includes the land.

[^2]:    (p) Prelminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. (X) Not applicable. (Z) Less than 500 units or less than 0.5 percent.

[^3]:    (p) Prelminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. (X) Not applicable. (Z) Less than 500 units or less than 0.5 percent.

