### U.S. Census Bureau News

# Joint Release

## U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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#### **NEW RESIDENTIAL SALES IN NOVEMBER 2014**

Sales of new single-family houses in November 2014 were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 438,000, according to estimates released jointly today by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is 1.6 percent  $(\pm 12.3\%)^*$  below the revised October rate of 445,000 and is 1.6 percent  $(\pm 17.8\%)^*$  below the November 2013 estimate of 445,000.

The median sales price of new houses sold in November 2014 was \$280,900; the average sales price was \$321,800. The seasonally adjusted estimate of new houses for sale at the end of November was 213,000. This represents a supply of 5.8 months at the current sales rate.

New Residential Sales data for December 2014 will be released on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at 10:00 A.M. EST.

Our Internet site is: http://www.census.gov/newhomesales

The U.S. Census Bureau updated its application programming interface (API) with monthly and quarterly economic indicators. The API allows developers to combine Census Bureau statistics with other data sets to create tools for research on a variety of other topics. For more information, go to <a href="http://www.census.gov/developers/">http://www.census.gov/developers/</a>.

To receive the latest updates on the Nation's key economic indicators, download the America's Economy app for Apple and Android smartphones and tablets.

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

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 (±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 4 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.

<sup>\* 90%</sup> confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

#### Table 1. New Houses Sold and For Sale

[Thousands of houses. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.]

		Sold during period <sup>1</sup>			For sale at end of period				Monthal	Median	Average			
	Period	United	North-	Mid-	G .1		United	North-	Mid-	6 4	117	Months' Supply <sup>2</sup>	sales	sales
		States	east	west	South	West	States	east Seasonally	west	South	West	11 7	price (\$)	price (\$)
									,					
2013:	November December	445 442	33 25	57 60	243 251	112 106	185 187					5.0 5.1		
	December	442	23	00	231	100	167					5.1		
2014:	January	457	30	51	256	120	189					5.0		
	February March	432 403	23 25	56 56	259 233	94 89	186 190					5.2 5.7		
	April May	413 458	21 37	65 75	234 237	93 109	191 192					5.5 5.0		
	June	409	26	54	228	101	197					5.8		
	T.1	200	22		225	0.6	205							
	July August (r)	399 448	23 28	55 52	225 246	96 122	205 206					6.2 5.5		
	September (r)	455	31	58	252	114	208					5.5		
	October (r)	445	25	63	249	108	210					5.7		
	November (p)	438	22	59	233	124	213					5.8		
Average	e RSE (%) <sup>3</sup>	8	24	19	11	14	4					9		
Percen	t Change:													
	November 2014 from October 2014	-1.6%	-12.0%	-6.3%	-6.4%	14.8%	1.4%					1.8%		
	90% Confidence Interval <sup>4</sup>	± 12.3	± 45.6	$\pm 25.4$	± 13.6	± 31.9	± 1.3					± 18.0		
	November 2014 from November 2013	-1.6%	-33.3%	3.5%	-4.1%	10.7%	15.1%					16.0%		
	90% Confidence Interval 4	± 17.8	± 36.1	± 35.5	± 25.5	± 32.3	± 6.0					± 24.5		
			Not seasonally adjusted											
2012:		368	29	47	195	97	148	14	24	79	31	(X)	245,200	292,200
2012:		429	31	61	233	105	186	16	29	100	40	(X) (X)	268,900	324,500
RSE (%	6)	3	10	9	5	4	5	11	12	7	6	(X)	3	2
2013:	Year to Date	399	29	57	214	99	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
2014:	Year to Date	399	25	55	221	99	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X) (X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
RSE (9	6)	3	8	10	5	4	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
	v													
	Year to Date Percent Change 5	0.2%	-14.2%	-3.7%	3.2%	0.0%	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
	90% Confidence Interval 4	± 3.3	± 8.1	± 7.2	± 5.8	± 6.3	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
2013:	November	32	2	4	19	7	185	16	29	101	38	5.8	277,100	335,600
	December	31	2	4	18	7	186	16	29	100	40	6.0	275,500	321,200
2014:	January	33	3	3	19	8	188	16	29	102	41	5.7	269,800	337,300
	February	35	2	4	21	8	185	16	28	100	41	5.4	268,400	325,900
	March	39	2	5	23	9	187	16	28	102	42	4.9	282,300	331,500
	April	39	2	7	21	9	188	16	27	102	43	4.9	274,500	325,100
	May June	43 38	3 2	7 5	22 21	11 10	191 197	16 17	27 28	103 107	45 46	4.4 5.2	285,600 287,000	323,500 338,100
	July August (r)	35 36	2	5 5	20 19	8 10	206 209	17 16	28 29	113 116	48 47	6.0 5.8	280,400 291,700	345,200 356,200
	September (r)	37	3	5	20	9	212	17	29	118	48	5.8	263,500	317,500
	October (r)	36	2	5	20	9	214	17	29	119	48	6.0	290,100	375,200
	November (p)	31	2	4	17	8	214	18	29	119	48	7.0	280,900	321,800
Average	e RSE (%) <sup>3</sup>	8	24	19	11	14	4	12	14	6	5		5	6
	,	3	2-4	1)	11	1-7	-7	12	1.7	3			3	0

<sup>(</sup>p) Prelminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. (X) Not applicable. (Z) Less than 500 units or less than 0.5 percent.

Note: The sales price includes the land.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Seasonally adjusted houses sold are published at annual rates. <sup>2</sup>Ratio of houses for sale to houses sold. <sup>3</sup>Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals. <sup>5</sup> Computed using unrounded data.

#### Table 2. New Houses Sold, by Sales Price

[Thousands of houses. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.]

	Period	Total	Under \$150,000	\$150,000 to \$199,999	\$200,000 to \$299,999	\$300,000 to \$399,999	\$400,000 to \$499,999	\$500,000 to \$749,999	\$750,000 and over		
					Number o	of houses1					
2012: 2013:		368 429	46 35	74 79	120 139	63 85	33 40	23 36	9 16		
RSE (%	)	3	12	9	4	7	8	11	13		
2013:	November December	32 31	2 2	6 6	10 10	6	4 3	2 3	1 1		
2014:	January February March	33 35 39	3 2 2	5 6 7	10 12 12	7 7 9	4 4 4	2 2 3	2 1 2		
	April May June	39 43 38	2 3 2	6 8 6	13 13 13	9 9 7	4 5 4	3 4 5	2 1 1		
	July August (r) September (r)	35 36 37	2 2 4	5 5 7	12 12 12	7 7 6	3 5 4	3 3 3	2 2 1		
	October (r)	36	3	5	11	7	3	3	3		
	November (p)	31	2	6	10	6	3	3	1		
Average	RSE (%) <sup>2</sup>	8	32	20	13	16	22	22	33		
		Percent distribution									
2012: 2013:		100 100	13 8	20 18	33 32	17 20	9	6 8	3 4		
RSE (%	)	(X)	12	8	3	6	7	10	13		
2013:	November December	100 100	6 8	19 20	31 31	20 20	12 10	8	4 3		
2014:	January February March	100 100 100	10 5 6	15 18 18	31 36 30	20 20 22	11 10 11	7 7 8	6 4 4		
	April May June	100 100 100	6 6 5	17 18 16	34 30 34	22 22 18	10 12 11	7 9 13	4 2 3		
	July August (r) September (r)	100 100 100	7 5 10	15 14 19	34 32 32	20 20 18	9 14 10	10 9 9	6 5 3		
	October (r)	100	8	14	31	21	9	9	8		
	November (p)	100	7	20	34	19	10	10	2		
Average	RSE (%) <sup>2</sup>	(X)	30	18	11	16	21	21	33		

<sup>(</sup>p) Prelminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. (X) Not applicable. (Z) Less than 500 units or less than 0.5 percent.

Note: The sales price includes the land.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Houses for which sales price was not reported have been distributed proportionally to those for which sales price was reported

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>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.]

			Sold duri	ing period			Median			
	Period		Not	Under			Not	Under		months
		Total	started	construction	Completed	Total	started	construction	Completed	for sale <sup>1</sup>
2012:		368	112	125	131	148	22	83	43	3.2
2013:			137	156	136	186	30	111	44	3.2
RSE (%)		3	6	4	4	3	6	4	4	8
2013:	November	32	9	11	11	185	33	110	42	3.1
	December	31	10	11	10	186	30	111	44	3.2
2014:	January	33	11	12	10	188	31	110	47	3.2
	February	35	11	12	12	185	30	109	45	3.4
	March	39	14	14	11	187	31	108	48	3.3
	April	39	12	15	12	188	29	112	48	3.2
	May	43	14	16	14	191	30	115	47	3.4
	June	38	12	13	13	197	33	119	46	3.4
	July	35	11	13	11	206	33	126	47	3.3
	August (r)	36	11	13	12	209	33	127	49	3.1
	September (r)	37	10	14	12	212	34	126	51	3.0
	October (r)	36	8	15	13	214	37	122	55	2.9
	November (p)	31	9	11	10	214	37	121	57	3.0
Averag	Average RSE (%) <sup>2</sup>		8	9	10	4	8	6	6	8

<sup>(</sup>p) Prelminary. (r) Revised. RSE Relative standard error. (X) Not applicable. (Z) Less than 500 units or less than 0.5 percent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Median number of months for sale since completion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.