

CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

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Housing Activity to Stabilize in 2010-2011

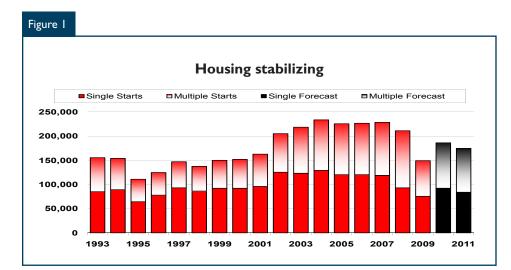


Figure 2



¹The outlook is subject to uncertainty. Although point forecasts are presented in this publication, CMHC also presents forecast ranges and risks where appropriate. The forecasts and historical data included in this document are based on information available as of October 8, 2010.

²Multiple Listing Service (MLS) is a registered certification mark owned by the Canadian Real Estate Association.



Housing market intelligence you can count on

Overview¹

Housing starts will moderate

After a strong finish to 2009, and a robust first quarter of 2010, housing starts have moderated. Starts are predicted to reach a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 164,123 units by the fourth quarter of 2010. Given the degree of economic uncertainty, we have considered an array of economic scenarios. We expect starts to be between 176,700 and 194,700 units in 2010 and between 148,000 and 202,300 units in 2011. CMHC's point forecast for housing starts is 186,200 units in 2010 then declining to 174,800 units in 2011.

MLS®² will decline next year

Existing home sales through the Multiple Listings Service® (MLS®) are now slowing. We have generated a range of forecasts for MLS® sales that reflect different economic scenarios. For 2010, we forecast that MLS® sales will be between 423,800 and 455,900 units. In 2011, MLS® sales will be between 390,600 and 483,700 units. CMHC's point forecast is 440,300 MLS® sales this year and 438,400 next year, compared to 464,730 units sold in 2009.



Economic Forecasts

Economic conditions have improved

Employment is forecast to improve over the forecast period and increase by 1.7 per cent in each of 2010 and 2011. The unemployment rate is expected to be in the 8.0 per cent range in 2010 and about 7.8 per cent in 2011.

On September 8th, the Bank of Canada increased the Target for the Overnight Rate from 0.75 per cent to 1.00 per cent. This is the third 25 basis point increase since April 2010, when the rate was at a historical low of 0.25 per cent. With the overnight rate expected to remain flat, mortgage rates, particularly short term mortgage rates and variable mortgage rates, are also expected to remain steady at current levels. According to CMHC's base case scenario, posted mortgage rates will remain flat in the second half of 2010 and in 2011. For 2010, the one-year posted mortgage rate is assumed to be in the 3.0 to 3.7 per cent range, while three and five-year posted mortgage rates are forecast to be in the 3.2 to 6.1 per cent range. For 2011, the one-year posted mortgage rate is assumed be in the 2.7 to 3.7 per cent range, while three and five-year posted mortgage rates are forecast to be in the 3.5 to 6.0 per cent range.

Rates could, however, increase at a faster pace if the economy recovers more quickly than presently anticipated. Conversely, rate increases could remain as they are if the economic recovery remains modest in nature. Total net migration (immigration minus emigration) was about 260,000 in 2009. Over the next two years, net migration is expected to increase, due to an improving economic environment and better employment opportunities. In 2010, net migration is forecast to increase to 274,365 while 2011 will see 289,759. These increases will fuel demand for housing, particularly rental housing.

Housing Forecasts

Housing starts stabilizing

The trend of housing starts moderating is expected to continue for the rest of 2010. Total starts will reach a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 164,123 units by the fourth quarter of this year. As stated previously, there is always some economic uncertianty moving forward. Accordingly, we have generated a range for the housing outlook in 2010 and 2011. We expect starts to be between 176,700 and 194.700 units in 2010 and between 148,000 and 202,300 units in 2011. CMHC's point forecast for housing starts is for an increase from 149.081 units in 2009 to 186,200 in 2010 then declining to 174,800 in 2011.

Measures announced for governmentbacked mortgage insurance, which took effect on April 19, 2010, coupled with the introduction of the HST in some provinces, brought forward some housing demand.

Single-detached starts up in 2010

Single starts have recovered since bottoming out in the second quarter of 2009. This was a result of lower levels of inventory on the resale market, which led to a spillover of demand in the new home market. The number of single-detached starts is expected to reach 92,400 in 2010, up from 75,659 in 2009. Single starts will decrease to 84,100 units in 2011

Multi-family starts to decrease

As is the case in the singles market, the number of multi-family housing starts (row, semi-detached and apartment units) is expected to decrease to end 2010. There will be about 93,800 multiple unit starts in 2010, decreasing slightly to 90,700 units in 2011

Markets now balanced

By the last guarter of 2009 and into the first quarter of 2010, the resale market was in sellers' market territory across most markets in Canada. In recent months, however, MLS® sales have moderated and markets have moved back to balanced conditions. Consequently, the average MLS® price has stabilized and is expected to decrease modestly in the third guarter of 2010. By the fourth quarter of 2010, the average MLS® price of an existing home will be about \$333,315 compared to \$341,614 in the final guarter of 2009. For 2011, the average MLS® price is expected to move up modestly to \$339,800.

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MLS© Sales 197,140 194,930 213,379 181,001 195,840 191,800 183,500 168,000 171,000 177,000 182,000 185,000 191								5.2		5.5		/		
		197 140	194 930	213 379	181 001	195 840	191 800	183 500	168 000	171 000	177 000	182 000	185 000	190,000
	%	-0.1	-1.1	9.5	-15.2	8.2	-2.1	-4.3	-14.7	1.8	3.5	2.8	1.6	2.7
MLS© Average Price 262,949 278,364 299,544 302,354 318,366 342,600 341,200 336,000 337,000 338,500 340,000 342,000 34 % 7.4 7.4 7.4 7.4 7.4 7.4 -2.0 0.3 0.4 0.6	-													344,000 0.6

	Housing Forecast Summary Continued (units and percentage change)												
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009				2010Q4(F)	2011Q1(F)	2011Q2(F)	2011Q3(F)	2011Q4(F
Manitoba													
Housing Starts													
Single	3,709	3,552	3,857	3,690	3,042	3,700	3,550		3,100	3,425	3,575	3,575	3,62
% Multiple	6.5 1,022	-4.2 1,476	8.6 1,881	-4.3 1,847	-17.6 1,132	21.6 1,800	-4.1 1,450	-16.3 1,300	-13.9 1,300	10.5 1,300	4.4 1,300	0.0 1,300	ا 1,30
* %	6.9	44.4	27.4	-1.8	-38.7	59.0	-19.5		-53.3	0.0	3.4	3.6	-3.
Total	4,731	5,028	5,738	5,537	4,174	5,500	5,000		4,500	4,825	5,023	5,075	5,07
%	6.6	6.3	14.1	-3.5	-24.6	31.8	-9.1	13.8	-31.8	7.2	4.1	1.0	0.
Existing Home Markets													
MLS© Sales	12,761	13,018	13,928	13,525	13,086	12,600	12,900	336,000	337,000	338,500	340,000	342,000	344,00
%	5.5	2.0	7.0	-2.9	-3.2	-3.7	2.4		0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.
MLS© Average Price	218,656 5.6	217,618 -0.5	220,700 1.4	220,524 -0.1	221,160 0.3	222,500 0.6	224,000 0.7		220,524 -0.1	221,160	222,500 0.6	224,000 0.7	225,49 0
Saskatchewan													
Housing Starts													
Single	2,425	2,689	4,017	4,518	2,829	3,850	3,600	3,800	3,600	3,450	3,500	3,600	3,84
%	10.6	10.9	49.4	12.5	-37.4	36.1	-6.5		-5.3	-4.2	1.4	2.9	6.
Multiple	1,012	1,026	1,990	2,310	1,037	1,325	1,300		1,200	1,250	1,350	1,250	1,35
% Total	-36.3 4,600	1.4 5,300	94.0 5,100	16.1 5,100	-55.1 5,700	27.8 4,800	-1.9 4,700		-36.8 3,600	4.2 3,450	8.0 3,500	-7.4 3,600	8. 3,84
%	27.8	15.2	-3.8	0.0	11.8	-15.8	-2.1	-2.6	-5.3	-4.2	3,300	2.9	5,07
Existing Home Markets		0.1.40	10.054	10.104	10.05/	10 500	10.000		10.07/	10 / 00	10 (00	10.000	
MLS© Sales	8,312 1.7	9,140 10.0	12,054 31.9	10,194 -15.4	10,856 6.5	10,500 -3.3	10,800 2.9		10,276 0.7	10,600	10,600 0.0	10,800	11,20
MLS© Average Price	122,765	132,078	174,405	224,592	233,695	239,900	246,200		241,000	243,200	245,800	247,600	248,06
%	10.8	7.6	32.0	28.8	4.1	2.7	2.6		0.0	0.9	1.1	0.7	0.
Alberta													
Housing Starts													
Single	26,684	31,835	28,105	14,716	14,344	19,150	19,700	16,600	17,300	18,100	19,700	20,250	20,75
%	18.7	19.3	-11.7	-47.6	-2.5	33.5	2.9		4.2	4.6	8.8	2.8	2
Multiple	14,163	17,127	20,231	14,448	5,954	8,750	8,300		7,598	7,800	8,200	8,600	8,60
% Total	2.8 40,847	20.9 48,962	18.1 48,336	-28.6 29,164	-58.8 20,298	47.0 27,900	-5.1 28,000	-8.6 26,200	-20.9 24,898	2.7 25,900	5.1 27,900	4.9 28,850	0. 29,35
%	12.6	10,702	-1.3	-39.7	-30.4	37.4	20,000		-5.0	4.0	7.7	3.4	27,55
Existing Home Markets		74 250	71.420	F / 200	F7 70/	17.000	10.000	(2.000	10.000		10.000	10 (00	51.00
MLS© Sales	65,866 14.6	74,350 12.9	71,430 -3.9	56,399 -21.0	57,786 2.5	47,900 -17.1	48,800 1.9		42,800 0.0	46,600 8.9	48,200 3.4	48,600 0.8	51,80
MLS© Average Price	218,266	285,383	356,235	352,857	341,201	350,150	352,600		348,875	349,200	351,000	353,824	356,00
%	12.1	30.7	24.8	-0.9	-3.3	2.6	0.7	-1.6	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.8	
British Columbia Housing Starts													
Single	13,719	15,433	14,474	10,991	7,892	11,500	11,200	11,200	8,600	10,200	10,900	11,600	12,10
%	-2.4	12.5	-6.2	-24.1	-28.2	45.7	-2.6		-23.2	18.6	6.9	6.4	4
Multiple	20,948	21,010	24,721	23,330	8,185	14,000	14,700		13,600	14,200	14,600	14,900	15,10
% Total	11 34,667	0.3 36,443	17.7 39,195	-5.6 34,321	-64.9 16,077	71.0 25,500	5.0 25,900		-8.7 22,200	4.4 24,400	2.8 25,500	2.1 26,500	ا 27,20
%	5.3	5.1	7.6	-12.4	-53.2	58.6	23,700		-14.9	24,400	25,500	20,500	27,20
Existing Home Markets													
MLS© Sales	106,310	96,671	102,805	68,923	85,028	75,000	80,000		71,000	75,000	80,000	82,000	83,00
% MLS© Average Price	10.3 332,224	-9.1 390,963	6.3 439,119	-33.0 454,599	23.4 465,725	-11.8 492,000	6.7 492,500	-19.9 491,000	14.5 486,000	5.6 488,000	6.7 491,000	2.5 494,000	ا 496,50
%	14.9	17.7	12.3	3.5	2.4	5.6	0.1			0.4			
Canada													
Housing Starts													
Single	120,463	121,313	118,917	93,202	75,659	92,400	84,100	85,455	76,575	80,705	83,125	85,450	87,23
%	-6.7	0.7	-2.0	-21.6	-18.8	22.1	-9.0		-10.4	5.4			2.
Multiple	105,018	106,082	109,426	117,854	73,422	93,800	90,700		87,548	88,725	90,123	91,570	92,42
% Total	0.7	1.0	3.2	7.7	-37.7	27.8	-3.3 174,800		-12.4	1.3		1.6 177,020	
l otal %	225,481 -3.4	227,395 0.8	228,343 0.4	211,056 -7.6	149,081 -29.4	186,200 24.9	174,800 -6.1		164,123 -11.5	169,430 3.2	173,248 2.3	177,020	179,65
	5.1	0.0	0.1		27.1	2/	5.1	5.4	.1.5	5.2	2.5	2.2	
Existing Home Markets													
MLS© Sales	483,218	482,582	520,503	431,336	464,730	440,300	438,400		404,375	421,900	436,100	443,150	452,55
% MLS© Average Price	5.2 249,241	-0.1 277,267	7.9 307,137	-17.1 304,986	7.7 320,362	-5.3 336,800	-0.4 339,800		4.1 333,315	4.3 335,609	3.4 338,678	1.6 341,218	2. 343,36
I ILDE AVEI Age FIICE	10.0	11.2	10.8	-0.7	320,362 5.0	5.1	337,000		333,315 0.8	335,607			

Sources: CMHC, Canadian Real Estate Association; (F) Forecast by CMHC

Local Housing Market Indicators											
Major Centres	Year	Total housing starts	Single- detached housing starts	New housing price index annual % chg.	MLS [®] sales	MLS [®] average price	Rental vacancy rate	Average rent			
	2009	365	210	n.a.	2,904	340,206	6.1	781			
Abbotsford	2010(F)	500	260	n.a.	2,950	345,000	6.0	790			
	2011(F)	550	280	n.a.	3,000	355,000	4.5	810			
	2009	6,318	4,775	-6.7	24,880	385,882	5.3	1,099			
Calgary	2010(F)	8,800	6,500	2.3	21,400	403,000	4.9	1,090			
	2011(F)	9,700	7,000	2.7	21,700	413,500	4.0	1,100			
	2009	669	268	0.9	531	177,237	3.4	701			
Charlottetown	2010(F)	475	275	0.5	550	178,000	4.5	725			
	2011(F)	480	270	1.0	525	180,000	5.0	735			
	2009	6,317	3,897	-11.2	19,139	320,378	4.5	1,015			
Edmonton	2010(F)	9,500	6,000	0.0	17,000	333,000	4.4	1,000			
-	2011(F)	10,300	6,400	3.0	17,500	342,500	3.5	1,020			
	2009	3,116	1,056	1.5	4,335	206,005	2.2	690			
Gatineau	2010(F)	2,850	950	3.6	4,400	215,300	2.6	705			
Jacineau	2011(F)	2,600	850	3.0	4,250	220,500	2.8	720			
	2009	450	224	0.7	1,977	200,947	2.9	830			
Greater	2010(F)	410	250	1.0	2,250	215,000	3.9	850			
Sudbury	2011(F)	440	290	1.5	2,350	223,500	3.5	870			
Halifax	2009	1,733	875	1.1	5,862	237,214	2.9	877			
	2010(F)	2,220	1,000	1.2	6,200	250,000	2.9	900			
	2011(F)	2,380	1,050	1.5	6,350	255,000	3.1	920			
	2009	1,860	899	-1.1	12,680	290,946	4.1	831			
Hamilton	2010(F)	2,820	1,400	1.3	13,600	312,000	3.8	835			
	2011(F)	2,525	1,250	1.1	12,200	310,000	3.4	840			
	2009	657	404	n.a.	3,660	400,450	3.0	897			
Kelowna	2010(F)	975	525	n.a.	3,800	420,000	3.0	890			
Relowing	2011(F)	1,075	600	n.a.	4,100	435,000	2.5	910			
	2009	717	432	n.a.	3,377	242,729	1.3	909			
Kingston	2010(F)	650	500	n.a.	3,420	248,800	1.6	935			
Kingston	2010(F)	630	430	n.a.	3,100	251,000	1.2	960			
	2009	2,298	1,161	0.6	6,580	269,552	3.3	856			
Kitchener	2010(F)	2,298	1,101	2.0	6,700	287,000	2.9	870			
Kitchener		2,780	1,200	1.5	6,400	287,000	2.7	870			
	2011(F)										
London	2009	2,168		1.4	8,314	214,510	5.0	910			
London	2010(F)	2,370	1,600	1.0	8,800	225,000	5.6	920 950			
	2011(F)	2,140	1,300	1.0	8,200	226,000	4.0				
Mantuíal	2009	19,251	5,446	2.3	41,802	274,842	2.5	669			
Montréal	2010(F)	21,800	6,100	2.7	43,300	292,700	2.5	678			
	2011(F)	19,700	5,700	2.1	42,500	298,800	2.6	685			
Oshawa ¹	2009	980		n.a.	9,330		4.2	900			
	2010(F)	1,704	1,400	n.a.	9,770	296,000	4.2	917			
	2011(F)	1,484	1,100	n.a.	8,770	296,200	3.8	935			
Ottawa	2009	5,814		1.5	14,923	304,801	1.5	1,028			
	2010(F)	5,900	2,100	3.6	15,000	326,500	1.7	1,065			
	2011(F)	5,625	1,875	3.0	14,350	331,500	1.2	1,105			
• •	2009	5,513		7.0	7,969			676			
Québec	2010(F)	5,900	1,800	5.0	7,400	232,000	0.6	700			
	2011(F)	5,600	I,600	5.0	7,800	248,000	0.8	721			

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Sources: CMHC, Canadian Real Estate Association, Local real estate boards, Statistics Canada, CMHC Forecast 2010-2011

Source for Quebec CMA's MLS® data: The Quebec Federation of Real Estate Boards by Centris™, CMHC compilation

¹ MLS® data for St. Catharines-Niagara is aggregated using total numbers of the area's three real estate boards and Oshawa data is that of the Durham board. **NOTE:** Rental universe = Privately initiated rental apartment structures of three units and over

Local Housing Market Indicators (cont.)											
Major Centres	Year	Total housing starts	Single- detached housing starts	New housing price index annual % chg.	MLS [®] sales	MLS [®] average price	Rental vacancy rate	Average rent			
	2009	930	569	5.6	3,704	244,088	0.6	832			
Regina	2010(F)	970	650	3.5	3,550	254,000	0.8	865			
	2011(F)	1,100	700	4.3	3,750	263,000	1.2	875			
	2009	584	337	n.a.	1,472	151,911	1.5	518			
Saguenay	2010(F)	1,150	390	n.a.	I,400	163,000	2.0	535			
	2011(F)	650	350	n.a.	I,450	170,000	2.2	545			
	2009	659	369	3.3	1,986	171,027	3.6	644			
Saint John	2010(F)	670	390	0.8	1,975	174,500	3.8	665			
-	2011(F)	715	420	1.0	2,025	178,000	4.0	685			
	2009	1,428	1,101	-7.6	3,834	278,895	1.9	905			
Saskatoon	2010(F)	1,500	1,200	2.4	3,600	285,000	2.2	935			
	2011(F)	1,750	1,300	3.3	3,800	295,000	2.4	945			
	2009	1,580	668	n.a.	1,803	193,245	3.9	553			
Sherbrooke	2010(F)	1,660	660	n.a.	1,810	203,000	4.8	560			
	2011(F)	1,530	630	n.a.	1,820	207,000	4.9	565			
	2009	859	574	-0.6	5,808	209,563	4.4	804			
St. Catharines-	2010(F)	1,020	600	2.0	6,100	216,000	4.4	820			
Niagara ^l	2011(F)	950	520	2.0	5,700	215,000	4.1	835			
	2009	1,703	1,385	11.5	3,642	213,000	0.9	677			
St. John's		1,703	1,385	8.0	3,650	245,000	1.0	725			
	2010(F)	1,773	1,430	5.0	3,600	245,000	1.0	725			
	2011(F) 2009		1,550	0.7			2.3	742			
TI I D		180			1,423	145,100					
Thunder Bay	2010(F)	230 205	175 165	I.0 I.5	1,480	149,000	2.6 2.3	760 780			
	2011(F)				1,350	150,500					
T	2009	25,949	8,130	-0.1	89,255	396,154	3.1	1,096			
Toronto	2010(F)	33,200	11,000	2.5	90,000	427,000	3.2	1,104			
	2011(F)	31,600	7,000	1.8	85,500	425,000	2.9	1,117			
	2009	1,027	375	n.a.	1,036	142,048	2.7	520			
Trois-Rivières	2010(F)	1,500	375	n.a.	960	148,500	2.7	530			
	2011(F)	860	360	n.a.	930	154,000	3.0	540			
	2009	8,339	2,929	-6.3	36,257	592,441	2.1	1,169			
Vancouver	2010(F)	12,000	3,500	-1.0	34,000	655,000	2.0	1,210			
	2011(F)	14,000	4,000	1.5	33,000	670,000	1.8	1,258			
	2009	1,034		-7.8	7,660	476,137	1.4	1,001			
Victoria	2010(F)	2,000	910	0.5	6,800	510,000	1.5	1,020			
	2011(F)	2,000	890	2.0	7,100	508,000	1.2	I,050			
Windsor	2009	391	303	0.1	4,661	153,691	13.0	747			
	2010(F)	522	400	0.8	4,650	157,000	11.8	750			
	2011(F)	486	380	1.9	4,480	158,000	10.5	760			
Winnipeg	2009	2,033	1,505	2.5	11,509	207,342	1.1	809			
	2010(F)	2,800	١,700	4.0	11,700	225,000	1.2	835			
	2011(F)	2,650	1,750	4.0	12,000	230,000	1.4	860			
	2009	107,577	46,379	-2.3	356,245	340,933	2.8	862			
All Major Areas	2010(F)	133,981	57,150	1.9	352,670	362,096	2.8	883			
-	2011(F)	131,435	52,920	2.2	343,235	366,170	2.7	898			

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