## Monthly Indicators

## March 2012

Sometimes the best answers aren't right under your nose. For example, the most popular market indicator is home prices. But prices are what we call a lagging indicator, because they reflect closed sales. Leading indicators are forward-looking. Watch activity related to list price received at sale, days on market and months supply of inventory to see how sellers might be regaining their pricing power. Favorable supply-demand trends may be ticking away from the buyer for the first time in years. Moral of the story: Price is but a single picture in the gallery.

New Listings were up 4.2 percent to 1,636. Pending Sales increased 18.4 percent to 931 . Inventory shrank 7.4 percent to 5,160 units.

Prices responded favorably as the Median Sales Price was up 8.4 percent to $\$ 113,848$. Days on Market increased 4.5 percent to 93 days. Months Supply of Inventory was down 14.3 percent to 6.6 months.

When monitoring residential real estate activity, it is always important to keep tabs on the overall economy and job growth. Preliminary Q1-2012 GDP growth came in at 2.2 percent, which, while disappointing to some observers and slower than Q4-2011, still signals economic expansion and not contraction. Expedited bank processing and easing lending standards are also encouraging developments.

## Activity Snapshot

$+15.1 \%+8.4 \%-7.4 \%$

| One-Year Change in | One-Year Change in <br> Closed Sales <br> Median Sales Price |
| :---: | :--- | | One-Year Change in |
| :---: |
| Homes for Sale |

Residential activity for Regional Board B, comprised of single-family properties, townhomes, and condominiums combined. Percent changes are calculated using rounded figures.

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## Activity Overview

| Key Metrics | Historical Sparkbars | 3-2011 | 3-2012 | Percent Change | YTD 2011 | YTD 2012 | Perrent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New Listings |  | 1,570 | 1,636 | + 4.2\% | 3,876 | 4,065 | + 4.9\% |
| Pending Sales |  | 786 | 931 | + 18.4\% | 1,976 | 2,356 | + 19.2\% |
| Closed Sales |  | 570 | 656 | + 15.1\% | 1,535 | 1,667 | + 8.6\% |
| Days on Market |  | 89 | 93 | + 4.5\% | 82 | 93 | + 13.4\% |
| Median Sales Price |  | \$105,000 | \$113,848 | + 8.4\% | \$111,000 | \$110,000 | - 0.9\% |
| Average Sales Price |  | \$125,625 | \$138,536 | + 10.3\% | \$133,376 | \$131,905 | - 1.1\% |
| Pct. of List Price Received |  | 93.8\% | 94.3\% | + 0.5\% | 93.9\% | 94.0\% | + 0.1\% |
| Affordability Index |  | 231 | 233 | + 0.9\% | 222 | 239 | + 7.7\% |
| Homes for Sale |  | 5,574 | 5,160 | - $7.4 \%$ | -- | -- | -- |
| Months Supply |  | 7.7 | 6.6 | - 14.3\% | -- | -- | -- |

A count of the properties that have been newly listed on the market in a given month.


## Historical New Listings by Month



## Pending Sales

March


Year to Date

2,682


2012

| Pending Sales |  | Prior Year | Percent Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April 2011 | 901 | 1,374 | $-34.4 \%$ |
| May 2011 | 882 | 634 | $+39.1 \%$ |
| June 2011 | 941 | 732 | $+28.6 \%$ |
| July 2011 | 876 | 749 | $+17.0 \%$ |
| August 2011 | 865 | 813 | $+6.4 \%$ |
| September 2011 | 771 | 696 | $+10.8 \%$ |
| October 2011 | 691 | 669 | $+3.3 \%$ |
| November 2011 | 594 | 567 | $+4.8 \%$ |
| December 2011 | 505 | 435 | $+16.1 \%$ |
| January 2012 | 696 | 601 | $+15.8 \%$ |
| February 2012 | 729 | 589 | $+23.8 \%$ |
| March 2012 | $\mathbf{9 3 1}$ | $\mathbf{7 8 6}$ | $\mathbf{+ 1 8 . 4 \%}$ |
| 12-Month Avg | 782 | 720 | $+8.6 \%$ |

## Historical Pending Sales by Month



## Closed Sales

March


Year to Date


| Closed Sales |  | Prior Year | Percent Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April 2011 | 632 | 844 | $-25.1 \%$ |
| May 2011 | 693 | 890 | $-22.1 \%$ |
| June 2011 | 911 | 1,494 | $-39.0 \%$ |
| July 2011 | 896 | 764 | $+17.3 \%$ |
| August 2011 | 954 | 691 | $+38.1 \%$ |
| September 2011 | 910 | 751 | $+21.2 \%$ |
| October 2011 | 743 | 741 | $+0.3 \%$ |
| November 2011 | 722 | 668 | $+8.1 \%$ |
| December 2011 | 797 | 762 | $+4.6 \%$ |
| January 2012 | 534 | 548 | $-2.6 \%$ |
| February 2012 | 477 | 417 | $+14.4 \%$ |
| March 2012 | $\mathbf{6 5 6}$ | $\mathbf{5 7 0}$ | $\mathbf{+ 1 5 . 1 \%}$ |
| 12-Month Avg | 744 | 762 | $-2.4 \%$ |

## Historical Closed Sales by Month




Historical Days on Market Until Sale by Month


## Median Sales Price

Point at which half of the sales sold for more and half sold for less, not accounting for seller concessions, in a given month.

March


Year to Date


2010

| Median Sales Price |  | Prior Year | Percent Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April 2011 | $\$ 113,000$ | $\$ 115,000$ | $-1.7 \%$ |
| May 2011 | $\$ 114,250$ | $\$ 116,000$ | $-1.5 \%$ |
| June 2011 | $\$ 119,000$ | $\$ 119,840$ | $-0.7 \%$ |
| July 2011 | $\$ 125,000$ | $\$ 119,950$ | $+4.2 \%$ |
| August 2011 | $\$ 120,000$ | $\$ 120,000$ | $0.0 \%$ |
| September 2011 | $\$ 119,500$ | $\$ 120,000$ | $-0.4 \%$ |
| October 2011 | $\$ 115,500$ | $\$ 125,000$ | $-7.6 \%$ |
| November 2011 | $\$ 111,700$ | $\$ 117,000$ | $-4.5 \%$ |
| December 2011 | $\$ 119,900$ | $\$ 115,000$ | $+4.3 \%$ |
| January 2012 | $\$ 108,000$ | $\$ 119,900$ | $-9.9 \%$ |
| February 2012 | $\$ 104,000$ | $\$ 106,500$ | $-2.3 \%$ |
| March 2012 | $\$ 113,848$ | $\$ 105,000$ | $\mathbf{+ 8 . 4 \%}$ |
| 12-Month Med* | $\$ 115,900$ | $\$ 117,500$ | $-1.4 \%$ |

Median Sales Price of all properties from April 2011 through March 2012. This is not the average of the individual figures above


## Average Sales Price



## Percent of List Price Received

Percentage found when dividing a property's sales price by its most recent list price, then taking the average for all properties sold in a given month, not accounting for seller concessions.

## March



Year to Date


Historical Percent of List Price Received by Month


# Housing Affordability Index 

This index measures housing affordability for the region. An index of 120 means the median household income is $120 \%$ of what is necessary to qualify for the median-priced home under prevailing interest rates. A higher number means greater affordability.

## March




| Affordability Index |  | Prior Year | Percent Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April 2011 | 221 | 207 | $+6.8 \%$ |
| May 2011 | 222 | 206 | $+7.8 \%$ |
| June 2011 | 217 | 205 | $+5.9 \%$ |
| July 2011 | 221 | 211 | $+4.7 \%$ |
| August 2011 | 224 | 211 | $+6.2 \%$ |
| September 2011 | 228 | 206 | $+10.7 \%$ |
| October 2011 | 236 | 218 | $+8.3 \%$ |
| November 2011 | 224 | 218 | $+2.8 \%$ |
| December 2011 | 242 | 209 | $+15.8 \%$ |
| January 2012 | 251 | 228 | $+10.1 \%$ |
| February 2012 | 233 | 231 | $+\mathbf{0 . 9 \%}$ |
| March 2012 | 227 | 213 | $+6.6 \%$ |

## Historical Housing Affordability Index by Month



## Inventory of Homes for Sale

The number of properties available for sale in active status at the end of a given month
March


| Homes for Sale |  | Prior Year | Percent Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April 2011 | 5,775 | 5,645 | $+2.3 \%$ |
| May 2011 | 6,274 | 6,004 | $+4.5 \%$ |
| June 2011 | 6,627 | 6,376 | $+3.9 \%$ |
| July 2011 | 6,810 | 6,604 | $+3.1 \%$ |
| August 2011 | 6,990 | 6,679 | $+4.7 \%$ |
| September 2011 | 6,879 | 6,682 | $+2.9 \%$ |
| October 2011 | 6,586 | 6,477 | $+1.7 \%$ |
| November 2011 | 6,105 | 6,233 | $-2.1 \%$ |
| December 2011 | 5,395 | 5,596 | $-3.6 \%$ |
| January 2012 | 5,267 | 5,489 | $\mathbf{- 4 . 0 \%}$ |
| February 2012 | 5,098 | 5,402 | $-5.6 \%$ |
| March 2012 | $\mathbf{5 , 1 6 0}$ | $\mathbf{5 , 5 7 4}$ | $\mathbf{- 7 . 4 \%}$ |
| 12-Month Avg | $\mathbf{6 , 0 8 1}$ | 6,063 | $+0.3 \%$ |

## Historical Inventory of Homes for Sale by Month



# Months Supply of Inventory 

The inventory of homes for sale at the end of a given month, divided by the average monthly pending sales from the last 12 months.
March


| Months Supply |  | Prior Year | Percent Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April 2011 | 8.5 | 6.1 | $+39.3 \%$ |
| May 2011 | 8.9 | 6.7 | $+32.8 \%$ |
| June 2011 | 9.2 | 7.4 | $+24.3 \%$ |
| July 2011 | 9.3 | 7.9 | $+17.7 \%$ |
| August 2011 | 9.5 | 8.3 | $+14.5 \%$ |
| September 2011 | 9.3 | 8.5 | $+9.4 \%$ |
| October 2011 | 8.9 | 8.3 | $+7.2 \%$ |
| November 2011 | 8.2 | 7.9 | $+3.8 \%$ |
| December 2011 | 7.2 | 7.2 | $0.0 \%$ |
| January 2012 | 6.9 | 7.1 | $-2.8 \%$ |
| February 2012 | 6.6 | 7.2 | $-8.3 \%$ |
| March 2012 | $\mathbf{6 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{7 . 7}$ | $\mathbf{- 1 4 . 3 \%}$ |
| 12-Month Avg | 8.3 | 7.5 | $+10.7 \%$ |

## Historical Months Supply of Inventory by Month



