# **Monthly Indicators**

A RESEARCH TOOL PROVIDED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



#### MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS\*

#### February 2016

The primary story, both nationally and in local submarkets, is a dwindling months' supply of inventory. The cure, of course, is more inventory. But new construction has been lagging during this opportune moment, and sellers of existing homes are not yet hitting the market in droves. The heart of the selling season has yet to begin, so we're still optimistically watching for an increase in activity in the coming months.

New Listings were up 55.9 percent for single-family homes and 39.2 percent for condominium properties. Closed Sales increased 24.4 percent for single-family homes and 12.7 percent for condominium properties.

The Median Sales Price was down 2.2 percent to \$309,000 for single-family homes and 2.8 percent to \$285,000 for condominium properties. Months Supply of Inventory decreased 31.0 percent for single-family units and 28.6 percent for condominium units.

National housing starts were up by 10.8 percent at the end of 2015 when compared to 2014, and the unemployment rate is holding low and steady at or near 4.9 percent. Meanwhile, mortgage rates continue to astound below 4.0 percent and we have witnessed an unprecedented 70 consecutive months of private-sector job growth. As consumers navigate their options, competition for the best available properties should be profound, especially if the market remains hobbled by a lack of supply.

### **Quick Facts**

| <b>Closed Sales</b> |                                     |                                      |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                     | <b>2,701</b><br>Single-Family Only  | 996<br>Condominium Only              |
|                     | + 24.4%<br>Year-Over-Year Change    | + 12.7%<br>Year-Over-Year Change     |
| Median Sales Pri    | ce                                  |                                      |
|                     | \$309,000<br>Single-Family Only     | <b>\$285,000</b><br>Condominium Only |
|                     | - 2.2%<br>Year-Over-Year Change     | - 2.8%<br>Year-Over-Year Change      |
| Homes for Sale      |                                     |                                      |
|                     | <b>14,061</b><br>Single-Family Only | <b>3,777</b><br>Condominium Only     |
|                     | - 17.7%                             | - 17.5%                              |

Year-Over-Year Change

- 17.5% Year-Over-Year Change

#### **New Listings**

| 4,830              | 1,873                      |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Single-Family On   | ly Condominium Only        |
| + 55.9%            | + 39.2%                    |
| Year-Over-Year Cha | ange Year-Over-Year Change |



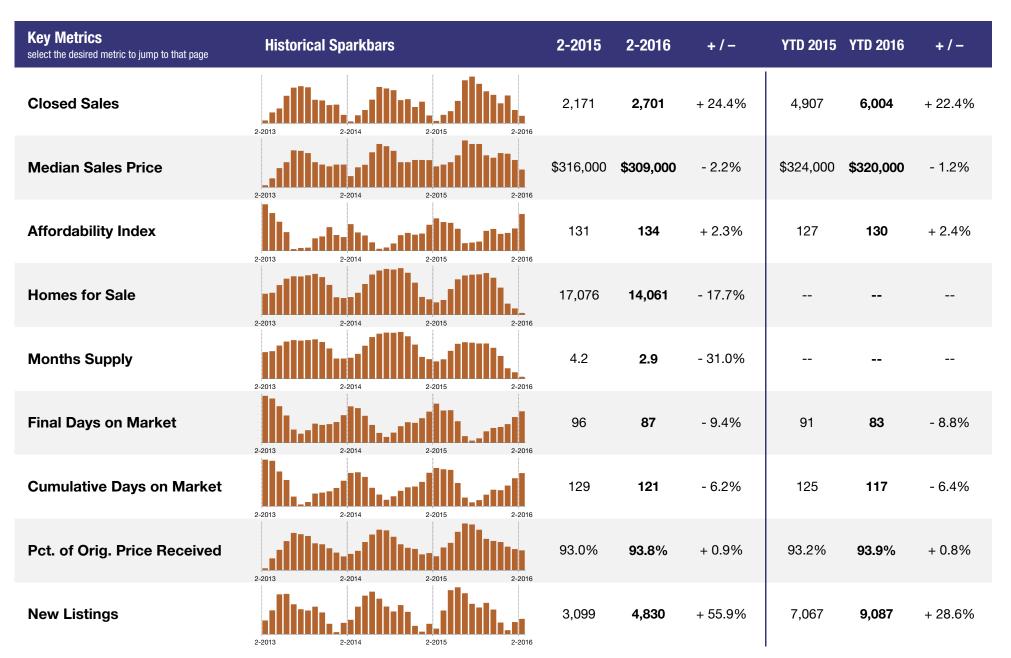
Data is refreshed regularly to capture changes in market activity so figures shown may be different than previously reported. Current as of March 7, 2016.

All data from the Berkshire County Multiple Listing Service, Cape Cod & Islands Association of REALTORS®, Inc. and MLS Property Information Network, Inc. Provided by MAR. Powered by ShowingTime 10K.

## **Single-Family Market Overview**

Key market metrics for the current month and year-to-date figures for Single-Family Homes Only.



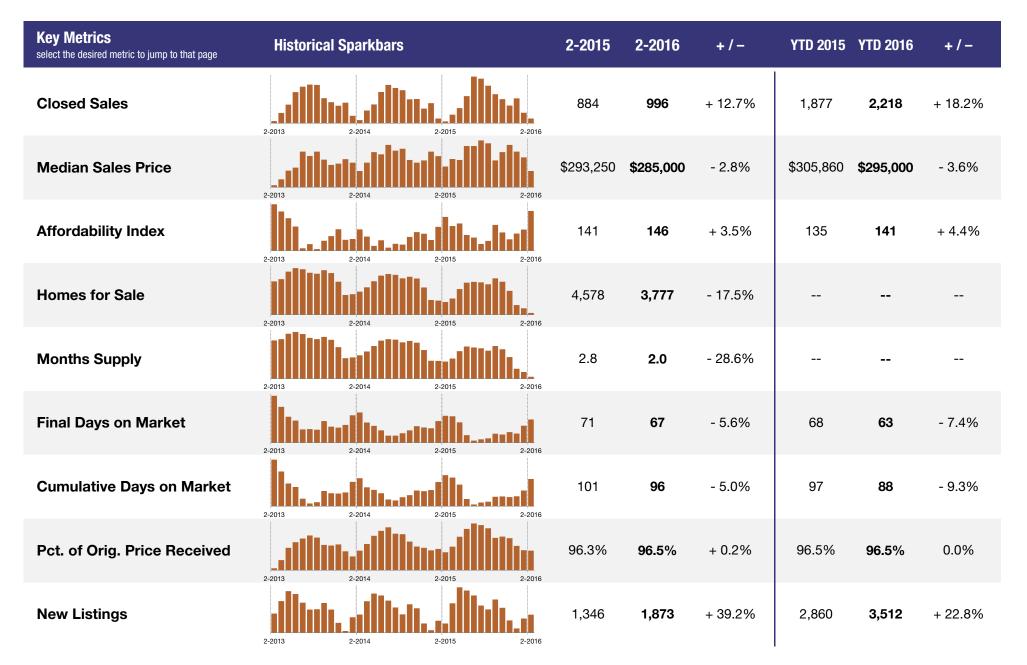


### **Condominium Market Overview**

Key market metrics for the current month and year-to-date figures for Condominium Properties Only.



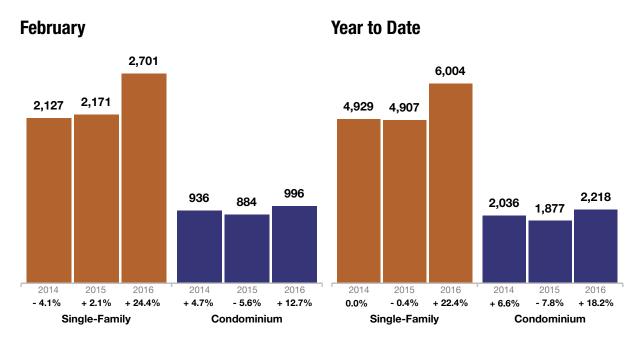
MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS\*



### **Closed Sales**

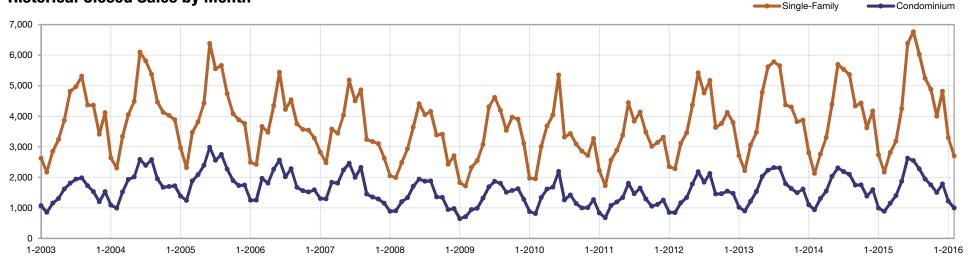
A count of the actual sales that closed in a given month.





|                | Single-Family | YoY<br>Change | Condominium | YoY<br>Change |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| March 2015     | 2,807         | + 1.7%        | 1,146       | - 12.3%       |
| April 2015     | 3,184         | - 3.6%        | 1,401       | - 9.4%        |
| May 2015       | 4,250         | - 3.1%        | 1,871       | - 7.8%        |
| June 2015      | 6,389         | + 12.2%       | 2,627       | + 13.9%       |
| July 2015      | 6,765         | + 22.2%       | 2,549       | + 16.6%       |
| August 2015    | 6,018         | + 12.2%       | 2,273       | + 8.4%        |
| September 2015 | 5,237         | + 20.9%       | 1,944       | + 11.4%       |
| October 2015   | 4,882         | + 10.2%       | 1,752       | - 0.1%        |
| November 2015  | 3,996         | + 10.3%       | 1,503       | + 8.7%        |
| December 2015  | 4,816         | + 15.5%       | 1,780       | + 11.8%       |
| January 2016   | 3,303         | + 20.7%       | 1,222       | + 23.1%       |
| February 2016  | 2,701         | + 24.4%       | 996         | + 12.7%       |
| Total          | 54,348        | + 12.1%       | 21,064      | + 6.3%        |

#### **Historical Closed Sales by Month**



### **Median Sales Price**

**February** 

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

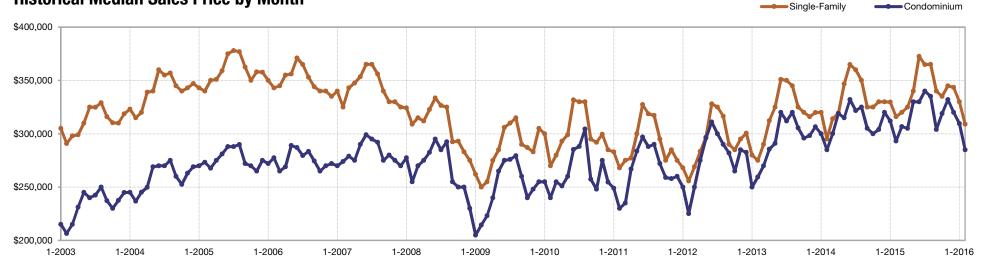


#### \$324,000 \$320,000 \$316,000 \$309,000 \$307,500 \$305,860 \$295,000 \$295,000 \$293,250 \$291,743 \$285,000 \$285,000 2014 2015 2016 2015 2016 2015 2016 2015 2016 2014 2014 2014 + 7.3% + 7.1% - 2.2% + 9.8% + 2.9% - 2.8% + 9.9% + 5.4% - 1.2% + 14.3% + 4.8% - 3.6% Single-Family Condominium Single-Family Condominium

Year to Date

|                |               | YoY    |             | YoY    |
|----------------|---------------|--------|-------------|--------|
|                | Single-Family | Change | Condominium | Change |
| March 2015     | \$320,000     | + 1.9% | \$306,750   | + 2.2% |
| April 2015     | \$325,000     | + 1.7% | \$305,000   | - 4.4% |
| May 2015       | \$340,000     | - 1.9% | \$330,000   | + 4.8% |
| June 2015      | \$372,500     | + 2.1% | \$330,000   | - 0.6% |
| July 2015      | \$364,900     | + 1.4% | \$340,000   | + 5.7% |
| August 2015    | \$365,000     | + 4.3% | \$335,000   | + 3.1% |
| September 2015 | \$340,000     | + 4.6% | \$304,000   | - 0.3% |
| October 2015   | \$335,000     | + 3.1% | \$319,000   | + 6.3% |
| November 2015  | \$345,000     | + 4.5% | \$332,000   | + 9.2% |
| December 2015  | \$343,500     | + 4.1% | \$320,000   | 0.0%   |
| January 2016   | \$330,000     | + 0.1% | \$309,500   | - 0.8% |
| February 2016  | \$309,000     | - 2.2% | \$285,000   | - 2.8% |
| Median         | \$345,000     | + 2.1% | \$321,000   | + 1.9% |
|                |               |        |             |        |

#### **Historical Median Sales Price by Month**

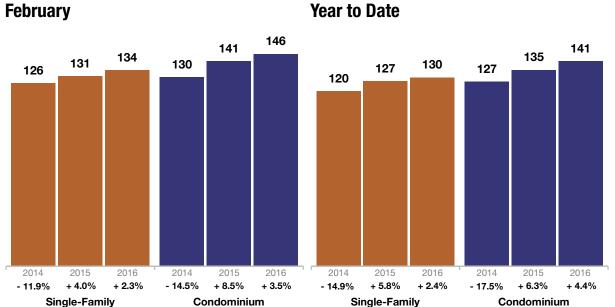


## **Housing Affordability Index**



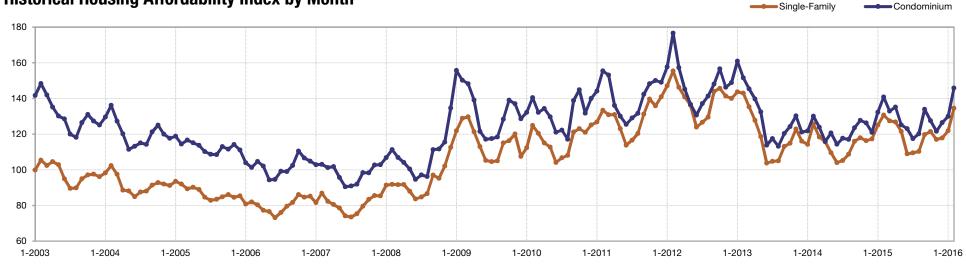
This index measures housing affordability for the region. An index of 120 means the median household income is 120% of what is necessary to qualify for the median-priced home under prevailing interest rates. A higher number means greater affordability.





|                | Single-Family | YoY<br>Change | Condominium | YoY<br>Change |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| March 2015     | 127           | + 7.6%        | 133         | + 7.3%        |
| April 2015     | 127           | + 9.5%        | 135         | + 16.4%       |
| May 2015       | 122           | + 10.9%       | 125         | + 3.3%        |
| June 2015      | 109           | + 4.8%        | 123         | + 7.9%        |
| July 2015      | 109           | + 3.8%        | 117         | - 0.8%        |
| August 2015    | 110           | + 0.9%        | 120         | + 2.6%        |
| September 2015 | 120           | + 3.4%        | 134         | + 8.1%        |
| October 2015   | 121           | + 2.5%        | 127         | - 0.8%        |
| November 2015  | 117           | + 0.9%        | 122         | - 3.2%        |
| December 2015  | 118           | + 0.9%        | 126         | + 4.1%        |
| January 2016   | 122           | - 2.4%        | 130         | - 1.5%        |
| February 2016  | 134           | + 2.3%        | 146         | + 3.5%        |
| Average        | 120           | + 3.8%        | 128         | + 3.9%        |

#### **Historical Housing Affordability Index by Month**



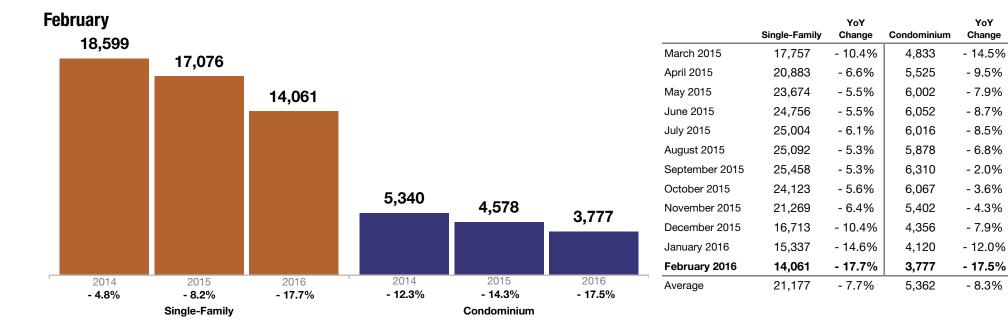
### **Inventory of Homes for Sale**

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



Single-Family

Condominium



#### Historical Inventory of Homes for Sale by Month

40,000 30,000 20,000 10,000 0 1-2003 1-2004 1-2005 1-2006 1-2007 1-2008 1-2009 1-2010 1-2011 1-2012 1-2013 1-2014 1-2015 1-2016

## **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.



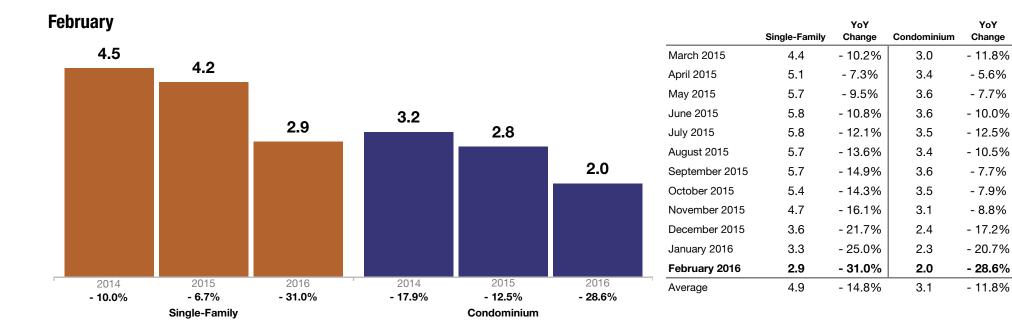
YoY

- 5.6% - 7.7%

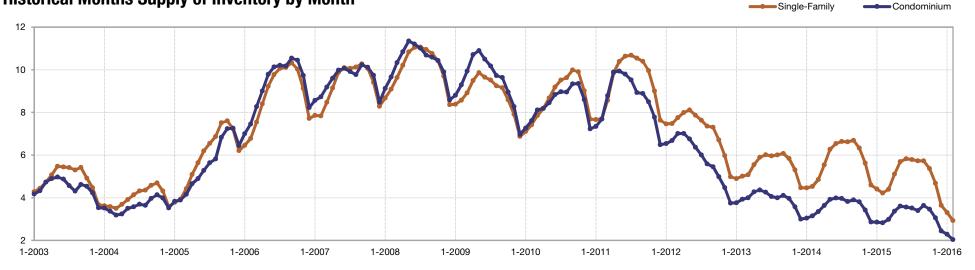
- 7.7%

- 7.9%

- 8.8%



#### **Historical Months Supply of Inventory by Month**

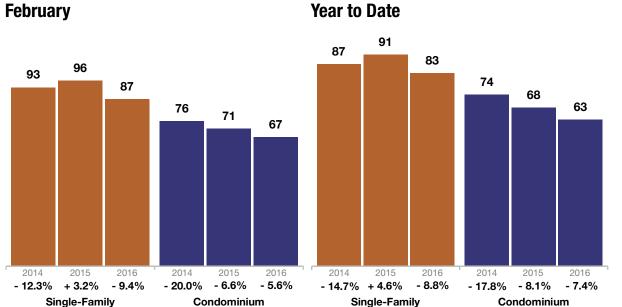


All data from the Berkshire County Multiple Listing Service, Cape Cod & Islands Association of REALTORS®, Inc. and MLS Property Information Network, Inc. Provided by MAR. Powered by ShowingTime 10K. | 8

### **Final Days on Market**

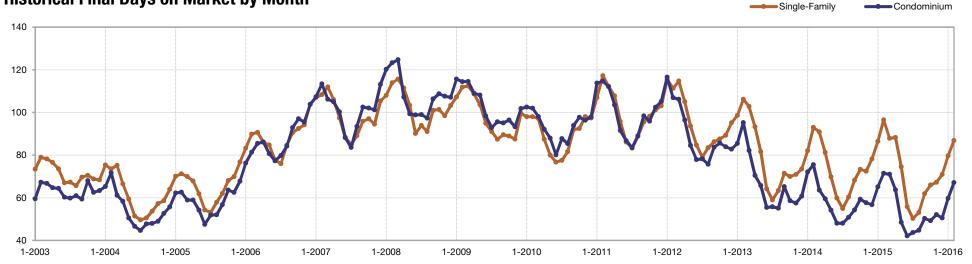
Average number of days between when a property is last listed and when the final offer is accepted in a given month.





|                | Single-Family | YoY<br>Change  | Condominium | YoY<br>Change |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| March 2015     | 88            | - 3.3%         | 71          | + 10.9%       |
| April 2015     | 88            | + 8.6%         | 64          | + 6.7%        |
| May 2015       | 74            | + 5.7%         | 49          | - 9.3%        |
| June 2015      | 56            | - 6.7%         | 42          | - 12.5%       |
| July 2015      | 50            | - 9.1%         | 44          | - 8.3%        |
| August 2015    | 53            | - 11.7%        | 45          | - 11.8%       |
| September 2015 | 62            | - 8.8%         | 50          | - 7.4%        |
| October 2015   | 66            | - 9.6%         | 49          | - 16.9%       |
| November 2015  | 67            | - 6.9%         | 52          | - 10.3%       |
| December 2015  | 71            | - 9.0%         | 51          | - 10.5%       |
| January 2016   | 80            | - 7.0%         | 60          | - 7.7%        |
| February 2016  | 87            | - <b>9.4</b> % | 67          | - 5.6%        |
| Average        | 67            | - 6.4%         | 51          | - 8.2%        |

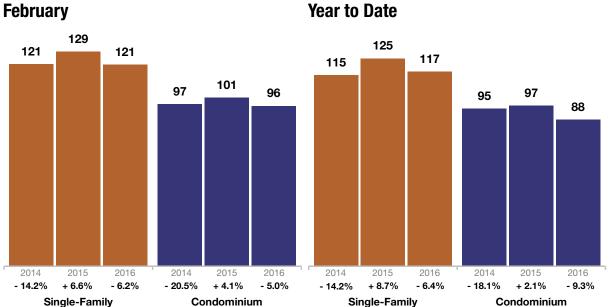
#### **Historical Final Days on Market by Month**



### **Cumulative Days on Market**

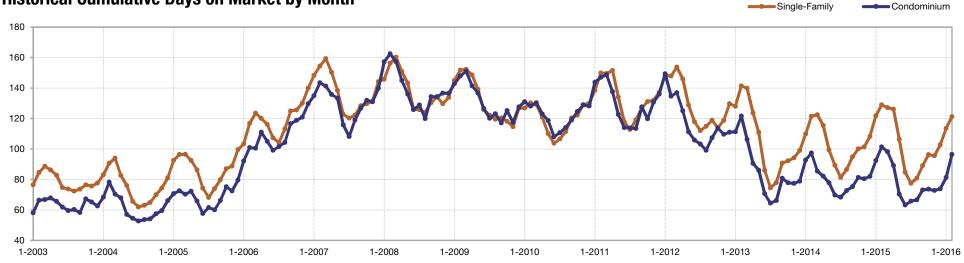
Average number of days between when a property is first listed and when the final offer is accepted before closing in a given month.





|                |               | YoY    |             | YoY     |
|----------------|---------------|--------|-------------|---------|
|                | Single-Family | Change | Condominium | Change  |
| March 2015     | 127           | + 4.1% | 98          | + 15.3% |
| April 2015     | 126           | + 9.6% | 89          | + 8.5%  |
| May 2015       | 106           | + 7.1% | 70          | - 10.3% |
| June 2015      | 85            | - 4.5% | 63          | - 10.0% |
| July 2015      | 78            | - 3.7% | 66          | - 2.9%  |
| August 2015    | 81            | - 6.9% | 67          | - 8.2%  |
| September 2015 | 89            | - 6.3% | 73          | - 2.7%  |
| October 2015   | 96            | - 4.0% | 74          | - 8.6%  |
| November 2015  | 96            | - 5.0% | 73          | - 8.8%  |
| December 2015  | 103           | - 4.6% | 74          | - 9.8%  |
| January 2016   | 114           | - 6.6% | 81          | - 12.0% |
| February 2016  | 121           | - 6.2% | 96          | - 5.0%  |
| Average        | 97            | - 3.1% | 74          | - 5.6%  |
|                |               |        |             |         |

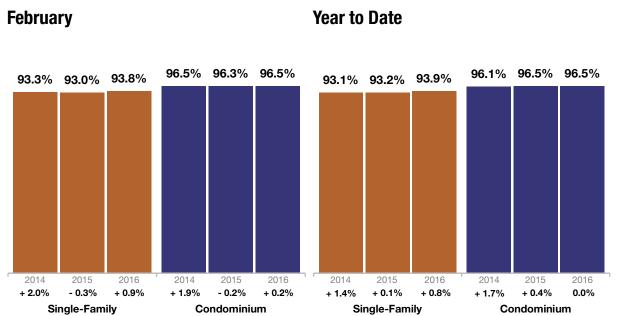
#### Historical Cumulative Days on Market by Month



## **Percent of Original List Price Received**

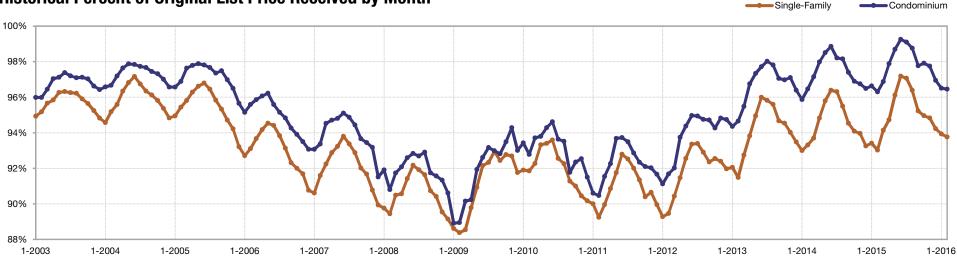
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Percentage found when dividing a property's sales price by its original list price, then taking the average for all properties sold in a given month, not accounting for seller concessions.



|                | Single-Family | YoY<br>Change | Condominium | YoY<br>Change |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| March 2015     | 94.1%         | + 0.4%        | 96.9%       | - 0.2%        |
| April 2015     | 94.7%         | - 0.1%        | 97.9%       | - 0.1%        |
| May 2015       | 96.1%         | + 0.3%        | 98.7%       | + 0.2%        |
| June 2015      | 97.2%         | + 0.8%        | 99.3%       | + 0.4%        |
| July 2015      | 97.1%         | + 0.8%        | 99.1%       | + 0.9%        |
| August 2015    | 96.4%         | + 0.9%        | 98.8%       | + 0.6%        |
| September 2015 | 95.2%         | + 0.7%        | 97.8%       | + 0.4%        |
| October 2015   | 95.0%         | + 1.0%        | 97.9%       | + 1.0%        |
| November 2015  | 94.8%         | + 0.9%        | 97.7%       | + 0.9%        |
| December 2015  | 94.2%         | + 1.0%        | 96.9%       | + 0.4%        |
| January 2016   | 93.9%         | + 0.5%        | 96.5%       | - 0.1%        |
| February 2016  | 93.8%         | + 0.9%        | 96.5%       | + 0.2%        |
| Average        | 95.5%         | + 0.7%        | 98.1%       | + 0.4%        |

#### **Historical Percent of Original List Price Received by Month**

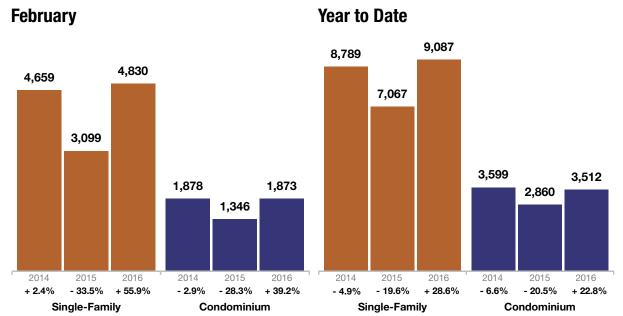


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### **New Listings**

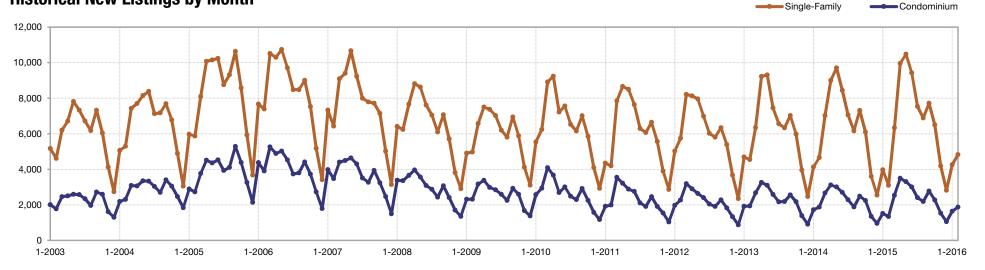
A count of the properties that have been newly listed on the market in a given month.





|                | Single-Family | YoY<br>Change | Condominium | YoY<br>Change |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| March 2015     | 6,342         | - 9.6%        | 2,543       | - 4.6%        |
| April 2015     | 9,956         | + 10.6%       | 3,490       | + 11.9%       |
| May 2015       | 10,480        | + 8.0%        | 3,301       | + 9.8%        |
| June 2015      | 9,422         | + 11.6%       | 3,010       | + 11.5%       |
| July 2015      | 7,534         | + 6.8%        | 2,407       | + 5.0%        |
| August 2015    | 6,887         | + 11.8%       | 2,186       | + 15.9%       |
| September 2015 | 7,716         | + 5.6%        | 2,771       | + 11.5%       |
| October 2015   | 6,502         | + 6.7%        | 2,278       | + 1.4%        |
| November 2015  | 4,188         | + 16.4%       | 1,533       | + 13.3%       |
| December 2015  | 2,818         | + 10.4%       | 1,057       | + 10.7%       |
| January 2016   | 4,257         | + 7.3%        | 1,639       | + 8.3%        |
| February 2016  | 4,830         | + 55.9%       | 1,873       | + 39.2%       |
| Total          | 80,932        | + 9.4%        | 28,088      | + 9.9%        |

### Historical New Listings by Month



## **Glossary of Terms**

A research tool provided by the Massachusetts Association of REALTORS®



| Closed Sales                            | A measure of home sales that were closed to completion during the report period.   |
|---|--|
| Median Sales Price                      | A measure of home values in a market area where 50% of activity was higher and 50% was lower than this price point.  |
| Housing Affordability Index             | A measure of how affordable a region's housing is to its consumers. A higher number means greater affordability. The index is based on interest rates, median sales price and average income by county.  |
| Inventory of Homes for Sale             | A measure of the number of homes available for sale at a given time. Once a listing goes pending, sold or is taken off the market, it is no longer considered "active." The availability of homes for sale has a big effect on supply-demand dynamics and home prices.                       |
| 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.  |
| Final Days on Market Until Sale         | A measure of how many calendar days pass between when a listing becomes active (not pending) for the last time to the last time it goes pending directly before it is sold. A pending sale is defined as something classified as Pending, Active with a Flag, Contingent or Under Agreement. |
| Cumulative Days on Market Until Sale    | A measure of the average number of calendar days that pass from when a listing is first listed to when a property goes into the last pending status before it is sold.   |
| Percent of Original List Price Received | This is calculated as Total Sold Dollars (all sold prices added together) divided by Total Original Price (all original list prices added together).   |
| New Listings                            | A measure of how much new supply is coming onto the market from sellers. It is calculated by counting all listings with a list date in the reporting period.   |