



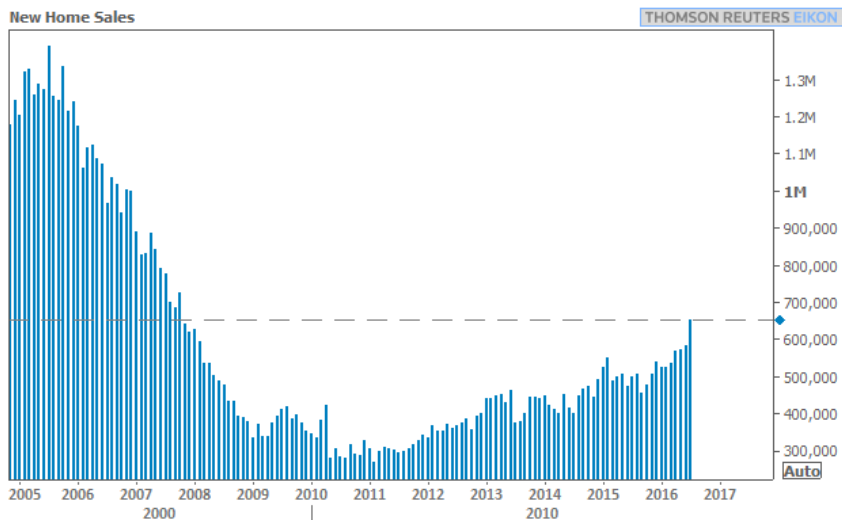
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Biggest Monthly Gain For New Home Sales in 10 Years

Rather than the month-over-month decline expected, July new home sales **soared** above 600,000 units for the first time since late 2007. The U.S. Census Bureau and Department of Housing and Urban Development reported on Tuesday that newly constructed homes sold at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 654,000 during the month, a 12.4 percent gain from June's downwardly adjusted rate of 582,000 (from 592,000). This was a **31.3 percent increase** from a year earlier when sales sold at a rate of 498,000 units.



Analysts surveyed by Econoday had expected sales to come in somewhere in the range of 556,000 to 590,000. The consensus was 580,000 units.

On a non-seasonally adjusted basis there were 57,000 new homes sold, up from 53,000 in June and 43,000 in July 2015.

The **median price** of a home sold during the month was \$294,600 compared to 296,000 a year earlier. The average price was \$355,800, up from \$341,900. In its report on the July data Econoday repeated their contention from June that sales are getting a boost from builder discounts. They cite the negative change in the year-over-year median price of homes sold as further evidence.

National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News Daily			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.14%	+0.07	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.49%	+0.04	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.62%	+0.11	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.30%	+0.04	0.00
5/1 ARM	7.10%	+0.08	0.00
Freddie Mac			
30 Yr. Fixed	6.86%	-0.01	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.16%	+0.03	0.00
Mortgage Bankers Assoc.			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.02%	-0.05	0.65
15 Yr. Fixed	6.60%	-0.15	0.55
30 Yr. FHA	6.87%	0.00	0.92
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.18%	-0.03	0.54
5/1 ARM	6.45%	+0.08	0.81

Rates as of: 7/1

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Jun 12	208.5	+15.58%
Building Permits	Mar	1.46M	-3.95%
Housing Starts	Mar	1.32M	-13.15%
New Home Sales	Mar	693K	+4.68%
Pending Home Sales	Feb	75.6	+1.75%
Existing Home Sales	Feb	3.97M	-0.75%

Sales rose in **three of the four regions** but most notably in the Northeast where they were up 40.0 percent from June and 25.0 percent from July 2015. Sales in the Midwest edged 1.2 percent higher for the month but were 35.6 percent higher year-over-year. Sales in the South were up 18.1 percent and 39.6 percent respectively for the two period. The West saw sales unchanged from June but they were still 11.4 percent above July 2015.

Builder Confidence	Mar	51	+6.25%
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At the end of the reporting period there were 235,000 new homes available for sale nationwide, an estimated **4.1-month supply**, the lowest in at least a year. There were 241,000 homes for sale in the June report but the slower pace of sales put that supply at 4.6 months. All inventory numbers are not seasonally adjusted. Homes sold in July were on the market a median of 3.7 months and 40,000 of the 57,000 sold before construction was complete.

Real Talk

At The Rate Shop, we're not your average mortgage banker. We specialize in bringing you ridiculously low interest rates that will make you wonder what the other guys are doing. In fact the **ONLY** objection we ever hear is "your rates sound too good to be true". Well they're not, and here is why...

After 15 years in the retail banking world I was frustrated with the high interest rates that came from that business model. As I looked around at all the bloated layers of management and their expensive salaries and the overhead of running a larger company (think rent costs, employee health and benefit costs, payroll taxes, and on and on) it dawned on me that I was a part of the problem, and the solution, for me at least, was so easy to see.

Start my own mortgage brokerage shop. No expensive executive salaries, no expensive building to pay rent at, no unnecessary employees and all the costs that are associated with that. What happens when you cut out all the fat? You can provide lower rates and lower closing costs. It's simple. Now here is the best part, you still get great service from a local Kansas City Lender. My mission is to let everyone know that low rates and great customer service are **NOT** mutually exclusive.

Thanks for coming along on this journey where Low Rates meet Great Service. The two do **NOT** have to be mutually exclusive. It's just a lie that the big box mortgage companies have been telling you for years. Don't believe me? Give me a call or shoot me a text on my personal cell phone today and compare my rates and costs up against any other lender in the country, and be prepared to be blown away.

Mike Baker

