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New Home Sales Stellar, Despite October Revision

New home sales pulled off **another surprise** in November. Sales had posted monthly gains of 6.2 percent and 14.2 percent in September and October, landing at a reported **post-recession high** of 685,000. Analysts, at least those polled by Econoday, had expected the November sales to settle back into a 650,000-unit annualized rate. Instead, those sales were up again, this time by 17.5 percent. Sadly however, the much-heralded **October gains evaporated on revision**.

...but the good news first. The November blowout brought the seasonally adjusted rate to 733,000 units which is 26.6 percent higher than sales in November 2016, even as the U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development adjusted October sales down significantly to 624,000 units, completely wiping out the September-October gain.

On a non-adjusted basis, sales totaled 52,000 during the month, up from 49,000 in October and 40,000 the previous November.

The median **price of new homes** sold during the month was \$318,700, up from \$315,000 a year earlier. The average prices for the two periods were \$377,100 and \$363,400 respectively.

Sales in the **Northeast** rose 9.5 percent from October and were 53.3 percent higher than in November 2016. In the **Midwest** there was an increase of 6.9 percent for the month, but sales were flat compared to 12 months earlier.

In the **South** sales gained 14.9 percent for the month and 32.5 percent year-over-year. The **West** saw **no change** in sales compared to October, but they were 14.1 percent higher on an annual basis.

At the end of the reporting period there were an estimated 283,000 homes for sale. The Census Bureau estimates this as a 4.6-month supply at the current rate of sale. Of those available homes, only 64,000 are ready for occupancy and construction has not started on 52,000.

Completed homes were on the market a median of 3.3 months.

National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News Daily			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.07%	+0.02	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.45%	0.00	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.51%	+0.02	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.26%	0.00	0.00
5/1 ARM	7.02%	-0.01	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: 6/28

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%

Real Talk

	Value	Change
Builder Confidence	Mar 51	+6.25%

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.

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