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# RE/MAX National Housing Report for August 2020

Home Sales Sizzle Amid All-Time Low Inventory, Rising Prices

**DENVER** – The blistering hot streak of U.S. home sales continued in August, reaching record levels for the month. August also set new report records for lowest inventory and days on market as well as highest median sales price.

August home sales, continuing a torrid summer, were the highlight of the month. Year over year, home sales rose 4.3% and marked the third-highest total in the report's 13year history covering 53 metro markets. July 2020 holds the report record for most home sales, followed by June 2017. Year to date, 2020 home sales trail 2019's by only 3% after being 9% lower through May.

"The demand for houses is easily eclipsing the available inventory in metro areas across the country. Buyers are moving forward in record numbers, unfazed by inventory challenges and consistently higher prices," said Adam Contos, CEO of RE/MAX Holdings, Inc. "Homeowners in a position to sell are seizing the opportunity – and benefiting from the one-two combination of enthusiastic, competitive buyers and significantly quicker turnaround times. In many respects, the current environment presents advantages on both sides of the equation."

While sales climbed, the number of homes on the market in August plunged 29.6% yearover-year – to an all-time report low. And in a related metric, the 1.7 Months of Inventory tied July for the lowest in report history.

This high-demand, low-supply dynamic drove the Median Sales Price to \$290,000, topping the previous report record of \$285,000 set just one month ago in July. Prices rose 11.5% from August 2019, the highest year-over-year increase in more than six years.

On average, homes spent a mere 41 Days on Market – tying July 2018 for the shortest time in report history. Fourteen markets reported 30 days or less from listing to contract signing. Compare that to August 2019, when average Days on Market totaled 45.

### **Closed Transactions**

Of the 53 metro areas surveyed in August 2020, the overall average number of home sales is down 7.6% compared to July 2020, and up 4.3% compared to August 2019.

Leading the year-over-year sales percentage increase were Chicago, IL at +20.1%, Boise, ID at +15.7%, and Hartford, CT at +15.2%.

# Median Sales Price – Median of 53 metro median prices

In August 2020, the median of all 53 metro Median Sales Prices was \$290,000, up 1.8% from July 2020, and up 11.5% from August 2019. Thirty metro areas increased year-over-year by double-digit percentages, led by Augusta, ME at +22.8%, Tulsa, OK at +21.8%, and Cincinnati, OH at +18.3%. Not a single metro area saw a year-over-year decrease in Median Sales Price.

### Days on Market – Average of 53 metro areas

The average Days on Market for homes sold in August 2020 was 41, down three days from the average in July 2020, and down four days from the average in August 2019. The metro areas with the lowest Days on Market were Omaha, NE at 17, Cincinnati, OH at 21, and a tie between Seattle, WA and Nashville, TN at 22. The highest Days on Market averages were in Des Moines, IA at 92, Miami, FL at 89, and New York, NY at 83. Days on Market is the number of days between when a home is first listed in an MLS and a sales contract is signed.

# Months Supply of Inventory – Average of 53 metro areas

The number of homes for sale in August 2020 was down 6.1% from July 2020 and down 29.6% from August 2019. Based on the rate of home sales in August 2020, the Months Supply of Inventory decreased to 1.7 compared to 1.9 in July 2020, and decreased compared to 3.3 in August 2019. The markets with the lowest Months Supply of Inventory were Boise, ID at 0.5, Albuquerque, NM at 0.7, and a seven-way tie between Hartford, CT, Phoenix, AZ, Charlotte, NC, Manchester, NH, Washington DC, Denver, CO, and Omaha, NE at 0.9.

For specific data in this report or to request an interview, please contact <a href="mailto:mediarelations@remax.com">mediarelations@remax.com</a>.

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## About the RE/MAX Network

As one of the leading global real estate franchisors, RE/MAX, LLC is a subsidiary of RE/MAX Holdings (NYSE: RMAX) with over 130,000 agents in more than 110 countries and territories. Nobody in the world sells more real estate than RE/MAX, as measured by residential transaction sides. Dedicated to innovation and change in the real estate industry, RE/MAX launched Motto Mortgage, a ground-breaking mortgage franchisor, in 2016 and acquired booj, a real estate technology company, in 2018. RE/MAX agents have lived, worked and served in their local communities for decades, raising millions of dollars every year for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals® and other charities. To learn more about RE/MAX, to search home listings or find an agent in your community, please visit www.remax.com. For the latest news about RE/MAX, please visit news.remax.com.

#### Description

The RE/MAX National Housing Report is distributed each month on or about the 15<sup>th</sup>. The first Report was distributed in August 2008. The Report is based on MLS data in approximately 53 metropolitan areas, includes all residential property types, and is not annualized. For maximum representation, many of the largest metro areas in the country are represented, and an attempt is made to include at least one metro from each state. Metro area definitions include the specific counties established by the U.S. Government's Office of Management and Budget, with some exceptions.

#### **Definitions**

Transactions are the total number of closed residential transactions during the given month. Months Supply of Inventory is the total number of residential properties listed for sale at the end of the month (current inventory) divided by the number of sales contracts signed (pended) during the month. Where "pended" data is unavailable, this calculation is made using closed transactions. Days on Market is the number of days that pass from the time a property is listed until the property goes under contract for all residential

properties sold during the month. Median Sales Price is the median of the median sales prices in each of the metro areas included in the survey.

MLS data is provided by contracted data aggregators, RE/MAX brokerages and regional offices. While MLS data is believed to be accurate, it cannot be guaranteed. MLS data is constantly being updated, making any analysis a snapshot at a particular time. Every month the RE/MAX National Housing Report re-calculates the previous period's data to ensure accuracy over time. All raw data remains the intellectual property of each local MLS organization.