

## RELEASE

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## Winnipeg housing starts moderate in December, yet post gain in 2011

**Winnipeg, January 10, 2012** – According to preliminary data released today by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), home builders in the Winnipeg Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) began construction on 211 units in December, down from 263 in December 2010. The decrease occurred in the multi-family sector. Total starts for 2011 numbered 3,331 units, a modest improvement over the 3,244 recorded during 2010.

The Winnipeg CMA recorded 149 single-detached starts last month, four per cent more than the 143 started in December 2010. To the end of 2011, single-detached starts reached 2,002 units, four per cent above the number of homes started during 2010. “This past year was characterized by population gains and steady employment, pushing single-detached starts beyond 2,000 units for the first time since 1989,” noted Dianne Himbeault, CMHC’s Senior Market Analyst based in Winnipeg.

The multi-family sector, which includes semi-detached units, rows, and apartments, saw 62 units break ground in December, approximately half of the 120 units started one year earlier. This brought the number of multi-family units started in 2011 to 1,329 units, surpassing 2010’s total by six units. Among dwelling types, semi-detached starts for 2011 totalled 38 units, ten per cent fewer than the number for 2010. Apartment starts also recorded a decline, numbering 958 units in 2011, 16 per cent fewer than in 2010. Row starts, however, compensated for these declines and totalled 333 units in 2011, nearly two and one half times the number started in 2010. “Multi-family housing continues to show strength, especially in the rental market which comprised 61 per cent of all multiple-family starts in 2011,” added Himbeault.

Across Manitoba’s Census Agglomerations (CAs), total housing starts increased in all centres with the exception of Portage la Prairie in 2011.

As Canada’s national housing agency, CMHC draws on more than 65 years of experience to help Canadians access a variety of quality, environmentally sustainable and affordable housing solutions. CMHC also provides reliable, impartial and up-to-date housing market reports, analysis and knowledge to support and assist consumers and the housing industry in making informed decisions.

For more information, visit [www.cmhc.ca](http://www.cmhc.ca) or call 1-800-668-2642. CMHC Market Analysis standard reports are also available free for download at [www.cmhc.ca/housingmarketinformation](http://www.cmhc.ca/housingmarketinformation).

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**Preliminary Housing Starts in Manitoba  
December 2011**

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%
Winnipeg CMA	149	143	4.2	62	120	-48.3	211	263	-19.8
Winnipeg City	114	110	3.6	12	118	-89.8	126	228	-44.7
Surrounding Area	35	33	6.1	50	2	--	85	35	--
Brandon CA	7	7	0.0	4	24	-83.3	11	31	-64.5
<b>Total*</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>-54.2</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>-24.5</b>

\* Total consists of Winnipeg CMA and Brandon

**October to December (Q4) 2011**

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%
Portage la Prairie CA	15	17	-11.8	2	3	-33.3	17	20	-15.0
Thompson CA	2	0	--	12	0	--	14	0	--
St. Andrews	21	6	--	0	0	--	21	6	--
Hanover CA**	26	20	30.0	28	6	--	54	26	--
Steinbach***	23	18	27.8	34	79	-57.0	57	97	-41.2
<b>Total*</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>-13.6</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>9.4</b>

**January to December 2011**

	Single-Detached			Multiple-Family			Total		
	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%	2011	2010	%
Winnipeg CMA	2,002	1,921	4.2	1,329	1,323	0.5	3,331	3,244	2.7
Winnipeg City	1,605	1,499	7.1	1,184	1,288	-8.1	2,789	2,787	0.1
Surrounding Area	397	422	-5.9	145	35	--	542	457	18.6
Brandon CA	108	136	-20.6	188	145	29.7	296	281	5.3
Portage la Prairie CA	49	69	-29.0	25	47	-46.8	74	116	-36.2
Thompson CA	2	3	-33.3	28	0	--	30	3	--
St. Andrews	53	41	29.3	0	0	--	53	41	29.3
Hanover CA**	92	77	19.5	77	22	--	169	99	70.7
Steinbach***	95	75	26.7	145	107	35.5	240	182	31.9
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2,401</b>	<b>2,322</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1,792</b>	<b>1,644</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>4,193</b>	<b>3,966</b>	<b>5.7</b>

Source: Market Analysis Centre, C.M.H.C.

-- % change equals or exceeds +/- 100%

\*Total consists of selected centres with a population of 10,000 or more

\*\* New centre added to survey in 2006

\*\*\* New 10,000+ centre in 2008

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