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KEY STATISTICS

UNITED KINGDOM



£256,405



AVERAGE UK PROPERTY PRICE AVERAGE UK PROPERTY PRICE INCREASED

1.8% FROM FEB - MARCH



UK RESIDENTS TRANSACTIONS

179.5% HIGHER THAN APRIL 2020



29% INCREASE

IN DEMAND YTD



TOTAL STOCK OF HOMES DOWN

20.8% (YTD V 2020 AVERAGE)



VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL SALES IN 2021

FORECAST TO BE £461 BILLION



RESIDENTIAL SALES COMPLETIONS

FORECAST TO REACH 1.5 MILLION IN 2021



RESIDENTIAL MARKET OVERVIEW

UK house prices increased by **10.2%** in the year to **March 2021** and additionally up from **9.2%** in **February 2021.** While we continue to see a 'property boom' happening across the UK, markets remain highly localised.

Easing off

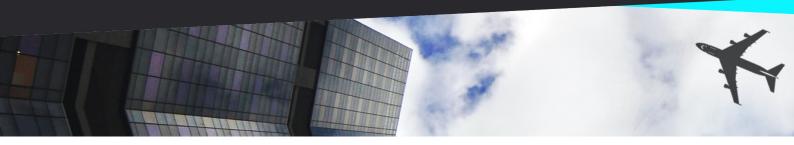
As restrictions continue to ease with access to outdoor and indoor facilities, and sights still hopefully set on June 21st being the end of the UK's lockdown, buyer demand looks to start reducing. Although, still maintaining an increased demand level compared to levels typically seen from previous years, with 2021 set to be one of the busiest sales markets in more than a decade.

A seller's market remains with demand continuing to outpace supply and the need for all types of properties remains evident across the market.

Affordability

Affordability remains a key aspect of the market, with price growth being greatest in areas with the strongest property affordability. Mortgage affordability is just above the national long-term average of **25%**, demonstrating property is still obtainable despite concerns. Demand for homes from first-time buyers is also set to grow with the introduction of a **5%** mortgage scheme.





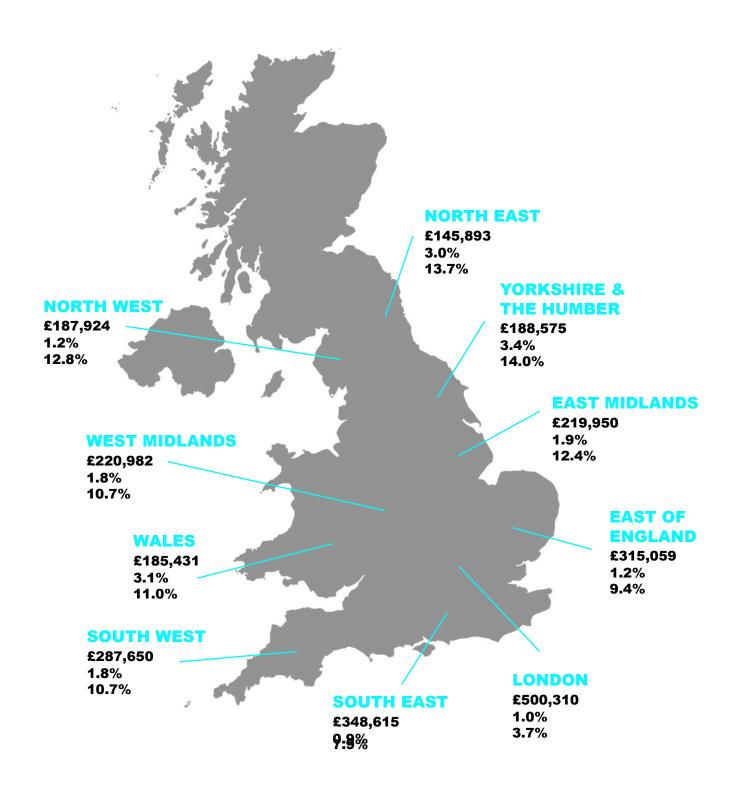
TRANSACTIONS

Key statistics:

- o **117,860** transactions in April 2021
- o Total down **35.7%** in April compared to March
- o Residential transactions highest since 2007

| Month and year | Non-seasonally adjusted UK residential transactions | Seasonally adjusted UK residential transactions |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| April 2020 | 37,360 | 42,160 |
| May 2020 | 46,150 | 48,250 |
| June 2020 | 67,400 | 62,080 |
| July 2020 | 80,640 | 70,770 |
| August 2020 | 85,040 | 81,380 |
| September 2020 | 99,040 | 95,570 |
| October 2020 | 121,680 | 107,170 |
| November 2020 | 121,100 | 115,150 |
| December 2020 | 132,820 | 125,120 |
| January 2020 | 97,710 | 120,230 |
| February 2020 (provisional) | 121,050 | 144,910 |
| March 2021 (provisional) | 173,410 | 183,170 |
| April 2021 (provisional) | 111,260 | 177,860 |

REGIONAL OVERVIEW







THE PROPERTY MARKET BOOM

'UK property prices rising at record levels' has been a common headline recently and rightly so as they have seen incredible growth, despite initial predictions from economists who predicted house prices to drop significantly during the pandemic in line with previous trends from the last six recessions experienced since WW2. Many homeowners may have recalled when prices dropped by 19% in 2009 and potentially the early 1990's where they dropped over 40% in four years.

The mix of Government support programmes (including bounce back loans, grants, and furlough), the change to remote working, stamp duty tax holiday, pent-up demand from the 'Boris-Bounce' and the 0.1% Bank of England interest rates to keep borrowing low, have all helped sustained, the growth of property values compared to the previous 12 months.

Affordability and first-time buyers remain priority concerns, along with future interest rates.







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