

# The Otteau Report

An Analysis of Residential Real Estate Trends

Warren County, New Jersey  
3rd Quarter 2007

*Prepared By:*



Administrative Offices  
Brunswick Woods Office Park  
15 Brunswick Woods Drive  
East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816  
800-458-7161

## SCOPE OF THE STUDY

*The Otteau Report* has been prepared by our Research Department as part of a continuing effort to bring clarity to real estate market analysis. The information and analyses contained herein are based in whole, or in part, on data supplied by various sources including Boards of Realtors and Multiple Listing Systems, and may therefore not reflect all real estate activity in the market. While believed to be reliable, we cannot guarantee, nor assume responsibility for the accuracy of information which has been supplied to us by others.

## Copyright

All rights reserved. Without limiting the foregoing, no part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, without the prior written permission of the Otteau Appraisal Group, Inc.

## OTTEAU VALUATION GROUP, Inc.

### Bringing Clarity to Real Estate

The lightning strike speed of today's information flow has accelerated the pace of change for real estate markets. As a result, trends that previously took years to develop can now unfold in a few short months.

Our mission is to assist our clients in keeping pace with that change by providing insightful analysis and cutting edge pricing skills. To accomplish this we have assembled a team of skilled professionals specializing in the complex and highly diversified real estate markets of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware. With a broad based exposure in real estate valuation and consultation, our firm engages in a diversified practice encompassing all property types.

Appraisal and consulting services are provided to financial & lending institutions, developers & builders, attorneys, investors, relocation management service companies, governmental agencies, corporations and the public.

Our Consulting Group provides a wide array of services to developers and builders with respect to market analysis, project feasibility, demographic trends, project valuation and municipal project approval proceedings.

Litigation support is provided for matters requiring the valuation and corresponding expert testimony for eminent domain proceedings, contractual disputes, bankruptcy, tax appeals, equitable distribution, estate valuation and stigma related issues.

## Jeffrey G. Otteau President

Mr. Otteau manages all facets of the firm's business and has been actively engaged in real estate consultation and valuation since 1974. He holds the State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser certification, the highest level offered, and is licensed in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania & Delaware.

Frequently quoted in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal, and having appeared on CNBC, Mr. Otteau is widely respected for his knowledge and insight into real estate trends. His attention to detail and comprehensive fact finding has made him the go-to person for industry professionals seeking to enhance their competitive position in the marketplace.

Jeffrey has provided testimony as an expert witness at the municipal, county and state levels, authored several texts on property valuation techniques and has lectured throughout the United States and in Canada. He served on the Appraisal Standards Advisory Council, which consulted with the Appraisal Foundation in Washington, D.C. on its agenda of projects and major technical issues. Mr. Otteau served as a past Chairman of the Employee Relocation Council's Appraisal Standards Council and was inducted into their distinguished Hall of Leaders in 1995.



<http://www.otteau.com/>

## **Appraisal and Consulting Services Performed for the Following Clients:**

### **THE FORTUNE 500**

Abbott Laboratories  
Alcoa  
American Home Products  
Amoco Oil Co.  
Anheuser Busch Companies  
Armstrong World Industries  
Bristol-Myers Squibb  
Brown-Forman  
Carter-Wallace  
Circuit City Group  
Digital Equipment Corporation  
E. I. duPont de Nemours  
Eastman Kodak Company  
Eli Lilly Company  
ExxonMobil  
F.M.C. Corporation  
Foster Wheeler  
General Motors Corporation  
Hercules Incorporated  
Marriott Corporation  
McGraw Hill  
Merck  
Nabisco  
Pharmacia & Upjohn  
Procter and Gamble  
Prudential Insurance Co.  
Raychem Corp.  
Rhone-Poulenc Rorer  
Sara Lee Bakery  
Schering-Plough  
State Farm Insurance  
Time Warner  
W.R. Grace  
Westinghouse Electric Corporation

### **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

Amboy National Bank  
Bank of New York  
Bank of Oklahoma  
Bank of St. Louis  
Barclay's Bank PLC  
Broadway National Bank  
Chase Home Mortgage Corporation  
JP Morgan Chase  
Connecticut National Bank  
Countrywide Financial  
Citigroup  
The Dun and Bradstreet Corporation  
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.  
Federal National Mortgage Assoc.  
First Savings Bank  
First Washington State Bank  
General Electric Credit Corporation  
General Motors Acceptance Corp (GMAC)  
GMAC Model Home Finance  
Goldman, Sachs  
Magyar Bank  
Morgan Guaranty Trust Company  
New Millennium Bank  
North Fork Bank

PNC Bank  
Philadelphia National Bank  
Pittsburgh National Bank  
Resolution Trust Corp. (RTC)  
Sovereign Bank  
Texas Commerce Bank  
Unity Bank  
Yardville National Bank  
OceanFirst Bank  
Washington Mutual  
Wachovia  
Wells Fargo Bank

### **DEVELOPERS**

American Properties  
Bob Meyer Communities  
Diversified Properties, LLC  
Kushner Companies  
Kaplan Companies  
K Hovnanian Homes  
Lennar  
M. Alfieri Company  
Matzel Development  
Millennium Homes  
PRC Group  
Pulte Homes  
Toll Brothers  
Trammell Crow  
Tim Schaeffer Communities

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

ADP  
Bausch & Lomb  
CSX Transportation  
Ciba-Geigy Corporation  
Cigna Corporation  
Frito-Lay  
Gulf Oil  
Honeywell  
Janssen Pharmaceuticals  
Kemper Insurance Group  
Kraft-General Foods  
Marion Merrel Dow  
McDonald's Corporation  
Nationwide Insurance Co.  
Nestle USA  
Princeton University  
Public Service Electric & Gas  
Salvation Army  
Siemens Corporation  
Sony Corporation of America

### **GOVERNMENTAL**

Branchburg Township  
East Brunswick Township  
Marlboro Township  
Middlesex County Improvement Authority  
Monroe Township  
Montgomery Township  
New Jersey Green Acres  
Washington Township



<http://www.otteau.com/>

# MARKET STUDY KEY

The following key will be helpful in understanding the market research data contained on the following pages:

## **New Offerings**

Number of home offerings which first became available for-sale within the specified market area in each of the time periods indicated. This statistic includes expired listings which have been re-listed for sale.

## **Sales**

Number of homes which were contracted for-sale within the market area in each of the time periods indicated. Contract-Sales provide a more timely indication of market activity than Closed-Sales due to the time lag between "contract" and "closing", and therefore provide the most reliable and timely indicator as to the number of buyers who are active in a given market area at a particular point in time.

## **Supply & Demand Ratio**

The relationship between "New Offerings" and "Sales" activity expressed as a percentage ratio. Changes in this ratio can often be an early indicator of a shift in market conditions. A rising ratio is indicative of improving market conditions, while a declining ratio suggests weakening market conditions.

## **Unsold Inventory**

Total number of homes being offered for sale within the market area at the end of the indicated period.

## **Projected Absorption**

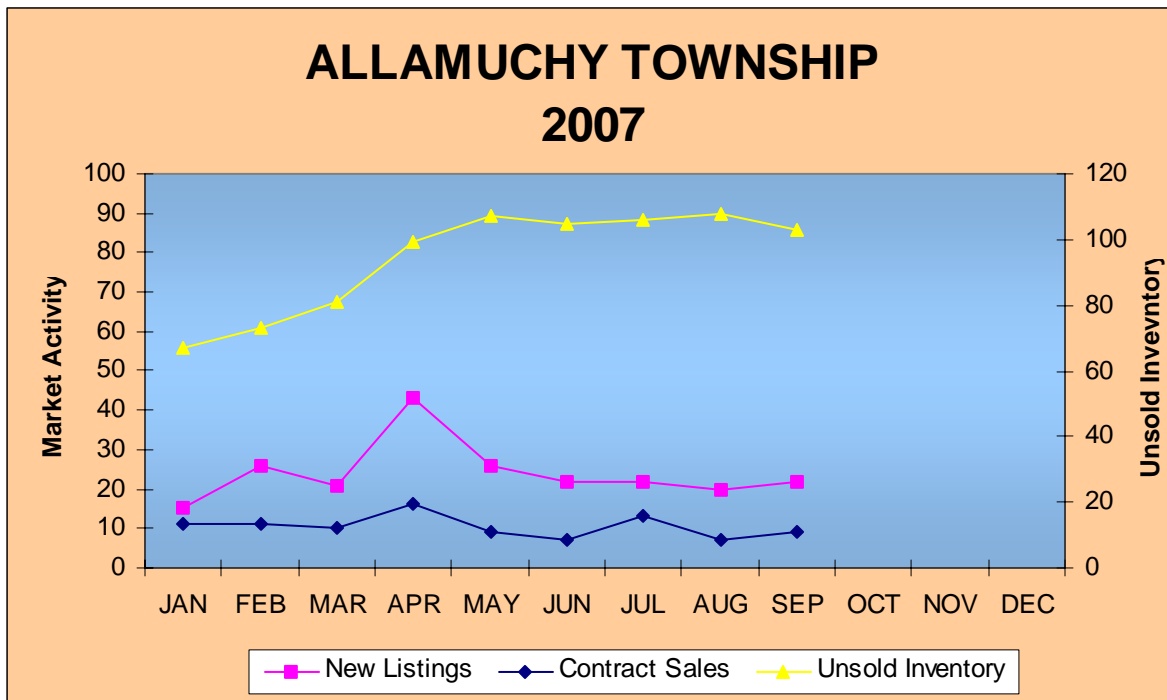
A projection of how long it will take for the market to absorb the inventory of unsold homes (Unsold Inventory) within each market area.

## **County Composite**

An aggregate compilation of all market activity within the county, which includes all of its municipalities.



<http://www.otteau.com/>

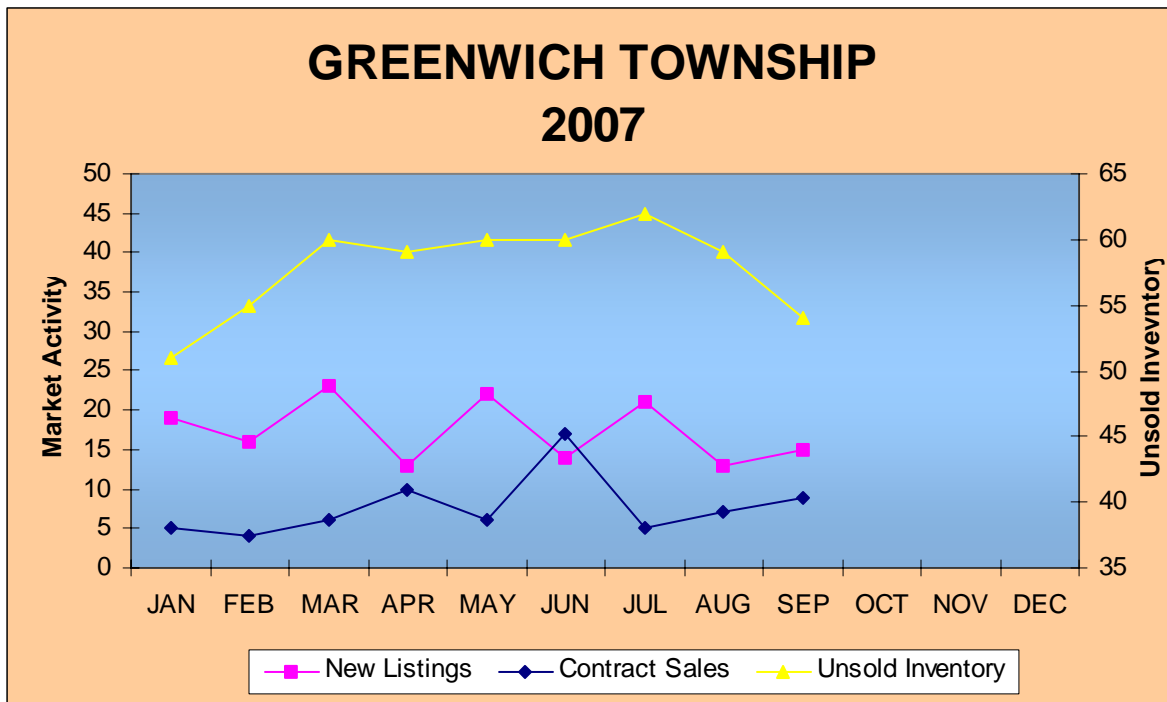


### ALLAMUCHY TOWNSHIP 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Average # Of Offerings/Monthly					21.3
Average # Of Sales/Monthly					9.7
Supply & Demand Ratio					45%
Unsold Inventory					103
Projected Absorption (Months)					11



<http://www.otteau.com/>

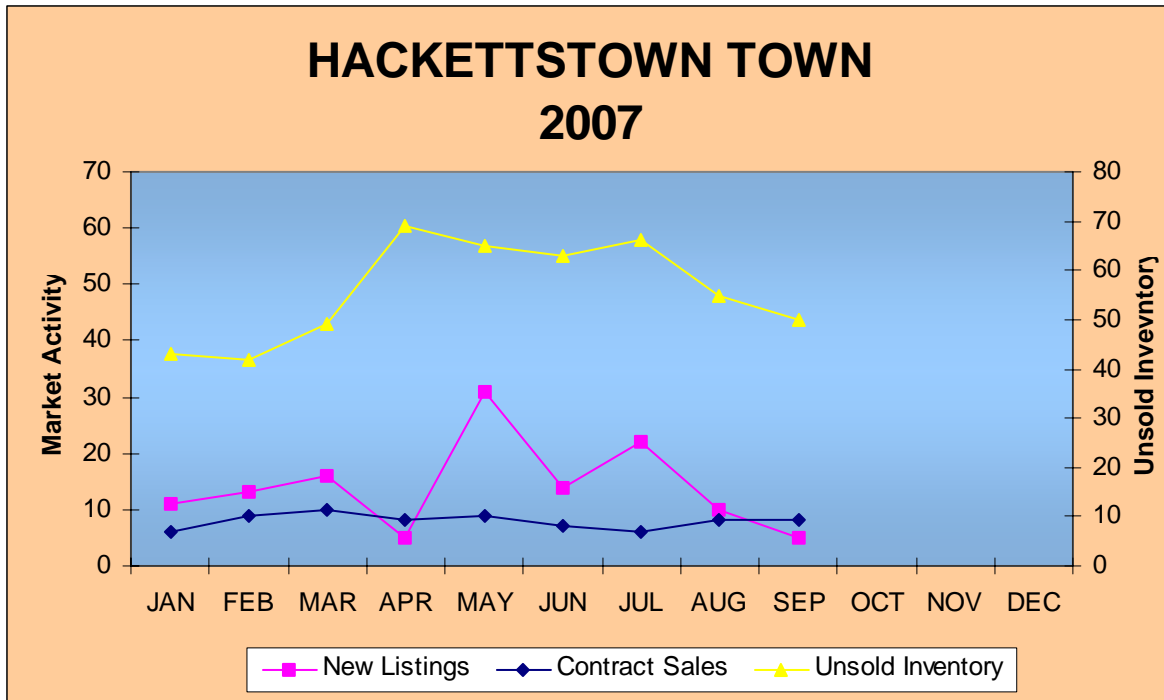


### **GREENWICH TOWNSHIP** 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>					16.3
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>					7.0
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>					43%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>					54
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>					8



<http://www.otteau.com/>

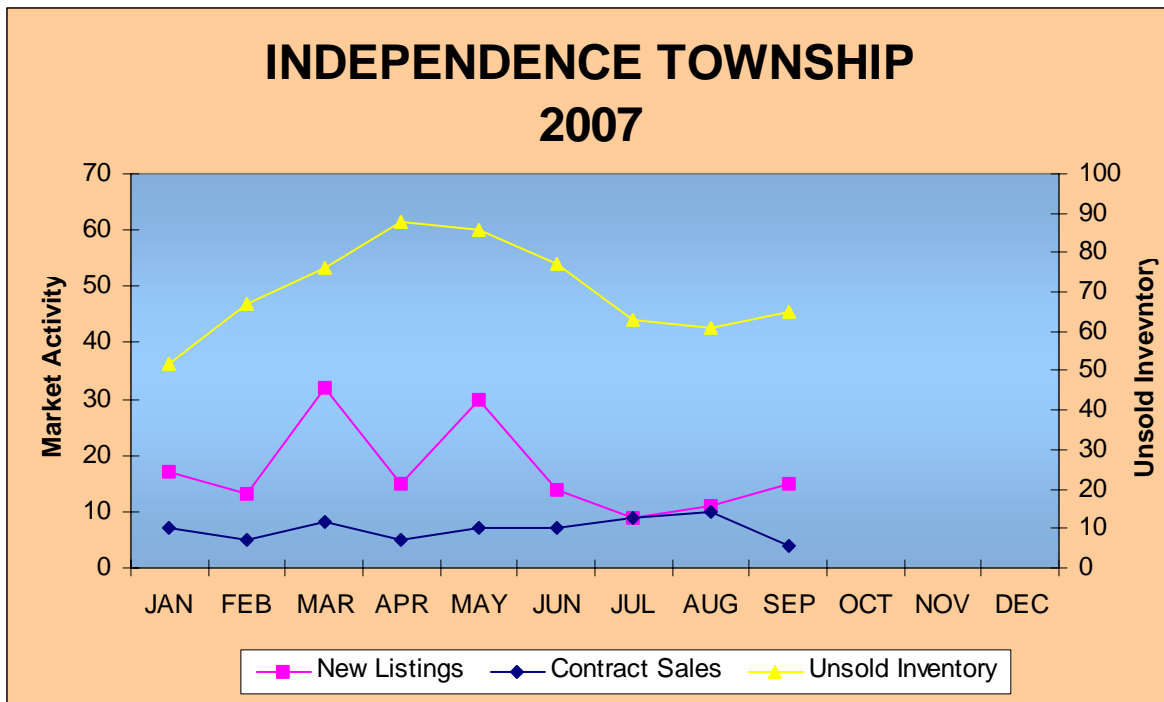


### **HACKETTSTOWN TOWN 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>		11.3	17.0	14.3	12.3
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>		7.7	14.0	7.0	7.3
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>		68%	82%	49%	59%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>		26	35	50	50
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>		3	3	7	7



<http://www.otteau.com/>



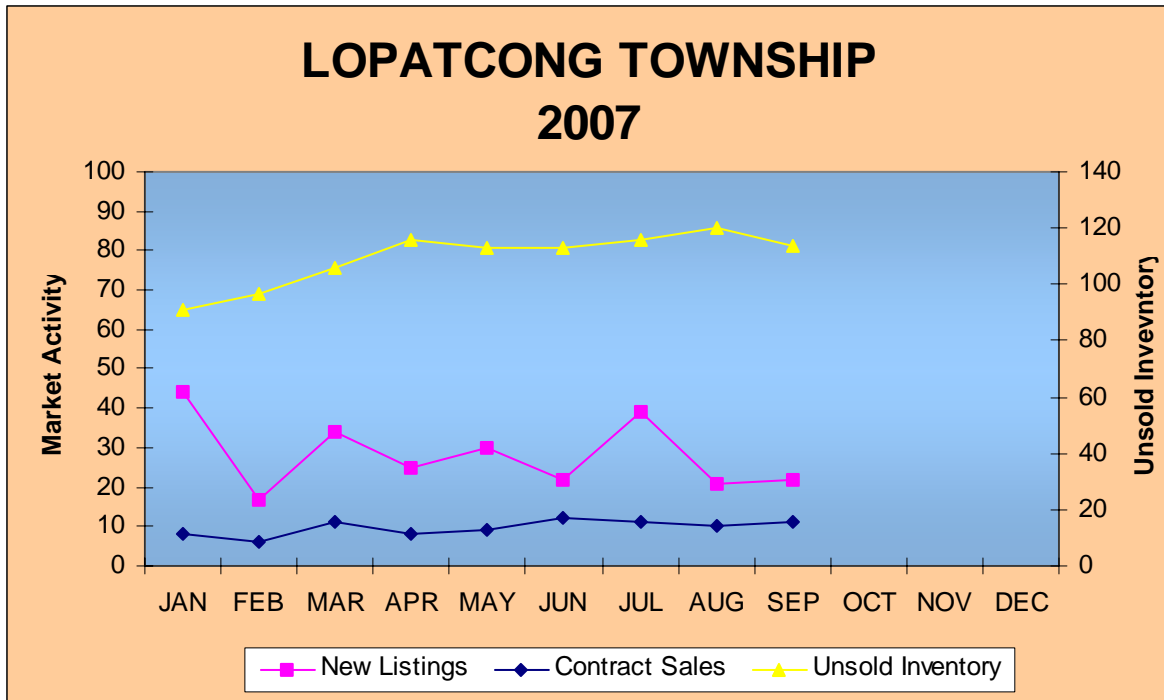
### **INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>					11.7
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>					7.7
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>					66%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>					65
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>					8



<http://www.otteau.com/>



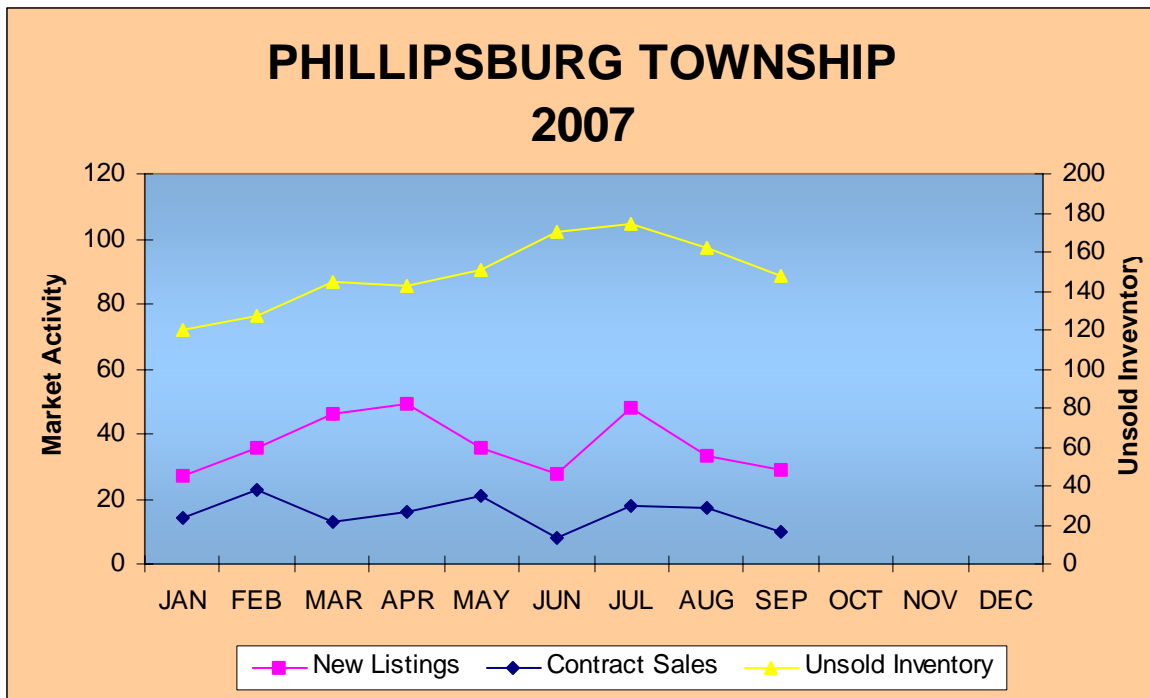


### LOPATCONG TOWNSHIP 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>					27.3
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>					10.7
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>					39%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>					114
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>					11



<http://www.otteau.com/>

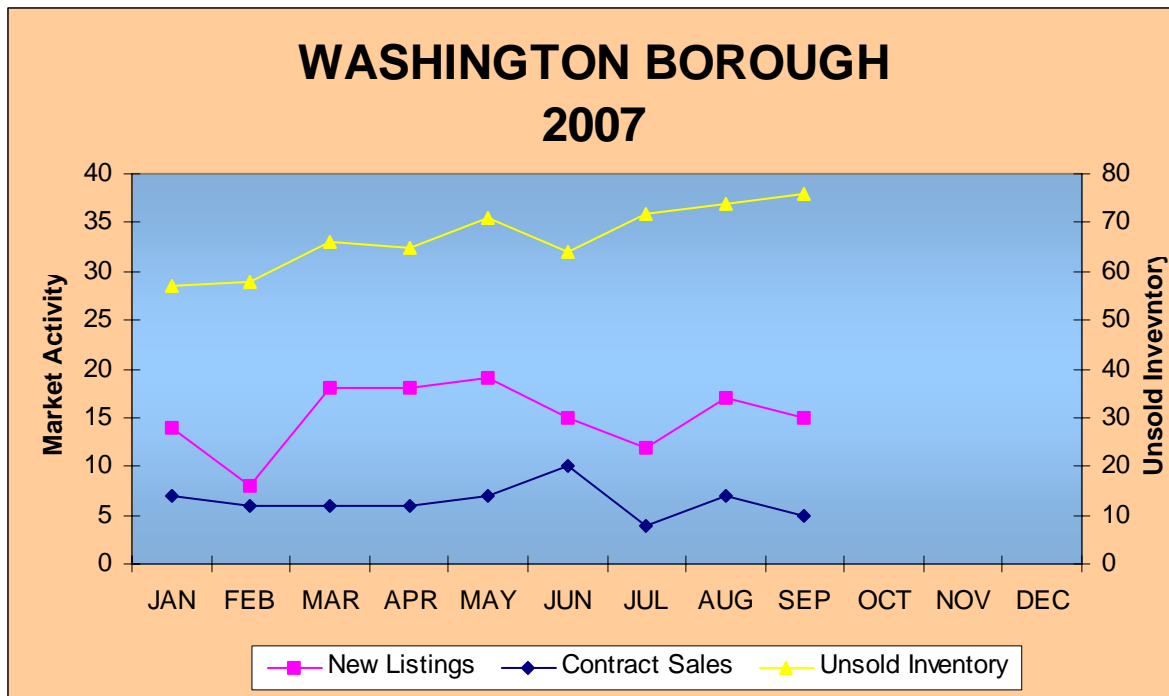


### ***PHILLIPSBURG TOWNSHIP 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance***

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>					36.7
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>					15.0
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>					41%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>					148
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>					10



<http://www.otteau.com/>

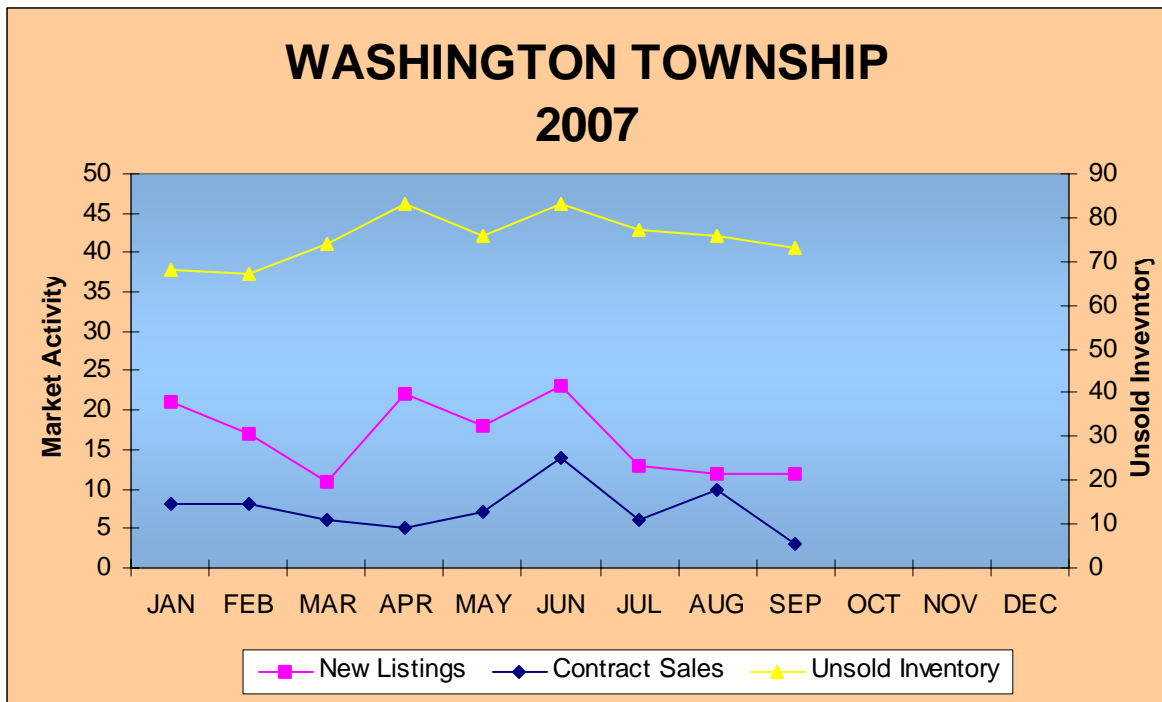


### WASHINGTON BOROUGH 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>					14.7
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>					5.3
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>					36%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>					76
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>					14



<http://www.otteau.com/>

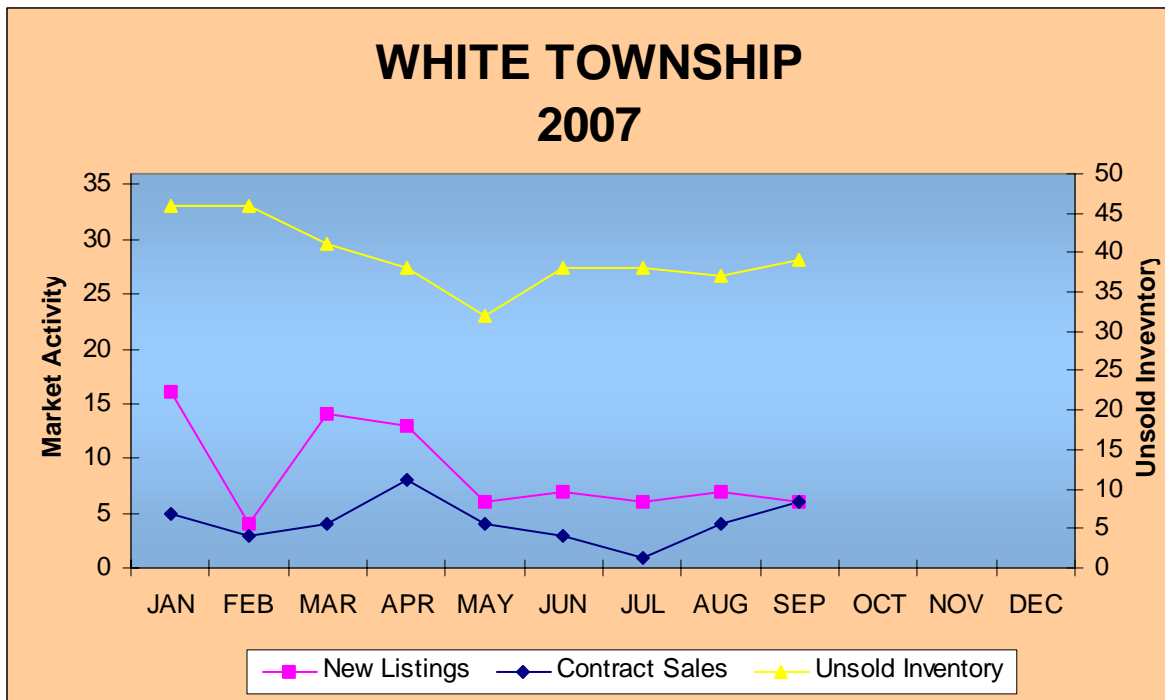


### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>					12.3
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>					6.3
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>					51%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>					73
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>					12



<http://www.otteau.com/>



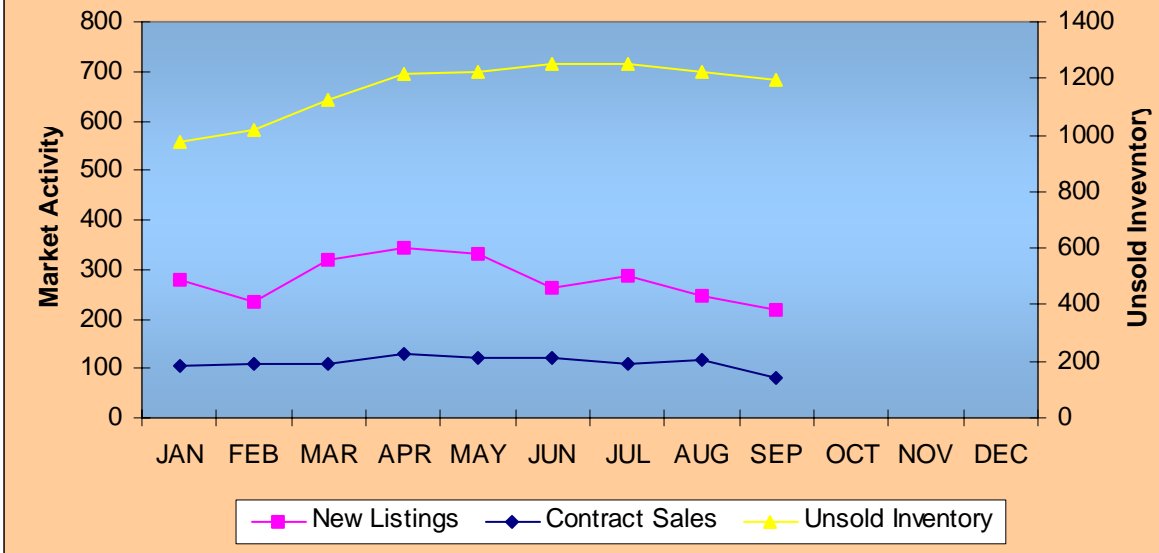
### WHITE TOWNSHIP 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>					6.3
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>					3.7
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>					58%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>					39
<i>Projected Absorption (Months)</i>					11



<http://www.otteau.com/>

## WARREN COUNTY COMPOSITE 2007



### WARREN COUNTY COMPOSITE 3rd Quarter At-A-Glance

		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<i>Average # Of Offerings/Monthly</i>		220.3	226.7	280.0	271.3	250.0
<i>Average # Of Sales/Monthly</i>		151.7	149.0	169.3	117.3	102.7
<i>Supply &amp; Demand Ratio</i>		69%	66%	60%	43%	41%
<i>Unsold Inventory</i>		673	676	813	1168	1195
<i>Projected Absorption (months)</i>	<i>Total Market</i>	4	5	5	10	12
	<i>Less than \$600k</i>				9	11
	<i>\$600k - \$1 million</i>				49	117
	<i>\$1,000,001 - \$2.5 mil.</i>				24	∞
	<i>Greater than \$2.5 mil.</i>				∞	∞



<http://www.otteau.com/>