

The Land Registry Monthly Press Release
Figures on Agreements for Sale and Purchase
and Statistical Tables on Instruments
Received for Registration in August 2008

The total number of sale and purchase agreements for all types of building units received for registration in the Land Registry in August 2008 was 6,402. This was a decrease of 28.3% from July 2008 and 53.1% compared with August 2007. Using a 12-month moving average, the figure for August 2008 represented a decrease of 4.7% from July 2008 but an increase of 19.2% compared with August 2007. The total consideration of these agreements in the month was \$18 billion, down 44.9% from July 2008 and 59.2% compared with the amount for August 2007.

Among the 6,402 sale and purchase agreements, 5,284 were sale and purchase agreements for residential units. This was a decrease of 28.9% from July 2008 and 54% compared with August 2007. The total consideration of these agreements in the month was \$15 billion, down 40.4% from July 2008 and 59.3% compared with the amount for August 2007. Sales of residential units refer to the sale and purchase agreements with payment of stamp duty. These statistics do not include sales of units under the Home Ownership Scheme, the Private Sector Participation Scheme and the Tenants Purchase Scheme except those after payment of premium.

The figures are contained in the monthly statistics released today by the Land Registry on deeds relating to property transactions received for registration in the Land Registry in August 2008.

Relevant statistics for July 2008 and August 2007 are provided for comparison. Figures on sale and purchase agreements received for the past 12 months, the year-on-year rate of change and breakdown figures on residential sales are also released.

As deeds may not be lodged with the Land Registry until up to 30 days after the transaction, these statistics generally relate to land transactions in the previous month.

THE LAND REGISTRY
 Consolidated Monthly Statistics in respect of deeds received
 for registration in the Land Registry

Table 1

Month : August 2008

Item	Nature of Deeds	Number of Deeds received for registration			Consideration (nearest \$ million)		
		Urban	New Territories	Total	Urban	New Territories	Total
1.	Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Building Units	3,106 (3,439)	3,296 (3,477)	6,402 (6,916)	11,557	6,473	18,030
2.	Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land	6	117	123	114	474	588
	Sub-total (1) + (2)	3,112	3,413	6,525	11,671	6,947	18,618
3.	Assignments of Building Units	5,939 (6,471)	5,797 (6,169)	11,736 (12,640)	23,627	12,570	36,197
4.	Assignments of Land	19	445	464	2,781	1,040	3,821
	Sub-total (3) + (4)	5,958	6,242	12,200	26,408	13,610	40,018
5.	Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	2	6	8			
6.	Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	5,271	5,558	10,829			
	Sub-total (5) + (6)	5,273	5,564	10,837			
7.	Receipts/Discharges/Releases	6,020	6,659	12,679			
8.	Leases/Tenancy Agreements	288	160	448			
9.	Exclusion Orders	0	0	0			
10.	Others	4,258	3,593	7,851			
	Total	24,909	25,631	50,540			

Note : Figures in brackets denote the number of units involved.

THE LAND REGISTRY
Comparison of Monthly Statistics

Table 2

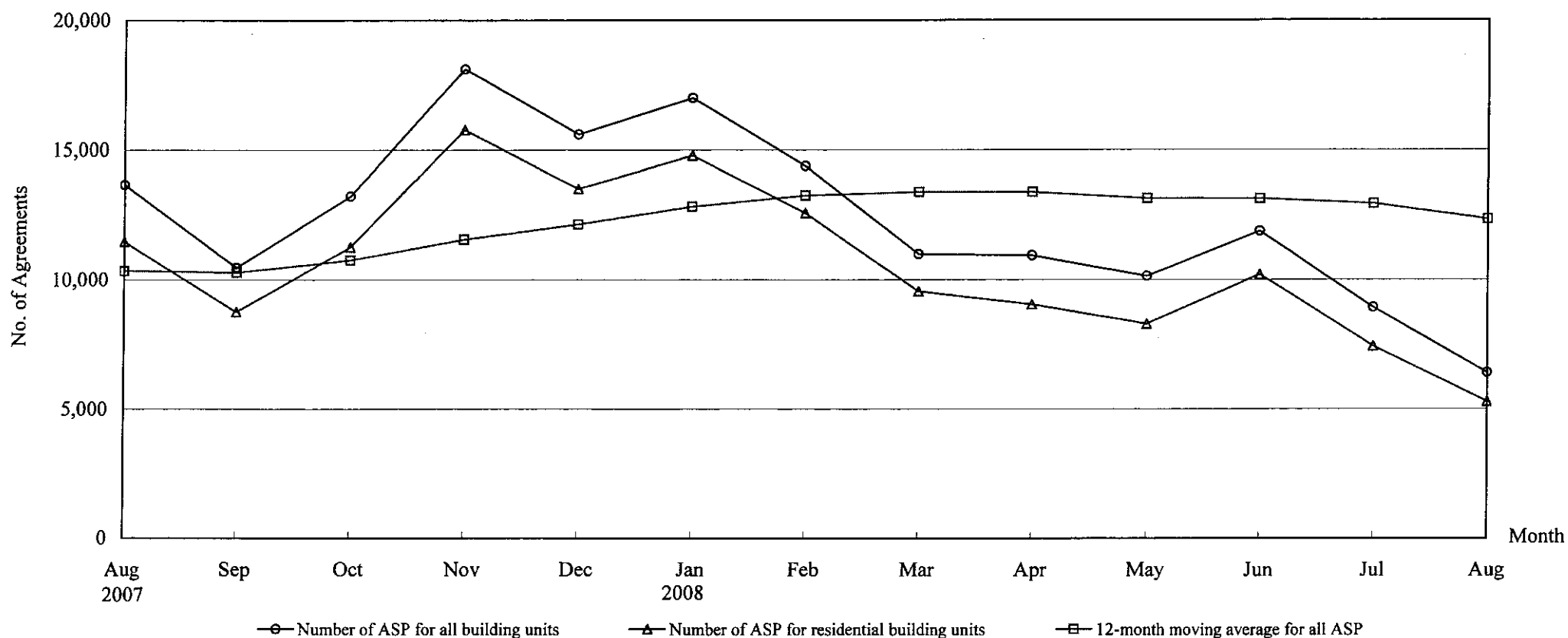
Month : August 2008

Item	2008 August	2008 July	2007 August	August 2008 Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with			
				July 2008		August 2007	
				No. or Consideration	Percentage	No. or Consideration	Percentage
1. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Building Units							
(a) No.	6,402	8,930	13,664	- 2,528	- 28.3	- 7,262	- 53.1
(b) Consideration	18,030	32,697	44,196	- 14,667	- 44.9	- 26,166	- 59.2
2. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land							
(a) No.	123	206	223	- 83	- 40.3	- 100	- 44.8
(b) Consideration	588	6,726	2,411	- 6,138	- 91.3	- 1,823	- 75.6
Sub-total of (1) + (2)							
(a) No.	6,525	9,136	13,887	- 2,611	- 28.6	- 7,362	- 53.0
(b) Consideration	18,618	39,423	46,607	- 20,805	- 52.8	- 27,989	- 60.1
3. Assignments of Building Units							
(a) No.	11,736	15,664	14,552	- 3,928	- 25.1	- 2,816	- 19.4
(b) Consideration	36,197	48,027	43,893	- 11,830	- 24.6	- 7,696	- 17.5
4. Assignments of Land							
(a) No.	464	518	553	- 54	- 10.4	- 89	- 16.1
(b) Consideration	3,821	5,289	4,581	- 1,468	- 27.8	- 760	- 16.6
Sub-total of (3) + (4)							
(a) No.	12,200	16,182	15,105	- 3,982	- 24.6	- 2,905	- 19.2
(b) Consideration	40,018	53,316	48,474	- 13,298	- 24.9	- 8,456	- 17.4
5. No. of Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	8	2	11	+ 6	+ 300.0	- 3	- 27.3
6. No. of Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	10,829	14,277	12,729	- 3,448	- 24.2	- 1,900	- 14.9
Sub-total of (5) + (6)	10,837	14,279	12,740	- 3,442	- 24.1	- 1,903	- 14.9
7. No. of Receipts/Discharges/Releases	12,679	14,488	14,455	- 1,809	- 12.5	- 1,776	- 12.3

Note : Consideration rounded to the nearest million Hong Kong dollars.

The Land Registry
Chart showing the number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of
building units from August 2007 to August 2008

Table 3



Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of building units

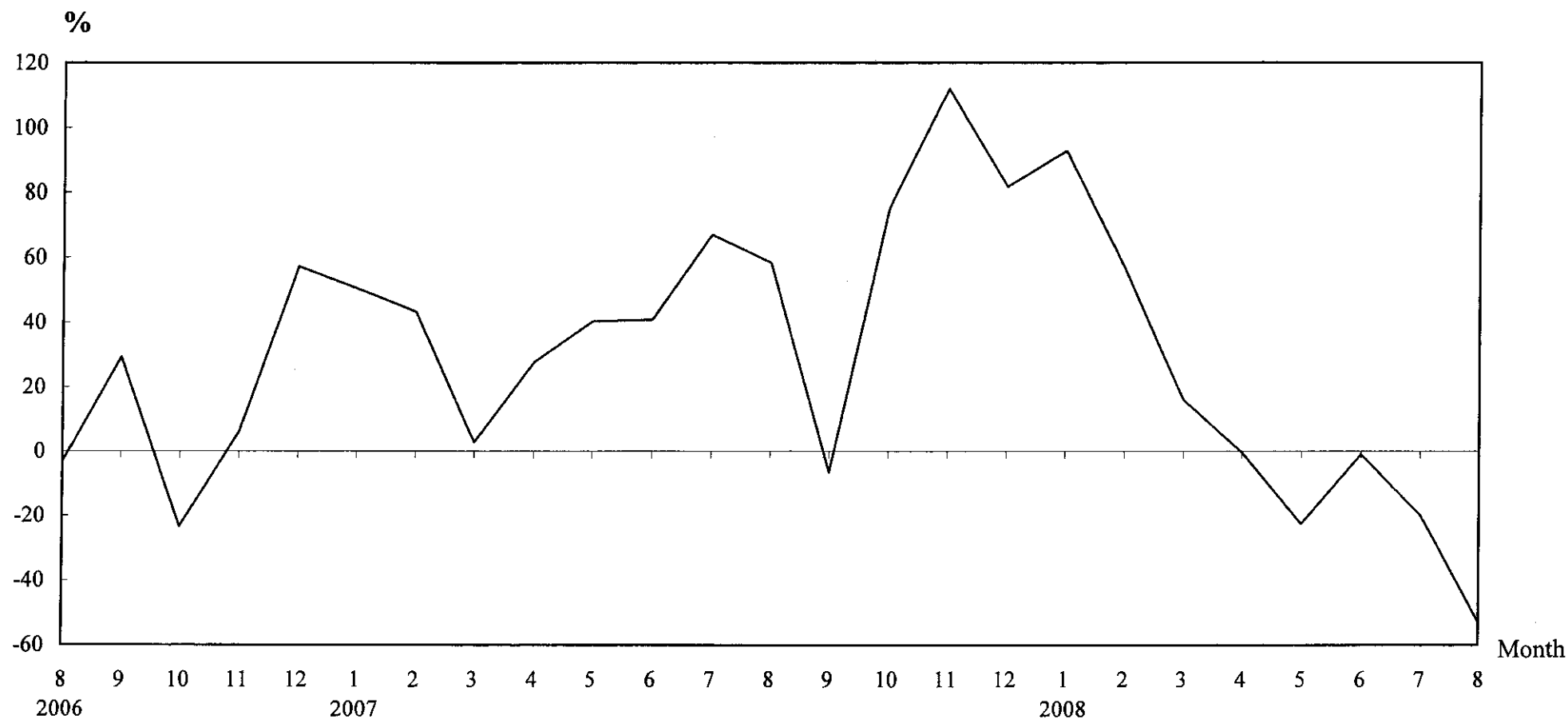
Year	2007					2008							
Month	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Number of ASP for all building units	13,664	10,475	13,227	18,105	15,592	16,984	14,384	10,993	10,945	10,138	11,876	8,930	6,402
Number of ASP for residential building units	11,480	8,753	11,271	15,759	13,503	14,786	12,581	9,550	9,047	8,281	10,205	7,433	5,284
12-month moving average for all ASP	10,348	10,287	10,759	11,557	12,141	12,822	13,255	13,382	13,380	13,134	13,125	12,943	12,338

Note : Sales of residential units refer to sale and purchase agreements with payment of stamp duty. These statistics do not include sales of units under the Home Ownership Scheme, the Private Sector Participation Scheme and the Tenants Purchase Scheme except those after payment of premium.

The Land Registry

Table 4

Year-on-year Rate of Change in the Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements



Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of residential and non-residential building units

Year/Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2006	5,855	6,413	9,208	8,598	9,332	8,508	6,661	8,634	11,206	7,554	8,539	8,579
2007	8,807	9,188	9,470	10,973	13,090	11,979	11,121	13,664	10,475	13,227	18,105	15,592
2008	16,984	14,384	10,993	10,945	10,138	11,876	8,930	6,402				

THE LAND REGISTRY

Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of residential building units and total consideration from August 2007 to August 2008

Year / Month		Range of Consideration (\$ million)												Total	
		Less than 1		1 to less than 2		2 to less than 3		3 to less than 5		5 to less than 10		10 or over			
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	Consideration (\$ million)
2007	8	1,814	16	4,533	39	2,153	19	1,665	15	836	7	479	4	11,480	36,760
	9	1,224	14	4,276	49	1,437	16	984	11	568	6	264	3	8,753	24,101
	10	1,649	15	3,988	35	2,094	19	1,725	15	1,135	10	680	6	11,271	43,830
	11	1,691	11	5,065	32	2,789	18	2,751	17	2,161	14	1,302	8	15,759	70,116
	12	1,554	12	4,716	35	2,530	19	2,348	17	1,530	11	825	6	13,503	52,511
2008	1	1,533	10	5,226	35	2,600	18	2,955	20	1,738	12	734	5	14,786	56,527
	2	1,292	10	4,817	38	2,411	19	2,336	19	1,155	9	570	5	12,581	43,765
	3	861	9	2,981	31	1,431	15	2,475	26	1,446	15	356	4	9,550	37,442
	4	1,202	13	3,731	41	1,576	17	1,442	16	757	8	339	4	9,047	27,564
	5	1,026	12	3,362	41	1,601	19	1,322	16	631	8	339	4	8,281	26,304
	6	1,096	11	3,532	35	1,640	16	1,627	16	1,207	12	1,103	11	10,205	50,431
	7	893	12	3,085	42	1,363	18	1,128	15	642	9	322	4	7,433	25,139
	8	644	12	2,387	45	1,013	19	736	14	352	7	152	3	5,284	14,974

Note : Figures in percentage for individual items may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

THE LAND REGISTRY

Monthly Statistics in respect of Sale & Purchase Agreements of building units received for registration on regional basis

Month: August 2008

Item	District	Sale and Purchase Agreements of Building Units	
		No. of Transactions	Consideration (nearest \$million)
1.	Hong Kong	1,227	6,025
2.	Kowloon	1,879	5,532
3.	Islands	200	510
4.	North	230	356
5.	Sai Kung	392	1,048
6.	Shatin	492	1,015
7.	Tai Po	282	602
8.	Tsuen Wan	749	1,629
9.	Tuen Mun	506	696
10.	Yuen Long	445	617
	Total	6,402	18,030