

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

The total number of sale and purchase agreements for all types of building units received for registration in the Land Registry in December 2008 was 5,437. This was an increase of 43.6% over November 2008 but a decrease of 65.1% compared with December 2007. Using a 12-month moving average, the figure for December 2008 represented a decrease of 8.2% from November 2008 and 22.2% compared with December 2007. The total consideration of these agreements in the month was \$20.5 billion, up 92.7% over November 2008 but down 68.2% compared with the amount for December 2007.

Among the 5,437 sale and purchase agreements, 4,706 were sale and purchase agreements for residential units. This was an increase of 44.2% over November 2008 but a decrease of 65.1% compared with December 2007. The total consideration of these agreements in the month was \$17.7 billion, up 96.1% over November 2008 but down 66.4% compared with the amount for December 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 December 2008.

Relevant statistics for November 2008 and December 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 : December 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	2,638 ( 2,913 )	2,799 ( 2,935 )	5,437 ( 5,848 )	13,572	6,944	20,516
2.	Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land	8	96	104	323	361	684
	Sub-total (1) + (2)	2,646	2,895	5,541	13,895	7,305	21,200
3.	Assignments of Building Units	3,701 ( 4,210 )	3,348 ( 3,580 )	7,049 ( 7,790 )	15,062	5,426	20,488
4.	Assignments of Land	17	495	512	424	706	1,130
	Sub-total (3) + (4)	3,718	3,843	7,561	15,486	6,132	21,618
5.	Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	0	11	11			
6.	Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	2,954	2,887	5,841			
	Sub-total (5) + (6)	2,954	2,898	5,852			
7.	Receipts/Discharges/Releases	3,989	4,368	8,357			
8.	Leases/Tenancy Agreements	219	155	374			
9.	Exclusion Orders	0	0	0			
10.	Others	4,726	3,443	8,169			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18,252</b>	<b>17,602</b>	<b>35,854</b>			

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

**THE LAND REGISTRY**  
**Comparison of Monthly Statistics**

**Table 2**

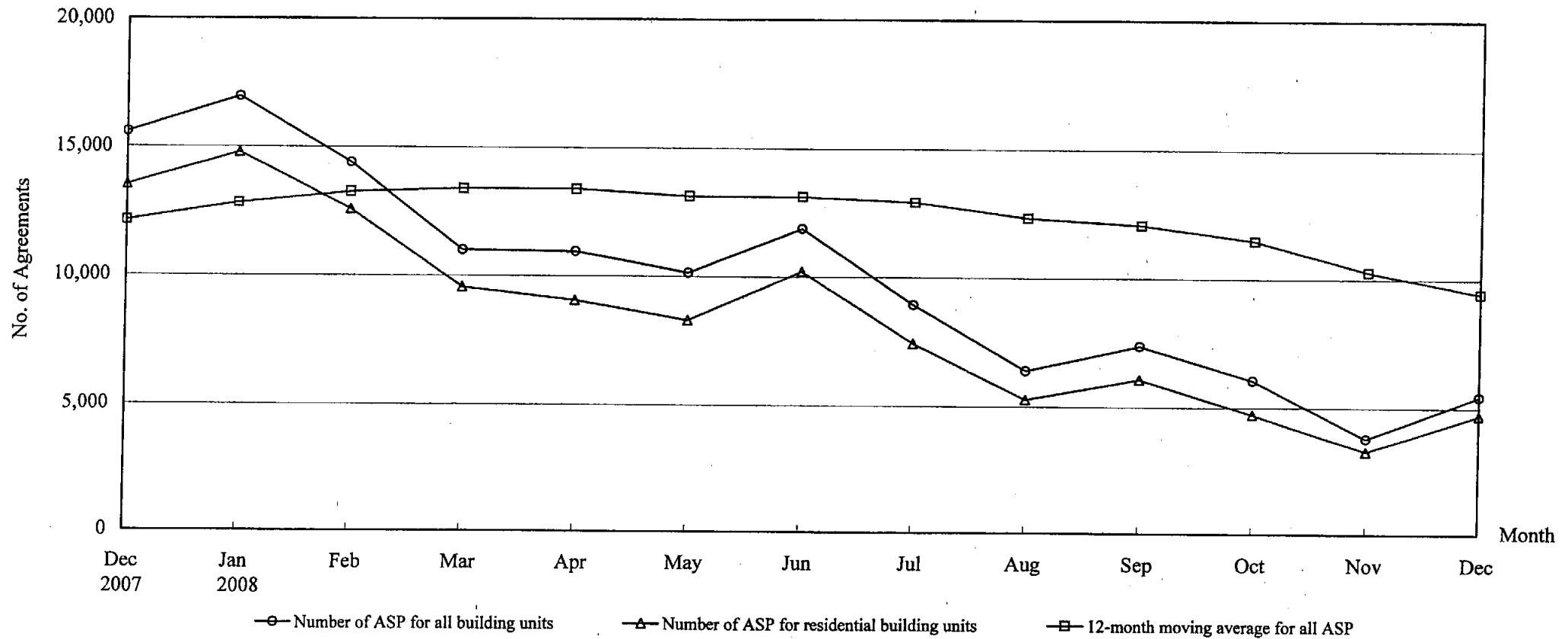
Month : December 2008

Item	2008 December	2008 November	2007 December	December 2008 Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with			
				November 2008		December 2007	
				No. or Consideration	Percentage	No. or Consideration	Percentage
<b>1. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Building Units</b>							
(a) No.	5,437	3,786	15,592	+ 1,651	+ 43.6	- 10,155	- 65.1
(b) Consideration	20,516	10,648	64,449	+ 9,868	+ 92.7	- 43,933	- 68.2
<b>2. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land</b>							
(a) No.	104	98	205	+ 6	+ 6.1	- 101	- 49.3
(b) Consideration	684	388	4,364	+ 296	+ 76.3	- 3,680	- 84.3
<b>Sub-total of (1) + (2)</b>							
(a) No.	5,541	3,884	15,797	+ 1,657	+ 42.7	- 10,256	- 64.9
(b) Consideration	21,200	11,036	68,813	+ 10,164	+ 92.1	- 47,613	- 69.2
<b>3. Assignments of Building Units</b>							
(a) No.	7,049	7,789	15,914	- 740	- 9.5	- 8,865	- 55.7
(b) Consideration	20,488	18,010	53,335	+ 2,478	+ 13.8	- 32,847	- 61.6
<b>4. Assignments of Land</b>							
(a) No.	512	432	450	+ 80	+ 18.5	+ 62	+ 13.8
(b) Consideration	1,130	785	2,940	+ 345	+ 43.9	- 1,810	- 61.6
<b>Sub-total of (3) + (4)</b>							
(a) No.	7,561	8,221	16,364	- 660	- 8.0	- 8,803	- 53.8
(b) Consideration	21,618	18,795	56,275	+ 2,823	+ 15.0	- 34,657	- 61.6
<b>5. No. of Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges</b>	11	9	0	+ 2	+ 22.2	+ 11	N/A
<b>6. No. of Other Mortgages/Legal Charges</b>	5,841	6,959	13,820	- 1,118	- 16.1	- 7,979	- 57.7
<b>Sub-total of (5) + (6)</b>	5,852	6,968	13,820	- 1,116	- 16.0	- 7,968	- 57.7
<b>7. No. of Receipts/Discharges/Releases</b>	8,357	9,300	11,510	- 943	- 10.1	- 3,153	- 27.4

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 December 2007 to December 2008**

**Table 3**



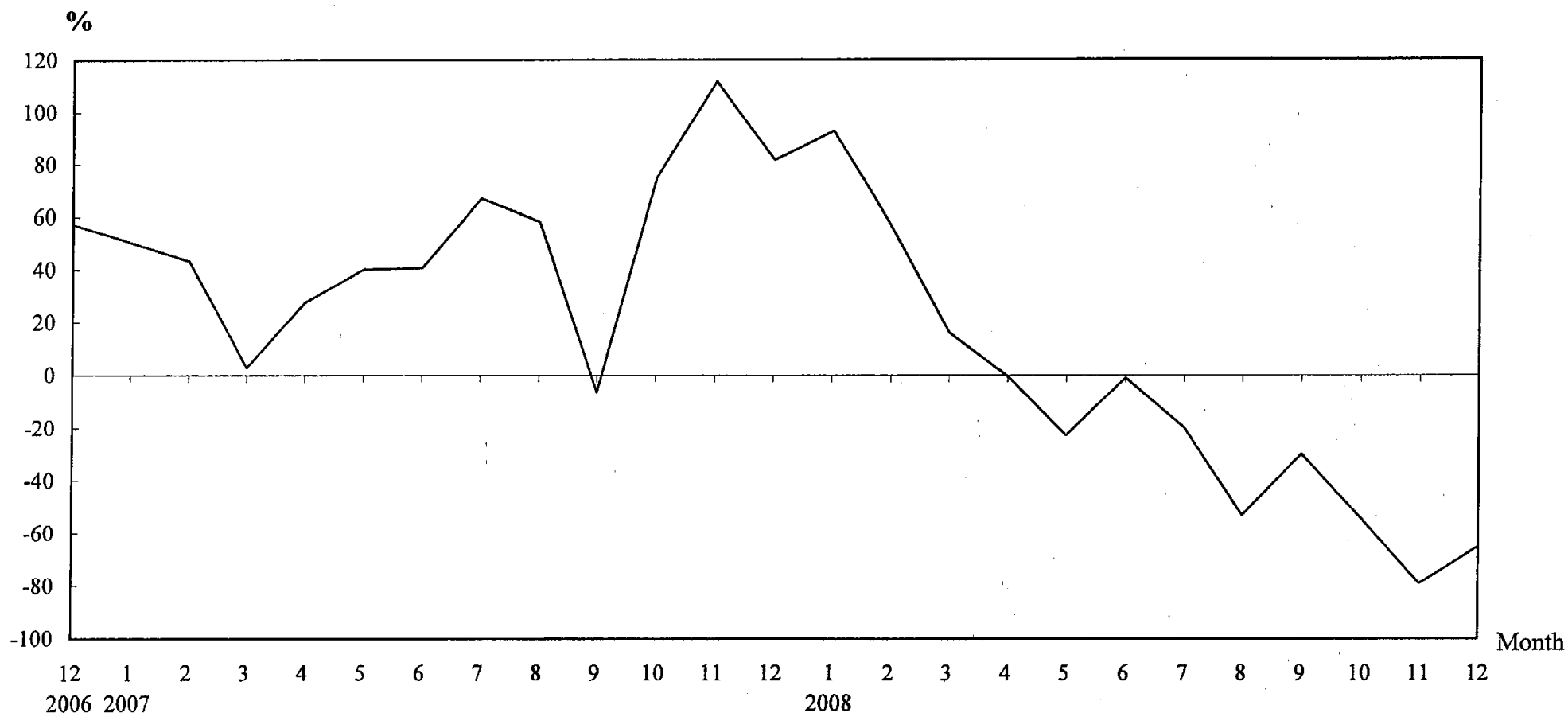
**Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of building units**

Year	2007		2008										
Month	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Number of ASP for all building units	15,592	16,984	14,384	10,993	10,945	10,138	11,876	8,930	6,402	7,369	6,054	3,786	5,437
Number of ASP for residential building units	13,503	14,786	12,581	9,550	9,047	8,281	10,205	7,433	5,284	6,075	4,719	3,264	4,706
12-month moving average for all ASP	12,141	12,822	13,255	13,382	13,380	13,134	13,125	12,943	12,338	12,079	11,481	10,288	9,442

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

**Table 4**



**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	7,369	6,054	3,786	5,437

**Table 5****THE LAND REGISTRY****Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of residential building units and total consideration  
from December 2007 to December 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	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
	9	701	12	2,379	39	1,350	22	1,043	17	434	7	168	3	6,075	18,733
	10	612	13	1,937	41	933	20	617	13	471	10	149	3	4,719	16,279
	11	542	17	1,387	42	568	17	444	14	224	7	99	3	3,264	9,007
	12	616	13	1,960	42	787	17	539	11	477	10	327	7	4,706	17,662

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: December 2008

Item	District	Sale and Purchase Agreements of Building Units	
		No. of Transactions	Consideration (nearest \$million)
1.	Hong Kong	1,164	8,240
2.	Kowloon	1,474	5,332
3.	Islands	88	181
4.	North	180	269
5.	Sai Kung	258	636
6.	Shatin	608	3,018
7.	Tai Po	187	332
8.	Tsuen Wan	461	823
9.	Tuen Mun	264	380
10.	Yuen Long	753	1,305
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,437</b>	<b>20,516</b>