

Press Release

Land Registry statistics for February

The Land Registry today (March 2) released its statistics for February 2012.

Land registration

- The number of sale and purchase agreements for all building units received for registration in February was 5,425 (+20.8% compared with January but -56.3% compared with February 2011)
- The 12-month moving average for February was 8,034 (6.8% below the 12-month moving average for January and 39.5% below that for February 2011)
- The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in February was \$27 billion (-3% compared with January and -51% compared with February 2011)
- Among the sale and purchase agreements, 3,884 were for residential units (+10.7% compared with January but -62.6% compared with February 2011)
- The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in respect of residential units was \$19 billion (-14.2% compared with January and -58.3% compared with February 2011)

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

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 have also been 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.

Land search

- The number of searches of land registers made by the public in February was 402,604 (+43.4% compared with January and +0.6% compared with February 2011)

The statistics cover searches made at the counter, through the self-service terminals and via the Integrated Registration Information System Online Services.

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

Table 1

Month : February 2012

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	2,460 (2,888)	2,965 (3,206)	5,425 (6,094)	18,637	8,336	26,973
2.	Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land	9	160	169	3,085	693	3,778
	Sub-total (1) + (2)	2,469	3,125	5,594	21,722	9,029	30,751
3.	Assignments of Building Units	3,287 (3,594)	2,710 (2,839)	5,997 (6,433)	18,276	7,370	25,646
4.	Assignments of Land	9	582	591	2,176	1,771	3,947
	Sub-total (3) + (4)	3,296	3,292	6,588	20,452	9,141	29,593
5.	Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	2	5	7			
6.	Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	2,243	2,346	4,589			
	Sub-total (5) + (6)	2,245	2,351	4,596			
7.	Receipts/Discharges/Releases	2,986	3,556	6,542			
8.	Leases/Tenancy Agreements	225	170	395			
9.	Exclusion Orders	0	0	0			
10.	Others	3,734	3,623	7,357			
	Total	14,955	16,117	31,072			

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

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Comparison of Monthly Statistics

Table 2

Month : February 2012

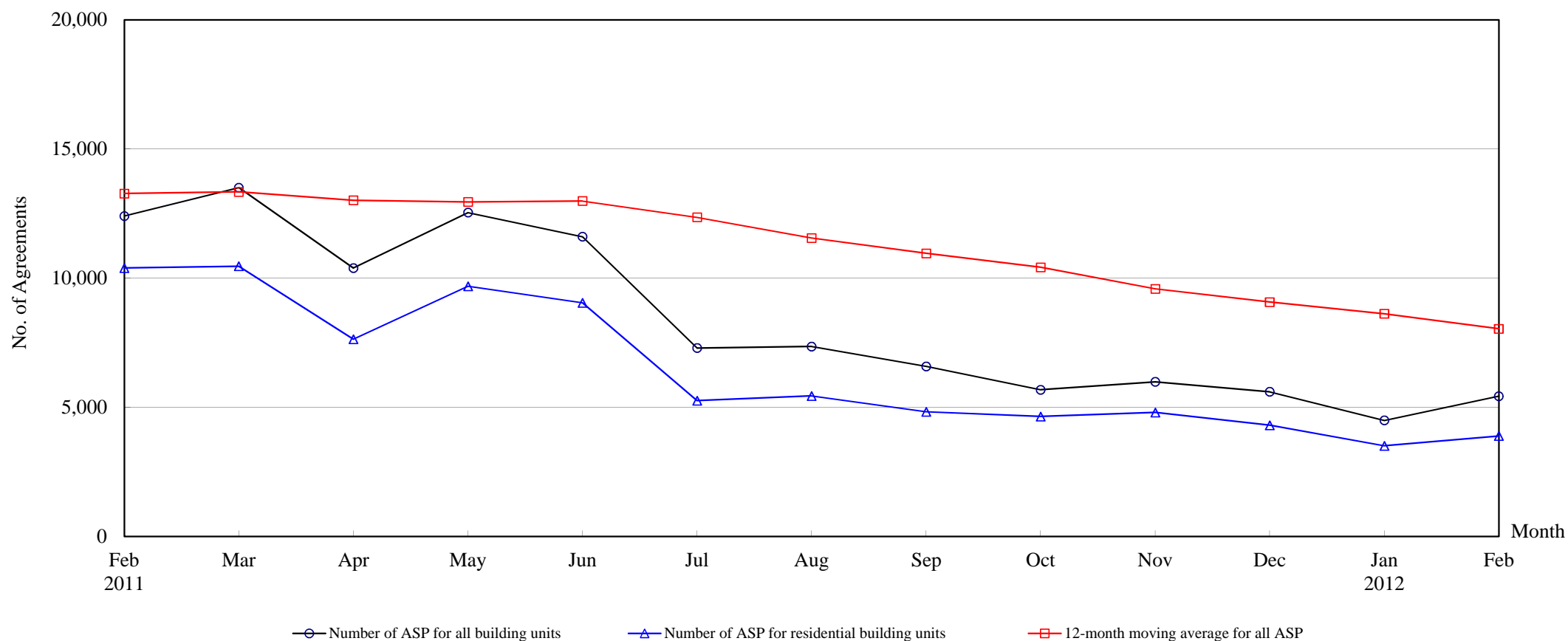
Item	2012 February	2012 January	2011 February	February 2012 Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with			
				January 2012		February 2011	
				No. or Consideration	Percentage	No. or Consideration	Percentage
1. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Building Units							
(a) No.	5,425	4,490	12,401	+ 935	+ 20.8	- 6,976	- 56.3
(b) Consideration	26,973	27,809	55,023	- 836	- 3.0	- 28,050	- 51.0
2. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land							
(a) No.	169	149	216	+ 20	+ 13.4	- 47	- 21.8
(b) Consideration	3,778	907	1,501	+ 2,871	+ 316.5	+ 2,277	+ 151.7
Sub-total of (1) + (2)							
(a) No.	5,594	4,639	12,617	+ 955	+ 20.6	- 7,023	- 55.7
(b) Consideration	30,751	28,716	56,524	+ 2,035	+ 7.1	- 25,773	- 45.6
3. Assignments of Building Units							
(a) No.	5,997	6,349	11,162	- 352	- 5.5	- 5,165	- 46.3
(b) Consideration	25,646	27,793	49,432	- 2,147	- 7.7	- 23,786	- 48.1
4. Assignments of Land							
(a) No.	591	541	507	+ 50	+ 9.2	+ 84	+ 16.6
(b) Consideration	3,947	1,351	1,771	+ 2,596	+ 192.2	+ 2,176	+ 122.9
Sub-total of (3) + (4)							
(a) No.	6,588	6,890	11,669	- 302	- 4.4	- 5,081	- 43.5
(b) Consideration	29,593	29,144	51,203	+ 449	+ 1.5	- 21,610	- 42.2
5. No. of Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	7	25	6	- 18	- 72.0	+ 1	+ 16.7
6. No. of Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	4,589	5,096	10,655	- 507	- 9.9	- 6,066	- 56.9
Sub-total of (5) + (6)	4,596	5,121	10,661	- 525	- 10.3	- 6,065	- 56.9
7. No. of Receipts/Discharges/Releases	6,542	6,382	12,535	+ 160	+ 2.5	- 5,993	- 47.8
8. No. of Public Search	402,604	280,782	400,262	+ 121,822	+ 43.4	+ 2,342	+ 0.6

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 February 2011 to February 2012

Table 3



Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of building units

Year	2011											2012	
Month	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Number of ASP for all building units	12,401	13,501	10,386	12,536	11,601	7,291	7,348	6,579	5,675	5,982	5,597	4,490	5,425
Number of ASP for residential building units ⁽¹⁾	10,390	10,456	7,635	9,681	9,043	5,254	5,439	4,823	4,643	4,795	4,301	3,507	3,884
12-month moving average for all ASP ⁽²⁾	13,271	13,337	13,011	12,946	12,985	12,352	11,552	10,955	10,416	9,584	9,068	8,616	8,034

Note : (1) 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.

(2) 12-month moving average is calculated by dividing the sum of the figures of the previous 12 months by 12.

Table 5**THE LAND REGISTRY****Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of residential building units and total consideration
from February 2011 to February 2012**

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)
2011	2	200	2	2,387	23	2,664	26	2,872	28	1,653	16	614	6	10,390	45,608
	3	219	2	2,173	21	2,668	26	2,499	24	2,081	20	816	8	10,456	51,866
	4	165	2	1,613	21	2,020	26	1,810	24	1,394	18	633	8	7,635	38,996
	5	185	2	1,741	18	2,290	24	2,733	28	1,909	20	823	9	9,681	49,449
	6	193	2	1,626	18	2,299	25	2,250	25	1,762	19	913	10	9,043	52,856
	7	137	3	1,011	19	1,369	26	1,289	25	870	17	578	11	5,254	31,772
	8	123	2	1,056	19	1,421	26	1,225	23	739	14	875	16	5,439	31,795
	9	92	2	977	20	1,463	30	1,249	26	726	15	316	7	4,823	22,959
	10	95	2	843	18	1,116	24	1,134	24	1,187	26	268	6	4,643	22,464
	11	107	2	874	18	1,095	23	948	20	1,076	22	695	14	4,795	35,766
	12	80	2	720	17	860	20	1,202	28	973	23	466	11	4,301	25,663
2012	1	82	2	644	18	787	22	728	21	881	25	385	11	3,507	22,187
	2	91	2	771	20	1,050	27	965	25	713	18	294	8	3,884	19,031

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: February 2012

Item	District	Sale and Purchase Agreements of Building Units	
		No. of Transactions	(nearest \$million)
1.	Hong Kong	840	7,720
2.	Kowloon	1,620	10,917
3.	Islands	100	308
4.	North	157	388
5.	Sai Kung	282	1,015
6.	Shatin	552	2,183
7.	Tai Po	198	598
8.	Tsuen Wan	536	2,195
9.	Tuen Mun	780	772
10.	Yuen Long	360	877
	Total	5,425	26,973