

Press Release

Land Registry statistics for March

The Land Registry today (April 3) released its statistics for March 2013.

Land registration

- The number of sale and purchase agreements for all building units received for registration in March was 6,841 (-29.1% compared with February and -52.2% compared with March 2012)
- The 12-month moving average for March was 9,675 (6% below the 12-month moving average for February but 19.4% above that for March 2012)
- The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in March was \$44.4 billion (-24.9% compared with February and -40.7% compared with March 2012)
- Among the sale and purchase agreements, 4,534 were for residential units (-28.1% compared with February and -60.1% compared with March 2012)
- The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in respect of residential units was \$27 billion (-30.1% compared with February and -54.2% compared with March 2012)

The statistics only include sale and purchase agreements with payment of stamp duty. Sale and purchase agreements relating to the sale of units under the Home Ownership Scheme, the Private Sector Participation Scheme and the Tenants Purchase Scheme are not included unless the premium of the unit has been paid after the sale restriction period.

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 March was 403,263 (+20% compared with February but -15.5% compared with March 2012)

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 : March 2013

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	2,934 (3,275)	3,907 (4,136)	6,841 (7,411)	27,467	16,934	44,401
2.	Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land	5	184	189	470	1,006	1,476
	Sub-total (1) + (2)	2,939	4,091	7,030	27,937	17,940	45,877
3.	Assignments of Building Units	5,049 (5,859)	4,595 (5,015)	9,644 (10,874)	37,440	16,940	54,380
4.	Assignments of Land	6	711	717	294	1,094	1,388
	Sub-total (3) + (4)	5,055	5,306	10,361	37,734	18,034	55,768
5.	Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	1	1	2			
6.	Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	3,702	3,922	7,624			
	Sub-total (5) + (6)	3,703	3,923	7,626			
7.	Receipts/Discharges/Releases	3,854	4,519	8,373			
8.	Leases/Tenancy Agreements	217	101	318			
9.	Exclusion Orders	0	0	0			
10.	Others	5,955	4,333	10,288			
	Total	21,723	22,273	43,996			

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

THE LAND REGISTRY
Comparison of Monthly Statistics

Table 2

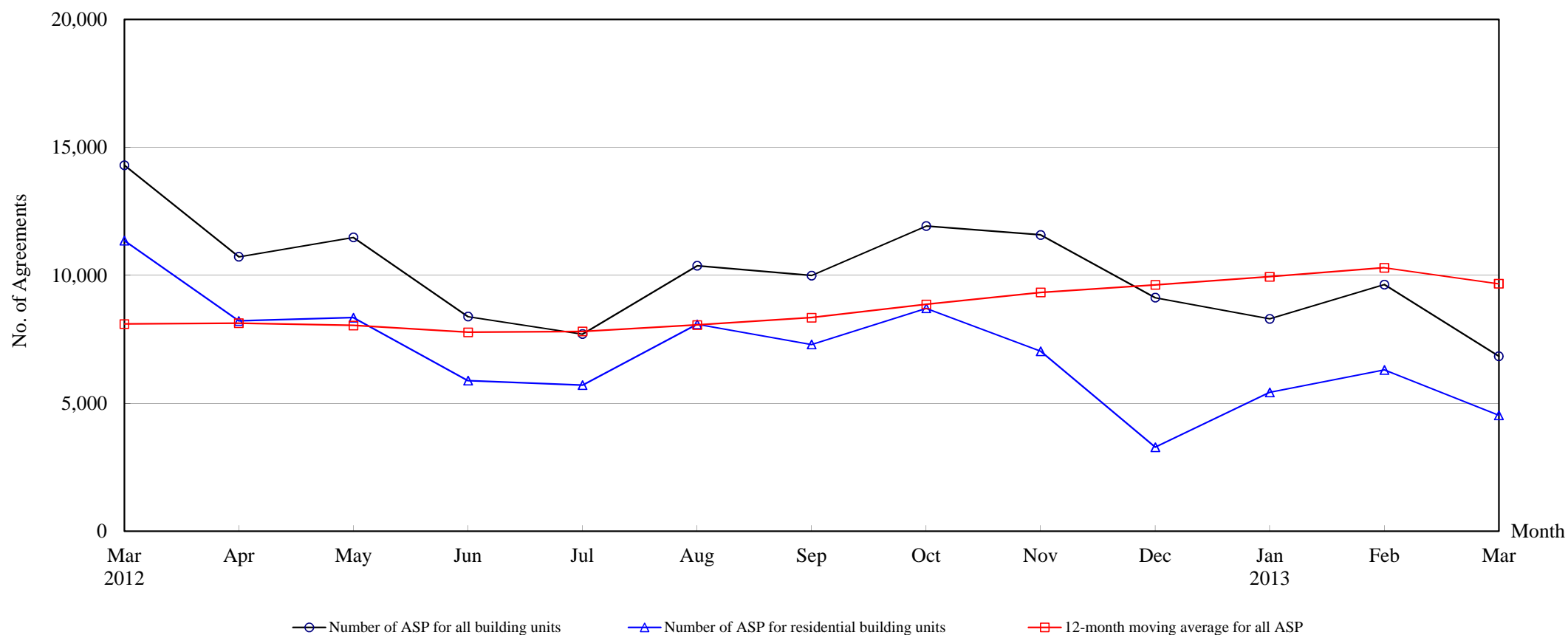
Month : March 2013

Item	2013 March	2013 February	2012 March	March 2013			
				Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with			
				February 2013		March 2012	
No. or Consideration	Percentage	No. or Consideration	Percentage				
1. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Building Units							
(a) No.	6,841	9,643	14,306	- 2,802	- 29.1	- 7,465	- 52.2
(b) Consideration	44,401	59,107	74,823	- 14,706	- 24.9	- 30,422	- 40.7
2. Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land							
(a) No.	189	182	217	+ 7	+ 3.8	- 28	- 12.9
(b) Consideration	1,476	1,367	2,375	+ 109	+ 8.0	- 899	- 37.9
Sub-total of (1) + (2)							
(a) No.	7,030	9,825	14,523	- 2,795	- 28.4	- 7,493	- 51.6
(b) Consideration	45,877	60,474	77,198	- 14,597	- 24.1	- 31,321	- 40.6
3. Assignments of Building Units							
(a) No.	9,644	9,890	6,599	- 246	- 2.5	+ 3,045	+ 46.1
(b) Consideration	54,380	56,395	30,527	- 2,015	- 3.6	+ 23,853	+ 78.1
4. Assignments of Land							
(a) No.	717	541	616	+ 176	+ 32.5	+ 101	+ 16.4
(b) Consideration	1,388	2,905	1,391	- 1,517	- 52.2	- 3	- 0.2
Sub-total of (3) + (4)							
(a) No.	10,361	10,431	7,215	- 70	- 0.7	+ 3,146	+ 43.6
(b) Consideration	55,768	59,300	31,918	- 3,532	- 6.0	+ 23,850	+ 74.7
5. No. of Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	2	19	25	- 17	- 89.5	- 23	- 92.0
6. No. of Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	7,624	8,341	5,078	- 717	- 8.6	+ 2,546	+ 50.1
Sub-total of (5) + (6)	7,626	8,360	5,103	- 734	- 8.8	+ 2,523	+ 49.4
7. No. of Receipts/Discharges/Releases	8,373	7,368	7,031	+ 1,005	+ 13.6	+ 1,342	+ 19.1
8. No. of Public Search	403,263	336,022	477,366	+ 67,241	+ 20.0	- 74,103	- 15.5

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 March 2012 to March 2013

Table 3



Number of Sale and Purchase Agreements of building units

Year	2012										2013		
Month	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Number of ASP for all building units	14,306	10,728	11,484	8,389	7,706	10,377	9,990	11,928	11,581	9,129	8,302	9,643	6,841
Number of ASP for residential building units ⁽¹⁾	11,358	8,217	8,349	5,886	5,709	8,087	7,301	8,714	7,035	3,286	5,430	6,307	4,534
12-month moving average for all ASP ⁽²⁾	8,101	8,130	8,042	7,775	7,809	8,062	8,346	8,867	9,333	9,628	9,945	10,297	9,675

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 March 2012 to March 2013**

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)
2012	3	114	1	1,729	15	3,138	28	3,176	28	2,181	19	1,020	9	11,358	59,040
	4	95	1	1,168	14	2,271	28	2,311	28	1,660	20	712	9	8,217	44,677
	5	105	1	1,067	13	2,165	26	2,638	32	1,652	20	722	9	8,349	47,352
	6	93	2	808	14	1,475	25	1,682	29	1,306	22	522	9	5,886	34,070
	7	72	1	663	12	1,200	21	1,821	32	1,512	26	441	8	5,709	31,773
	8	87	1	808	10	2,060	25	3,120	39	1,496	18	516	6	8,087	39,735
	9	68	1	770	11	1,876	26	2,330	32	1,549	21	708	10	7,301	40,437
	10	62	1	595	7	1,679	19	2,705	31	2,626	30	1,047	12	8,714	54,845
	11	76	1	563	8	1,503	21	2,543	36	1,570	22	780	11	7,035	41,968
	12	65	2	362	11	864	26	1,093	33	611	19	291	9	3,286	17,160
2013	1	73	1	400	7	1,190	22	2,079	38	1,229	23	459	8	5,430	28,542
	2	42	1	355	6	1,191	19	2,187	35	1,717	27	815	13	6,307	38,694
	3	64	1	343	8	754	17	1,702	38	1,205	27	466	10	4,534	27,040

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: March 2013

Item	District	Sale and Purchase Agreements of Building Units	
		No. of Transactions	(nearest \$million)
1.	Hong Kong	1,149	14,418
2.	Kowloon	1,785	13,049
3.	Islands	157	696
4.	North	229	933
5.	Sai Kung	432	2,337
6.	Shatin	460	2,360
7.	Tai Po	203	972
8.	Tsuen Wan	1,144	4,813
9.	Tuen Mun	432	1,374
10.	Yuen Long	850	3,449
	Total	6,841	44,401