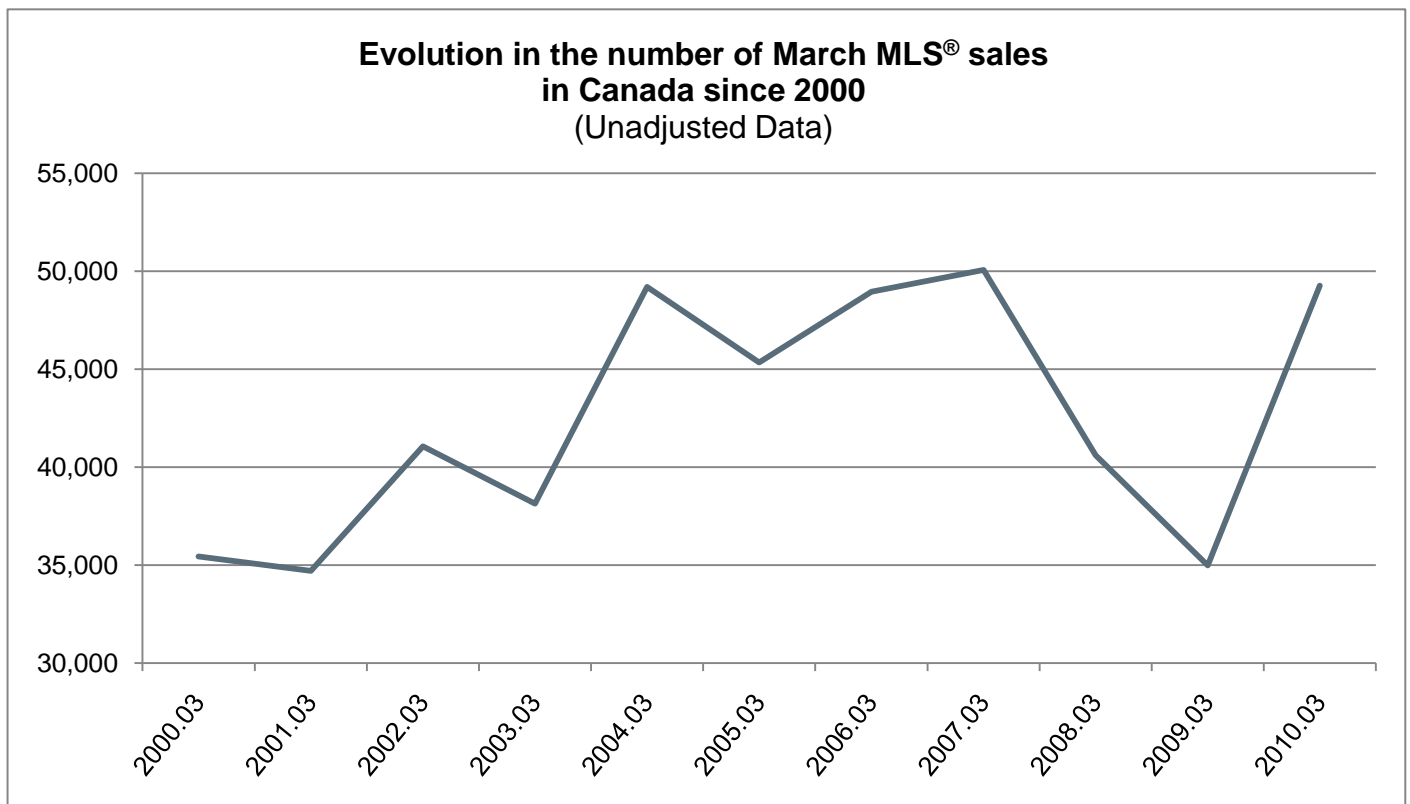


Second Best March on Record for Canada's Resale Market

According to The Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA), 49,256 sales transactions (not seasonally adjusted) took place on Canada's resale market in March 2010, a 41 per cent increase compared to March 2009, when the recession was in full swing and sales had decreased by 14 per cent. This was the second highest level for a month of March, just behind the record set in March 2007 when there were 50,070 residential sales. Sales have been increasing for the past ten months now on Canada's resale market. Another highlight of Canada's resale market in March 2010 is the number of newly available properties on the market, which is up by 20 per cent compared to the record month of March 2008. There are now close to 100,000 homes for sale (97,663 new listings) in the entire country, giving buyers more choice.

A total of 111,110 dwellings changed hands in Canada in the first quarter of 2010, an increase of 45 per cent compared to the same period last year. Once again, increases in sales were particularly strong in Québec, Ontario and British Columbia, where sales grew by 38, 55 and 64 per cent, respectively, during the first three months of the year compared to the same period one year earlier.



Source: Canadian Real Estate Association

In March 2010, the average price for all existing properties sold in Canada reached \$340,920 according to CREA, an 18 per cent increase compared to March 2009 and an 8.5 per cent increase compared to the last record set for a month of March, which was in 2008 (\$314,013).

To view the official CREA news release, [click here](#).

Details About Canada's Resale Market

Data on Canada's resale market are published monthly (around the 15th day of each month) by The Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA).

The Resale Market in Canada and the Resale Market in Québec

The evolution of Canada's resale market is a good point of comparison with real estate activity here in Québec. It is particularly interesting to compare resale market conditions in Canada's large urban centres.

Resale market activity throughout the rest of Canada may affect the housing market here in Québec due to its potential influence on consumer confidence. For example, difficulties in Western Canada's real estate market may have a negative impact on Québec consumers, as they may worry about a potential deterioration of Québec's real estate market.