

## RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY REVIEW

NOVEMBER 2019



Our monthly residential market review is intended to provide background to recent developments in property markets, as well as to give an indication of how some key issues could impact in the future.

### First-time buyer numbers hit a 12-year high

Numbers of people buying their first home reached a monthly high in August, achieving a level not seen since 2007, before the financial crisis.

The average first-time purchaser borrowed £175,361 or around 80% of the property value. The amount borrowed equates to a multiple of 3.52 of first-time buyers' income, but with continuing low interest rates, this only represents 17.1% of total household income.

These strong figures for first-time buyers are backed by research from Zoopla which shows that over a third (36%) of all property purchases in 2018 were by first-time buyers. Reasons given include Stamp Duty relief, the Help to Buy scheme and Help to Buy ISA.

### Mortgage broker outlook is confident

According to the latest Mortgage Market Tracker survey from the Intermediary Mortgage Lenders Association (IMLA), 91% of brokers said they were either 'very confident' or 'fairly confident' about the outlook for the mortgage industry.

Executive Director of the IMLA, Kate Davis, said: "Continuing political uncertainty has failed to dent the confidence of mortgage brokers. Intermediaries remain confident that they are well-placed to weather the storm of political uncertainty. Brokers are upbeat about the prospects for Britain's mortgage market."

### Postcode lottery in estate agents' fees

New research from Get Agent, the online estate agent comparison site, has found that selling your home through a high street estate agent can vary by as much as 261%, depending on your postcode.

The research analysed data from over 40,000 branches, listing properties in more than 2,400 postcode areas and found that the average fee (including VAT) in England and Wales was 1.53% and was as high as 3.07% in the most expensive areas. Postcode CT11 in Ramsgate, Kent was the most expensive, equating to a fee of £7,425, based on the average listing price of £241,849 in that area. At the other end of the scale, sellers in Benthall, Northumberland, which is postcode NE67, are typically charged 0.85%, which equates to £2,771 for an average property worth £326,000 listed in that area.

Since October 2016, all estate agents' quotes should include VAT. Before this date, fees were quoted 'plus VAT'.

*Figures from UK Finance show that 35,010 mortgages were advanced to first-time buyers in August, which is an increase of 0.7% from August 2018.*

## HOUSE PRICES HEADLINE STATISTICS

HOUSE PRICE INDEX (SEP 2019)*	123.0*
AVERAGE HOUSE PRICE	£234,370
MONTHLY CHANGE	-0.2%
ANNUAL CHANGE	1.3%

\*(Jan 2015 = 100)

- UK house prices grew by **1.3%** in the year to September 2019, unchanged from August 2019
- House price growth was strongest in Northern Ireland where prices increased by **4.0%** over the year to Quarter 3 (July to September) 2019
- The lowest annual growth was in London, where prices fell by **0.4%** over the year to September 2019

Source: The Land Registry  
Release date: 13/11/2019  
Next data release: 18/12/2019

## AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICE BY PROPERTY TYPE – SEP 2019

PROPERTY TYPE	ANNUAL INCREASE
DETACHED £354,453	0.80%
SEMI-DETACHED £222,228	1.50%
TERRACED £189,427	1.30%
FLAT / MAISONETTE £209,148	1.50%

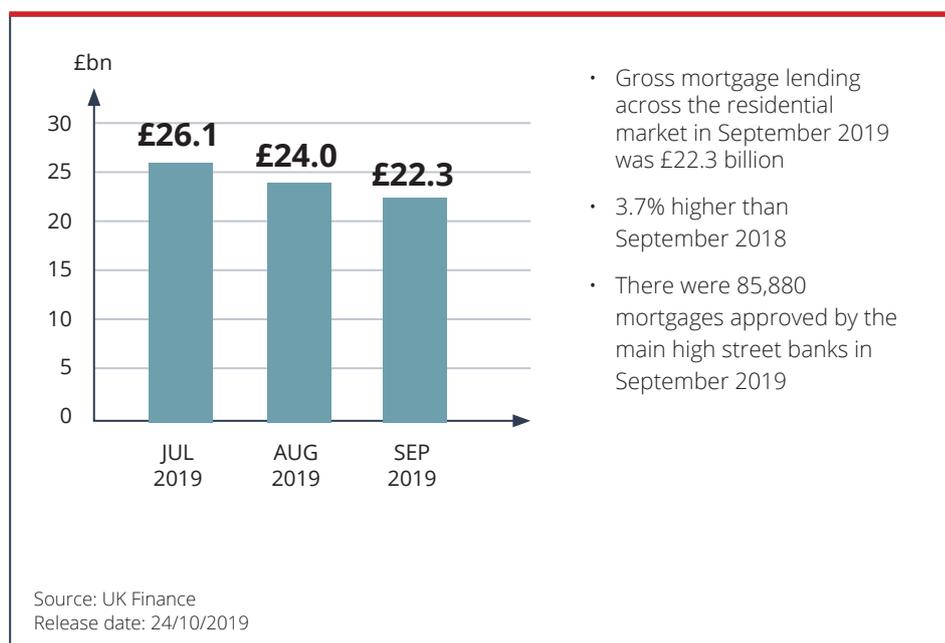
Source: The Land Registry  
Release date: 13/11/2019

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## HOUSE PRICES PRICE CHANGE BY REGION

REGION	MONTHLY CHANGE (%)	ANNUAL CHANGE (%)	AVERAGE PRICE (£)
ENGLAND	-0.1	1.0	£250,677
NORTHERN IRELAND (QUARTER 3 - 2019)	2.3	4.0	£139,951
SCOTLAND	0.3	2.4	£155,029
WALES	-2.8	2.6	£164,433
EAST MIDLANDS	-1.2	0.1	£194,219
EAST OF ENGLAND	-0.4	-0.2	£291,993
LONDON	-0.1	-0.4	£474,601
NORTH EAST	0.0	2.0	£132,769
NORTH WEST	-0.3	2.8	£167,683
SOUTH EAST	1.0	0.7	£329,197
SOUTH WEST	0.0	0.5	£260,158
WEST MIDLANDS REGION	-0.4	1.6	£201,273
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	-0.1	2.2	£165,745

## MORTGAGE ACTIVITY



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