

news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Iowa's Home Sales Up in April

CLIVE, IOWA (May 19, 2009) – The Iowa Association of REALTORS® reports the number of home sales were up in April. According to the IAR's April 2009 Housing Trends Report, 2,455 homes were sold across the state last month, a 19.9 percent increase from March 2009. Average home prices slipped slightly, 3.8 percent, from the previous month.

“Iowans are beginning to take advantage of current market conditions, including low interest rates, good supply of inventory and the first time homebuyers' tax credit,” says IAR president Terry Knapp. “Agents are reporting a lot of activity. Some may be due to the arrival of spring, and some to the sense of increased optimism.”

The 2009 April Housing Trends report also reflects a 10 percent decrease in prices and a 10 percent decrease in sales from April 2008, prior to the recent economic challenges.

Seventeen of Iowa's 44 local REALTOR® boards reported increases in the average prices of homes, while 14 boards reported increases in the number of sales in April, when compared to last year at this time. Fremont-Page, Newton, Northeast and Waterloo-Cedar Falls Boards all showed an increase in both average prices and numbers of sales from April 2008.

The Iowa Association of REALTORS® is the state's largest real estate professional organization representing more than 7,000 members and affiliates. The IAR releases a Housing Trends Report each month. Data is collected from local REALTOR® boards through their multiple listing service (MLS), which tracks sales activities in the board area. The IAR complies all of the local

board data into the statewide report each month. Reports are available online to IAR members and affiliates with a login and password. Anyone is eligible to become an IAR affiliate. For membership information, visit www.iowarealtors.com.

IAR APRIL 2009 Housing Trends Report

	Avg. Sale Price	# of Sales
April 2009	\$129,790	2,455
March 2009	\$134,928	2,047
April 2008	\$143,435	2,742

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