

## SEPTEMBER 2022

# Harrisonburg & Rockingham County Real Estate Market Report

An analysis of real estate activity through August 31, 2022 provided courtesy of Scott P. Rogers, Funkhouser Real Estate Group



Guiding you through every move



# **HOME SALES REPORT**

**Harrisonburg & Rockingham County** 

September 2022

All Residential Sales	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change ('21 - '22)
August	120	133	184	149	-19.02%
Year-To-Date (Jan - Aug)	906	902	1,075	1,082	0.65%
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)	1,311	1,320	1,668	1,680	0.72%

Median Sales Price	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change ('21 - '22)
August	\$224,750	\$241,000	\$285,567	\$307,975	7.85%
Year-To-Date (Jan - Aug)	\$219,000	\$239,900	\$269,000	\$298,950	11.13%
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)	\$214,900	\$235,000	\$264,900	\$289,900	9.44%

Median Days on Market	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change ('21 - '22)
Year-To-Date (Jan - Aug)	18	11	5	5	0.00%
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)	21	13	5	5	0.00%

Home sales in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County in August 2022 were a good bit slower than in August 2021, though stronger than the two previous months of August. Thus far this year we have seen 1,082 home sales in our local market which is slightly above the pace of sales last year when there had been 1,075 home sales in

the first eight months of the year. Sales prices keep on rising with an 11% increase in the median sales price when comparing the first eight months of 2022 to the first eight months of 2021. Finally, the speed at which homes are going under contract (days on market) continues to hold steady at a median of five days in 2022.

# **HOME SALES REPORT**

#### **Harrisonburg & Rockingham County**

September 2022

<b>Detached Homes</b>	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change ('21 - '22)
Year-To-Date (Jan - Aug)	655	630	722	734	1.66%
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)	948	929	1,134	1,137	0.26%

Median Sales Price	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change ('21 - '22)
Year-To-Date (Jan - Aug)	\$235,000	\$259,937	\$290,000	\$326,500	12.59%
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)	\$230,000	\$255,000	\$288,240	\$315,000	9.28%

Attached Homes	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change ('21 - '22)
Year-To-Date (Jan - Aug)	251	272	353	348	-1.42%
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)	363	391	534	543	1.69%

<b>Median Sales Price</b>	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change ('21 - '22)
Year-To-Date (Jan - Aug)	\$174,900	\$190,000	\$216,300	\$242,537	12.13%
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)	\$174,000	\$189,000	\$213,000	\$240,570	12.94%

The green charts above shows trends in detached home sales -- as compared to the orange charts which show attached home sales, comprised of duplexes, townhouses and condominiums. Over the past 12 months we have seen virtually no change (+0.26%) in the pace of detached home sales, and a 9% increase in their median

sales price. In contrast, there has been a slightly larger (1.69%) increase in the pace of attached home sales, and a larger (13%) increase in the median sales price of those attached homes. The median sales price of detached homes is now up to \$315,000 -- an increase of almost \$30,000 over the past year.

# **HOME SALES REPORT :: BY AREA**

# Home Sales				
August				
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)				

City of Harrisonburg				
2021	2022	% Change		
68	43	-36.76%		
493 477 -3.25%				

Rockingham County				
2021	2022	% Change		
116	106	-8.62%		
1,175 1,203 2.38%				

Median Sales Price				
August				
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)				

City of Harrisonburg				
2021	2022	% Change		
\$237,750	\$267,000	12.30%		
\$220,000 \$245,000 11.36%				

Rockingham County			
2021	2022	% Change	
\$295,062	\$325,000	10.15%	
\$277,000	\$300,000	8.30%	

Median Days on Market		
August		
Last 12 Months (Sep - Aug)		

City of Harrisonburg			
2021	2022	% Change	
6	5	-16.67%	
5	6	20.00%	

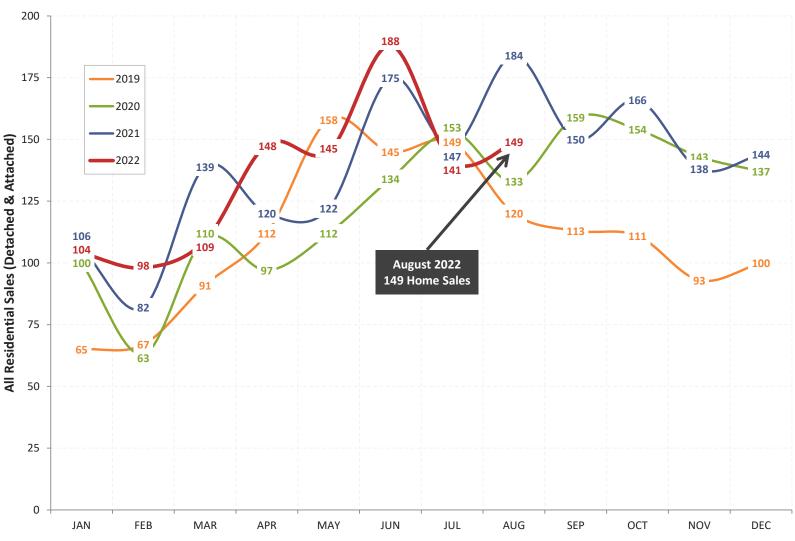
Rockingham County			
2021	2022	% Change	
5	6	20.00%	
6	5	-16.67%	

More than twice as many homes sell each year in Rockingham County as compared to the City of Harrisonburg. Over the past year we have seen a slight decrease in City home sales -- with 3% fewer sales -- alongside an 11.36% increase in the median sales price of those homes. Meanwhile, in the County, we have seen a slight increase

of 2.38% in home sales over the past year and a slightly smaller 8.3% increase in the median sales price in the County. The median sales price in the County is a good bit higher (\$300,000) than the City (\$245,000) though likely because more townhomes, duplexes and condos are located in the City.



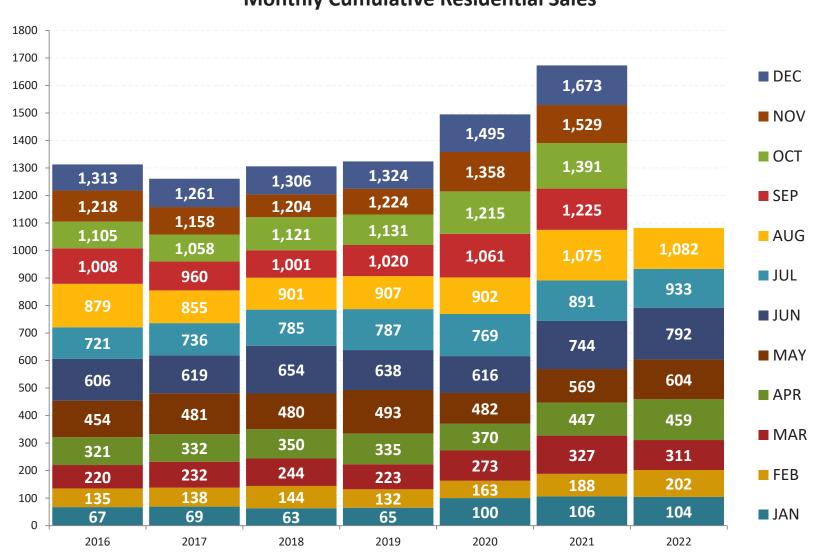
### **Month-By-Month Home Sales History**



Summer of 2022 has been a turbulent time in the local real estate market with super high highs, low-ish lows, and plenty in between. The 188 home sales seen in June 2022 was the highest month of home sales in any month over the past four years, but was followed by only 141 home sales in July 2022 which was lower than the

number of sales seen in each of the three previous months of July. Then, in August, we saw 149 home sales, which was much lower than the 184 home sales seen last August (2021) but was stronger than August 2019 and 2022. Looking ahead, we are likely to see slightly fewer sales per month in September and October.



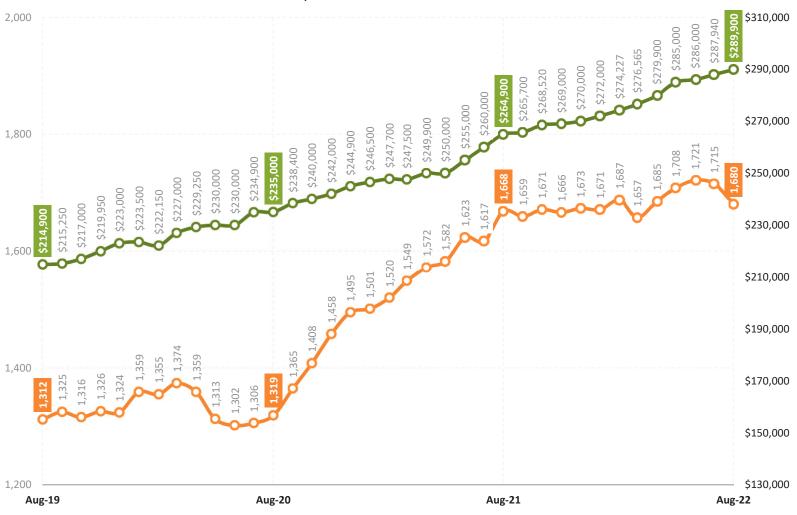


This colorful graph offers another way to look at the overall sales trends for the past few years in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County housing market. For four years (2016-2019) we were consistently seeing about 1,300 home sales per year. Then, in 2020, at least partially fueled by primary and secondary effects of the

Covid-19 pandemic, the pace of home sales escalated quickly in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. We jumped from 1,300 sales a year up to nearly 1,500 in 2020 and then even higher (1,669) in 2021. Thus far, 2022 is \*barely\* keeping pace with last year's pace of home sales though is still well above the pace of sales in 2020.

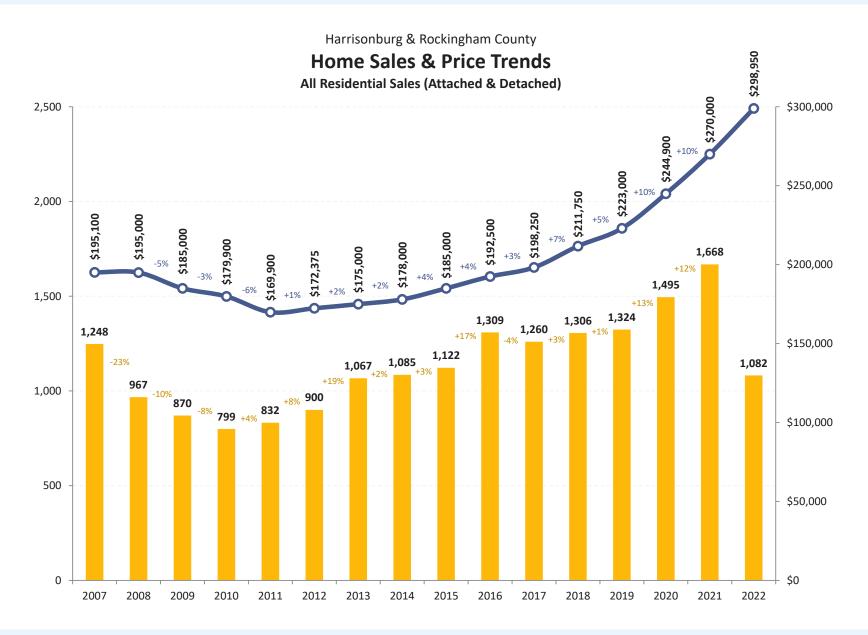
### **Time-Adjusted Home Sales Trends :: All Residential Properties**

# Home Sales, Median Sales Price in each 12 Month Period



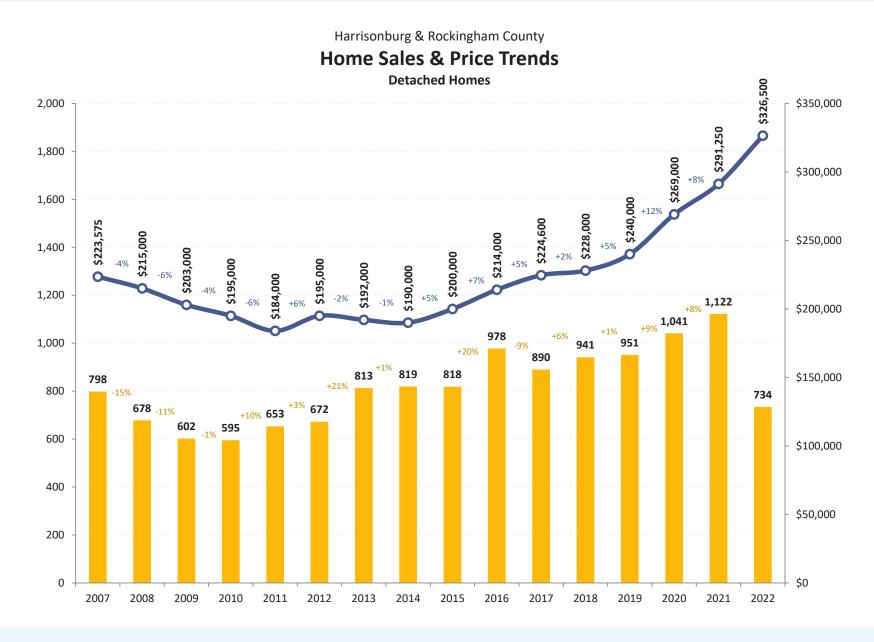
This graph shows a rolling 12 month trend line of the number of homes sold in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County area, as well as the median price of the homes sold during these time frames. Each data point shows one year of home sales, which eliminates the volatility of evaluating sales figures on a monthly basis.

The annual pace of home sales dropped off in late spring 2020 due to COVID but a few months later started rising rapidly, flying past 1,500 sales per year, then past 1,600, and now has hit 1,700 sales per year. The median sales price has been trending upwards for several years now and has reached \$289,900.



This graph provides an overall indicator of the state of our housing market, showing both the number of homes being sold each year (yellow bars) as well as changes in the median sales price during the same time period (blue line). Over the past 11 years we have seen relatively steady increases in the number of homes sold

each year in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County - with a surprisingly large 13% increase in 2020 followed by another strong 12% increase in 2021. The median sales price has also been consistently increasing for ten years now, up to an all time high in 2021 of \$270,000 thanks to 10% increase in 2020 and 2021.



The single family home market in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County has improved rather steadily over the past 11 years with increases almost every year in the number of homes sold. After having peaked in 2016 with 978 home sales, we finally broke through 1,000 sales per year with 1,041 home sales in 2020 and we

saw even more sales (1,122) in 2021. The median sales price has now been rising for seven years straight now, from \$190,000 back in 2014 to a new (all time) high of \$291,250 in 2020. The median sales price of detached homes rose 12% in 2020 and then 8% in 2021.

#### **Home Sales & Price Trends**

**Attached Homes (Duplexes, Townhomes & Condos)** 

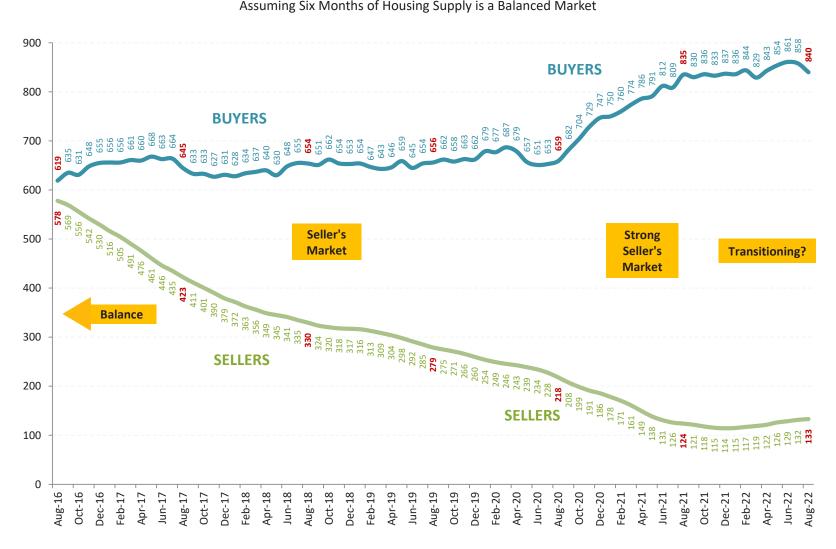


The pace of sales of attached homes (duplexes, townhouses and condos) rose steadily between 2011 and 2017 and then plateaued for a few years right around 370 home sales per year. But then, 2020. The sales of attached homes jumped significantly in 2020, showing a 22% year over year increase, with 452 home sales.

This 22% increase in sales in 2020 was only slightly higher than the 20% increase in attached sales seen in 2021. The median sales price of attached homes has been rising (for the most part) for nine years now and has hit a new (all time) high of \$225,000 in 2021, up from less than \$150,000 only five years ago.

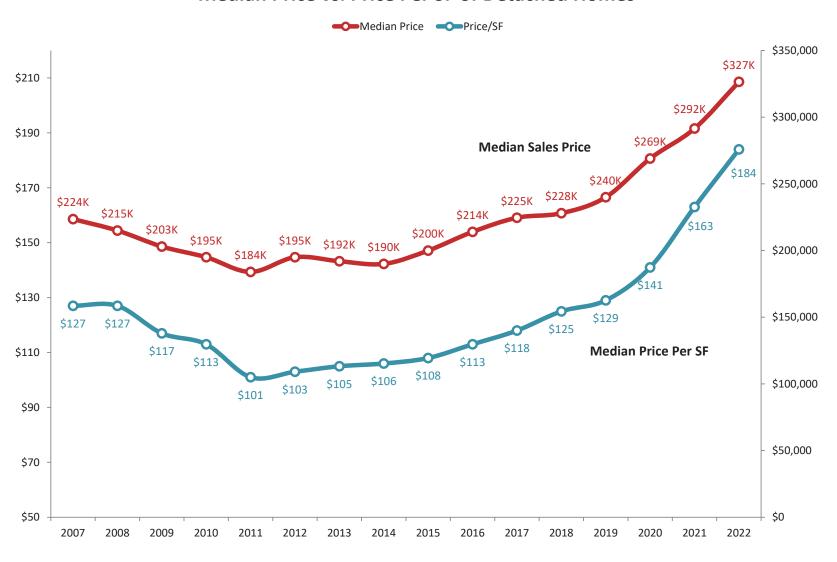
### Market Balance between Buyers and Sellers

Assuming Six Months of Housing Supply is a Balanced Market



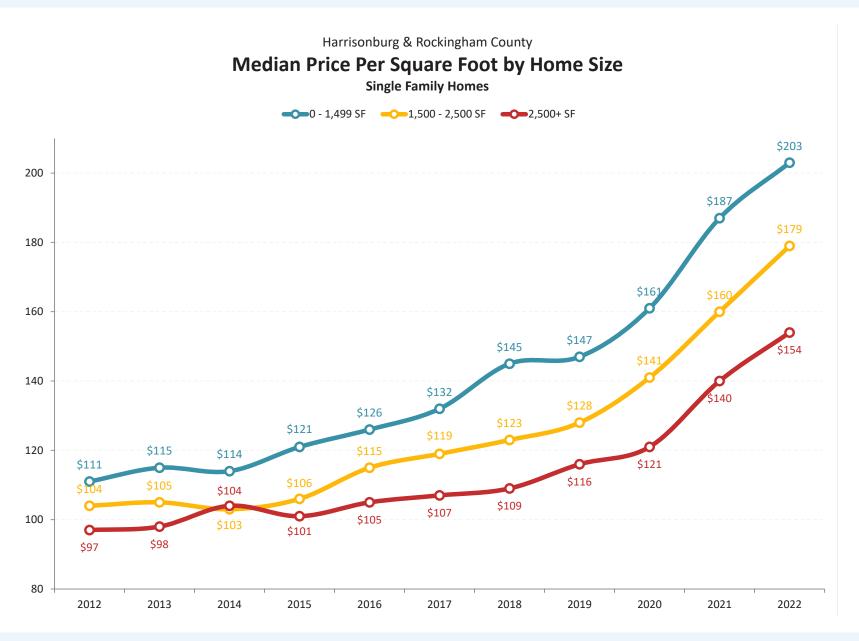
Historically, well before Covid, many had considered six months of inventory (active listings) to be an indicator of a balanced market between buyers and sellers, but many are reconsidering that metric now. The "BUYERS" trend line above shows how many buyers are buying in a six month period. The "SELLERS" trend line above shows how many sellers are in the market (active listings) at any given time. Over the past several years we have seen a steady increase in buyers and a declining number of sellers. We now see many (many!) more buyers buying in a six month period than there are homes for sale at any given time.





In addition to monitoring home values by overall median sales prices in our market, it can be insightful to examine the median price per square foot of homes that are selling. The graph above shows the median price per square foot of all single family homes sold over the past 15 years. The value trend captured by this graph is quite

similar to the trend shown in the single family home median sales price during the same time, which validates that assumed set of changes in home values. Over the past several years (2015 through 2021) we have seen increases in the median sales price as well as the median price per square foot of single family homes.

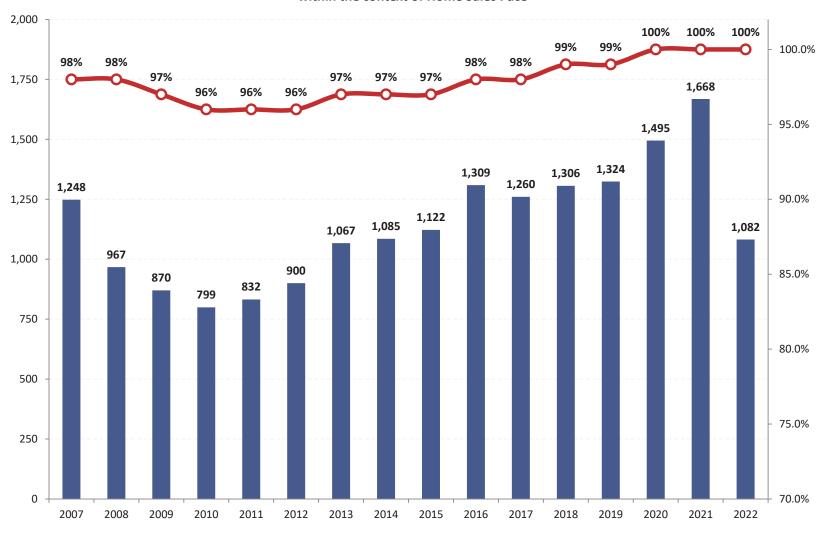


Price per square foot of single family homes certainly varies for many reasons, including the age, location, lot size and structural characteristics of each home sold. However, there are some similarities in homes of similar sizes. Looking at 2021 figures, this graph illustrates that the median price per square foot of larger homes

(2500+ SF) was a good bit lower than that of homes with less than 1500 SF during nearly every year. These values cannot be used as an absolute standard against which the value of any home can be measured, but they can provide some helpful guidance when trying to determine the value of a home.

#### **Median List Price to Sales Price Ratio**

within the context of Home Sales Pace



This graph shows the average list price to sales price ratio (red line) over the past 15 years as compared to the overall pace of home sales. At the peak of the housing boom (2004-2006) sellers were able to obtain a median of 99% of their asking price. Then, when the pace of home sales slowed (through 2010) this metric dropped

to 96%, where it stayed for three years. Sellers started selling for slightly more in 2013-2015 when they could obtain 97% of their list price. This increased to 98% in 2016 (remained there in 2017), and was been holding at 99% since 2018, but popped up to a median of 100% in 2020 which held 2021 and is holding in 2022.

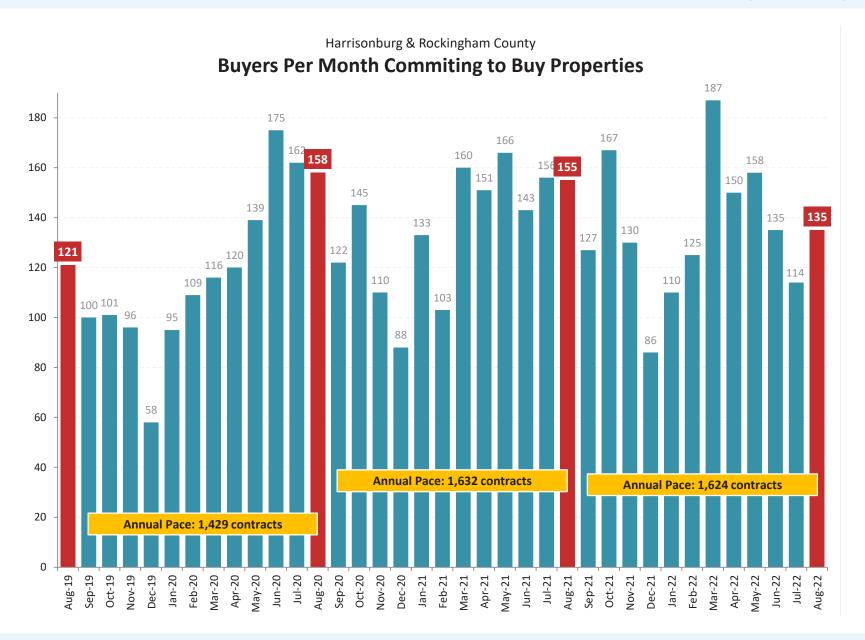
#### **New Construction Detached Home Sales Trends**

Number of Sales, Median Price Per Square Foot



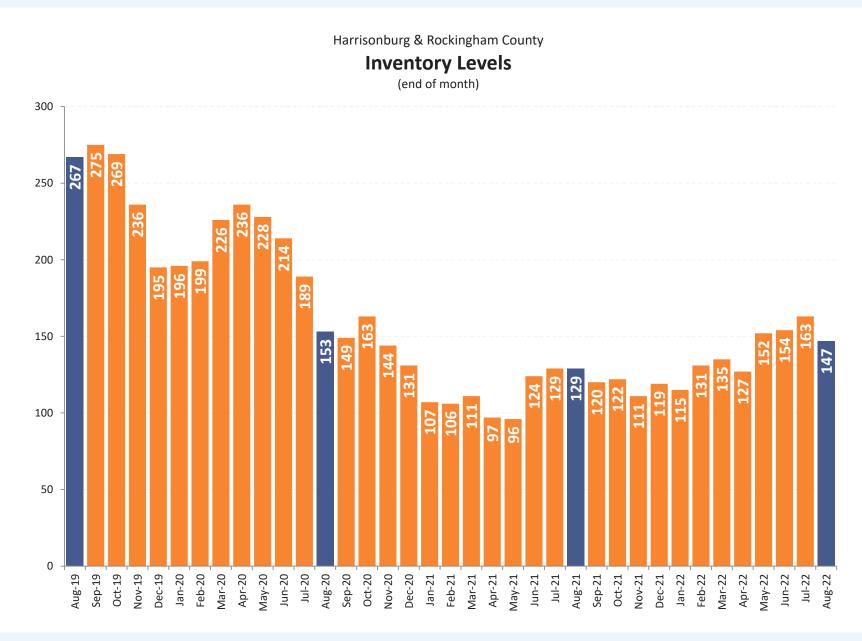
New home builders built a record number of new homes in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County last year -- 144 -- approaching twice the number built per year in many of the past five to ten years. These figures, of course, only represent new homes being marketed through the MLS. Plenty of additional new homes are built

by local home builders on lots already owned by the person who will live in the home - and thus they do not show up in the MLS. These new home sales show a steady increase in the price per square foot of homes being built and sold over the past ten years, with the largest increase in that value taking place in 2020.



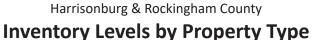
Contract activity, buyers and sellers signing contracts to buy and sell homes, are the leading indicator of what we will see in future months of closed sales transactions. Interest rates have been on the rise for several months now so many assumed we would start to see a decline in buyer activity. We did not see a measurable decline

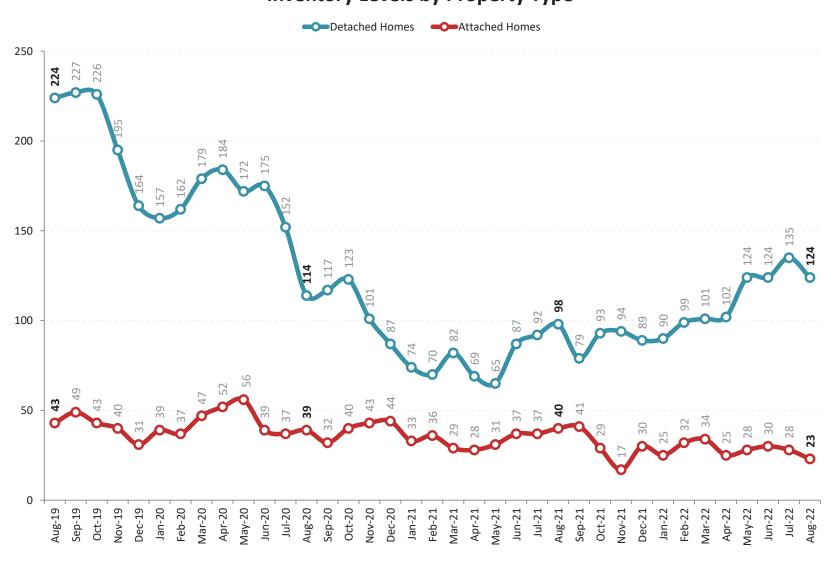
in buyer activity... until July 2022. The number of buyers signing contracts to buy homes in July 2022 (114) was significantly lower than the number of buyers signing contracts during the past two months of July, and August followed suit with only 135 contracts signed compared to 155 and 158 during the previous two Augusts.



Over the past several years, inventory levels have kept dipped lower. This has not, though, been accompanied by a decline in the pace of home sales. So -- if just as many (or more) buyers are buying, how are they doing it if inventory levels are so low? They're doing it with speed. The pace of home sales can increase, with

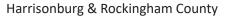
inventory levels declining if the median "days on market" is also declining. So, lots of homes are being listed for sale, but they are then going under contract quickly, which keeps inventory levels low but the pace of home sales high. That said, inventory levels have been rising over the past eight months.



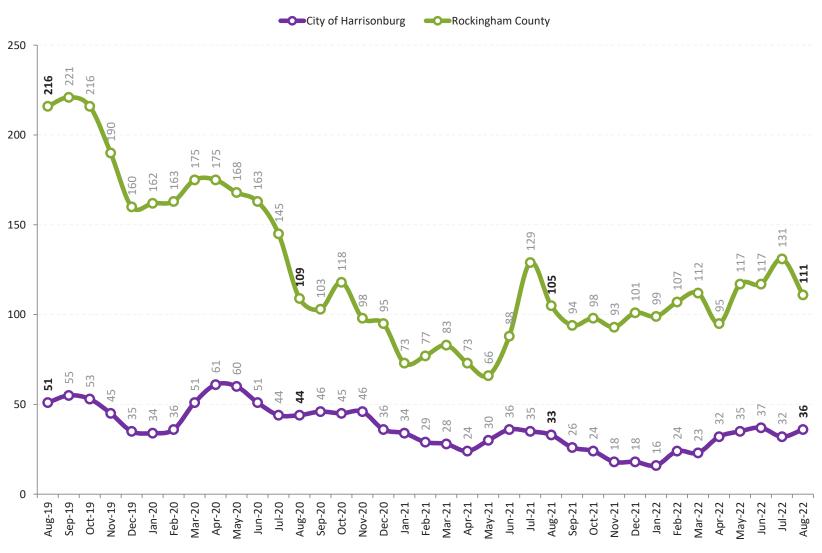


This graph examines the differences in inventory levels over time when examining only single family homes as compared to attached dwellings (townhouses, duplexes, condos). The number of detached homes for sale has declined over the past two years but has increased over the past year... in part due to new construction

offerings. The number of attached homes (townhouses, duplexes and condos) for sale has also significantly declined over the past two years though has stayed steadily low over the past year. Normal seasonal changes in inventory levels (more homes on the market in the spring) do not seem to be holding true at this point.



### **Inventory Levels by Property Location**



Inventory levels are a slightly higher right now in Rockingham County (111 homes for sale) as compared to a year ago -- though quite a bit below where inventory levels were three years ago. Inventory levels in the City are also slightly higher now (36) than they were a year ago, though that is not much consolation to home buyers

hoping to purchase in the City as these homes continue to go under contract quite quickly. It seems unlikely that we will see inventory levels start to meaningfully rise anytime in the near future as buyer demand still seems to be outpacing the supply of homes for sale.

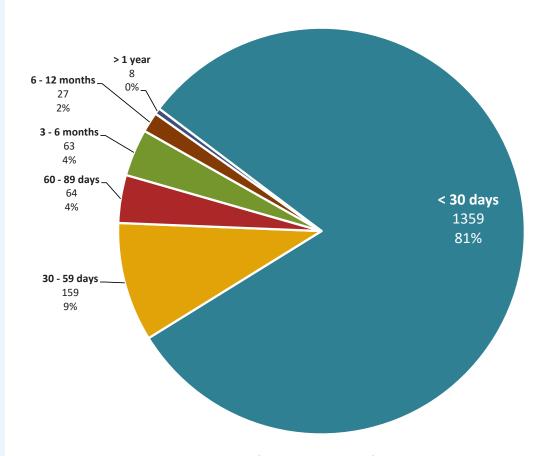
### **Days on Market Analysis of Sold Properties**

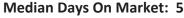
**Residential Listings Sold in the Past 12 Months** 

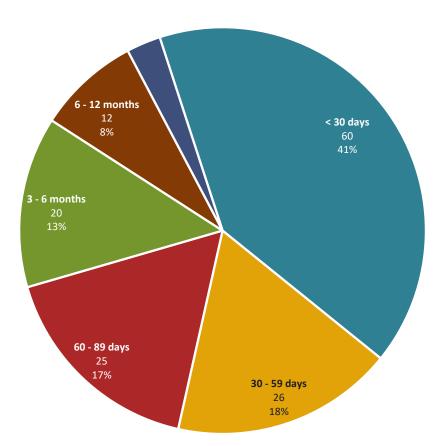
Harrisonburg & Rockingham County

### **Days on Market Analysis of Active Listings**

**Active Residential Listings** 







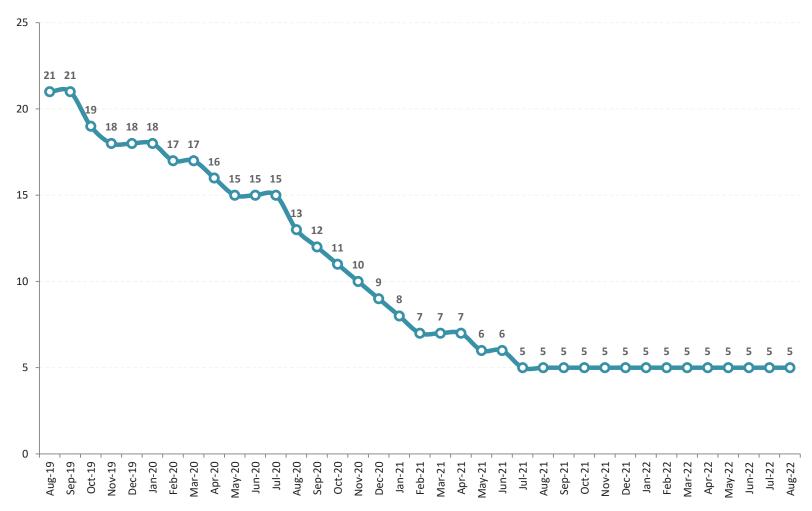
Median Days On Market: 45

Declining inventory levels are contributing to an overall decline in the time it takes to sell a home in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. The current median "Days on Market" is 5 days for homes that have sold in the past year. Remarkably, 81% of homes that have sold in the past year have gone under contract within 30 days of

having hit the market. Combine that with those that went under contract during the second month on the market, and you'll find that 90% of homes that sell go under contract within 60 days. The graph to the right, above, shows the length of time that each active listing has been on the market for sale.

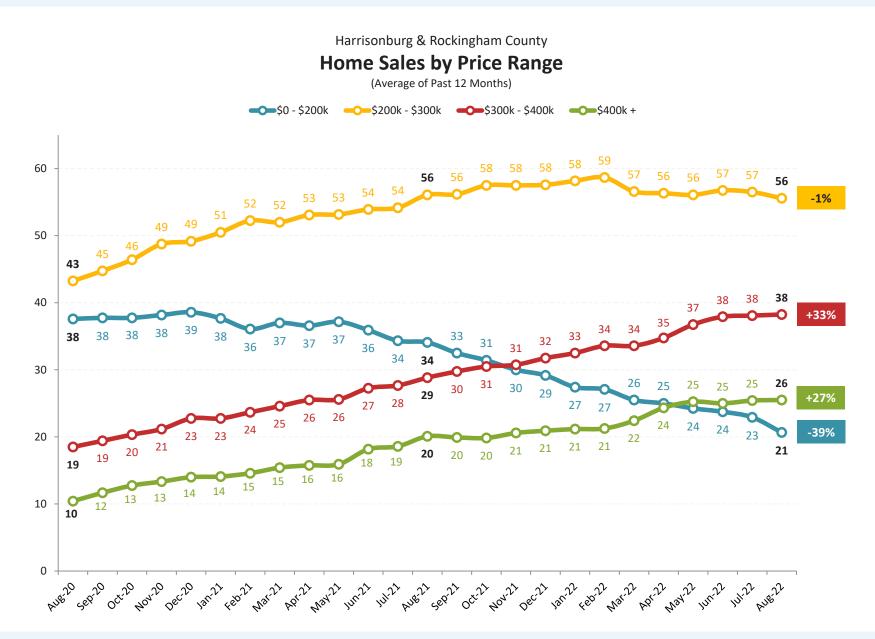
#### **Median Days On Market Over Time**

Residential Sales, Monthly Analysis of Annual Trend



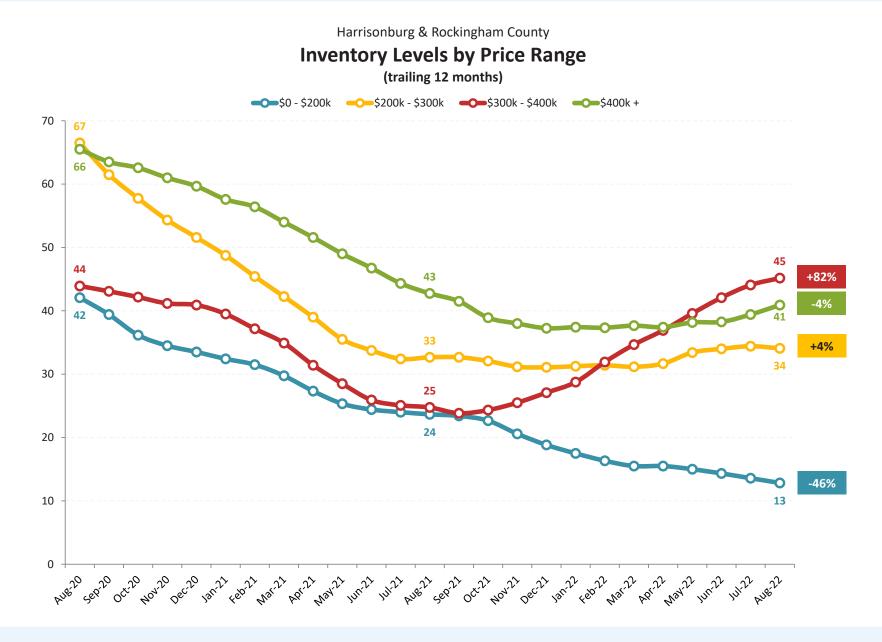
Days on market -- how quickly homes are going under contract -- can be an excellent indication of the mood of the local housing market. Independent of how many homes are selling and the prices at which they are selling -- if they are going under contract quickly then the market is strong and power is tipped towards sellers -- and

if homes are taking a longer time to go under contract the market is not quite as strong and power is starting to balance out between sellers and buyers. Over the past three years we have seen a steady decline in how long it takes homes to go under contract, with a current median of five days on the market.



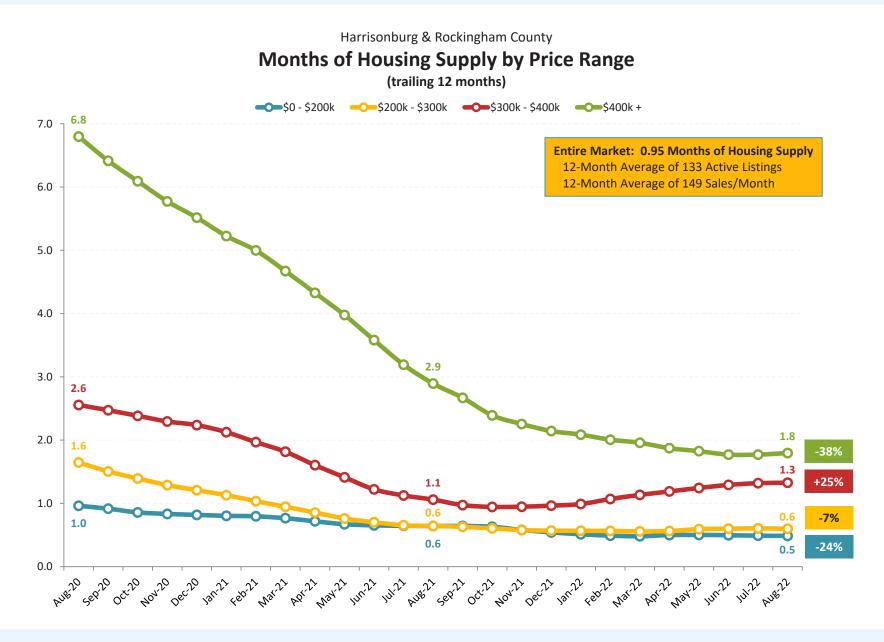
The pace of home sales in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County varies significantly based on price range. The graph above shows the average number of home sales per month (given a 12-month average) as we have passed through the past two years. Home sales have been declining over the past several years in the "under

\$200K" category -- though likely because of limited inventory, and fewer properties existing in this range based on increasing home values. Sales have been stable in the \$200K - \$300K price range and we have seen year-over-year increases in the \$300K - \$400K and \$400K+ price ranges over the past year.



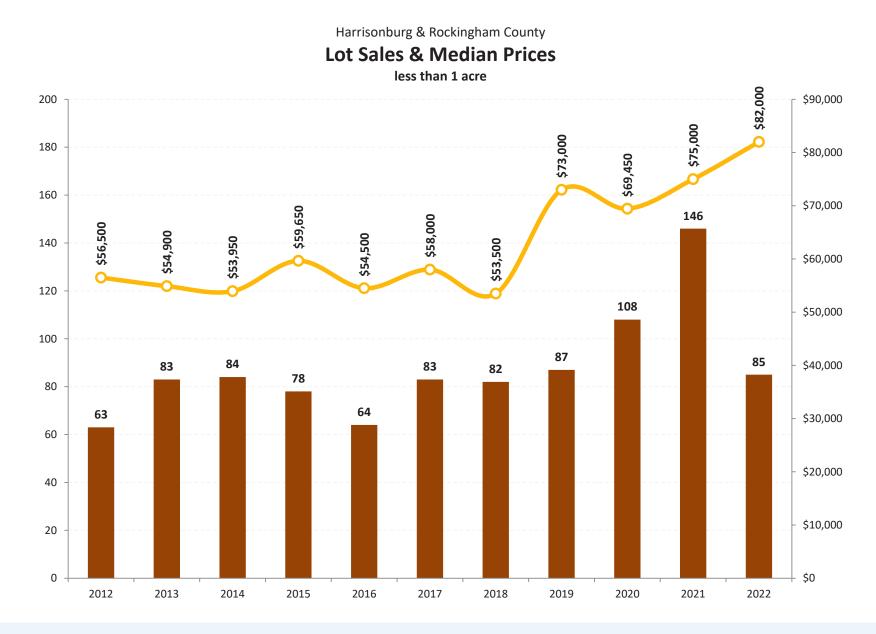
Inventory levels shift up and down seasonally, so this graph looks at changes in average inventory over a 12 month period. Over the past year we have seen relative stability in inventory levels in the \$200K - \$300K price range as well as the \$400K+ price range. We have seen continued declines in the number of homes for sale

in the under \$200K price range and that trajectory is not likely to change given increasing home values. Inventory levels in the \$300K - \$400K price range have been steadily increasing over the past year.



With so many home sales (lots of buyers) and so few homes on the market (not so many sellers), there are low levels of supply in most price ranges in our local real estate market. The graph above illustrates that while it would take about two months to sell all of the homes currently for sale over \$400K if the same number

of buyers bought each month as have been buying (on average) over the past 12 months and if no new listings came on the market -- but it would take about a month to go through the inventory between \$300K and \$400K and less than a month to go through the inventory under \$300K.

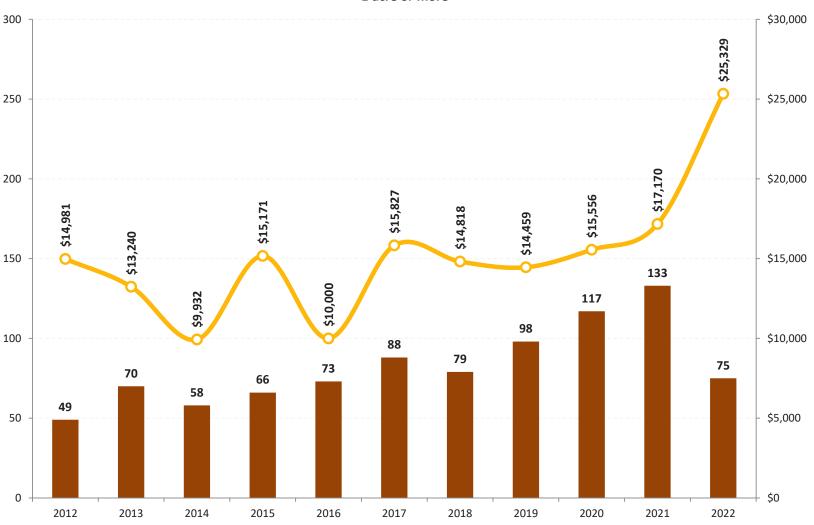


For six of the seven years between 2013 and 2019 we saw right around 80 sales per year of lots of less than an acre in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. In 2020, that annual pace of sales increased a good bit to 108 sales of building lots. Despite that increase in the number of lot sales, the median sales price for those

lots declined slightly to \$69,450. That decline is likely a result of which particular lots sold, not necessarily an indication that all lots are selling at lower prices now than they were a year ago. We then saw 146 lot sales in 2021, which means last year was the strongest year of lot sales in the past decade.

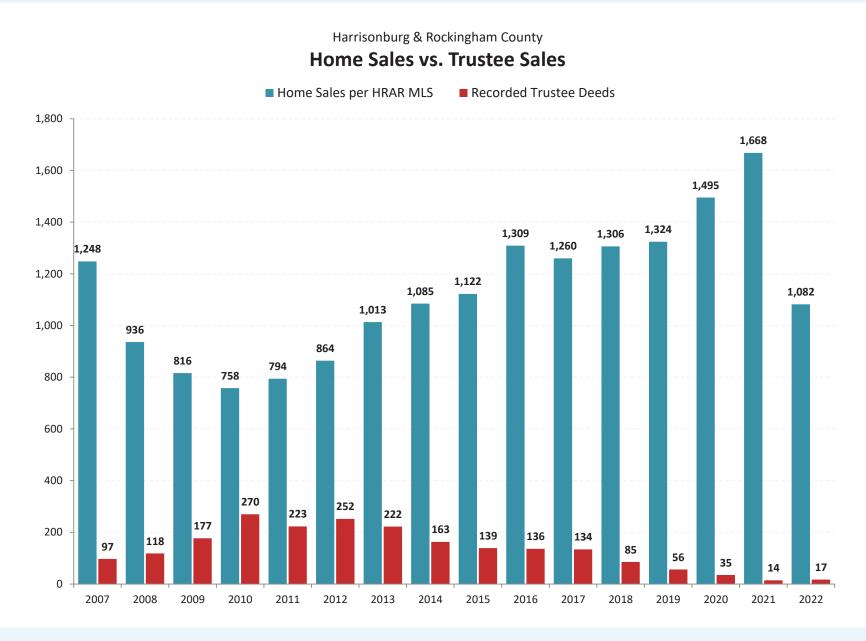
#### Land Sales & Median Price Per Acre

1 acre or more



The pace of sales of parcels of land larger than one acre in Harrisonburg or Rockingham County has increased over the past ten years to 133 land sales in 2021-marking the highest year of sales in over 15 years. The median price per acre had remained right around \$15,000 per acre for four years between 2017 and 2020 but

increased to just over \$17,000 in 2021. Of note -- some aspects of this "median price per acre" calculation are affected by which parcels actually sell in a given year. The increase in buyer demand over the past 10 years has not seemed to have created any significant upward lifting pressure on values to date.



The graph above is a comparison of two imprecise measures -- but the comparison can still be helpful. The blue bars show the number of home sales recorded in the HRAR MLS -- this does not include private sales that did not involve a Realtor, nor new home sales directly from a builder. The red bars show the number of recorded

Trustee Deeds. Some foreclosed properties then show up again as REO properties. The foreclosure rate in our local market area has been trending downward over the past nine years and is now at the lowest level seen anytime in the past 15 years! The moratorium on foreclosures likely kept that figure low in 2020 and 2021.

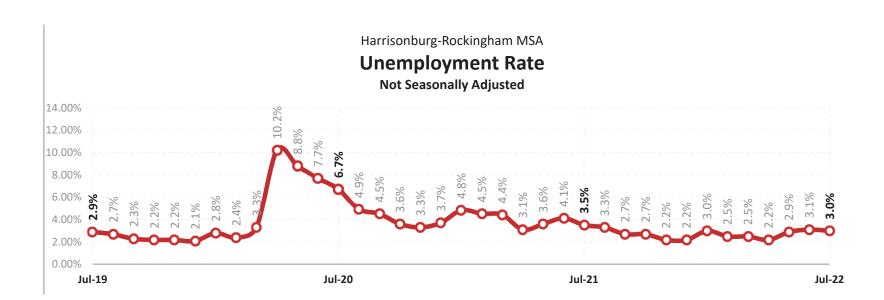
3.00% 2.50% 2.00%

Aug-19

Aug-22



Aug-21



Aug-20

As shown in the top graph, over the past several years mortgage interest rates steadily declined to a historic low rate of 2.67% in late 2020 before climbing throughout 2021, but not much above 3%. In 2022, mortgage rates have climbed much more quickly, surpassing 5% at the end of April and approaching 6% in June

before coming back down some in July and then rising again in August. The second graph follows the local unemployment rate, which has now returned to the typical 2% - 3% range after having peaked at 10.2% at the start of the pandemic.

# [10] MEET THE ANALYST / REALTOR

# Harrisonburg Housing today.com

#### Scott P. Rogers, Associate Broker



Scott P. Rogers, a knowledgeable, professional, responsive, friendly Associate Broker with Funkhouser Real Estate Group, began his real estate career in 2003 and has been working hard ever since to provide exceptional service to his buyer and seller clients in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. Each year since 2010, Scott has been in the top 1% of all area Realtors based on volume of real estate sold.

A native of Montgomery County, Maryland, Scott earned a B.A. (2000) and M.Ed. (2002) from James Madison University, providing him formal education in graphic design, web development, management and counseling -- all of which he leverages on a daily

basis to the benefit of his clients. Scott's graphic design and web development background allows him to create and utilize high caliber technology and marketing solutions for his clients and he incorporates many innovative tools and technologies to serve his clients including: professional photography equipment, a quadcopter (drone), property websites for each of his listings and 3D Walk Through technology.

In 2007, Scott began providing in-depth analysis and commentary on the local real estate market via his real estate blog, HarrisonburgHousingToday.com. Since that time, he created many other valuable online resources for the local community such as:

BuyingAHomeInHarrisonburg.com, SellingAHomeInHarrisonburg.com, HarrisonburgHousingMarket.com, NewListingsInHarrisonburg.com, JustSoldInHarrisonburg.com, HarrisonburgNeighborhoods.com and HarrisonburgTownhouses.com.

Scott and his wife, Shaena, live in Rockingham County with their two children, Luke and Emily. In his free time, Scott enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, coaching middle school volleyball and operating TakeThemAMeal.com and PerfectPotluck.com.

Questions? Contact me anytime....

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How To Navigate The Home Purchasing Process BuyingAHomeInHarrisonburg.com

The Best Marketing Strategies For Selling Your Home SellingAHomeInHarrisonburg.com

Harrisonburg & Rockingham County Property Search ScottPRogers.com

Analysis and Commentary on our Local Real Estate Market HarrisonburgHousingMarket.com

Daily Housing Market Analysis & Commentary HarrisonburgHousingToday.com

Fast Access to All New Listings of Homes For Sale NewListingsInHarrisonburg.com

Historical Record of Area Home Sales JustSoldInHarrisonburg.com

Property Transfers in Harrisonburg & Rockingham County HarrisonburgPropertyTransfers.com

Comprehensive Data on Single Family Home Neighborhoods HarrisonburgNeighborhoods.com

Comprehensive Data on Area Townhouse Communities HarrisonburgTownhouses.com

Analysis of Real Estate Investment Options in Harrisonburg HarrisonburgInvestmentProperties.com

The Most Realistic, Immersive Way to Experience a Home WalkThroughThisHome.com

Trustee Sales in Harrisonburg & Rockingham County HarrisonburgForeclosures.com