# November 2006 **Highlights**

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**Residential Real Estate Market Summary, Prepared Exclusively under Contract** Agreement for ARVEST BANK



Center for Business and Economic Research

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# **Residential Real Estate Market Summary for Benton and Washington Counties**

This report contains highlights from the Residential Skyline Report for Benton and Washington Counties. Researchers at the Center for Business and Economic Research in the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas produce the Skyline Report to provide timely statistical analysis of the Northwest Arkansas real estate markets. The information contained in the Skyline Report is critical for lenders, developers, contractors, and potential lessees. As the population of Northwest Arkansas burgeons, it is imperative that real estate markets work efficiently in order to meet the demand of new and existing residents. The Skyline Report includes the information that is necessary to help market participants make good decisions.

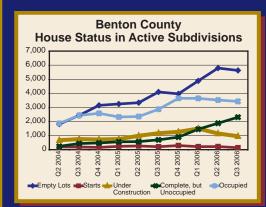
# **Highlights from the Third Quarter of 2006**

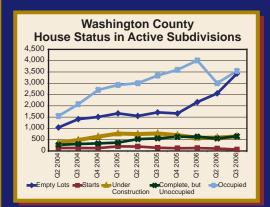
- The volume of new building permits issued in the third quarter declined dramatically year over year from 1,405 to 870.
- There were 20,791 lots in the 281 active subdivisions in Northwest Arkansas in the third quarter, up from 19,326 in the previous quarter.
- From the second quarter to the third quarter of 2006, 944 houses in active subdivisions became occupied. This absorption rate is a substantial increase from the second quarter total of 638, but down from the third quarter 2005 total of 1,075.
- Using the most recent annual absorption rate implies that the supply of remaining lots in Northwest Arkansas active subdivisions is sufficient for 46.8 months, up from 41.9 months in the second quarter of 2006.
- In the third quarter of 2006, there were 2,956 complete but unoccupied houses. Benton County experienced an increase of 229 percent in available complete inventory from the third quarter of 2005, with a 23 percent increase in the most recent quarter alone. In comparison, Washington County experienced a 17 percent inventory increase over the past twelve months.
- There were an additional 19,543 residential lots that have been at least preliminarily approved in Northwest Arkansas. Adding these proposed lots to those in active subdivisions yields a whopping 112.9 months of inventory in Northwest Arkansas.
- From May 16 to August 15, 2006, there were 2,224 existing houses sold in Benton and Washington Counties. This is a decline of 1.9 percent from the same time period in 2005.
- In the third quarter of 2006 in Northwest Arkansas, the average sales price of existing houses increased from third quarter 2005 levels by 2.3 percent in Washington County and by 6.1 percent in Benton County.

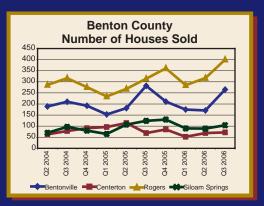


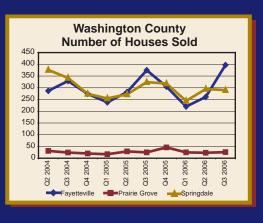
# Benton and Washington Counties Number and Average Value of Residential Building Permits Q3 2005 and Q3 2006

City	Q3 2005 Number of Building Permits	Q3 2006 Number of Building Permits	Q3 2005 Average Value of Building Permits	Q3 2006 Average Value of Building Permits		
Bella Vista	289	130	\$154,287	\$168,184		
Bentonville	95	144	\$225,765	\$177,736		
Bethel Heights	34	12	\$113,238	\$105,404		
Cave Springs	12	1	\$235,384	\$500,000		
Centerton	80	80	\$113,623	\$115,973		
Decatur	0	0				
Elkins	3	2	\$103,704	\$90,234		
Elm Springs	6	3	\$213,833	\$203,333		
Farmington	9	6	\$162,111	\$124,833		
Fayetteville	223	99	\$195,518	\$184,990		
Gentry	16	0	\$78,866			
Goshen	3	0	\$205,989			
Gravette	0	0				
Greenland	16	0	\$115,572			
Johnson	2	11	\$368,213	\$385,146		
Lincoln	6	9	\$117,997	\$113,866		
Little Flock	2	0	\$266,675			
Lowell	13	14	\$302,982	\$232,632		
Pea Ridge	75	50	\$111,945	\$97,507		
Prairie Grove	19	21	\$113,947	\$125,048		
Rogers	305	71	\$210,399	\$162,734		
Siloam Springs	42	8	\$125,534	\$151,750		
Springdale	147	196	\$218,367	\$169,826		
Tontitown	0	9		\$273,654		
West Fork	8	4	\$124,531	\$107,500		
Northwest Arkansas	1,405	870	\$178,791	\$164,736		

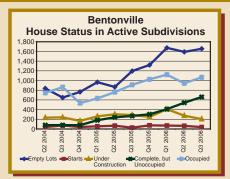


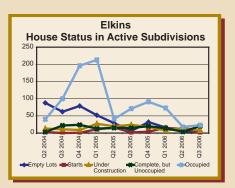


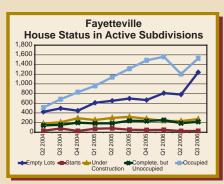


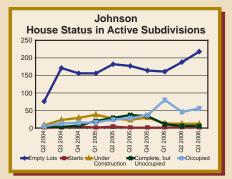


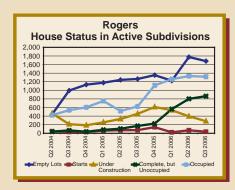
# House Status Trends by City

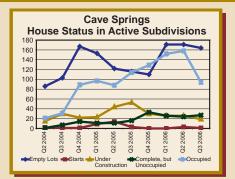


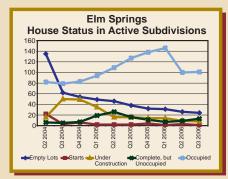


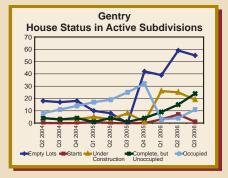


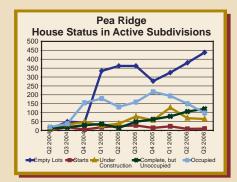


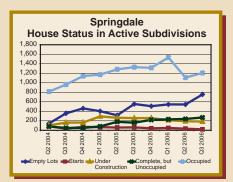


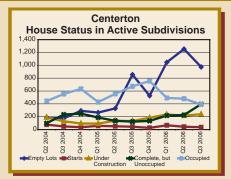


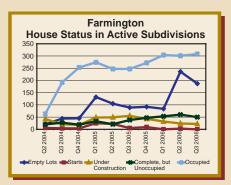


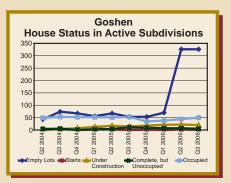


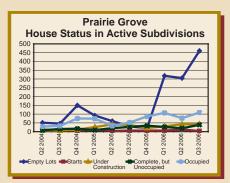


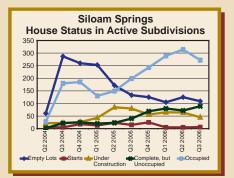




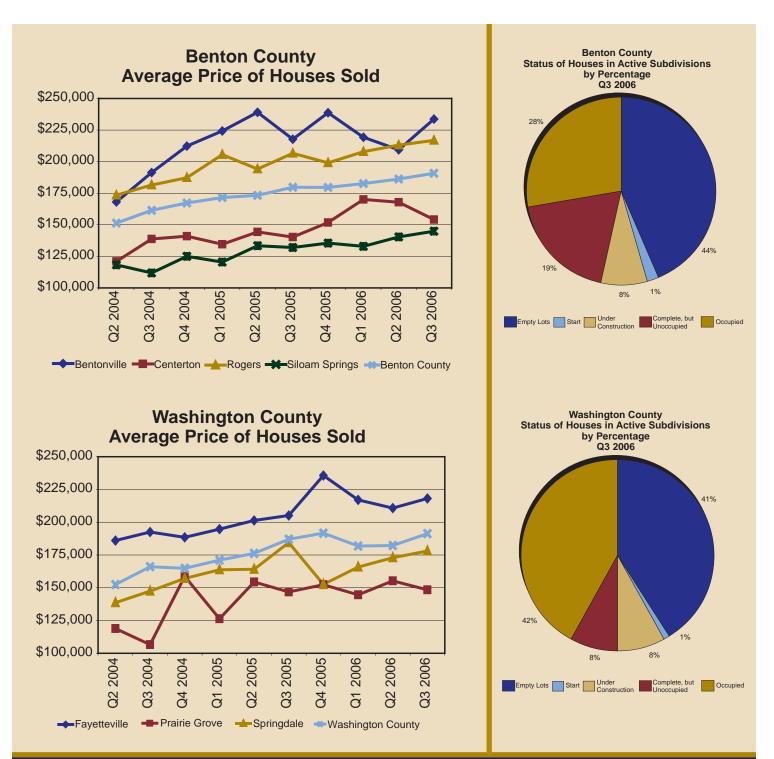








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### House Status in Active Subdivisions and Coming Lots from Major Cities Q3 2006

	Empty		Under	Complete, but		Total Lots in Active	Absorbed	Approved Lots, Not
City	Lots	Starts	Construction	Unoccupied	Occupied	Subdivisions	Lots	Yet Active
Bentonville	1,655	38	204	661	1,066	3,624	137	3,586
Centerton	974	37	239	396	392	2,038	67	3,244
Fayetteville	1,240	27	273	218	1,528	3,286	165	3,097
Prairie Grove	460	4	42	39	109	654	10	221
Rogers	1,680	37	282	865	1,317	4,181	237	1,911
Siloam Springs	109	6	45	89	272	521	28	1,285
Springdale	755	20	184	269	1,206	2,434	165	2,818

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