

## Real estate sales in 2009

The National Land Survey (NLS) has issued the Real estate purchase price statistics for 2009. The statistics show that last year the number of real estate purchases declined by 10 percent. The prices of detached houses are on the rise, whereas the value of summer cottages remains unchanged.

The effect of the economic recession is still shown in the volume of the real estate business. A total of 61 150 purchases of real estate were made in 2009, which is about 10 percent less than during the previous year.

The end of 2009 started to show signs of improvement in the real estate business. Also, the consumers' confidence in their own economy was on the rise.

In 2009, a record sum of money, 8.3 billion euros, was spent on real estate purchases. This was partly due to the airport areas and university real estate that the government sold and gained an income of approximately 2 billion euros.

Last year also saw a significant decline in the purchases made by Russians. In 2009 the Russians bought a total of 403 properties in Finland, whereas the number of purchases was 780 in 2008.

The total number of detached house purchases in 2009 was 14 720, which is 3 percent less than the year before. The slight price fall in 2008 showed signs of turning positive last year when prices in planned areas increased by 3 percent and in sparsely populated areas by 10 percent. The prices referred to are all median prices.

Last year, 6850 purchases of plots for detached houses were carried out in the whole country, a drop of 14 percent from year 2008. The square prices of plots sold by private persons in planned areas rose by 40 percent, but the prices had fallen drastically in 2008.

It seems that the buyers are moving to smaller centres, where the price level is more advantageous.

The number of holiday houses sold in 2009 amounted to 14 200, which is 7 percent less than

in the previous year. The most expensive regions were Päijänne Tavastia and Eastern Uusimaa.

Sales of arable land remain slow. Last year only a third of the purchases made in the record year 2005 were carried out. The price of arable land has remained constant (-2 %). In 2009, the average price of arable land in Finland was 6 885 euros per hectare.

The number of purchases of forest land exceeding two hectares in 2009 amounted to 2 210, which is about 17 percent less than the year before. The average price of forest in the entire country was 2 050 euros per hectare, a drop by 3 percent from the previous year.

### Data from the Official Purchase Price Register

The prices referred to in this press release are all median prices. The data is based on the Real estate purchase price statistics compiled by the National Land Survey of Finland.

The National Land Survey (NLS) issues a publication referred to as the Real estate purchase price statistics. The publication is released twice a year: annual statistics of the previous year in spring and biannual statistics of the current year in September. The statistics are produced on the basis of the purchase price register maintained by the NLS. The data in the publication is based on messages provided by notary publics and supplemented by municipalities and district survey offices. The register is public and contains all conveyances of real estate from the entire country since 1985.

### Additional information:

The statistics publication is available on the website of the National Land Survey of Finland (in Finnish and Swedish) at [www.maanmittauslaitos.fi](http://www.maanmittauslaitos.fi) > Julkaisut ja asiakirjat > Tilastot > Kauppahintatilastot.

Statistics and more information:  
Expert Juhani Väänänen, tel. 040 801 1204  
e-mail:  
[firstname.secondname\[at\]maanmittauslaitos.fi](mailto:firstname.secondname[at]maanmittauslaitos.fi)