

Kamloops real estate market saw an influx of out-of-district buyers during the pandemic

The Kamloops real estate market picked up rapidly in June 2020, after the COVID-driven dip in sales back in March and April 2020. Ever since, the market has gone on to smash monthly sales records. A stint that continued until June 2021, saw a market that was red-hot and thriving due to relaxed mortgage rates and the pent-up demand during the pandemic.

Over the last couple of months, unit sales performance graphs in the Kamloops real estate market have plateaued. Although cumulative sales figures in 2021 have already shattered half-yearly records, we're now selling nearly the same number of listings we sold back in July 2019. As we trace back to our position before Covid-19 changed our lives; a lot has happened in Kamloops real estate in the last 12-14 months.

KADREA President Chelsea Mann says, "As coronavirus taught us the methods of working from home, many industry experts and Realtors® spoke about the 'urban exodus' that the region may see due to attractive real estate prices. While peer interactions wouldn't suggest otherwise, we've wanted to statistically confirm if there was a shift in the trend of where the buyers were coming from."



Both Kamloops & District Real Estate Association (KADREA) and the Kootenay Association of Realtors® (KAR) members have access to a tool called *Buyer Path*, which let's them track buyer location trends after January 2018.

"Since January 2021, we recorded the percentage share of out-of-district buyers of Kamloops properties to be in the range of 30-39%. Whereas in 2020, this number was in the range of 20-29%. This means that we saw an increase of about 10% in the number of buyers that came from out-of-district areas. Considering we sell 300 listings on an average each month, a shift

in the range of 5-10% means that there were 15-30 more buyers from other regions who bought Kamloops properties, each month since January 2021", added Chelsea.

Buyer Path also revealed that there was a sharp rise in buyers coming from areas that were previously not perceived to be locations where buyers would find interest in Kamloops properties. For eg: Fraser Valley and Vancouver.

Kamloops saw 51 buyers coming from the Fraser Valley region and 109 coming from Vancouver in the first 6 months of 2020. These numbers increased to 146 and 296 respectively, across the same months in 2021. The number of buyers from Central & Northern BC on the other hand, rose from 48 sales in the first 6 months of 2020 to 70 in 2021. While Okanagan and Kootenays jumped from 45 to 76.

Such a rise in the number of out-of-district buyers is indicative of an increase in the attractiveness quotient of Kamloops properties among home buyers in the province, especially buyers from the lower mainland. However, in-district buyers continue to be the majority consumers of properties in Kamloops.

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Buyer Location Tables

January Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	127	64.5
Vancouver	29	14.7
Fraser Valley	17	8.6
Okanagan and Kootenays	5	2.5
Central and Northern BC	9	4.6
Vancouver Island	3	1.5
Alberta	6	3
Rest of Canada	0	0

February Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	158	64.8
Vancouver	37	15.2
Fraser Valley	19	7.8
Okanagan and Kootenays	12	4.9
Central and Northern BC	6	2.5
Vancouver Island	3	1.2
Alberta	8	3.3
Rest of Canada	1	0.4

March Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	184	63.9
Vancouver	41	14.2
Fraser Valley	21	7.3
Okanagan and Kootenays	16	5.6
Central and Northern BC	13	4.5
Vancouver Island	3	1
Alberta	6	2.1
Rest of Canada	3	1

April Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	185	61.5
Vancouver	53	17.6
Fraser Valley	31	10.3
Okanagan and Kootenays	17	5.6
Central and Northern BC	10	3.3
Vancouver Island	2	0.7
Alberta	2	0.7
Rest of Canada	1	0.3

May Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	183	64.5
Vancouver	49	17.3
Fraser Valley	24	8.5
Okanagan and Kootenays	12	4.2
Central and Northern BC	12	1.2
Vancouver Island	4	1.4
Alberta	0	0
Rest of Canada	0	0

June Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	161	61.9
Vancouver	51	19.6
Fraser Valley	22	8.5
Okanagan and Kootenays	9	3.5
Central and Northern BC	12	4.6
Vancouver Island	0	0
Alberta	1	0.4
Rest of Canada	2	0.8

July Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	165	72.1
Vancouver	36	15.7
Fraser Valley	12	5.2
Okanagan and Kootenays	5	22
Central and Northern BC	7	3.1
Vancouver Island	4	1.7
Alberta	0	0
Rest of Canada	0	0



2020 (previous year) Buyer Location Tables

January Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	91	73.4
Vancouver	12	9.7
Fraser Valley	2	1.6
Okanagan and Kootenays	7	5.6
Central and Northern BC	4	3.2
Vancouver Island	3	2.4
Alberta	2	1.6
Rest of Canada	2	1.6

February Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	131	75.7
Vancouver	12	6.9
Fraser Valley	5	2.9
Okanagan and Kootenays	8	4.6
Central and Northern BC	10	5.8
Vancouver Island	1	0.6
Alberta	4	2.3
Rest of Canada	2	1.2

March Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	110	78
Vancouver	11	7.8
Fraser Valley	1	0.7
Okanagan and Kootenays	7	5
Central and Northern BC	5	3.5
Vancouver Island	1	0.7
Alberta	3	2.1
Rest of Canada	2	1.4

April Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	58	69
Vancouver	11	13.1
Fraser Valley	3	3.6
Okanagan and Kootenays	2	2.4
Central and Northern BC	7	8.4
Vancouver Island	0	0
Alberta	2	2.4
Rest of Canada	1	1.2

May Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	79	71.2
Vancouver	12	10.8
Fraser Valley	24	8.5
Okanagan and Kootenays	5	4.5
Central and Northern BC	3	2.7
Vancouver Island	2	1.8
Alberta	6	5.4
Rest of Canada	1	0.9

June Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	163	74.1
Vancouver	24	10.9
Fraser Valley	7	3.2
Okanagan and Kootenays	11	5
Central and Northern BC	7	3.2
Vancouver Island	4	1.8
Alberta	1	0.5
Rest of Canada	3	1.4

July Areas	Units Sold	Per cent share
Kamloops and Area	186	73.5
Vancouver	27	10.7
Fraser Valley	9	3.6
Okanagan and Kootenays	5	22
Central and Northern BC	12	4.7
Vancouver Island	3	1.2
Alberta	5	2
Rest of Canada	1	0.4