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# 2017 Spring Market Trends Report

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### **National Summary**

SIGNIFICANT PRICE INCREASES AND HIGH DEMAND IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2017 SPURRED GROWING NUMBERS OF BUYERS TO LEAVE THE DOWNTOWN CORE.

These buyers, known as move-over buyers, are looking for greater affordability in markets across southern Ontario. In turn, they are driving price appreciation in Mississauga, Brampton, Durham, Barrie, Hamilton-Burlington, Windsor, and as far away as Kingston. The GTA saw the average residential sale price rise by 29 per cent, up from \$675,492 in the first guarter of 2016 to \$873,631 during the same period in 2017.

At the same time, housing demand has slowed in Greater Vancouver compared to Q1 of 2016, and the average residential sale price decreased 11 per cent year-over-year, from \$1,094,936 in the first quarter of 2016 to \$969,900 in 2017. The decline in average sale price is in part due to the introduction of the foreign buyer tax last August, a relatively severe winter and the natural stabilization of prices after the market reached a high point in May 2016. Move-over buyers from Vancouver and buyers migrating from other provinces continue to fuel activity in Fraser Valley, Kelowna, and in Victoria, particularly in the upper-end of the market due to relative affordability in these regions.

A recent RE/MAX survey conducted by Leger found that when making buying decisions, over two-thirds of Canadians consider the location of a home to be more important than the style or size of the home. Respondents indicated that beyond price, a number of other factors influence home purchases, including: access to green space (77 per cent), proximity to work (66 per cent), proximity to retail centres (65 per cent), and proximity to family and friends (65 per cent). All of these ranked higher than the style of a home.

In response to heightened activity seen across the GTA in recent months, the Ontario provincial government announced a 15 per cent Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST), along with a number of other regulations in mid-April in an effort to balance the need to stabilize the market while preventing a harmful sharp correction. Similar to the foreign buyer-tax introduced in Vancouver last year, the impact of this measure on market and buyer activity in the long run is difficult to predict. This measure may impact consumer confidence in the short-term as buyers hold out until they fully understand how they are affected, causing overall market activity to slow.

In Western Canada, particularly in Alberta, slowly recovering oil prices, low interest rates, and US approval of the Keystone XL pipeline project have renewed buyer optimism, particularly among move-up buyers and millennial, first-time buyers who are typically looking to buy condominiums. The average residential sale price increased three per cent year-over-year in Calgary to \$482,065, up from \$467,780 during the first guarter in 2016. A wide variety of inventory across the market provides good opportunities for buyers in Edmonton, resulting in a 12 per cent increase in activity and stable year-over-year prices to start 2017.

Charlottetown and Halifax experienced increased demand from foreign buyers in the first quarter in addition to sustained demand from buyers moving back to Atlantic Canada from other parts of the country to purchase more affordable housing options than what is available in Canada's larger urban hubs.

New residential and commercial development projects in markets across the country are expected to fuel demand in these regions. These cities include Calgary, Edmonton, Kelowna, Victoria, and Regina in the West and Windsor, London-St. Thomas, Hamilton-Burlington, Mississauga, Barrie, Durham, Brampton, Ottawa, Saint John, and Halifax in Central and Eastern Canada.



66% of Canadians feel location impacts buying decisions more than a home's style or size



Beyond price, Canadians ranked the following as important factors when considering a home purchase:

- Access to green spaces and parks (77%)
- Proximity to work (66%)
- Proximity to retail centres (65%)





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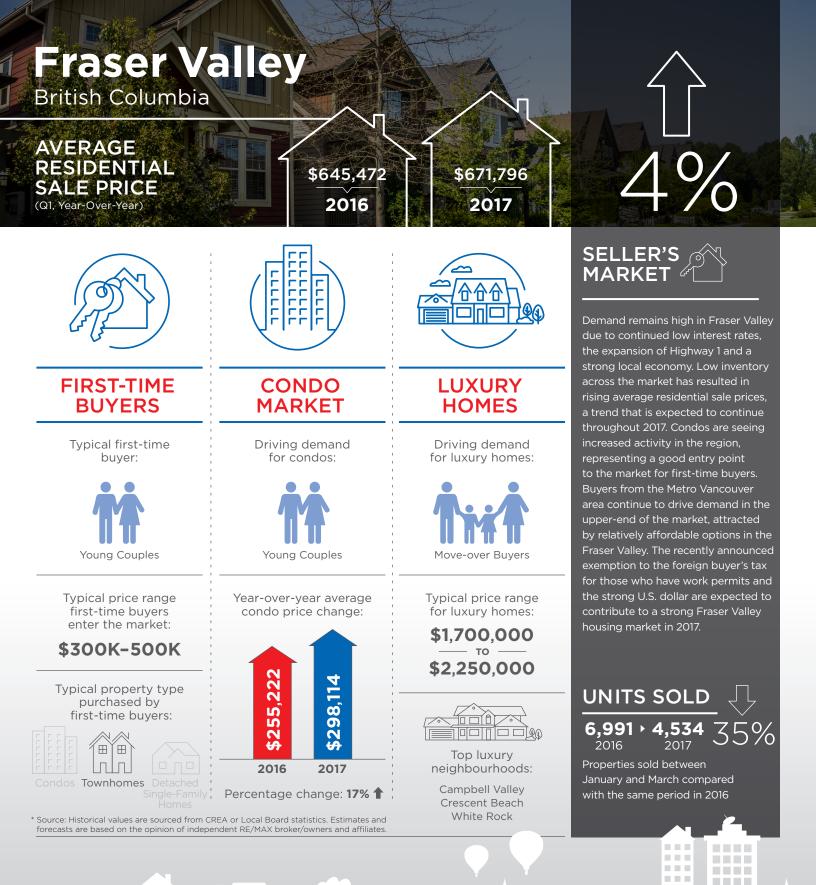
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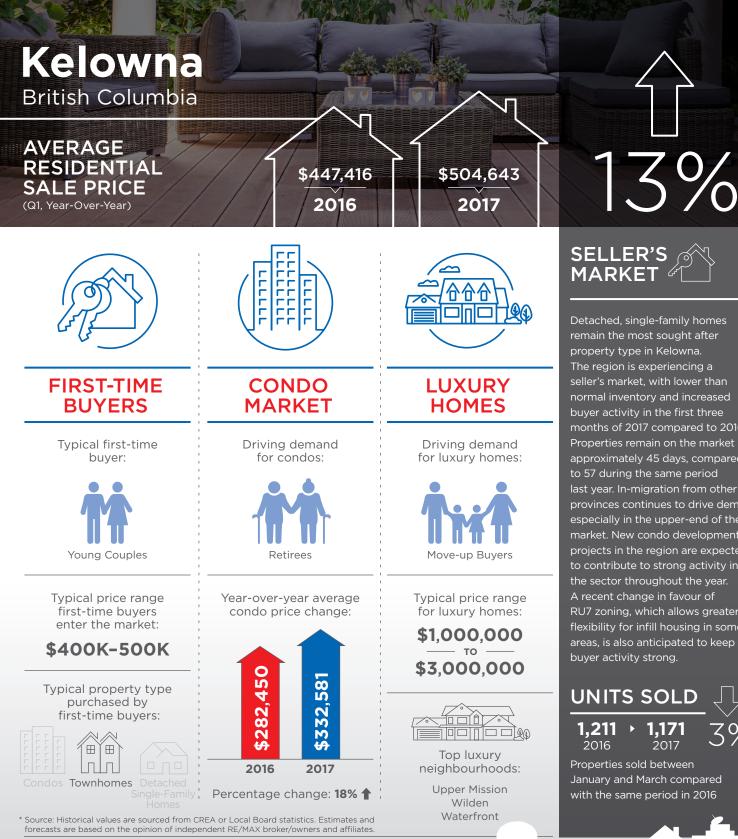


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The region is experiencing a seller's market, with lower than normal inventory and increased buyer activity in the first three months of 2017 compared to 2016. Properties remain on the market for approximately 45 days, compared to 57 during the same period last year. In-migration from other provinces continues to drive demand. especially in the upper-end of the market. New condo development projects in the region are expected to contribute to strong activity in the sector throughout the year. A recent change in favour of RU7 zoning, which allows greater flexibility for infill housing in some areas, is also anticipated to keep buyer activity strong.



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### Edmonton

Alberta

AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL SALE PRICE (Q1, Year-Over-Year)



#### **FIRST-TIME BUYERS**

Typical first-time buyer:



Typical price range first-time buyers enter the market:

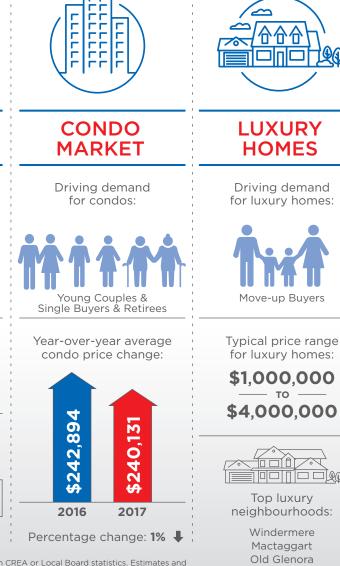
#### \$200K-400K

Typical property type purchased by first-time buyers:



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\* Source: Historical values are sourced from CREA or Local Board statistics. Estimates and forecasts are based on the opinion of independent RE/MAX broker/owners and affiliates.



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\$363,728

2016

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\$364.473

2017

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# 0%



Detached, single-family homes are the most sought after property type in Edmonton, and older homes in mature neighbourhoods typically receive multiple offers as a result of low inventory. A wide variety of inventory across the rest of the market provides good opportunities to move-up buyers who drive demand in Edmonton. Stable prices have created good value in the upper-end of the market, resulting in 33 properties selling for over a million dollars in the first quarter of 2017. New approvals for high-rise condo developments in Edmonton's downtown core and the Whyte Avenue district are expected to fuel condo market activity in the region moving forward.

UNITS SOLD 3,020 · 3.370 2016 2017

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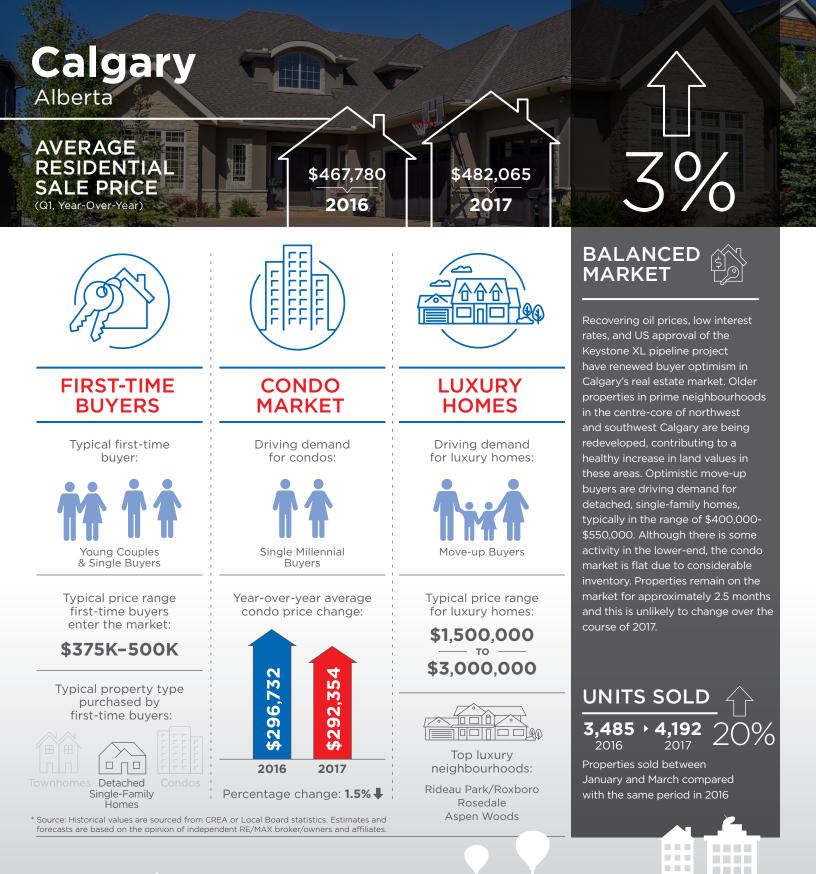
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Properties sold between January and March compared with the same period in 2016



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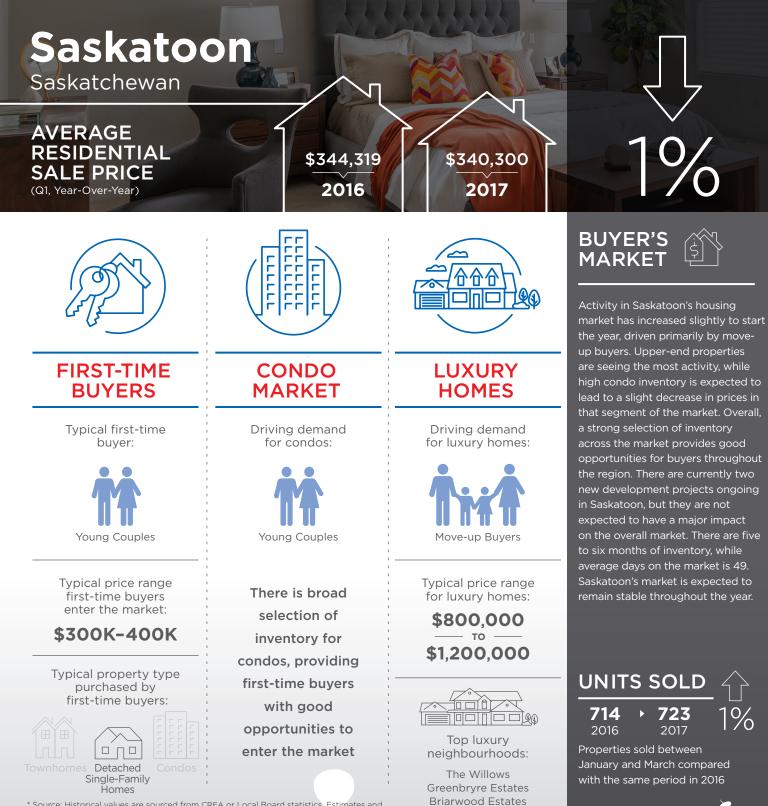
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\* Source: Historical values are sourced from CREA or Local Board statistics. Estimates and forecasts are based on the opinion of independent RE/MAX broker/owners and affiliates.

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#### FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Typical first-time buyer:



Typical price range first-time buyers enter the market:



Typical property type purchased by first-time buyers:



\* Source: Historical values are sourced from CREA or Local Board statistics. Estimates and forecasts are based on the opinion of independent RE/MAX broker/owners and affiliates.

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### CONDO MARKET

Driving demand for condos:



The condo market offers good selection to a wide variety of buyers in Regina



#### LUXURY HOMES

Driving demand for luxury homes:



Typical price range for luxury homes: \$850,000

**\$1,500,000** Demand for luxury homes was consistent

year-over-year compared to Q1 2016 and is expected to remain stable throughout 2017

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BALANCED

Regina's real estate market is expected to remain relatively stable despite the ongoing downturn in the resource sector, as new listings coming onto the market continue to present good opportunities to buyers. CMHC mortgage lending regulation changes at the end of 2016 further slowed the market to start the year as buyers adjusted to the new rules, but increased activity towards the end of March has led to optimism heading into Regina's spring market. New retail development projects in the city expected to begin in the near future have provided an additional boost to consumer confidence. Detached, single-family homes continue to be the most soughtafter property type, with the market primarily driven by first-time and move-up buyers.



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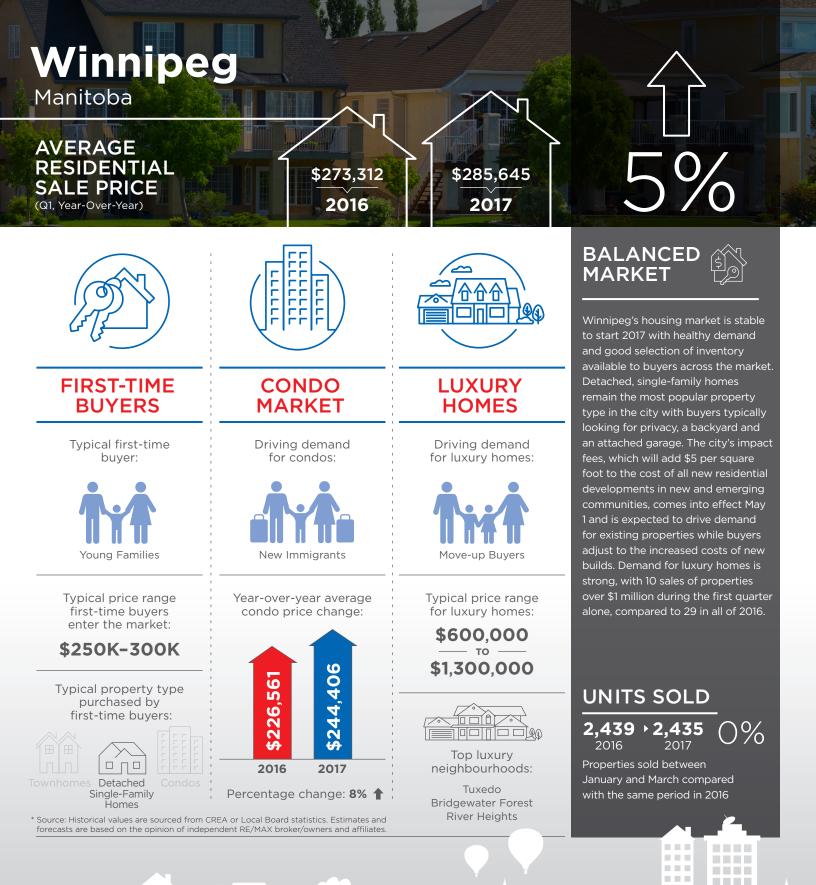
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Properties sold between January and March compared with the same period in 2016





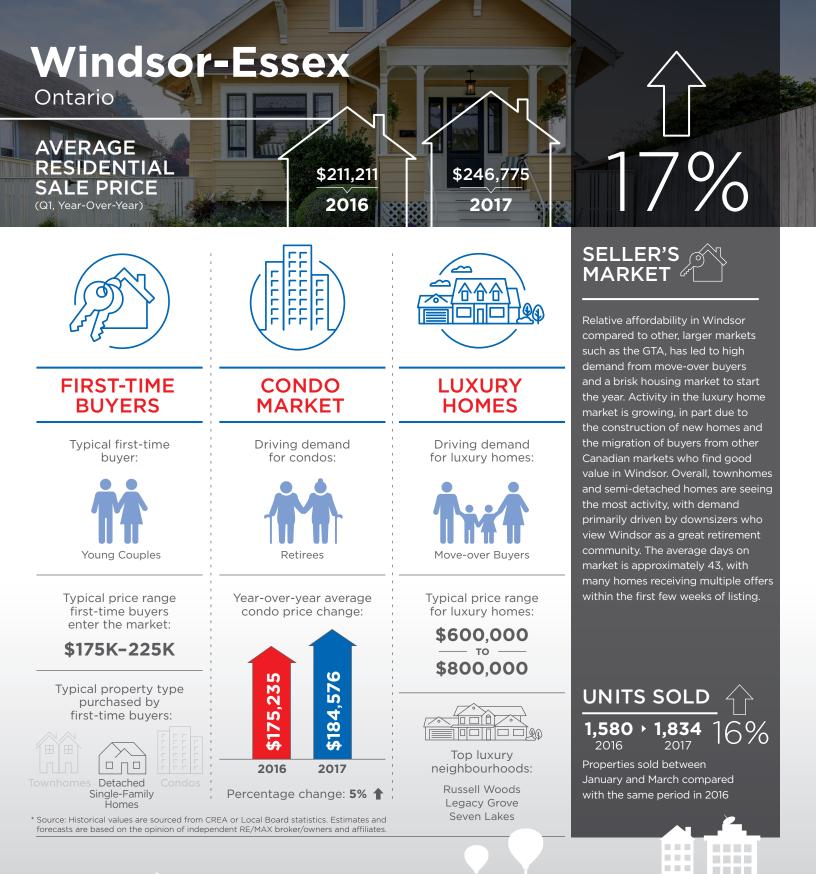
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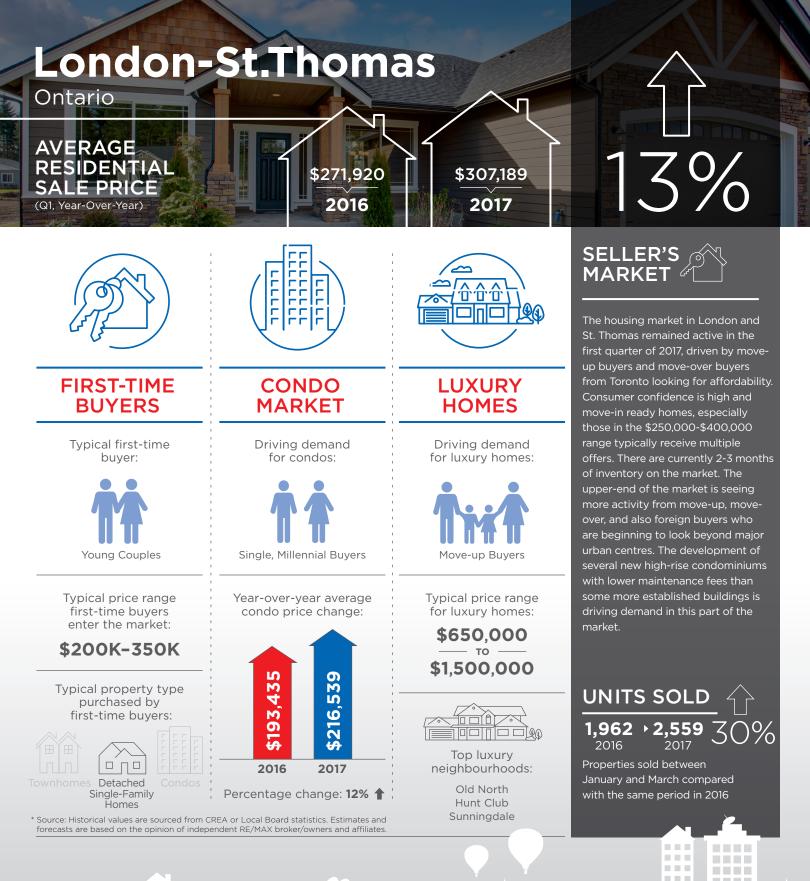
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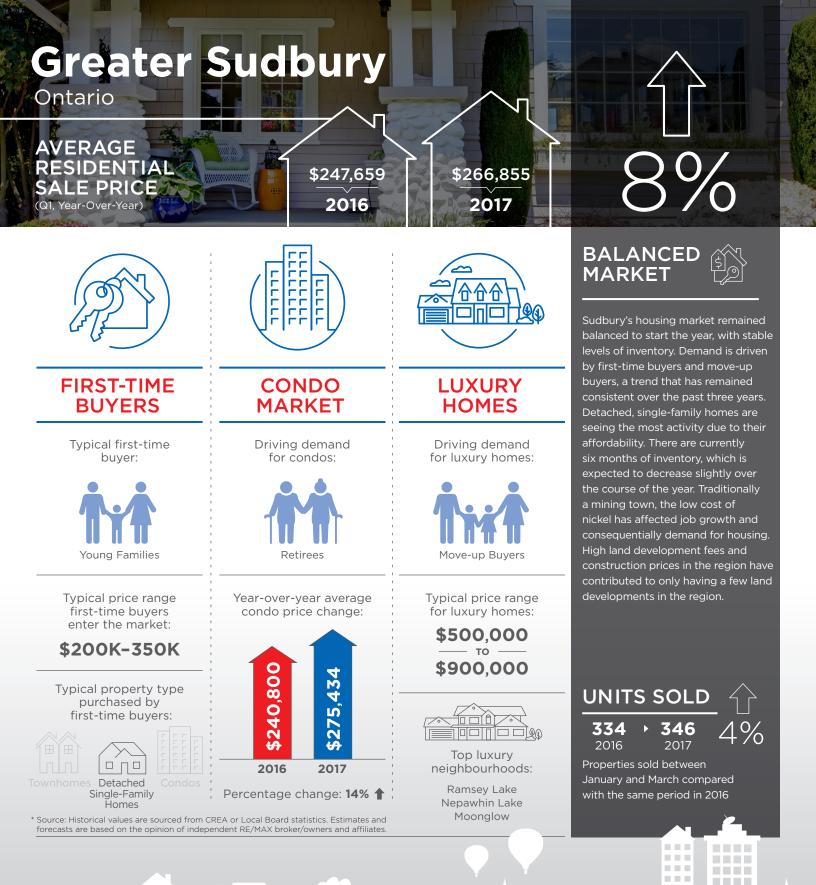
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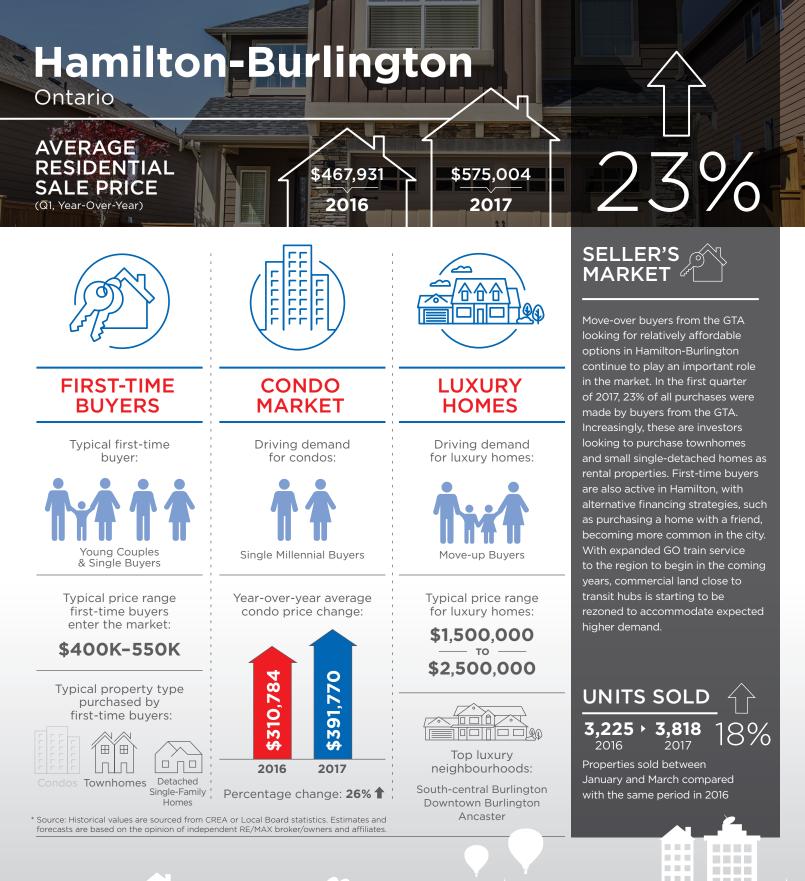
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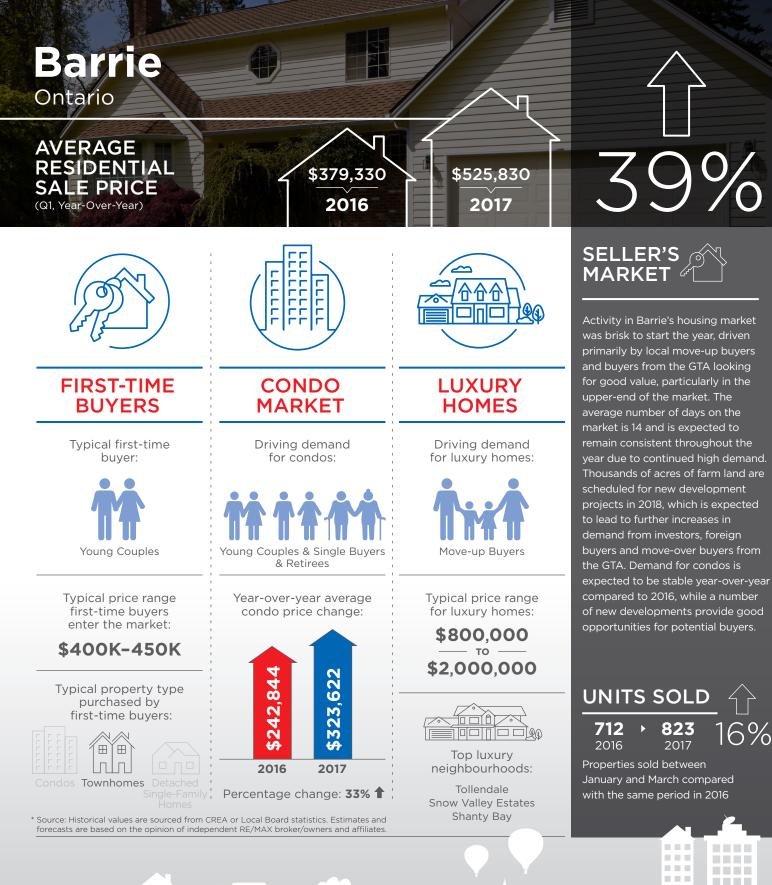
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Typical first-time buyer:



& Young Couples Typical price range

first-time buyers enter the market:

\$600.000 тó \$1,000,000

Typical property type purchased by first-time buyers:



\* Source: Historical values are sourced from CREA or Local Board statistics. Estimates and forecasts are based on the opinion of independent RE/MAX broker/owners and affiliates

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MARKET

Driving demand for condos:



Single Millennial Buyers & Young Couples

Year-over-year average condo price change:



### HOMES

Driving demand for luxury homes:

Move-Up Buyers & Foreign Buyers

> Typical price range for luxury homes:

#### \$3,000,000 то \$6,000,000



Top luxury neighbourhoods: Yorkville Rosedale North Toronto (Along Bayview Corridor)

downsizers, chose to list their homes and move outside the GTA looking for better value. Recently announced government regulation changes to slow rising prices across the GTA are expected to have a short-term impact as buvers adjust: these regulations are not anticipated to affect demand in the long-term. Demand is expected to remain high throughout 2017 and it's common for young, first-time buyers to receive financial assistance from their parents. Move-up buyers looking for the convenience of urban living continue to drive overall demand.

UNITS SOLD 22.57 2016 2017 Properties sold between

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January and March compared with the same period in 2016



### GTA: Oakville

Ontario

AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL SALE PRICE (Q1, Year-Over-Year)





Typical first-time buyer:



Typical price range first-time buyers enter the market:

\$375K-700K

Typical property type purchased by first-time buyers:



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\* Source: Historical values are sourced from CREA or Local Board statistics. Estimates and forecasts are based on the opinion of independent RE/MAX broker/owners and affiliates.

\$997.353

2016

Driving demand for condos:

MARKET



Young Couples

Year-over-year average condo price change:



for luxury homes:

Typical price range for luxury homes:

\$1,313,477

2017

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LUXURY

HOMES

Driving demand



Top luxury neighbourhoods:

> South East Morrison East Lake

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52%

Oakville's housing market was brisk to start the year with high demand for all property types. As a result, there is less than one month of inventory on the market and the average number of days on the market is 17. Increased demand in Oakville is primarily driven by foreign buyers over the last few years and this trend continued into the first quarter of 2017. Luxury homes worth \$3 million and above are in particularly high demand from both move-up and foreign buyers. It has become increasingly common for existing home owners to capitalize on high demand and rising prices by selling their home and leasing the property back from the new owner. Activity is expected to remain strong throughout 2017.



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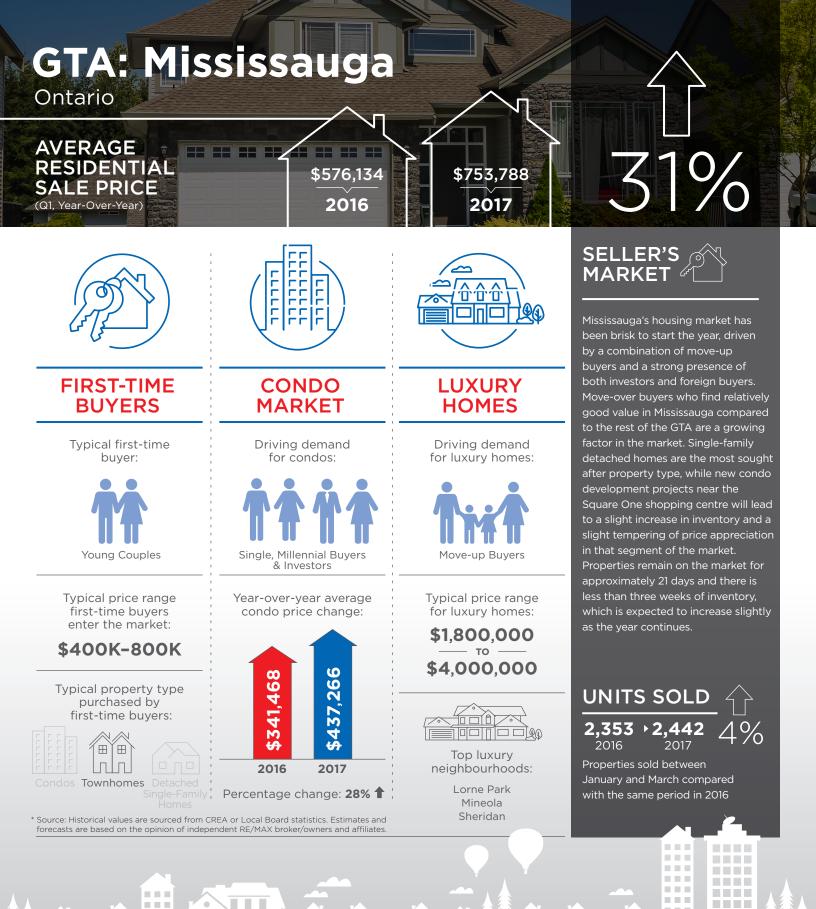
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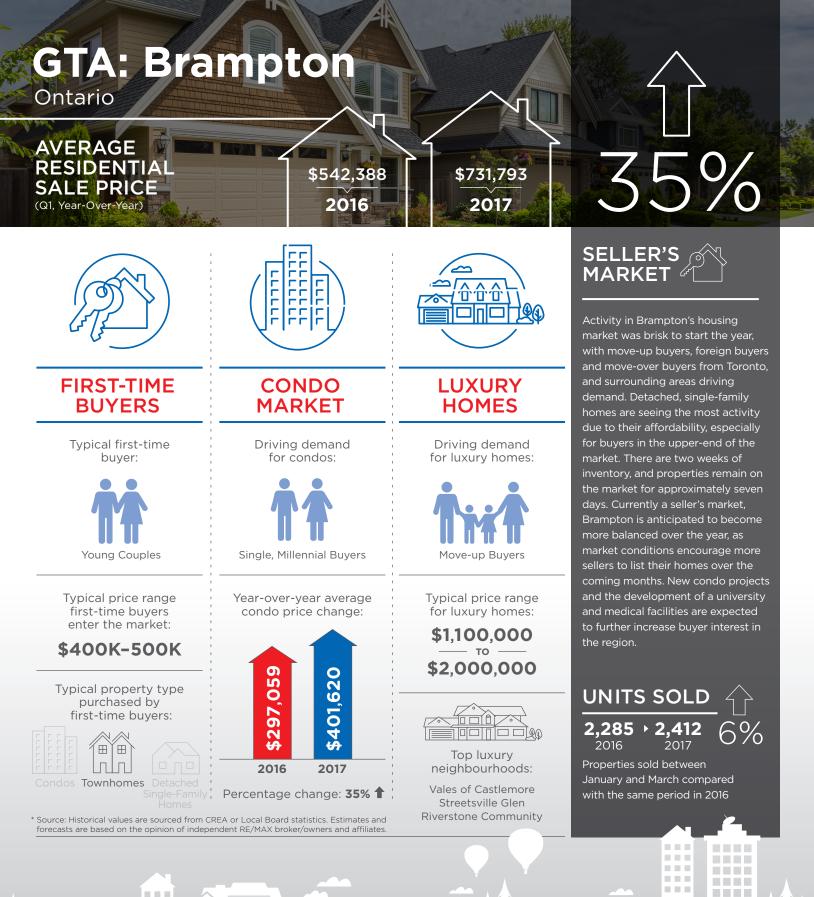
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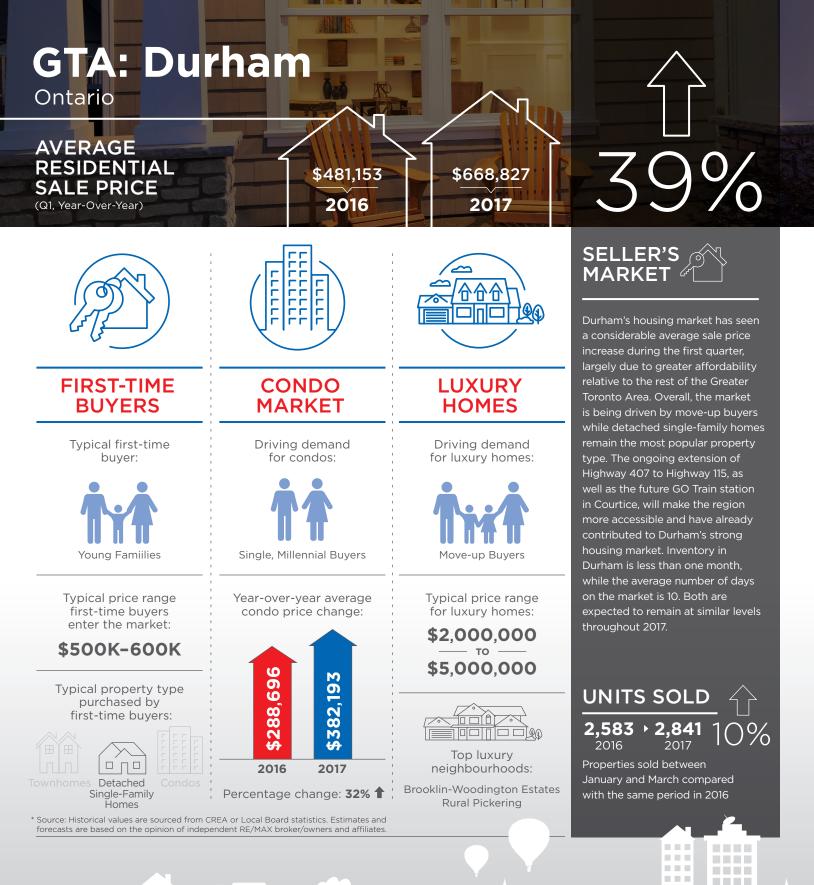




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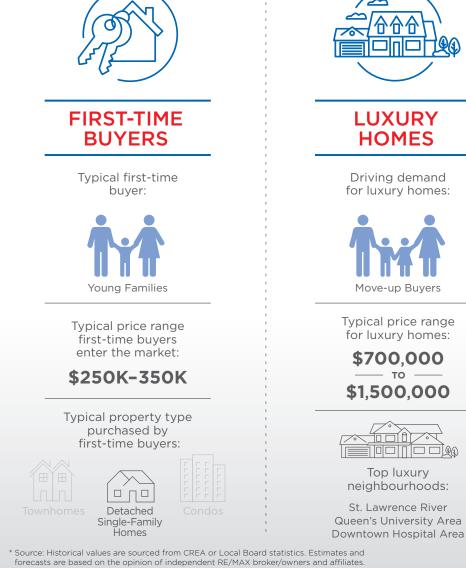
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SELLER'S

The housing market was brisk during the first quarter, in part driven by an influx of move-over buyers from Toronto. Relatively affordable housing options compared to other parts of the province provide good opportunities for move-up buyers, first-time buyers and retirees. The luxury market in particular has seen increased activity as moveover buyers look for good value in Kingston. Activity is expected to receive a further boost in the spring as military staff receive new postings and personnel move in and out of the city. Properties currently remain on the market for an average of 55 days, compared to 63 during the first quarter in 2016 and this number is expected to continue to decrease as the weather improves.



732 779 2016 2017



Properties sold between January and March compared with the same period in 2016

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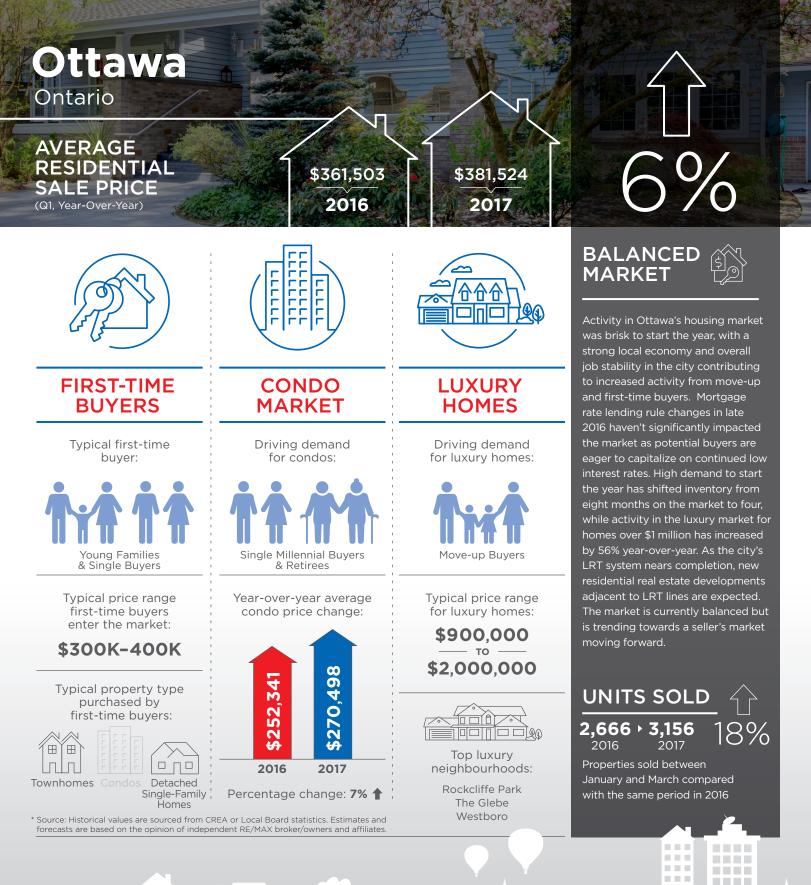
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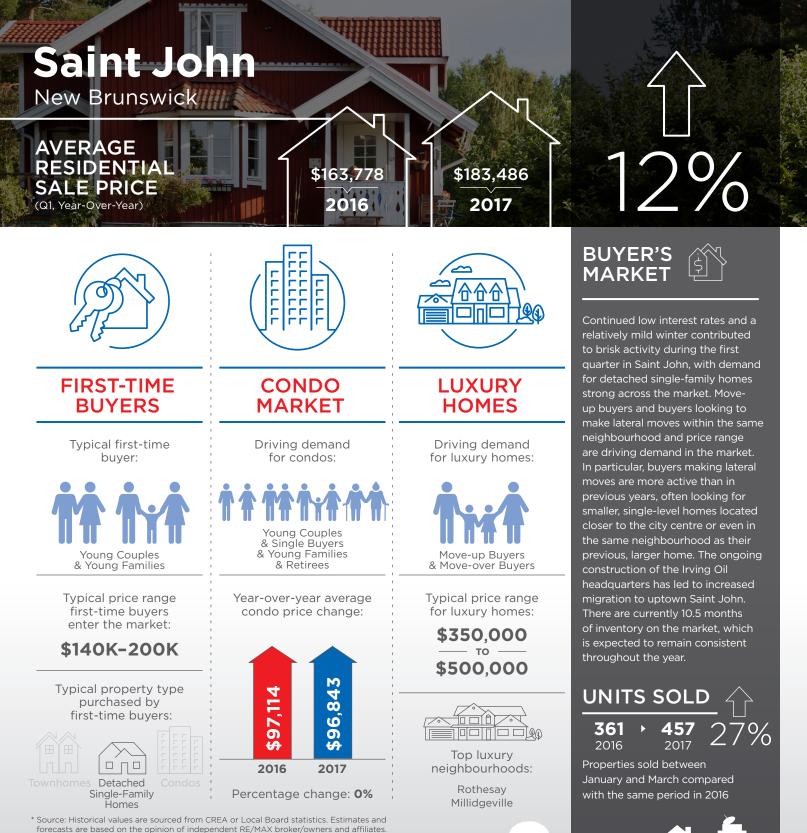


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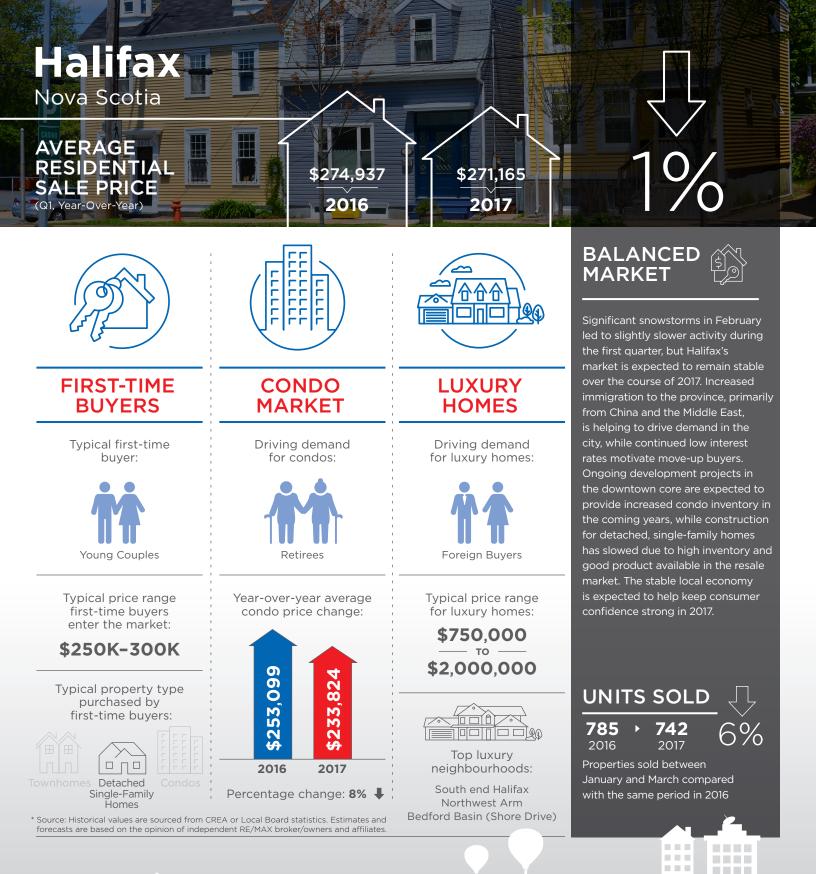
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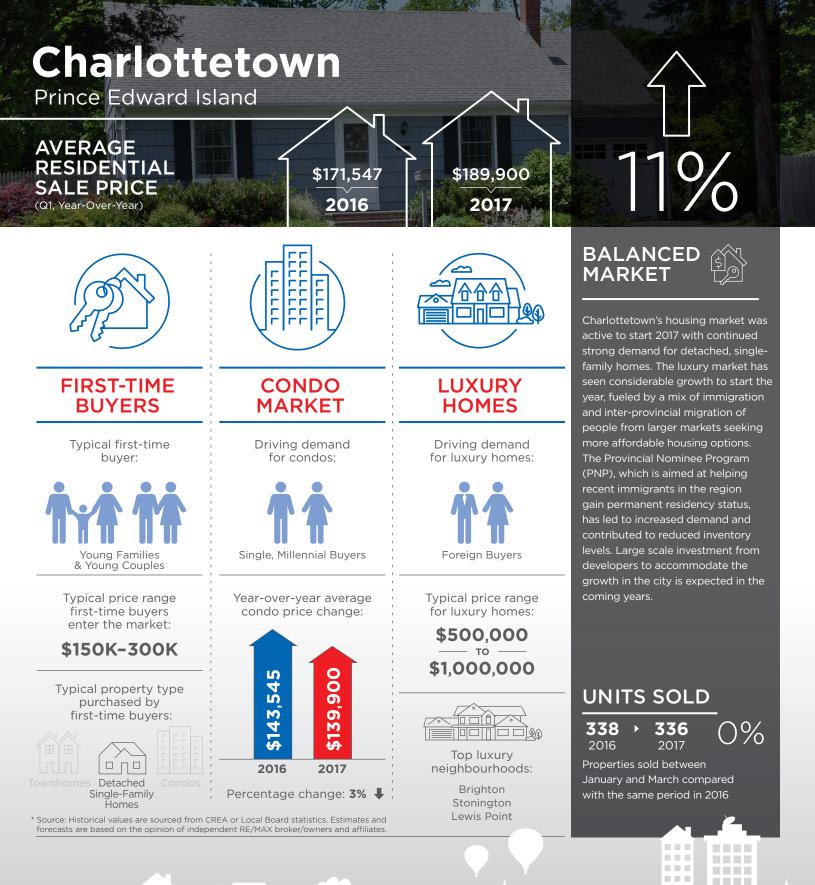
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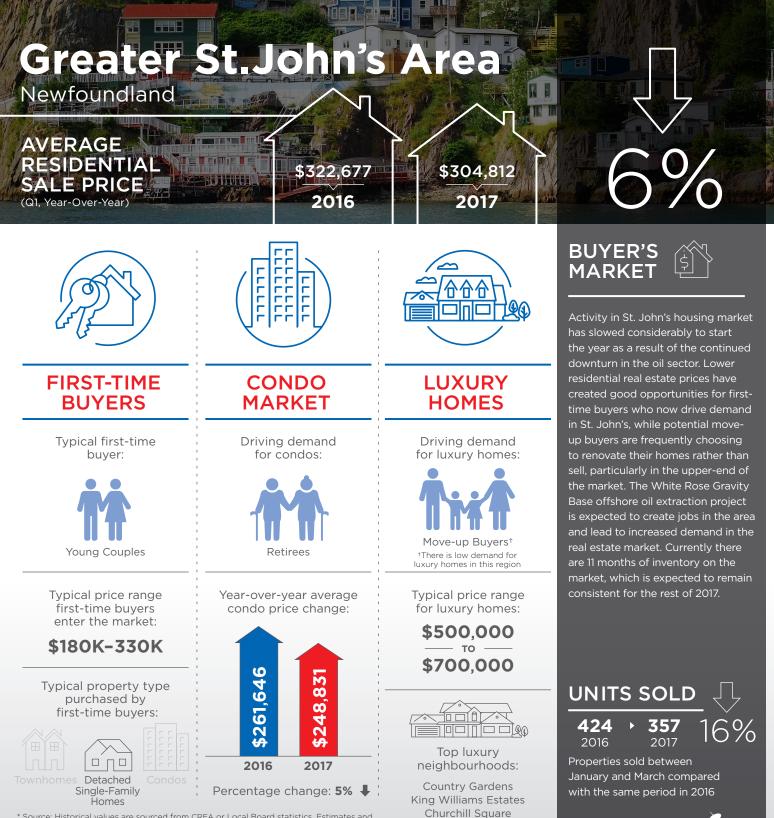
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# Data Table

Market	Average Residential Sale Price	Average Residential Sale Price $2017$	YOY%
VICTORIA	\$544,756	\$612,584	12%
GREATER VANCOUVER	\$1,094,936	\$969,900	-11%
FRASER VALLEY	\$645,472	\$671,796	4%
KELOWNA	\$447,416	\$504,643	13%
EDMONTON	\$363,728	\$364,473	0%
CALGARY	\$467,780	\$482,065	3%
SASKATOON	\$344,319	\$340,300	-1%
REGINA	\$311,953	\$306,036	-2%
WINNIPEG	\$273,312	\$285,645	5%
WINDSOR-ESSEX	\$211,211	\$246,775	17%
LONDON-ST. THOMAS	\$271,920	\$307,189	13%
GREATER SUDBURY	\$247,659	\$266,855	8%
KITCHENER-WATERLOO	\$364,966	\$468,877	29%
HAMILTON-BURLINGTON	\$467,931	\$575,004	23%
BARRIE	\$379,330	\$525,830	39%
GREATER TORONTO AREA	\$675,492	\$873,631	29%
GTA: OAKVILLE	\$997,353	\$1,313,477	32%
GTA: MISSISSAUGA	\$576,134	\$753,788	31%
GTA: BRAMPTON	\$542,388	\$731,793	35%
GTA: DURHAM	\$481,153	\$668,827	39%
KINGSTON	\$290,592	\$323,343	11%
OTTAWA	\$361,503	\$381,524	6%
SAINT JOHN	\$163,778	\$183,486	12%
HALIFAX	\$274,937	\$271,165	-1%
CHARLOTTETOWN	\$171,547	\$189,900	11%
GREATER ST. JOHN'S AREA	\$322,677	\$304,812	-6%

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### Contacts

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#### About RE/MAX INTEGRA and RE/MAX INTEGRA. Ontario-Atlantic Canada

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The Ontario-Atlantic Canada region, has surpassed 10,000 quality Associates; The US regions — New England and the Midwest (including the following states: Minnesota, Wisconsin and Indiana) - account for more than 6,500 Associates with over 2,600 and 3,800 Associates respectively; and the European region leads with more than 16,000 Associates. For more information about RE/MAX INTEGRA, visit www.remaxintegra.com.

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