MAINE HOME SALES UP 11.71 PERCENT IN 2016; PRICES INCREASED 4.93 PERCENT

AUGUSTA (Jan. 24, 2017)— A strong confidence in the economy has fueled sales of single-family existing homes across the state of Maine. According to Maine Listings, 17,507 homes closed across Maine's 16-counties during the 12 months of 2016. The yearly statewide median sales price (MSP) of \$189,400 represents a 4.93 percent jump. The MSP indicates that half of the homes were sold for more and half sold for less. Statewide sales for the month of December 2016 were up 11.06 percent while the statewide MSP increased 4.08 percent to \$185,000 compared to December 2015.

Today, the National Association of Realtors announced a 1.5 percent sales increase during the month of December only, nationwide. The national MSP rose 3.8 percent to \$233,500. Regionally, sales in the Northeast were up 2.7 percent in December, while the regional MSP decreased 3.8 percent to \$245,900.

"The sales year of 2016 ended with the highest number of reported transactions (17,507) since we began compiling data 18 years ago," said 2017 Maine Association of REALTORS President Greg Gosselin, Owner/Broker of Gosselin Realty Group in York.

"Coupled with continued favorable financing terms available to borrowers and confidence in the economy, the strong 2016 year-end gives good momentum for 2017. I have spoken with REALTORS from all over Maine this month and they report steady calls from sellers preparing to market their properties – and buyers looking to take advantage of 'for sale' inventory coming into the marketplace after the holidays."

Below are two charts showing statistics for Maine and its 16 counties. The first chart lists statistics for the month of December only, statewide. The second chart compares the number of existing, single-family homes sold (units) and volume (MSP) during the 12 months of 2015 and 2016.

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DECEMBER ONLY CHART

December 1-31, 2015 - December 1-31, 2016

	NUMBER OF UNITS			MEDIAN SALES PRICE		
	2015	2016	%Change	2015	2016	%Change
STATEWIDE	1,248	1,386	11.06%	\$177,750	\$185,000	4.08%

FULL YEAR CHART 2016

From January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015 and January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

	NUMBER OF UNITS			MEDIAN SALES PRICE			
County	2015	2016	%Change	2015	2016	%Change	
STATEWIDE	15,672	17,507	11.71%	\$180,500	\$189,400	4.93%	
Androscoggin	934	1,109	18.74%	\$136,750	\$146,700	7.28%	
Aroostook	470	563	19.79%	\$87,250	\$82,500	-5.44%	
Cumberland	4141	4,252	2.68%	\$250,000	\$265,000	6.00%	
Franklin	313	392	25.24%	\$129,500	\$125,625	-2.99%	
Hancock	667	779	16.79%	\$191,000	\$194,000	1.57%	
Kennebec	1,325	1,453	9.66%	\$139,000	\$145,000	4.32%	
Knox	536	573	6.90%	\$183,500	\$212,000	15.53%	
Lincoln	488	595	21.93%	\$189,500	\$210,000	10.82%	
Oxford	684	817	19.44%	\$134,900	\$142,000	5.26%	
Penobscot	1,393	1,672	20.03%	\$130,000	\$133,000	2.31%	
Piscataquis	268	301	12.31%	\$87,500	\$85,000	-2.86%	
Sagadahoc	434	499	14.98%	\$187,000	\$198,000	5.88%	
Somerset	466	545	16.95%	\$93,250	\$100,000	7.24%	
Waldo	479	492	2.71%	\$144,000	\$159,950	11.08%	
Washington	281	343	22.06%	\$94,000	\$95,000	1.06%	
York	2,793	3,122	11.78%	\$226,000	\$239,000	5.75%	

Source: Maine Real Estate Information System, Inc. (d/b/a Maine Listings). Note: Maine Listings, a subsidiary of the Maine Association of REALTORS, is a statewide Multiple Listing Service with over 4,500 licensees inputting active and sold property listing data. Statistics reflect properties reported as sold in the system within the time periods indicated. Contacts: Maine Association of REALTORS President Greg Gosselin (Gosselin Realty Group) 207-363-2414 greg@greggosselin.com; Maine Association of REALTORS President-Elect Kim Gleason (McAllister Real Estate) 207-621-2345 kimgleason@myfairpoint.net For more names: suzanne@mainerealtors.com