Home prices fall, sales increase

By Rick Daysog, Sacramento Bee

The number of single-family homes sold in the Sacramento region rose sharply in October, but prices continued to fall.

Market researcher DataQuick said Wednesday that 1,732 existing homes were sold in Sacramento County last month, a 19.6 percent increase from the same month of 2010.

Placer County saw its sales volume increase 31.1 percent to 498 while sales in El Dorado County rose 18.7 percent to 229. Yolo County resales increased 2.5 percent to 122.

"It's not a bad October by Sacramento standards," said Andrew LePage, DataQuick analyst. "The caveat is that two-thirds of the sales were distress sales."

That point was reflected in the median prices, which were down again in all four counties.

According to DataQuick, the median price for a single-family home in Sacramento County dropped 8.2 percent to \$157,000, while the median in Placer County tumbled 12 percent to \$252,000.

The median price for homes in El Dorado County was down 13.2 percent to \$230,000 while Yolo County's median fell 14.6 percent to \$194,750.

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