

# Auckland a buyer's market as stock of homes for sale rises to its highest level for the month of March since 2012

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Auckland became even more of a buyer's market in March, with the number of homes available for sale in the region at a six year high.

Realestate.co.nz said it had 9572 Auckland homes available for sale on the website at the end of March.

That was up 6% compared to the 9026 Auckland homes available for sale at the end of March last year, and up a whopping 49% compared to the 6443 homes available for sale in March 2016.

The March 2018 figure was the highest it has been for the month of March since 2012, and was particularly significant because the number of new Auckland listings and their average asking price were both down in March.

Realestate.co.nz recorded 4171 new Auckland listings in March, down from 4700 in March last year, but up from the 3902 recorded in March 2016.

The average asking price in Auckland also dropped back from its record high of \$994,175 set in February this year to \$963,888 in March, which was slightly lower than the March 2017 average of \$969,532.

The figures do not paint a pretty picture for the Auckland market as the peak summer selling season draws to a close and the market prepares to hunker down as it heads towards winter.

There were also substantial increases in the number of homes for sale in the Waikato and Canterbury.

In the Waikato, Realestate.co.nz recorded 1941 homes for sale at the end of March compared to 1780 in March last year and 1687 in March 2016.