



Housing starts were up significantly in Clarington in 2010, according to new figures from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Preliminary year-end figures released by CMHC showed that during 2010 there were 612 housing starts in Clarington, up from 295 in 2009. That works out to a 107.5% increase.

Housing starts in December, 2010, totaled 36, up from 21 during the same time period last year, a 71.4% increase.

The figures revealed that a total of 1,888 homes were started in the Oshawa Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), which includes Clarington, in 2010, including 1,540 single-detached and 348 multiple-family homes (semi-detached, townhouses and apartments). All housing types, except for apartments, registered significant percentage increases.

"Thanks to a strong rebound for employment in the Oshawa area, along with record low borrowing costs and pent up demand accumulated during the economic downturn in 2009, Oshawa saw a much improved pace of new home construction in 2010," said Inna Breidburg, Market Analyst with CMHC's Ontario Business Centre. "Demand for new homes in Oshawa also benefited as buyers turned their attention to more affordable areas of the GTA," added Breidburg.