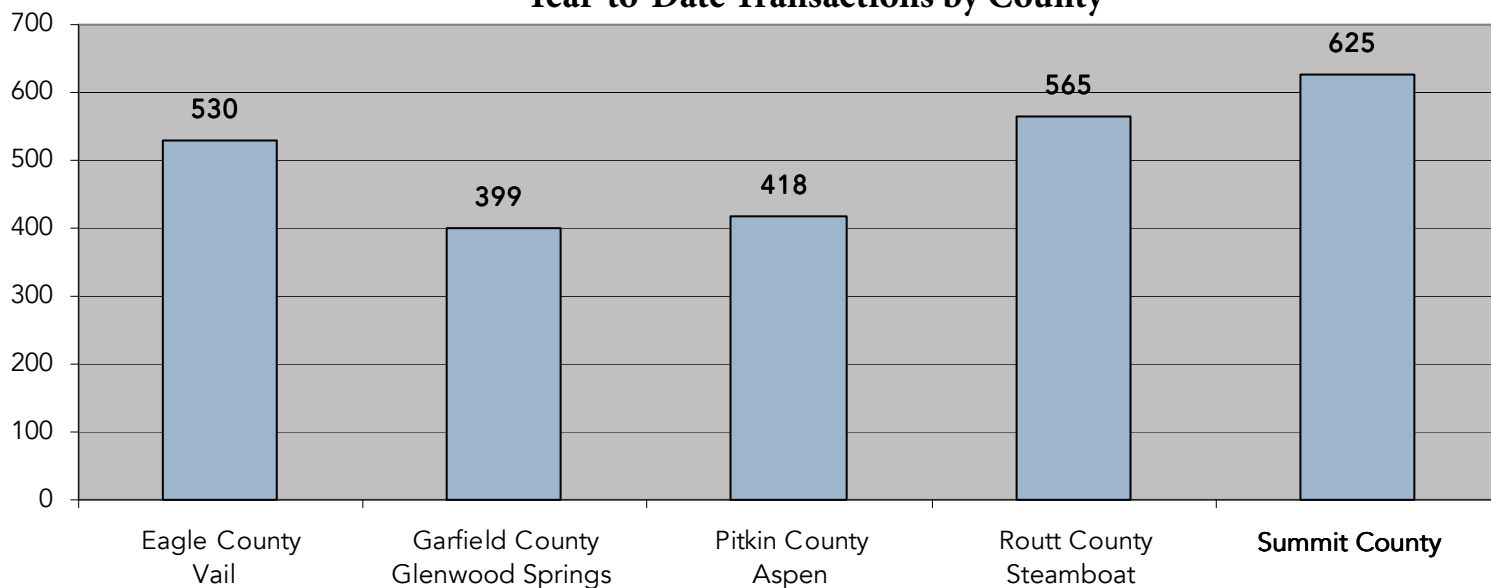


# MARKET INSIDER

{ SUMMIT COUNTY EDITION }

## Year-to-Date Transactions by County



## Bankrate.com Releases new Findings

### Bankrate.com

"American families are stricken by fear about finances, but not enough to change their savings behavior, according to Bankrate's new survey. And although the markets have shaken their faith in certain bedrock financial principles, the American dream of homeownership remains alive and well. Bankrate commissioned Princeton Survey Research Associates International to gauge the attitudes of Americans about finances and family life and discovered several surprises. Among the findings:

\* About nine out of 10 (92%) survey respondents believe that a home is a good investment for the future. But nearly half (48%) of Americans worry about losing their home or being unable to afford the home they live in.

\* Americans are split about whether stocks and mutual funds are good long-term investments. Four out of 10 Americans (39 percent) don't believe the stock market offers the best chance for long-term returns, while another 12 percent don't know how they feel about stocks. But 49 percent do have faith in the market." *October 2009*

## Mortgage Rates Under 5%

### CNNmoney.com

"The possibility of securing a mortgage rate below 5% has greatly improved in recent weeks, in a positive sign for would-be home buyers. Home mortgage rates fell for the sixth straight week, according to two key measures, with one of them pointing to a sub-5% rate for the 30-year fixed loan for the second week in a row. The 30-year rate is influenced by the benchmark 10-year note's yield, which moves in the opposite direction of its price. Treasury prices have risen over the past week as \$78 billion worth of auctions

To translate the difference in mortgage rate into dollars, consider a \$200,000 loan. At last year's rate of 6.2%, the monthly payment would be \$1,224.94, or \$124 higher than the monthly payment at the current rate." *October 2009*

## Americans Regain Some Wealth

### Washington Post

"The net worth of American households grew between April and July, the first quarterly gain in nearly two years, boosted largely by rising stock and home prices. Many leading economists, including Fed Chairman Ben S. Bernanke, now think the economic downturn, one of the worst since the Great Depression, is probably over. Economic forecasters say the economy has probably begun growing again as public-works projects funded by the \$787 billion stimulus package get underway and businesses, after months of cutting back, are being forced to place new orders to replenish inventories." *September 2009*