

# PLYMOUTH COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS

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JOHN R. BUCKLEY, JR., REGISTER OF DEEDS  
PLYMOUTH COUNTY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY FOR JUNE 2020

## MORTGAGE NUMBERS HIGHEST IN TEN YEARS

Plymouth County recorded 3,043 mortgages during the month of June. "We recorded over 3,000 mortgages during June," said Register of Deeds John R. Buckley, Jr. "We have not seen this many mortgages recorded during a single month in over ten (10) years," added Register Buckley. The low interest rates have fueled the surge in mortgages. Last year at this time Plymouth County had recorded 9,219 mortgages. Thus far this year Plymouth County has recorded 14,517 mortgages, representing a 57% increase in mortgage activity!

Plymouth County Register of Deeds John R. Buckley, Jr. reported 836 sales in June. "That's the most monthly sales we have seen in 2020," noted Register Buckley. Given the Covid-19 environment this is good news. However, and not surprising, the overall number of sales thus far in 2020, are less than the recorded sales in 2019. The total sales volume for 2020 year-to-date trails 2019 sales by 12%. Thus far in 2020, there have been 4,075 sales in Plymouth County, compared to 4,628 sales for the same time period in 2019.

The emergency legislation suspending most foreclosures brought on by the pandemic has brought this activity to a virtual standstill. Plymouth County recorded 5 foreclosure deeds in June. Year-to-date there have been 108 foreclosure deeds recorded compared to the 140 foreclosure deeds recorded through June, 2019. This amounts to a 23% decline in foreclosure recordings.

There were zero notices initiating a new foreclosure recorded in June, compared to 66 notices that were recorded in June, 2019. Thus far this year there have been 202 foreclosure notices recorded, compared to the 368 foreclosure notices recorded through June, 2019. This represents a 45% decline in recordings.

As part of our ongoing effort to share with the public some of America's oldest records, and recognizing the limitations in place due to the coronavirus, we are attaching a copy of an original land record for one of the earliest mortgages recorded in our country, a mortgage that had a different kind of security. On May 27, 1639, Mr. John Combe mortgaged "one browne cow called Berry, which was sent him out of England"

to Mr. Thomas Prence to secure the repayment of monies loaned to him. This “browne cove” was previously mortgaged and released by Mr. Prence upon Combe’s repayment of an earlier debt. Plymouth Colony Records; Court Orders, Vol. 1, p. 200. Upon hearing of this loan transaction, one of our prominent local bankers inquired whether this was one of the first “used cow loans” .... When conditions permit we will resume our monthly display of these wonderful and historic documents in the Plymouth Colony Records Reading Room here at the Registry of Deeds. In the meantime please stay safe and healthy.

If you would like to receive a copy of our monthly report by e-mail or if you would like to learn more about the Plymouth Colony Records Reading and Storage Room, please contact Assistant Register of Deeds Timothy H. White at [white@plymouthdeeds.org](mailto:white@plymouthdeeds.org).

REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY THROUGH JUNE 2020  
COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD IN 2019

All figures are based on sales or mortgages between \$25,000.00 and \$3,000,000.

2020 sales volume: 4,075  
2019 sales volume: 4,628  
(12% decrease)

2020 total sales value: \$1,846,230,650  
2019 total sales value: \$2,015,850,935  
(8% decrease)

2020 average sales price: \$453,963  
2019 average sales price: \$435,577  
(4% increase)

2020 mortgage volume: 14,517  
2019 mortgage volume: 9,219  
(57% increase)

2020 average mortgage amount: \$329,789  
2019 average mortgage amount: \$298,622  
(10% increase)

2020 foreclosure deeds: 108  
2019 foreclosure deeds: 140  
(23% decrease)

2020 foreclosure notices: 202  
2019 foreclosure notices: 368  
( 45% decrease)

# Foreclosures and Orders of Notice

## June 2020

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<b>Town</b>	<b>Foreclosure Deeds</b>	<b>Orders of Notice</b>
ABINGTON	0	0
BRIDGEWATER	0	0
BROCKTON	1	0
CARVER	1	0
DUXBURY	0	0
EAST BRIDGEWATER	0	0
HALIFAX	0	0
HANOVER	0	0
HANSON	0	0
HINGHAM	0	0
HULL	1	0
KINGSTON	0	0
LAKEVILLE	1	0
MARION	0	0
MARSHFIELD	0	0
MATTAPOISETT	0	0
MIDDLEBORO	0	0
NORWELL	0	0
PEMBROKE	1	0
PLYMOUTH	0	0
PLYMPTON	0	0
ROCHESTER	0	0
ROCKLAND	0	0
SCITUATE	0	0
WAREHAM	0	0
WEST BRIDGEWATER	0	0
WHITMAN	0	0