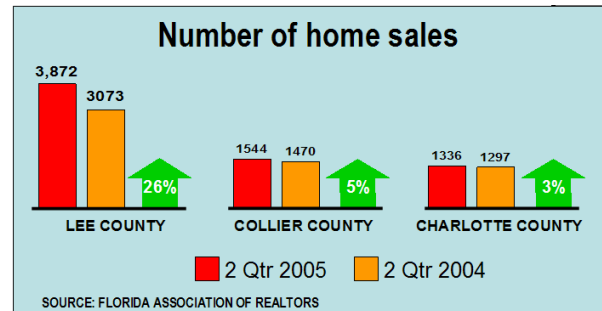
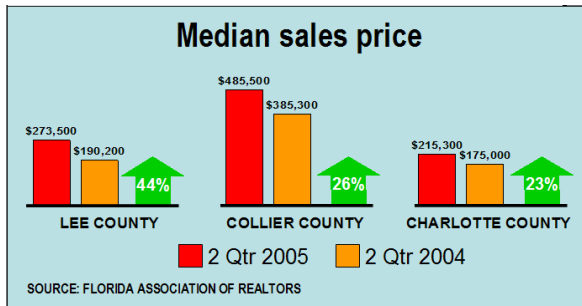


Lee's median home price soars in quarter

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The median price of an existing home sold in Lee County spiked up to \$273,500 in the second quarter of this year — a 44 percent increase, highest in the state.

The report released by the Florida Association of Realtors showed that in the second quarter of 2004 the median price — half selling for more and half for less — was \$190,200. The prices are for single-family homes sold with the help of a Realtor.

The number of homes sold in Lee increased 26 percent to 3,872 in the same period.

In Collier County, the median price increased 26 percent to \$485,500, and the number of homes sold increased 5 percent to 1,544.

Charlotte County saw an increase of 23 percent to \$215,300 and 3 percent to 1,336 homes sold.

Statewide, prices increased 29 percent to \$233,600, and the number of homes went up 4 percent to 74,317.

— The News-Press staff