

Redfin Reports Home-Price Growth Slows as Mortgage Rates Dip to Lowest Level in Over 2 Months

Some Redfin agents are advising prospective buyers to get serious now as mortgage rates decline and the housing market tilts in buyers' favor

SEATTLE--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- (NASDAQ: RDFN) — The median U.S. home-sale price rose just 3.5% year over year during the four weeks ending February 23, the smallest increase since September. That's according to a new <u>report</u> from Redfin (<u>redfin.com</u>), the technology-powered real estate brokerage. Mortgage rates have declined to their lowest level in more than two months, dipping from 7.13% to 6.78% in the last two weeks alone and upping buyers' purchasing power by <u>thousands of dollars</u>. Mortgage rates are coming down due to signals that the U.S. economy is slowing, and heightened recession fears.

In addition to a bit of cost relief, another factor is working in buyers' favor. House hunters have a bit <u>more power</u> to negotiate on sale price and terms as supply piles up in some parts of the country. There are 4.6 months of supply on the market, up from 4 months at this time last year, and the typical home is selling for roughly 2% less than its asking price.

There are signs that slowing price growth, declining rates and more favorable conditions are bringing some house hunters back to the market. Redfin's Homebuyer Demand Index—a seasonally adjusted measure of tours and other buying services from Redfin agents—has jumped to its highest level since the start of the year, and Google searches of "homes for sale" nationwide have hit their highest level since September.

But home sales have yet to improve. Pending home sales are down 6.2% from a year earlier, in line with decreases Redfin has seen since the start of the year. Even though mortgage rates have declined a bit, the typical monthly housing payment is just \$32 shy of its all-time high. Sales could pick up in the coming weeks if the increase in home tours turns into more offers and/or mortgage rates continue coming down slightly.

Redfin agents in some parts of the U.S. are advising prospective buyers to jump in while they can because with today's economic and political uncertainty, mortgage rates could rise above 7% again soon. And the pileup of supply could soon be depleted: New listings of homes for sale are up just 2.4% year over year this week, the smallest gain in a month.

"My advice to buyers: If you're thinking of purchasing a home in the next six months, don't wait until the flowers start blooming," said <u>Alison Williams</u>, a Redfin <u>Premier</u> agent in Sacramento, CA. "The market will heat up as we get closer to spring. Now is the time to potentially negotiate down the price of a home, save money on closing costs or get the sellers to cover issues uncovered in the inspection. There are bidding wars for relatively affordable homes, under \$400,000 or so, and for upscale, fully renovated homes in popular

neighborhoods. But for everything in between, buyers are looking online and touring, but not jumping on them. The buyers who are jumping are getting deals."

For Redfin economists' takes on the housing market, please visit Redfin's "<u>From Our</u> <u>Economists</u>" page.

Leading indicators

Indicators of homebuying demand and activity						
	Value (if applicable)	Recent change	Year-over-year change	Source		
Daily average 30-year fixed mortgage rate	6.78% (Feb. 26)	Lowest level since Dec. 10	Down from 7.13%	Mortgage News Daily		
Weekly average 30-year fixed mortgage rate	6.85% (week ending Feb. 20)	Lowest level in 2 months	Down from 6.9%	Freddie Mac		
Mortgage-purchase applications (seasonally adjusted)		Unchanged from a week earlier (as of week ending Feb. 21)	Up 3%	Mortgage Bankers Association		
Redfin Homebuyer Demand Index (seasonally adjusted)		Up 5% from a month earlier (as of week ending Feb. 23)	Down 4%	Redfin Homebuyer Demand Index, a measure of tours and other homebuying services from Redfin agents		
Touring activity		Up 19% from the start of the year (as of Feb. 24)	At this time last year, it was up 23% from the start of 2024	ShowingTime, a home touring technology company		
Google searches for "home for sale"		Up over 20% from a month earlier (as of Feb. 24)	Up 10%	Google Trends		

Key housing-market data

Redfin's national m		400+ U.S. metro areas, an	d are based on homes listed and/or sold during the period.
weekiy nousing-ma	Four weeks ending Feb. 23, 2025	ugh 2015. Subject to revis Year-over-year change	Notes
Median sale price	\$377,250	3.5%	Smallest increase since September
Median asking price	\$412,253	5.8%	
Median monthly mortgage payment	\$2,762 at a 6.85% mortgage rate	5.1%	\$32 shy of all-time high
Pending sales	73,415	-6.2%	
New listings	81,553	2.4%	
Active listings	907,659	9.7%	Smallest increase in nearly a year
Months of supply	4.6	+0.7 pts.	4 to 5 months of supply is considered balanced, with a lower number indicating seller's market conditions
Share of homes off market in two weeks	32.8%	Down from 36%	
Median days on market	56	+6 days; near longest span since March 2020	
Share of homes sold above list price	21.7%	Down from 24%	
Average sale-to- list price ratio	98.1%	Down from 98.3%	

Metro-level highlights: Four weeks ending Feb. 23, 2025 Redfin's metro-level data includes the 50 most populous U.S. metros. Select metros may be excluded from time to time to ensure data accuracy.

	Metros with biggest year-over-year increases	Metros with biggest year-over-year decreases	Notes
Median sale price	Cleveland (13.1%) San Jose, CA (12.6%) Nassau County, NY (12%) Detroit (10.8%) Milwaukee (10.5%)	Austin, TX (-5%) Jacksonville, FL (-2.8%) Tampa, FL (-2.1%) Atlanta (-0.3%)	Declined in 4 metros
Pending sales	San Francisco (26.9%) Los Angeles (12.2%) Anaheim, CA (10.4%) Riverside, CA (3.5%) Columbus, OH (1.6%) Phoenix (0.3%)	Houston (-17%) Miami (-16.6%) Minneapolis (-16.1%) Jacksonville, FL (-16.1%) Washington, D.C. (-15.5%)	Increased in 6 metros
New listings	Phoenix (23%) Los Angeles (22.2%) Sacramento, CA (19.4%) Denver (16.6%) Anaheim, CA (16.2%)	Detroit (-21.4%) Warren, MI (-13.1%) Montgomery County, PA (-10.5%) Newark, NJ (-8.3%) Fort Worth, TX (-8.2%)	Increased in 19 metros

To view the full report, including charts, please visit: <u>https://www.redfin.com/news/housing-market-update-early-stage-demand-improves-rates-fall</u>

About Redfin

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