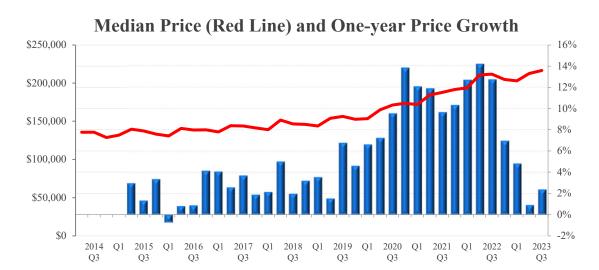


## **Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Area**

## **Local Market Report, Third Quarter 2023**

## Today's Market...



Local Price Trends				
Price Activity	Little Rock	U.S.	Local Trend	
Current Median Home Price (2023 Q3)	\$211,700	\$400,867		
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q3)	2.4%	2.4%	Prices continue to grow relative to last year	
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q3)	26.5%	29.7%		
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$45,400	\$91,700	Gains in the last 3 years have extended the	
7-year (28 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$78,100	\$161,400	trend of positive price growth after the	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$77,000	\$184,500	recession	
*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only				

	Little Rock	U.S.	
Conforming Loan Limit**	\$726,200	\$1,089,300	Most have as in this montret have access to
FHA Loan Limit	\$472,030	\$1,089,300	Most buyers in this market have access government-backed financing
Local Median to Conforming Limit Ratio	29%	not comparable	government-backed financing
Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2023.			

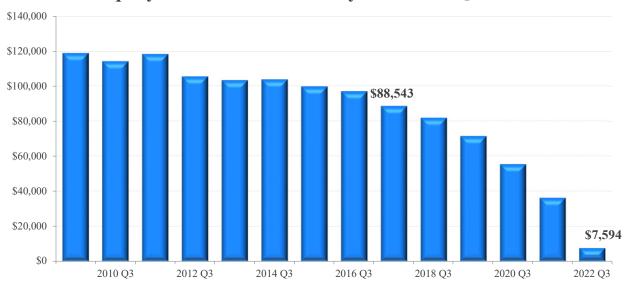
#### Local NAR Leadership

The Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway market is part of region 9 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. The 2023 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 9 is Amy Bladow.



# **Benefits of Ownership: Total Equity Appreciation**

## Total Equity Accrued to Owner by Year and Quarter of Purchase



Total Equity Gained** through 2023 Q3 from quarter in which home was of purchased				
Price Activity	LittleRock	U.S.	<b>Local Trend</b>	
1-year (4-quarter)	\$7,594	\$14,262		
3-year (12-quarter)*	\$55,493	\$109,915	Price appreciation and principle payments in the last 3 years have boosted total equity growth since the recession	
5-year (20-quarter)*	\$81,900	\$158,012		
7-year (28 quarters)*	\$97,033	\$194,111		
9-year (36 quarters)*	\$103,734	\$220,615		

<sup>\*</sup>Note: Equity gain reflects price and principle payments since purchase, prevailing 30-year fixed rate mortgage at time of purchase and a 10% downpayment. Downpayment is not included in total equity

## **Drivers of Local Supply and Demand...**

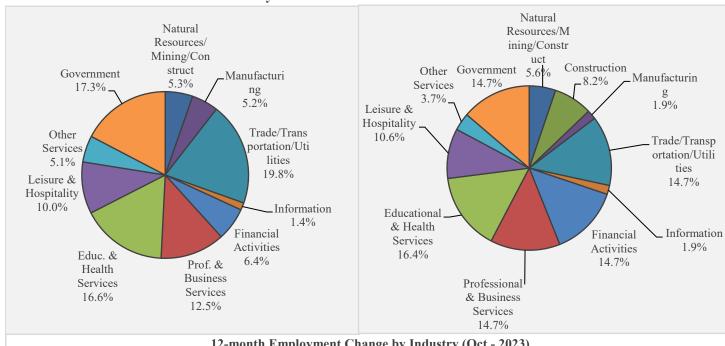


Local Economic Outlook	Little Rock	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Oct)	5,100	Comparable	Employment growth has eased, but remains
12-month Job Change (Sep)	7,200	Comparable	positive
36-month Job Change (Oct)	34,000	Comparable	Unemployment in Little Rock is better than
Current Unemployment Rate (Oct)	2.7%	3.9%	the national average and improving
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	2.8%	3.7%	Local employment growth is poor and
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	1.3%	2.6%	needs to improve

### **Share of Total Employment by Industry**

#### Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway Area

U.S.



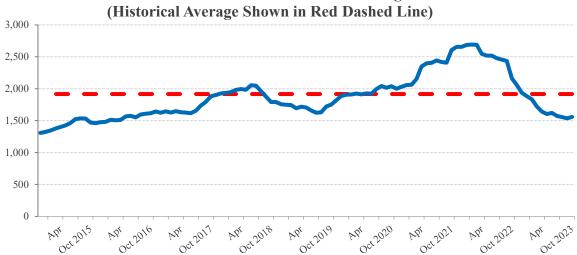
12-month Employment Change by Industry (Oct - 2023)				
Goods Producing	NA	Information	-300	
Natural Resources/Mining/Construction	1,800	Financial Activities	-300	
Natural Resources and Mining	NA	Prof. & Business Services	-900	
Construction	NA	Educ. & Health Services	3,300	
Manufacturing	-100	Leisure & Hospitality	3,300	
Service Providing Excluding Government	NA	Other Services	900	
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	-700	Government	200	

State Economic Activity Index	Arkansas	U.S.	
12-month change (2023 - Oct)	2.2%	3.0%	Arkansas's economy is growing, but decelerated from last month's 2.89% change
36-month change (2023 - Oct)	10.5%	14.2%	and lags the rest of the nation

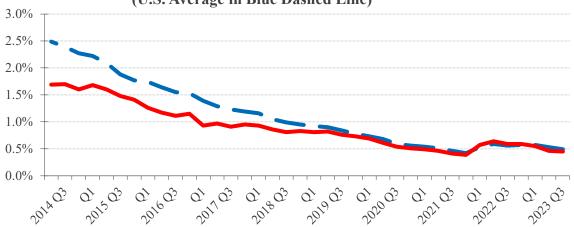


New Housing Construction				
Local Fundamentals	Little Rock	U.S.		
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Oct 2023	1,559	not comparable	The current level of construction is 18.7% below the long-term average	
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	1,917	not comparable	Reduced construction will limit new supply to the market, allowing demand to catch up with inventory more quickly	
Single-Family Housing Permits (Oct 2023) 12-month sum vs. a year ago	-27.9%	-14.1%	Construction is down from last year, but appears to have bottomed.	







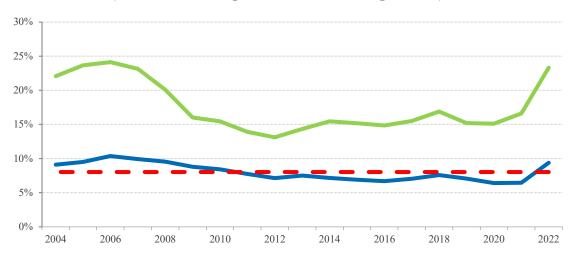


Source: Mortgage Bankers' Association

## **Affordability**

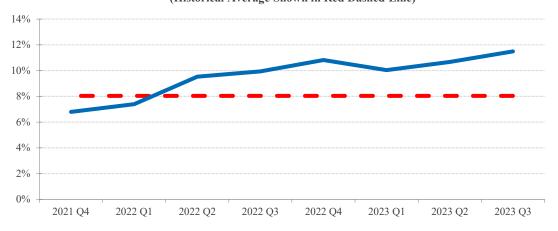


# Long-Term Trend: Ratio of Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income (Local Historical Average Shown in Red, U.S. Average in Green)



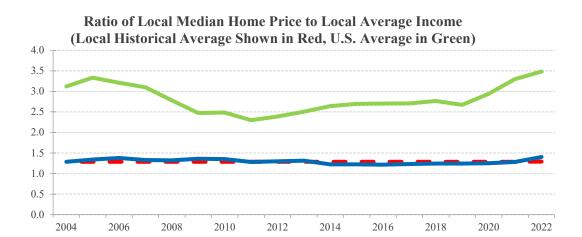
Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income	Little Rock	U.S.		
Ratio for 2022	9.4%	23.3%	Weak by local standards and could weight on demand	
Ratio for 2023 Q3	11.5%	27.3%		
Historical Average	8.0%	17.8%	More affordable than most markets	

## Recent Trend - Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income (Historical Average Shown in Red Dashed Line)

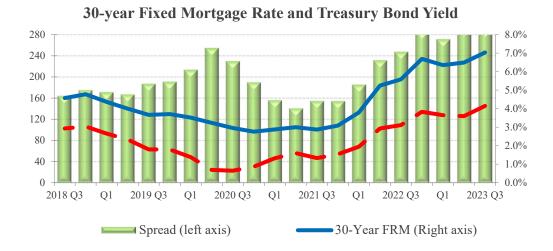


Median Home Price to Income	Little Rock	U.S.	
Ratio for 2022	1.4	3.5	The price-to-income ratio is high by historic
Ratio for 2023 Q3	1.4	3.4	standards and getting worse
Historical Average	1.3	2.8	Affordable compared to most markets





## The Mortgage Market



For the most part of the third quarter, mortgage rates hovered above 7 percent, pushing down affordability to record lows. According to the mortgage finance provider Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed mortgage rate rose to 7.04 percent in the third quarter of 2023 from 5.58 percent the previous year. With this increase, Americans are cost burdened, spending \$1,800 above their budget every year. Nevertheless, the outlook appears more optimistic. If inflation continues to cool, the Federal Reserve will start reducing its interest rates as early as the beginning of next year.

NAR forecasts the 30-year fixed mortgage rate to conclude the year at 7.8 percent but then drop to 7.5 percent in the first quarter of next year.



## Geographic Coverage for this Report

The Little Rock area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway metro area as officially defined by the Office of Management and Budget of the U.S. Government. The official coverage area includes the following counties:

Faulkner County, Grant County, Lonoke County, Perry County, Pulaski County, and Saline County

More information on the OMB's geographic definitions can be found at https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/bulletins\_default/