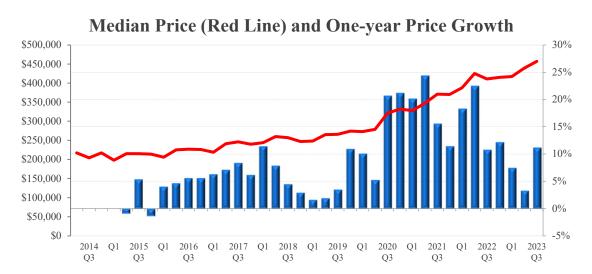


### Wilmington Area

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

### Today's Market...



| Local Price Trends                                  |            |           |  |  |
|---|------------|-----------|--|--|
| Price Activity                                      | Wilmington | U.S.      | Local Trend  |  |
| Current Median Home Price (2023 Q3)                 | \$411,000  | \$400,867 |  |  |
| 1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q3)           | 11.2%      | 2.4%      | Prices continue to grow relative to last year  |  |
| 3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q3)          | 42.4%      | 29.7%     |  |  |
| 3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*            | \$136,000  | \$91,700  | Gains in the last 3 years have extended the trend of positive price growth after the |  |
| 7-year (28 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*           | \$230,000  | \$161,400 |  |  |
| 9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*           | \$235,000  | \$184,500 | recession  |  |
| *Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only |            |           |  |  |

|  | Wilmington | U.S.           |   |
|--|------------|----------------|---|
| Conforming Loan Limit**  | \$726,200  | \$1,089,300    | Most buyers in this market have access to |
| FHA Loan Limit   | \$472,030  | \$1,089,300    | government-backed financing               |
| Local Median to Conforming Limit Ratio                                     | 57%        | not comparable | government-backed financing               |
| Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2023. |            |                |   |

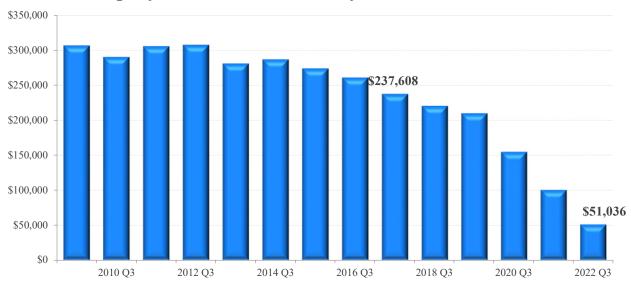
#### **Local NAR Leadership**

The Wilmington market is part of region 4 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The 2023 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 4 is David Kent.



# **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  | Wilmington | U.S.      | <b>Local Trend</b>   |  |
| 1-year (4-quarter)  | \$51,036   | \$14,262  |  |  |
| 3-year (12-quarter)*  | \$154,913  | \$109,915 | Price appreciation and principle payments in the last 3 years have boosted total equity growth since the recession |  |
| 5-year (20-quarter)*  | \$220,525  | \$158,012 |  |  |
| 7-year (28 quarters)*   | \$261,009  | \$194,111 |  |  |
| 9-year (36 quarters)*   | \$287,051  | \$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...**

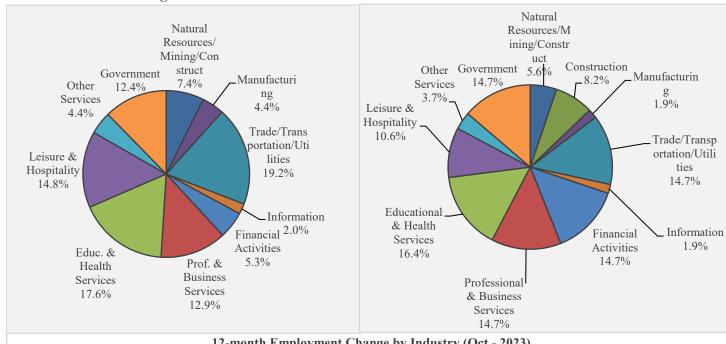


| Local Economic Outlook            | Wilmington | U.S.       |  |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|--|
| 12-month Job Change (Oct)         | -300       | Comparable | Emplyoment continues to decline and will |
| 12-month Job Change (Sep)         | 100        | Comparable | weigh on demand in some areas            |
| 36-month Job Change (Oct)         | 13,400     | Comparable | Unemployment in Wilmington is better     |
| Current Unemployment Rate (Oct)   | 3.1%       | 3.9%       | than the national average and improving  |
| Year-ago Unemployment Rate        | 3.4%       | 3.7%       | Local employment growth is poor and      |
| 1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate | -0.2%      | 2.6%       | needs to improve                         |

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

Wilmington Area

U.S.



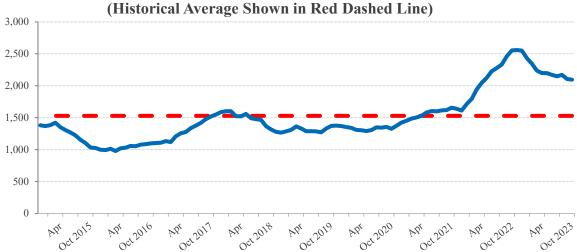
| 12-month Employment Change by Industry (Oct - 2023) |     |                           |        |  |
|---|-----|---------------------------|--------|--|
| Goods Producing                                     | NA  | Information               | 0      |  |
| Natural Resources/Mining/Construction               | 100 | Financial Activities      | 0      |  |
| Natural Resources and Mining                        | NA  | Prof. & Business Services | -1,600 |  |
| Construction  | NA  | Educ. & Health Services   | 1,100  |  |
| Manufacturing                                       | 100 | Leisure & Hospitality     | -500   |  |
| Service Providing Excluding Government              | NA  | Other Services            | 300    |  |
| Trade/Transportation/Utilities                      | 400 | Government                | 200    |  |

| State Economic Activity Index | North Carolina | U.S.  |  |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------|--|
| 12-month change (2023 - Oct)  | 3.2%           | 3.0%  | North Carolina's economy is stronger than the nation's, but slowed from last month's |
| 36-month change (2023 - Oct)  | 13.3%          | 14.2% | 3.53% change   |

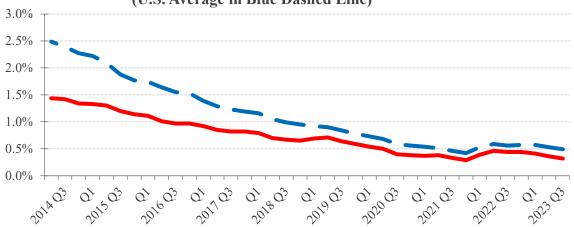


| New Housing Construction  |            |                |  |  |
|---|------------|----------------|--|--|
| Local Fundamentals  | Wilmington | U.S.           |  |  |
| 12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through<br>Oct 2023             | 2,093      | not comparable | The current level of construction is 36.9% above the long-term average   |  |
| 8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit<br>Building Permits           | 1,528      | not comparable | Production above trend for an extended period of time could cause prices to moderate as inventory is built up. |  |
| Single-Family Housing Permits (Oct 2023)<br>12-month sum vs. a year ago | -18.0%     | -14.1%         | Construction continues to decline from last year   |  |









Source: Mortgage Bankers' Association

## **Affordability**

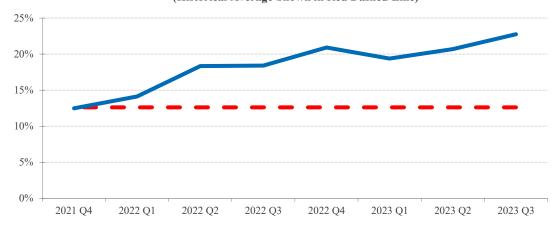


## Long-Term Trend: Ratio of Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income (Local Historical Average Shown in Red, U.S. Average in Green)



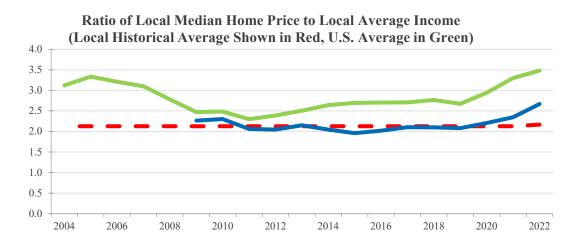
| Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income | Wilmington | U.S.  |   |  |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------|---|--|
| Ratio for 2022                     | 17.9%      | 23.3% | Weak by local standards and could weigh |  |
| Ratio for 2023 Q3                  | 22.8%      | 27.3% | on demand                               |  |
| Historical Average                 | 12.6%      | 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 | Wilmington | U.S. |   |
|-----------------------------|------------|------|---|
| Ratio for 2022              | 2.7        | 3.5  | The price-to-income ratio is high by historic |
| Ratio for 2023 Q3           | 2.8        | 3.4  | standards and getting worse                   |
| Historical Average          | 2.2        | 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 Wilmington area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Wilmington 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:

Brunswick County, New Hanover County, and Pender County

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