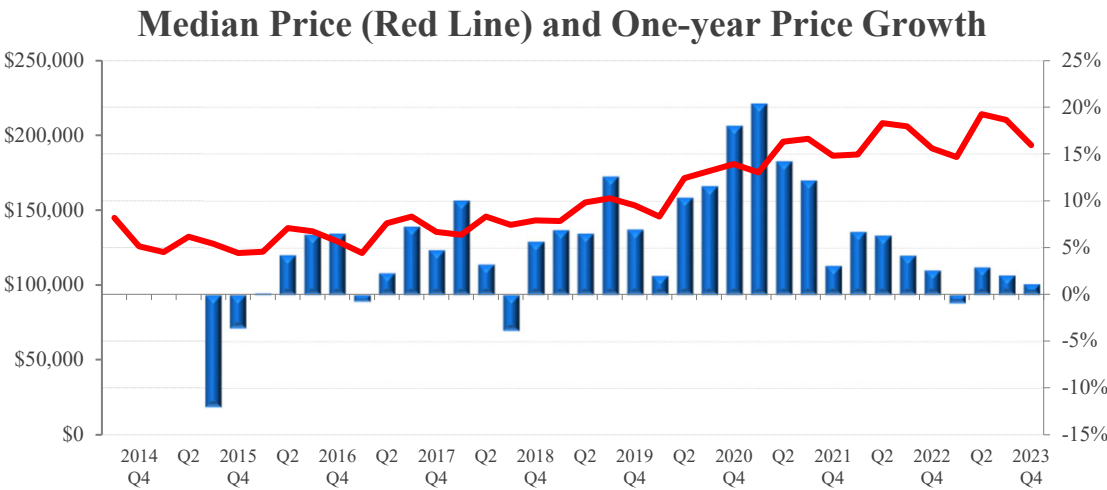


**Montgomery Area**  
**Local Market Report, Fourth Quarter 2023**

**Today's Market...**



Local Price Trends			
Price Activity	Montgomery	U.S.	Local Trend
Current Median Home Price (2023 Q4)	\$191,200	\$387,300	Prices are up from a year ago, but price growth is slowing
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q4)	1.2%	3.9%	
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q4)	7.0%	24.5%	
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$12,700	\$76,300	Gains in the last 3 years have extended the trend of positive price growth after the recession
7-year (28 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$64,200	\$153,367	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$67,600	\$179,667	
*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only			

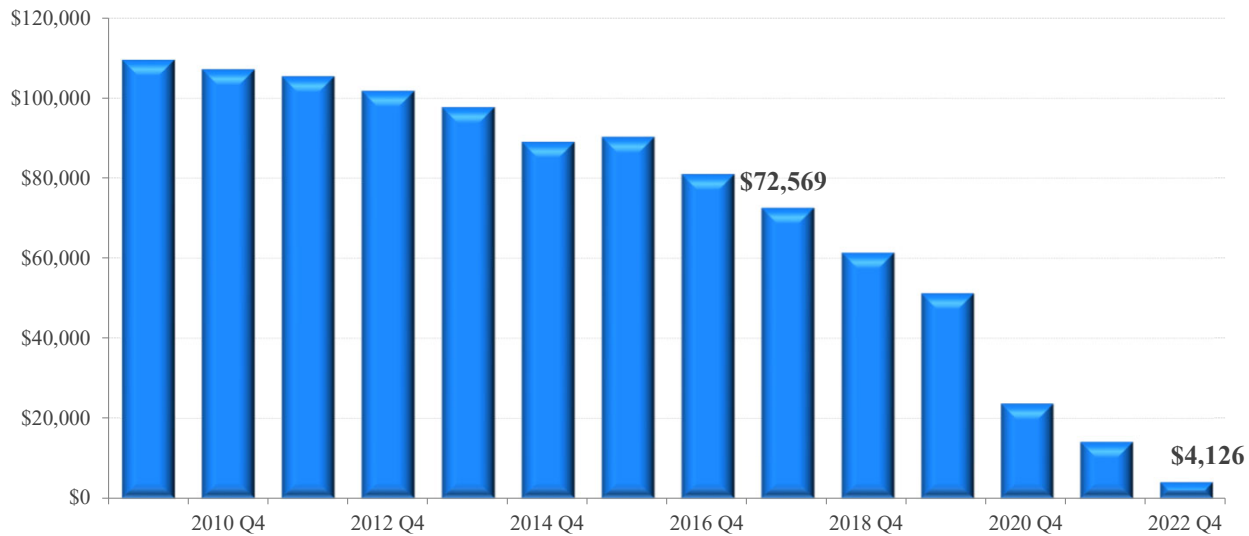
	Montgomery	U.S.	
Conforming Loan Limit**	\$766,550	\$1,149,825	Most buyers in this market have access to government-backed financing
FHA Loan Limit	\$498,257	\$1,149,825	
Local Median to Conforming Limit Ratio	25%	not comparable	
Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2024.			

**Local NAR Leadership**

The Montgomery market is part of region 5 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. The 2024 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 5 is Faron W. King.

## Benefits of Ownership: Total Equity Appreciation

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



**Total Equity Gained\*\* through 2023 Q4 from quarter in which home was of purchased**

Price Activity	Montgomery	U.S.	Local Trend
1-year (4-quarter)	\$4,126	\$18,387	Price appreciation and principle payments in the last 3 years have boosted total equity growth since the recession
3-year (12-quarter)*	\$23,657	\$95,158	
5-year (20-quarter)*	\$61,374	\$151,356	
7-year (28 quarters)*	\$80,997	\$183,780	
9-year (36 quarters)*	\$89,054	\$215,076	

\*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

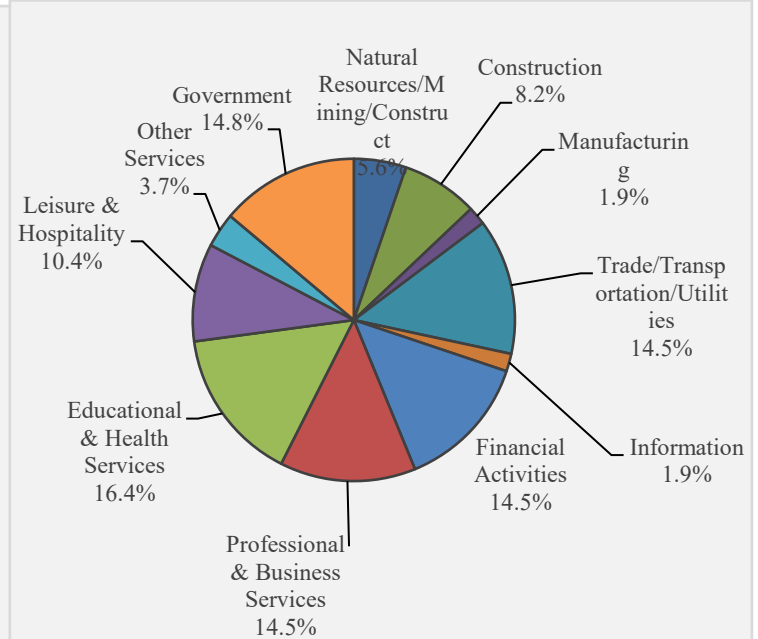
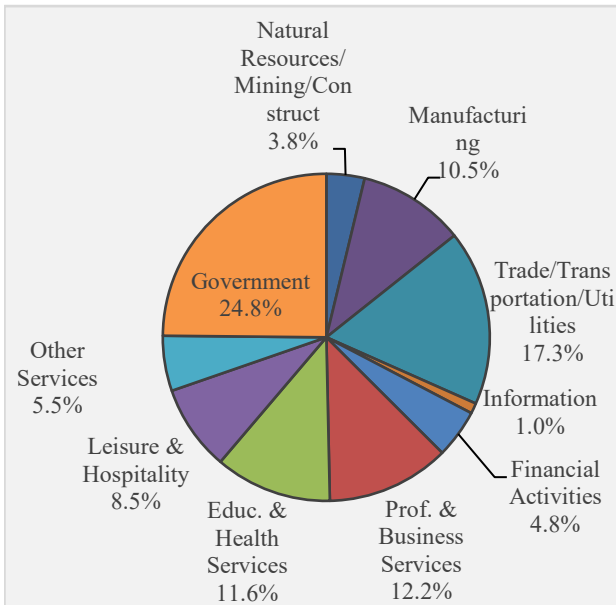
# Drivers of Local Supply and Demand...

Local Economic Outlook	Montgomery	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Dec)	2,000	Not Comparable	Employment has held up and is on an upward trend
12-month Job Change (Nov)	1,000	Not Comparable	
36-month Job Change (Dec)	9,800	Not Comparable	Unemployment has risen since the same period last year, but Montgomery's labor market has been more resilient than the national average
Current Unemployment Rate (Dec)	2.7%	3.7%	
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	2.3%	3.5%	Local employment growth is poor and needs to improve
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	1.1%	2.3%	

## Share of Total Employment by Industry

**Montgomery Area**

**U.S.**



### 12-month Employment Change by Industry (Dec - 2023)

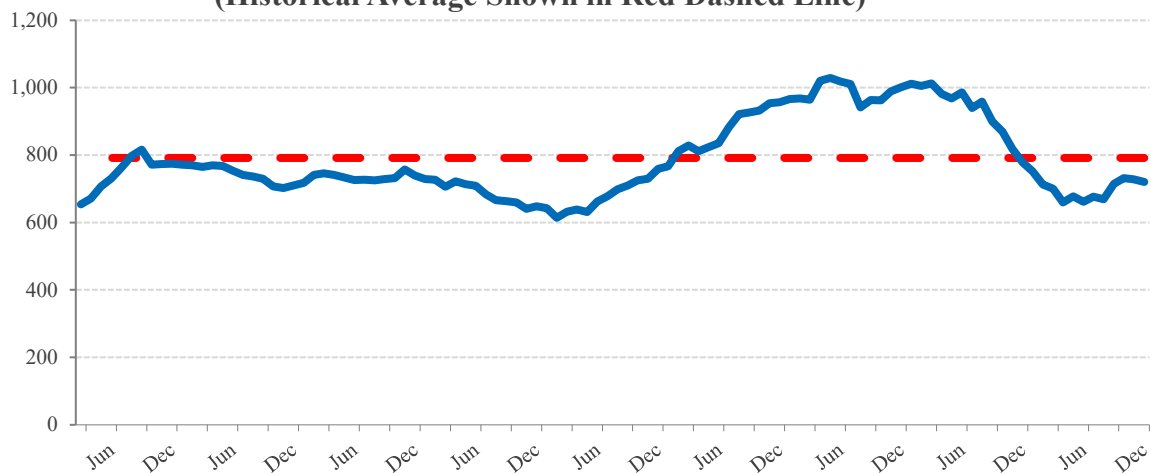
Goods Producing	NA	Information	0
Natural Resources/Mining/Construction	200	Financial Activities	100
Natural Resources and Mining	NA	Prof. & Business Services	-500
Construction	NA	Educ. & Health Services	600
Manufacturing	600	Leisure & Hospitality	-1,200
Service Providing Excluding Government	NA	Other Services	300
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	-100	Government	1,000

State Economic Activity Index	Alabama	U.S.	
12-month change (2023 - Dec)	2.1%	3.0%	Alabama's economy is growing, but decelerated from last month's 2.64% change and lags the rest of the nation
36-month change (2023 - Dec)	11.9%	14.3%	

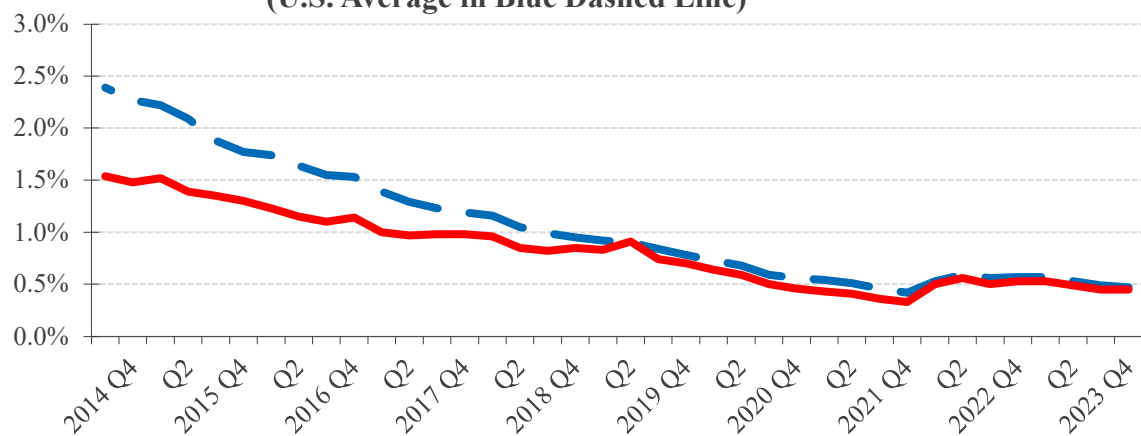
## New Housing Construction

Local Fundamentals	Montgomery	U.S.	
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Dec	720	not comparable	The current level of construction is 9.1% below the long-term average
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	792	not comparable	Reduced construction will limit new supply to the market, allowing demand to catch up with inventory more quickly
Single-Family Housing Permits (Dec) 12-month sum vs. a year ago	-7.5%	-6.1%	Construction is down from last year, but appears to have bottomed.

**Construction: 12-month Sum of Local Housing Permits**  
(Historical Average Shown in Red Dashed Line)



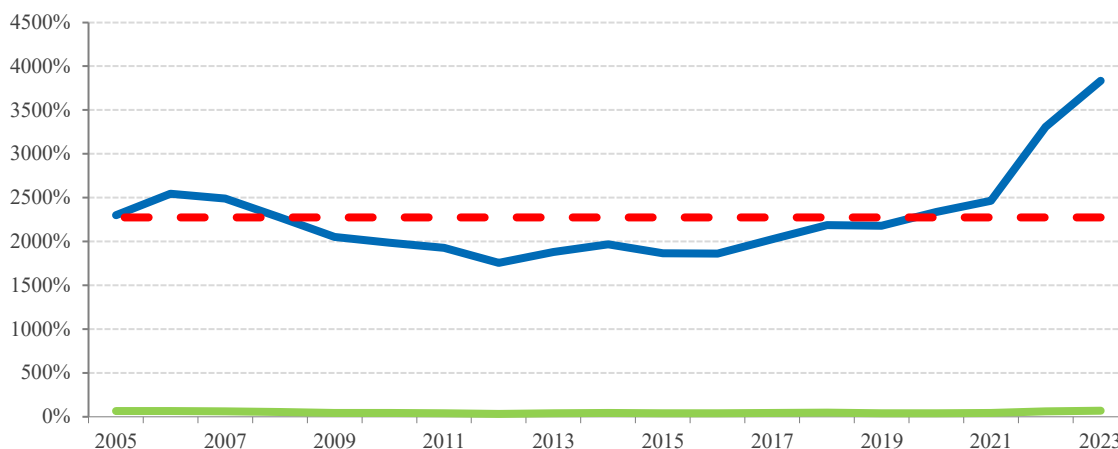
**State Total Foreclosure Rate vs. U.S. Average**  
(U.S. Average in Blue Dashed Line)



Source: Mortgage Bankers' Association

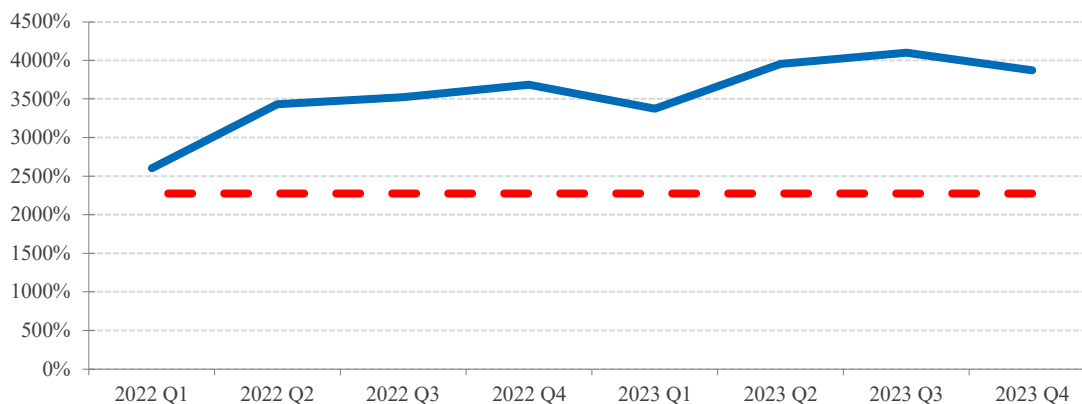
# Affordability

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

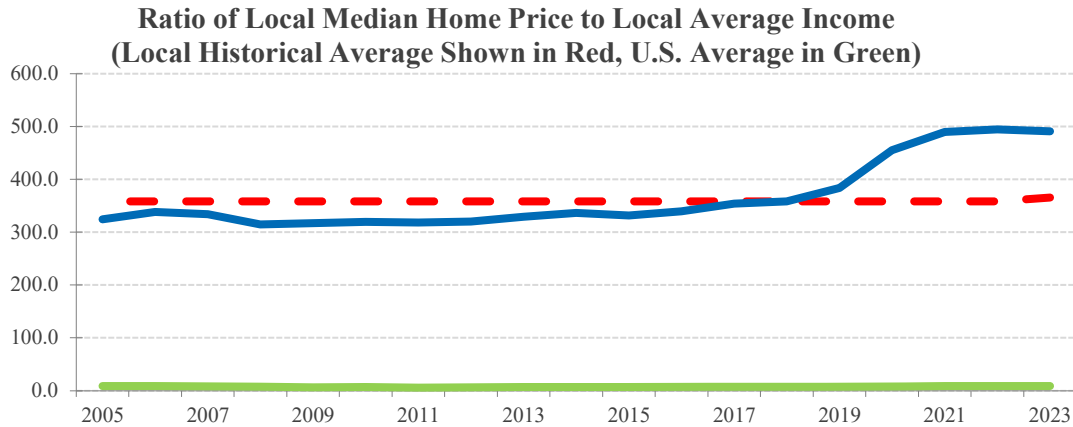


Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income	Montgomery	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	3835.8%	68.8%	Weak by local standards, but better than the third quarter of 2023
Ratio for 2023 Q4	3872.9%	68.3%	
Historical Average	2275.3%	47.0%	Weaker affordability than most markets

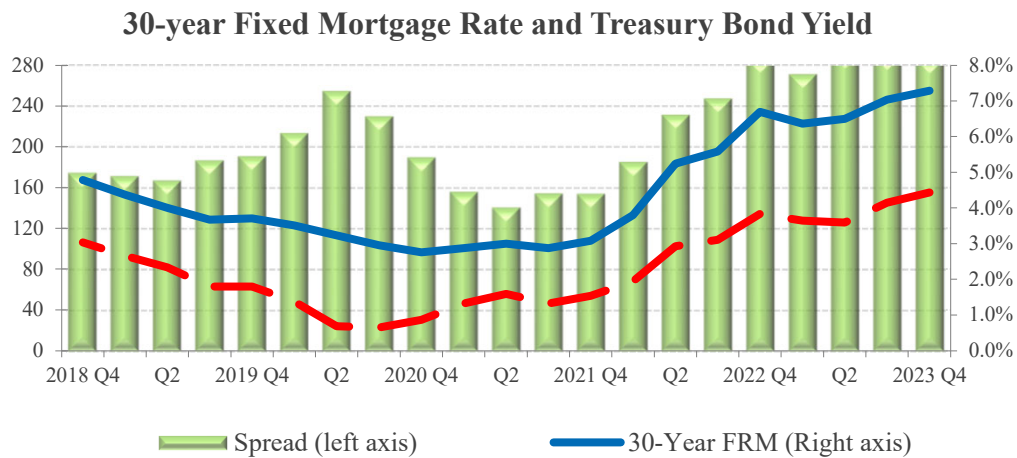
**Recent Trend - Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income**  
(Historical Average Shown in Red Dashed Line)



Median Home Price to Income	Montgomery	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	490.6	8.8	The price-to-income ratio eased, but could be better
Ratio for 2023 Q4	471.1	8.3	
Historical Average	365.6	7.4	Less affordable than most markets



## The Mortgage Market



Throughout much of the final quarter of the year, mortgage rates remained elevated near 7.5 percent. According to the mortgage provider Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed mortgage rate rose to 7.3 percent in the fourth quarter of 2023 from 6.7 percent the previous year. Nevertheless, rates fell below 7 percent at the end of year as the Federal Reserve continued to halt its interest rates hikes. With lower interest rates on the horizon, mortgage rates are expected to continue their downward trend in 2024, thereby enhancing affordability for potential homebuyers.

NAR forecasts the 30-year fixed mortgage rate to average 6.8 percent in the first quarter of 2024, with a further decline expected to bring them below 6.6% by the end of the first half.

## Geographic Coverage for this Report

The Montgomery area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Montgomery 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:

[Autauga County, Elmore County, Lowndes County, and Montgomery County](#)

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

