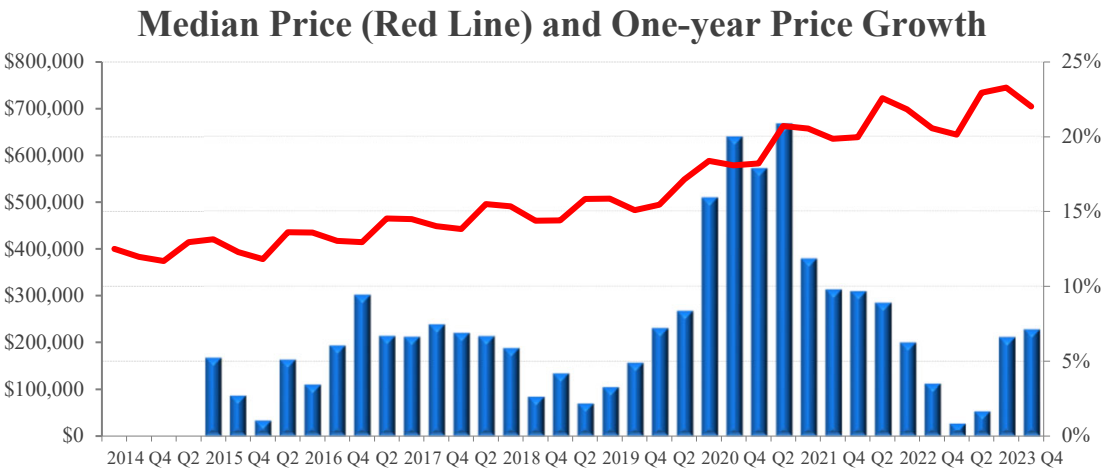


Boston-Cambridge-Newton Area

Local Market Report, Fourth Quarter 2023

Today's Market...



Local Price Trends			
Price Activity	Boston	U.S.	Local Trend
Current Median Home Price (2023 Q4)	\$704,700	\$387,300	Prices continue to grow relative to last year
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q4)	7.1%	3.9%	
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q4)	21.7%	24.5%	
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$125,600	\$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*	\$287,300	\$153,367	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$321,500	\$179,667	
*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only			

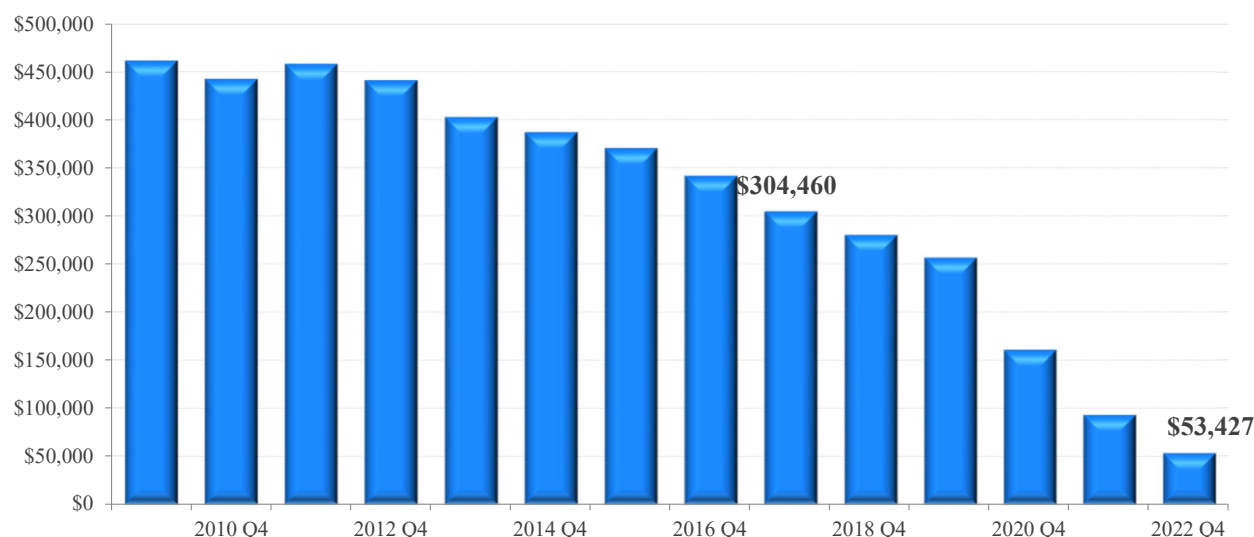
	Boston	U.S.	
Conforming Loan Limit**	\$862,500	\$1,149,825	Not all buyers have access to government-backed financing in this market
FHA Loan Limit	\$862,500	\$1,149,825	
Local Median to Conforming Limit Ratio	82%	not comparable	
Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2024.			

Local NAR Leadership

The Boston-Cambridge-Newton market is part of region 1 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. The 2024 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 1 is Steve Medeiros.

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	Boston	U.S.	Local Trend
1-year (4-quarter)	\$53,427	\$18,387	Price appreciation and principle payments in the last 3 years have boosted total equity growth since the recession
3-year (12-quarter)*	\$160,714	\$95,158	
5-year (20-quarter)*	\$280,020	\$151,356	
7-year (28 quarters)*	\$341,566	\$183,780	
9-year (36 quarters)*	\$386,850	\$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

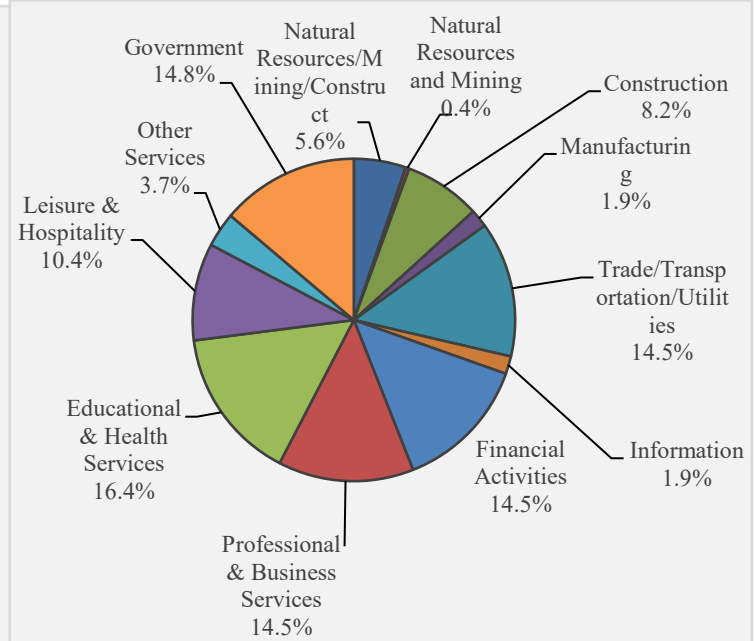
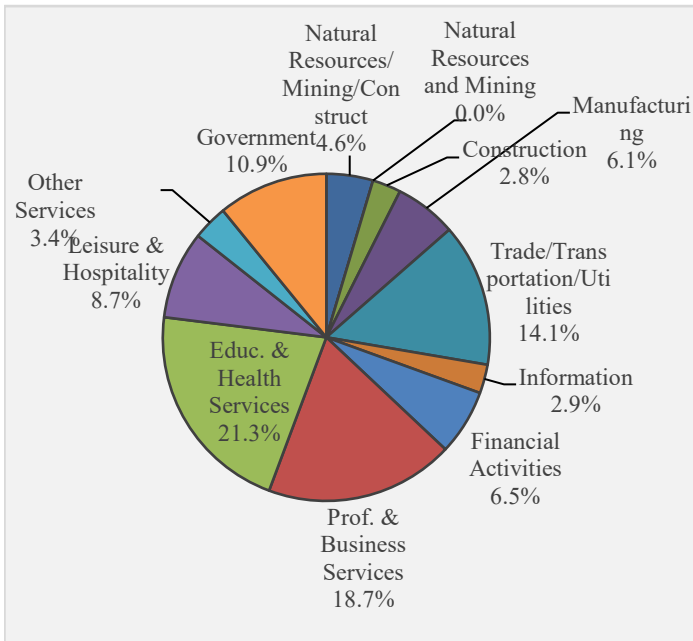
Drivers of Local Supply and Demand...

Local Economic Outlook	Boston	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Dec)	77,900	Not Comparable	Employment has held up and is on an upward trend
12-month Job Change (Nov)	69,100	Not Comparable	
36-month Job Change (Dec)	272,800	Not Comparable	Unemployment has risen since the same period last year, but Boston's labor market has been more resilient than the national average
Current Unemployment Rate (Dec)	3.2%	3.7%	
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	3.0%	3.5%	Local employment growth is strong compared to other markets
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	2.8%	2.3%	

Share of Total Employment by Industry

Boston-Cambridge-Newton Area

U.S.



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

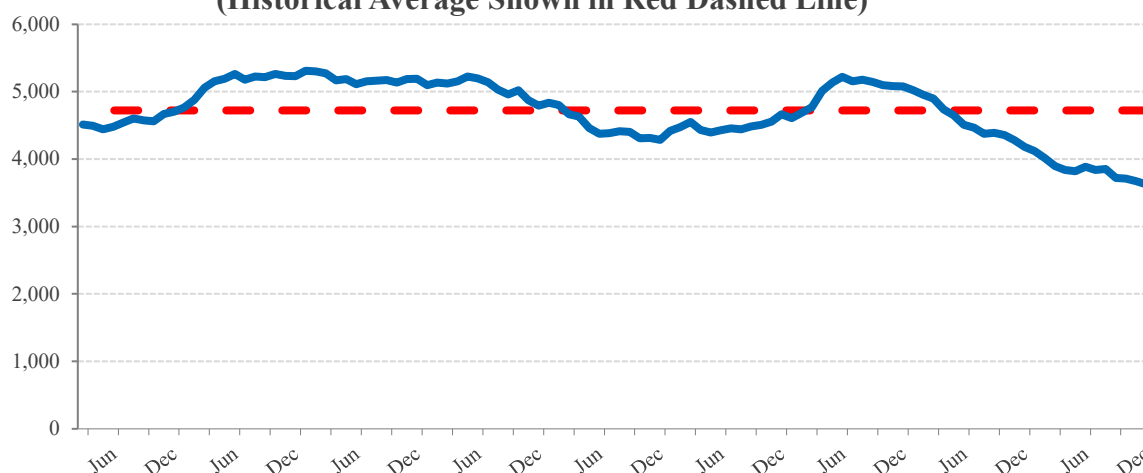
Goods Producing	NA	Information	-600
Natural Resources/Mining/Construction	8,000	Financial Activities	4,900
Natural Resources and Mining	-100	Prof. & Business Services	8,300
Construction	1,900	Educ. & Health Services	24,500
Manufacturing	100	Leisure & Hospitality	6,700
Service Providing Excluding Government	NA	Other Services	3,300
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	8,300	Government	5,600

State Economic Activity Index	Massachusetts	U.S.	
12-month change (2023 - Dec)	4.7%	3.0%	Massachusetts's economy is stronger than the nation's, but slowed from last month's 5.82% change
36-month change (2023 - Dec)	27.9%	14.3%	

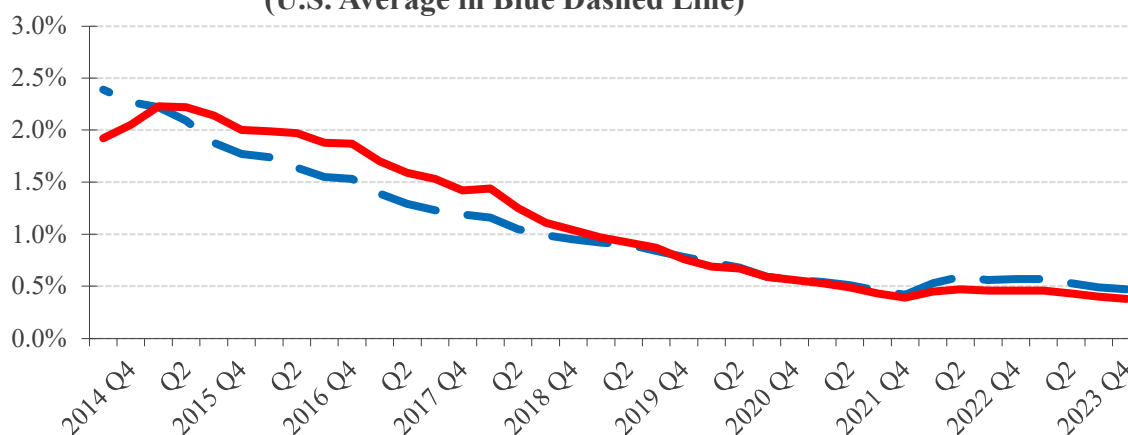
New Housing Construction

Local Fundamentals	Boston	U.S.	
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Dec	3,628	not comparable	The current level of construction is 23.2% below the long-term average
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	4,723	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	-13.2%	-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)

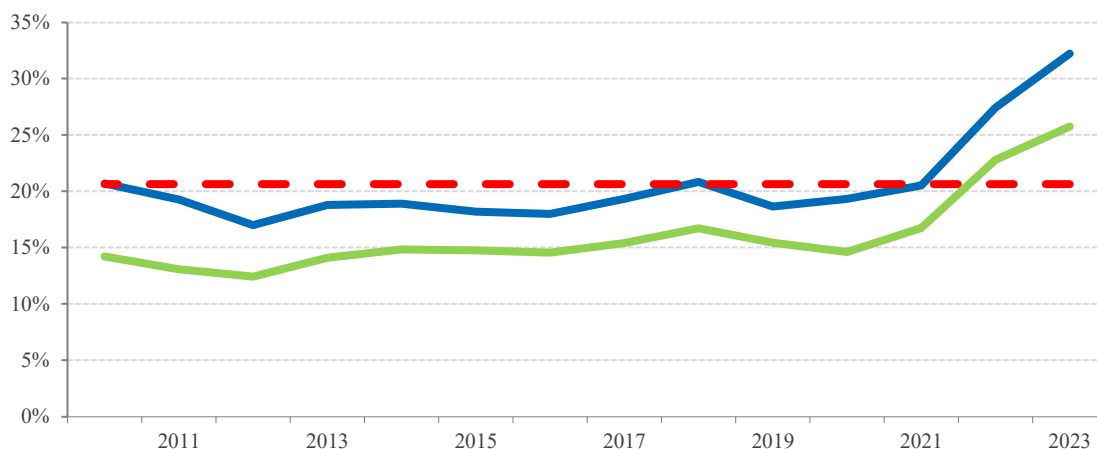


State Total Foreclosure Rate vs. U.S. Average
(U.S. Average in Blue Dashed Line)



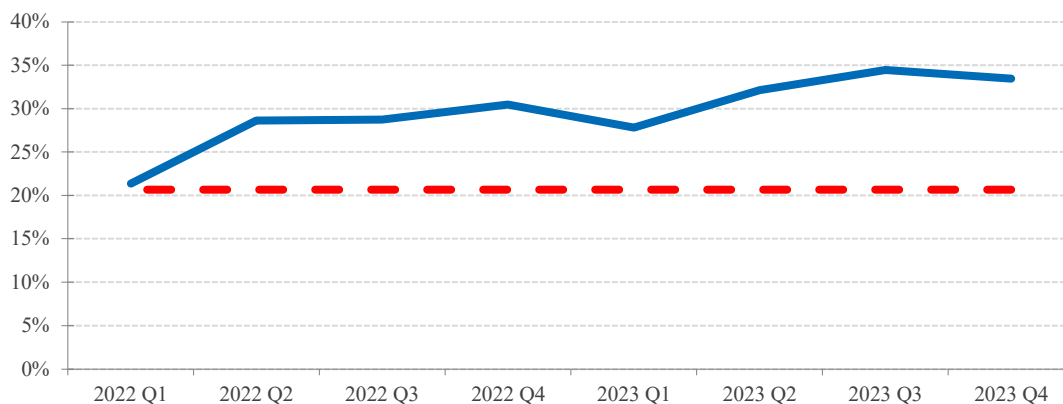
Affordability

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

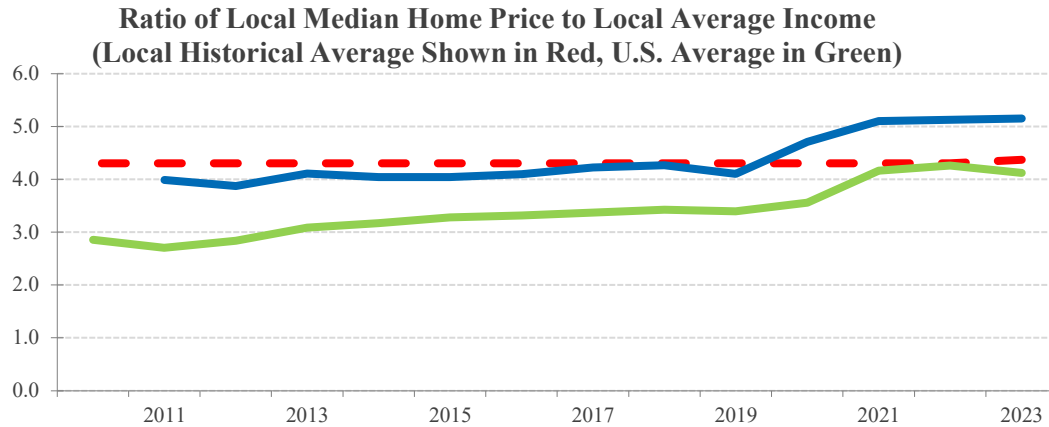


Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income	Boston	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	32.2%	25.8%	Weak by local standards and could weigh on demand
Ratio for 2023 Q4	33.5%	25.5%	
Historical Average	20.7%	17.0%	Weaker affordability than most markets

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



Median Home Price to Income	Boston	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	5.2	4.1	The price-to-income ratio eased, but could be better
Ratio for 2023 Q4	5.1	3.9	
Historical Average	4.4	3.4	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 Boston area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Boston-Cambridge-Newton 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:

Essex County, Middlesex County, Norfolk County, Plymouth County, Rockingham County, Strafford County, and Suffolk County

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

