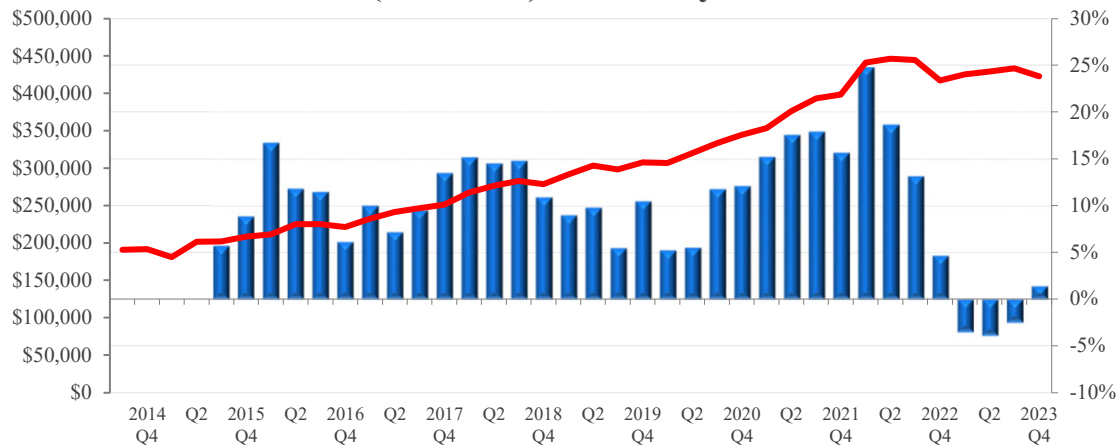


## **Kennewick-Richland Area**

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

## **Today's Market...**

**Median Price (Red Line) and One-year Price Growth**



Local Price Trends			
Price Activity	Kennewick	U.S.	Local Trend
Current Median Home Price (2023 Q4)	\$422,800	\$387,300	Prices continue to grow relative to last year
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q4)	1.4%	3.9%	
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2023 Q4)	22.7%	24.5%	
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$78,200	\$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*	\$201,500	\$153,367	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$231,300	\$179,667	

\*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only

	Kennewick	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	55%	not comparable	

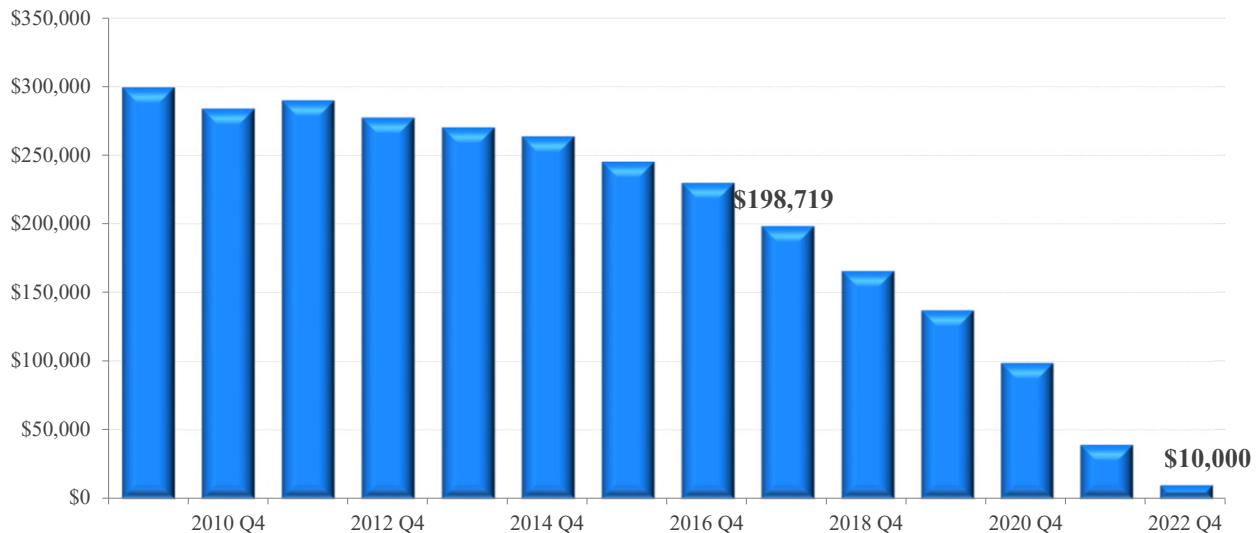
Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2024.

#### **Local NAR Leadership**

The Kennewick-Richland market is part of region 12 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Alaska. The 2024 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 12 is Evelyn Arnott.

## 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	Kennewick	U.S.	Local Trend
1-year (4-quarter)	\$10,000	\$18,387	Price appreciation and principle payments in the last 3 years have boosted total equity growth since the recession
3-year (12-quarter)*	\$99,095	\$95,158	
5-year (20-quarter)*	\$165,944	\$151,356	
7-year (28 quarters)*	\$230,271	\$183,780	
9-year (36 quarters)*	\$263,958	\$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

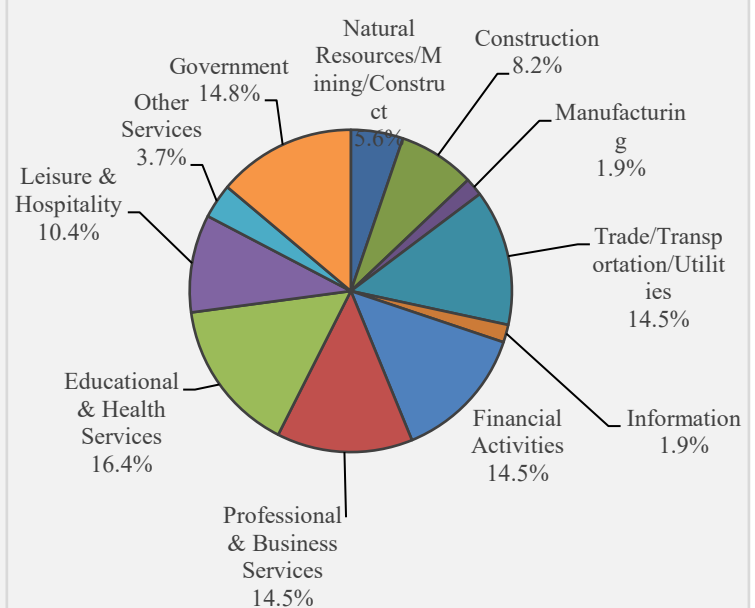
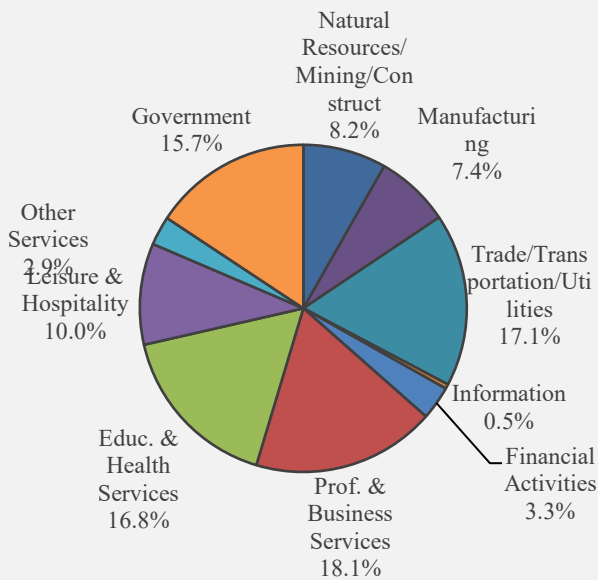
# Drivers of Local Supply and Demand...

Local Economic Outlook	Kennewick	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Dec)	3,300	Not Comparable	Employment has held up and is on an upward trend
12-month Job Change (Nov)	2,900	Not Comparable	
36-month Job Change (Dec)	16,300	Not Comparable	Kennewick's unemployment rate lags the national average, but has improved relative to the same period last year
Current Unemployment Rate (Dec)	5.9%	3.7%	
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	6.6%	3.5%	Local employment growth is strong compared to other markets
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	2.6%	2.3%	

## Share of Total Employment by Industry

Kennewick-Richland Area

U.S.



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

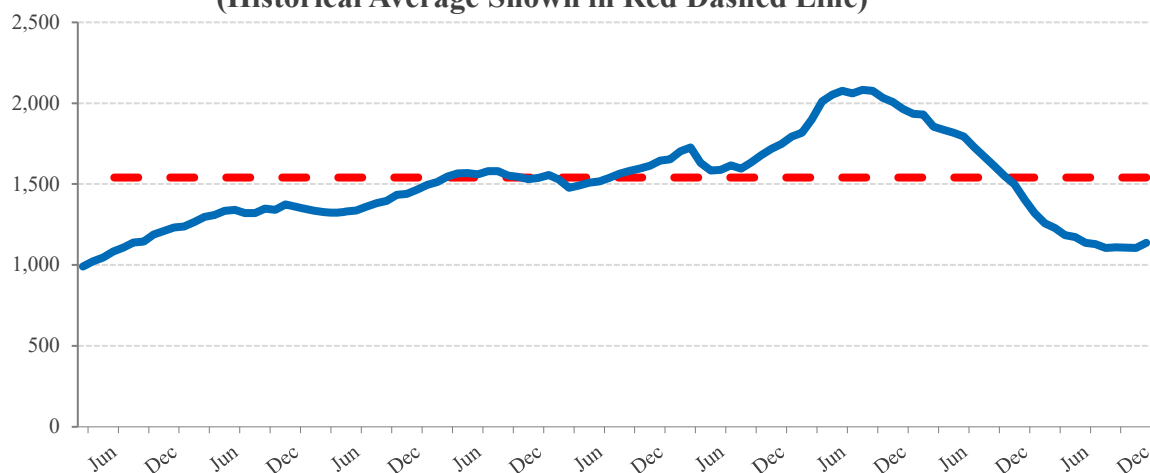
Goods Producing	NA	Information	-100
Natural Resources/Mining/Construction	-500	Financial Activities	0
Natural Resources and Mining	NA	Prof. & Business Services	700
Construction	NA	Educ. & Health Services	1,700
Manufacturing	100	Leisure & Hospitality	200
Service Providing Excluding Government	NA	Other Services	100
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	-100	Government	800

State Economic Activity Index	Washington	U.S.	
12-month change (2023 - Dec)	3.6%	3.0%	Washington's economy is stronger than the nation's, but slowed from last month's 4.32% change
36-month change (2023 - Dec)	17.9%	14.3%	

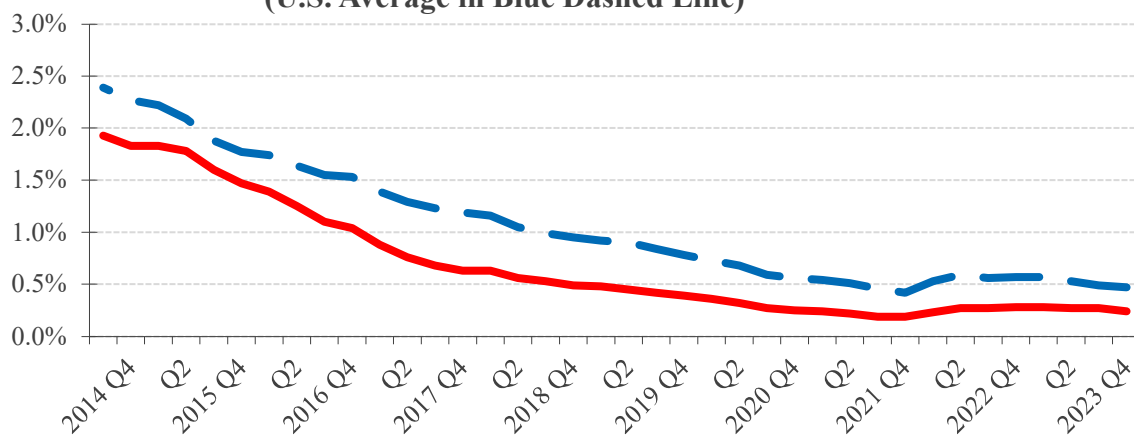
## New Housing Construction

Local Fundamentals	Kennewick	U.S.	
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Dec	1,136	not comparable	The current level of construction is 26.2% below the long-term average
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	1,540	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	-19.1%	-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)



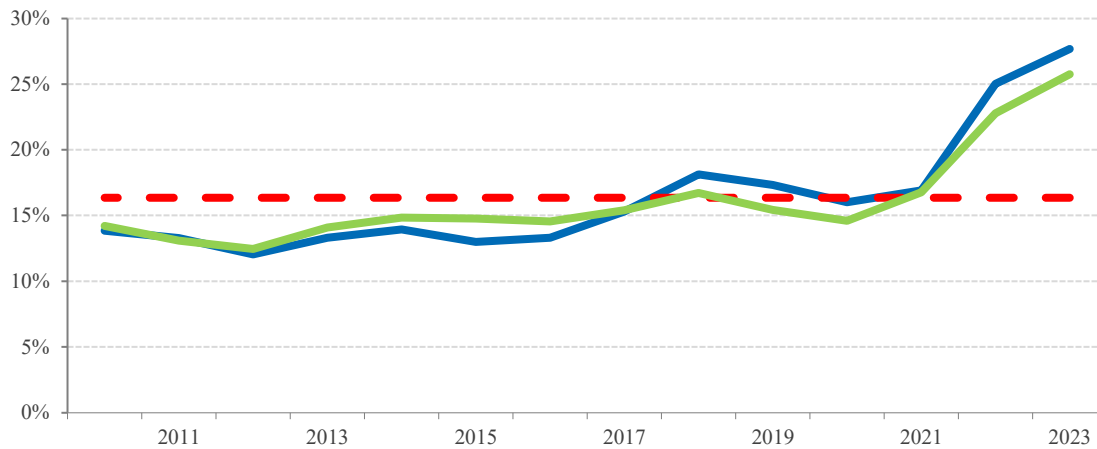
**State Total Foreclosure Rate vs. U.S. Average**  
(U.S. Average in Blue Dashed Line)



Source: Mortgage Bankers' Association

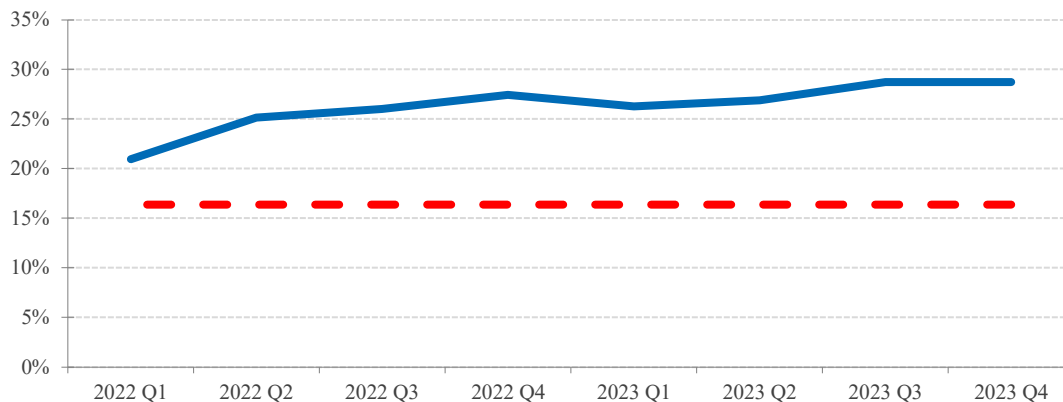
# Affordability

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

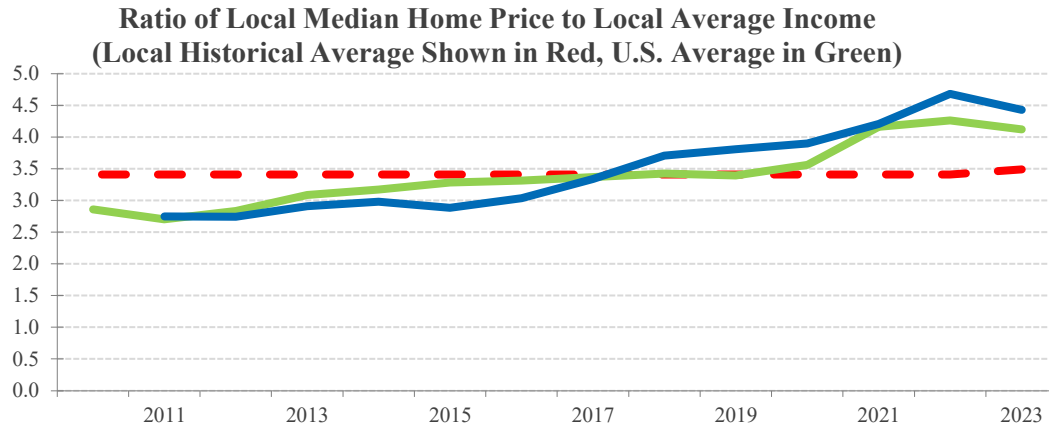


Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income	Kennewick	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	27.7%	25.8%	Weak by local standards and could weigh on demand
Ratio for 2023 Q4	28.7%	25.5%	
Historical Average	16.4%	17.0%	More affordable than most markets

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



Median Home Price to Income	Kennewick	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	4.4	4.1	The price-to-income ratio eased, but could be better
Ratio for 2023 Q4	4.4	3.9	
Historical Average	3.5	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 Kennewick area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Kennewick-Richland 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:

[Benton County and Franklin 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/)

