# State of the housing market and wider economy



Ali Wolf

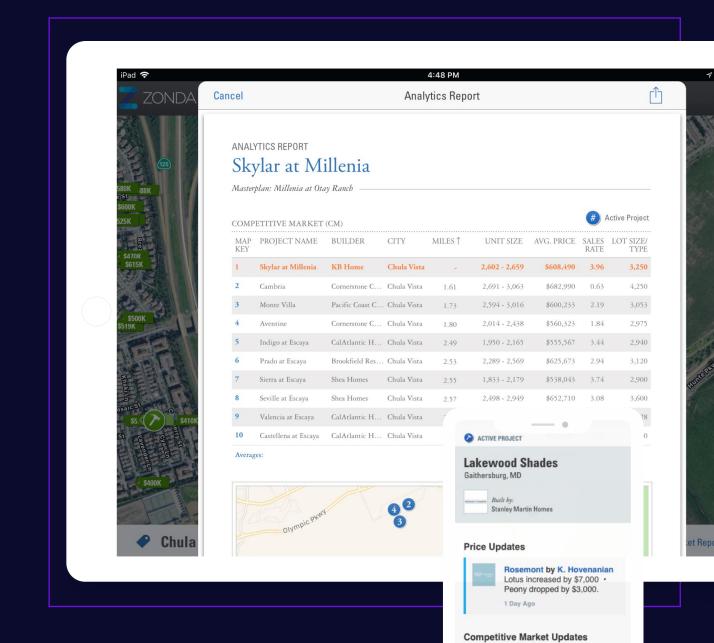
**Chief Economist** 



# Tracking the entire building lifecycle

Access the housing industry's most comprehensive research platforms

- 500+ housing and economic metrics
- Satellite imagery, sales office visits, inhouse research department, surveys, and driving communities
- Curated and insightful market analysis



### Today's Agenda

- 1. Economic backdrop
- 2. Housing trends
- 3. Buyers and demographics
- 4. Forecasts and final thoughts

### Economic backdrop

#### 11 short-term increases so far

How to measure their success? Many ways!

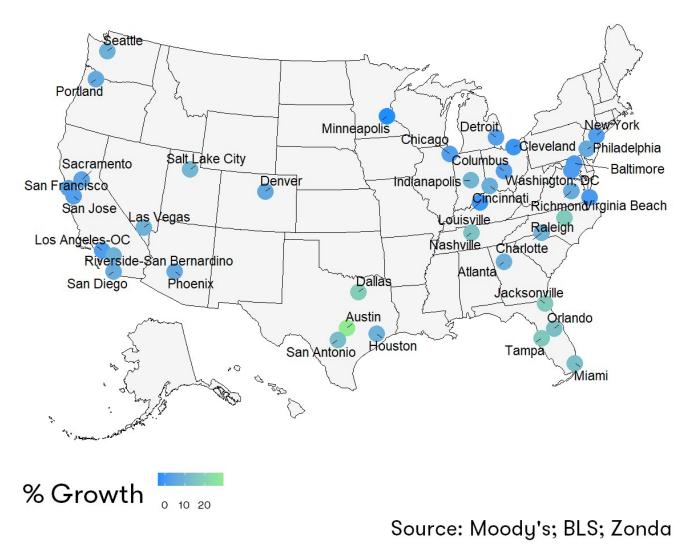
- Avg 239K jobs each month this year vs 426K YTD 2022 (164K in '19)
- 3.9% unemployment (strike + more people in labor force + layoffs) – up from 3.6% last March
- Job openings at 9.5M compared to 11M and 7M
- Employment cost index 4.5% vs 5.7% at peak and 3.0% in '19
- Total employment: 3% above prepandemic levels nationally

#### Total Job Growth Relative to February 2020 Portland Minneapolis Cleveland Sacramento Baltimore Salt Lake City Washington Di San Francisco Denver San Jose Wirginia Beach Los Angeles-OC Nashville Charlotte Riverside-San Bernardino Atlanta San Diego Phoenix Dallas Jacksonville Austin Orlando Houston San Antonio Tampa 15% Austin, 10% Dallas, 10% Raleigh, 9% Tampa, 9% Nashville % Growth Source: Moody's; BLS; Zonda

### High-income jobs 6% above pre-pandemic

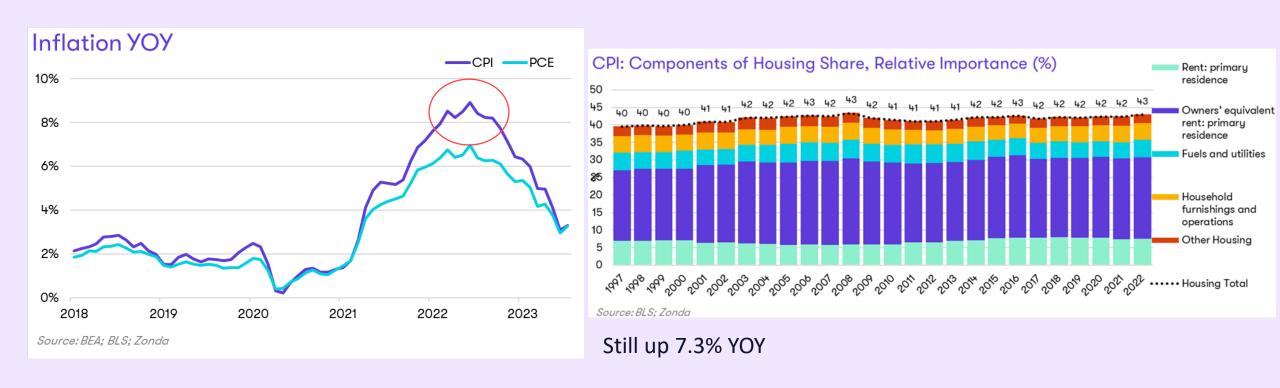
30% Austin, 20% Dallas, 17% Jacksonville, 17% Raleigh, 16% Tampa

#### High Income Job Growth Relative to February 2020



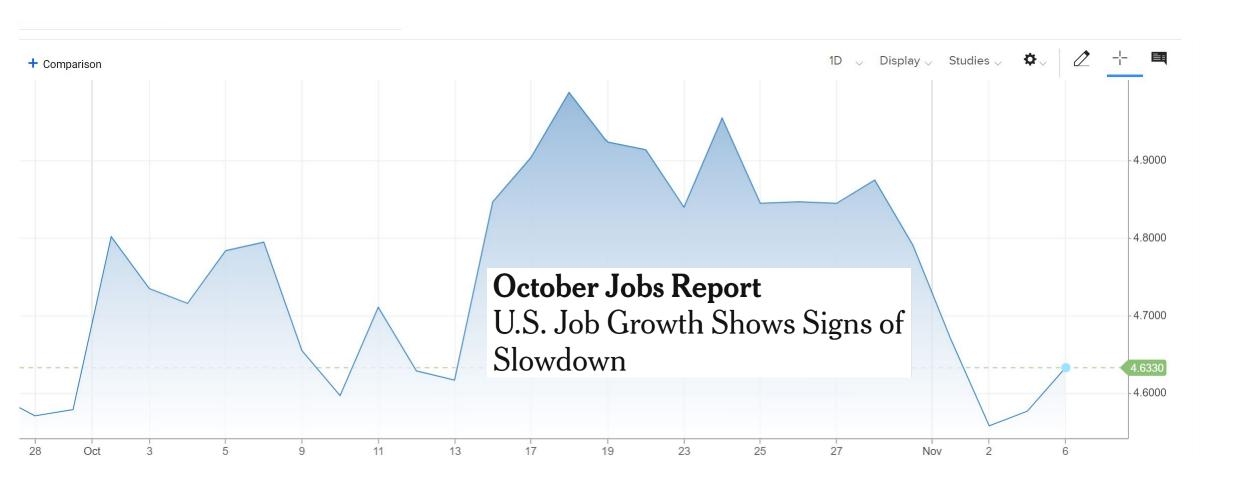
Inflation data is still running hot, but generally improving (!)

CPI (core and headline) and PCE (core and headline): 3%-5%



# When good news is bad news for our industry with rates







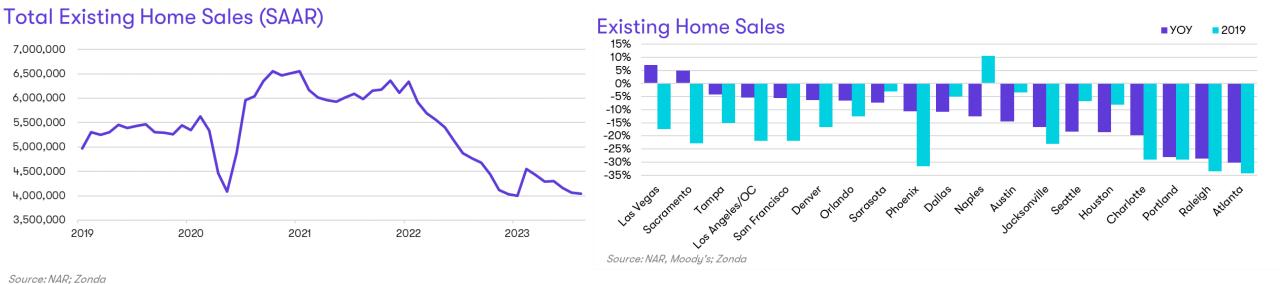
#### Change in Monthly Mortgage Payment

Metro	Jan-22	CM Payment	Percent Change
Orlando	\$1,132	\$2,280	101%
Tampa	\$1,110	\$2,206	99%
Jacksonville	\$1,078	\$2,085	93%
Atlanta	\$1,140	\$2,197	93%
Charlotte	\$1,136	\$2,177	92%
Indianapolis	\$834	\$1,591	91%
Dallas	\$1,142	\$2,173	90%
Raleigh	\$1,345	\$2,552	90%
Houston	\$947	\$1,783	88%
Los Angeles / OC	\$2,867	\$5,294	85%
Las Vegas	\$1,323	\$2,379	80%
Denver	\$1,878	\$3,368	79%
Denver	\$1,878	\$3,368	79%
Seattle	\$2,317	\$4,122	78%
Portland	\$1,790	\$3,159	76%
Phoenix	\$1,501	\$2,639	76%
Sacramento	\$1,922	\$3,307	72%
San Francisco	\$3,915	\$6,584	68%
Austin	\$1,672	\$2,749	64%

Source: 7illow: 7onda \*assumes 20% down, Januaru-22 rate was 3.45%, current rate is 8.0%

# Interconnectivity between the economy and housing market

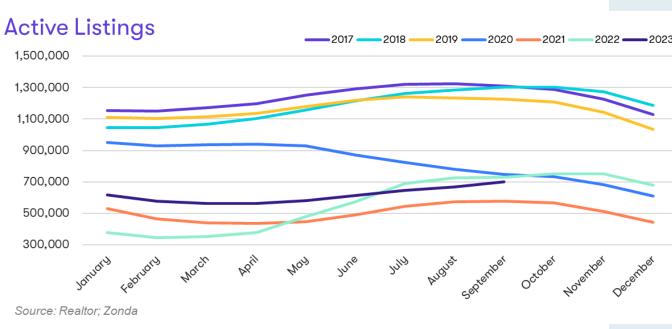
## Housing trends

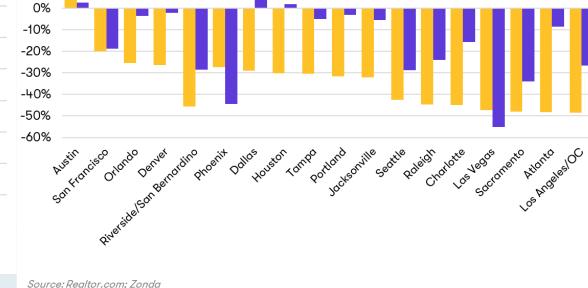


-0.7% MOM, -15.3% YOY

Sales down on rates, confidence, and inventory

# Listings still constrained but following seasonal pattern





■ Change from 2019 ■ YoY Change

**Active Listing Count** 

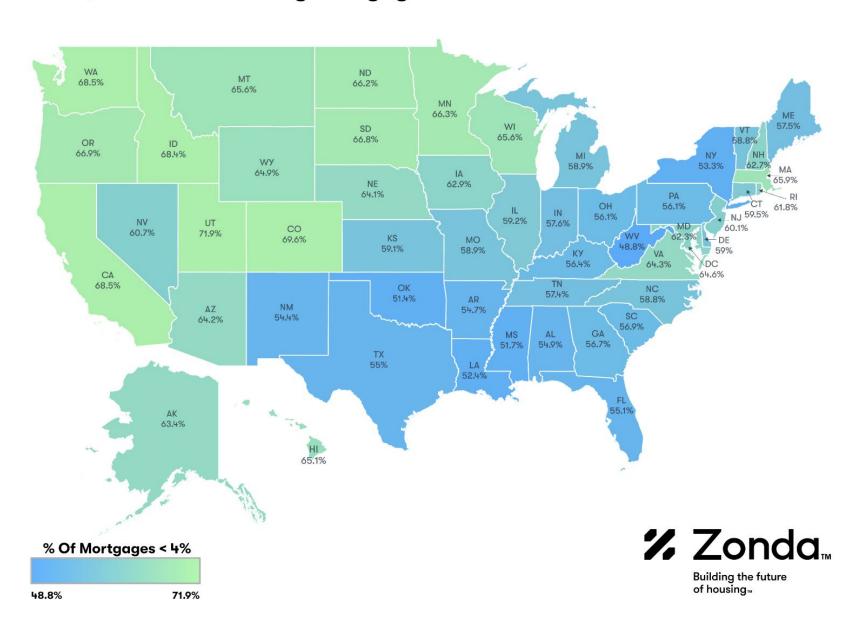
20%

10%

Still that disincentive to sell

## Lock-in effect more severe in the West

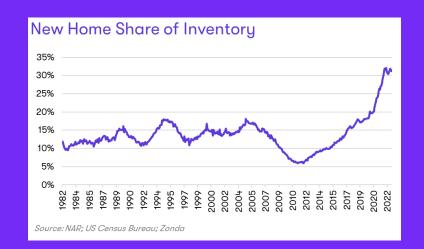
#### 2Q 2023: Outstanding Mortgages with Less Than 4% Interest Rate

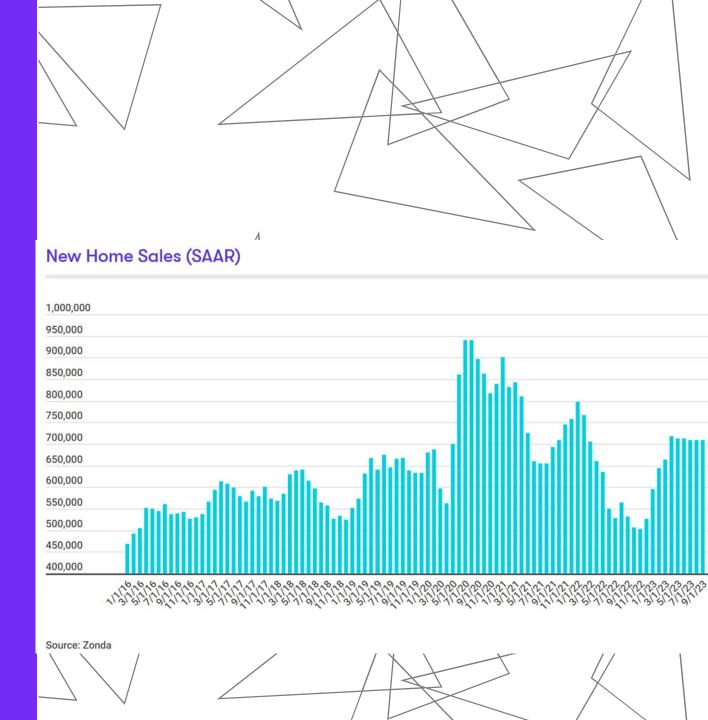


# Tale of two housing markets was the story for 2023

Demand dropped as expected with higher rates (the point of rate increases!)

But the unintended consequence of higher rates is that supply came down even more benefitting those that stil have inventory







A unique period of time funneling people into the new home market

#### Working in the favor of builders:

- Low resale supply
- Old and expensive resale supply
- A narrower price spread between new and existing homes
- QMI inventory to address those looking to move now
- Brand new product to help consumers justify paying today's prices
- Incentives, including buydowns and funds towards closing costs

Affordability is worse today, but there was a greater *shock* last year

End of '21 to end of '22: 60% payment shock

If someone could afford \$500K in 2021, then could only afford \$341K by late 2022

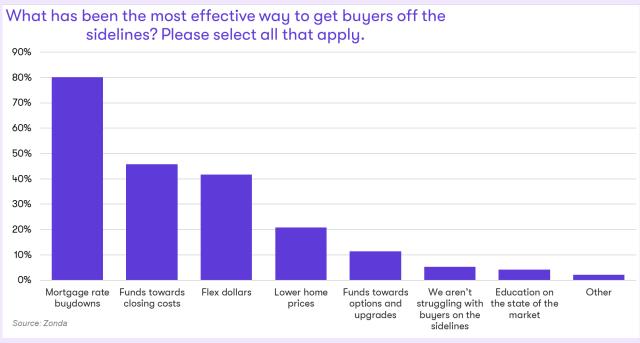
End of '22 to current: 20% payment shock

If someone one could afford \$500K in 2022, that went down to \$426K today

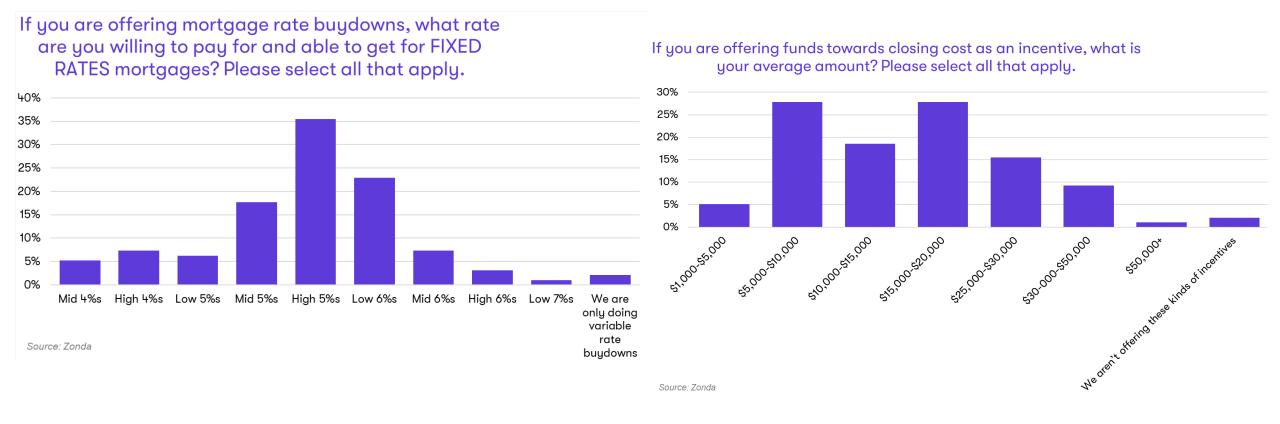


### Incentives help seal the deal





#### What do these incentives look like?



Mortgage rate races toward 8% after hitting a high not seen since late 2000

New homes still outperforming but not immune to the headwinds

Home prices and mortgage rates keep rising, and it might get worse still

Home prices are likely to fall in these markets

Housing market: Home prices unaffordable in 99% of U.S. counties

Housing outlook: 8% mortgage rates to trigger recession, Wells Fargo says

#### Sentiment shift



Velocity has all by died out, and people seem to be sitting on the sidelines

Entry level buyers are priced out. Move-up buyers are spooked.

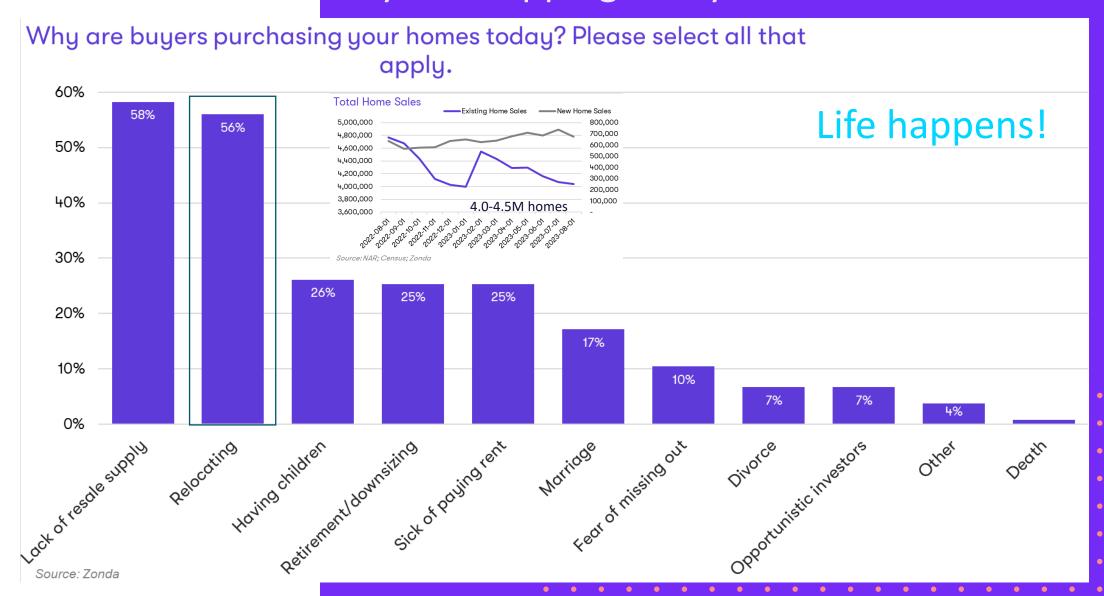
Concern over rates continues to increase. People are starting to put their purchase plans on hold.

Combination of rates, insurance, and inflation are now serious

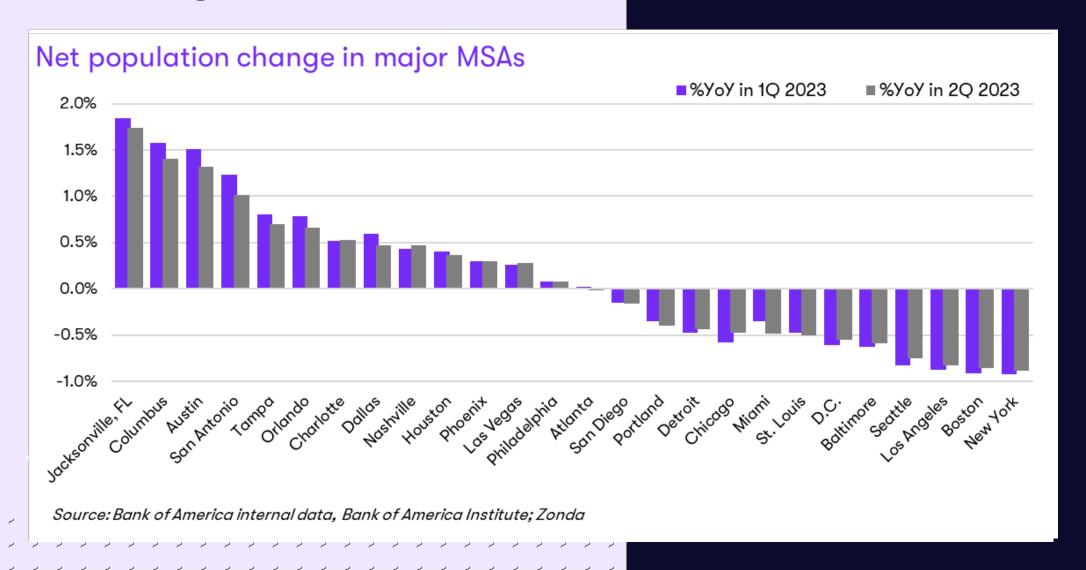
**Seasonality+** 

### Buyers and demographics

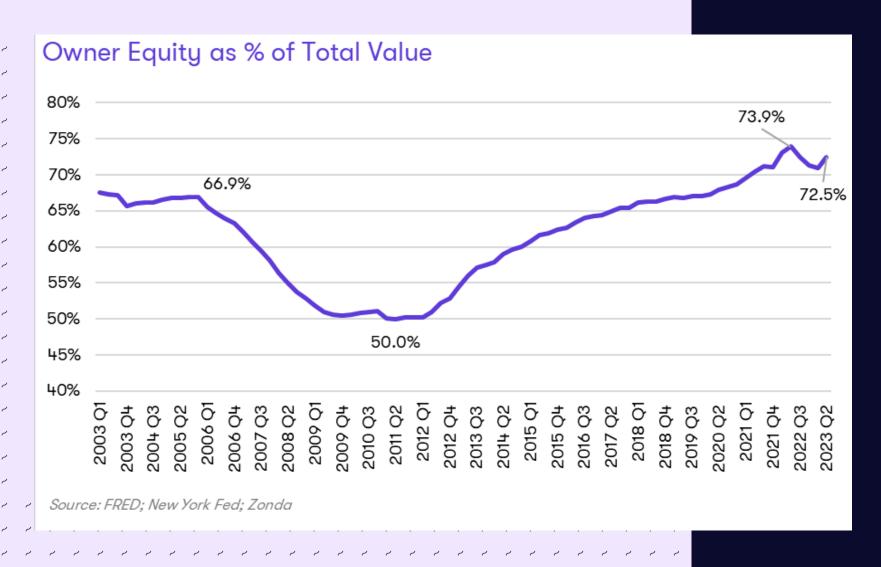
# Given the affordability backdrop, why are buyers shopping today?



### Real time migration data

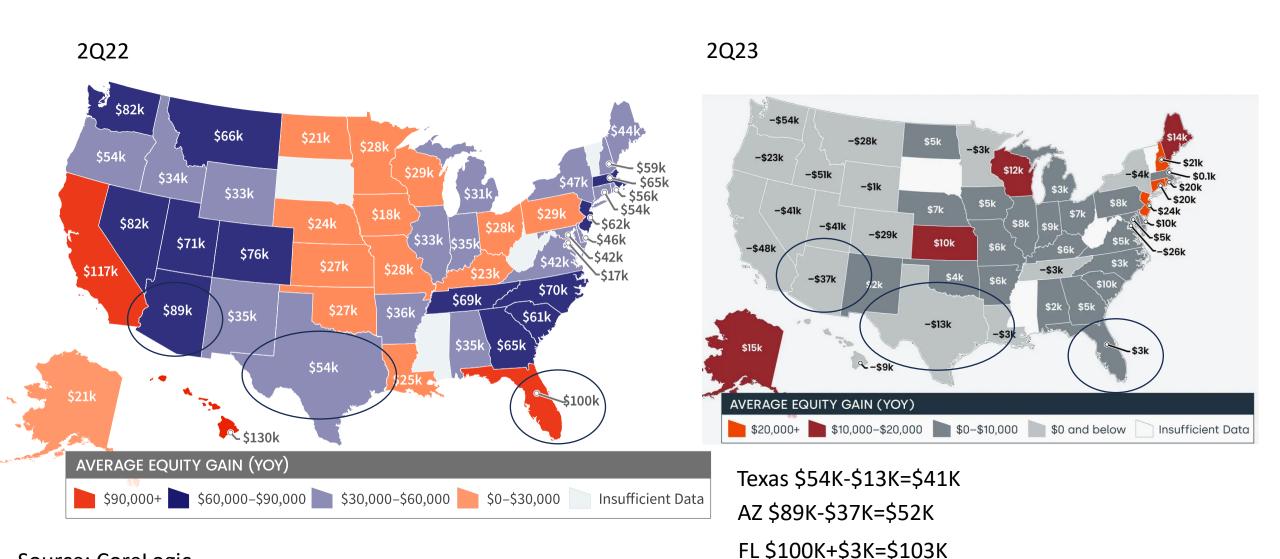


# Those that already own homes have benefited from rising prices

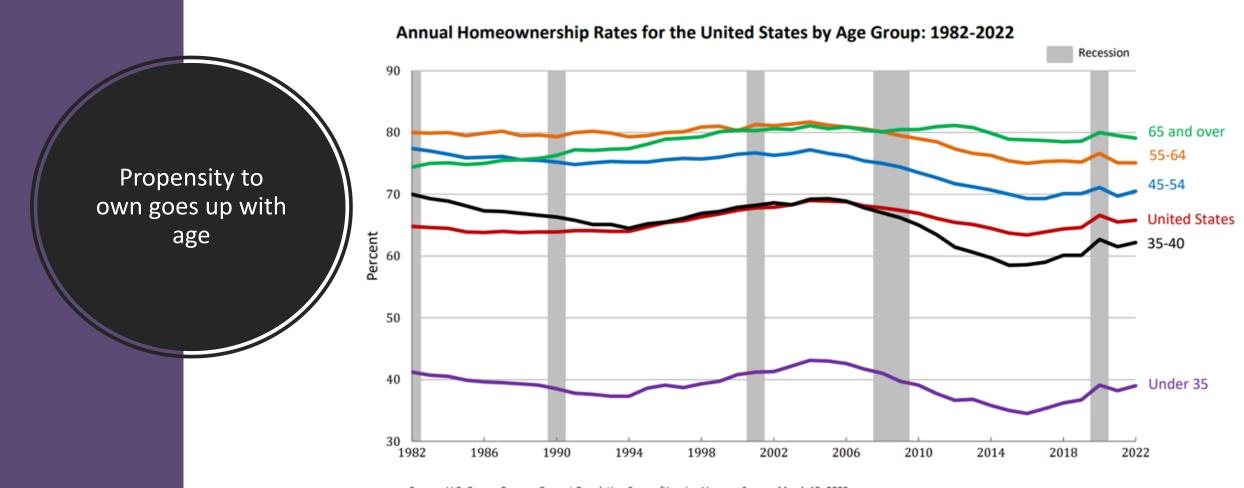


Equity / (Equity + Mortgage Debt)

#### Price correction last year took away *some* of the gains



Source: CoreLogic

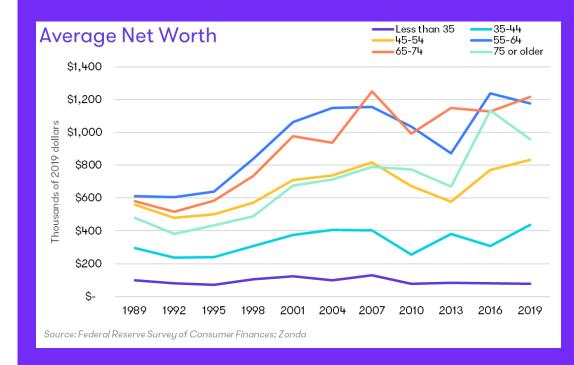


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, March 15, 2023 Recession data: National Bureau of Economic Research, <www.nber.org>



- Control roughly 50% of the nation's wealth despite being ~24% of the population (Zonda). The growth in wealth can be attributed to many things, including decades-long economic expansion, rising stock prices, and home price appreciation.
- They also have the most assets, with the top three categories being real estate, corporate bonds, and other assets
- Unequal distribution of wealth, though, with ¼ don't have any money saved for retirement

# Boomers: A vital part of the economy



# Many are on the move

Baby boomers moved more than any other age group in 2022. Those 55+ accounted for more than 55% of all inbound United Van Lines moves in 2022. Why?

Boomers made up 39% of all home purchases (up from 29% in 2021), the highest share of all buyers. They also represent the largest sellers at 52%.

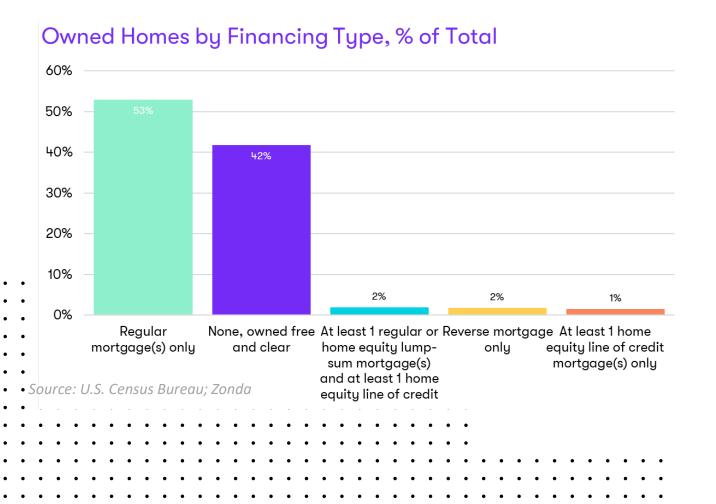
Source: NAR

UVL survey shows the top motivations for inbound moves include:

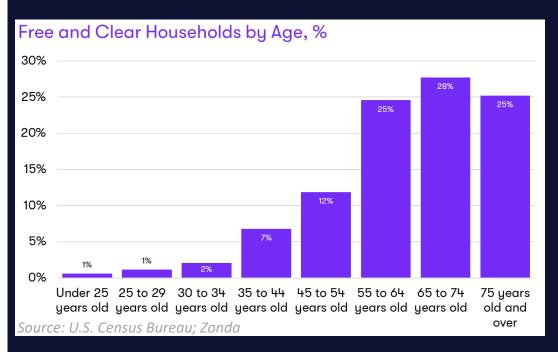
- 1. A desire to be closer to family (35%, and continues to be a primary driver post-COVID),
- 2. A new job/company transfer (33%, which continues to decrease as a driver post-COVID)
- 3. Retirement (20%)

Source: United Van Lines

# Partly because interest rate sensitivity isn't as much of a thing

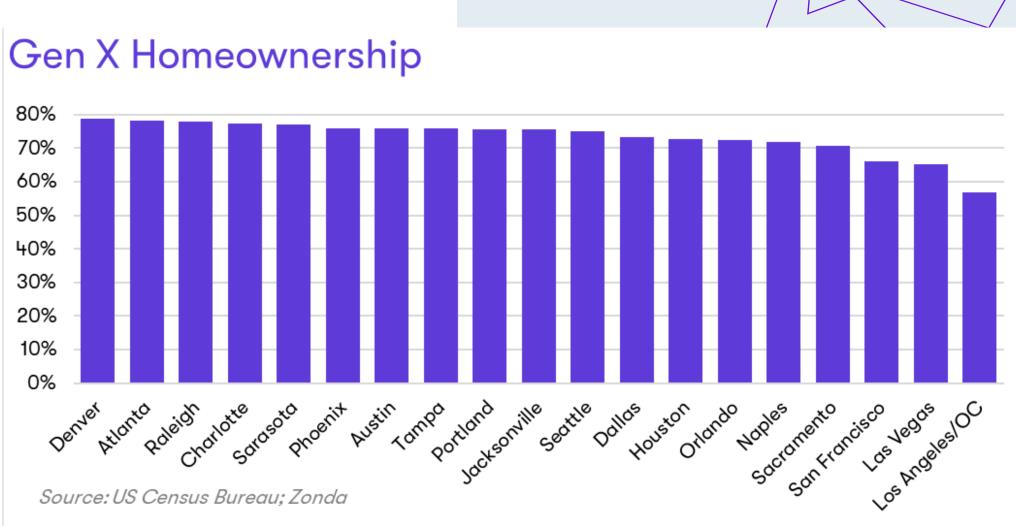


Boomers and Gen Xers have outsized benefit of home equity with Gen Xers more of the move up vs the Boomers more of the move down



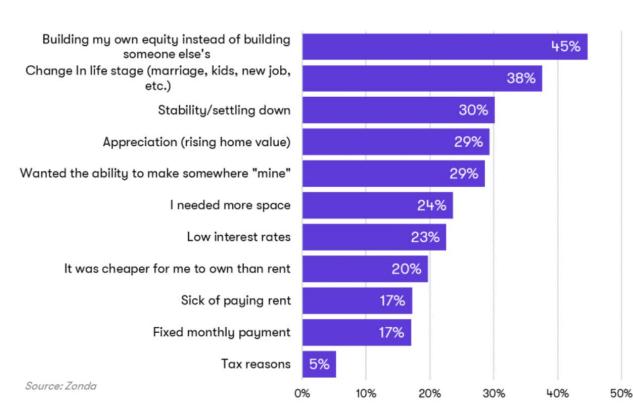
% Zonda.

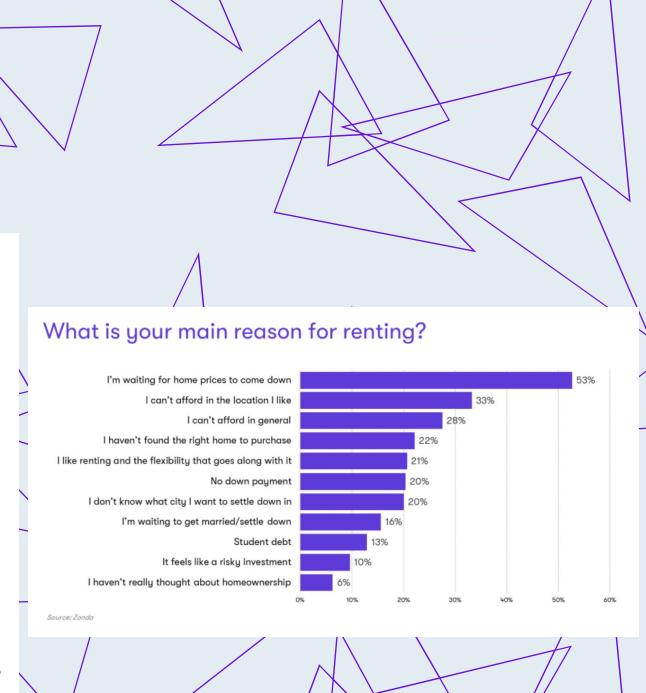
# Gen X also beneficiary of rising prices



The homeownership rate is 60%+ for those 35-40!

#### Why did you decide to buy?





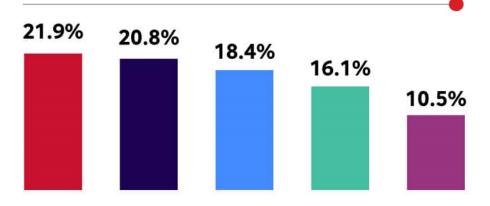
### Future buyers face the same obstacles as generations before

#### Gen Z represent 9% of total sales

Of those surveyed, 69.1% are currently saving some amount of money. And within that group, 56.4% are putting money away for their first home (Rocket Mortgage).

Of the 86.2% of Gen Zers who want to purchase a home, *nearly 45%* are *looking to purchase their first home in the next 5 years* (Realtor.com).

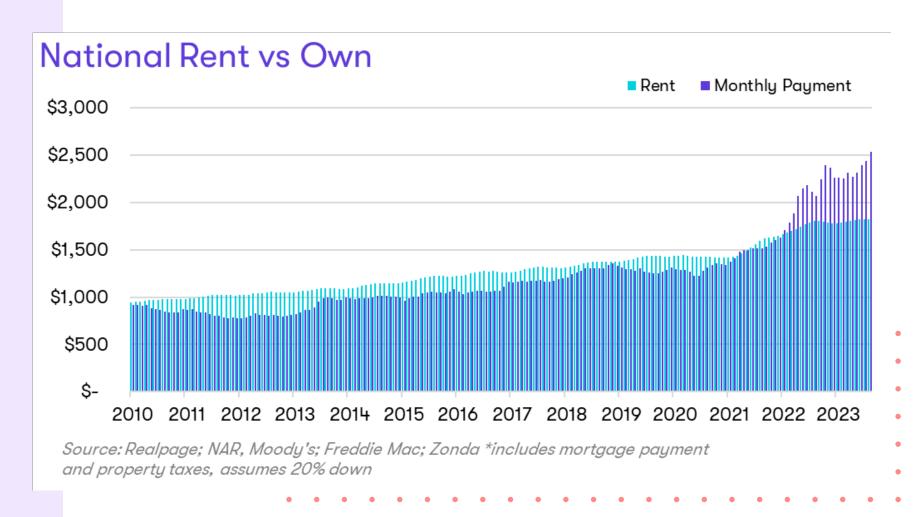
# Gen Z's Top 5 Anticipated Obstacles For Home Buying



- Having enough savings for a down payment
- Not knowing where to begin
- Finding a home in their price range
- Having good enough credit
- Having too much student loan debt

Source: Rocket Homes® Research

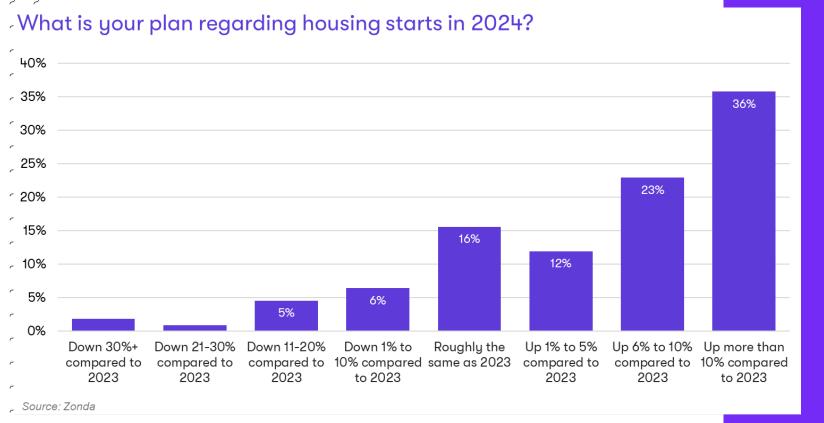
Sea change: the math favors renting today



### Forecasts and final thoughts



# More building could help with mobility and affordability



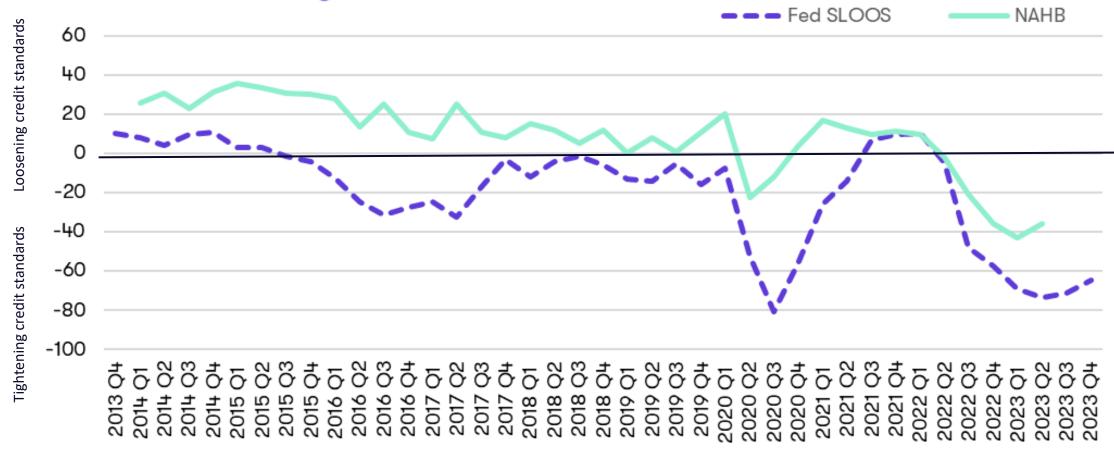
70% of builders expect starts to be up in 2024, partially due to increased lot supply

BTIG survey of smaller builders shows 40% planning to start more homes

Assuming financing remains reasonable and demand holds up, and those two are up for question right now...

#### Part of the long and variable lag

#### Credit Avaliability: AD&C

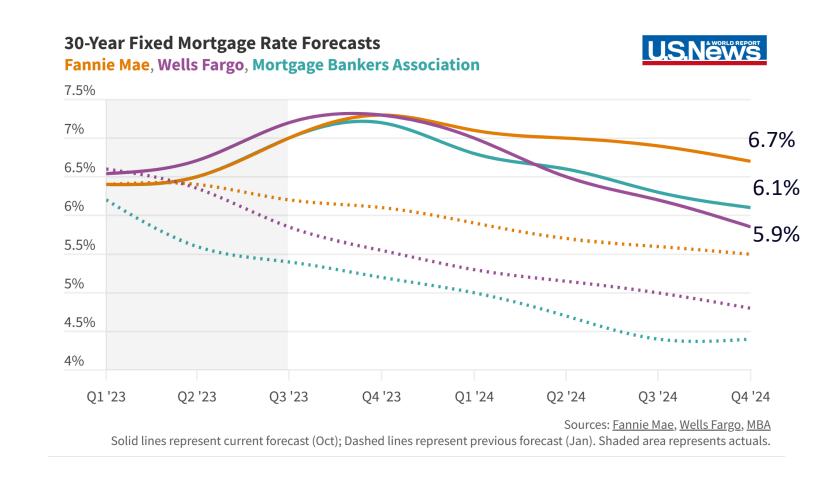


Source: FRED; NAHB; Zonda (Above 0 captures easing conditions. Below 0 captures tightening)

#### Rates will likely be tricky for a while...

Future rate cuts. Mortgage rates are historically already down ~20% from peak at the start of the cuts (with a ~6 month lead time) and then hold relatively flat for the next year

Normalizing of spread. If the spread were to normalize back to the historical average, we would be looking at mortgage rates in the 5s/low 6s



NAHB: 6.4% | Zonda 6.6%

### Risks

#### We are watching:

- Fed policy (error?)
- The office market (WFH)
- Consumer spending (70%)... including the ending of the student loan forbearance

# Why homeownership?

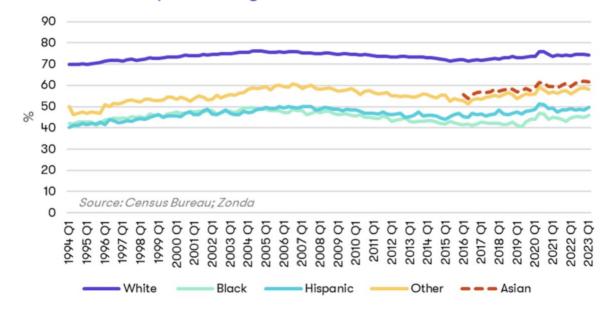
#### Educate on:

- Down payment options
- Mortgage rate buydowns
- Funds towards closing costs
- The value of the area you are selling. Is there something unique (school district, limited land, walkability, unique homes, etc.)

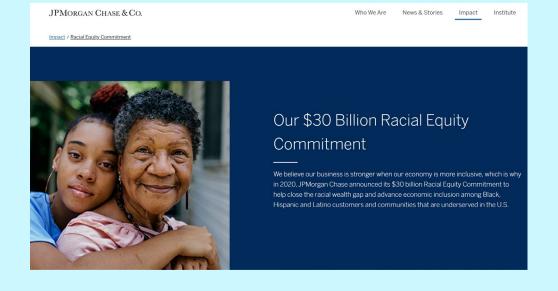
- Housing as a long-term investment
- Paying to yourself
- Saving path for retirement
- Generational transfer of wealth
- Certainty on rates and monthly housing cost
- Can always refinance later
- How long are you planning to stay?
- Don't time the market

## Big opportunity

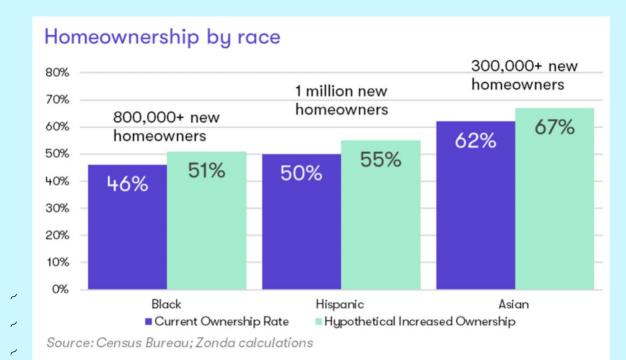
#### Homeownership rates by race



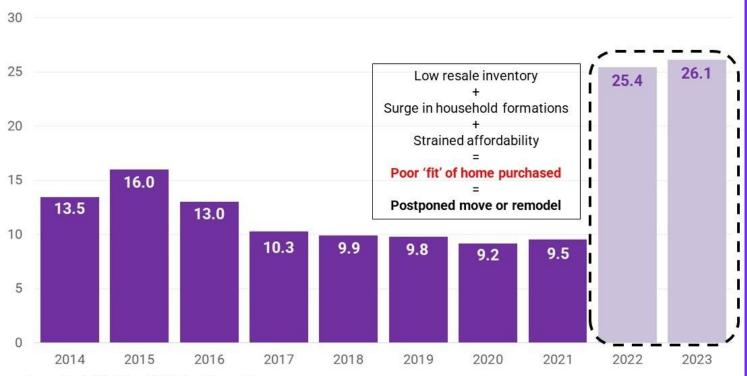
Access to and education around homeownership varies by race. In fact, the white homeownership rate stands at 74%. Conversely, the homeownership rate for the Asian population is 62%, 50% for Hispanics, and 46% for Black households.



### Increasing homeownership = massive boost 5% increase = 2 million more sales



#### % of Homeowners Under 50 Years Old Who Expect to Move Again Within < 2 Years



Source: Zonda Tabulation of NY Federal Reserve Data

### Pent-up demand

Homeowners were forced to buy quickly during the height of the market while competing in bidding wars and waiving inspections. Now people are dissatisfied.

2023 will be the lowest mobility year in the history of the data but a positive jump once the market stabilizes



## Thank you

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