

# Housing and Mortgage Market Update

Office of the Chief Economist

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### Home Buyer Affordability High; National Price Indexes Bottom-Out in 2012

### Low mortgage rates support gradual housing pick-up

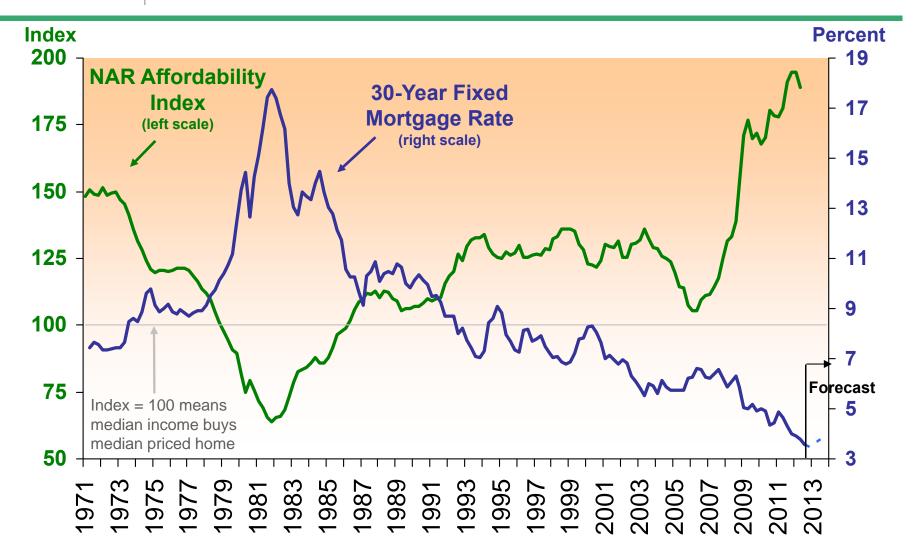
- 30-year Fixed-Rate Mortgages stay below 4.0% through 2013
- Home buyer affordability supports home sales, up about 8% in 2012 and 2013
- Consumer confidence, high unemployment are headwinds
- U.S. house price indexes up this spring
  - Oversupply of vacant homes has dropped, less downward price pressure
  - U.S. indexes will bottomed in 2012 (seasonally adjusted)
  - Local markets with excess supply will have prices bottom after 2012
  - Rents are up, as are apartment building values

### Mortgage defaults lessen but remain high

- Unemployment main trigger event for delinquency
- House price declines add to foreclosure risk
- Serious delinquency rates have declined since peak at start of 2010
- Subprime, Alt-A and Option ARMs drive foreclosures



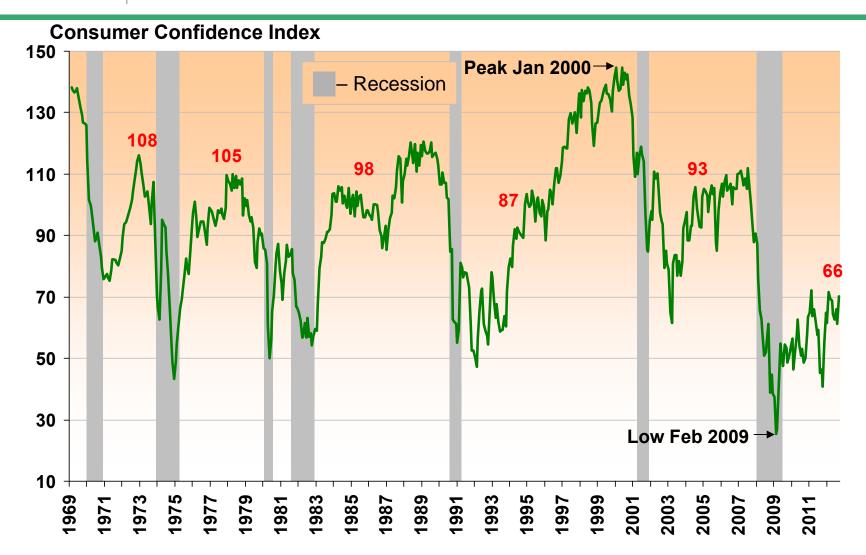
### Low Interest Rates & Lower Home Prices Have Increased Homebuyer Affordability



Sources: National Association of Realtors Composite Housing Affordability Index – (% of median priced home affordable on median income with conventional mortgage and 20% down), seasonally adjusted; Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey <sup>®</sup> and November 2012 Outlook.



### At this Stage of the Recovery, Consumer Confidence is Lower than in Previous Expansions



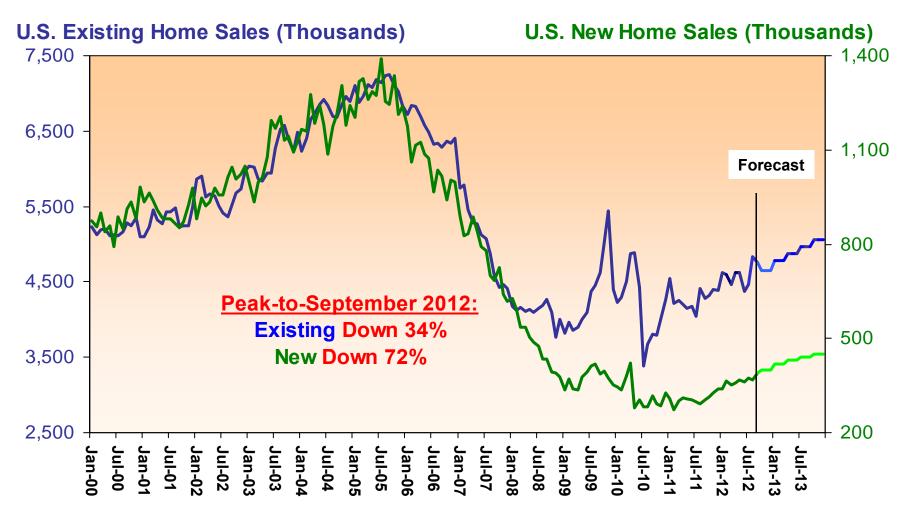
Note: Data are bimonthly through May 1972; missing months' data between February 1969 and May 1972 interpolated by Freddie Mac.

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Sources: The Conference Board, Freddie Mac

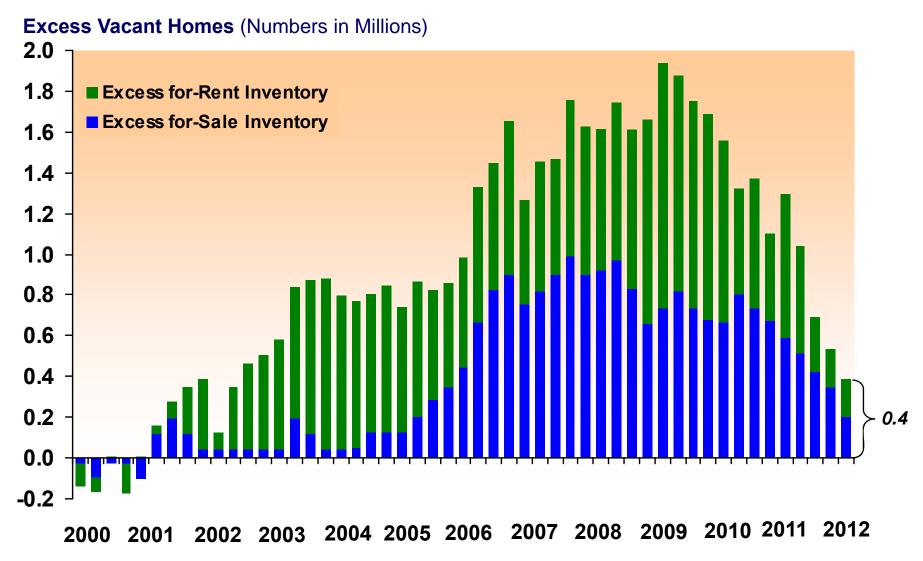


### Home Sales Projected Up About 8% in 2012, 2013



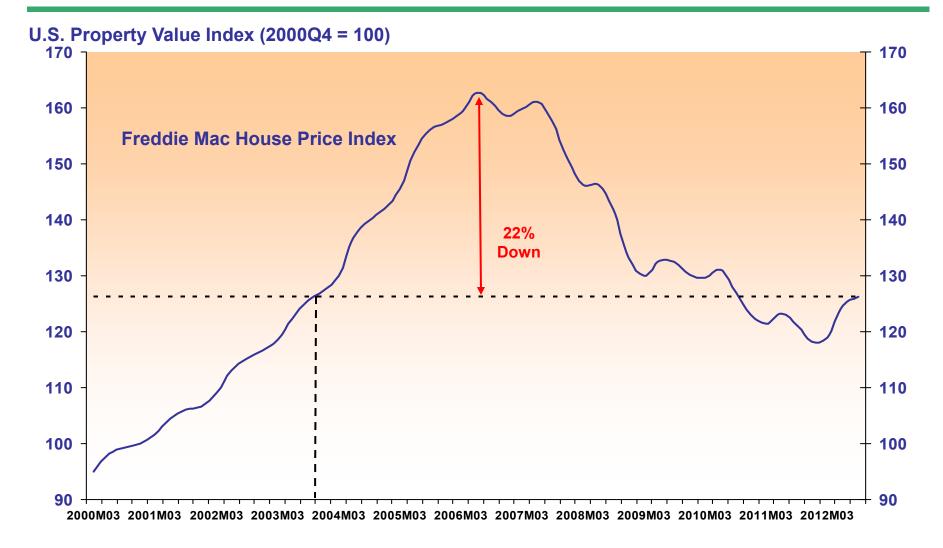
Sources: US Census Bureau, National Association of Realtors®





Source: Freddie Mac calculations using U.S. Census Bureau data. Negative values reflect undersupply. The under/oversupply of vacant housing was estimated based on the average vacancy rate from 1994Q1 to 2003Q4.

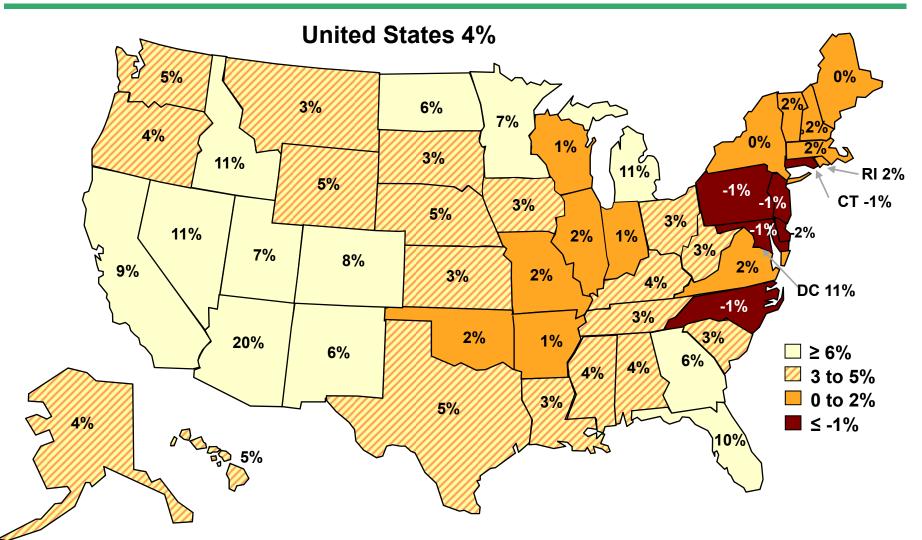




Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index



# Annual House Price Performance By State: Prices Up in 44 States (September 2011 to September 2012)



Note: The Freddie Mac House Price Index for the U.S. is a value-weighted average of the state indexes where the value weights are based on Freddie Mac's single-family credit guaranteed portfolio.

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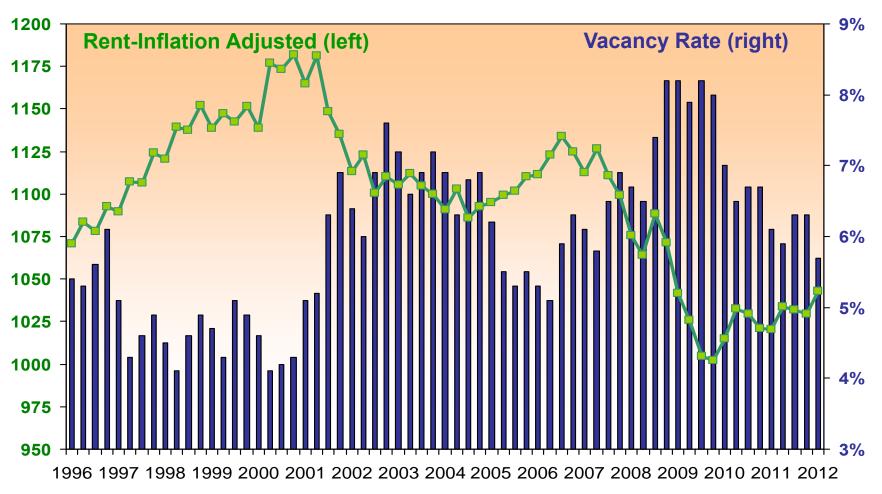
Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index



### Vacancy Drop Since 2010 Has Led to Rent Growth; Inflation-Adjusted Rent Remains Relatively Low

#### Rent (in 2012 Dollars)

Vacancy (in Percent)



Sources: Axiometrics (U.S. Derived "same store" Effective Rent, Vacancy = 100% Less Current Period Occupancy Rate), Bureau of Labor and Statistics (CPI-Less shelter–quarter average, NSA)



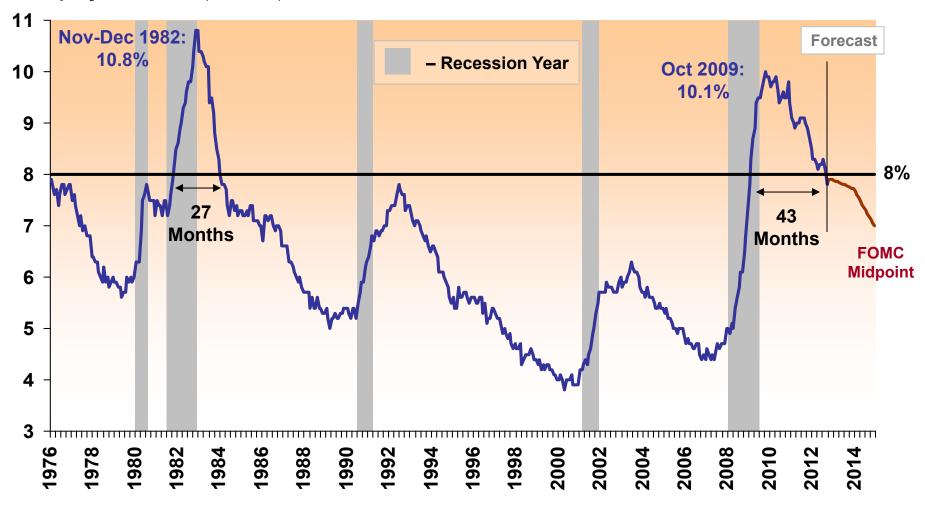
### Job Loss Is the Main Hardship Reason Among Delinquent Prime Borrowers

Hardship Reason	2010
Unemployment or curtailment of income	55.3%
Excessive obligation	21.4%
Illness or death in the family	7.9%
Marital difficulties	3.7%
Inability to sell or rent property	1.9%
Employment transfer or military	1.1%
Property problem or casualty loss	0.4%
Extreme hardship	0.1%
All other reasons	8.3%

Source: Freddie Mac; data cover only prime conventional conforming loans. Data through December 31, 2010.



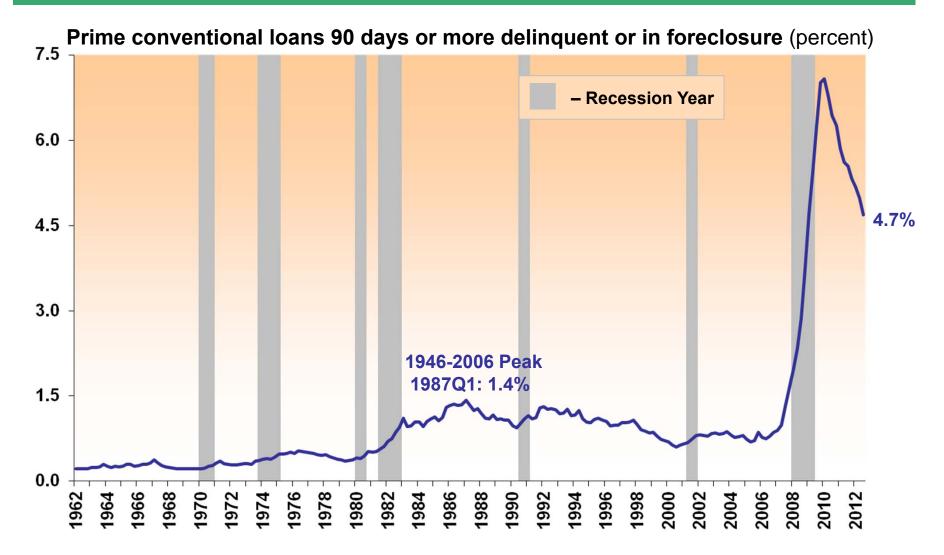
#### **Unemployment Rate** (Percent)



Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Federal Reserve (Central Tendency projection midpoint of Federal Reserve Governors and Reserve Bank presidents as of September 2012 for fourth quarter of 2013 and 2014; other quarters obtained through linear interpolation).

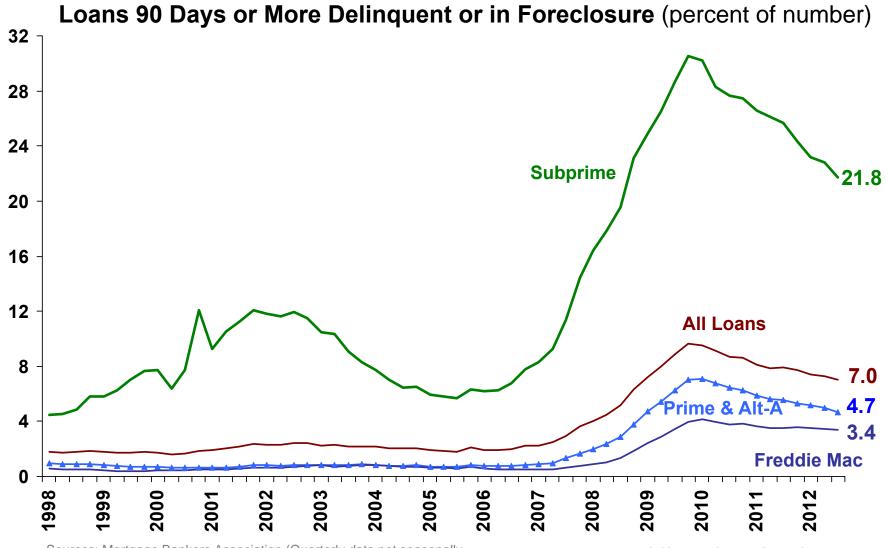


### **Recent Default Experience Is Unlike Any Previous Business Cycle Since the 1930s**



Sources: National Bureau of Economic Research, Mortgage Bankers Association (Prime Conventional includes Alt-A).





Sources: Mortgage Bankers Association (Quarterly data not seasonally adjusted;1998Q1-2012Q3); Freddie Mac.



- Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP)
  - About 1.1 million permanent modifications started through Sept. in U.S.
  - Monthly payment reduced to 31% of monthly income

# Home Affordable Refinance Program (HARP)

- Current loans owned by Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae, market LTV>80%
- About 1.7 million over-80% LTV refinanced through Sept. in U.S.
- Streamline refinance will help families lower monthly payment

# MHA reduces number of distressed sales

- Keeping families in homes is the long-term priority
- About 2.8 million U.S. families have benefited thru HAMP or HARP (about 5.5% of all borrowers)





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