Housing News Update



Dan Clifton

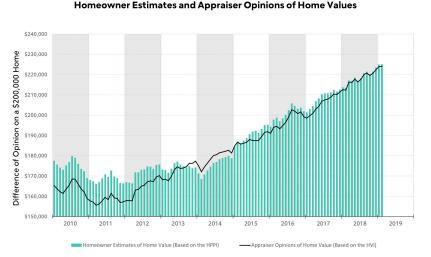
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Homeowners Expecting Higher Appraisals than They Get

Homeowners are and should be proud of their homes, but that often leads them to think it has a higher value than does an appraiser and the difference between the two opinions increased significantly in March. Quicken Loans says the gap in its Home Price Perception Index grew by 25 percent compared to February. Part of the difference might be accounted for by a decline in home prices of 0.20 percent during the month although prices rose 3.37 percent over the previous 12 months.

Nationwide, appraised values came in at 0.78 percent of what homeowners expected compared to 0.50 percent in February. Quicken Loans Executive Vice President for Capital Markets Bill Banfield said that there's more than one reason behind this sudden increase in the gap between estimates and values.



March 2019 | Source: Quicken Loans

National Average Mortgage Rates



Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Apr 24	196.7	-2.67%
Building Permits	Mar	1.46M	-3.95%
Housing Starts	Mar	1.32M	-13.15%
New Home Sales	Mar	693K	+4.68%
Pending Home Sales	Feb	75.6	+1.75%
Existing Home Sales	Feb	3.97M	-0.75%

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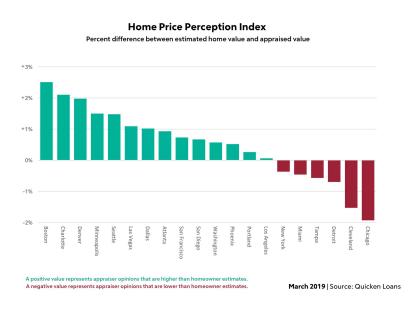
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Value Change

"This month's fluctuation in the HPPI was driven more by a dip in home values than the pare in the owners' viewpoint. 51 +6.25% Homeowners are often reluctant to believe their house has lowered in value, even at a slight monthly fluctuation," he said. "Depending on the area, appraised values are either growing at a much more measured pace or have taken a step back from their meteoric rise. **Homeowners are usually slower to realize change** - in either direction - than the appraisers who study the market on a daily basis. This can lead to a slight widening of the perception gap when there is a turn in the market."

The gap was largest in the Midwest. Homeowners there overvalued their homes by 0.90 percent while the overestimates were significantly lower in the Northeast, South, and West at 0.78, 0.76, and 0.70 percent respectively.

Chicago homeowners overestimated the value of their homes, by 1.94 percent. Boston homeowners, on the other hand, were most likely to be pleasantly surprised; appraisals come in 2.23 percent higher than owner perceptions. Los Angeles is the market where the two estimates were closest; LA homeowners only overestimate by 0.03



Banfield added, "Some of the rampant buyer demand that we've seen over the last few years has subsided because of the affordability issues many areas are having, driven by a lack of availability," he said. "Would-be buyers have decided to sit on the sidelines to see if more home inventory becomes available at the price-points where they're shopping. **The entire housing industry is watching to see what will happen** in the coming months - whether owners and builders will provide the home inventory the buyers have been waiting for, amid the recent drop in interest rates."

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