Housing News Update

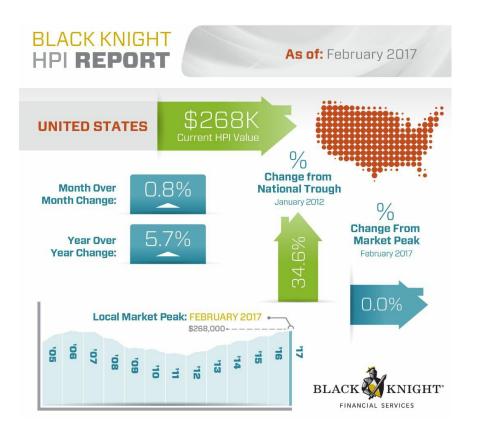


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Home Prices Hit Post Crisis Peak -Black Knight

Home prices in February rose at their fastest pace since last June, up 0.8 percent on a month-over-month basis. Black Knight Financial Services said its national-level Home Price Index (HPI) hit \$268,000 during the month, a new post-crisis peak. Prices are now up 5.7 percent compared to March 2016 and have risen 1.0 percent since the first of this year.



Washington State had the largest monthly gain, up 2.2 percent. Colorado and Oregon followed with 1.6 percent and 1.5 percent growth respectively. Prices did not fall in even the worst performing of the states: West Virginia and Connecticut, were unchanged from January. They were followed by Rhode Island and Ohio with, each with 0.1 percent gains.

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Aug 28	226.9	+0.49%
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%
Builder Confidence	Mar	51	+6.25%

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For the third month in a row Tuscaloosa was the poorest performing metropolitan area. Prices there declined 4.7 percent from January, more than eight times the 0.5 percent rate of decline in the second worst performing metro area, Atlantic City. Seattle saw 2.7 percent appreciation, the most of any metropolitan area, followed by San Jose, Denver, and Bellingham, each with monthly gains of 2 percent or more. Washington State accounted for **six of the 10 fastest** appreciating metro areas.

Home prices in six of the nation's 20 largest states and 14 of the 40 largest metros hit new peaks in February

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