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Inventories Driving Price Gains Despite Rates

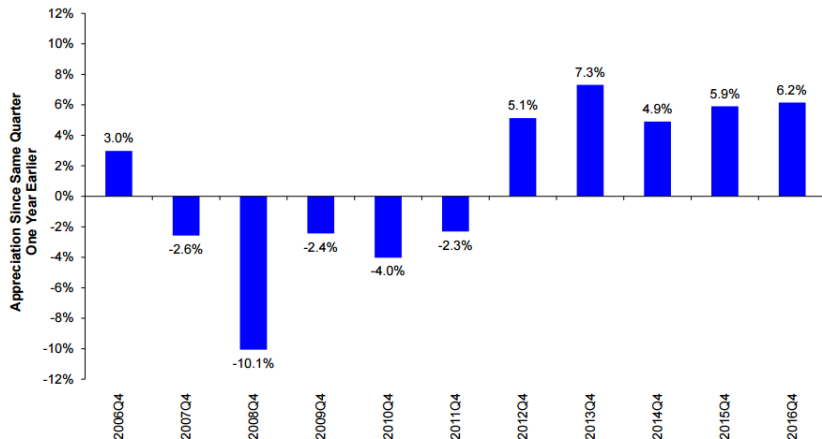
Home prices, as measured by the Federal Housing Finance Agency's (FHFA's) Housing Price Index (HPI), rose **even faster** on an annual basis in December than they had earlier in the fall. The year-over-year gain was 6.2 percent, up from 6.1 percent in the 12 months ended in November, and 6.0 percent in October.

FHFA's HPI report, which this month also included **fourth quarter** data, is based on purchase prices of homes with mortgages backed by or sold to one of the two GSEs Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

On a quarterly basis, the HPI was **up 1.5 percent** compared to the third quarter. The monthly change from November to December was 0.4 percent, down from a 0.5 percent gain from October to November.

"Although interest rates **rose sharply** during the fourth quarter, our data show no signs of a home price slowdown," said FHFA Deputy Chief Economist Andrew Leventis. "Although it will certainly take more time for the full effects of the elevated interest rates to be felt, there is no evidence of a normalization in the unusually low inventories of homes available for sale, which has been the primary force behind the extraordinary price gains."

House Price Appreciation Over Previous Four Quarters for U.S.
 Seasonally Adjusted, Purchase-Only Index



National Average Mortgage Rates



	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News Daily			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.07%	+0.02	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.45%	0.00	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.51%	+0.02	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.26%	0.00	0.00
5/1 ARM	7.02%	-0.01	0.00
Freddie Mac			
30 Yr. Fixed	6.86%	-0.01	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.16%	+0.03	0.00
Mortgage Bankers Assoc.			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.02%	-0.05	0.65
15 Yr. Fixed	6.60%	-0.15	0.55
30 Yr. FHA	6.87%	0.00	0.92
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.18%	-0.03	0.54
5/1 ARM	6.45%	+0.08	0.81

Rates as of: 6/28

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Jun 12	208.5	+15.58%
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%

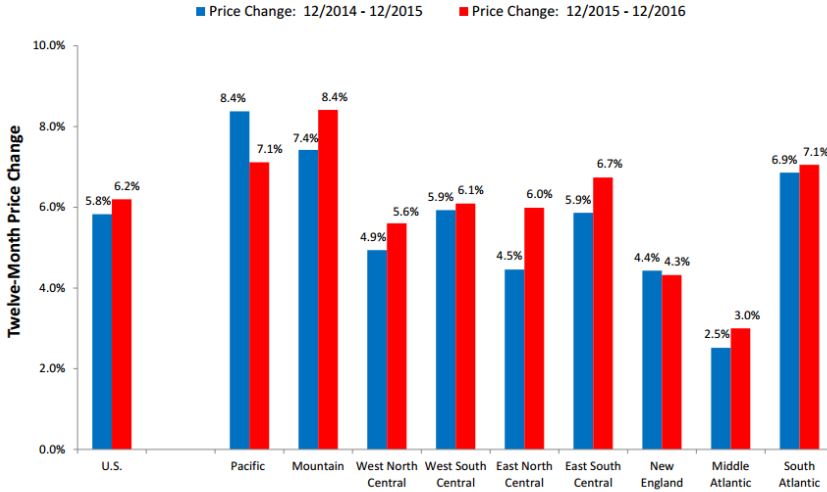
Housing News Update

Value **Change**

Home prices **increased in 46 states** and the District of Columbia from the fourth quarter of 2015 to the same period in 2016. The largest gains were in Oregon at 11.0 percent; Colorado, 10.6 percent; Florida, 10.4 percent; Washington 10.2 percent; and Nevada 8.9 percent.

All nine census divisions had positive price changes over the year with the strongest increase in the Mountain division at 8.0 percent. That region also posted the largest quarterly change at 2.1 percent. The largest monthly change was in the East North Central division, up 0.9 percent from November.

Twelve-Month Price Changes – Prior Year vs. Most Recent Year
Purchase-Only Index



House price appreciation was weakest in the **Middle Atlantic** division, where prices rose 3.0 percent for the 12-month period, 0.9 percent quarter-over-quarter, but posted a 1.1 percent loss from November to December.

Real Talk

At The Rate Shop, we're not your average mortgage banker. We specialize in bringing you ridiculously low interest rates that will make you wonder what the other guys are doing. In fact the ONLY objection we ever hear is "your rates sound too good to be true". Well they're not, and here is why...

After 15 years in the retail banking world I was frustrated with the high interest rates that came from that business model. As I looked around at all the bloated layers of management and their expensive salaries and the overhead of running a larger company (think rent costs, employee health and benefit costs, payroll taxes, and on and on) it dawned on me that I was a part of the problem, and the solution, for me at least, was so easy to see.

Start my own mortgage brokerage shop. No expensive executive salaries, no expensive building to pay rent at, no unnecessary employees and all the costs that are associated with that. What happens when you cut out all the fat? You can provide lower rates and lower closing costs. It's simple. Now here is the best part, you still get great service from a local Kansas City Lender. My mission is to let everyone know that low rates and great customer service are NOT mutually exclusive.

Thanks for coming along on this journey where Low Rates meet Great Service. The two do NOT have to be mutually exclusive. It's just a lie that the big box mortgage companies have been telling you for years. Don't believe me? Give me a call or shoot me a text on my personal cell phone today and compare my rates and costs up against any other lender in the country, and be prepared to be blown away.

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