## **Housing News Update**



# **Tom Payne**

Senior Loan Consultant, IoanDepot NMLS# 1017004 #174457 Licensed in all 50 States 2835 St. Rose Parkway, Suite 120 Henderson, NV 89052 Office: 702-303-0243 Mobile: 702-303-0243

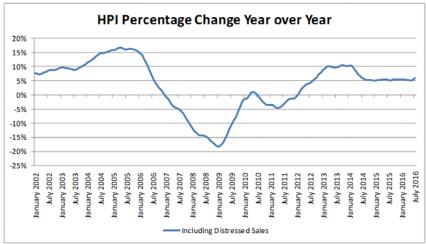
tompaynemortgage@gmail.com

View My Website

# Maybe Home Price Gains Aren't Decelerating After All

Home price increases continued to exceed CoreLogic's own projections in July. The company's Home Price Index (HPI) indicates that home prices nationwide, including distressed sales, **rose 1.1 percent** from June and were 6 percent higher than in July 2015. The month-over-month gain was identical to the rate of appreciation from May to June, but the year-over-year increase marked an **acceleration** from the 5.7 percent reported in June. In the last HPI, CoreLogic noted a deceleration in price gains.

#### **National Home Price Change**



Source CoreLogic July 2016

Oregon and Washington continue to top the charts with double digit annual increases of 11.2 and 10.2 percent respectively. They were followed by Colorado at 9.3 percent, West Virginia (8.6 percent) and Utah (7.9 percent.) Only one state failed to post an annual gain; Connecticut, where prices fell by 1.2 percent. Other states had negligible changes; New Jersey saw appreciation of only 0.2 percent and in Vermont the gain was 0.8 percent.

"The strongest home price gains continue to be in the western region," said Anand Nallathambi, president and CEO of CoreLogic. "As evidence, the Denver, Portland and Seattle metropolitan areas all recorded double-digit appreciation over the past year."

### National Average Mortgage Rates



|                                  | Rate  | Change | Points |  |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--|
| Mortgage News I                  | Daily |        |        |  |
| 30 Yr. Fixed                     | 6.89% | 0.00   | 0.00   |  |
| 15 Yr. Fixed                     | 6.33% | +0.01  | 0.00   |  |
| 30 Yr. FHA                       | 6.33% | +0.01  | 0.00   |  |
| 30 Yr. Jumbo                     | 7.05% | 0.00   | 0.00   |  |
| 5/1 ARM                          | 6.58% | 0.00   | 0.00   |  |
| Freddie Mac                      |       |        |        |  |
| 30 Yr. Fixed                     | 6.77% | -0.09  | 0.00   |  |
| 15 Yr. Fixed                     | 6.05% | -0.11  | 0.00   |  |
| Mortgage Bankers Assoc.          |       |        |        |  |
| 30 Yr. Fixed                     | 7.00% | -0.03  | 0.60   |  |
| 15 Yr. Fixed                     | 6.63% | +0.07  | 0.61   |  |
| 30 Yr. FHA                       | 6.87% | -0.03  | 0.92   |  |
| 30 Yr. Jumbo                     | 7.13% | +0.02  | 0.38   |  |
| <b>5/1 ARM</b> Rates as of: 7/22 | 6.22% | -0.16  | 0.60   |  |

## **Recent Housing Data**

|                     |        | Value | Change  |
|---------------------|--------|-------|---------|
| Mortgage Apps       | Jul 10 | 206.1 | -0.19%  |
| 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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Value Change

CoreLogic is **forecasting an increase in its HPI of 5.4 percent** over the next 12 months (to July 2017) and a 0.4 percent uptick +6.25% from July to August. The company's forecast is a projection of home prices using the CoreLogic HPI and other economic variables. Values are derived from state-level forecasts by weighting indices according to the number of owner-occupied households for each state. In the first six months of 2016 CoreLogic has projected monthly gains averaging 0.68 percent while reporting actual increases with a mean of 1.46 percent. CoreLogic had projected a June to July gain of 0.6 percent.

"If mortgage rates continue to remain relatively low and job growth continues, as most forecasters expect, then home purchases are likely to rise in the coming year," said Dr. Frank Nothaft, chief economist for CoreLogic. "The increased sales will support further price appreciation, and according to the CoreLogic Home Price Index, home prices are projected to rise about 5 percent over the next year."

## **Update: Buyer Broker Agreement**

After requests from real estate companies, a nonprofit consumer watchdog group the Consumer Federation of America has developed a list of factors to consider when creating a buyer contract in preparation for upcoming practice changes in the industry.

CFA released its "Proposed Criteria for Evaluating Home Buyer Contract Forms" on Tuesday. The 15 criteria focus on the contracts' form — whether the documents are readable and understandable — and content — whether they are fair to homebuyers.

- -the document's expiration date (CFA recommends buyers asks for a three-month contract and never sign one longer than six months)
- -the right to terminate the contract
- -the disclosure that compensation is negotiable
- -the broker's compensation clearly stated and that the buyer broker can't receive additional compensation for facilitating a sale
- -that any additional fees, such as for showing a home, will be deducted from the broker's commission if there is a successful sale
- -that the commission is due only if there is a successful closing
- -that buyers have an obligation for no longer than 60 days, CFA recommends to pay a broker who earlier showed them a home they purchased after the contract ended
- -seller concessions paid directly to buyers
- -dual agency not pre-approved by the contract
- -an explanation of how a broker treats different buyer clients interested in the same property
- -that buyers should not be required to first go through mediation or arbitration if they have a complaint

Contact me for more information. 702-303-0243 or TPayne@loandepot.com

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