

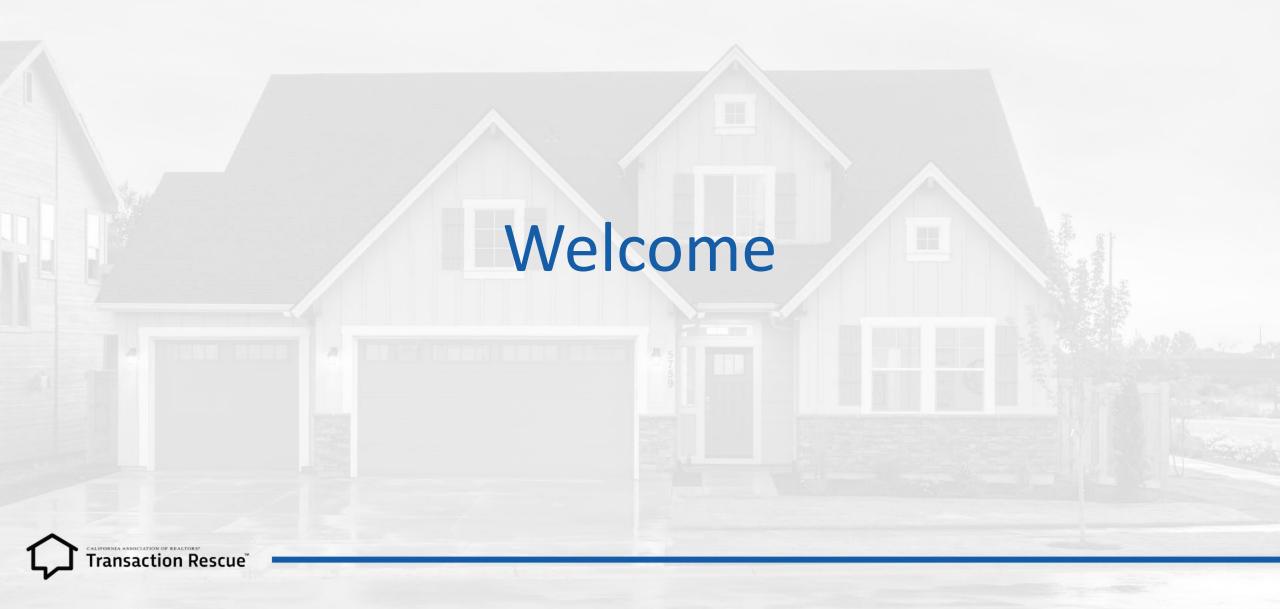
STEPS to Financing the Dream of Homeownership

Virtual Event

September 4th, 2025







Thank You to our SPONSORS!

















STEPS to Financing the Dream of Homeownership – Lending Arena Speakers



Rolanda Wilson

Sr. Housing Counselor & Board Member, REALTOR®

NID Housing Counseling Agency



Cynthia Leal

Managing Originator

Guild Mortgage



Suchada Lerknant

V.P. Sr. Lending Manager

Chase Home



Faramarz Moeen-Ziai

Loan Originator

CrossCountry Mortgage



Abel Fregoso Jr.

Sr. Loan Originator

PRMG







STEPS to Financing the Dream of Homeownership – Lending Arena Speakers



Monica LaCrue
Sr. Affordable

Lending Manager

Freddie Mac



J. Adrian Torres
Sr. Home Lending
Advisor

Chase Home Lending



V.P Bus. Dev. Community & Affordable Lending

Chase Home Lending



Pascqual Gomez
Loan Originator

Guild Mortgage



http://Mortgage.car.org

Transaction Rescue

Your Lending Resource for 12 Years

California Association of REALTORS®

STEPS to Financing the Dream of Homeownership – Advisor / DPA Arena Speakers



Jordan Levine

C.A.R. Chief Economist, S.V.P. Research & Economics

California Association of REALTORS®



Marc Farfel

Transaction Rescue Mgr./Lender Liaison

California Association of REALTORS®



Sara Sutachan

S.V.P. & Chief Strategy Officer

California Association of REALTORS®



Molly Ellis

Housing Finance Officer, Lending Services Manager

California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA)



Danh Nguyen

Sr. Program Administrator

Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)







CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS*

Your lifeline to the lending community is a free member benefit! We provide assistance with finding a lender, loan qualifications, underwriting, short sales and more. Give us a call on the FREE helpline at (213) 739-8383, email us at TransactionRescue@car.org



FINDDOWNPAYMENT.CAR.ORG

DOWN PAYMENT RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Quickly search and identify over 400+ available down payment assistance programs in your client's target area with our Down Payment Resource Directory.







Did you know?

63% of consumers would start searching for a home if they knew they could qualify for a low-down payment



If you knew you could qualify for a mortgage with a much lower down payment, would you start to look for a house?

(n=1,008)

Source: 2019 C.A.R. Consumer Survey





C.A.R.'s Down Payment Resource Directory

http://FindDownPayment.car.org

Within the C.A.R Tool, you can find:

- Participating Lenders
- Program Guide/Flyer
- Filters/Guidelines:
 - Special Groups (Teachers, Protectors, etc.)
 - Eligible Properties
 - Maximum Sales Price
 - · Eligible Borrowers
 - Maximum Household Income
 - Loan Terms
- Benefits
- Latest Updates

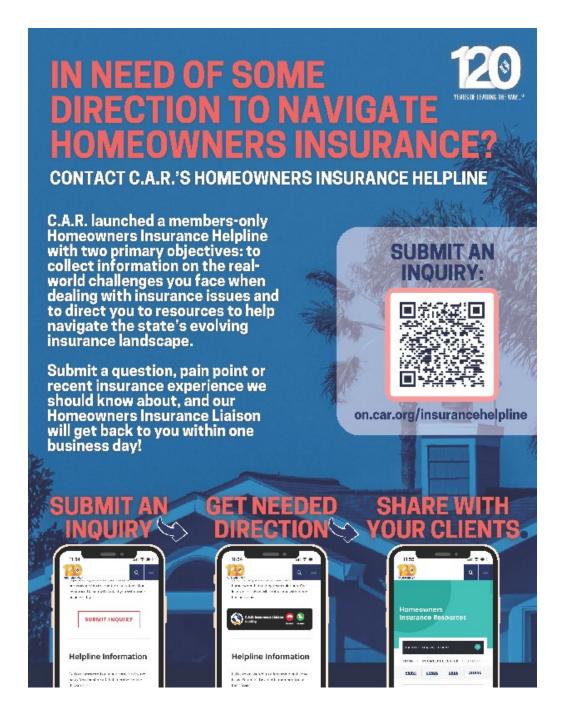


Get Down Payment
Assistance

Insurance Helpline

Insurance@car.org www.car.org/Insurance Phone - 213-739-7225





STEPS TOWARD HOMEOWNERSHIP





Today's Agenda:

- 10:00 am Welcome to STEPS Towards Homeownership Marc/Sara
- 10:05 am Why Homeownership Matters Jordan Levine
- 10:25 am Understanding Homeowner Needs, Setting Expectations, True Cost of Homeownership, and REALTOR® Resource Guide
- 10:55 am Quick Breakout Discussions (HUD Counseling, Freddie Mac Coaching, Checklists (Condo's/Insurance), Credit, DPA)
- 11:10 am Advanced Lending Issues Putting it All Together & Leveraging DPA
- 12:00 pm Recap Final Thoughts & Showing Your Value as a REALTOR®
- 12:15 pm Breakout rooms Questions & Program Details
 - California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA)
 - Chase Home Loan
 - CrossCountry
 - Guild Mortgage
 - Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)
 - Freddie Mac



Why Homeownership Matters

Sara Sutachan

S.V.P. & Chief Strategy Officer

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



California Market Update & Benefits of Homeownership

STEPS Toward Homeownership September 4, 2025

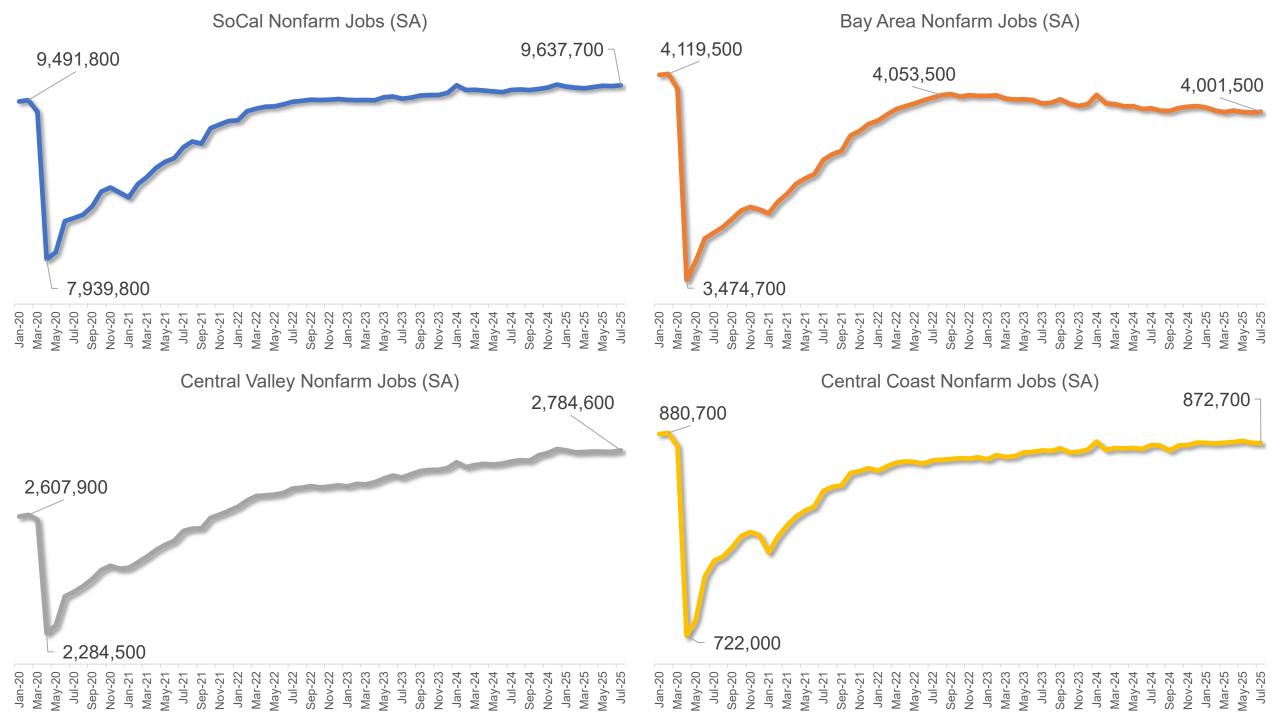
Jordan G. Levine

SVP & Chief Economist

California Association of REALTORS®

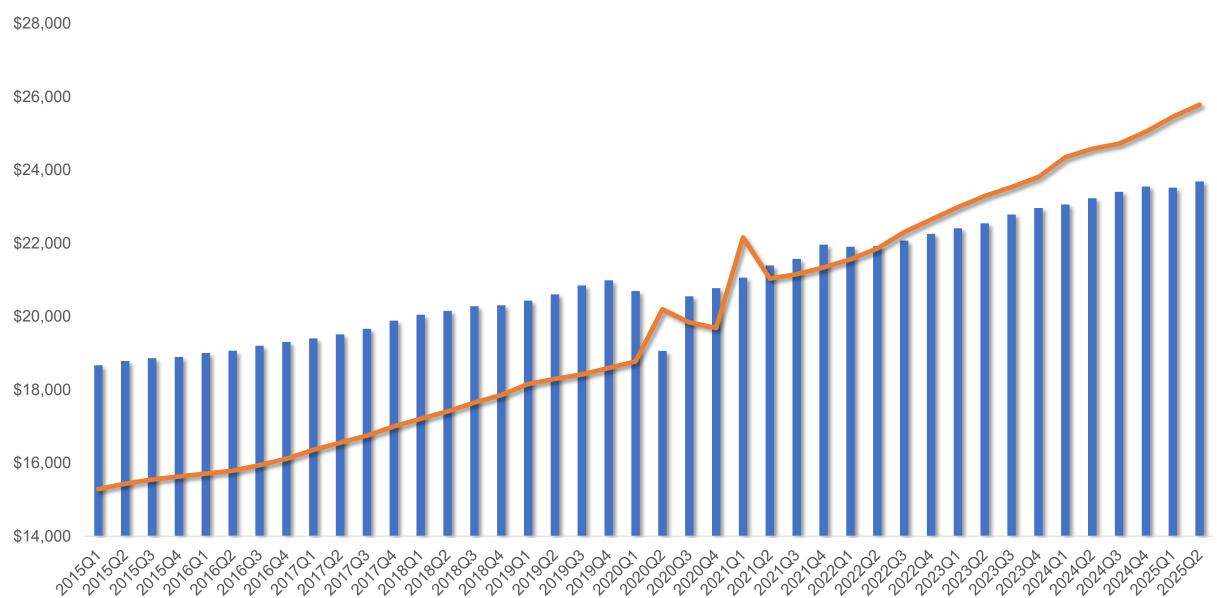


U.S. Nonfarm Job Growth U.S. Unemployment Insurance 350 Continuing Claims —Initial Claims 2,000,000 260,000 300 250,000 1,950,000 250 240,000 200 1,900,000 158 230,000 150 120 1,850,000 220,000 100 73 1,800,000 210,000 50 1,750,000 200,000 Jun-24 Jul-24 Aug-24 Sep-24 Oct-24 Nov-24 Dec-24 Jan-25 Feb-25 Mar-25

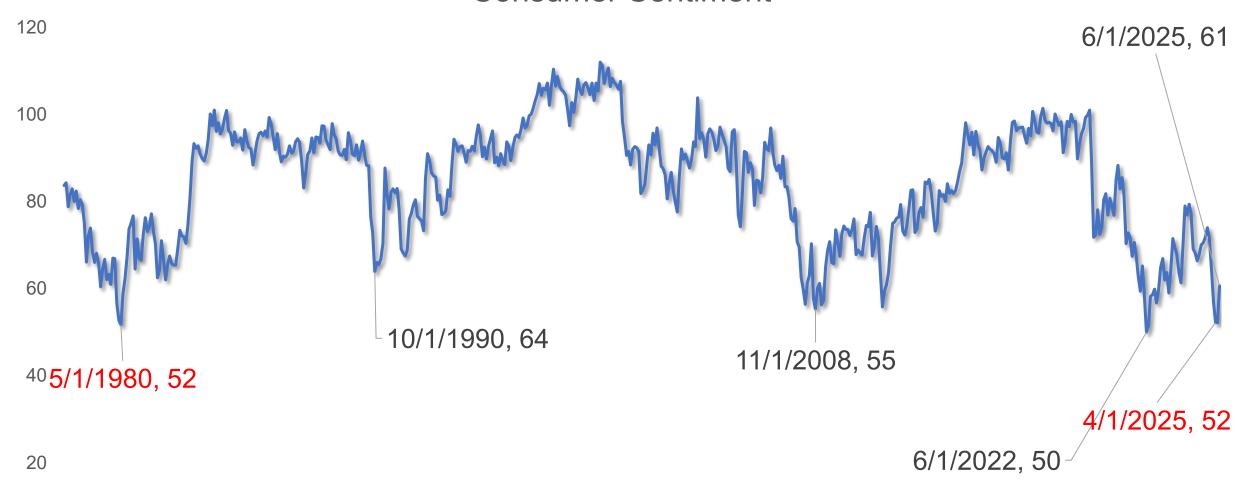




■GDP —Pers. Inc.

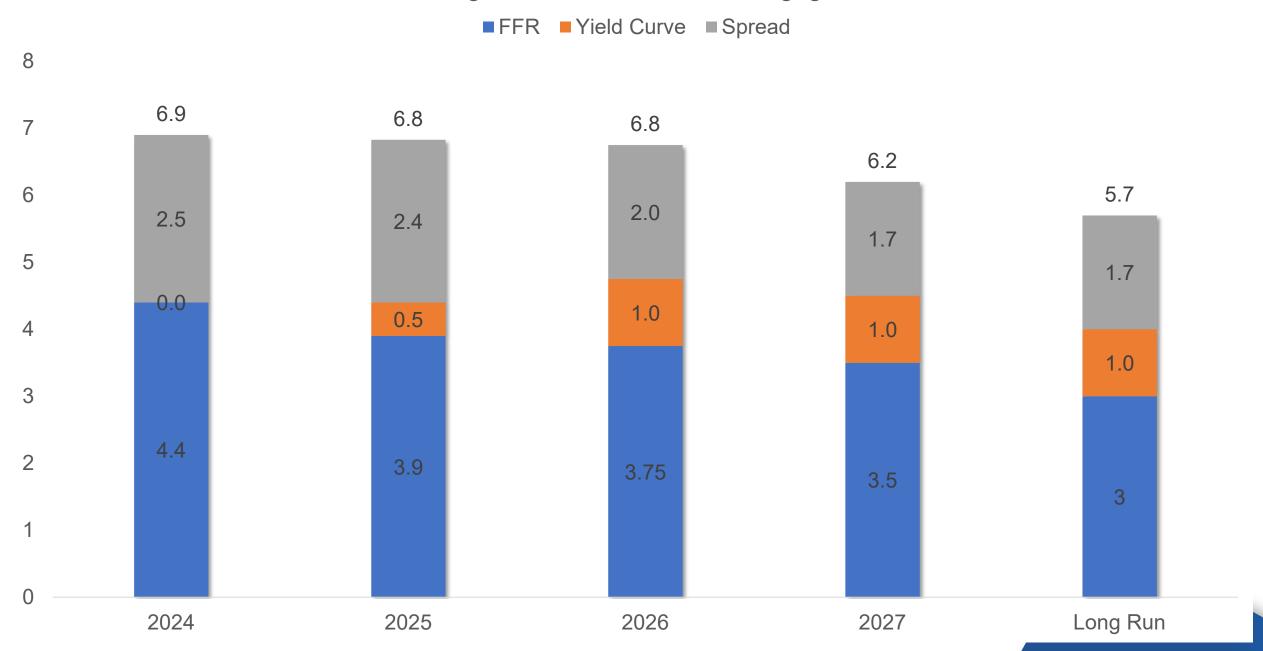


Consumer Sentiment

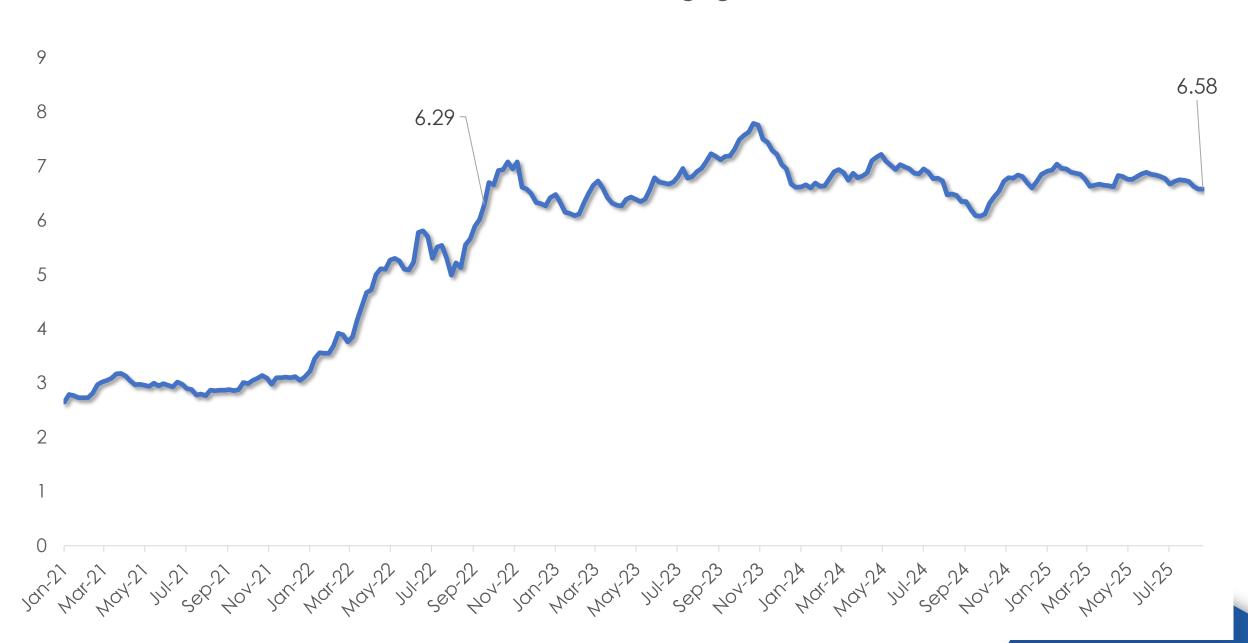


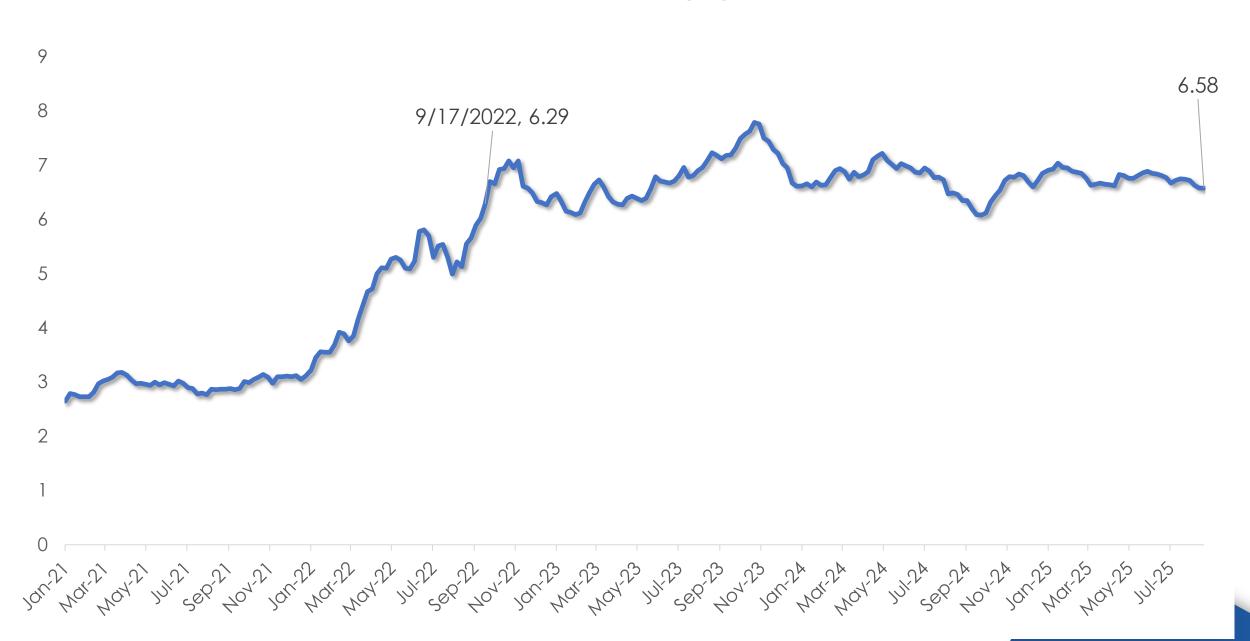


Translating Fed Fends Rate Into Mortgage Rates

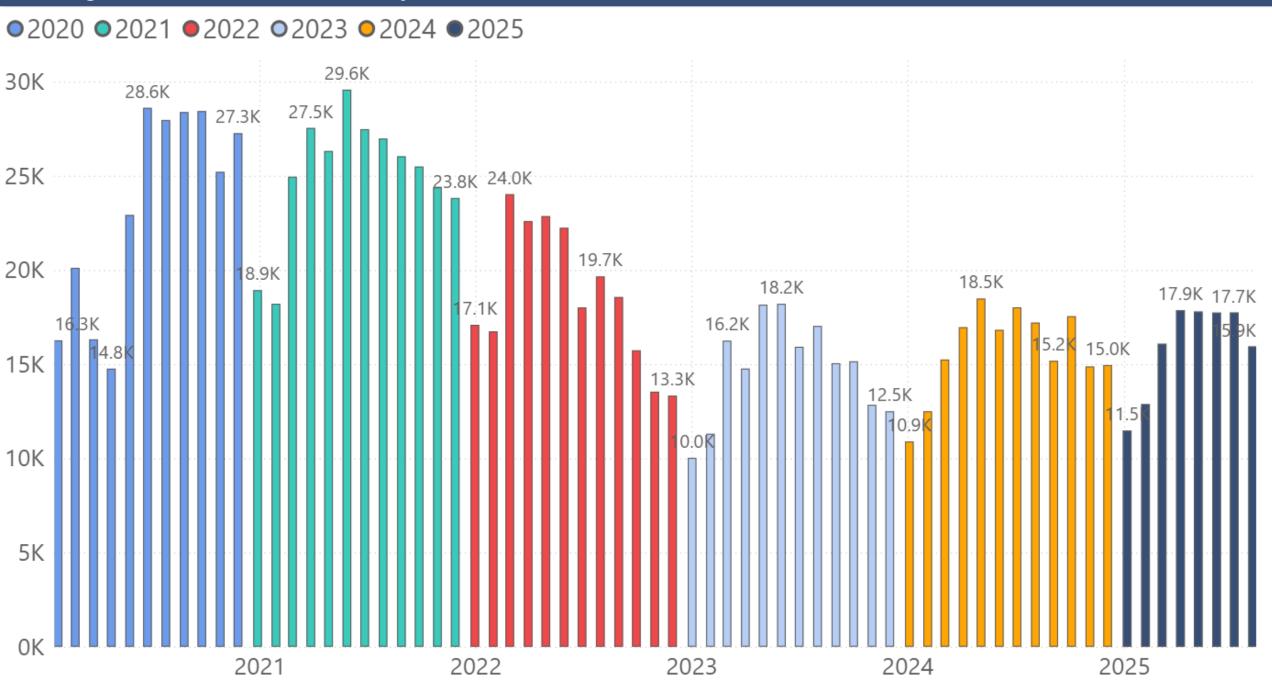


30-Yr Fixed-Rate Mortgage Rates





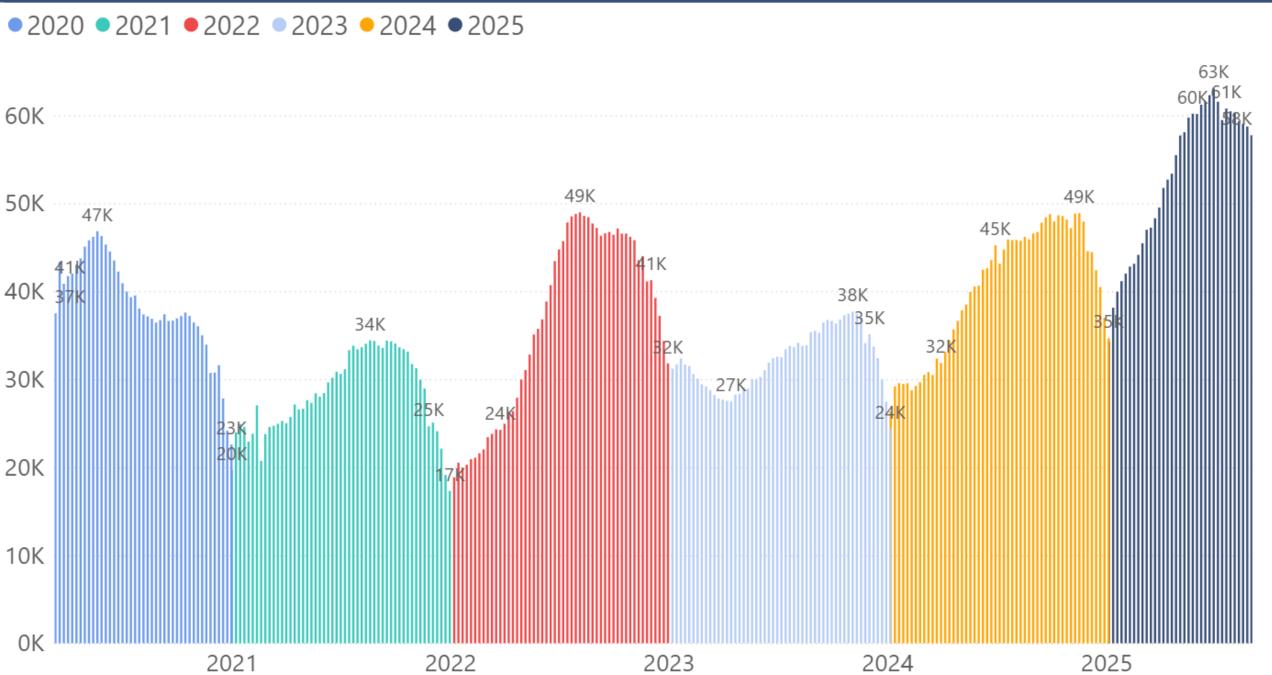
Existing SFR Closed Sales Monthly

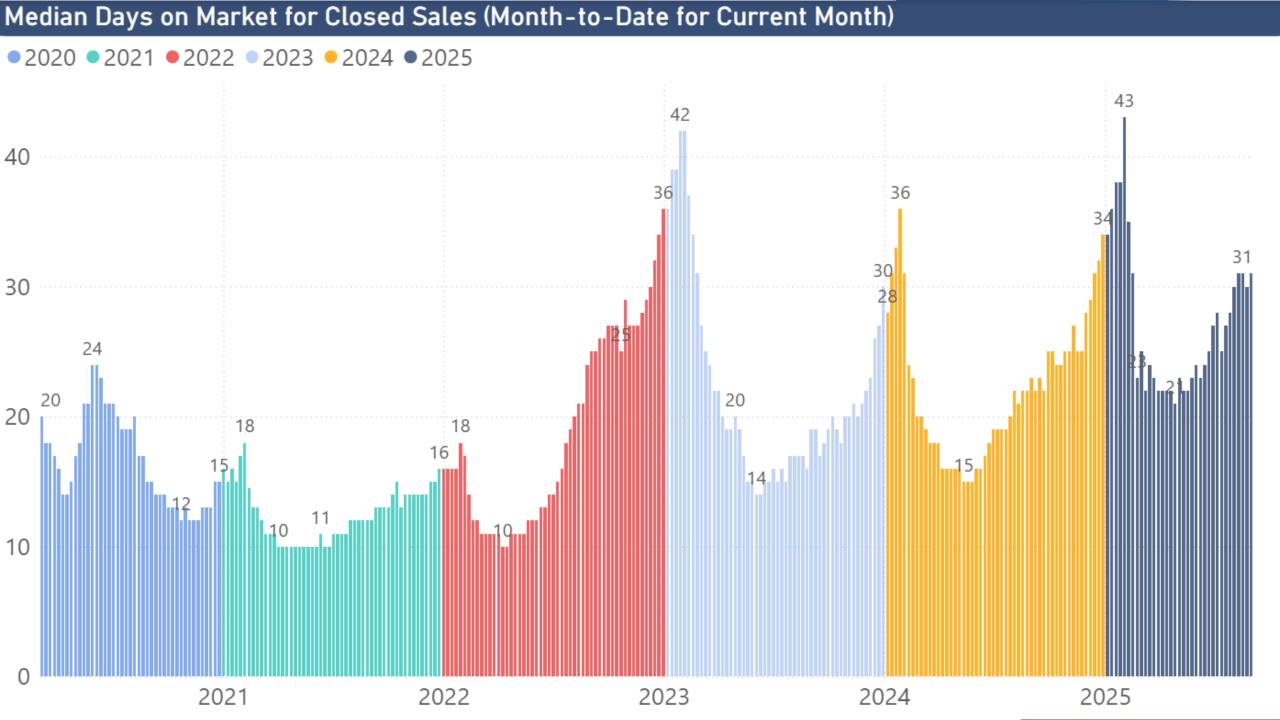


Has the shift favored buyers? For Sure!

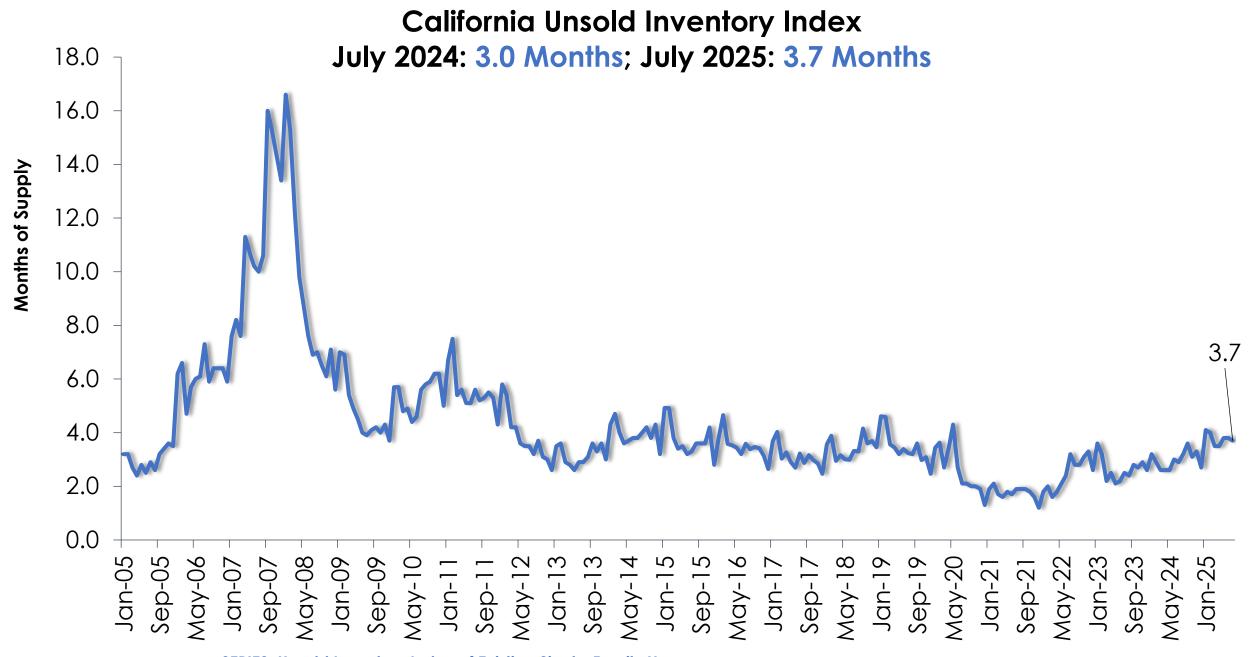
A buyer's market?? Not in my book...

Existing SFR Active Listings





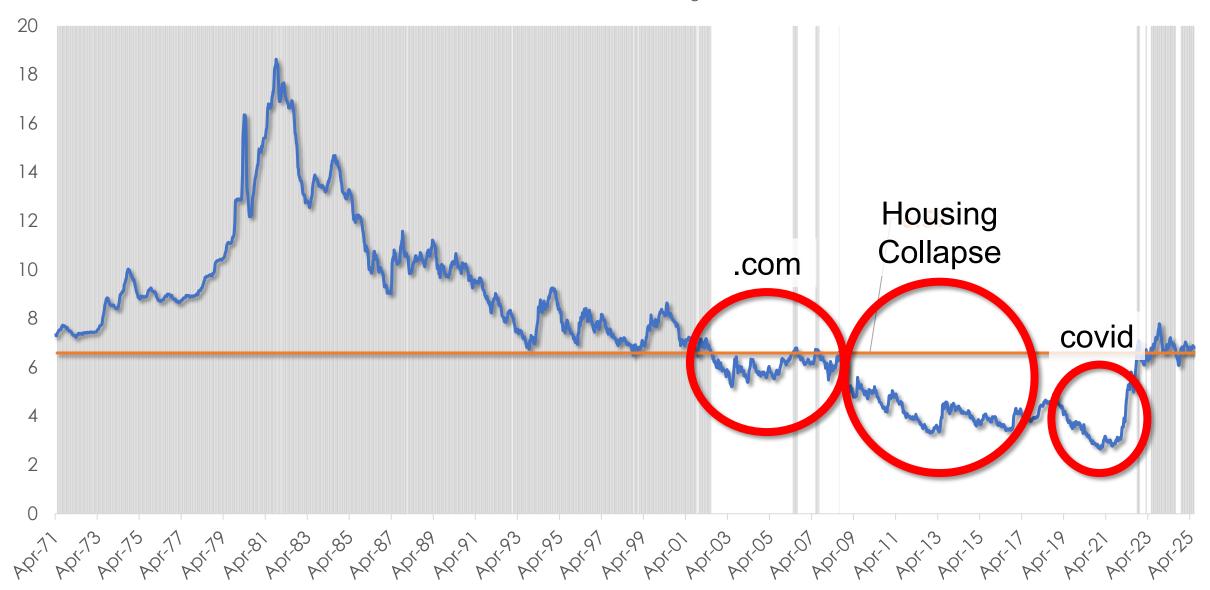
New Existing SFR Listings Added to MLSs 2020 • 2021 • 2022 • 2023 • 2024 • 2025 7.9K 8K -----7.8K 7.4K 6.5K 6.4K 6K 5.5K 4K 2.0K 2K 2025 2023 2021 2022 2024



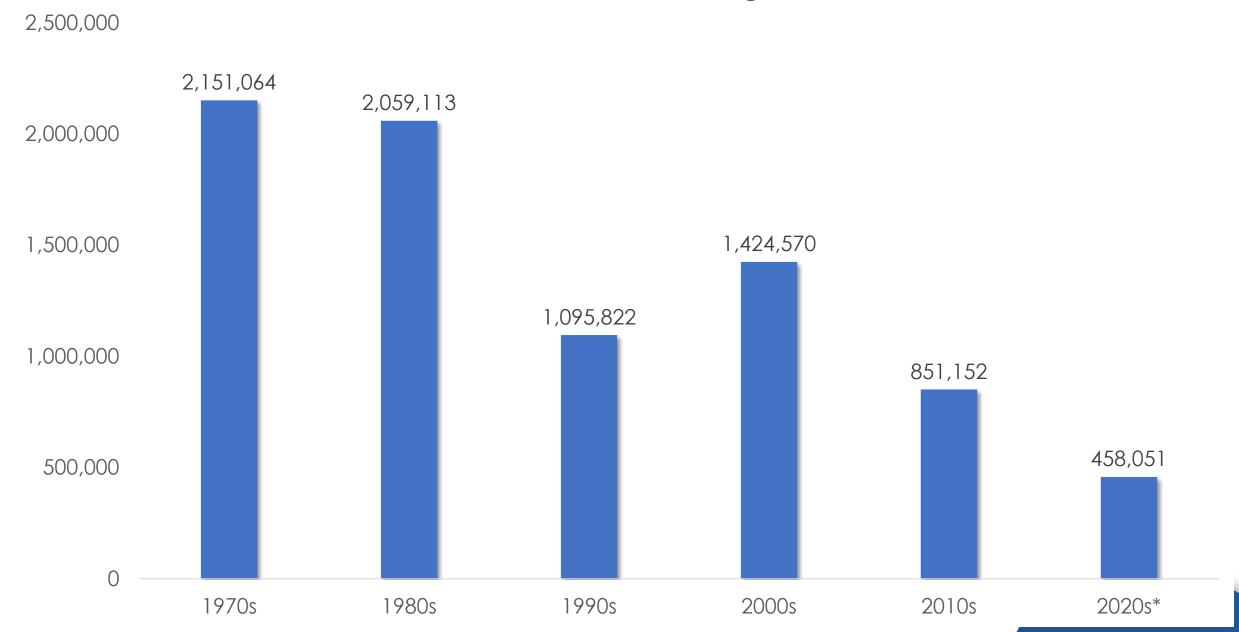
85% of Median Price,		
10% Downpayment,	Original	Reduced
1.38% for T&I	Listing Price	Price
Price	\$765,000	\$728,280
Price Reduction	4.80%	
Downpayment	\$76,500	\$72,828
Interest Rate	6.58%	6.58%
Original Monthly Payment	\$5,268	\$5,015

30-Yr Fixed-Rate Mortgage Rates





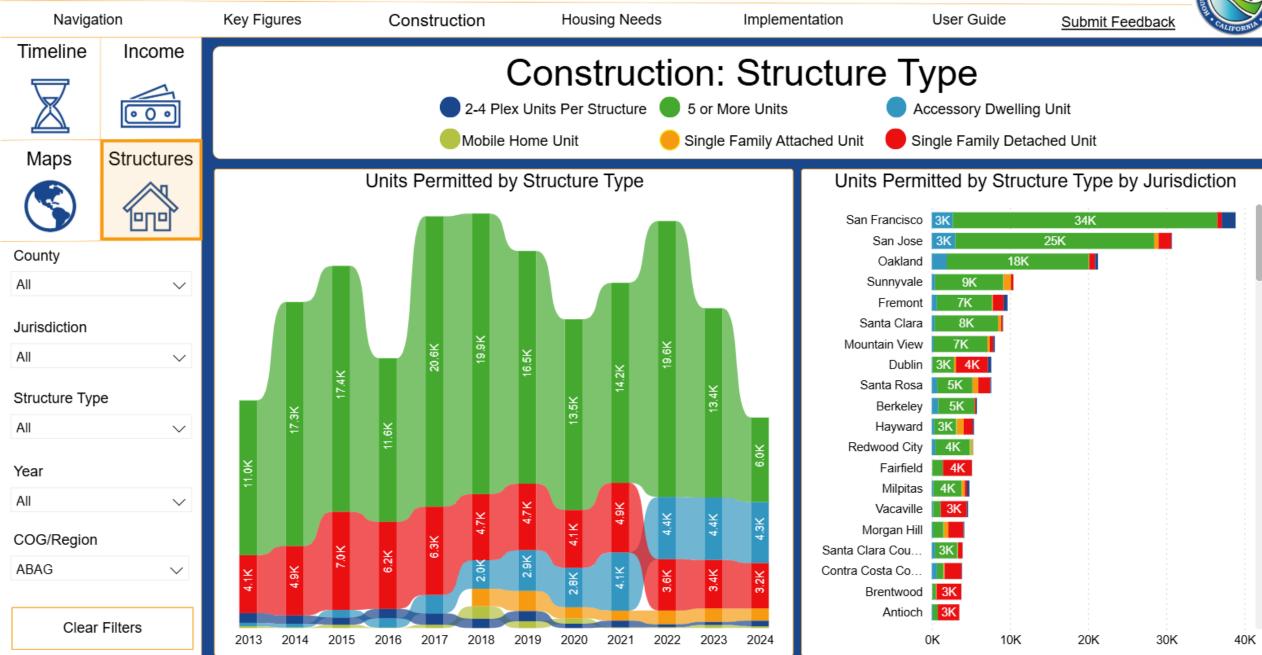
California Residential Building Permits





Housing Element Implementation and APR Data Dashboard

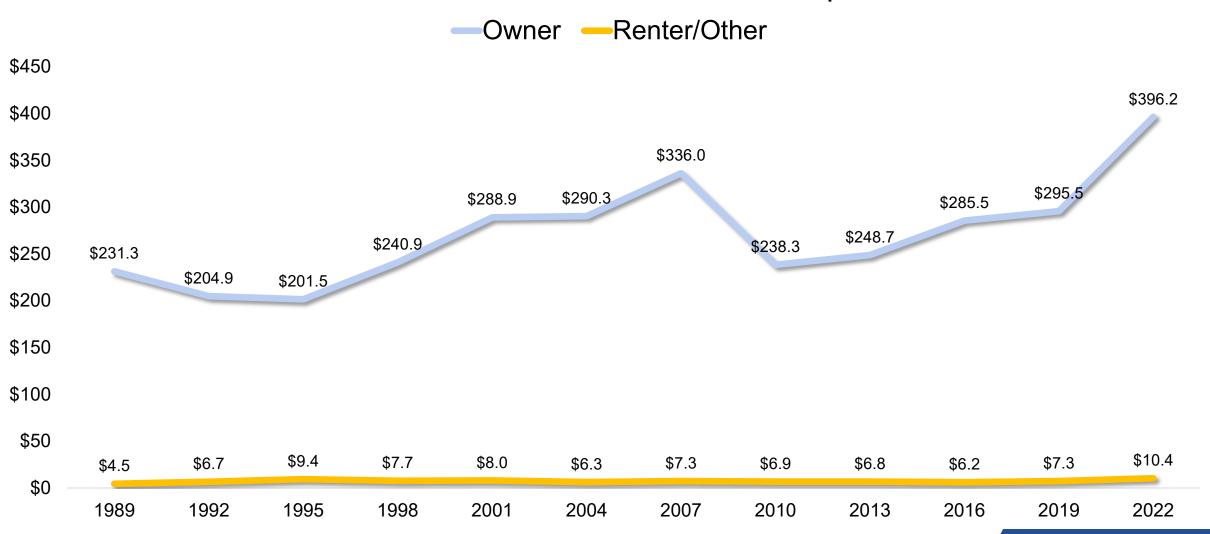


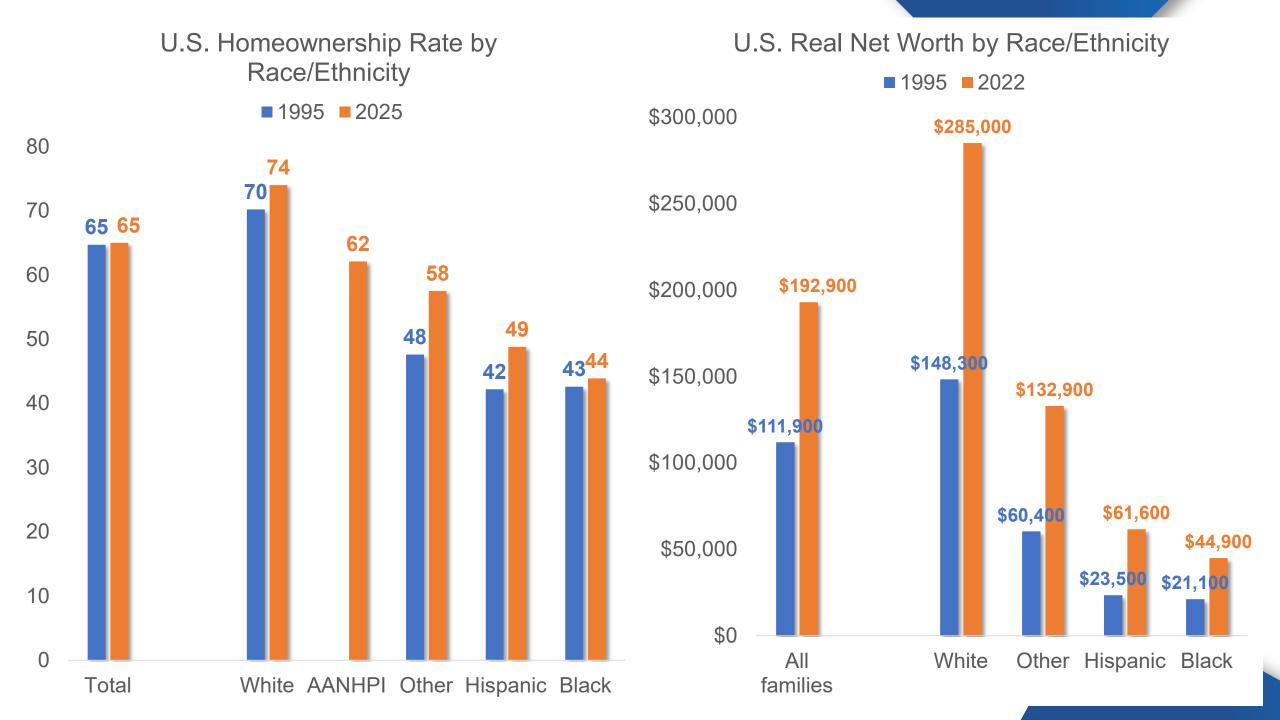


State	2020-2024 Residential Permits	2024 Population	May 2025 Median Price
Texas	1,217,594	31,290,831	\$353,700
Florida	954,643	23,372,215	\$436,600
California	559,596	39,431,263	\$906,500
North Carolina	463,482	11,046,024	\$403,700
Georgia	332,580	11,180,878	\$398,400
Arizona	305,256	7,582,384	\$466,500
Tennessee	252,166	7,227,750	\$412,600
South Carolina	228,604	5,478,831	\$410,100
New York	226,181	19,867,248	\$586,400
Washington	224,727	7,958,180	\$690,100

The benefits of homeownership are well documented

Real Household Net Worth Per Capita

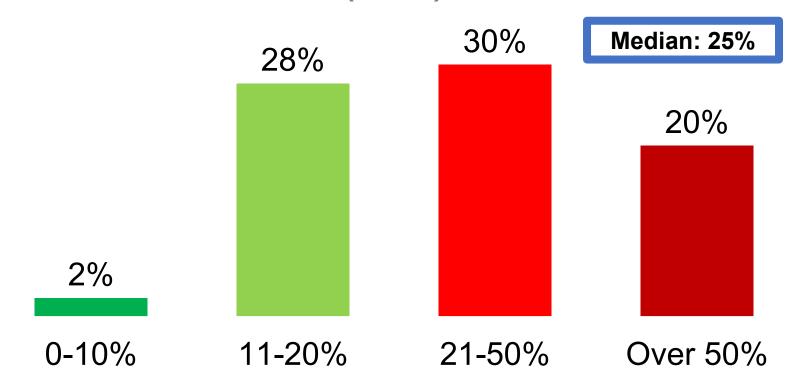






Many renters do not know how much down payment is required

In your estimation, how much down payment is required to purchase a home? (n=1,005)



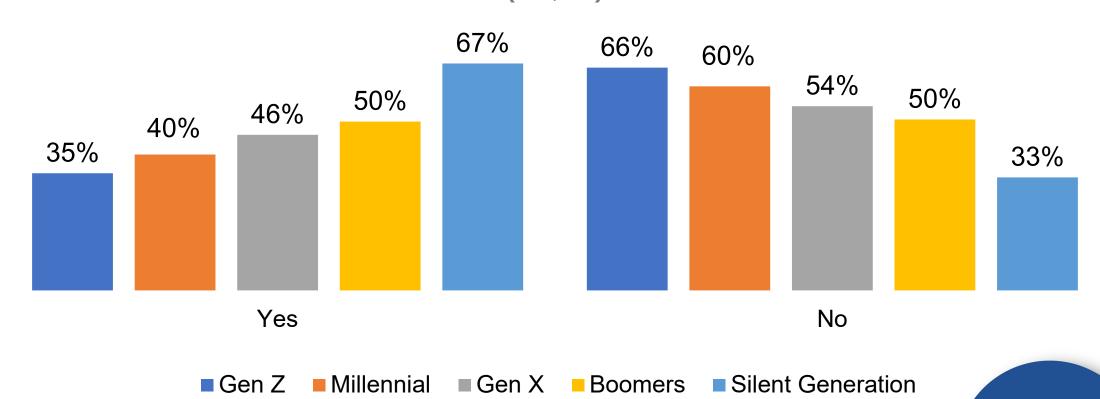




Credit knowledge by generation

Are you familiar with credit and loan criteria needed for qualifying for a home purchase?

(n=1,005)



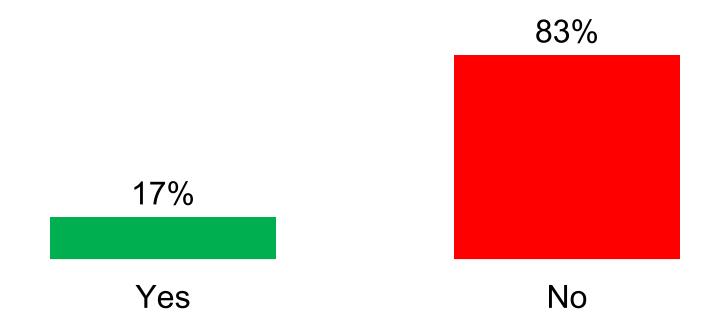
SERIES: 2025 Consumer Survey SOURCE: CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



They are also unaware of possible assistance...

Are you aware of any first-time buyer or down payment assistance programs in your area?

(n=1,005)





Stay Up to Date w/Research & Economics Resources

Weekly Market Minute
https://www.car.org/marketdata/marketminute

Housing Market Overview

https://www.car.org/marketdata/interactive/housingmarketoverview

Housing Matters Podcast https://www.car.org/marketdata/podcast

Purchasing Power Calculator https://www.car.org/marketdata/interactive/interestrateaffordability

Thank you!!



Updates - Abel

- FHA not accepting DACA borrowers anymore.
- New ITIN program with 3.5% down, mirrors FHA, but this one accepts DACA borrowers.
- Non-QM DSCR allow Non-Permanent Residences Aliens at 75% max LTV
- Lighting HELOCs and Close End Seconds for borrowers with low first mortgage interest rates.
- Starting to see areas with declining values and a reduction of 5% to the LTV.
- Condos with Litigation may now have a solution.
- Agencies allow virtual 1004D as an alternative to having appraiser go back out to property.
 At a much lower cost.





Legal Resources

Legal Tools

Wild Fires

Quick Guide Balconies Law

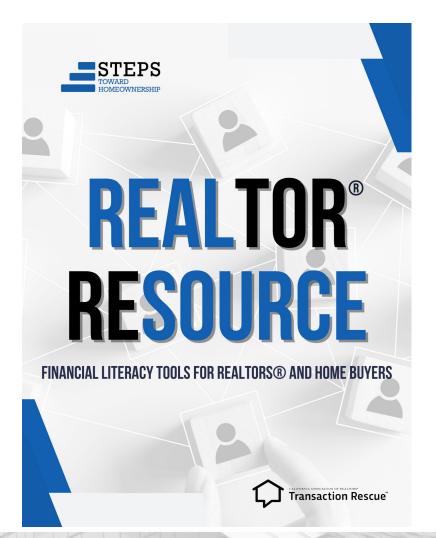
2025-New-Laws

Lending Terms / Abbreviations

- AUS Automated Underwriting System
- LPA Loan Prospect Advisor (previously Loan Prospector LP) (Freddie)
- DU Desktop Underwriter (Fannie)
- GUS Government Underwriting System
- FICO Fair Isaac Company (Loan Scoring Model Used By a Majority of Lenders / Investors)
- DPA Down Payment Assistance
- MI Mortgage Insurance
 - UFMIP Up-Front Mortgage Insurance (FHA Loans)
 - MMI Monthly Mortgage Insurance (FHA Loans)
 - PMI Private Mortgage Insurance (Conventional Loans) LPMI Lender Paid Mortgage Insurance
- OO Owner Occupied Borrower / Co-Borrower
- NOO Non-Owner-Occupied Borrower / Co-Borrower
- FTHB First Time Home Buyer
- CalHFA California Housing Finance Agency
- GSFA Golden State Finance Authority (Platinum)
- Flipping Selling within 3 months, with large value increase, may trigger Lender RED Flags
- Calculations
 - DTI Debt to Income LTV Loan to Value and Combined Loan to Value (CLTV)
 - PITIA w/MI Principal, Interest, Taxes, (Hazard) Insurance, Association Fees, and Mortgage Insurance











A Field Guide To Identifying Mortgage-Ready Buyers

	T ANSWERS TO THESE ESTIONS FROM YOUR BUYERS:	YES	NO
1.	Do you have income sources that can be documented with current pay checks, bank statements, W2s and tax returns?		
2.	Has it been at least two years since you discharged debts in bankruptcy or three years since a home you owned was foreclosed?		
3.	Do you have access to down payment money from sources that can be verified and documented?		
4.	Do you have at least two or three open credit accounts in good standing?		
5.	Are you a US citizen, permanent resident or do you have a current work authorization card?		

If the response to these question is "yes", send your buyer to your lender partner for pre-approval. If the answer is "no", send them to a trusted housing or credit counselor referral partner and stay in touch with them as they resolve their issues.





A Checklist of Serious Buyer Financing Challenges



Buyers with one or more of these issues will find it very difficult to obtain the best available terms for a conventional or government-insured loan. REALTORS® should proceed with caution before submitting purchase offers for buyers with these issues:

- The buyer is married but the <u>non-buying spouse</u> is not available or unwilling to cooperate with the purchase
- ✓ All of the buyer's income sources are cash
- The buyer is self-employed with <u>minimal net business income</u> reported in recent tax years
- ✓ The buyer plans to settle judgements and tax liens during escrow
 as a condition for final loan approval
- The buyer's <u>assets are all cash</u> and can't be sourced
- ✓ The buyer discharged a <u>bankruptcy</u> within the last 24 months or had a <u>foreclosure</u> less than three years ago
- ★ The buyer's Social Security number is not valid.
- Buyer is a <u>non-citizen</u> and is not a permanent resident (green card holder) and they do not have a valid work authorization card
- The property the buyer wants to purchase has <u>serious</u> <u>health and safety problems</u>, sub-standard non-permitted improvements and can not be immediately occupied by the buyers









<u>Checklist - Documents</u> Required For Loan Approval



Here is a list of documents lenders will typically require from your buyers. REALTORS® can help

their clients prepare for the loan application and approval process by reviewing this list with them early in the process and encouraging them to gather these documents as guickly as possible.

Federal income tax returns for the past two years
W2s for the past two years
Paycheck stubs for the past two months
Statements for all asset accounts (checking, savings, retirement) for past two months
Other income documents such as Social Security award letters
Names and contact information for all employers over the last tw years
All addresses used over the past two years
Government ID and Social Security card
Copy of finalized divorce decree, child support order, bankruptcy filings and discharge papers
Non citizens must provide copy of resident alien ("green") card or valid work authorization card
Letters of explanation regarding past derogatory credit, name and address variations, recent credit inquiries, and other issues required by the underwriter
Others as needed or requested





A Down Payment Worksheet

Use this worksheet with your clients to help them find sources of money for their down payment

ACCEPTABLE DOWN PAYMENT SOURCES	AMOUNT	WHEN AVAILABLE
Funds currently held in their checking, savings and investment accounts	\$	
Properly documented gift funds from family members	\$	
Pending proceeds from the sale of buyer's existing real estate	\$	
Withdrawal or loan from retirement savings accounts	\$	
Income tax refund	\$	
Rental deposit refund	\$	
Down payment assistance grant from non-profit organization or qualified loan from public agency	\$	
TOTAL	\$	

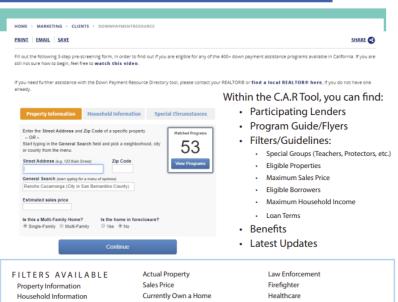
REMEMBER:

Cash-on-hand ("mattress money") is generally not an eligible source of down payment funds





C.A.R.'s Down Payment Resources Directory



Household Income

Veteran

Educator

Steps with CalHFA

Special Circumstances

General Search - City.

County, Town, etc.

Step 1 - See If You Are Eligible.

Eligibility Calculator

Step 2 - Get Pre-Qualified

Find a Preferred Loan Officer

Preferred Loan Officers

Step 3 - Take Homebuyer Education

ONLINE eHome's eight-hour Home-

buyer Education

IN-PERSON NeighborWorks America

or HUD-Approved Housing Counseling

Agency

Step 4 - Start looking for a home

Talk to a local Realtor to guide you

through this process

Info with GSFA

Disability Military

Energy Efficient

We Allow:

- Condos
- PUDS
- 1-4 unit
- Manufactured Home Primary Residences

Minimum credit score of 620

Find a Participating Lender:

http://gsfahome.org/programs/plati-

num/lenders.aspx

Tips for Credit-Challenged Buyers

Help your credit-challenged buyers with the **Stop-Start-Fix** credit improvement system

Stop adding new derogatory credit by bringing past-due balances on open accounts current, avoiding new late payments, and reducing revolving credit card balances.

having two to three credit by having two to three credit accounts using secured credit cards if necessary, keep the balances low and maintain an on-time payment history. Fix prior derogatory credit by selectively paying off or settling collection and charged off account, judgements, and liens as required by the underwriter.

- 1. DON'T apply for new credit
- DON'T pay off collections or "Charge Offs"
- 3. DON'T close credit card accounts
- 4. DON'T max out or over charge credit card accounts
- **5. DON'T** consolidate your debt
- DON'T do anything that will cause a red flag to be raised by the scoring system
- 7. DO join a credit watch program
- 8. DO stay current on existing accounts
- 9. DO continue to use your credit as normal
- DO call your Mortgage Loan Originator. A knowledgeable, professional Mortgage Loan Originator should be able to provide you with world-class service you need to choose the loan that's right for your client







HELPFUL REFERRAL RESOURCE:

Credit.org is a non-profit organization that offers a wide range of free credit counseling and financial management services

CreditSmart®

CreditSmart is a suite of free financial capability and homeownership education resources designed to empower consumers with the skills and knowledge to support them through every stage of their homeownership journey.

Every person has a unique homeownership journey which is why CreditSmart offers different paths to education and financial wellness.



CreditSmart® Essentials







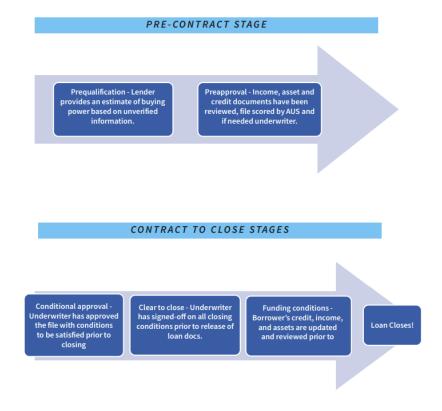
CreditSmart® Homebuyer U







Loan Approval and Closing Steps





Remember, loan approval is a dynamic, ongoing process that takes place up to and including the closing date! Help your buyer stay mortgage-ready through the entire process!

Working with Nonprofit Housing Agencies

REALTORS® can benefit by supporting and working with non-profit housing agencies. These organizations provide valuable services to your buyers and can become important referral partners.

TYPICAL SERVICES THEY PROVIDE	5 WAYS YOU CAN PARTNER WITH NONPROFIT HOUSING AGENCIES
Pre-purchase home buyer education	Volunteer as a subject matter expert at their first-time buyer workshops
Financial and debt management counseling	2. Become a board member
Default and foreclosure prevention and counseling	Help with fund raising activities and events
Build or rehab affordable homes for sale to first-time buyers	Volunteer at special events and neighborhood clean-up days
Administer first-time buyer programs	5. Refer clients who need their services

HOW TO FIND HOUSING ORGANIZATIONS IN YOUR AREA

HUD-approved agencies can be found at: www.hud.gov/findacounselor

NeighborWorks organizations can be found at:

www.neighborworks.org/Our-Network/Network-Directory

Credit counseling organizations can be found at: www.nfcc.org





REALTOR® Resource: Financial Literacy Partner

Housing Counseling Services

- 1. Work with a HUD Housing Counselor to help your client:
 - a) Understand the sales process
 - o) Understand the Buyer's Broker Agreement and what it means to them and their options
 - c) Create a budget
 - d) Set a realistic timeline expectations
 - e) Review their credit (soft pull) and create a personalized housing plan
 - f) Support during the process
- 2. Clients can review their credit at Annualcreditreport.com
- 3. Go to HUD.gov to find a HUD Housing Counselor

Working with a HUD housing counselor provides valuable support for navigating the housing market, managing finances, and protecting their home post purchase.

https://www.hud.gov/counseling

https://www.hud.gov/





2025 Conforming & High Balance Loan Limits by County for Freddie & Fannie

(As of 1/01/2025)

The Federal Housing Finance Agency's (FHFA) announcement to increase the 2025 conforming loan limits for mortgages acquired by Fannie Mae & Freddie

Mac to $\frac{$806,500}{}$ on one-unit properties and a cap of $\frac{$1,209,750}{}$ in high-cost areas. The previous loan limits were \$766,550 and \$1,149,825, respectively. Higher Loan Limits = More Properties Available to Entry Level Buyers

- Loan Limit Counties
- \$1,209,750 Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Marin, Orange, San Benito, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Mateo
- \$806,500 > San Diego, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey
 < 1,209,750 Napa, Sonoma, Yolo
- \$806,500 All Remaining Counties for FHLMC/FNMA, FHA are less.
- Link to Freddie Mac (FHLMC) / Fannie Mae (FNMA) 2025 Loan Limits
 - https://www.fhfa.gov/DataTools/Tools/Pages/Conforming-Loan-Limit-Map.aspx
 - Link to FHA Loan Limits just changed on the 15th of November for 2025 Limits Conforming \$1,209,750 max, (for single unit) less in





https://entp.hud.gov/idapp/html/hicost1.cfm





Insurance Readiness Checklist



Have trusted insurance contacts in your sphere

Maintain at least **two or three go-to insurance pros** you can refer buyers to.

- Independent broker: shops multiple carriers, may have more flexibility in high-risk zones or for unusual properties.
- Captive agent (e.g., Farmers, State Farm, Allstate): works for one brand, can offer deep product knowledge but limited to that company's underwriting appetite.

Start insurance shopping at pre-offer. Ask your insurance contact for a *bindable* quote, not just a teaser, and confirm the carrier still writes in that ZIP. California carriers have been pulling back and raising rates after major wildfire losses; availability can change week to week.

Check wildfire protections & eligibility. If the home is in or near a recent wildfire disaster area, ask whether the one-year non-renewal moratorium applies to the address (and link your clients to the CDI ZIP-code lookup). California Department of Insurance+1

If declined, confirm FAIR Plan + DIC path. For homes that can't get a standard policy, confirm a California FAIR Plan fire policy plus a separate Difference-in-Conditions (DIC) policy to add liability, water, theft, and ALE; note FAIR Plan is limited/named-peril and coverage limits are capped.

Confirm lender requirements + carrier ratings. Some loans require minimum insurer financial strength and specific coverages/deductibles—don't let an under-rated carrier jeopardize underwriting.

Document high deductibles & exclusions. Many current quotes carry much higher wind/fire deductibles and exclusions; make sure buyers understand them before they remove contingencies. Market tightening and reinsurance pass-throughs are pushing these up.

Rate stability expectations. Let buyers know 2025 rules will require carriers to write more in high-risk areas (aiming to reduce FAIR Plan reliance), but premiums may be higher due to allowed reinsurance costs.







TRANSACTION CENTER •

LEARN & THRIVE -

INDUSTRY 360° ▼

YOUR C.A.R. ▼



HI MARC

insurance

	Date/Time	Webinar Title 🗸	Categories ~	Slides	Recordings
PFORI	2025-08-20	Transaction Rescue™ - Insurance Agents and Lender's Review Obtaining Insurance for a Number of Property Types	Insurance - Motion Graphic	PDF Slides	Watch Here
n	2025-08-13	Transaction Rescue™ - 7 key Elements of Obtaining Insurance for Your Client's Home in a Challenging CA Marketplace.	Insurance	PDF Slides	Watch Here



Condo-Specific Insurance Readiness Checklist



A. Master Policy Basics (get the HOA's insurance certificate & full declarations page)

Identify the master policy type: Bare walls, Single Entity, or All-In—this determines how much "walls-in" coverage the buyer needs on their HO-6.

Record the master policy deductible(s) (property & wind/fire). Many HOAs carry large deductibles; the buyer may want HO-6 Loss Assessment coverage to help with deductibles or shortfalls after a covered loss.

Verify **general liability** and **building ordinance or law** coverage are present on the master policy (common lender expectation).

B. Buyer's HO-6 (unit owner policy) — request a bindable quote before contingencies are removed

Confirm walls-in dwelling (Coverage A) amount that matches the master policy type (more coverage for "bare walls," less for "all-in").

Add Loss Assessment limits (often \$25k-\$100k available) to address master policy deductibles/special assessments after covered losses.

Ensure **Personal Property, Liability, and ALE** are adequate for the buyer's needs (ALE especially if the building has higher wildfire or water-damage risk).



Condo-Specific Insurance Readiness Checklist (Cont'd)



C. Compliance & Finance Readiness (can affect lending & insurability)

SB 326 "Balcony Bill" (Civil Code §5551) status: request the latest EEE (exterior elevated elements) inspection report or compliance letter. Deadline for the initial inspection was extended to January 1, 2026 (previously 1/1/2025). Non-compliance can lead to special assessments and insure-ability issues.

Fannie/Freddie/FHA expectations (if applicable): verify the HOA carries required fidelity/crime coverage (generally at least 3 months of aggregate assessments, more if financial controls aren't met). Lenders often check this.

Ask for the HOA's **reserve study and most recent loss runs/claim history**; frequent water/fire claims can push premiums and deductibles higher on renewals.

D. Red-Flag Questions for Listing/HOA Manager (to ask up front)

Any **non-renewal notices** or quotes indicating big premium hikes at the next renewal? (If so, what's the plan?)

Have there been recent or pending **special assessments** tied to **insurance** (premium spikes, deductible funding) or **SB 326 repairs**? Get board minutes if possible.

For higher-risk zones, has the HOA had to rely on **FAIR Plan** for part/all of the building coverage? If yes, clarify limits and any DIC wrap.





Homebuying Team

- REALTOR®
- Lender
- Appraiser
- Housing Inspector
- Escrow Officer
- Title Insurance Officer

- Title Insurance Officer
- Attorney
- Surveyor
- Insurance Agent
- Housing Counselor



Survey for STEPS Toward Homeownership 9-4-25



Your Feedback is Critical

https://car.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV 86XvXAMXypVhlBk





Shared Materials -Lending & Down Payment Assistance



Key Elements Changing on New RPA Lender Limits Relating to Seller Credits

FHLMC

Maximum Interested Party Financing Concessions Updated - 10-28-21

Financing Concessions: Financing concessions are funds that originate from an interested party to the transaction that are used to:–Reduce permanently the interest rate on the Mortgage–Fund a buydown plan to temporarily subsidize the Borrower's monthly payment on the Mortgage–Make contributions in any way related to the Borrower's Closing Costs, including up to twelve (12) months of HOA dues

Fannie Mae (FNMA)

Occupancy	LTV/TLTV > 90%	LTV/TLTV 75.01 – 90%	LTV/TLTV ≤ 75%
Primary Residences &	3%	6%	9%
Second Homes			
Investment Properties	2%	2%	2%

Freddie Mac (FHLMC)

Occupancy	LTV/TLTV > 90%	LTV/TLTV 75.01 – 90%	LTV/TLTV ≤ 75%
Primary Residences &	3%	6%	9%
Second Homes			
Investment Properties	2%	2%	2%

VA: (note that VA is the only one that allows seller to payoff borrowers credit balances)

FHA:

Interested Party Contributions

- Interested parties refer to Sellers, Real Estate Agents, Builders, Developers or other parties with an interest in the transaction.
- Interested Party Contribution refers to a payment by an Interest Party, or combination of parties, toward the Borrower's origination fees, other closing costs and discount points.
- Interested Parties may contribute up to 6% of the lesser of the property's sales price or appraised value towards the buyer's closing costs, prepaid expenses, discount points and other financing concessions.
- The 6% limit also includes:
 - » Interested Party payment for permanent or temporary interest rate buydowns and other payment supplements,
 - » Payments of mortgage interest for fixed rate mortgages,
 - » Mortgage payment protection insurance; and,
 - » Payment of UFMIP.
- > Interested Party Contributions that exceed actual origination fees, other closing costs and discount points are considered an inducement to purchase.
- Interested Party Contributions exceeding six (6%) percent are considered an inducement to purchase.
- > Interested Party Contributions may not be used for the Borrower's MRI.
- > Payment of real estate commissions or fees, typically paid by the seller under local or state law or local custom, is not considered an Interested Party Contribution.
- HBFS must document the total Interested Party Contributions on Form HUD-92900-LT, Settlement Statement or similar legal documentation, and the sales contract.

Seller Contributions

- For the purpose of this topic, a seller concession is anything of value added to the transaction by the builder or seller for which the buyer pays nothing additional and which the seller is **not** customarily expected or required to pay or provide.
- » Seller concession include; but are not limited to, the following:
 - Payment of buyer's VA funding fee,
 - Prepayment of the buyer's property taxes and insurance,
 - Gifts such as a television set or microwave oven,
 - Payment of extra points to provide permanent interest rate buydowns.
 - Provision of escrowed funds to provide temporary interest rate buydowns; and,
 - Pavoff of credit balances or judgments on behalf of the buyer.
- Seller concessions do not include payment of the buyer's closing costs or payment of points as appropriate to the market.

Example: If the market dictates an interest rate of 7½% with 2 discount points, the seller's payment of 2 discount points would not be a seller concession. If the seller paid 5 discount points, 3 of these would be considered as a seller concession.

- » The problem In some localities, builders or sellers offer concessions as a competitive tool. In extreme cases, the concessions may entice unwary and unqualified veterans into home mortgages they cannot afford. The concessions may disguise the Veteran's inability to qualify for the loan.
- Four Percent (4%) Limit
 - Any seller concession in combination of concessions which exceeds four percent (4%) or the established reasonable value of the property is considered excessive and unacceptable for VA-guaranteed loans.
 - Do not include normal discount points and payment of the buyer's closing costs in total concession for determining whether concession exceed the four percent (4%) limit.





Calculating a Temporary Buydown

The most common question in Lending was asking about How the 2/1 buy down works.

Here is how a 2/1 temporary buy down work. 3/1 is also available.

Example: 2/1 buy down

Purchase \$650,000

3% down \$ 19,500

Loan Amount \$630,500

Interest rate 7.25%

P & I \$4,301

Buy down 5.25%

P & I \$3,481 - \$4,301 = \$819 x 12 = \$9,833

2nd yr. 6.25%

P & I \$3,882 - \$4,301 = \$419 x 12 = \$5,028

Total seller concession is \$14,862, which is = to 2.36 points in this example.

The \$14,862 goes into an escrow account and that pays for the reduction in payments for year one & two.

QUESTIONS?





Pillars of Qualifying – 4 C's

Credit

- Score, Tradelines, Depth
- Derogatory Items (collections, charge offs, judgements, BK, Foreclosure)

Capital

Checking, Savings, Retirement, Gifts

Capacity

- Wages, Self Employment, Rental Income
- Social Security, Disability, Pension
- Asset Depletion

Collateral

Value/Price, Property Condition, Occupancy





Lending Update - Bridge Loans

Use: A bridge loan is a loan that is used to leverage the equity in your departing residence to purchase a new home prior to selling. The options and the cost vary greatly depending on borrower qualifications and the speed with which the bridge loan is needed.

Bridge Loan Options –

- 1. Least expensive HELOC (Home Equity Line of Credit) on departing residence and conventional loan on the purchase. Ideal for borrowers with good to high documentable income who are not in a rush to do an immediate transaction.
 - a. Advantages Very low cost
 - b. Disadvantages
 - i. HELOC takes 30-60 days to put in place
 - ii. Borrower must qualify with both departing residence debt and purchase money debt
- 2. HELOC + Non-QM loan For borrowers who have time, but only qualify for the financing on the new property. Rather than using a conventional loan, we would use a non-traditional loan that allows us to exempt the departing residence debt from the borrower's debt to income calculations.
 - a. Advantages relatively low cost
 - b. Disadvantages
 - i. HELOC takes 30-60 days to put in place
 - ii. Higher interest rate on Non-QM purchase loan.





Lending Update - Bridge Loans

Bridge Loan Options (Cont'd) -

- 3. Bridge + Non-QM loan We would simultaneously get two loans at once. The first would be a bridge loan on the departing residence in the amount needed for the down payment on the purchase of the new residence. The second would be the purchase money needed to acquire the new home.
 - a. Advantages can close in 21 days
 - b. Disadvantages
 - i. Higher cost points are charged on both loans
 - ii. Higher interest rate than conventional on the purchase money transaction
- 4. Cross Collateralized Bridge Loan A single loan for the amount needed to purchase the new property. The combined value of the departing residence and the new property is used to determine the maximum loan to value ratio needed. There is no income qualification for this loan only the property values are considered. The loan would be paid off or refinanced when the departing residence is sold.
 - a. Advantages
 - i. Can close in 10 days
 - ii. Asset based loan no income qualification
 - iii. No monthly payments the interest is added to the payoff at the time of sale of the departing residence
 - b. Disadvantages
 - i. High cost 3 points on the purchase price and 10.5% interest while the loan is outstanding
 - ii. If loan is not completely paid off by the sale of the departing residence, a refinance would have to be done.





Qualified Mortgage (QM) Loans

- Government Loans
 - FHA 3.5% down
 - VA 0% down
 - USDA 0% down
- Conventional Loans
 - Conforming Loans (Fannie Mae & Freddie Mac)
 - Low Down Payment Loans (3% & 5% Down)
 - Fannie Mae Home Ready
 - Freddie Mac Home Possible & Home One
 - Down Payment Assistance 1st TD Loans Backed by State & Local Housing Finance Groups (w/CalHFA & GSFA 2nd TD's)
- High Balance & Jumbo Loans





Pathway to Home



Pathway to Home Closing Cost Assistance Grant Program

C.A.R. HAF's Pathway to Homeownership Closing Cost Assistance Grant Program helps first-time homebuyers who are members of an "Underserved Community*" bridge the affordability gap by providing up to \$10,000 in closing cost assistance. Each grant is provided to low-to-moderate income (120% AMI and below) first-time homebuyers who utilize the services of a CA REALTOR.®

Pathway Info:



on.car.org/hafclose

Donate:



on.car.org/hafdonate

Contact us at haf@car.org





*"Underserved Community" includes: (i) people of color: (ii) persons with disabilities (physical, cognitive, or mental); or (iii) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons.)(ii) An individual with a disability is defined as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.











STEPPIN' Toward Down Payment Assistance (DPA)



FindDownPayment.car.org

0

Down Payment Resource Directory

HOME MARKETING CLIENTS DOWNPAYMENTRESOURCE

PRINT EMAIL SAVE

SHARE
Fill out the following 3-step pre-screening form, in order to find out if you are eligible for any of the 400+ down payment assistance programs available in California. If you are

still not sure how to begin, feel free to **watch this video**.

If you need further assistance with the Down Payment Resource Directory tool, please contact your REALTOR® or **find a local REALTOR® here**, if you do not have one already.

Property Information	Household Information	Special Circumstances
- OR -	Zip Code of a specific property	Matched Programs
Street Address (e.g. 123 Main S	Zip Code	View Programs
General Search (start typing for Rancho Cucamonga (City in		
Estimated sales price		
Is this a Multi-Family Home? Single-Family Multi-Family		osure?



- Participating Lenders
- Program Guide/Flyer
- Filters/Guidelines:
 - Special Groups (Teachers, Protectors, etc.)
 - Eligible Properties
 - Maximum Sales Price
 - Eligible Borrowers
 - Maximum Household Income
 - Loan Terms
- Benefits
- Latest Updates





California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA)





CALHFA PROGRAMS

www.calhfa.ca.gov

CALHFA



VISION | All Californians living in homes they can afford.

MISSION Investing in diverse communities with financing programs that help more Californians have a place to call home.

The California Housing Finance Agency has provided special financing and down payment assistance to help low to moderate income California families achieve homeownership since 1975.

Programs are administered at no cost to taxpayers. All loans must comply with established federal and state laws, as well as CalHFA guidelines.



CALHFA PROGRAMS



- MyHome 3 -3.5% for Down Payment/Closing Costs
 - 1% Simple Interest

- MyAccess 2.5% for Down Payment/Closing Costs
 - 1% Simple Interest

- Zip 2-3% for Closing Costs Only
 - Zero Interest



CALHFA PROGRAM OPTIONS



1 st Lien	2 nd Lien	3 rd Lien
CalHFA Conv/FHA	MyHome	
CalPlus Access Conv/FHA	MyHome	MyAccess
CalPlus Zip Conv/FHA	MyHome	Zip

CALHFA PROGRAMS



- VA Available
 - Use MyHome for Closing Costs

- USDA Available
 - Use MyHome for Closing Costs



BORROWER ELIGIBILITY



- Minimum Credit Score
 - 640 for Government loans
 - 680 for Conventional loans
- First Time Homebuyer Requirement
- Homebuyer Education Required
- Single Family One Unit Residence
 - Owner Occupied Only
 - 1 Year Home Warranty Required
- Income Limits



INCOME LIMITS



- Los Angeles County \$211,000
- Riverside/San Bernadino County \$205,000
- Orange County \$270,000
- San Diego County \$258,000
- Santa Barbara County \$235,000
- Ventura County \$259,000



6.18.2025

RESOURCES



CalHFA Website

www.calhfa.ca.gov

www.calhfa.ca.gov/buildingblackwealth

Real Estate Agent page - Including "Find A Loan Officer"

https://www.calhfa.ca.gov/homeownership/realestate.htm

Income Limits

https://www.calhfa.ca.gov/homeownership/limits/index.htm



THANK YOU



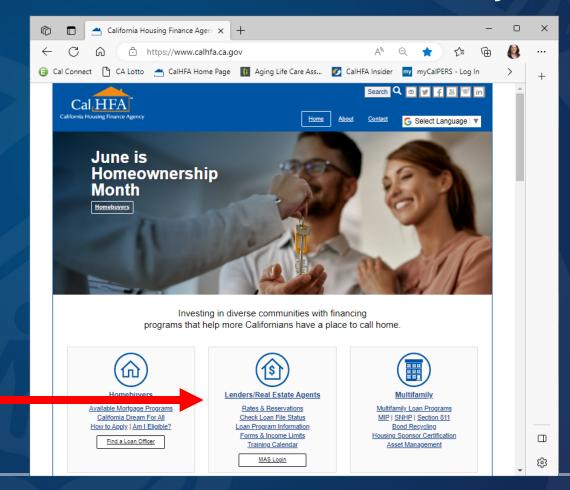
For additional information and to find a Loan Officer near you:

www.CalHFA.ca.gov

Click on Lenders/Real Estate Agents
Find a Loan Officer

Molly K. Ellis

Training & Outreach Manager
mellis@calhfa.ca.gov
916.326.8680







Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)



CLOSE MORE DEALS WITH DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE



YOUR HOST



Danh Nguyen
Senior Program Administrator

Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)
1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.gsfahome.org

Toll-free (855) 740-8422 dnguyen@rcrcnet.org

\$673 Million

in Down Payment
Assistance
Provided

86,300+
Homebuyers
Assisted to-date

30+ years

of experience with FHA, VA, USDA and Conventional Loans

The HFA Model: First Mortgage + Down Payment Help

- Provide Affordable, Low-Interest Mortgages
- Offers Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance
- Partners with Lenders and Real Estate
 Professionals

*This presentation contains general program information, is not an offer for extension of credit nor a commitment to lend and is subject to change without notice. Complete program guidelines are available in the Program Term Sheets, available on the GSFA website.

POTENTIAL HOMEBUYERS TOLD US...

(68%)

6/10

The down payment is their primary barrier to homeownership.

(65%)

2/3rd

They need a down payment of 15% or more.

(76%)

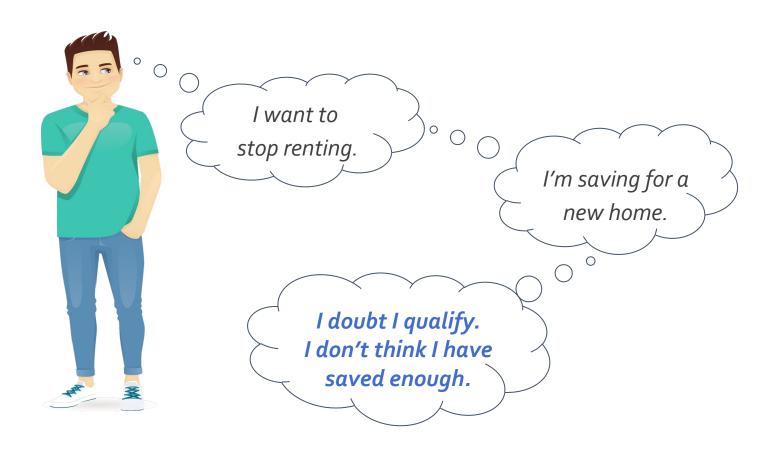
7/10

Have little or no familiarity with low-down payment programs.

The Secondary Problem

Millions of renters are mortgage-ready today but think they don't qualify thus don't enter the market.

SOUND FAMILIAR?



33% of Declined Mortgage Applications might have been salvaged with DPA

Source: 2022 Analysis by Down Payment Resource using 2022 HMDA data, examining tens of thousands of applications denied primarily due to insufficient cash-to-close or DTI issues, run through DPR's DPA database.

HELPS AGENTS CLOSE MORE DEALS

Flexible Financing
 Solutions



- Flexible DPA
 - Rate determines size of DPA
 - Choose what your borrower needs
 - Funds apply to down payment, closing costs, or 1st mortgage
- Up to 5.5% in Assistance
- Can be Combined with Borrower's Own Funds
- Extra \$5,000 Closing Cost Gift for Eligible Census Tracts
 - GSFA Platinum Program only
- Variety of Financing Options
- Variety of Property Types

EXPANDS BUYER POOL

 Broad Eligibility & Accessibility



- No First-time Homebuyer Requirement
- FICO Scores as Low as 620
- Debt-to-Income Ratios up to AUS Approval
- Owner-Occupied Residences
 1-4 unit | Condominiums | Townhomes
 PUDs | Manufactured Homes
- Purchase or Refinance
- Available Across California

SPEEDS UP CLOSINGS, REDUCES FRICTION

Smooth& Efficient Process



- Online Reservation System
- 60-Day Rate Lock for Loan and DPA
- DPA Documents Auto-Filled
- Entire loan fulfillment process delegated to the lender
- No Additional Reviews, No Escrow Delays
- Client Relations Support Mon-Fri, 8-5
- Lender Participation Guides Available 24/7 Online

WHAT DPA CAN DO FOR YOUR BUYER



\$835,751
Purchase Price

For example purposes only.

Scenario is based on an FHA 1st Mortgage at 96.5% Loan-to-Value combined with DPA Assistance from GSFA, sized at 5% of the Total Loan Amount.

*Max Loan Amount for an FHA Loan through GSFA DPA Programs: (\$806,500 + \$14,114 Upfront MI (UFMI) = \$820,614

\$820,614*

FHA 1st Mortgage Loan (96.5% LTV) + UFMIP

\$41,031

GSFA DPA (5% of the Total 1st Mortgage Loan Amount)



\$29,251

to Cover 3.5%

Down Payment Requirement

\$11,780

Remaining to put towards Closing Costs

SHOW BUYERS THE COST OF WAITING



Let's Revisit the Earlier Example

- Home Price = \$835,751
- 3.5% down = \$29,251
- Saving \$500/month = 4+ years to reach
- Equity lost in 58 months = \$184,531¥

GSFA DPA Eliminates #1 Barrier: Upfront Cash – \$29,251 available now!

[¥]Estimate based on forecasted 4.6% rise in California's median home price in 2025 according to the California Association of REALTORS®.

GSFA DPA PROGRAMS – GENERAL GUIDELINES

- 30-Yr Fixed-Rate 1st Mortgages
 - FHA, VA, USDA
 - Purchase transactions only
 - Now Includes HUD-184 loan (tribal lands)
 - Conventional (Conv)
 - Purchase or refinance
 - Freddie Mac HFA Advantage Product
- \$806,500 Maximum 1st Mortgage
 - No purchase price limits

- Income Limit Based on:
 - Credit qualifying income (Except: USDA)
 - 1st Mortgage type
 - County of Property being purchased
- Determining Income Limit
 - FHA/VA/USDA: Follows loan agency guidelines
 - Conv Loans: Published on the <u>GSFA website</u>
 - Often higher than expected

Examples by County	Income Limit (Conventional Only)	
Contra Costa	\$284,760	
Riverside, San Bernardino, Kern	\$196,560	
Sacramento, Yolo	\$205,020	









GSFA PLATINUM® PROGRAM

FICO Score Requirement*	 640 minimum FICO Manufactured Homes require a 660 FICO (and max DTI of 45%) 	
Maximum Debt-to-Income (DTI)*	 45% max DTI for FICOs below 680 50% max DTI for FICOs 680 and higher Exception: 50% max DTI on Conv. 1-2 units, w/ FICOs 640 and higher w/ LPA "Accept" 	
Homebuyer Assistance Available	 DPA up to 5.5% of the Total 1st Mortgage Loan Amount \$5,000 Addt'l Closing Cost Assistance for Targeted Census Tracts 	

DPA OPTIONS WITHIN PROGRAM

Program Option	Eligibility	DPA Amount and Terms
Standard Product	All eligible borrowers and mortgages	 Total DPA = Up to 5% available 15-Year Amortizing 2nd Mortgage Rate same as 1st Mortgage
"Select"	 Certain public safety, health and educational occupations FHA Energy Efficient Mortgages USDA Mortgages 	 Total DPA = Up to 5% available Primary DPA = 15-Year Amortizing 2nd Mortgage 3.5% FHA/VA/USDA; 3% Conv Rate same as 1st mortgage Additional DPA gift, up to 2%
"Assist-to-Own"	Employees of GSFA Member Counties (40 in CA)	 Total DPA = Up to 5.5% available Primary DPA = 30-Year Deferred 2nd Mortgage 3.5% FHA/VA/USDA; 3% Conv Zero interest accrued; deferred 30-yr; due upon sale or refi Additional DPA gift, up to 2%









GSFA GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

FICO Score Requirement*	FHA/VA/Conv = 620	USDA = 640
Maximum Debt-to-Income (DTI)*	Based on AUS Approval Manual underwriting guidelines: • FHA/Conv = Not allowed • VA/USDA = 41%	
Assistance Available	 Total DPA = Up to 5% available Primary DPA = 15-Year Amortizing 2nd Mortgage 3.5%-size for FHA/VA/USDA 3%-size for Conv Additional DPA gift, up to 1.5% 	

GSFA DPA PROGRAMS – EXPECTATIONS AND TIMELINE

Borrower Gets Pre-Qualified

First Mortgage and DPA Reserved (60-day rate lock) Escrow Closes + Loan Purchased by Servicer

(within 60-days of Lock)

- FICO
- DTI
- Income Range
- Borrower Occupation or Employer (with documentation)

- 150+ Lenders Participating
- Lender locks First
 Mortgage and Reserves
 DPA at Same Time

- Underwriting Delegated to Lender
- No Additional Compliance Review by GSFA
- Lender Closes Escrow on Lender's Timeline

DPA
CUSTOMERS
BECOME
CUSTOMERS
FOR LIFE!



HOW TO GET STARTED



Lenders listed on the GSFA website www.gsfahome.org

GSFA Client Relations (855) 740-8422 M-F 8am – 5pm PST info@gsfahome.org

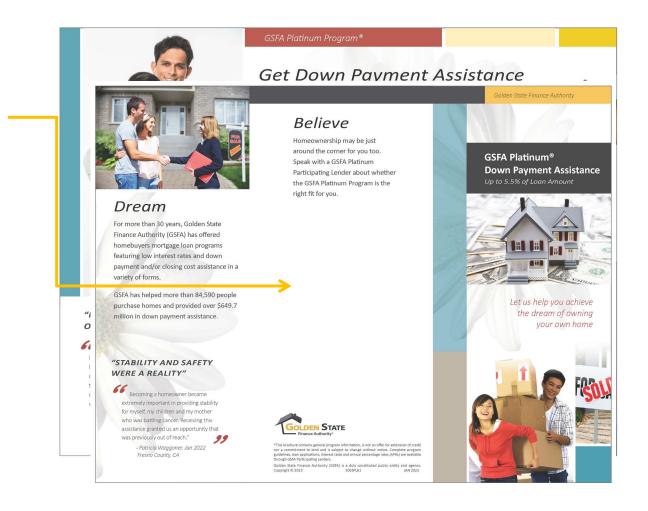
- Find Available DPA Programs here:
 - www.FindDownPayment.car.org OR www.GSFAhome.org
- Work with a GSFA Participating Lender!
 - Experienced in GSFA Programs
 - Key to Smooth/Fast Transactions
 - Determines 3 main qualifiers: Income, DTI, FICO
 - Furnishes interest rates and APRs
 - Determines best DPA option or stacking other programs
 - Process loan(s)

GSFA - KEY RESOURCES

- GSFA Affordable Housing Programs
 - http://gsfahome.org/programs/index.shtml
- GSFA Approved Lenders
 - https://gsfahome.org/programs/dpa/lenders.aspx
- Training and Education
 - https://www.gsfahome.org/lender/learning-center.shtml
 - https://gsfahome.org/lender/training.shtml
 - https://gsfahome.org/lender/videos.shtml
- Marketing Literature
 - https://gsfahome.org/lender/marketing/literature.shtml

CUSTOMIZABLE MARKETING LITERATURE

- Pre-designed for Lenders/Realtors
- Flyers and brochures
 - English & Spanish
 - Adobe PDF format
 - Text fields to add contact info
- Use Guidelines:
 - Must be with a GSFA Lender
 - OR able to refer to a GSFA Lender
 - Represent programs accurately





THANK YOU — TOGETHER, WE MAKE HOMEOWNERSHIP POSSIBLE



Golden State Finance Authority

1215 K Street, Suite 1650 Sacramento, CA 95814

(855) 740-8422

info@gsfahome.org www.qsfahome.org











This presentation contains general program information, is not an offer for extension of credit nor a commitment to lend and is subject to change without notice. Complete program policies, eligibility requirements, loan applications, interest rates and annual percentage rates (APRs) are available through GSFA Participating Lenders. GSFA is a duly constituted public entity and agency. Copyright© 2025 Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA). All rights reserved.









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