#### Real Estate and Economic Outlook

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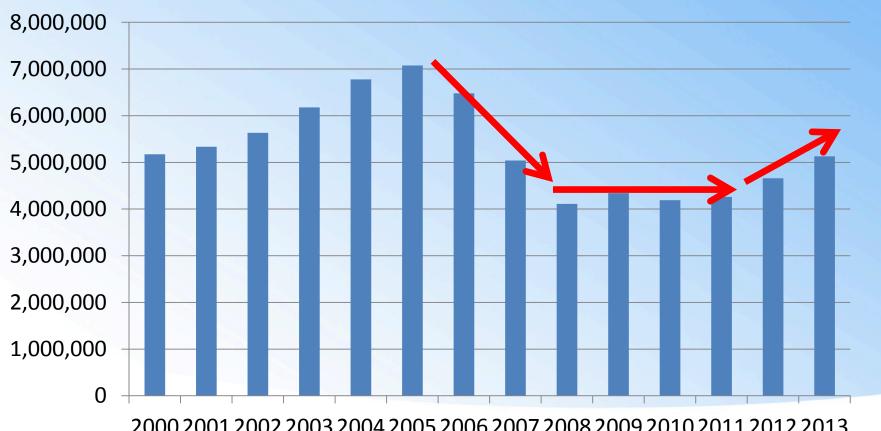
Presentation at Inforum Outlook Conference University of Maryland

College Park, MD

**December 12, 2013** 



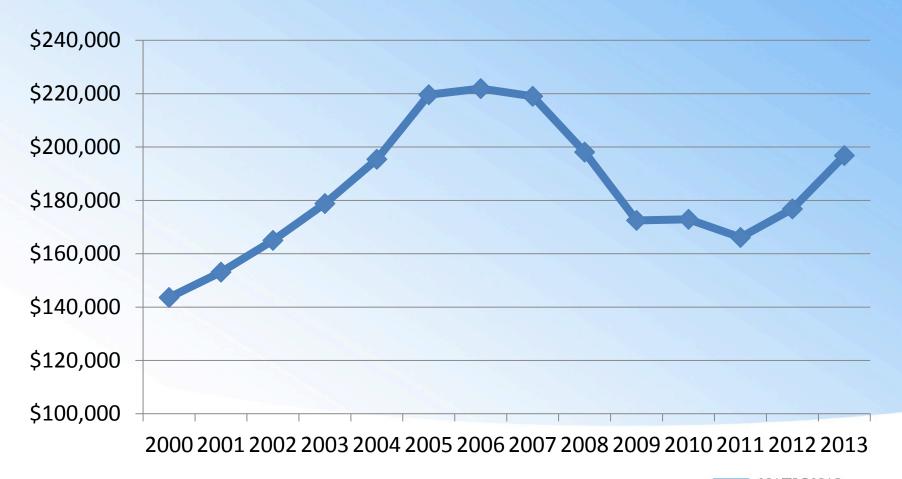
### **Existing Home Sales** 20% cumulative increase over 2 years





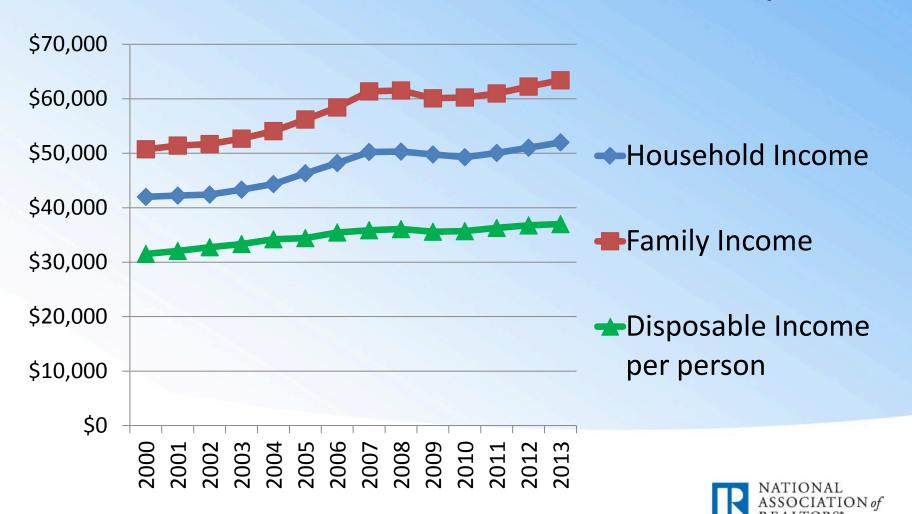


#### Median Home Price





### Income Trends 2% to 4% cumulative increase over 2 years



## Falling Affordability to 5-year Low But still 5<sup>th</sup> best in 40 years



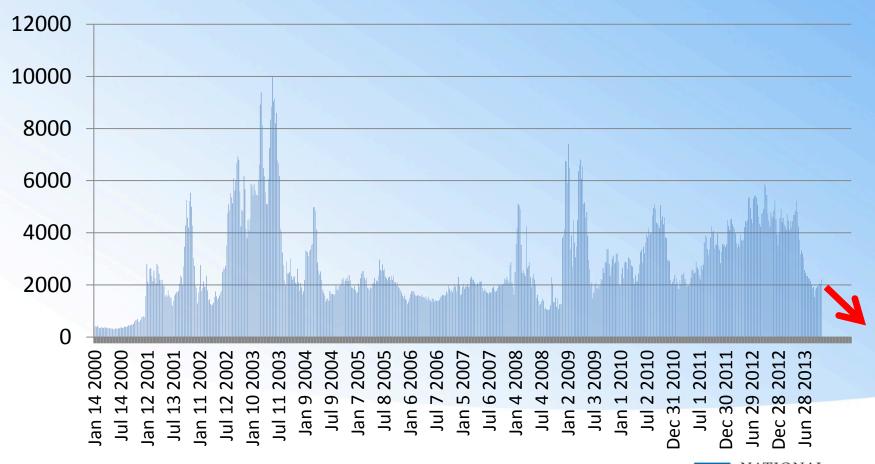


# Inevitable Rise in Mortgage Rates will further hurt Affordability (30-yr rate have been below 6% for 5 years)





## Refinances will Collapse in 2014 (to at least 15-year low)





# All-Cash Buyers Stayed High ... even when mortgages were cheap (Cash share as % of total home sales)

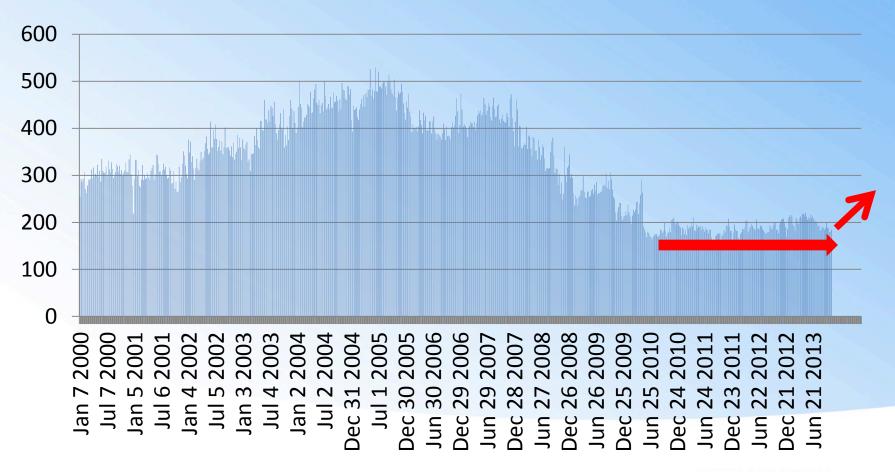




### Financial Industry Profits from Low Rates and Refis Now What ... Boost Purchase Apps?



### No Increase in Mortgages for Home Purchases during 2-year Recovery; Will Rise in 2014?





#### Ready to Open Credit?

(Average Credit Scores of Approved Loans)

	Normal	2009 to 2012	If Normal
Fannie	720	760 to 770	720
Freddie	720	760 to 770	720
FHA	650	680 to 700	660



### But Will Washington Allow It?

- Washington Policies so far ... Too Restrictive
  - Rising g-fees and FHA insurance premiums?
  - Uncertainty about QRM down payment requirement? ... Dodd-Frank?
  - Too many Lawsuits? ... Runaway DOJ?
- Mortgages Have Performed Outstandingly
  - Not because of Washington policies
  - But because of home price increases
- New Restriction with PATH?



### What is PATH? ... Hensarling's Ideology (Protecting American Taxpayers and Homeowners?)

- For-profit Fannie and Freddie were Arrogant
- Today's Fannie and Freddie have had reforms under government control
- Remove Government Guarantee on Mortgages
- 30-yr Fixed Rate Mortgages ... Hard to get and higher rates
- Large Banks will do Securitization ... Small Banks at Risk
- Market becomes excessively pro-cyclical
- Large Banks have FDIC ... taxpayer risk ... vulnerable to nationalization and, if so, government credit allocation
- Global capital could decide to go elsewhere rather than the U.S. .... Other countries grow faster than the U.S.

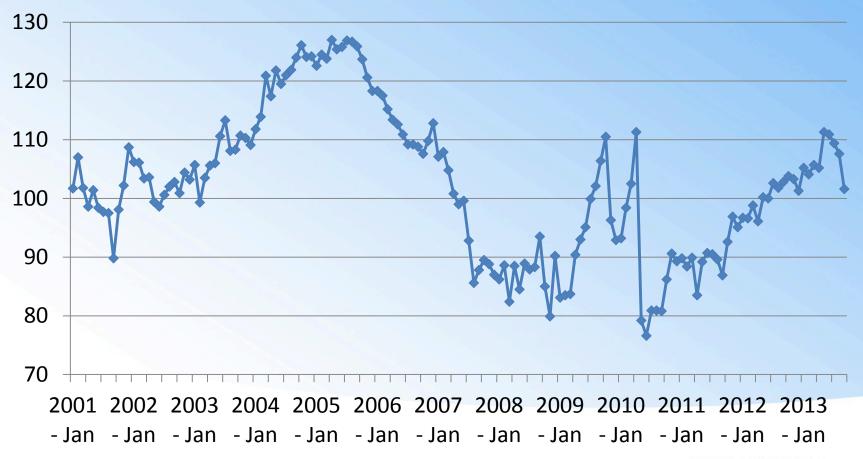


### **Latest Market Trends**



### Pending Sales (Contracts, not Closings)

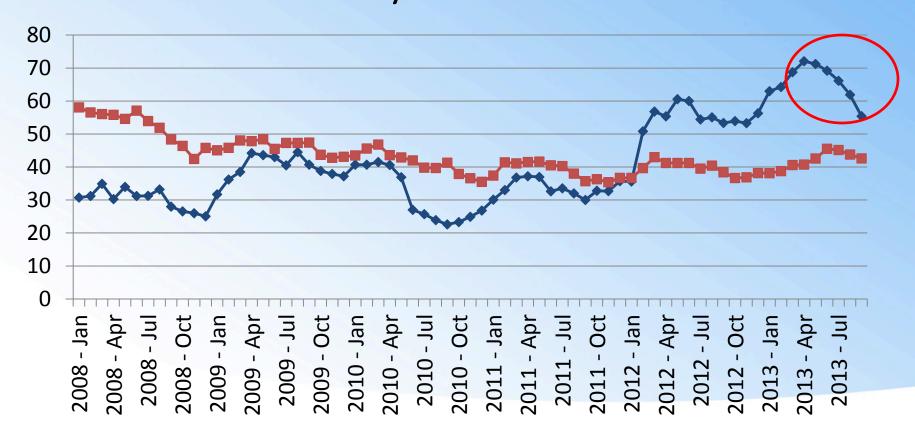
(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: NAR



# Buyer and Seller Traffic How Much from Gov't Shutdown and Dysfunction? Buyer -Seller

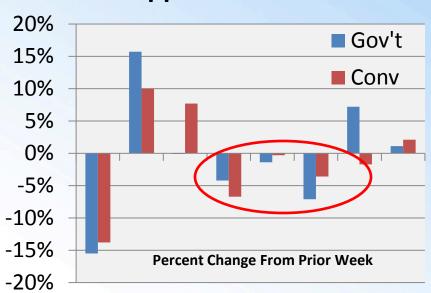




### Government Shutdown Did Not Help

IRS Forms Along with FHA and USDA Closures

#### **Purchase Apps Fell with Closures**



#### **Rates Rose with Treasuries**

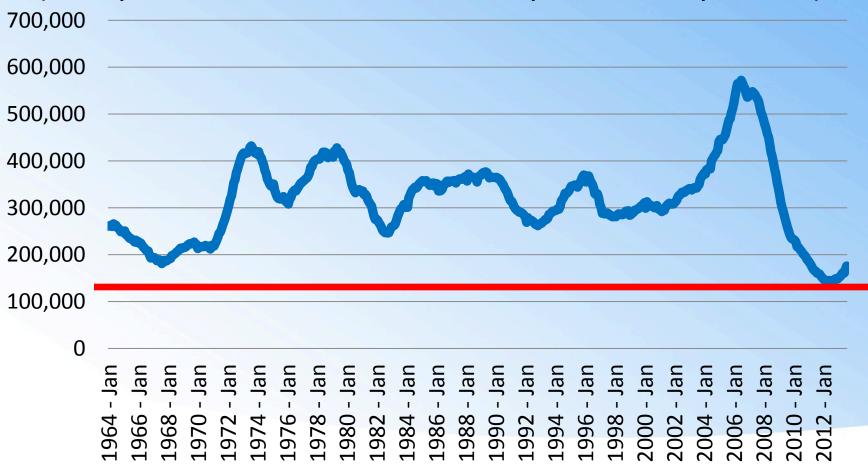


Déjà vu in January?.....February?



### New Home Inventory

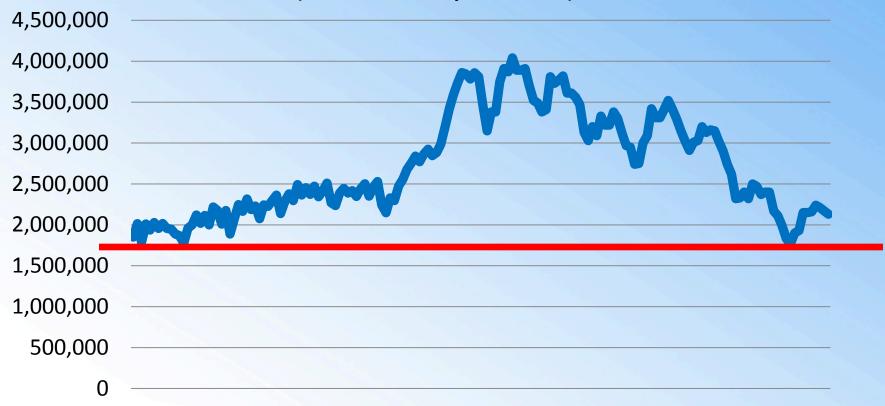
(Newly Constructed Homes Inventory at near 50-year low)





### **Existing Home Inventory**

(at near 13-year low)

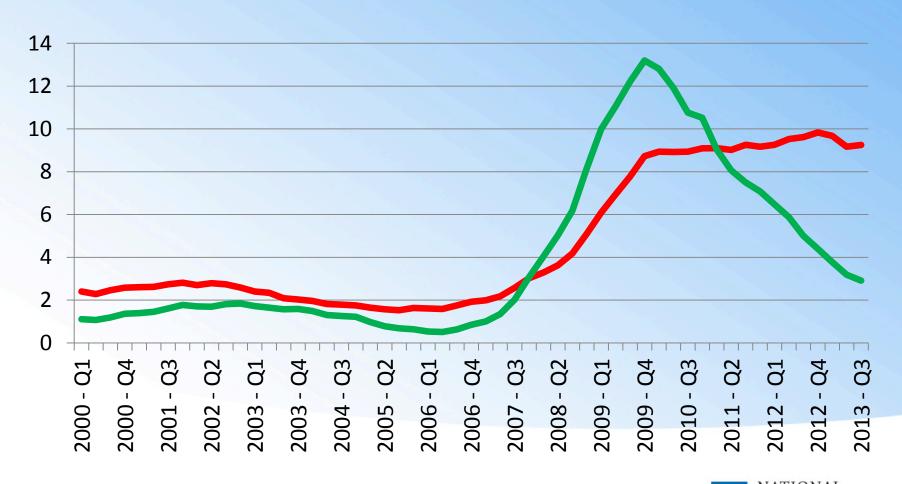


2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 - Jan -



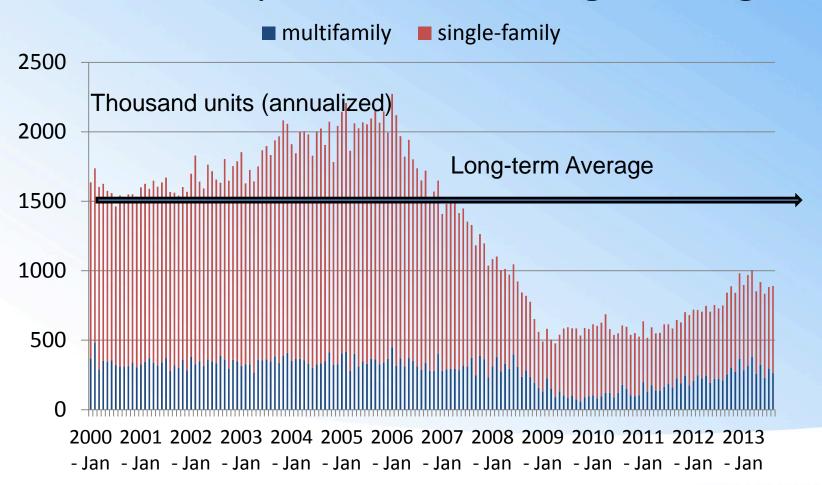
### Shadow Inventory in NY and AZ

(Mortgages Late 90+ day or in foreclosure process)





## Housing Starts ... Need to Reach 1.5 million soon or persistent housing shortage



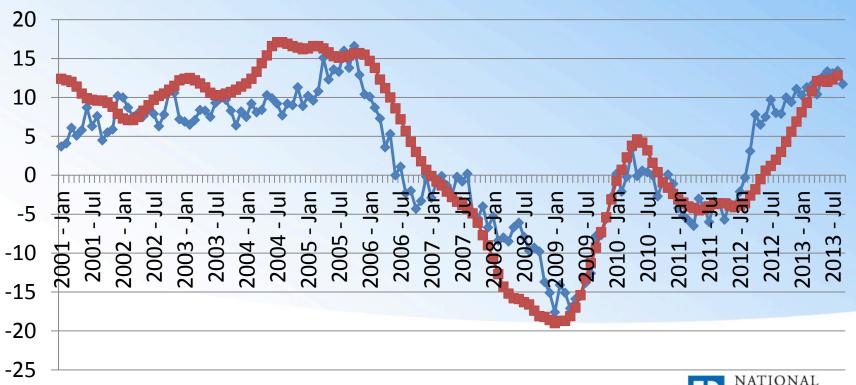


### Rising Home Prices Because of Lack of Inventory

(% change from one year ago)

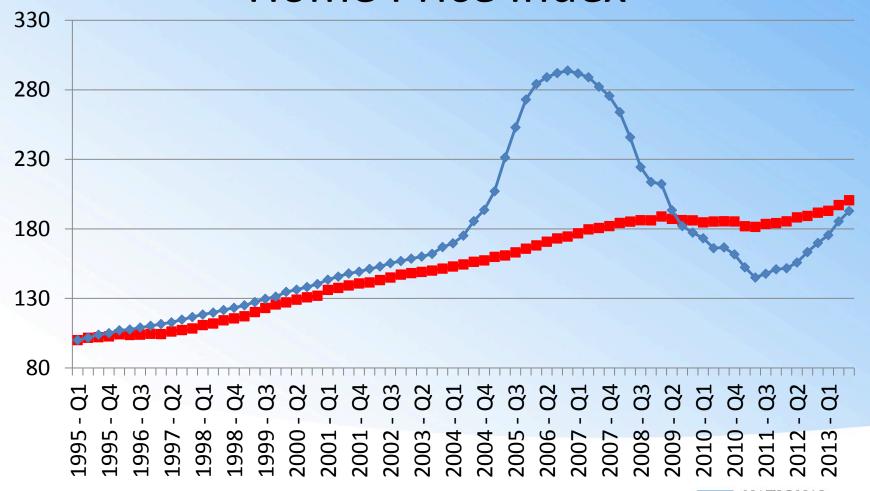
**Blue = NAR Median Price** 

Red = Case-Shiller Index





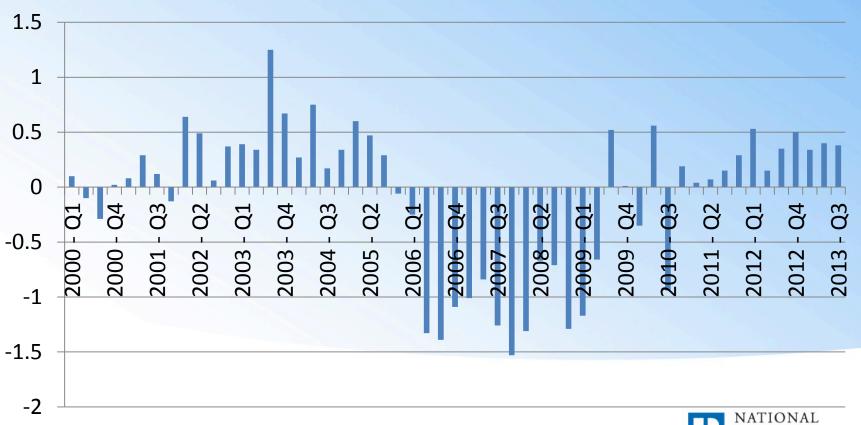
### Phoenix and Houston Home Price Index





## Residential Construction Contribution to GDP Growth

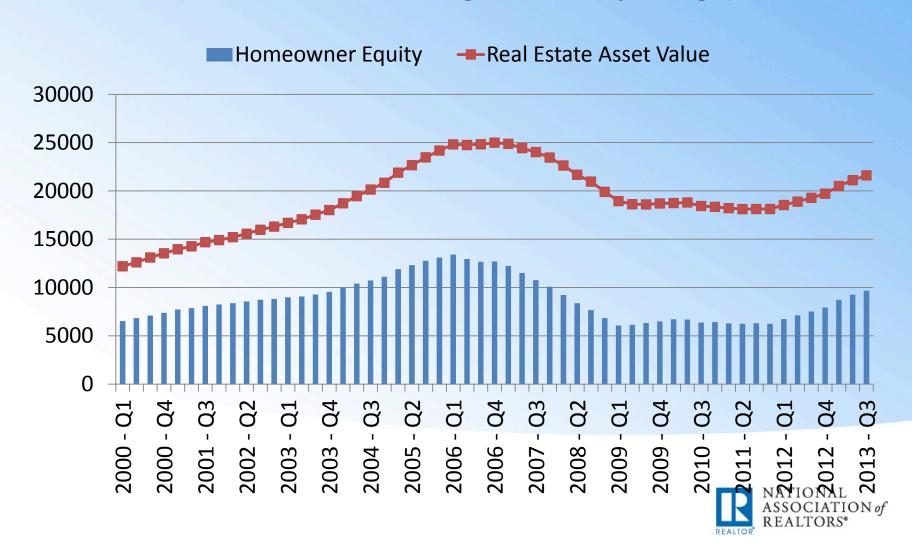
(% point)





### Housing Wealth Accumulation

(Over \$4.5 trillion net gain from 5 year ago)



#### **Forecast**

Essentially Same as the one made last year in November 2012



## Forecast #1: Inflation will be Notably Higher by 2015

No Threatening Inflation Signs for 2013

But Inflation rises to 4% to 6% in 2015

Well above Fed's preferred rate of 2%

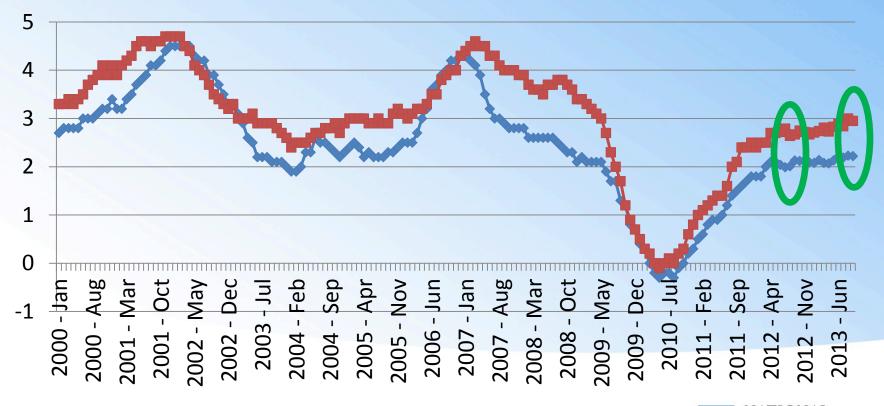
But not in double-digits as in 1970s



#### Rising Renters' and Homeowners' Rent Growth

(the biggest weight to Consumer Price Index)







# Forecast #2 No Rise in Home Sales Rise in Housing Starts and Home Values

	2013 forecast	2014 forecast
Existing Home Sales	5.1 m	5.1 m
Housing Starts	0.92 m	1.13 m
Home Price	11%	5%
Mortgage Rate	4.0%	5.1%

)N of

## Home Price Forecast by Wall Street Journal Economists Panel

Year	WSJ Home Price Forecast
2014	5%

Robert Shiller: "Homes are still affordable ... we do not have extravagant mindset today"



### Forecast #3: More Unequal Wealth Distribution

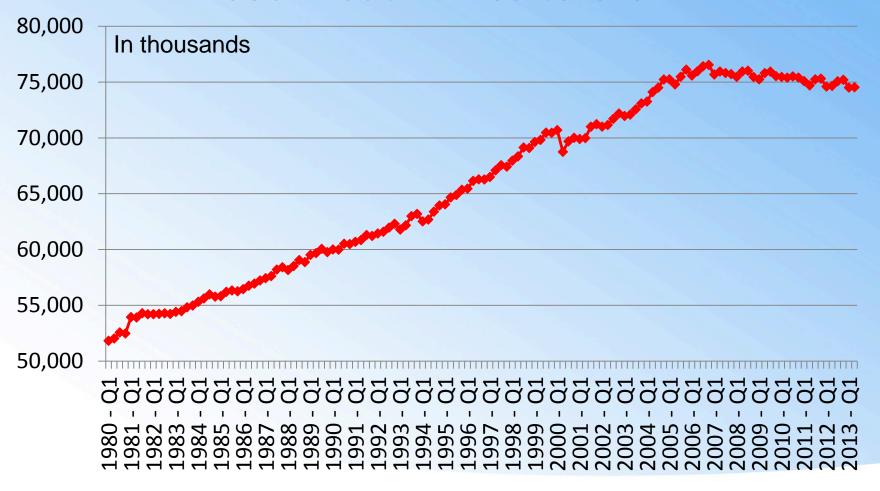
- Renters do not accumulate wealth
- Renter population rising
- Homeowners build wealth after buying at low prices
- Stagnant homeowner population
- Tight Credit hinders 'good' renters from becoming homeowners
- Investors becoming increasing share of property owners

#### Renter Households





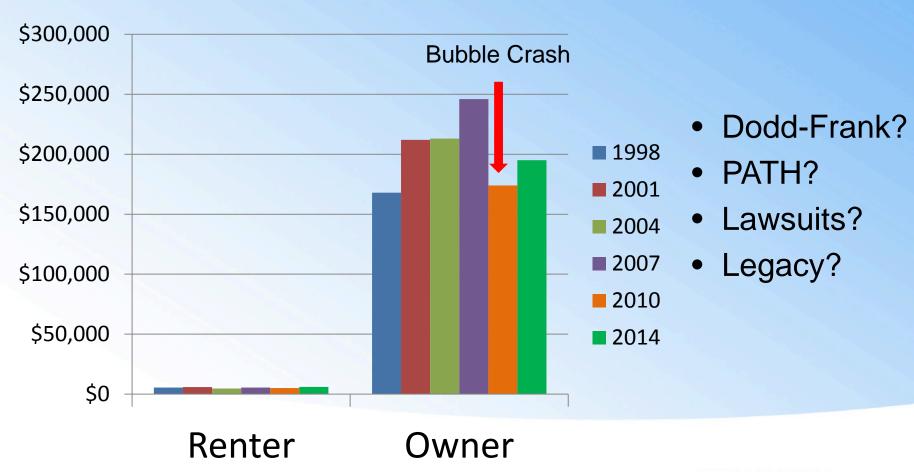
### Homeowner Households has not Grown since 2006 ... but Primed to Grow





#### Wealth Distribution

(Federal Reserve data on median net worth)

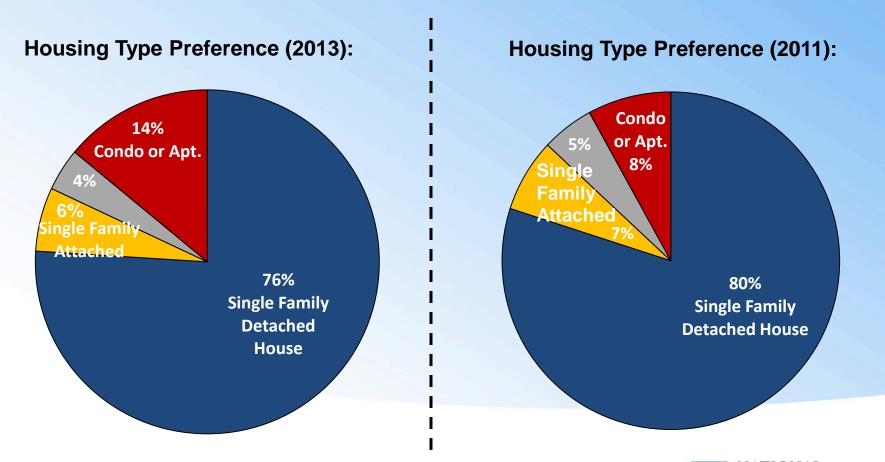




### What Homebuyers Want?



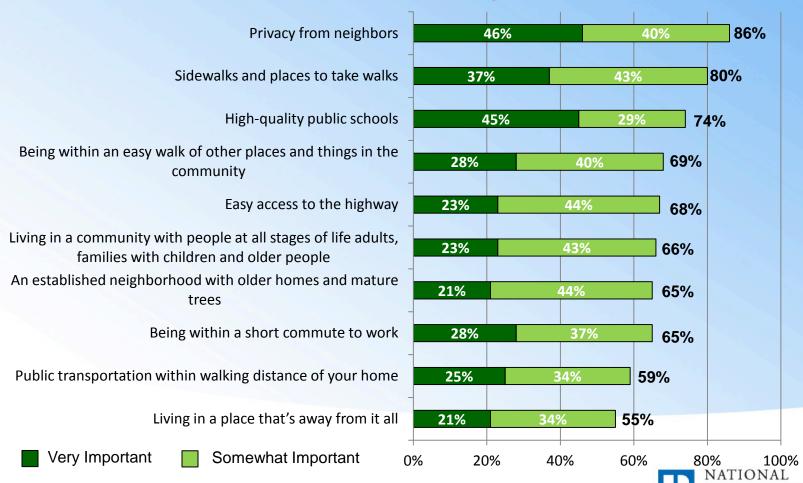
### Slightly More Preference For Condo or Apartment Living Than In 2011





### Privacy, Walkability, Schools Most Important in Deciding Where to Live

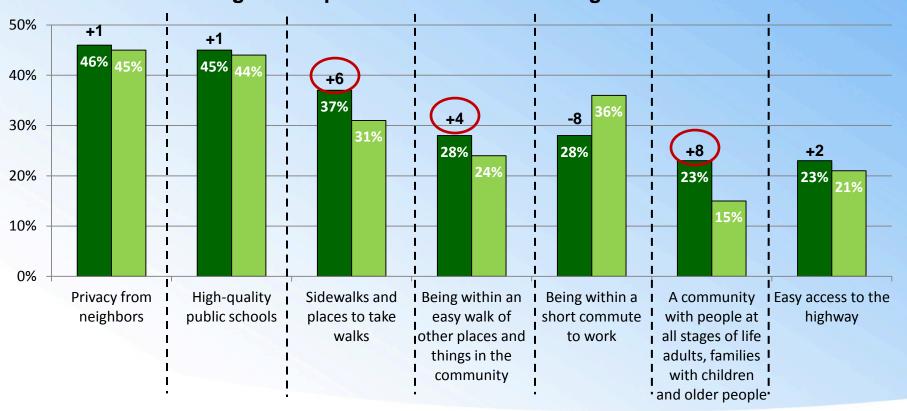
#### **Most Important Factors in Deciding Where to Live:**



In deciding where to live, indicate how important having each of the following would be to you: very important somewhat important, or not at all important.

### Walkability and Age-Diversity Gaining in Importance

#### **Changes in Important Factors in Deciding Where to Live**



Very Important - 2013

Very Important - 2011

Q.47 In deciding where to live, indicate how important having each of the following would be to you: very important, or not at all important.





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#### What Buyers Want Most From Their Agent

