U.S. Economy, Housing & Mortgage Market Recent Developments

January 2025

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Overview



Economy:

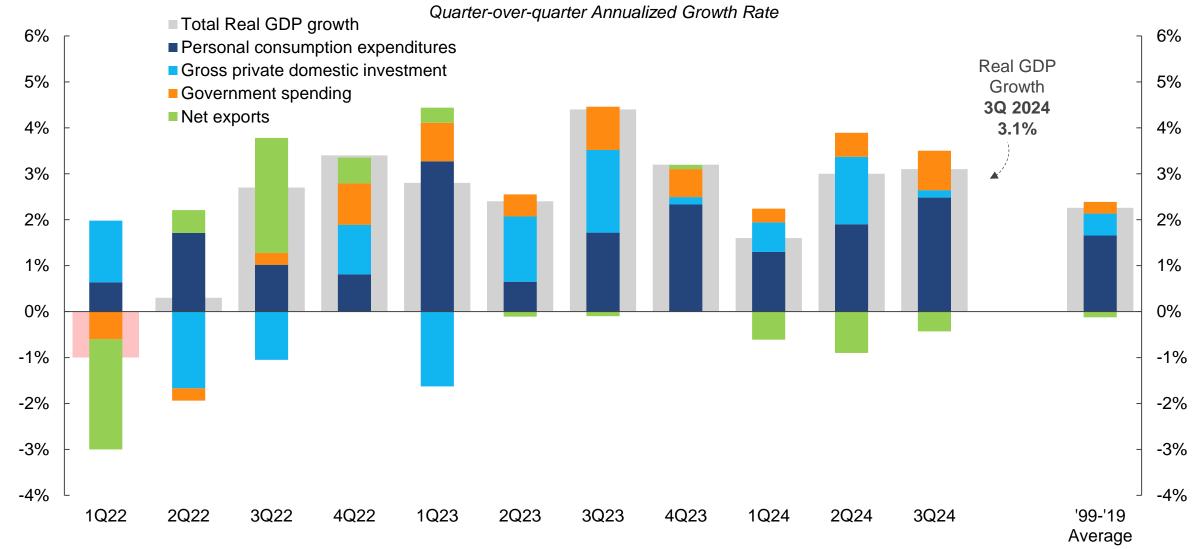
• The U.S. economy remains resilient with strong Q3 growth driven by consumer spending.

Housing and Mortgage Market:

 Despite rebounding mortgage rates, housing activity picked up slightly, indicating that many homebuyers are ready to enter to market

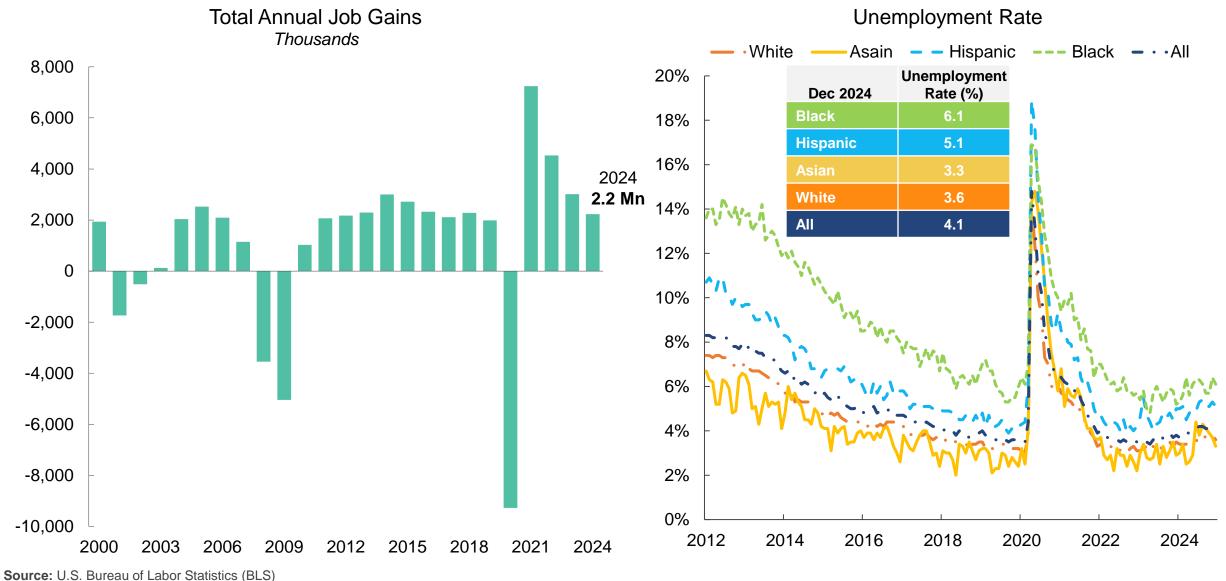


Real GDP Increased at an Annual Rate of 3.1% in Q3 2024; Growth Driven by Consumer Spending



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) **Note:** Data through Q3 2024

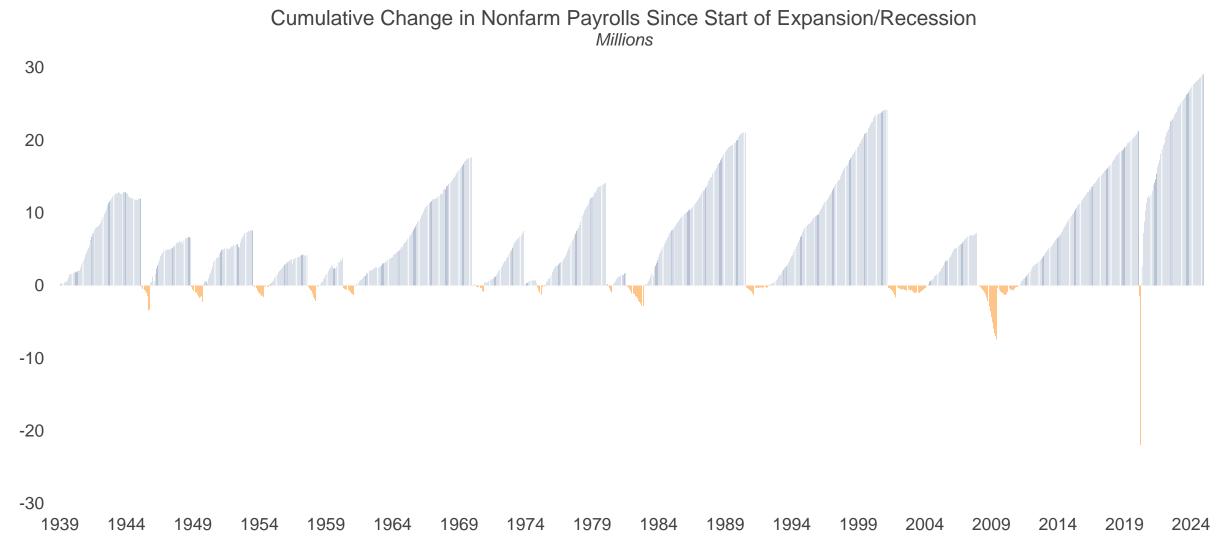
U.S. Labor Market is Cooling with Unemployment at 4.1%



Note: Data through December 2024

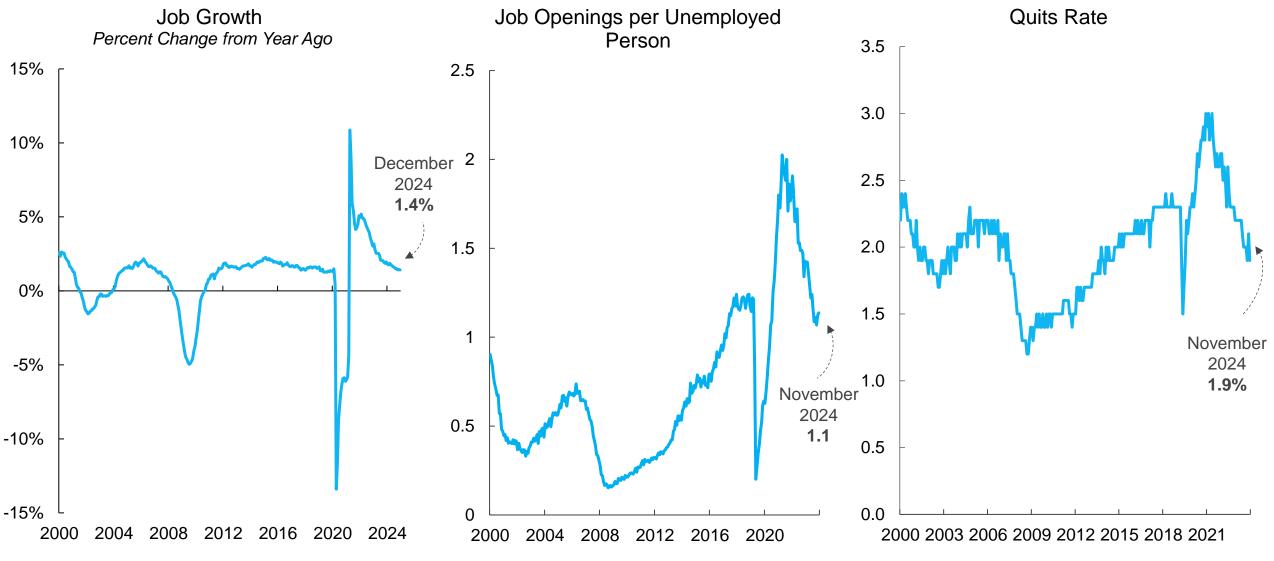


Job Gains in the Pandemic Recovery Largest in History After Any Recession



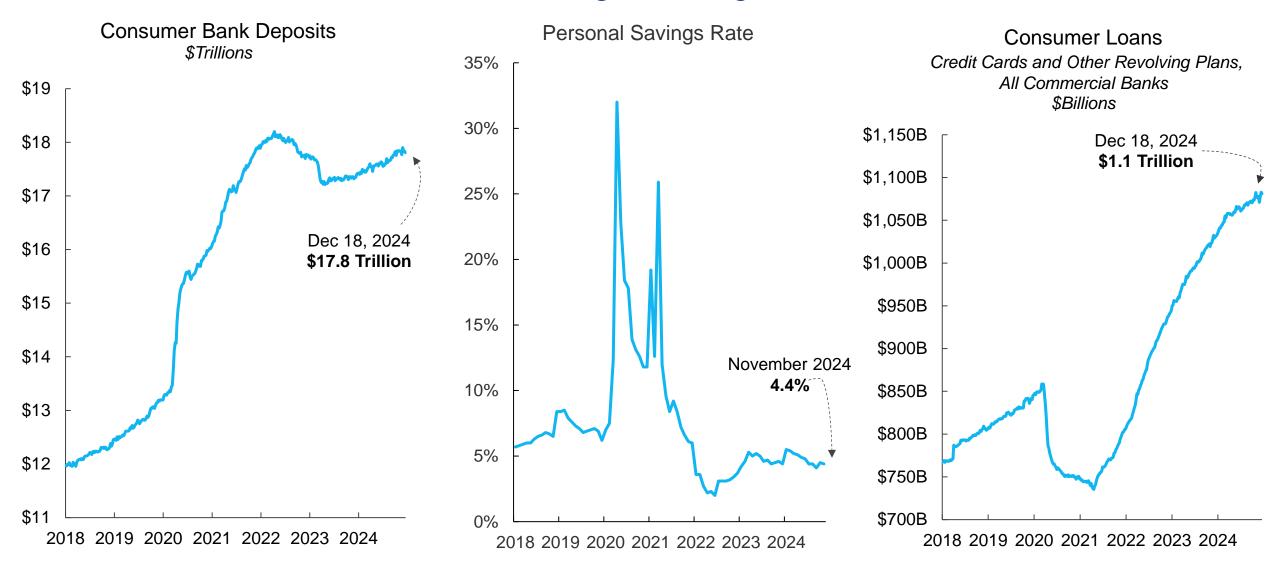
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) **Note:** Data through December 2024

Even Though U.S. Labor Market Is Cooling, it Remains Tight Compared to Prior Decades



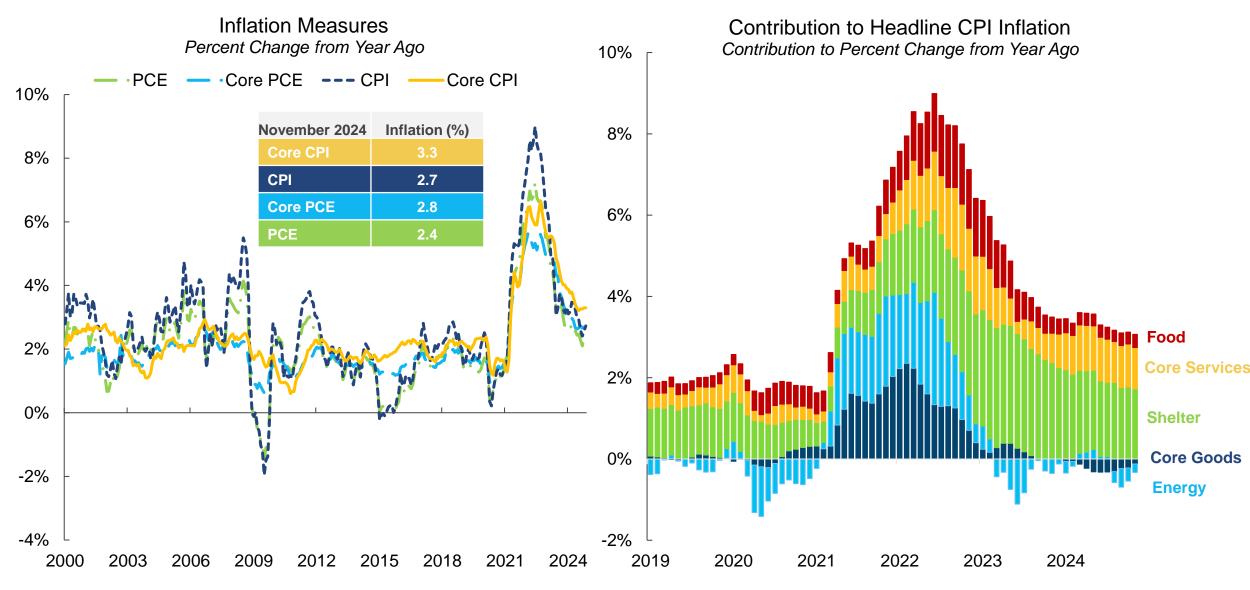
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Consumer Balance Sheets Improved Significantly Due to Stimulus, But They Have Weakened as Credit Demand Surged During the Last 18 Months



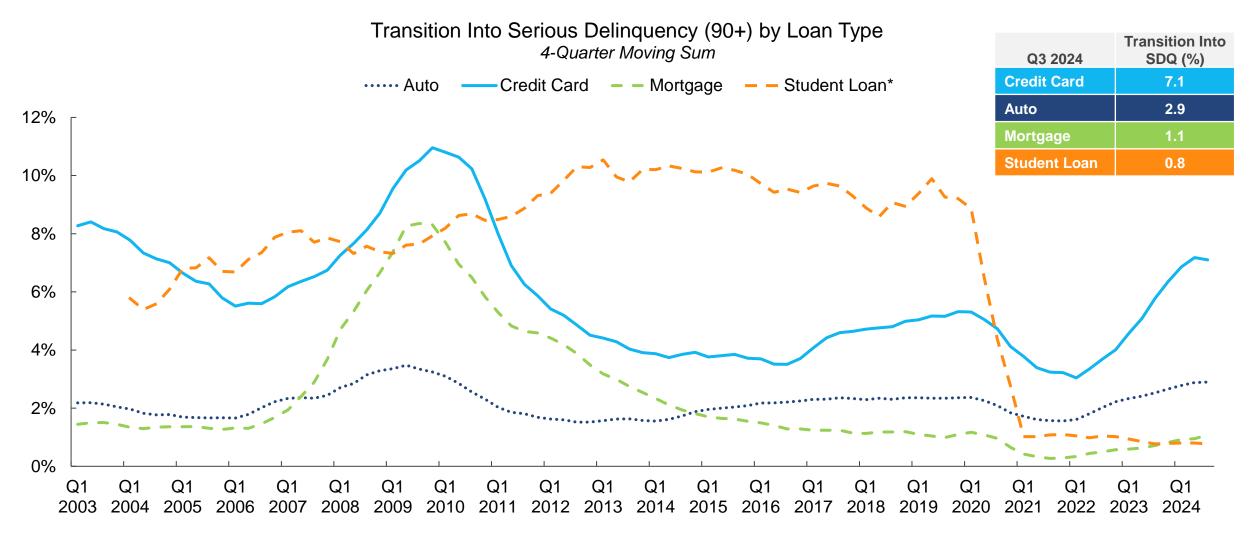
Source: Federal Reserve, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Inflation in the U.S. Still Remains Above Federal Reserve's Target



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) **Note:** Data through November 2024

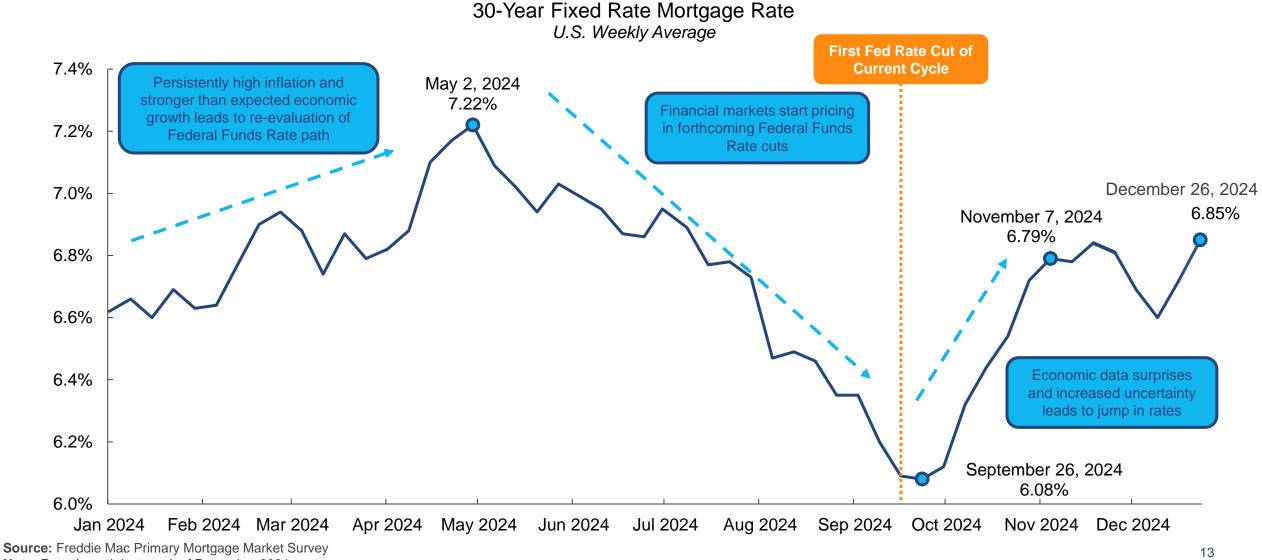
Serious Delinquency Rate for Credit Cards Remains High and Autos Continue to Increase, But Mortgage Performance Remains Solid



Source: New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax; **Note:** Data through Q3 2024 *Student loan data are not reported prior to 2004 due to uneven reporting

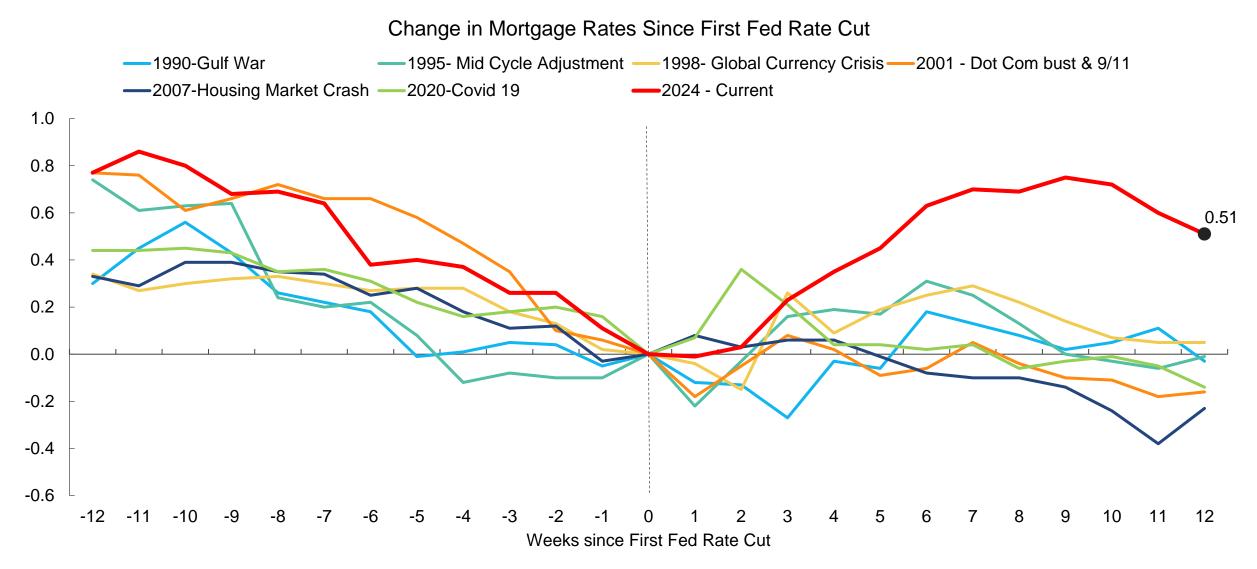


Mortgage Rates Have Been on a Roller Coaster Ride in 2024

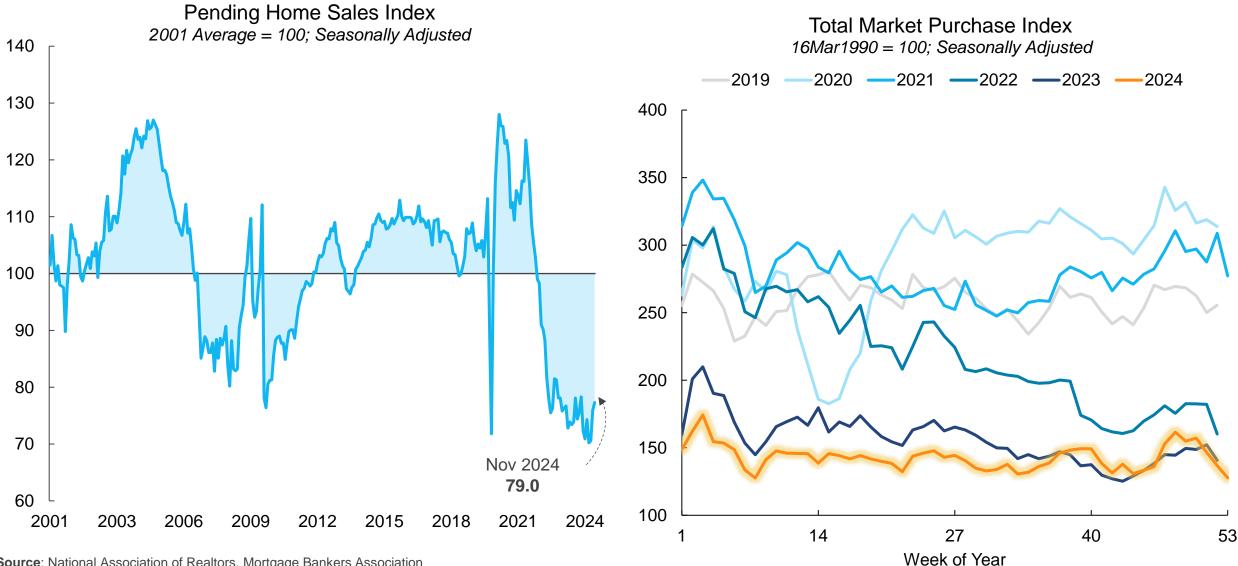


Note: Data through last week of December 2024

Mortgage Rates Have Increased Since the Federal Reserve Began Cutting the Federal Funds Rate



Purchase Applications Remain at Lowest Level in Five Years



Source: National Association of Realtors, Mortgage Bankers Association

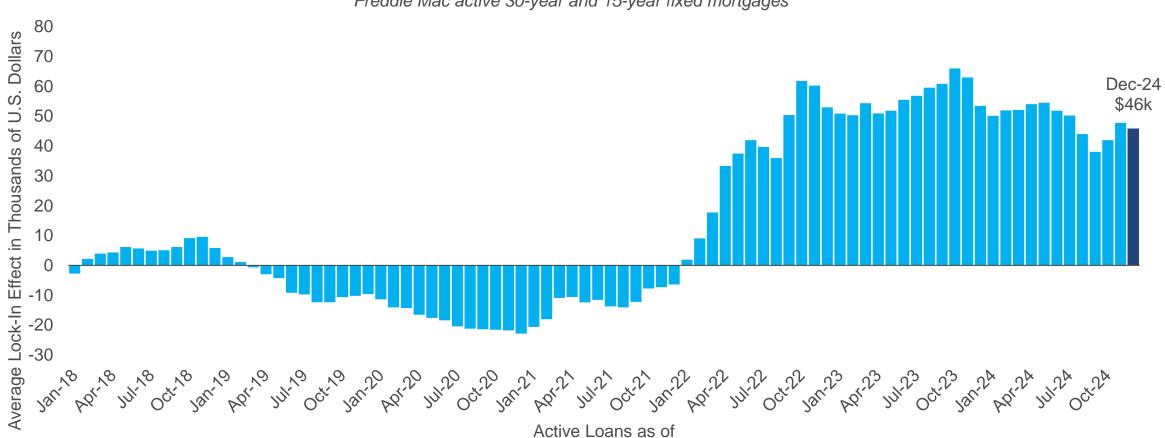
Note: Pending Home Sales data through November 2024; Purchase Apps Data through December 27, 2024.

Prepared by Economic and Housing Research © Freddie Mac

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Average Mortgage Rate Lock-In Effect



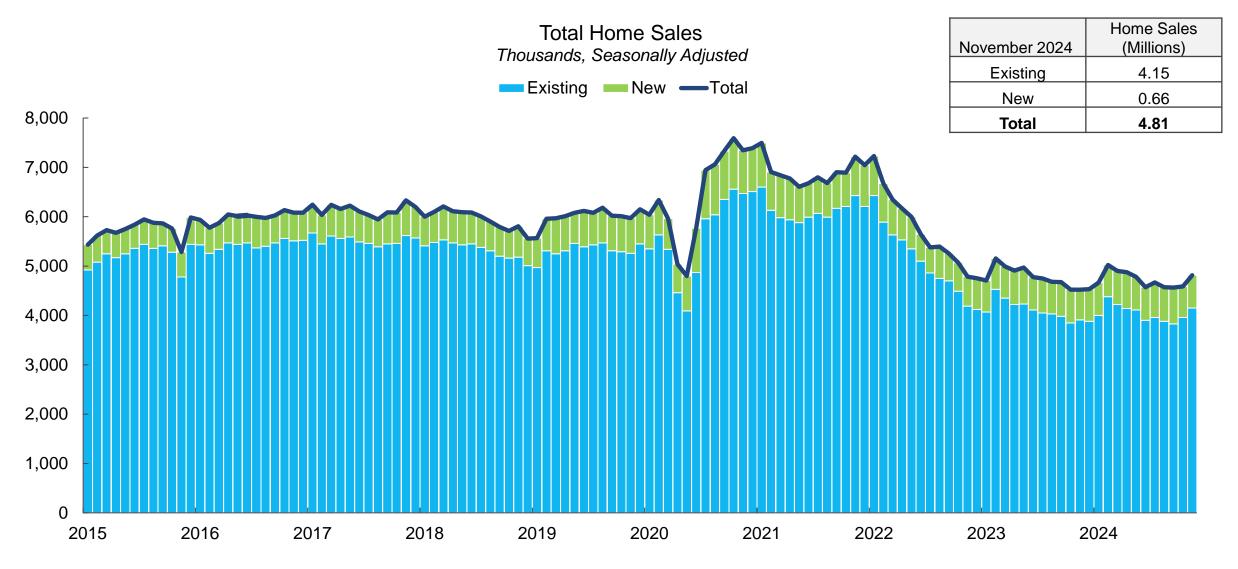


Average Mortgage Rate Lock-In Effect Freddie Mac active 30-year and 15-year fixed mortgages

Lock-in computed by the formula $V=B-\sum 1_{i=1}^n \|P/(1+r)^n - F/(([1+r)]^n)$ where B is the current outstanding mortgage balance, P is the monthly principal and interest payment, r is the current prevailing 30-year/15-year mortgage rate in the PMMS, n is the remaining months left on the mortgage and F is any partial payment due after n periods due to curtailment. Last data point December 2024.

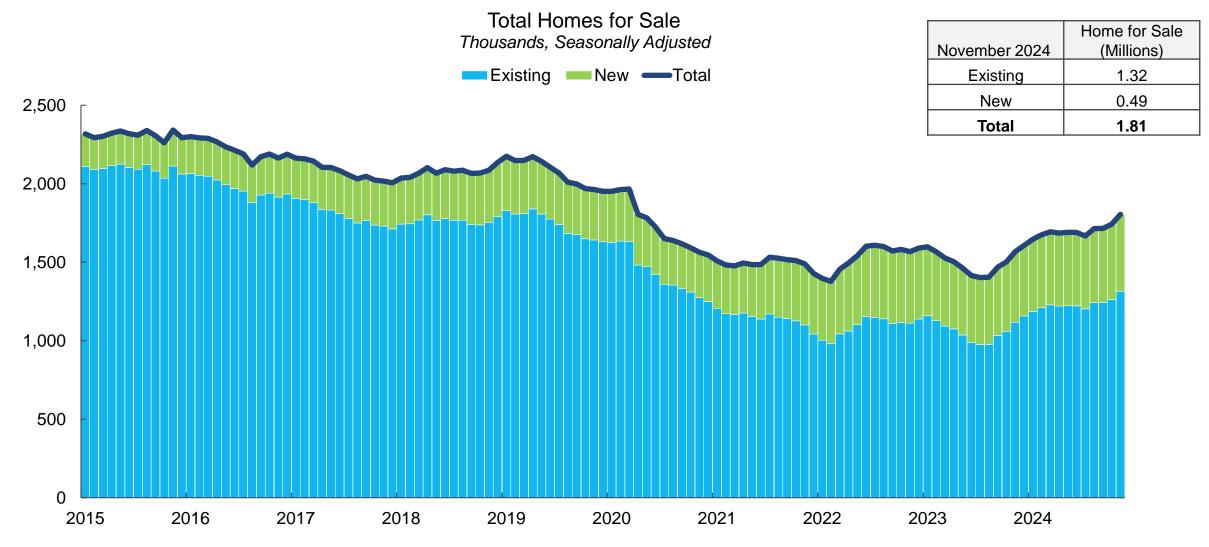
Source: Freddie Mac

U.S. Home Sales Remain Low



Source: National Association of Realtors (NAR); U.S. Census Bureau Note: Data through November 2024

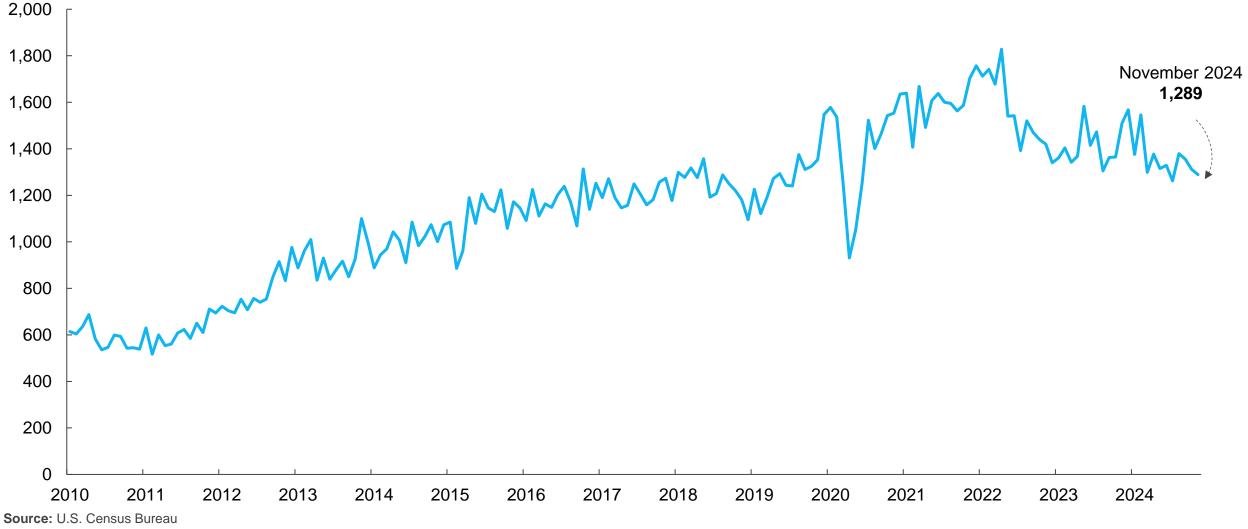
Despite Weak Sales, U.S. Housing Supply Remains Low as Market is Dominated by Chronic Undersupply of Resales



Source: National Association of Realtors (NAR); U.S. Census Bureau Note: Data through November 2024

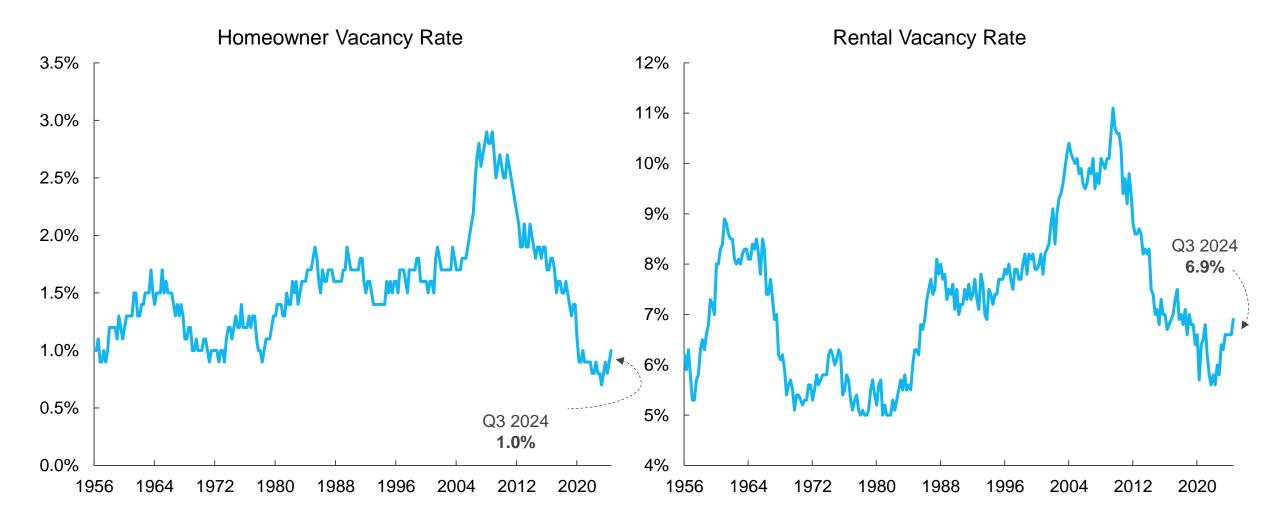
U.S. Housing Starts Ticked Down Due to Rising Mortgage Rates

Total Housing Starts Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate



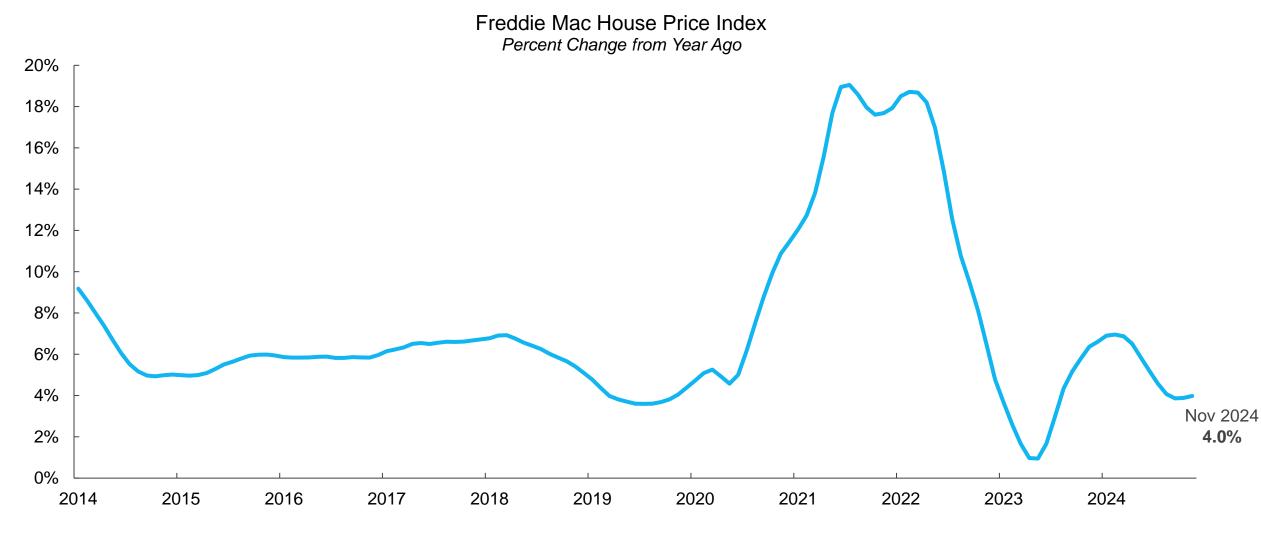
Note: Data through November 2024

Lack of Housing Supply in U.S. Caused Vacancy Rates to Collapse to Historic or Near-Historic Lows



Source: U.S Census Bureau **Note:** Data through Q3 2024

U.S. Home Price Growth is Rising Although at a Slower Pace; Home Price Growth Expected to Slow in 2025

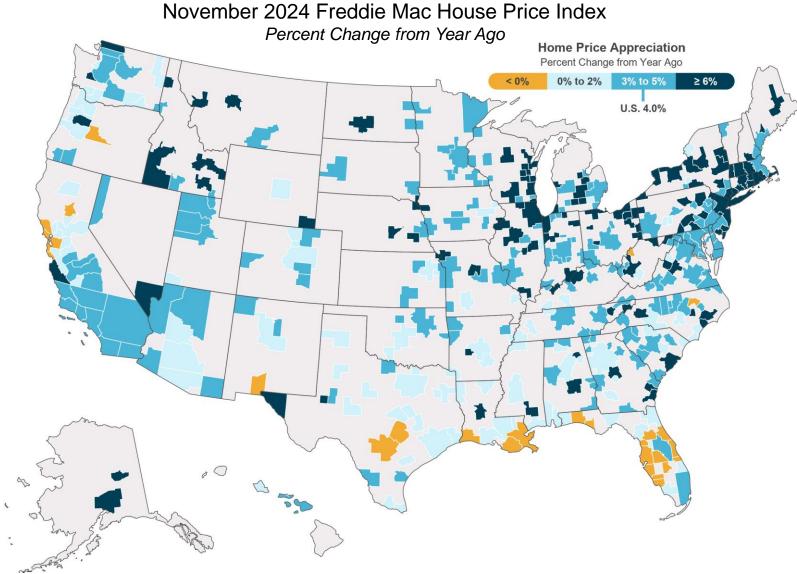


Source: Freddie Mac

Note: Data through November 2024; For latest data, visit

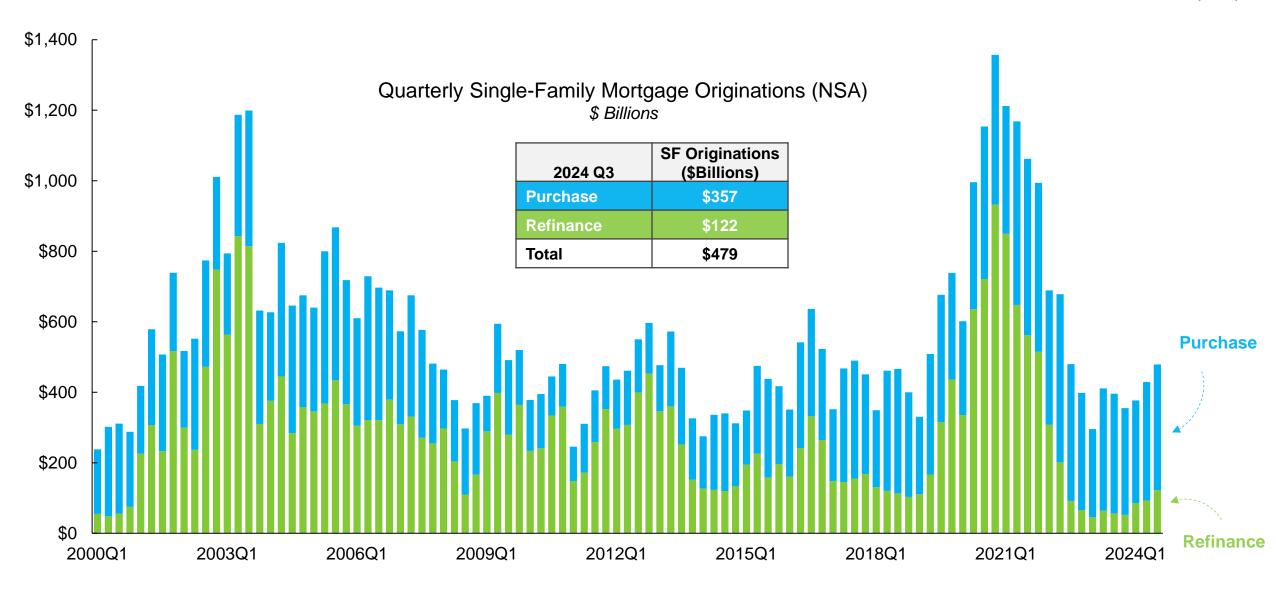
https://www.freddiemac.com/research/indices/house-price-index

Home Price Growth Continues to Rise the Most in Northeast and Midwest



Source: Freddie Mac **Note:** Data through November 2024

U.S. Mortgage Originations Pick Up in Q3 Led by Purchase Originations



Source: Freddie Mac **Note:** Data through Q3 2024

Share of Serious Delinquent Loans Remains Low at 1.6% as of Q3 2024

