

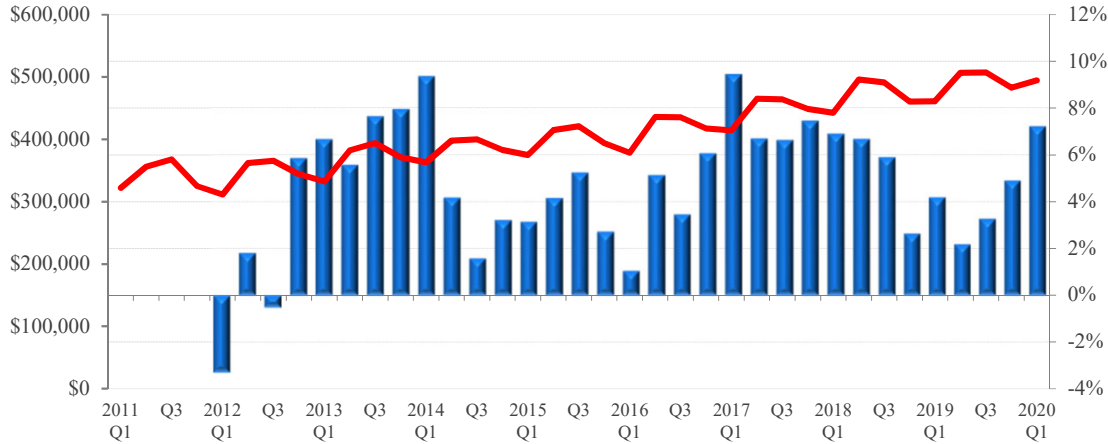
Boston-Cambridge-Newton Area

Local Market Report, First Quarter 2020

including the impact of COVID-19 on the local economy

Today's Market...

Median Price (Red Line) and One-year Price Growth



Local Price Trends			
Price Activity	Boston	U.S.	Local Trend
Current Median Home Price (2020 Q1)	\$494,400	\$272,433	Prices continue to grow relative to last year
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2020 Q1)	7.2%	7.7%	
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2020 Q1)	19.4%	18.1%	
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$80,200	\$41,733	Gains in the last 3 years have extended the trend of positive price growth after the recession
7-year (28 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$162,200	\$96,500	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$172,300	\$114,500	

*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only

	Boston	U.S.	
Conforming Loan Limit**	\$688,850	\$726,525	Most buyers in this market have access to government-backed financing
FHA Loan Limit	\$688,850	\$726,525	
Local Median to Conforming Limit Ratio	72%	not comparable	

Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2019.

Local NAR Leadership

The Boston-Cambridge-Newton market is part of region 1 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. The 2020 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 1 is Gene Fercodini.

Benefits of Ownership: Total Equity Appreciation

Total Equity Accrued to Owner by Year and Quarter of Purchase



Total Equity Gained through 2020 Q1 from quarter in which home was of purchased**

Price Activity	Boston	U.S.	Local Trend
1-year (4-quarter)	\$40,159	\$23,185	Price appreciation and principle payments in the last 3 years have boosted total equity growth since the recession
3-year (12-quarter)*	\$100,389	\$52,978	
5-year (20-quarter)*	\$153,672	\$87,425	
7-year (28 quarters)*	\$207,235	\$120,351	
9-year (36 quarters)*	\$221,361	\$138,556	

*Note: Equity gain reflects price and principle payments since purchase, prevailing 30-year fixed rate mortgage at time of purchase and a 10% downpayment. Downpayment is not included in total equity

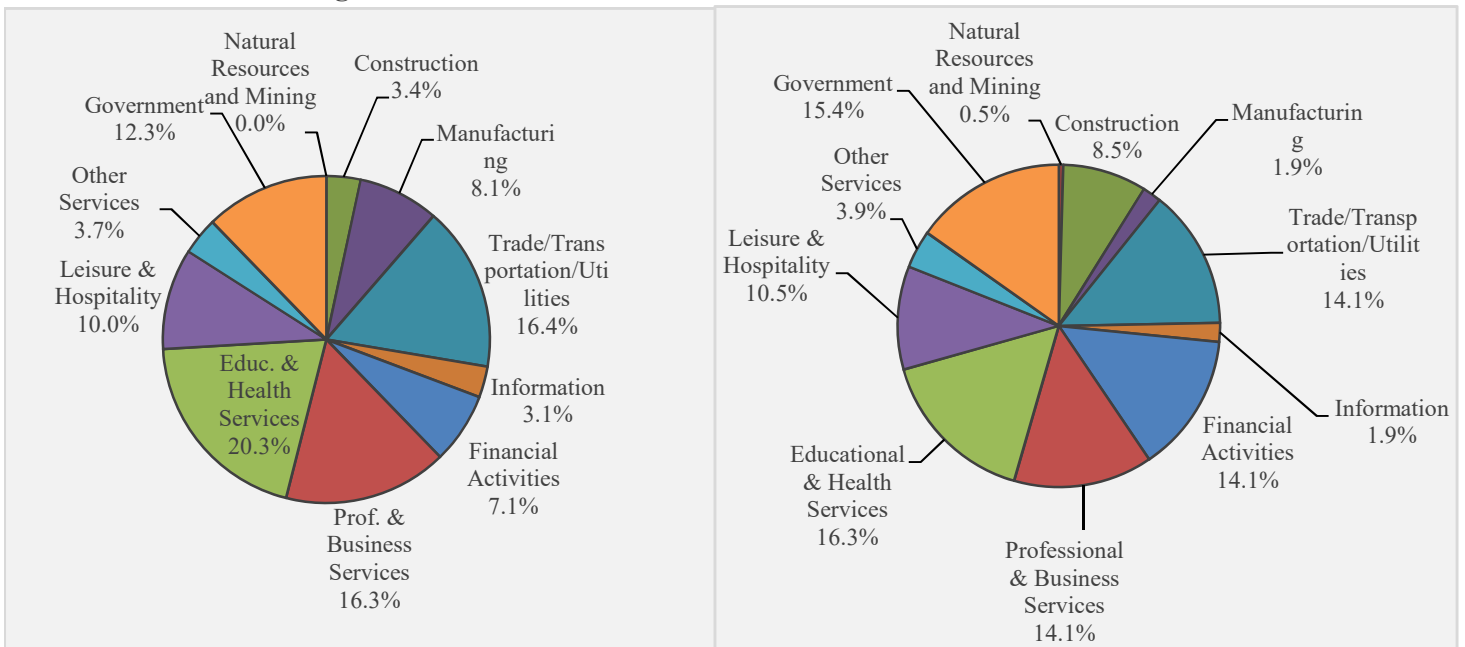
Drivers of Local Supply and Demand...

Local Economic Outlook	Boston	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Mar)	48,600	Not Comparable	Employment growth has eased, but remains positive
12-month Job Change (Feb)	50,900	Not Comparable	
36-month Job Change (Mar)	-24,200	Not Comparable	Unemployment in Boston is better than the national average and improving
Current Unemployment Rate (Mar)	2.7%	4.4%	
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	2.9%	3.8%	Local employment growth is strong compared to other markets
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	2.0%	1.3%	

Share of Total Employment by Industry

Boston-Cambridge-Newton Area

U.S.



12-month Employment Change by Industry in the Boston-Cambridge-Newton Area (Mar - 2020)

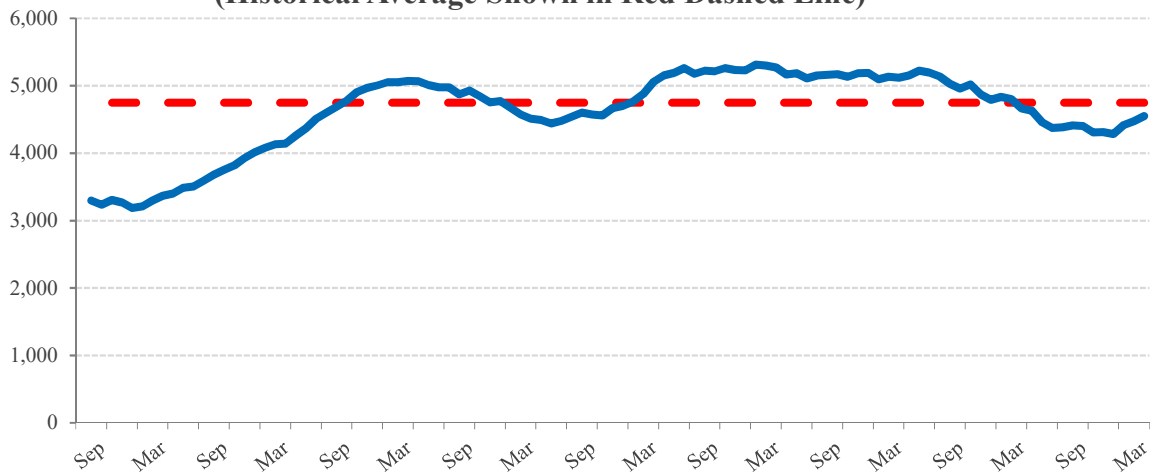
Goods Producing	NA	Information	2,600
Natural Resources/Mining/Construction	NA	Financial Activities	600
Natural Resources and Mining	-200	Prof. & Business Services	7,500
Construction	2,500	Educ. & Health Services	22,100
Manufacturing	4,200	Leisure & Hospitality	15,800
Service Providing Excluding Government	NA	Other Services	100
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	4,100	Government	-3,500

State Economic Activity Index	Massachusetts	U.S.	
12-month change (2020 - Mar)	0.3%	1.2%	The economy of Massachusetts is growing more slowly than the rest of the nation, but improved modestly from last month's - 37.12% change
36-month change (2020 - Mar)	NA	7.0%	

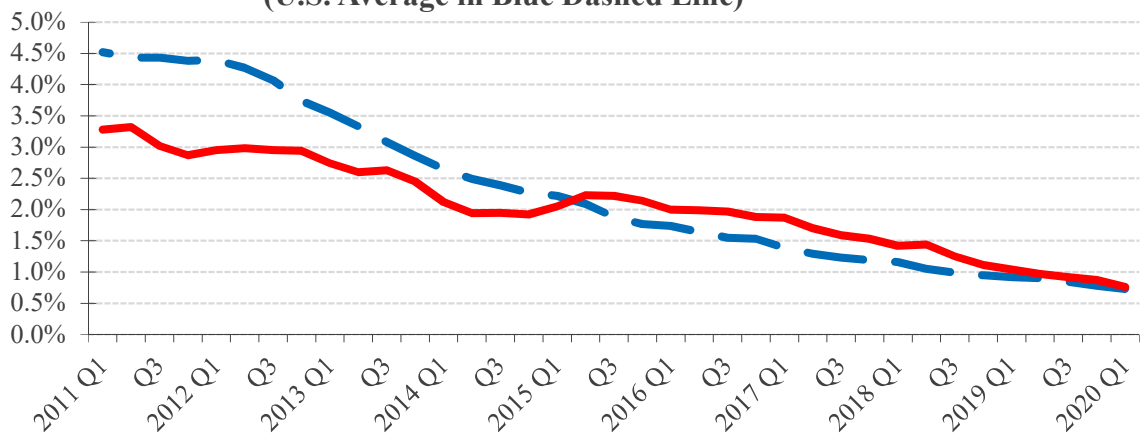
New Housing Construction

Local Fundamentals	Boston	U.S.	
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Mar	4,549	not comparable	The current level of construction is 4.2% below the long-term average
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	4,749	not comparable	Reduced construction will limit new supply to the market, allowing demand to catch up with inventory more quickly
Single-Family Housing Permits (Mar) 12-month sum vs. a year ago	-2.5%	5.5%	Construction is down from last year, but appears to have bottomed.

Construction: 12-month Sum of Local Housing Permits
(Historical Average Shown in Red Dashed Line)



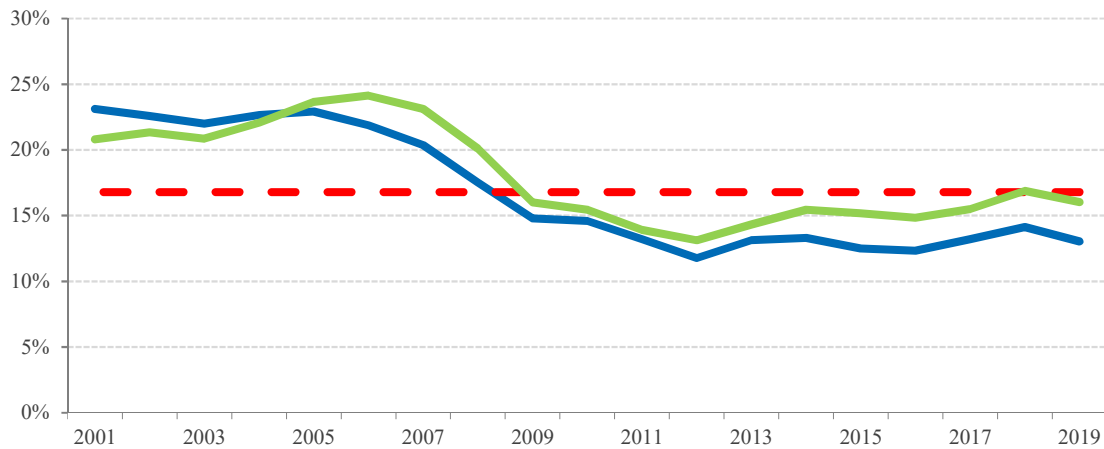
State Total Foreclosure Rate vs. U.S. Average
(U.S. Average in Blue Dashed Line)



Affordability

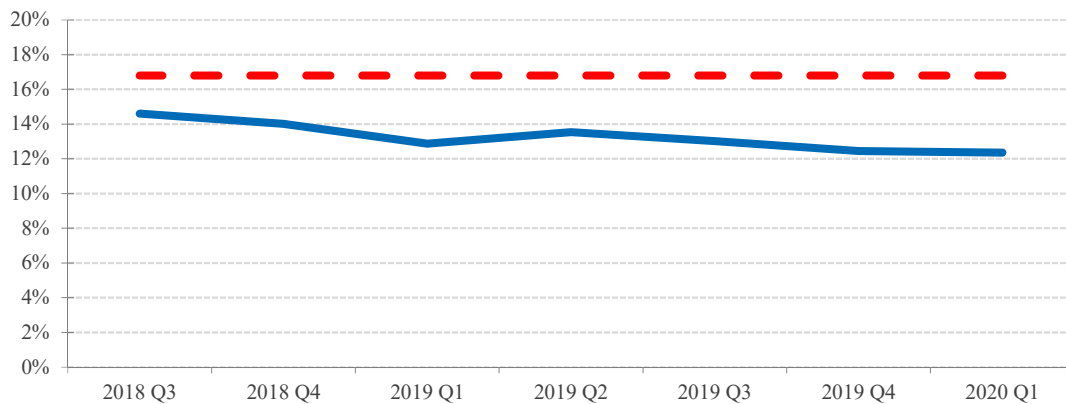


Long-Term Trend: Ratio of Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income
(Local Historical Average Shown in Red, U.S. Average in Green)

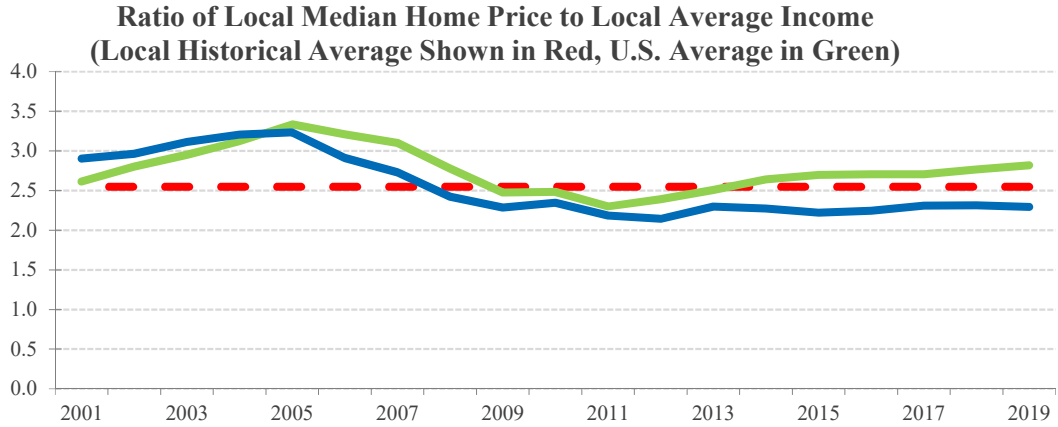


Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income	Boston	U.S.	
Ratio for 2019	13.0%	16.0%	Historically strong, but weaker than the fourth quarter of 2019
Ratio for 2020 Q1	12.4%	14.6%	
Historical Average	16.8%	18.4%	More affordable than most markets

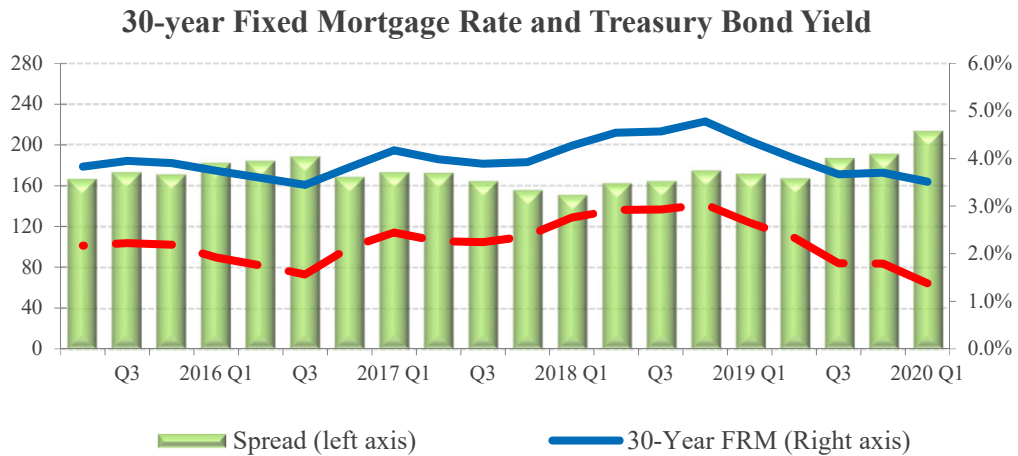
Recent Trend - Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income
(Historical Average Shown in Red Dashed Line)



Median Home Price to Income	Boston	U.S.	
Ratio for 2019	2.3	2.8	The price-to-income ratio rose, but is better than the historic average
Ratio for 2020 Q1	2.3	2.7	
Historical Average	2.5	2.7	Affordable compared to most markets



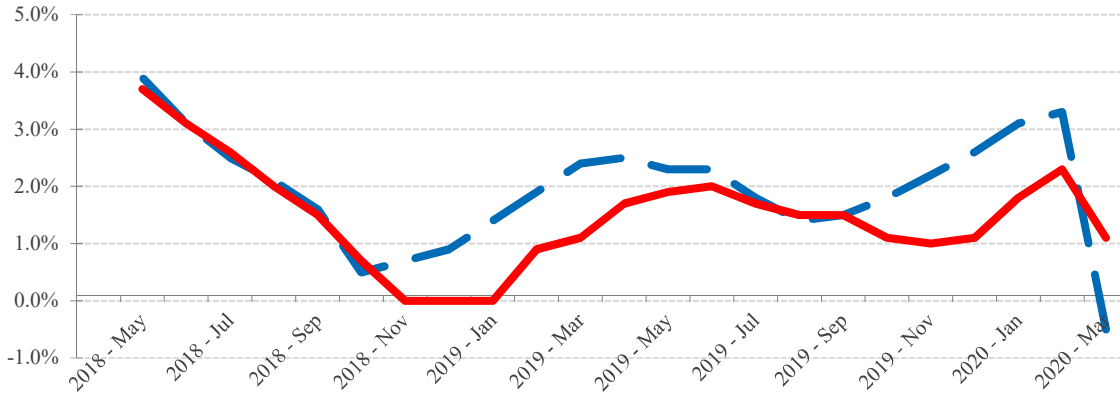
The Mortgage Market



The first quarter of the year mostly encompassed a pre-pandemic economy that was characterized by low unemployment and a robust economy. Nevertheless, as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, mortgage rates reached a then-historical low in March of 2020 fueling an increase in refinance activities. Specifically, at the end of the first quarter, mortgage rates declined 90 basis points compared to a year earlier. According to the mortgage finance provider Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed rate mortgage dropped to 3.51 percent in Q1 2020 from 4.37 percent in Q1 2019. Looking ahead, NAR is forecasting the 30-year fixed rate mortgage to average 3.20 percent for 2020.

REALTOR® Price Expectations

REALTOR® Price Expectations for the Next 12 Months
(U.S. Average in Blue Dashed Line)



Source: NAR

REALTOR® Price Expectations	Massachusetts	U.S.	
2020 - Mar	1.1%	-0.5%	REALTORS® expect higher price growth in Massachusetts than in the U.S. in the next 12 months but their price expectations for the local market remained at the same level as a year ago.
Prior 12 months	1.1%	2.4%	



Geographic Coverage for this Report

The Boston area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Boston-Cambridge-Newton metro area as officially defined by the Office of Management and Budget of the U.S. Government. The official coverage area includes the following counties:

Essex County, Middlesex County, Norfolk County, Plymouth County, Rockingham County, Strafford County, and Suffolk County

More information on the OMB's geographic definitions can be found at https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/bulletins_default/