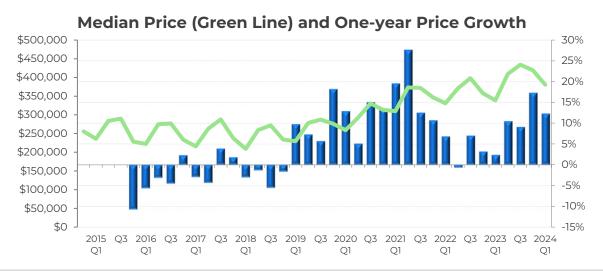


### **Trenton Area**

## **Local Market Report, First Quarter 2024**

## **Today's Market...**



Local Price Trends				
Price Activity	Trenton	U.S.	Local Trend	
Current Median Home Price (2024 Q1)	\$380,400	\$385,100	Driese and the frame at the resident	
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2024 Q1)	12.3%	5.1%	Prices are up from a year ago, but price growth is slowing	
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2024 Q1)	22.8%	21.2%	growth is slowling	
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$70,600	\$67,467	Gains in the last 3 years have extended	
7-year (28 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$164,500	\$154,400	the trend of positive price growth afte the recession	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$144,600	\$181,700		
*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation on	ıly			

	Trenton	U.S.	
Conforming Loan Limit**	\$766,550	\$1,149,825	
FHA Loan Limit	\$498,257	\$1,149,825	Most buyers in this market have access
Local Median to Conforming Limit Ratio	50%	not comparable	to government-backed financing
Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2024.			

#### **Local NAR Leadership**

The Trenton market is part of region 2 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The 2024 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 2 is Jennifer Stevenson.



# **Benefits of Ownership: Total Equity Appreciation**

#### **Total Equity Accrued to Owner by Year and Quarter of Purchase**



Total Equity Gained** through 2024 Q1 from quarter in which home was of purchased			
Price Activity	Trenton	U.S.	Local Trend
1-year (4-quarter)	\$45,221	\$22,451	
3-year (12-quarter)*	\$89,057	\$86,390	Price appreciation and principle
5-year (20-quarter)*	\$169,610	\$152,868	payments in the last 3 years have
7-year (28 quarters)*	\$191,222	\$182,953	boosted total equity growth since the
9-year (36 quarters)*	\$186,024	\$217,432	recession

<sup>\*</sup>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

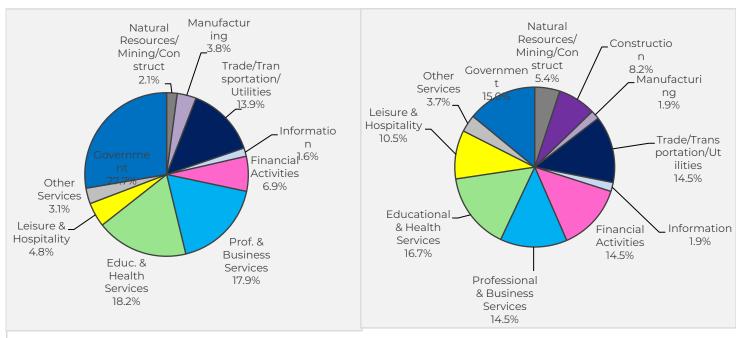


## **Drivers of Local Supply and Demand...**

Local Economic Outlook	Trenton	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Mar)	4,000	Not Comparable	Employment has held up and is on an
12-month Job Change (Feb)	3,400	Not Comparable	upward trend
36-month Job Change (Mar)	25,000	Not Comparable	Trenton's unemployment situation is
Current Unemployment Rate (Mar)	4.1%	3.8%	worse than the national average and weighs on confidence
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.5%	Local employment growth is poor and
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	1.4%	2.1%	needs to improve

#### **Share of Total Employment by Industry**

Trenton Area U.S.

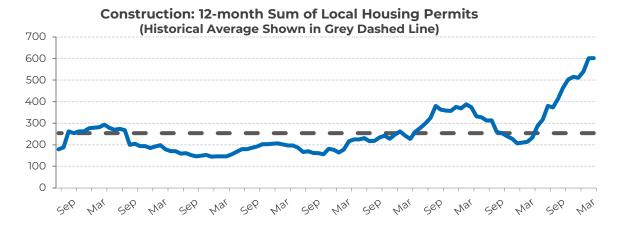


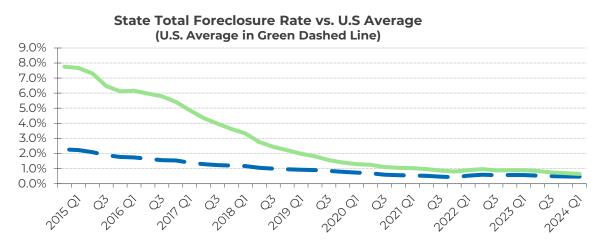
#### 12-month Employment Change by Industry (Mar - 2024) Goods Producing NA Information -800 Natural Resources/Mining/Construction 200 -300 Financial Activities Natural Resources and Mining NA Prof. & Business Services 100 Construction NA Educ. & Health Services 2,300 Manufacturing 100 Leisure & Hospitality -600 Service Providing Excluding Government NA Other Services 0 Trade/Transportation/Utilities -200 Government 2.600



State Economic Activity Index	New Jersey	U.S.	
12-month change (2024 - Mar)	0.7%	2.9%	New Jersey's economy is growing, but
36-month change (2024 - Mar)	11.2%	12.9%	decelerated from last month's 0.75% change and lags the rest of the nation

New Housing Construction				
Local Fundamentals	Trenton	U.S.		
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Mar	602	not comparable	The current level of construction is 136.6% above the long-term average	
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	254	not comparable	Production above trend for an extended period of time could cause prices to moderate as inventory is built up.	
Single-Family Housing Permits (Mar) 12-month sum vs. a year ago	157.3%	8.8%	Construction is on the rise relative to last year, suggesting that the local inventory has stabilized	



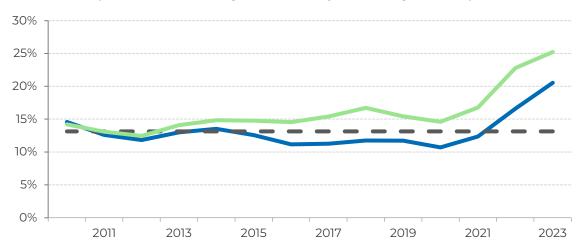


Source: Mortgage Bankers' Association



## **Affordability**

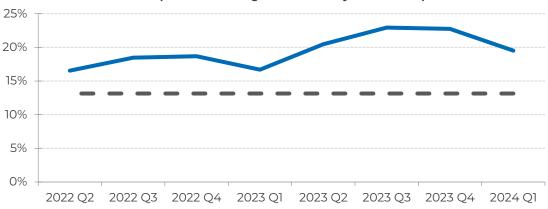
## Long-Term Trend: Ratio of Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income (Local Historical Average Shown in Grey, U.S. Average in Green)



Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income*	Trenton	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	20.6%	25.2%	Weak by local standards, but better
Ratio for 2024 Q1	19.5%	23.7%	than the fourth quarter of 2023
Historical Average	13.2%	17.0%	More affordable than most markets

<sup>\*</sup>The median family Income was included for the calculation of the mortgage payment to income ratio

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

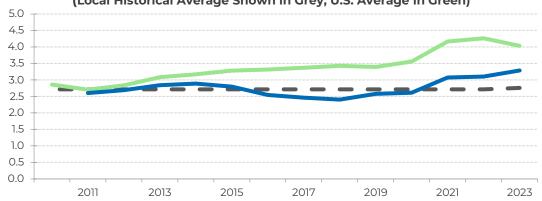


Median Home Price to Income*	Trenton	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	3.3	4.0	The price-to-income ratio eased, but
Ratio for 2024 Q1	3.1	3.8	could be better
Historical Average	2.8	3.4	Affordable compared to most markets

<sup>\*</sup>The median family Income was included for the calculation of the median home price to income ratio

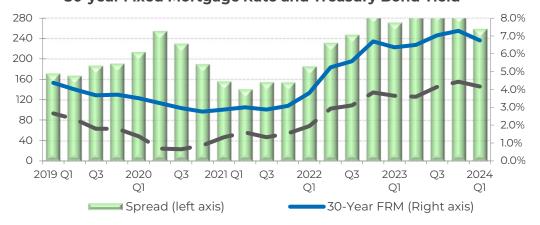






## **The Mortgage Market**





During the first quarter of the year, housing affordability improved as mortgage rates fell below 7%. Steady interest rates from the Federal Reserve helped mortgage rates to ease in the first three months of the year. Nevertheless, even with this decrease, mortgage rates continued to be higher than a year ago. According to the mortgage provider Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed mortgage rate rose to 6.75% in the first quarter from 6.36% a year earlier.

With lower interest rates on the horizon, mortgage rates are expected to ease later this year, thereby enhancing affordability for potential homebuyers. NAR forecasts the 30-year fixed mortgage rate to average 6.5% at the last quarter of the year.



## Geographic Coverage for this Report

The Trenton area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Trenton 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:

**Mercer County** 

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