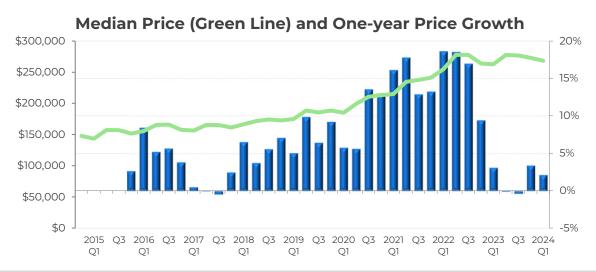


## **Columbia Area**

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

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



Local Price Trends				
Price Activity	Columbia	U.S.	Local Trend	
Current Median Home Price (2024 Q1)	\$268,400	\$385,100	Prices are up from a year ago, but price	
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2024 Q1)	2.1%	5.1%	growth is slowing	
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2024 Q1)	24.9%	21.2%	growth is slowing	
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$53,500	\$67,467	Gains in the last 3 years have extended	
7-year (28 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$112,000	\$154,400	the trend of positive price growth after	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$124,900	\$181,700	the recession	
*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only				

	Columbia	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	35%	not comparable	to government-backed financing
Note: limits are current and include the changes made on January 1st 2024.			

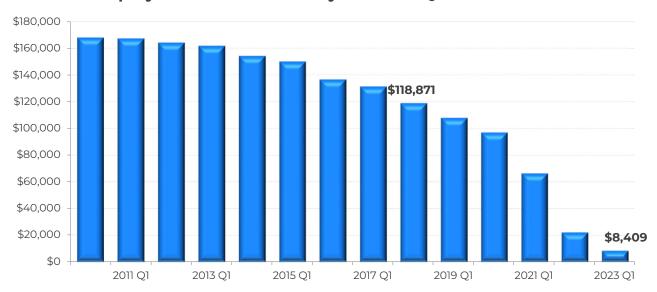
#### **Local NAR Leadership**

The Columbia market is part of region 4 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The 2024 NAR Regional Vice President representing region 4 is David Kent.



# **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	Columbia	U.S.	Local Trend
1-year (4-quarter)	\$8,409	\$22,451	
3-year (12-quarter)*	\$66,303	\$86,390	Price appreciation and principle
5-year (20-quarter)*	\$107,807	\$152,868	payments in the last 3 years have
7-year (28 quarters)*	\$131,357	\$182,953	boosted total equity growth since the
9-year (36 quarters)*	\$150,109	\$217,432	recession

\*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



1.800

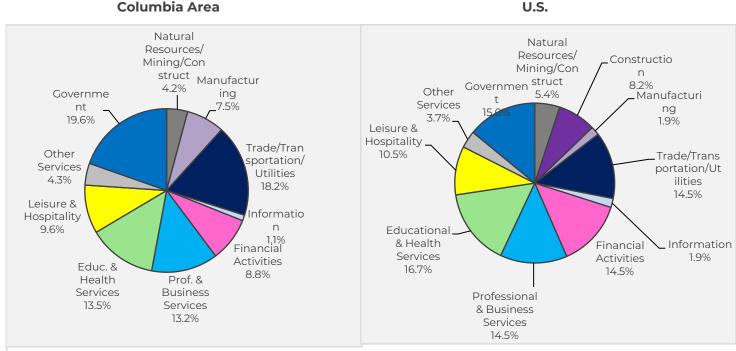
## **Drivers of Local Supply and Demand...**

Local Economic Outlook	Columbia	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Mar)	12,000	Not Comparable	Employment has held up and is on an
12-month Job Change (Feb)	10,600	Not Comparable	upward trend
36-month Job Change (Mar)	37,800	Not Comparable	Unemployment has risen since the
Current Unemployment Rate (Mar)	3.2%	3.8%	same period last year, but Columbia's labor market has been more resilient than the national average
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	2.9%	3.5%	Local employment growth is strong
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	2.9%	2.1%	compared to other markets

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

#### Columbia Area

Trade/Transportation/Utilities



#### 12-month Employment Change by Industry (Mar - 2024) Goods Producing NA Information -400 Natural Resources/Mining/Construction 800 Financial Activities 1.500 Natural Resources and Mining NA Prof. & Business Services 400 Construction NA Educ. & Health Services 3,300 Manufacturing 500 Leisure & Hospitality 1.800 Service Providing Excluding Government NA Other Services 800

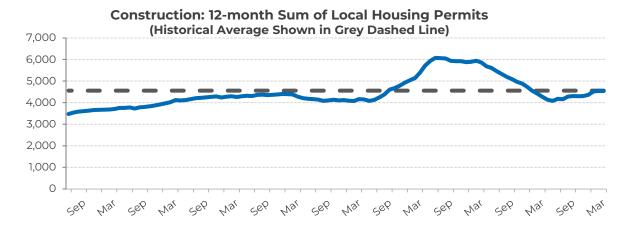
Government

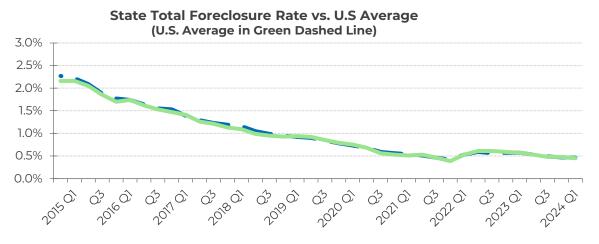
100



State Economic Activity Index	South Carolina	U.S.	
	2.9%	2.9%	The economy of South Carolina has
12-month change (2024 - Mar)	2.970	2.970	outpaced the rest of the nation and
	12.6%	12.9%	improved modestly from last month's
36-month change (2024 - Mar)	12.6%	12.970	2.76% change

New Housing Construction			
Local Fundamentals	Columbia	U.S.	
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Mar	4,536	not comparable	The current level of construction is 0.4% below the long-term average
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	4,554	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	6.4%	8.8%	Construction is on the rise relative to last year, suggesting that the local inventory has stabilized



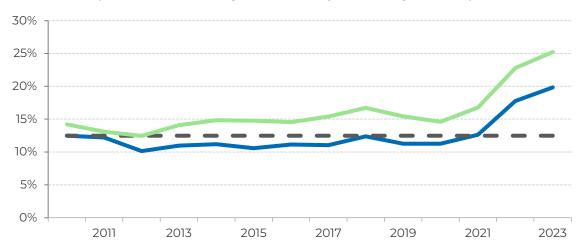


Source: Mortgage Bankers' Association



## **Affordability**

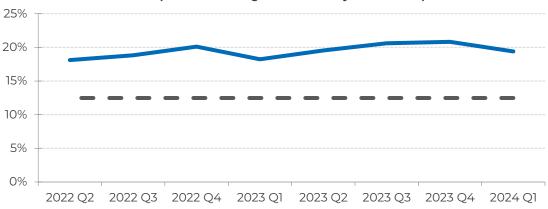
## Long-Term Trend: Ratio of Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income (Local Historical Average Shown in Grey, U.S. Average in Green)



Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income*	Columbia	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	19.8%	25.2%	Weak by local standards, but better
Ratio for 2024 Q1	19.4%	23.7%	than the fourth quarter of 2023
Historical Average	12.5%	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

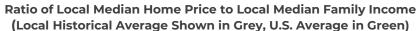
## Recent Trend - Local Mortgage Servicing Cost to Income (Historical Average Shown in Grey Dashed Line)

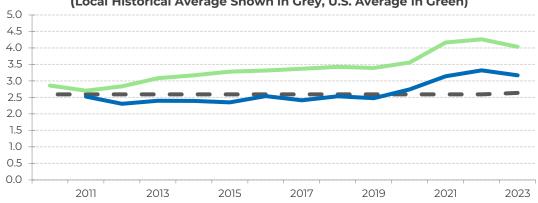


Median Home Price to Income*	Columbia	U.S.	
Ratio for 2023	3.2	4.0	The price-to-income ratio eased, but
Ratio for 2024 Q1	3.1	3.8	could be better
Historical Average	2.6	3.4	Affordable compared to most markets

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

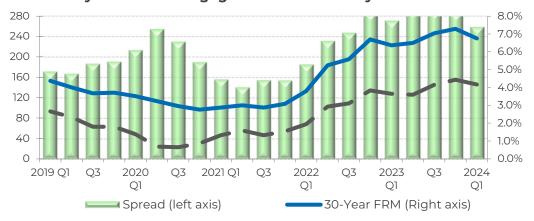






## **The Mortgage Market**





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 Columbia area referred to in this report covers the geographic area of the Columbia 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:

Calhoun County, Fairfield County, Kershaw County, Lexington County, Richland County, and Saluda County

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