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US Housing Outlook: Expansion continues

Higher mortgage rates weighing on demand. But housing inventory remains low, wage growth is strong, and stock prices are high.

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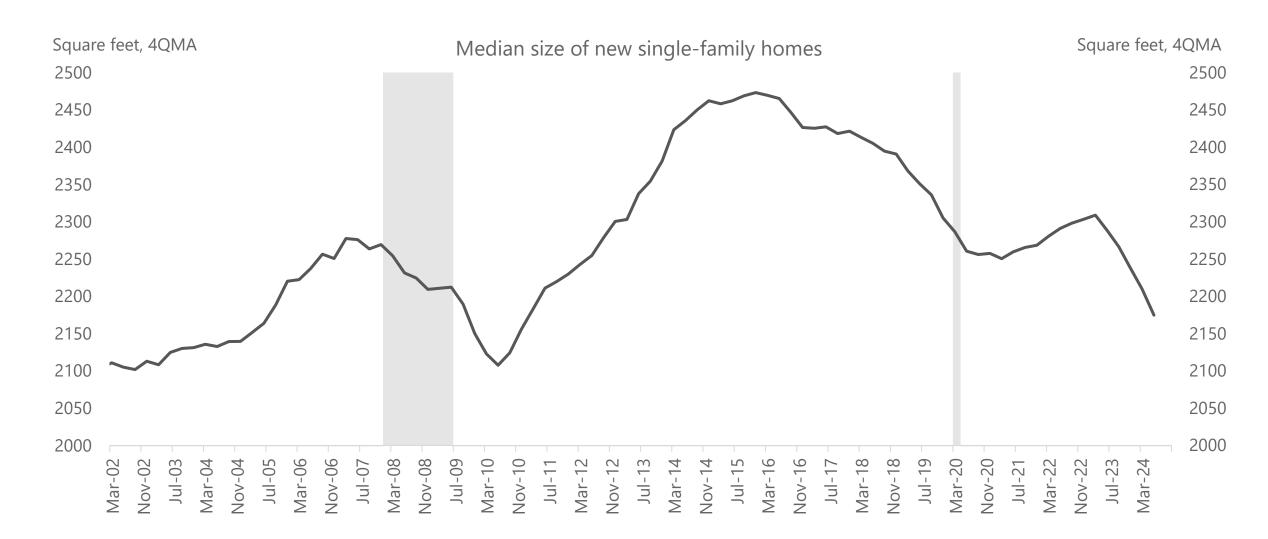
10 facts about the US housing market

- 1. US homes are getting smaller: The size of new homes being built has declined by 12% since 2016
- 2. The median age of all homebuyers is now 49 years old, up from 31 in 1981
- 3. Our home price model predicts that house prices will increase 10.8% over the coming year
- 4. 40% of US homes don't have a mortgage
- 5. The average number of homes sold per real estate agent every year is 21, down from 54 in 2004
- 6. Households' equity in real estate is at a record-high 73% of housing values
- 7. A record-high 36% of Americans say they would rent if they were going to move
- 8. More than half of all mortgages outstanding have an interest rate below 4%
- 9. 95% of mortgages outstanding are 30-year fixed rate
- 10. 63% of all mortgages outstanding were issued after 2018

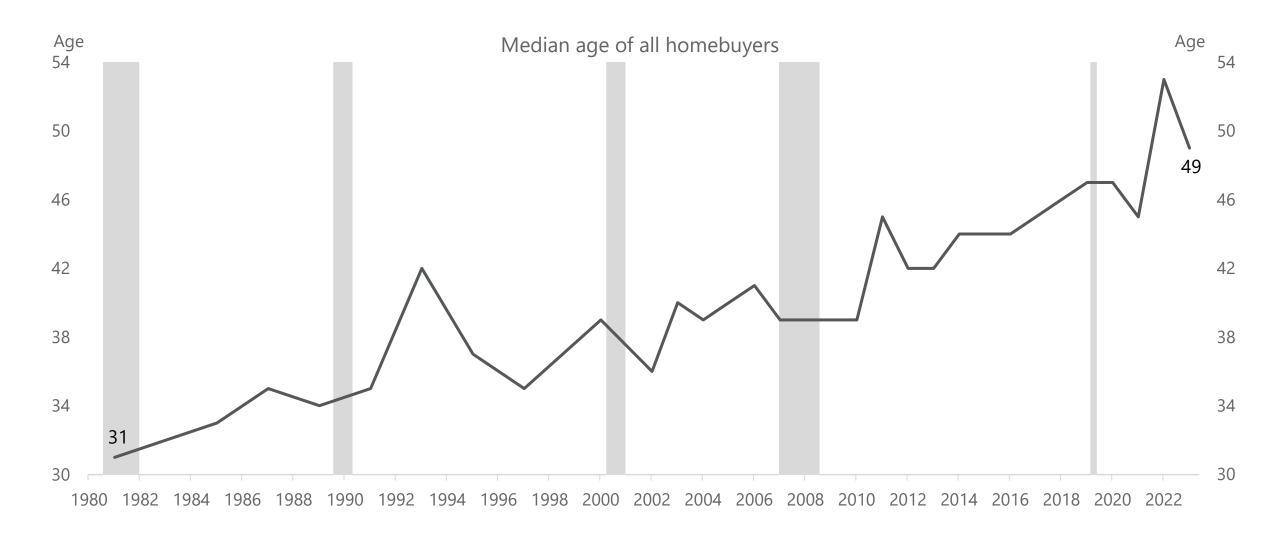
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Overview

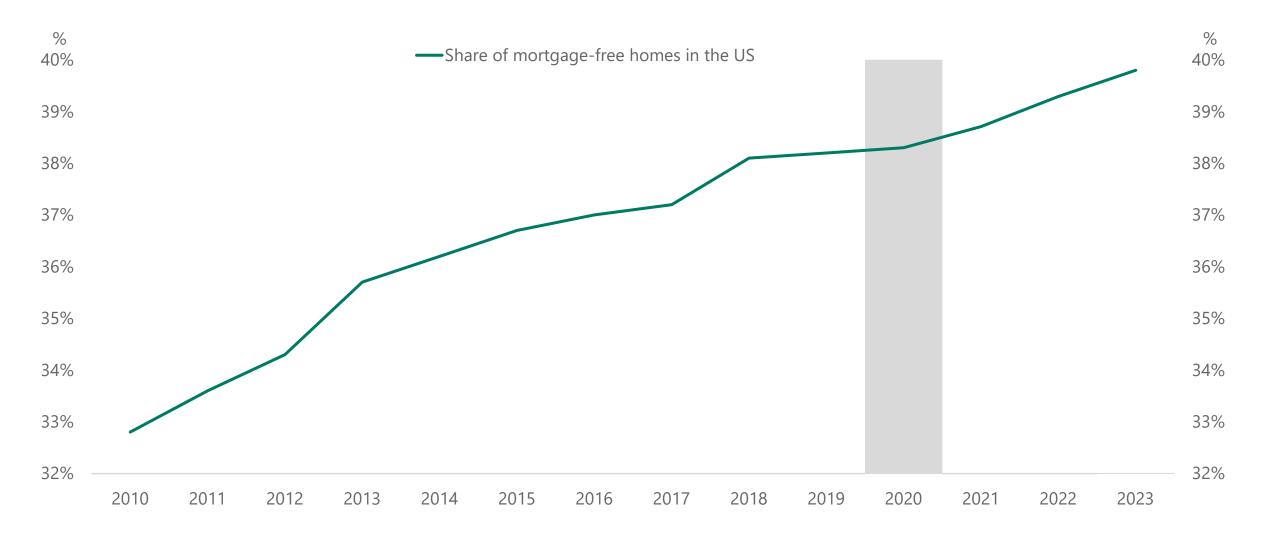
US homes are getting smaller: Median size of new single-family homes declining



The median age of all homebuyers is now 49 years old, up from 31 in 1981

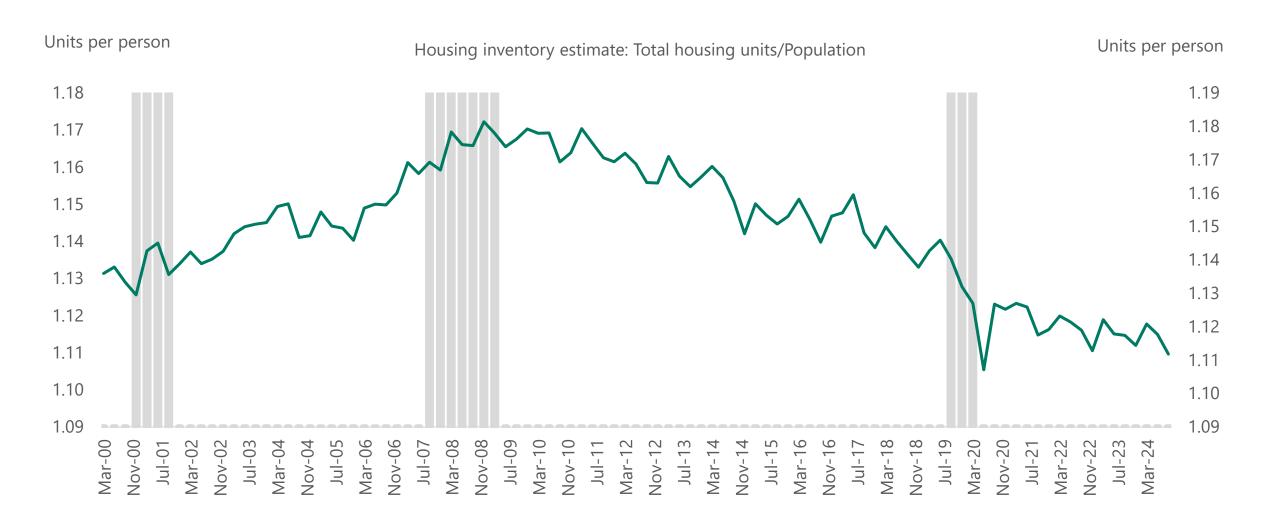


40% of US homes don't have a mortgage



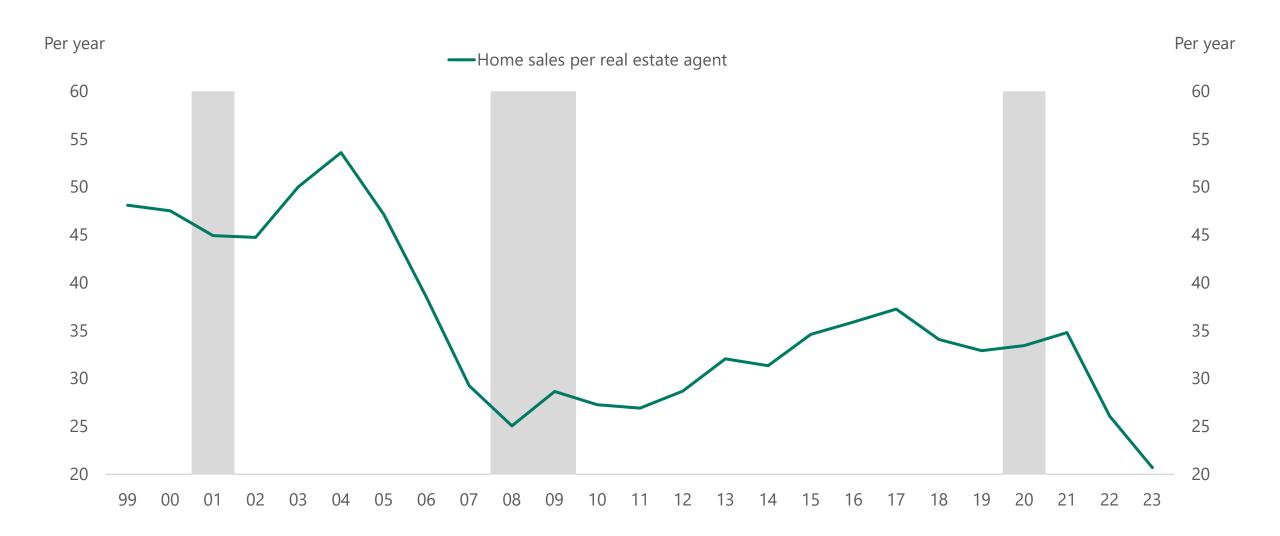
Source: US Census Bureau, Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist

Total housing inventory per person is very low

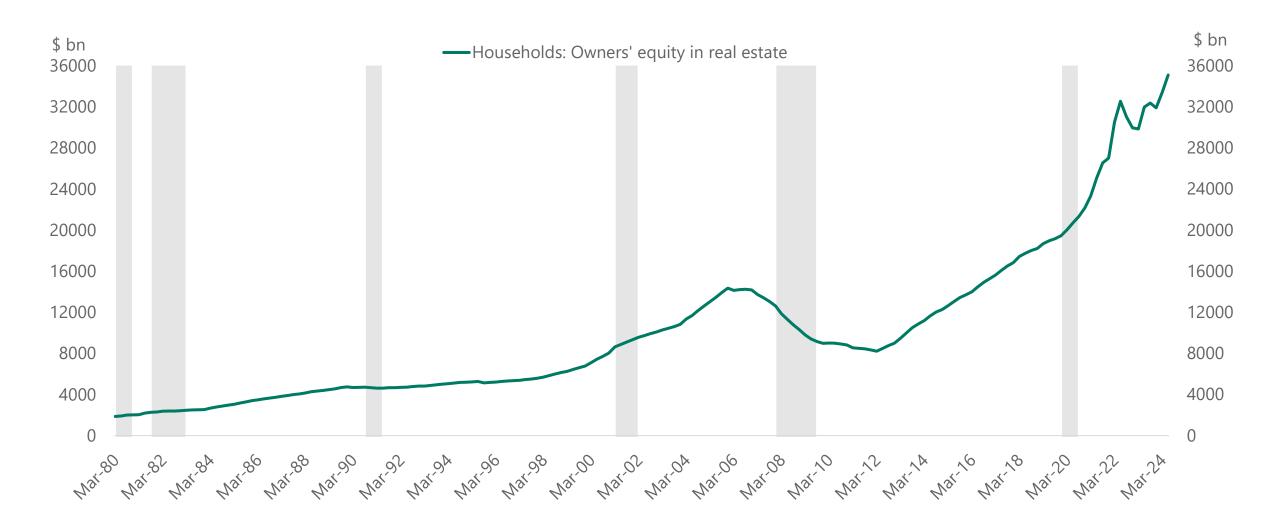


Source: Census Bureau, FRED, Apollo Chief Economist

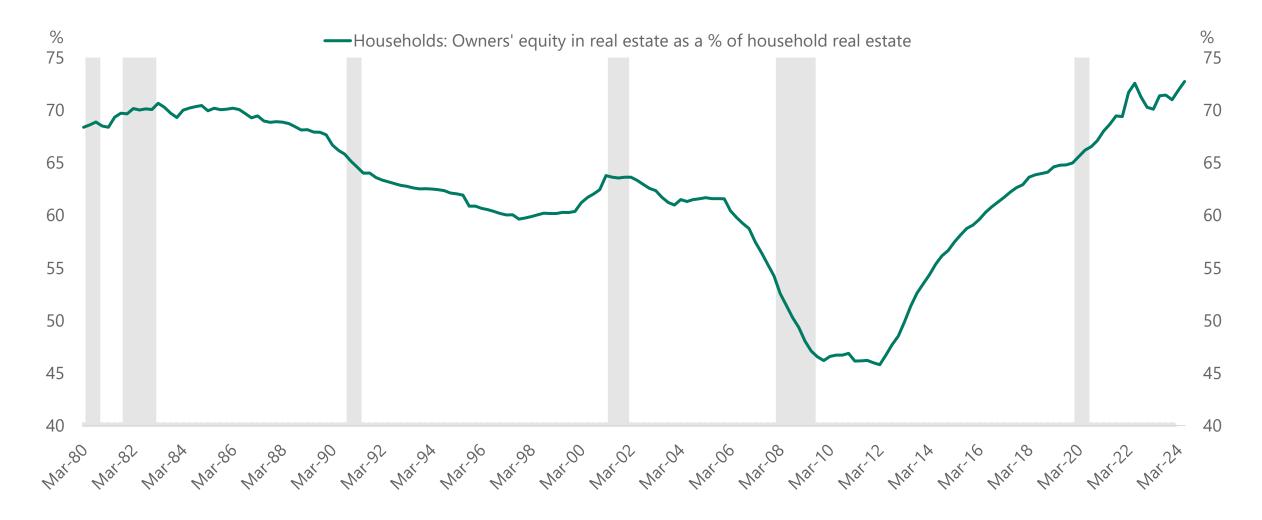
With lower inventory, real estate sales agents selling fewer homes



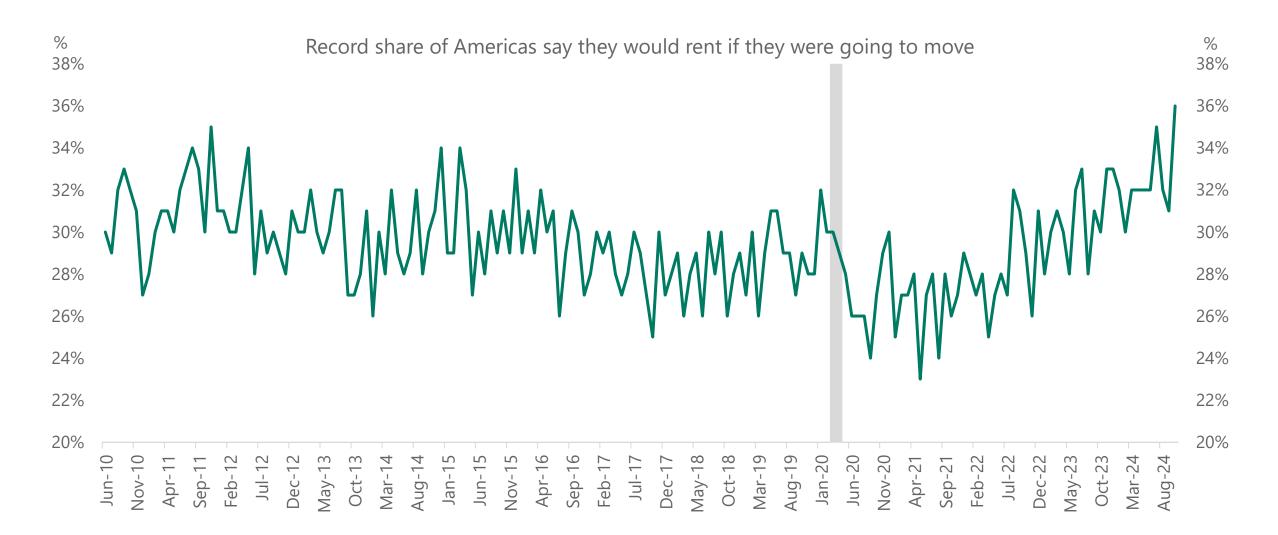
Households' equity in real estate rising to \$35trn



Households' equity share in real estate at all-time high 73%



36% of Americans say they would rent if there were going to move

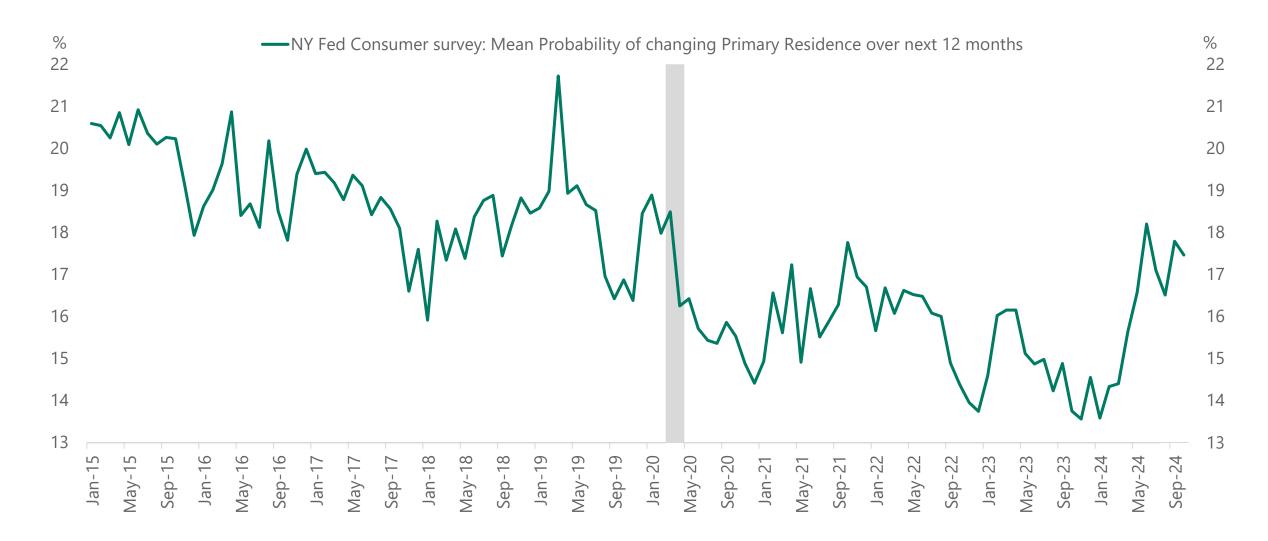


Source: Fannie Mae, Apollo Chief Economist.

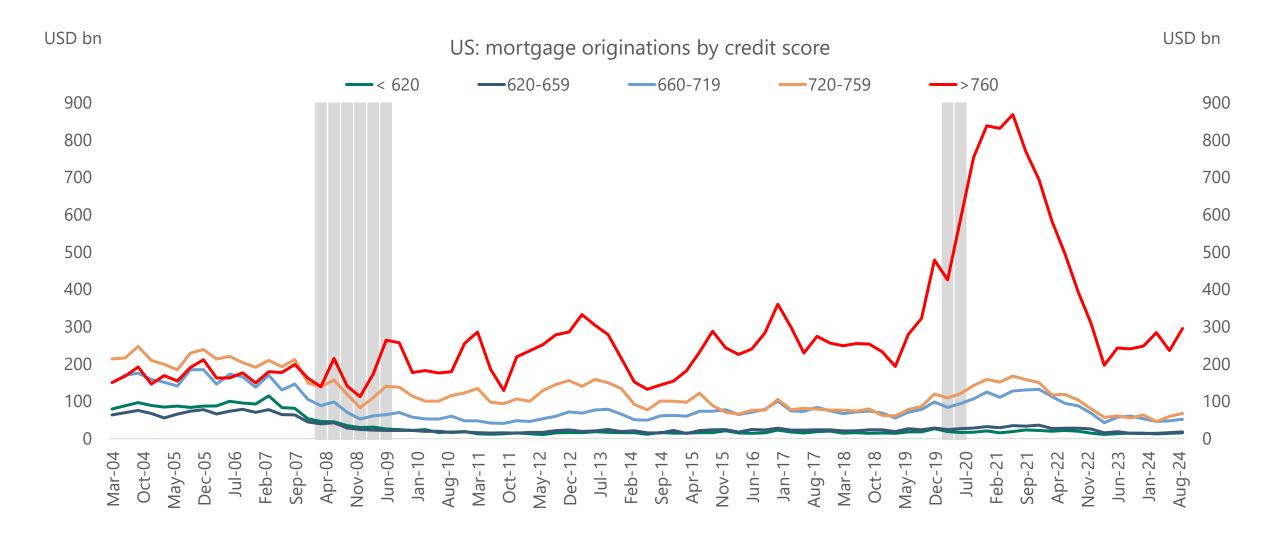
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Leading indicators for the housing market

Share of households planning to move over the next 12 months has increased recently

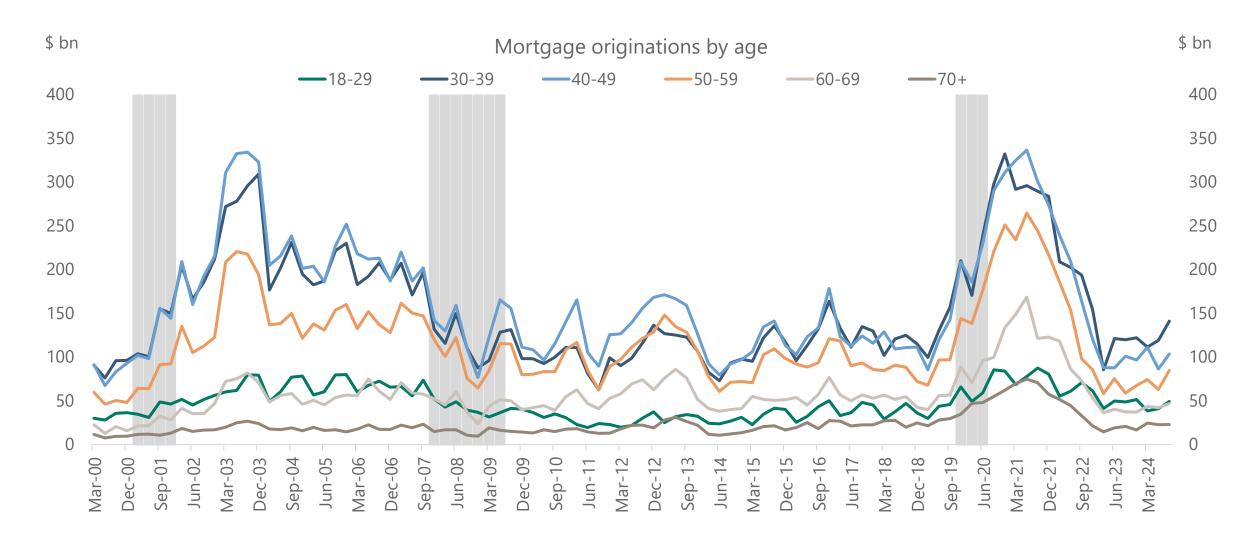


Mortgage originations have normalized for households with high credit scores



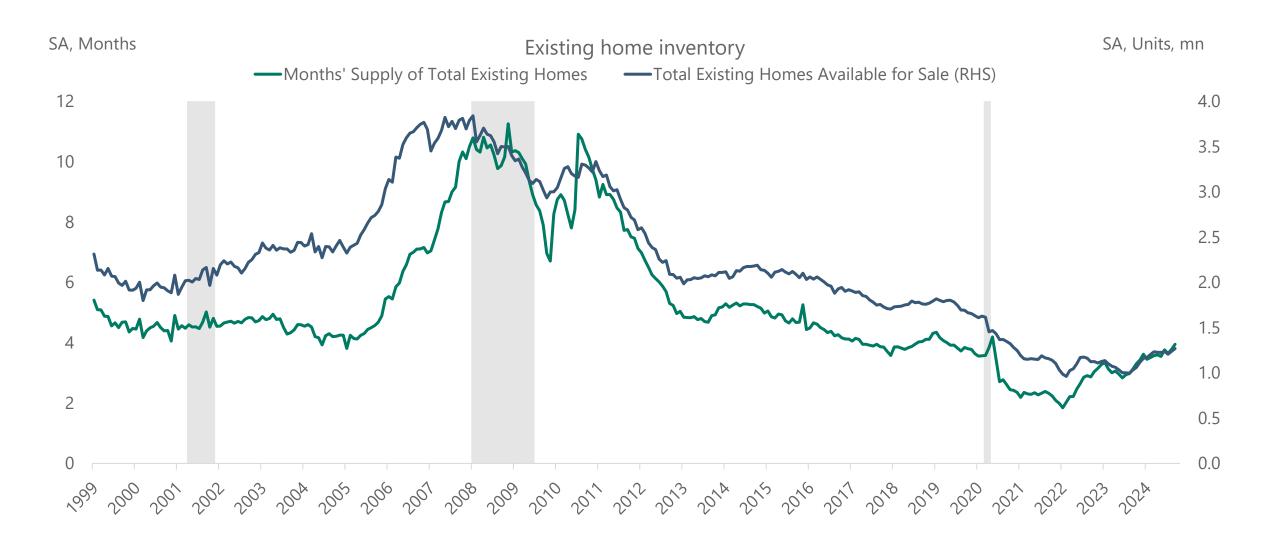
Source: NY Fed, Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist

Mortgage originations back at pre-pandemic levels



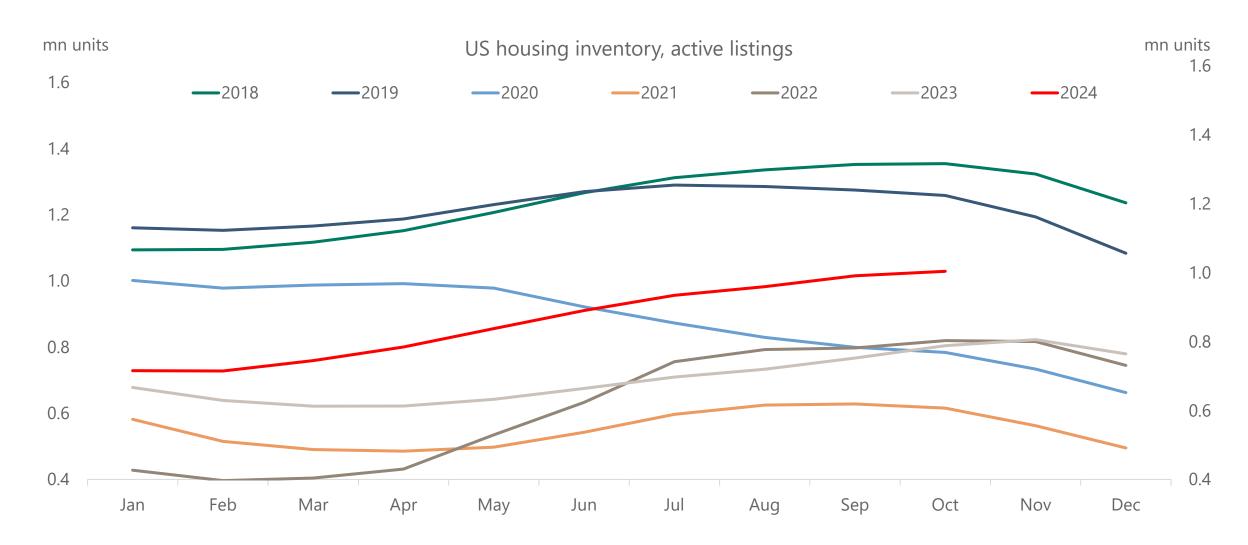
Source: NY Fed, Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist 16

Existing housing inventory very low



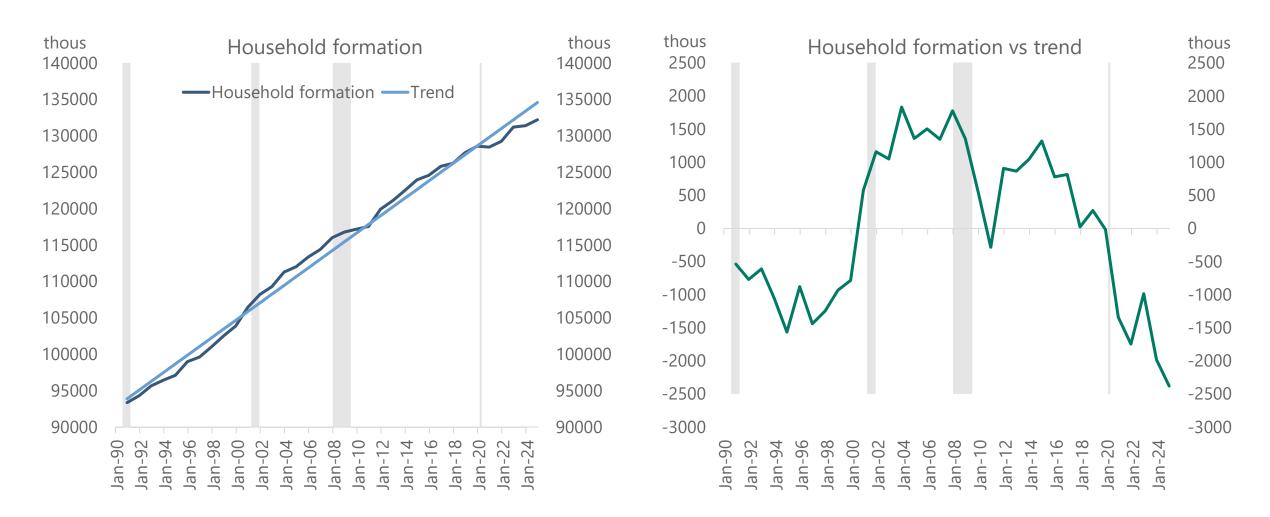
Source: NAR, Apollo Chief Economist

Low inventory of homes for sale. Has been rising partly for seasonal reasons.



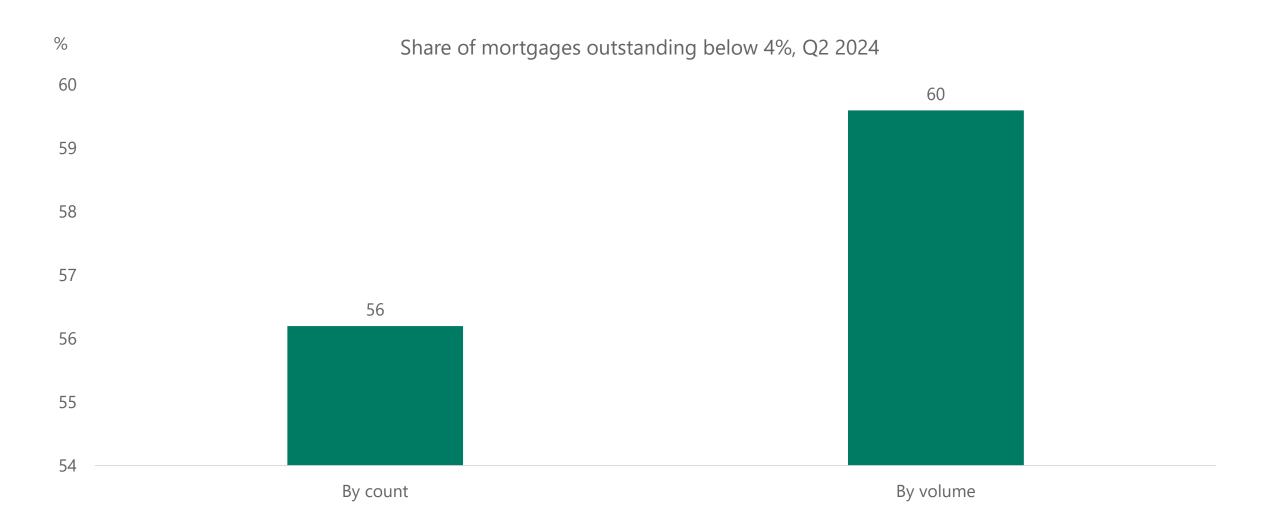
Source: Realtor.com, Apollo Chief Economist

US has an estimated deficit of 2.4mn homes

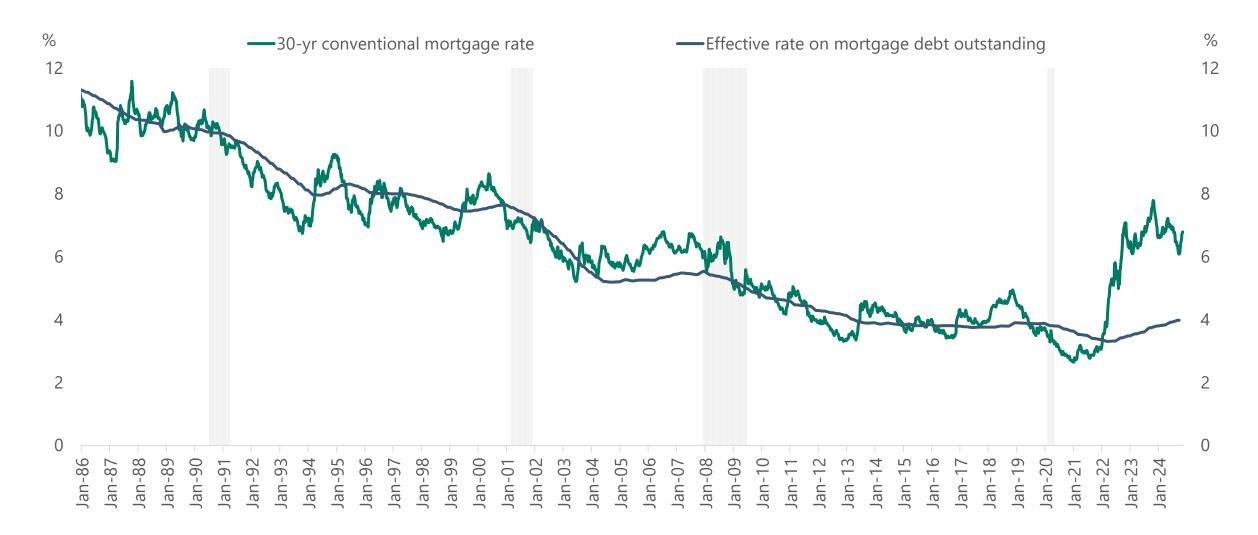


Source: Census, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

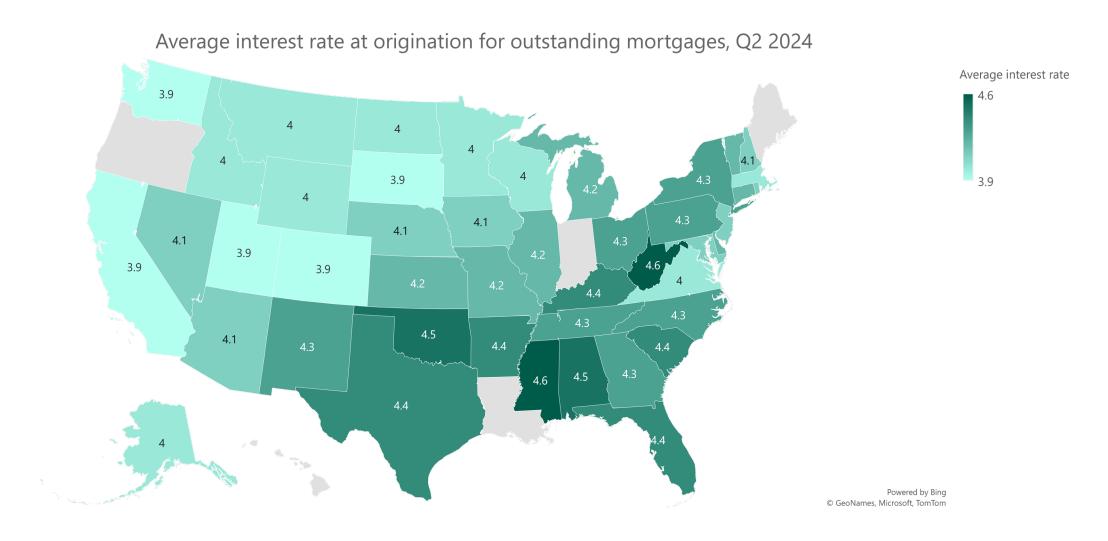
More than half of all mortgages outstanding have an interest rate below 4%



Effective outstanding mortgage rate is 3.9%



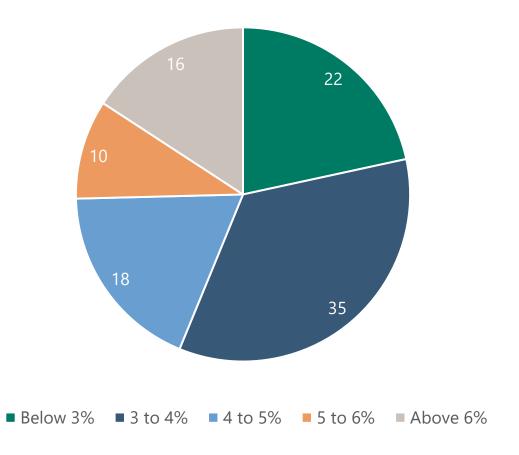
Average interest rate at origination



Source: FHFA, Apollo Chief Economist

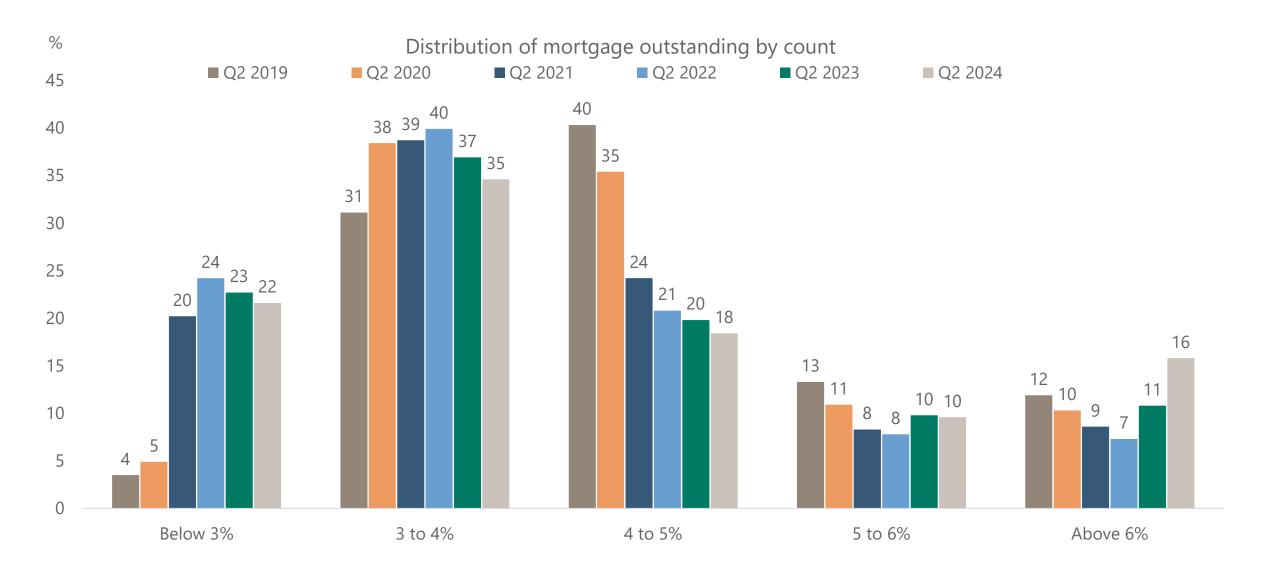
Share of mortgages outstanding by interest rate

Share of mortgages outstanding by interest rate at origination by count, Q2 2024



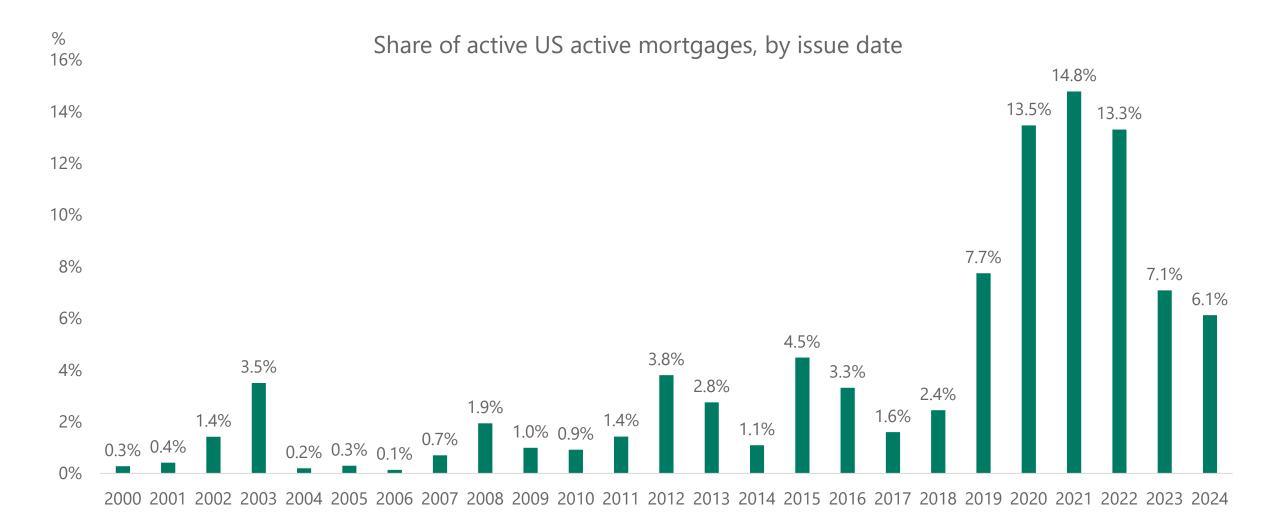
Source: FHFA, Apollo Chief Economist

Distribution of interest rates on outstanding mortgages

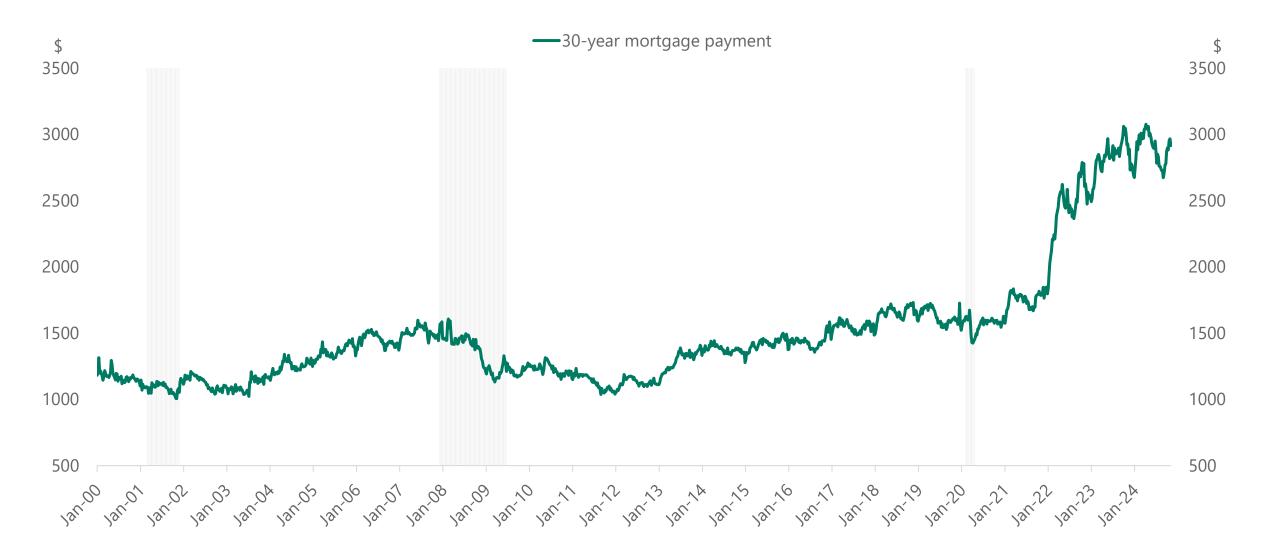


Source: FHFA, Apollo Chief Economist

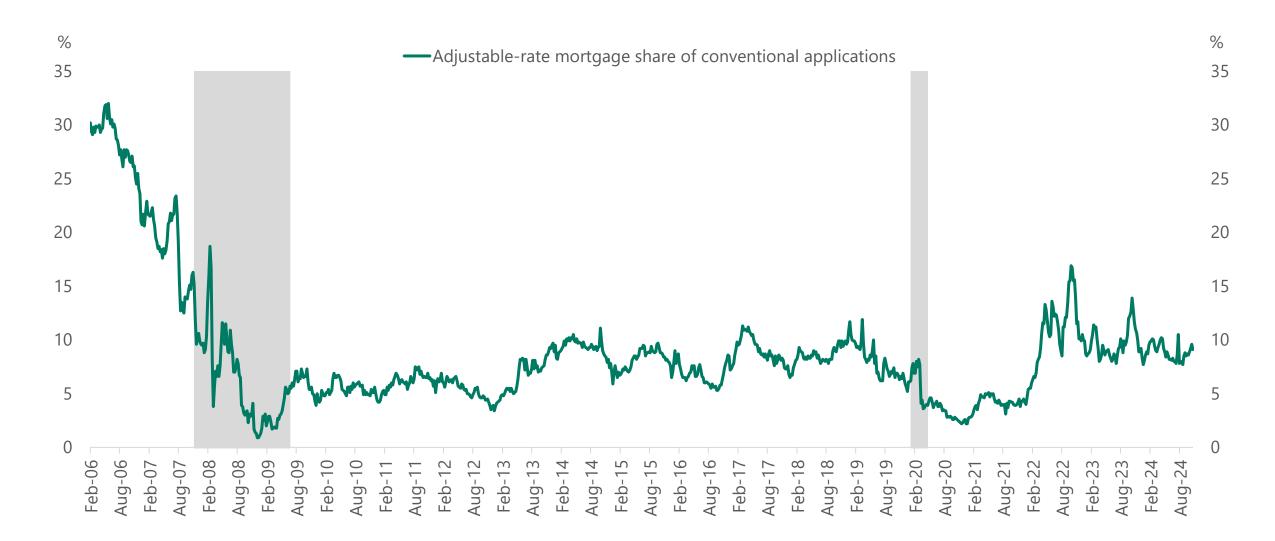
63% of all mortgages outstanding were issued after 2018



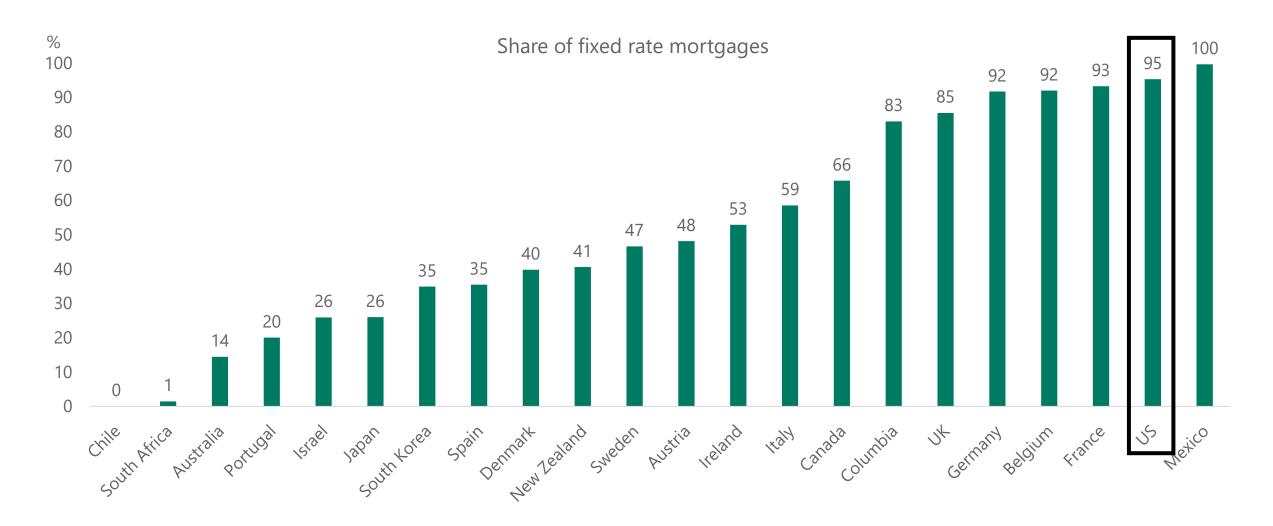
Monthly mortgage payment on a new mortgage currently \$2900



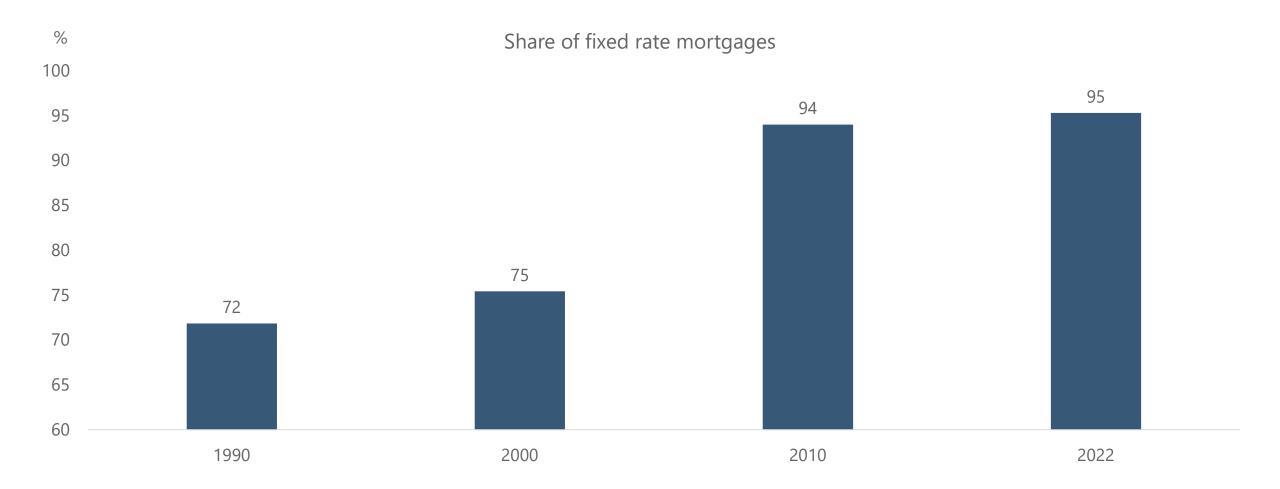
ARM share of total mortgage applications: 9%



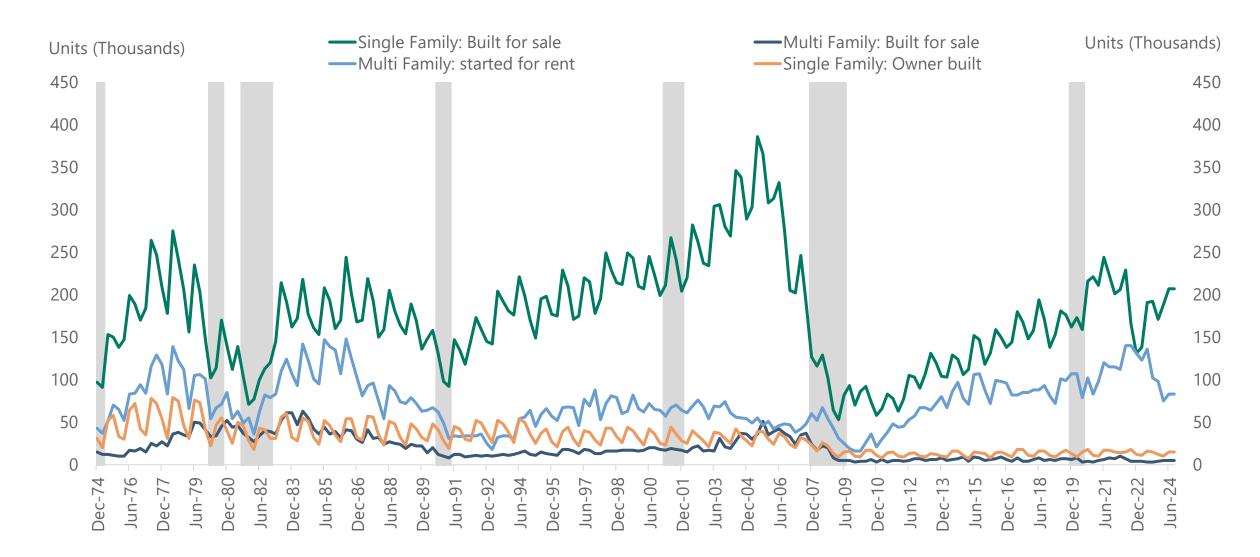
95% of mortgages outstanding are 30-year fixed rate



Share of fixed rate mortgages



Intent of housing starts: Multi family for rent declining. Single family for sale rising.

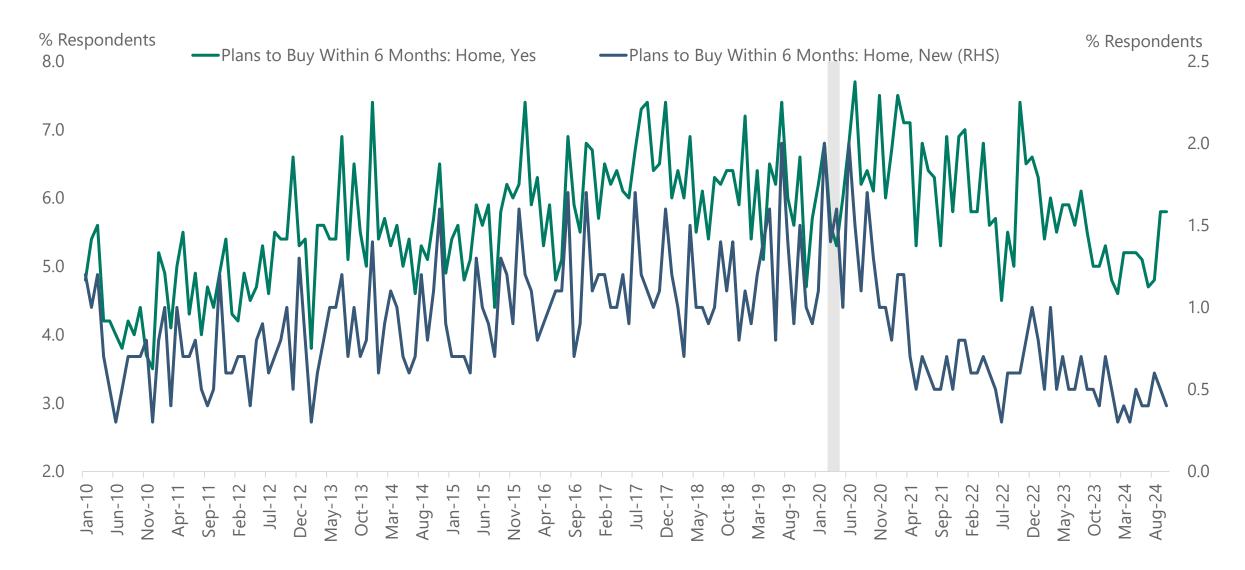


Source: US Census Bureau, Apollo Chief Economist

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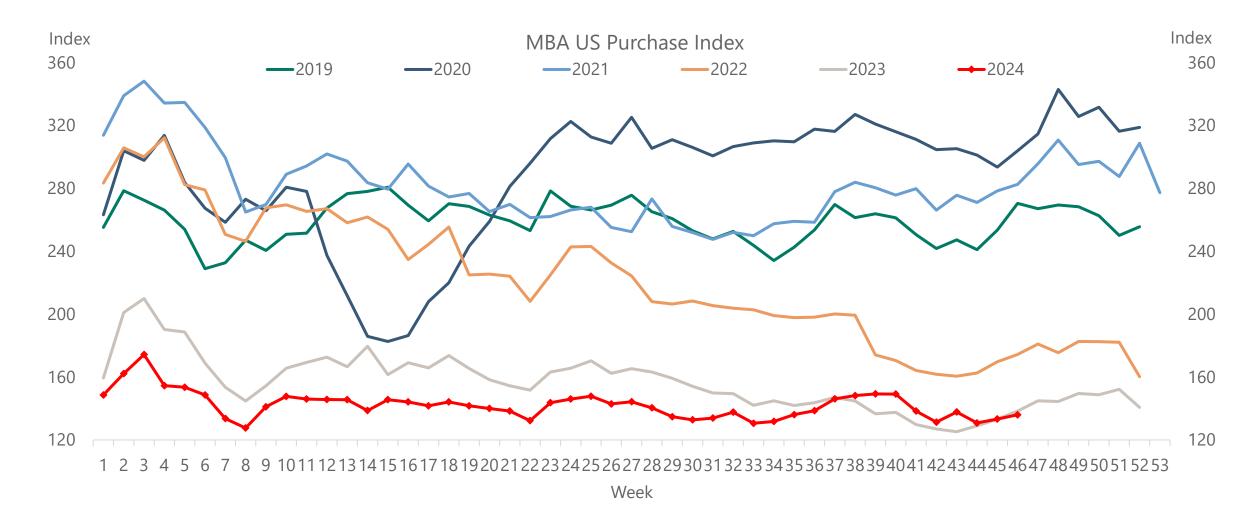
1) Housing demand: High mortgage rates, strong wage growth, steady job growth, and high stock prices

Home buying plans

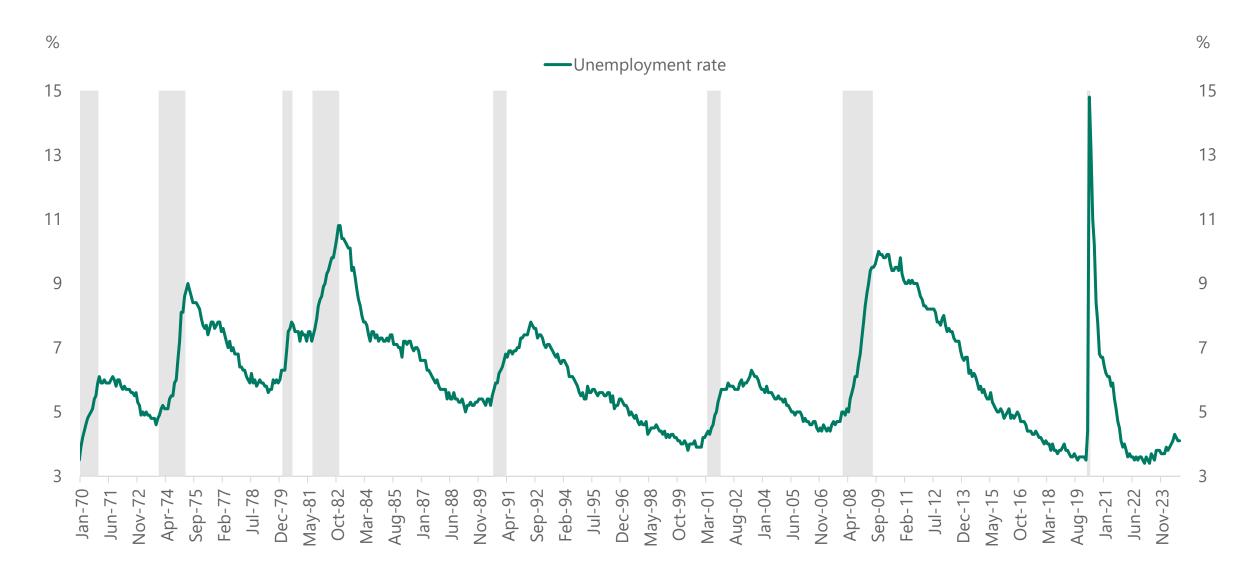


Source: Conference Board, Apollo Chief Economist

Mortgage purchase applications remain much lower than normal

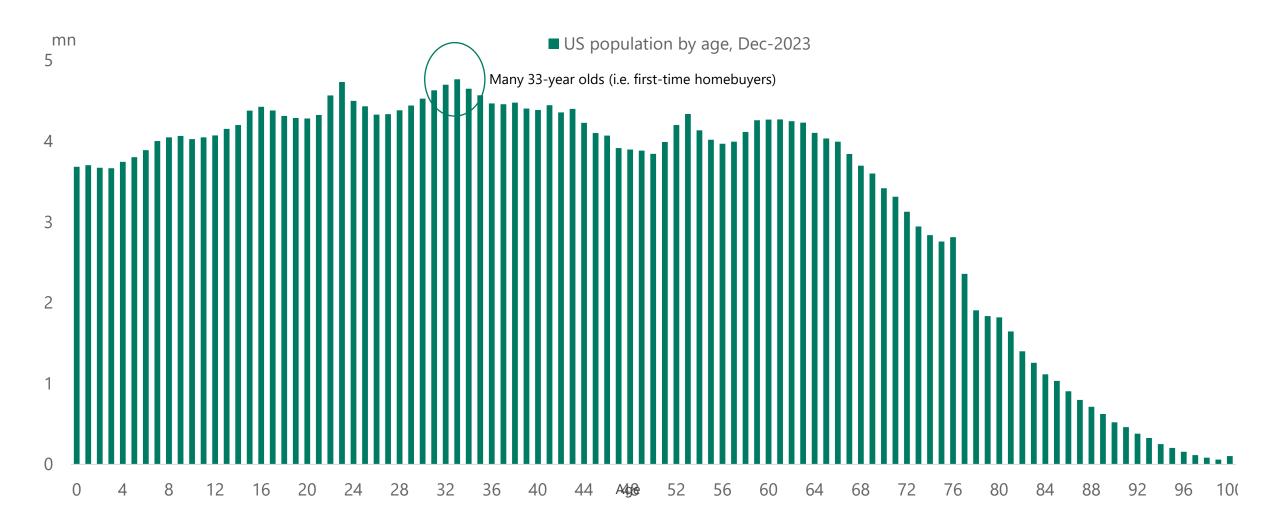


The unemployment rate has started to decline, supporting housing demand



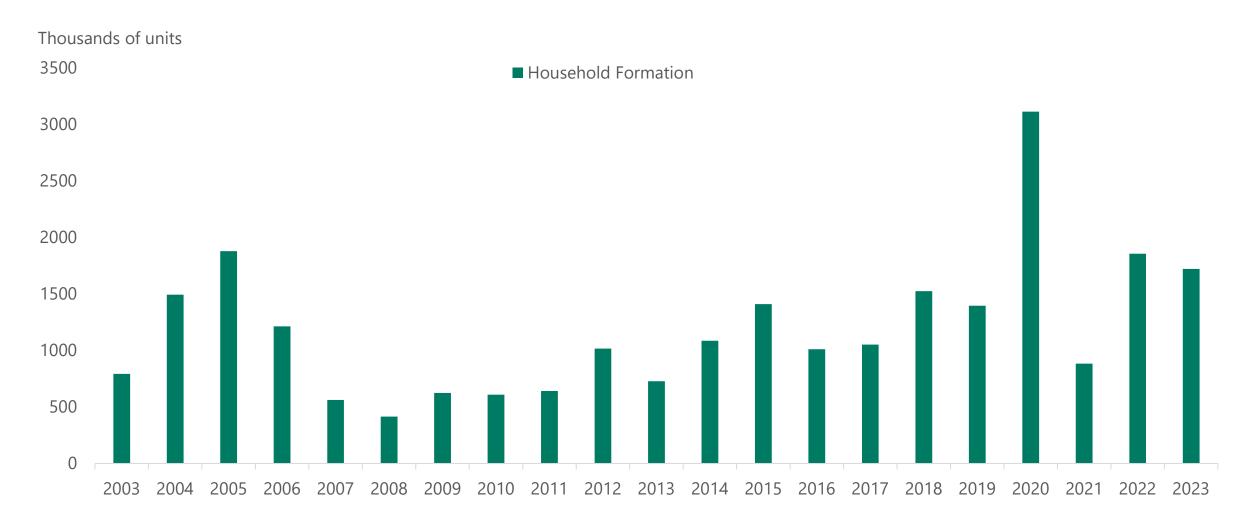
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Demographics are a tailwind to housing demand



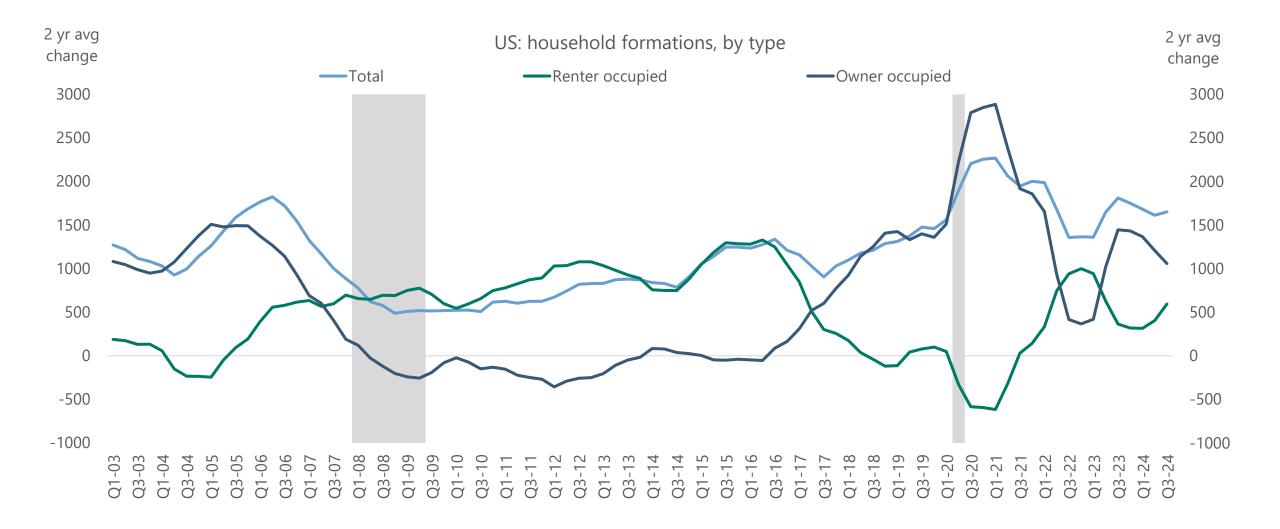
Source: Census Bureau, Apollo Chief Economist

Strong household formation is a tailwind to housing demand



Source: Census Bureau, Haver, Apollo Chief Economist

US household formations by type



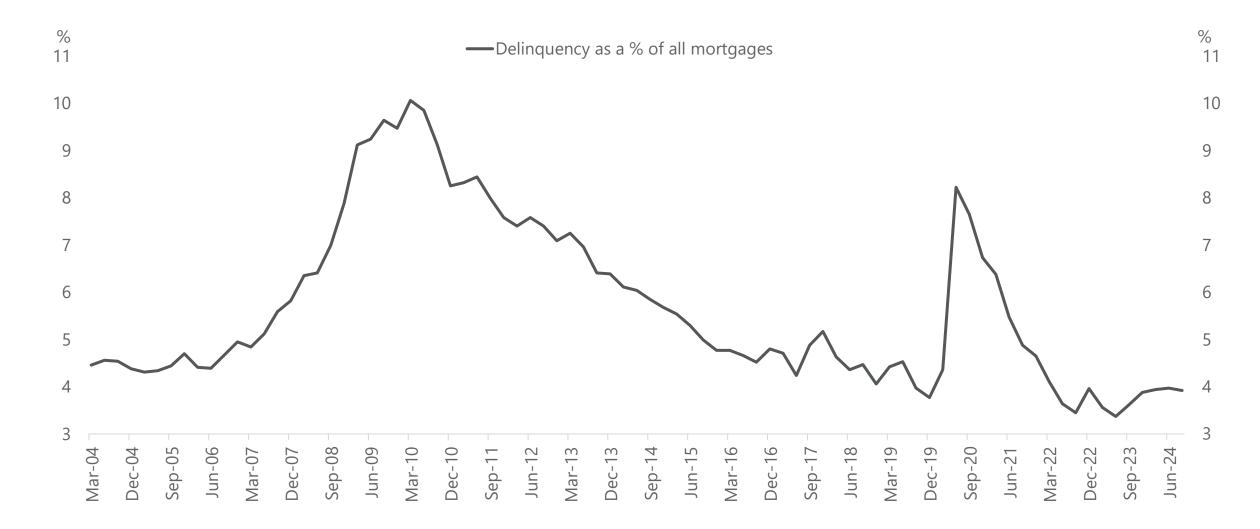
Source: Census Bureau, Haver, Apollo Chief Economist

Homeownership rate moving sideways



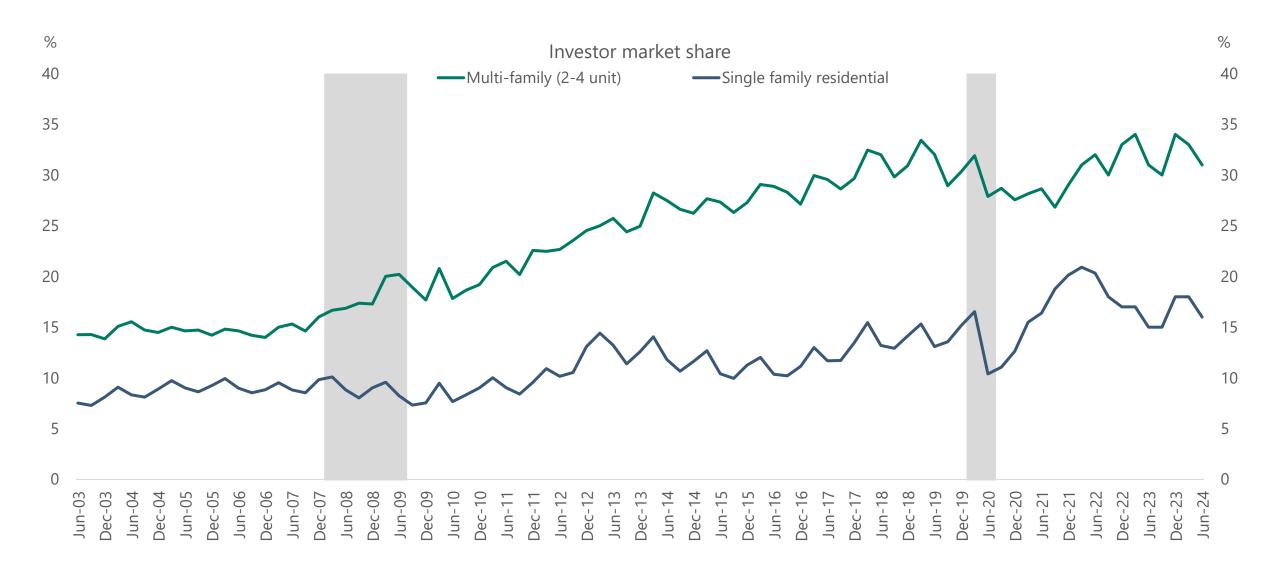
Source: Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist 38

Delinquency rate for mortgages very low

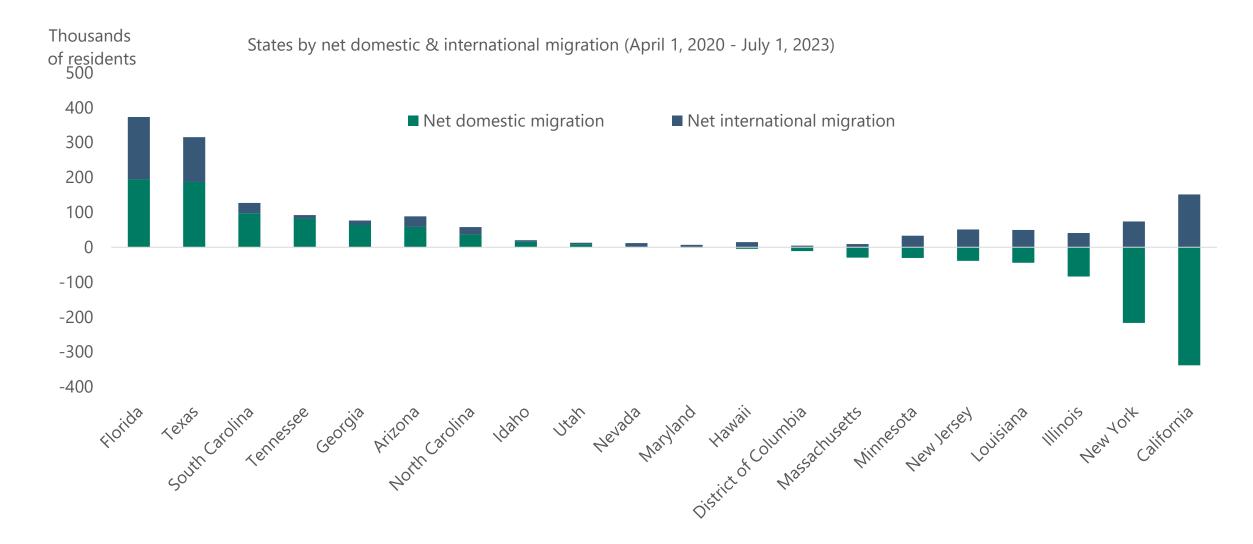


Source: Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist

Investor share of single-family is stable

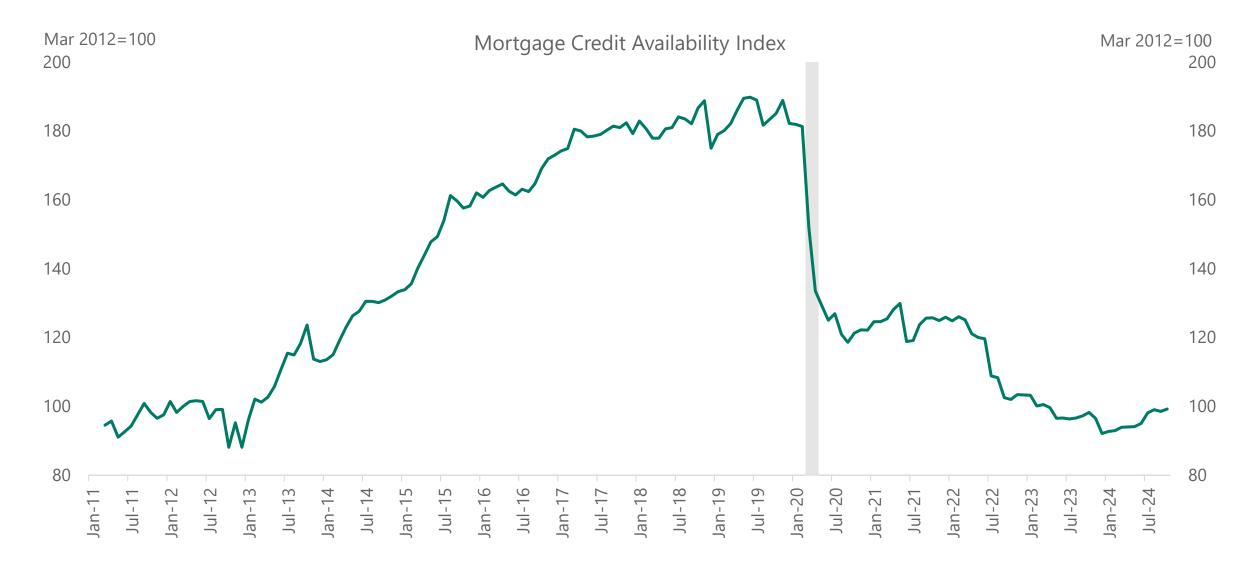


Migration out of California and migration into Florida during the pandemic

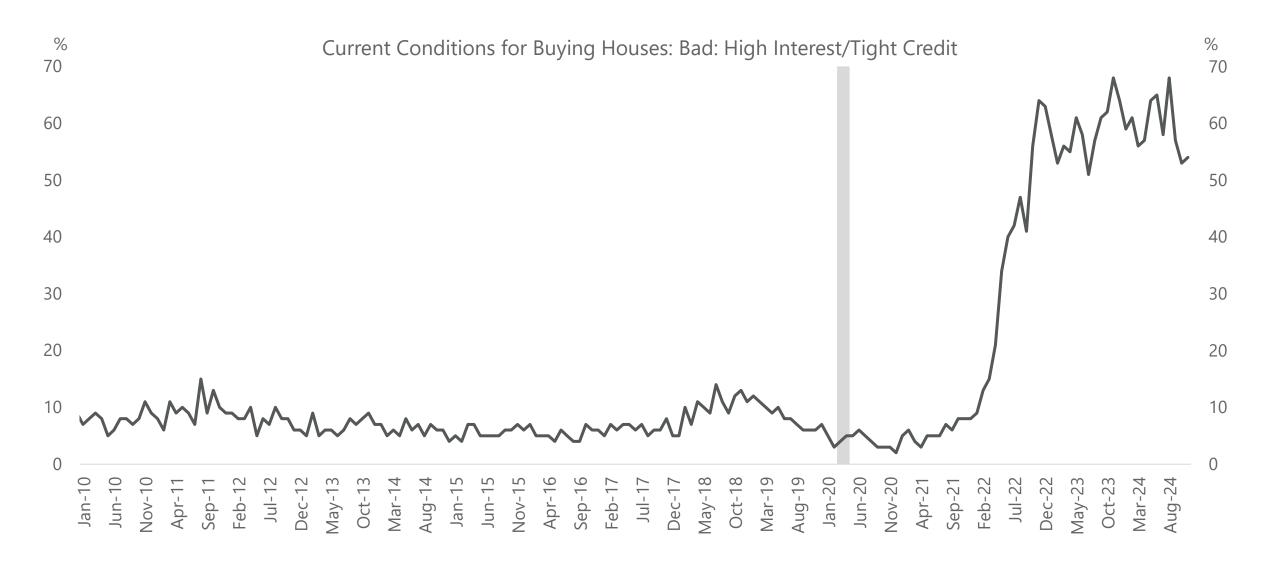


Source: Census Bureau, Apollo Chief Economist 41

Availability of mortgage credit at tight levels

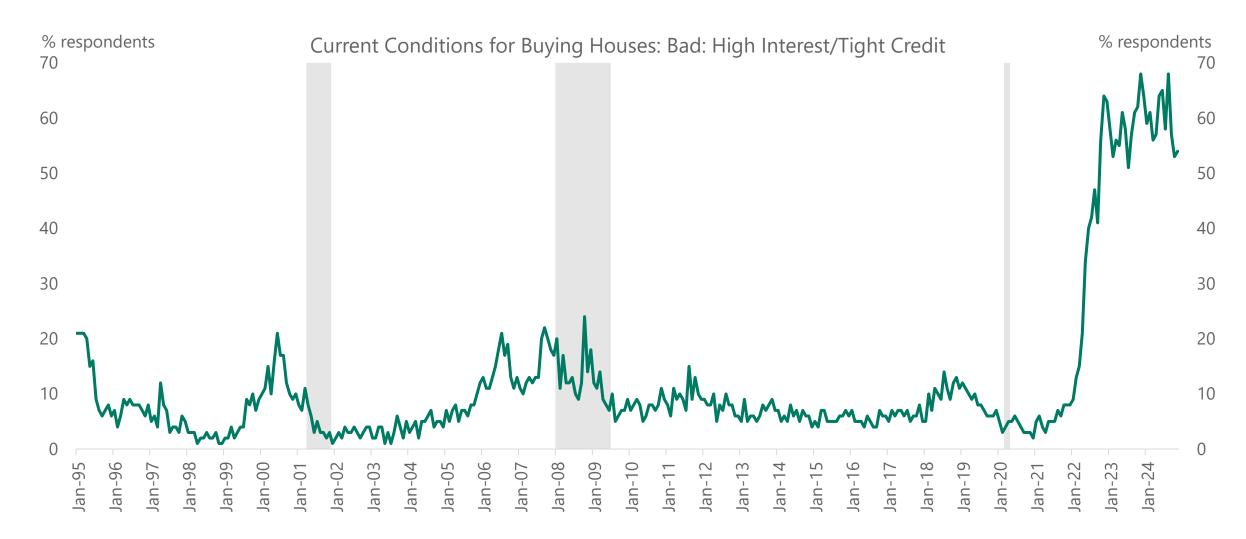


Homebuyer sentiment has improved slightly recently



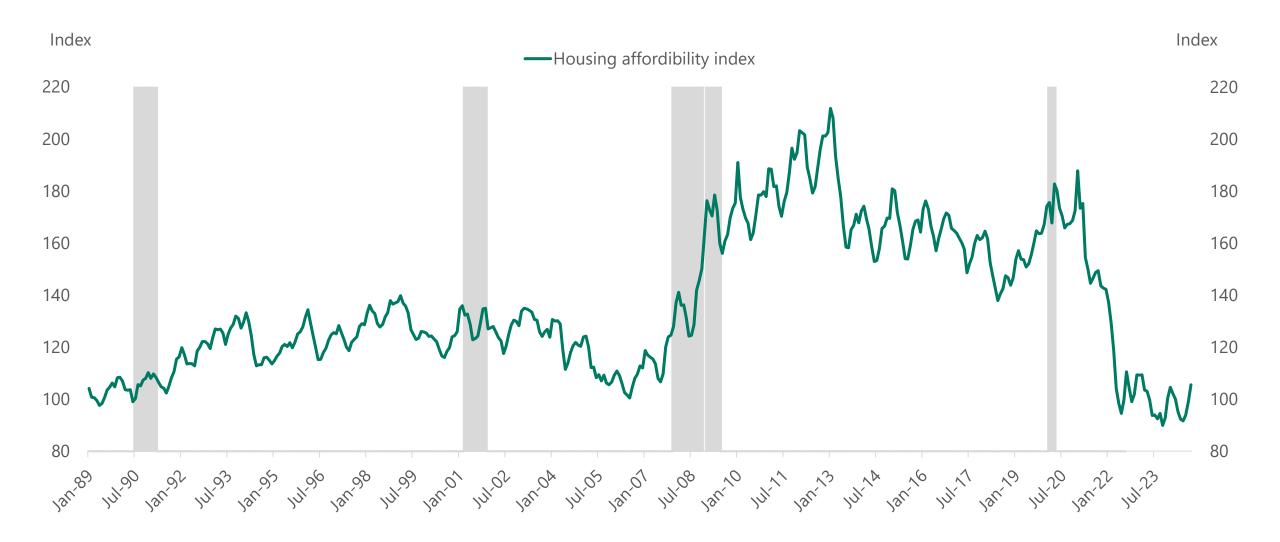
Source: University of Michigan, Apollo Chief Economist

54% of consumers are saying that this is a bad time to buy a house because of high mortgage rates and tight credit



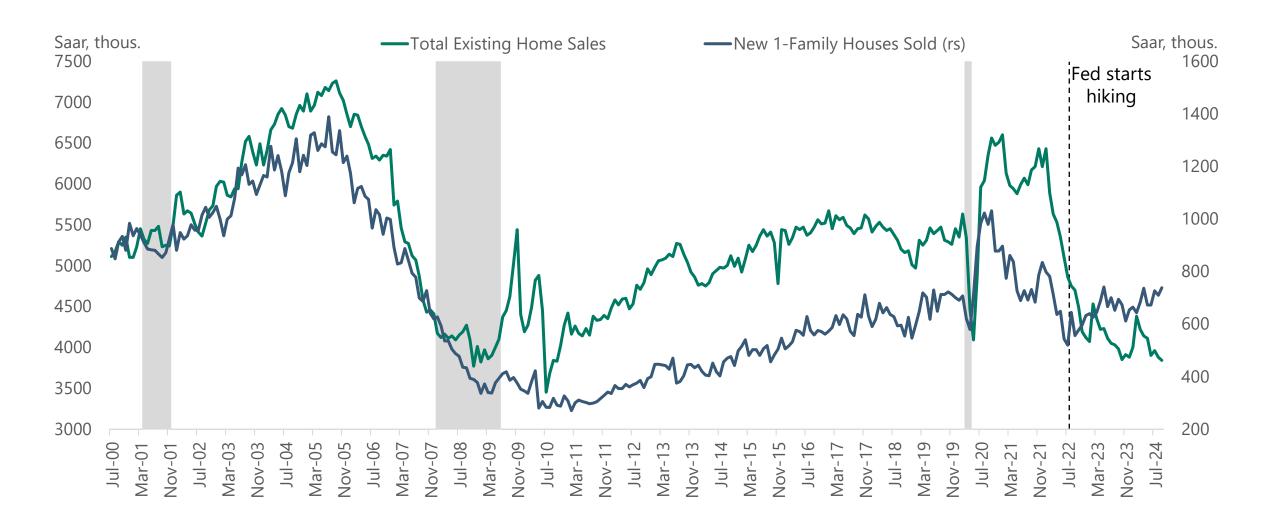
Source: University of Michigan, Apollo Chief Economist 4

Housing affordability near record lows

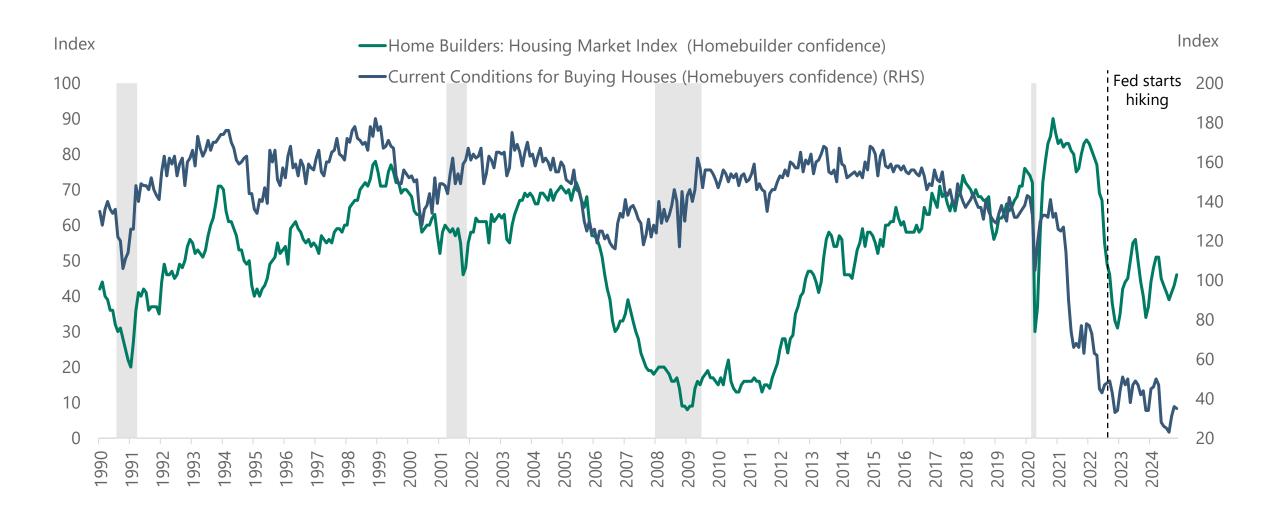


Source: Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist 45

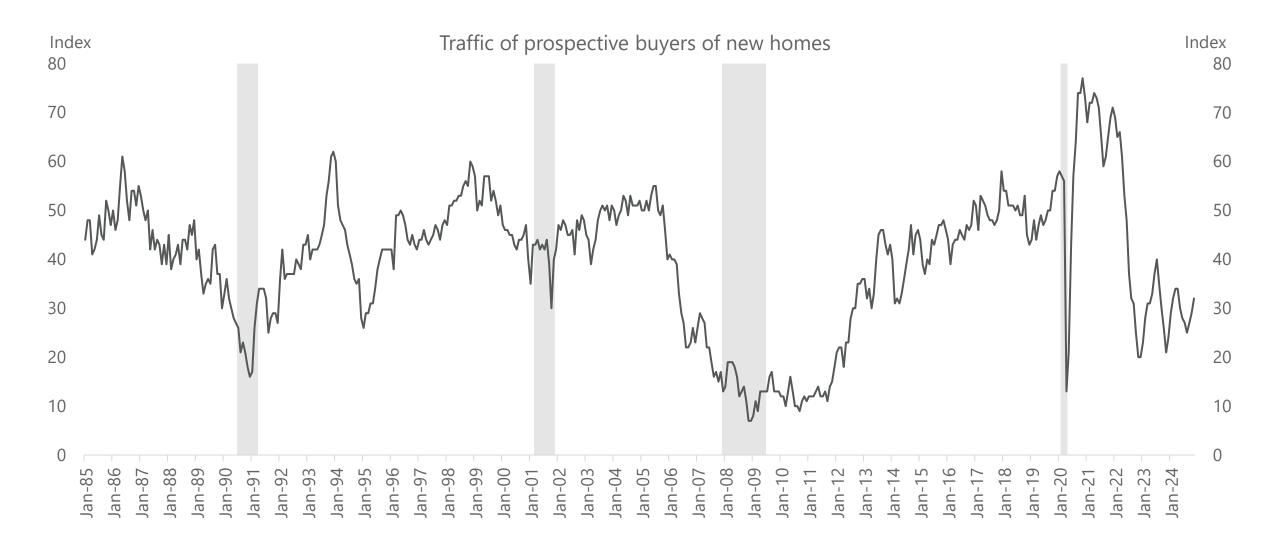
New and existing home sales lower than normal because of affordability and low inventory



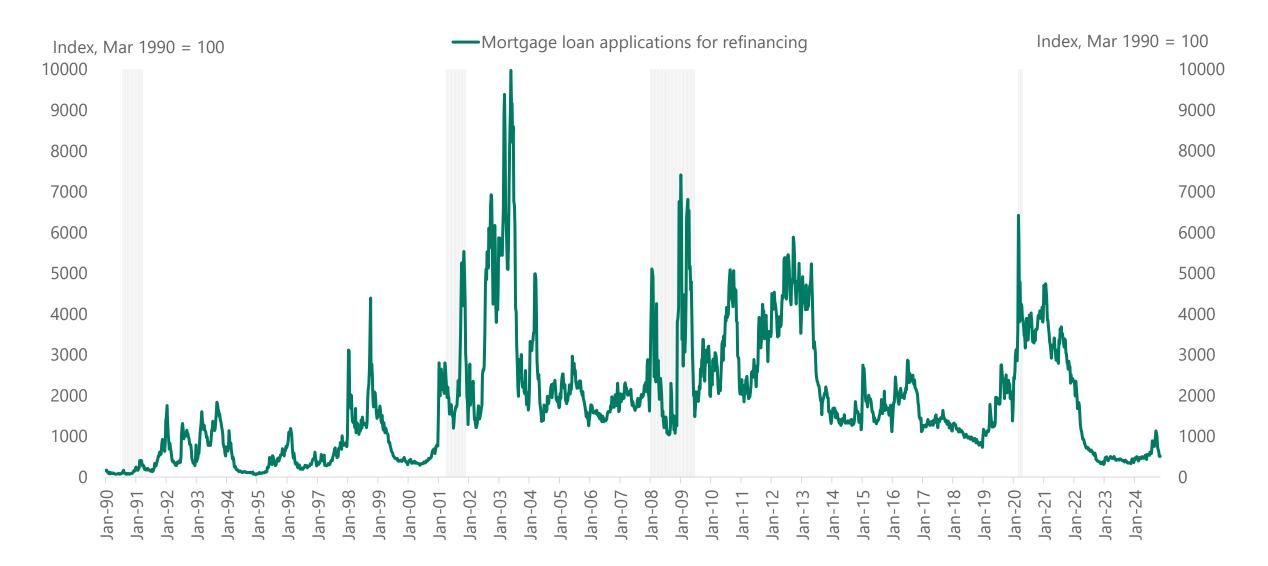
Homebuyer and homebuilder confidence lower because of affordability



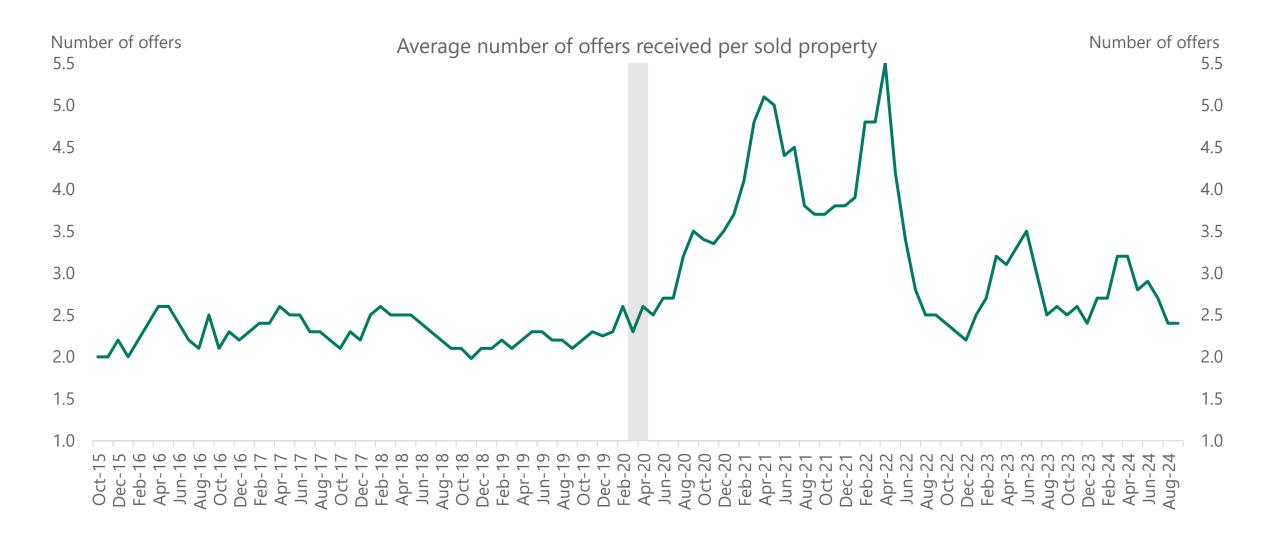
Traffic of prospective homebuyers



Decline in the number of homeowners who are refinancing their mortgage

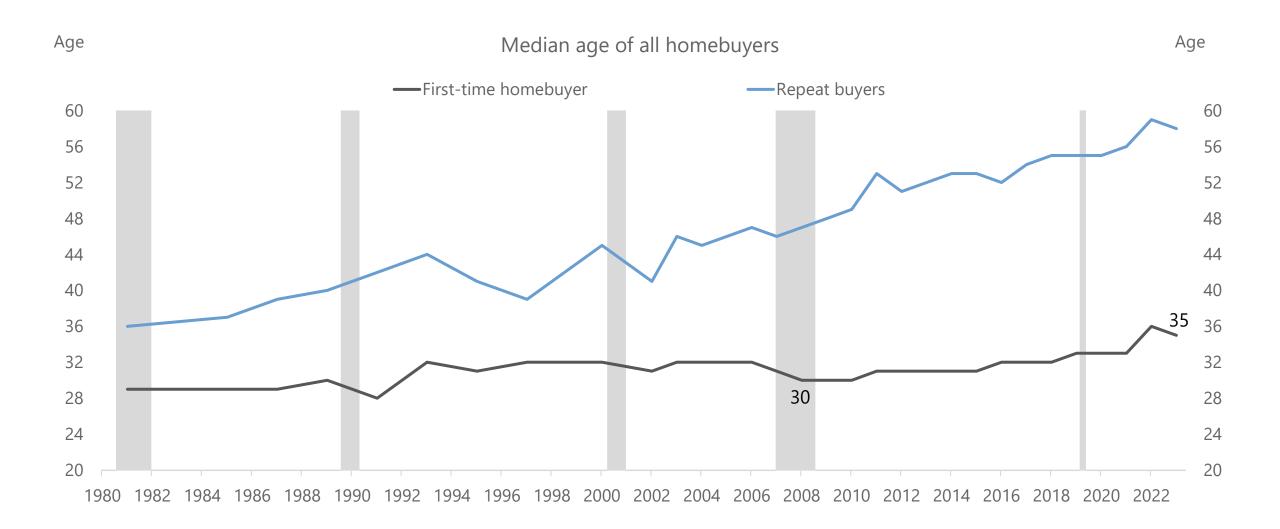


Average number of offers received per sold property



Source: NAR, Apollo Chief Economist

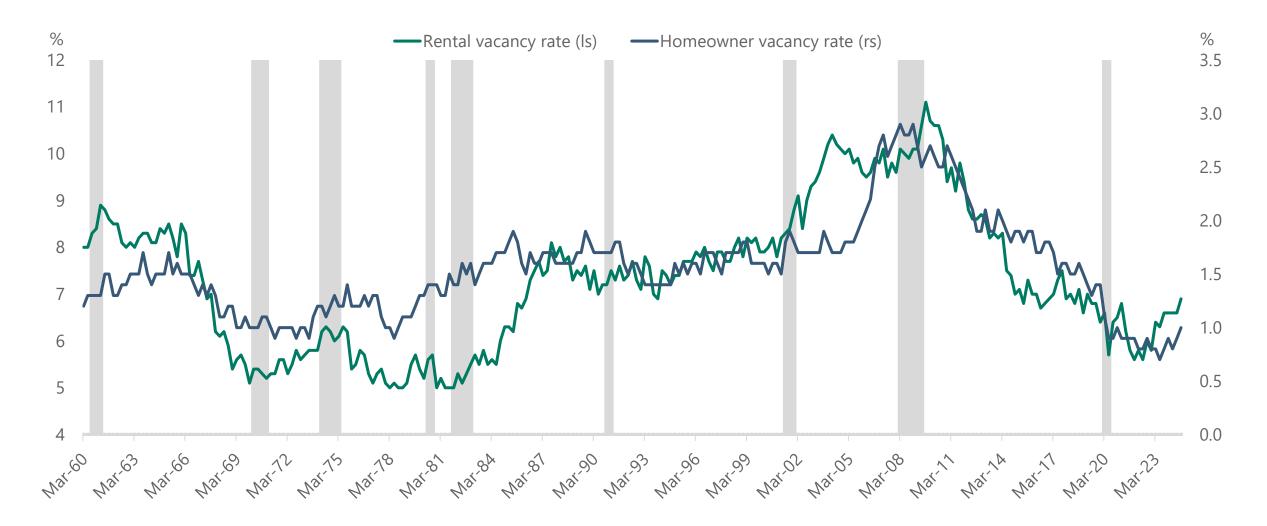
The median age of first-time homebuyers has increased from 30 in 2008 to 35 today



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2) Housing Supply: Housing supply remains low, construction coming down from record-high levels

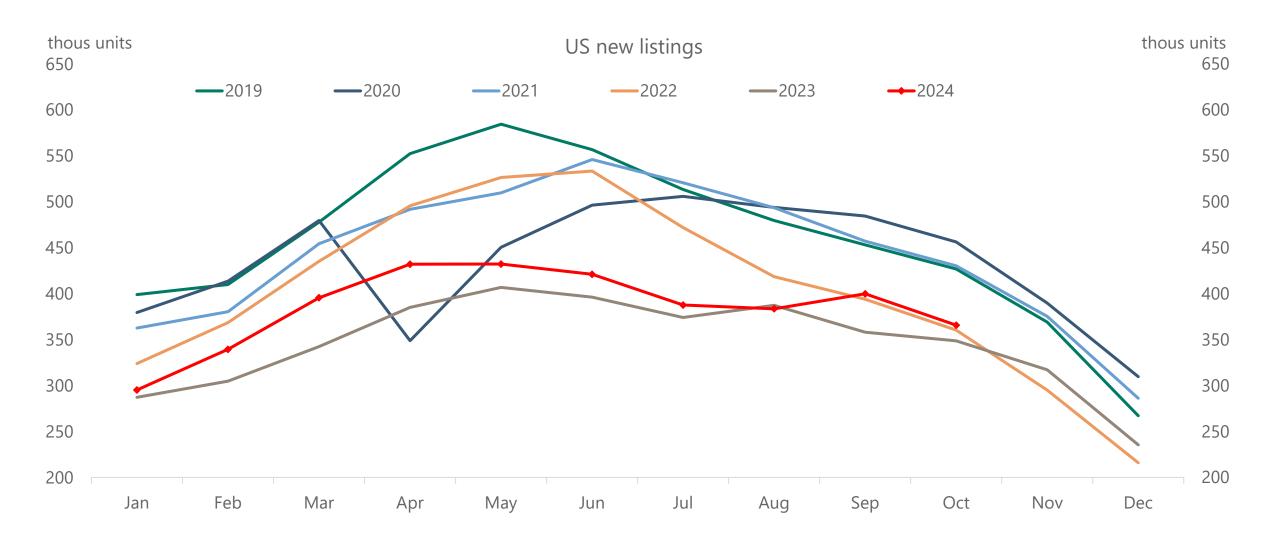
Homeowner vacancy rate and rental vacancy rate at low levels, but slowly moving higher



Source: Census Bureau, Haver, Apollo Chief Economist

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The number of newly listed homes is much lower than normal



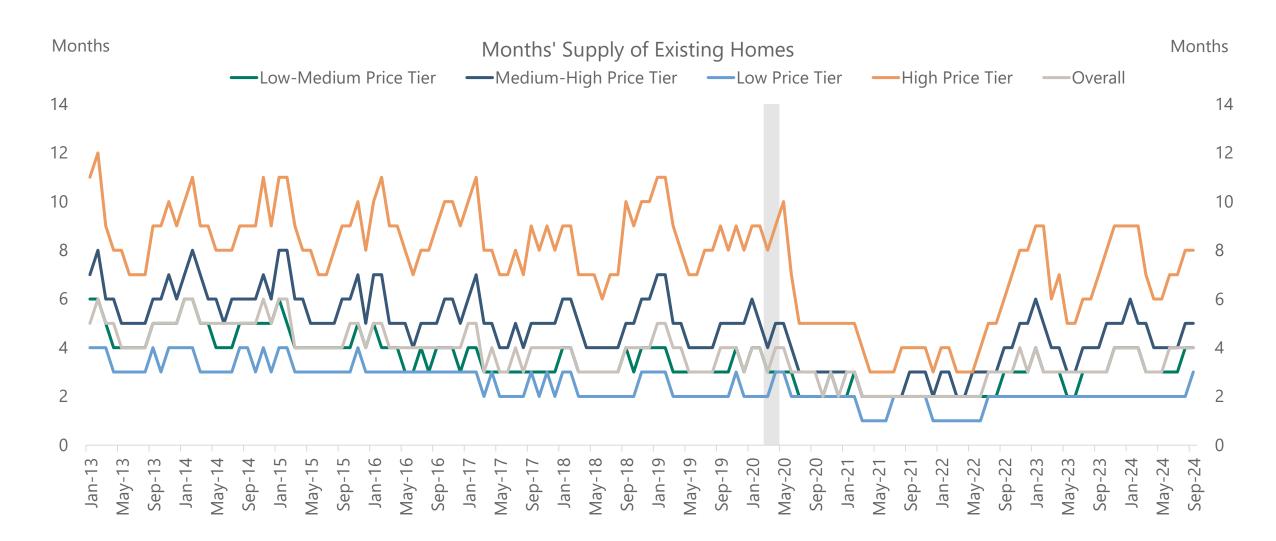
Source: Realtor.com. Apollo Chief Economist

Housing supply is low: Residential new listings remain low

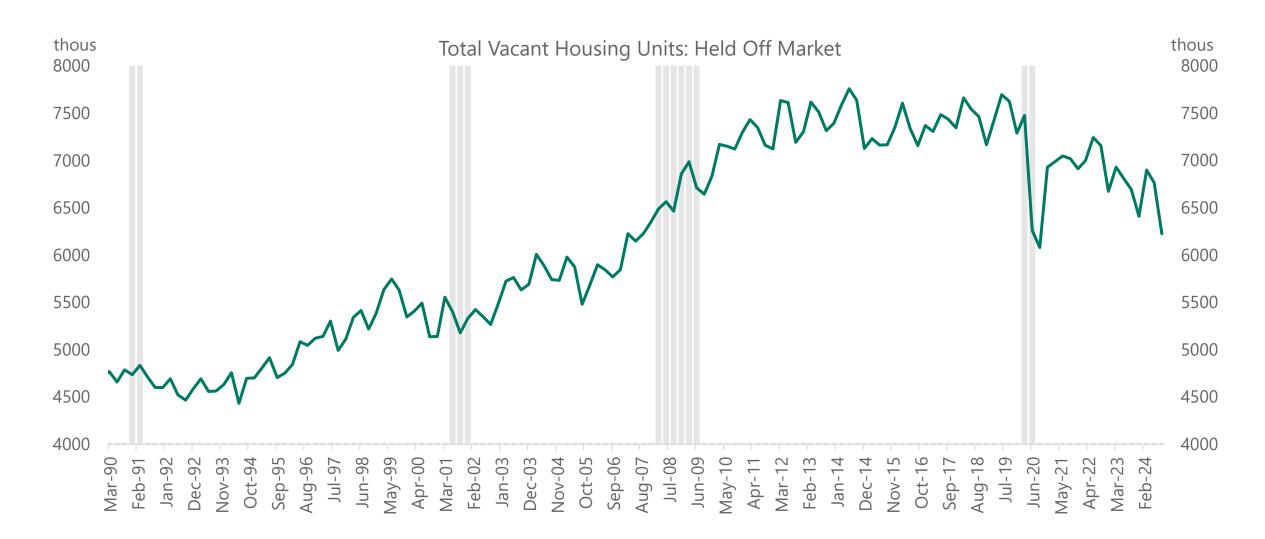


Source: Redfin, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist.

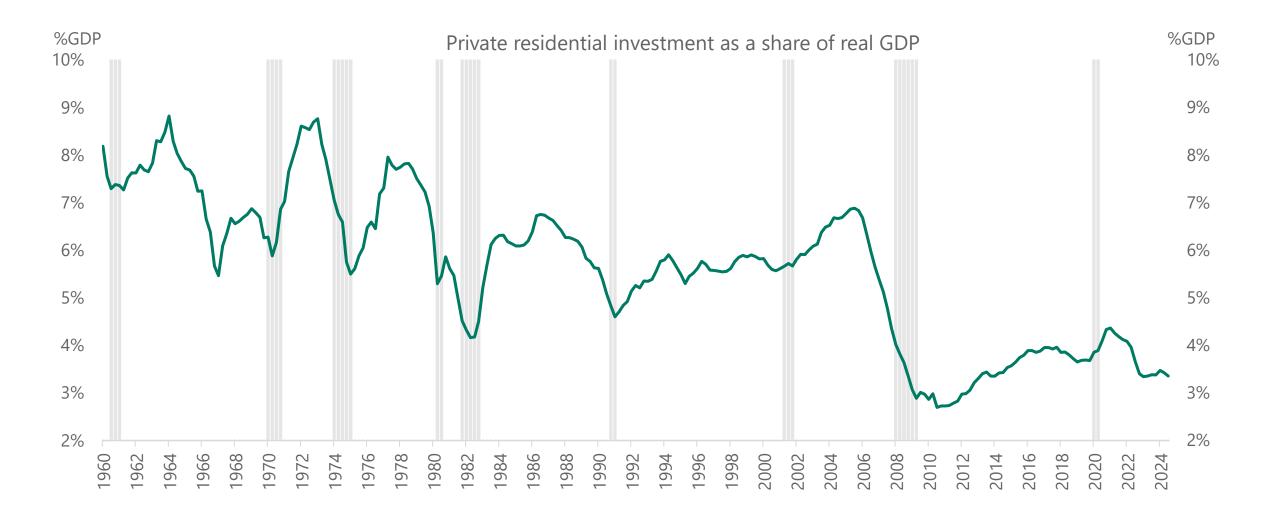
Inventory of existing homes for sale remains low across the price spectrum



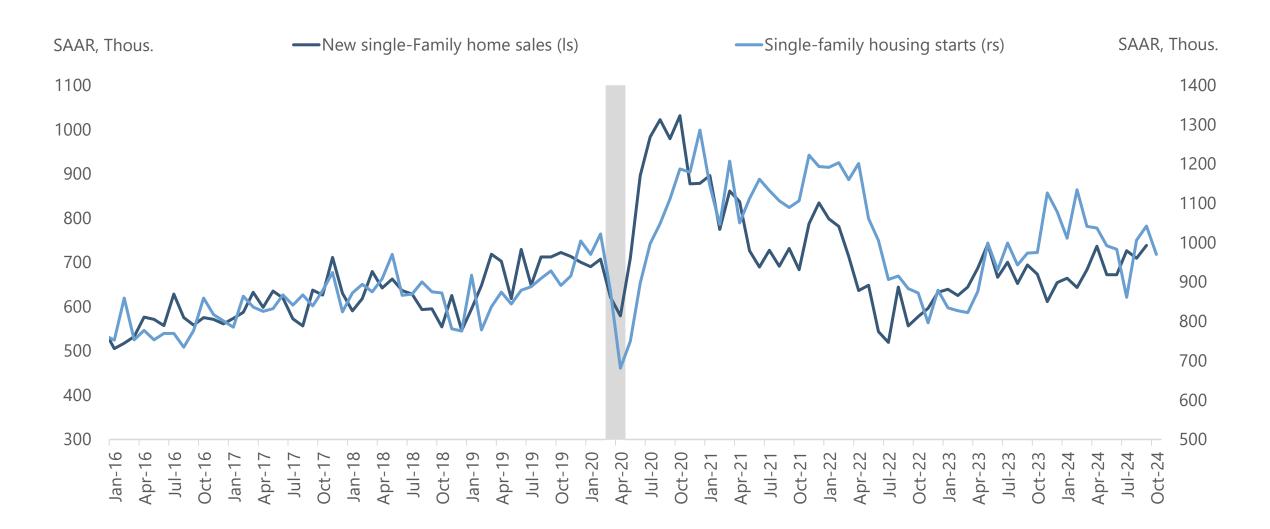
The number of vacant housing units held off market



Residential investment as a share of real GDP is close to all-time lows at 3.3%

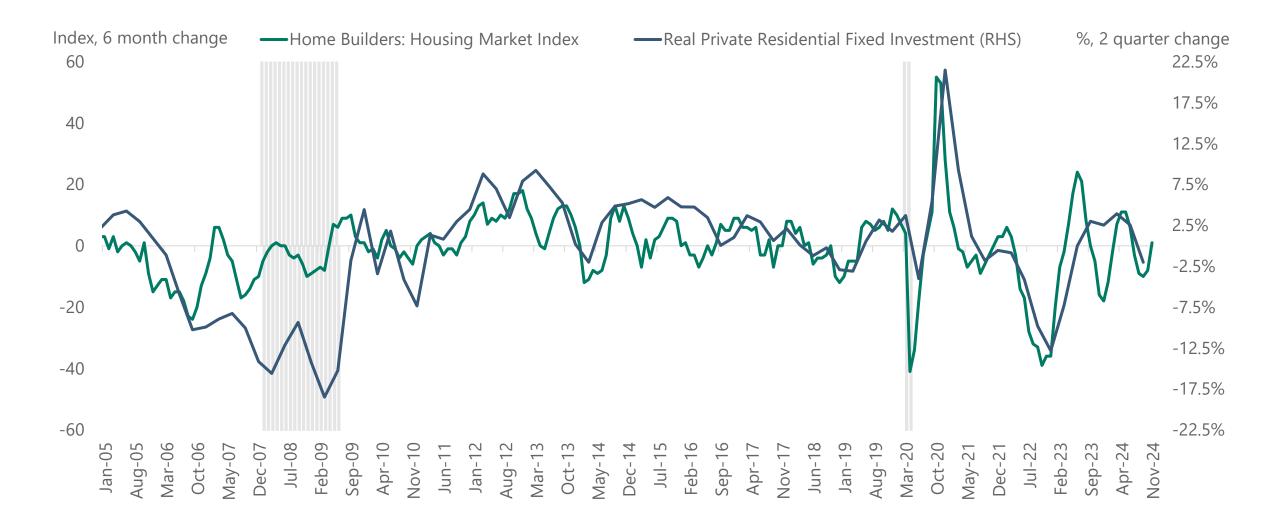


Housing starts slowly rebounding



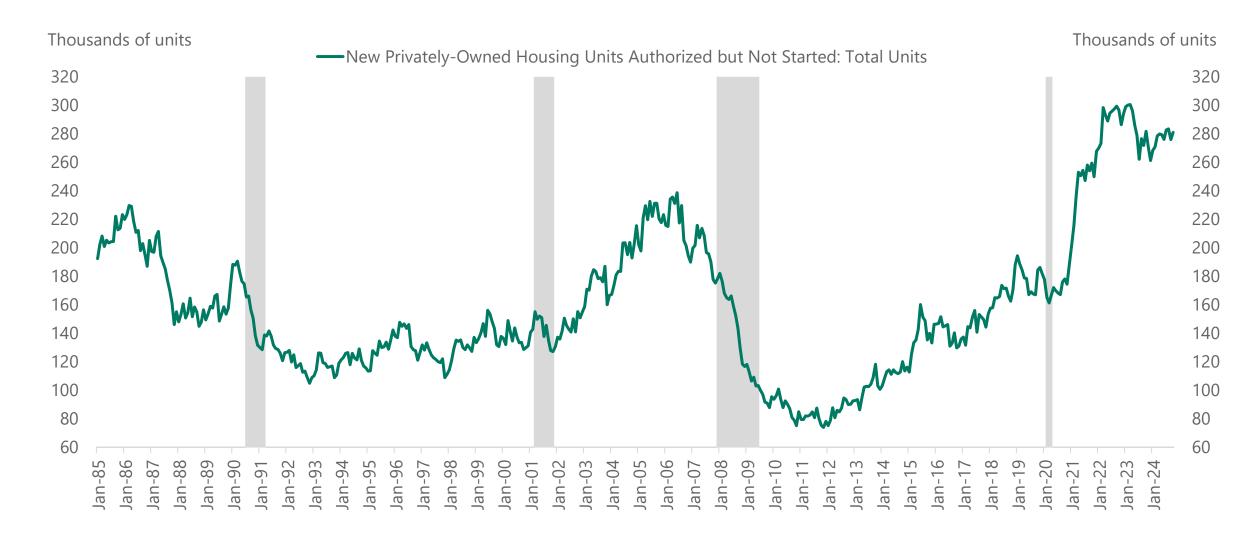
Source: Census Bureau, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

Homebuilder confidence correlated with residential investment



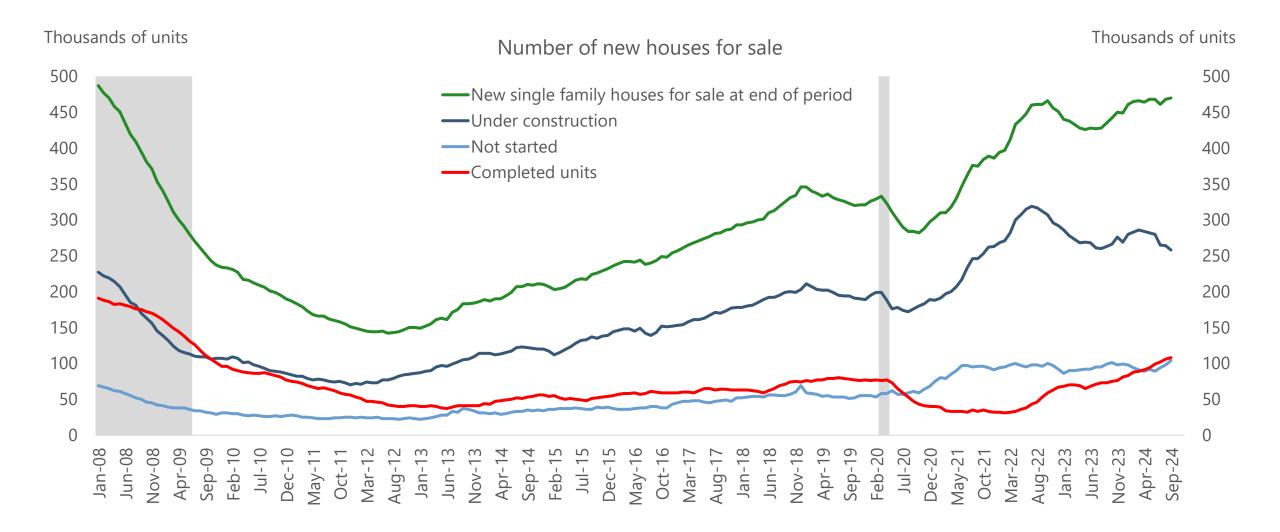
Source: BEA, NAHB, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist 60

Very high level of new housing units authorized but not started



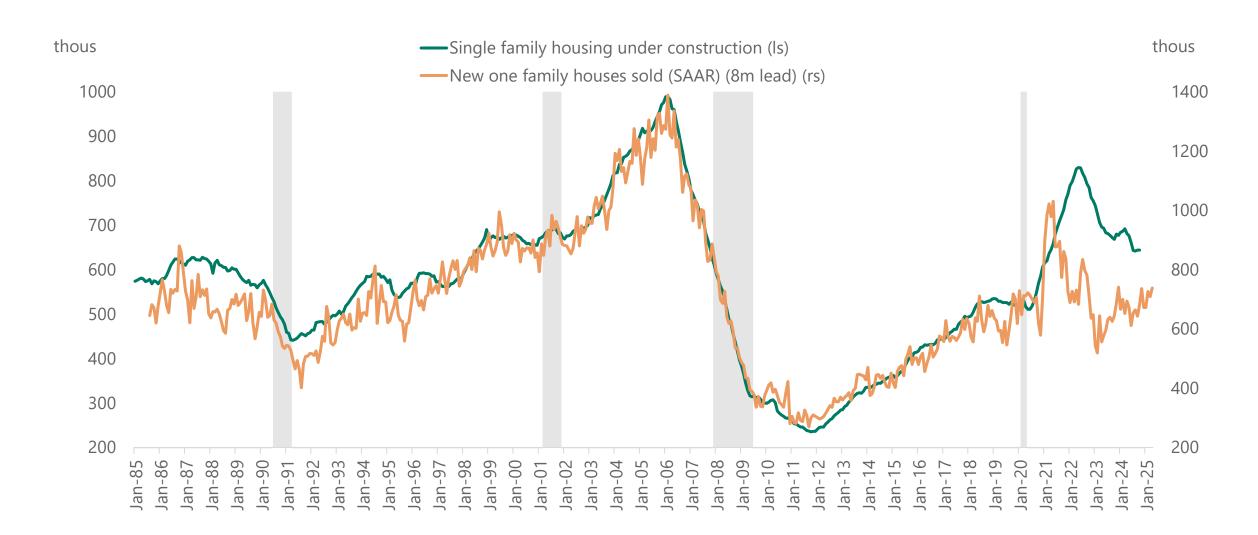
Source: FRED, Apollo Chief Economist

Number of new houses for sale

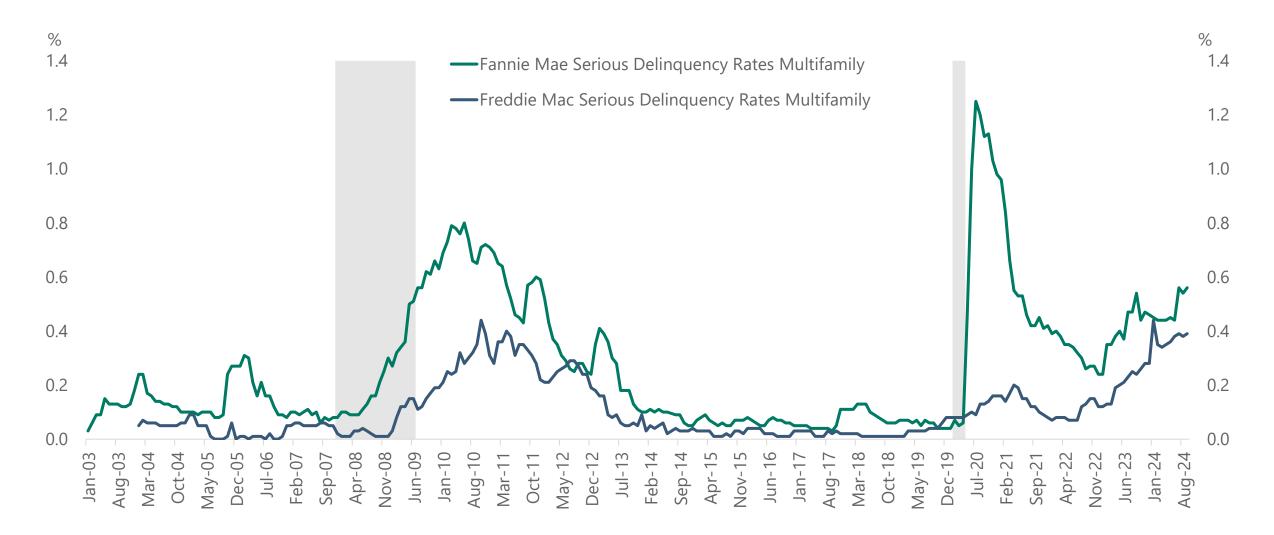


Source: Census Bureau, Apollo Chief Economist 62

Some disconnect between housing under construction and new homes sold

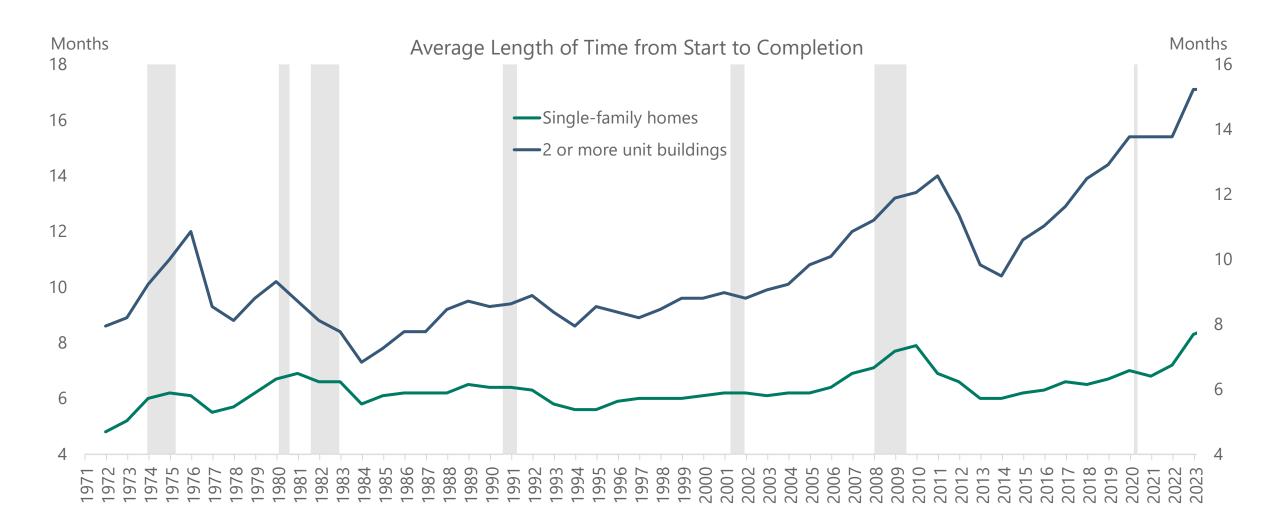


Multifamily delinquencies rising

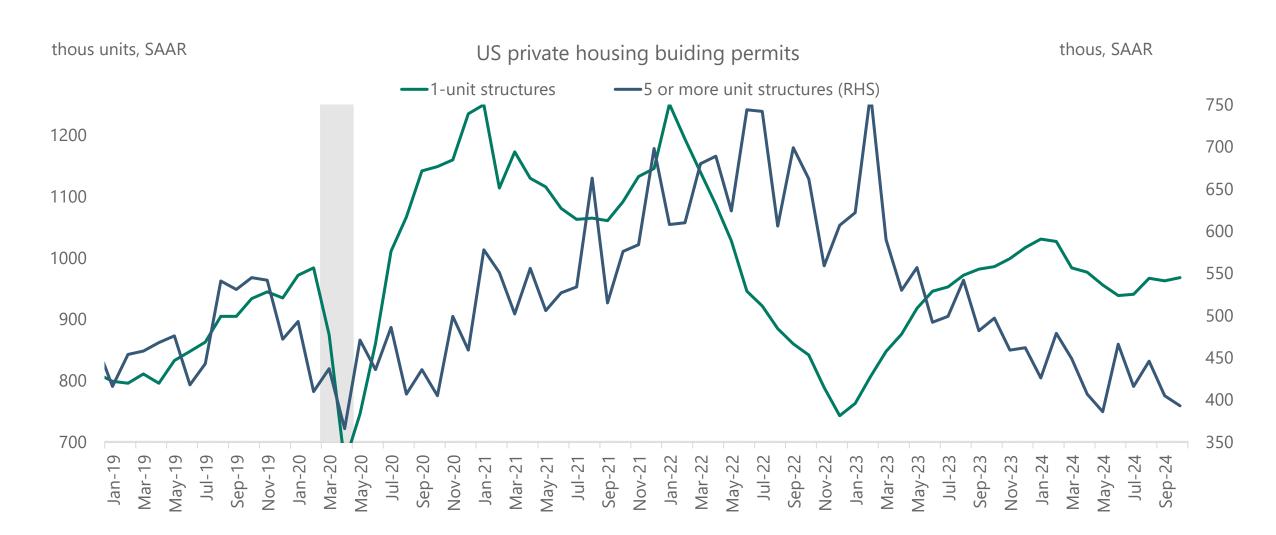


Source: Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist 64

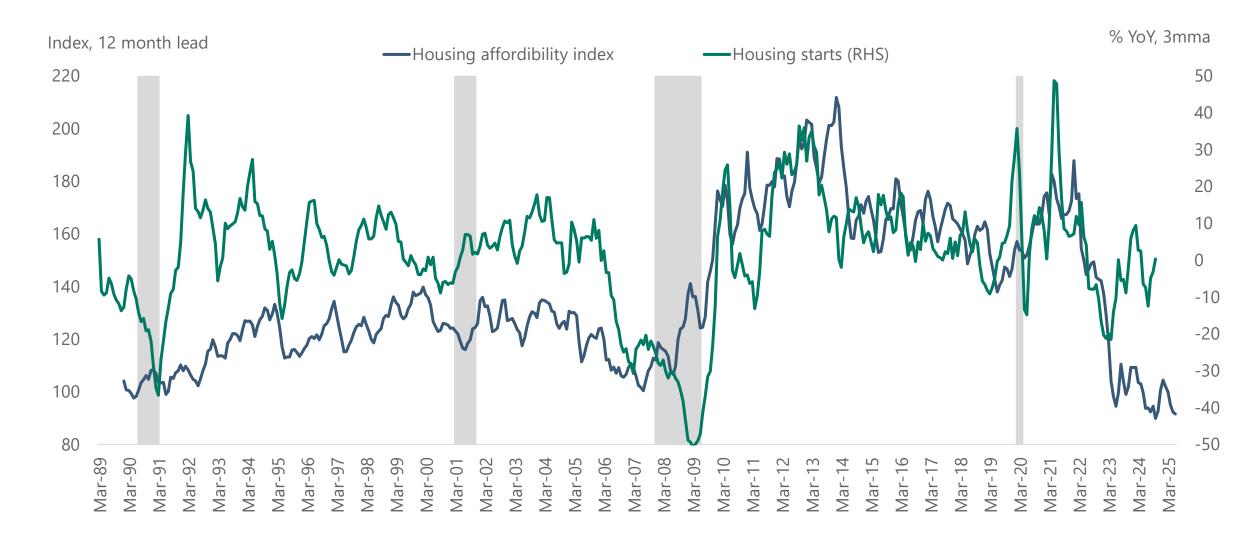
It currently takes 8 months on average to build a single-family house



Multi-family units authorized going down, and single-family housing units authorized moving sideways

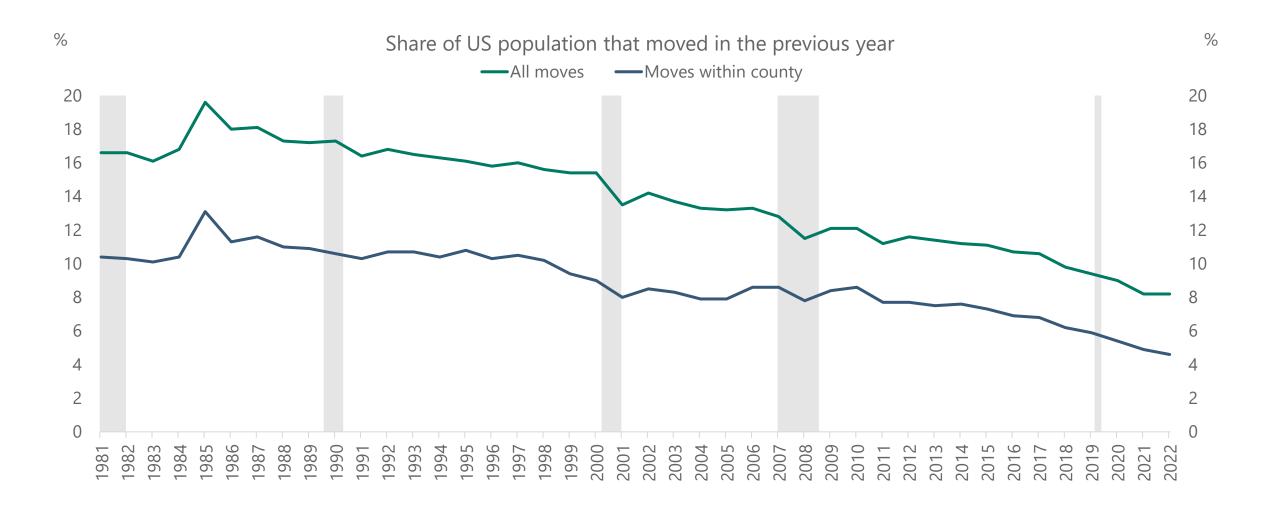


Housing starts high despite low affordability



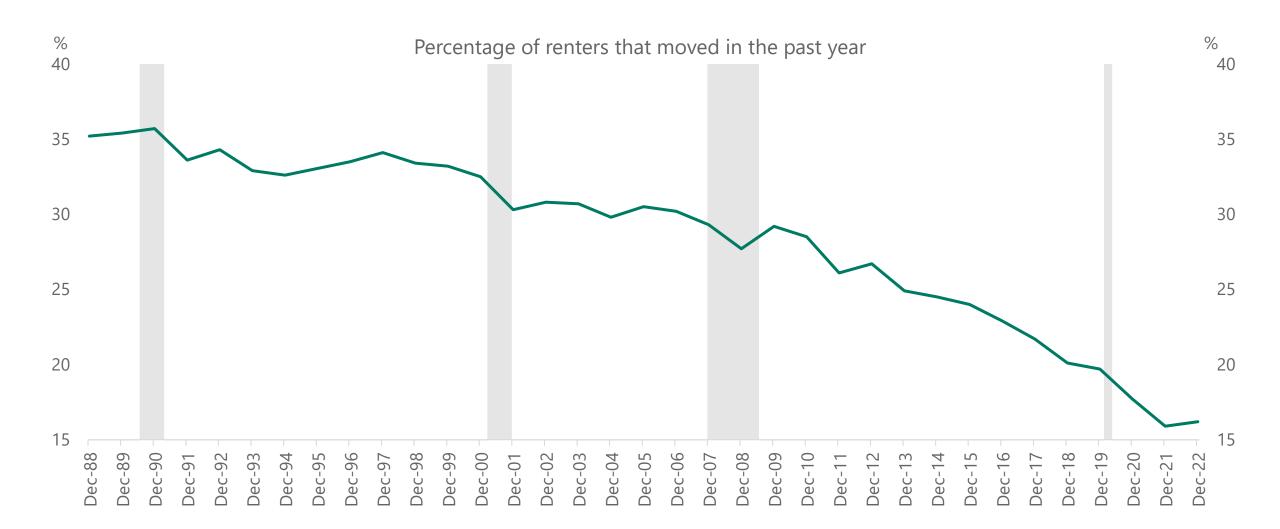
Source: Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist

Structural decline in the share of the US population moving to a new address



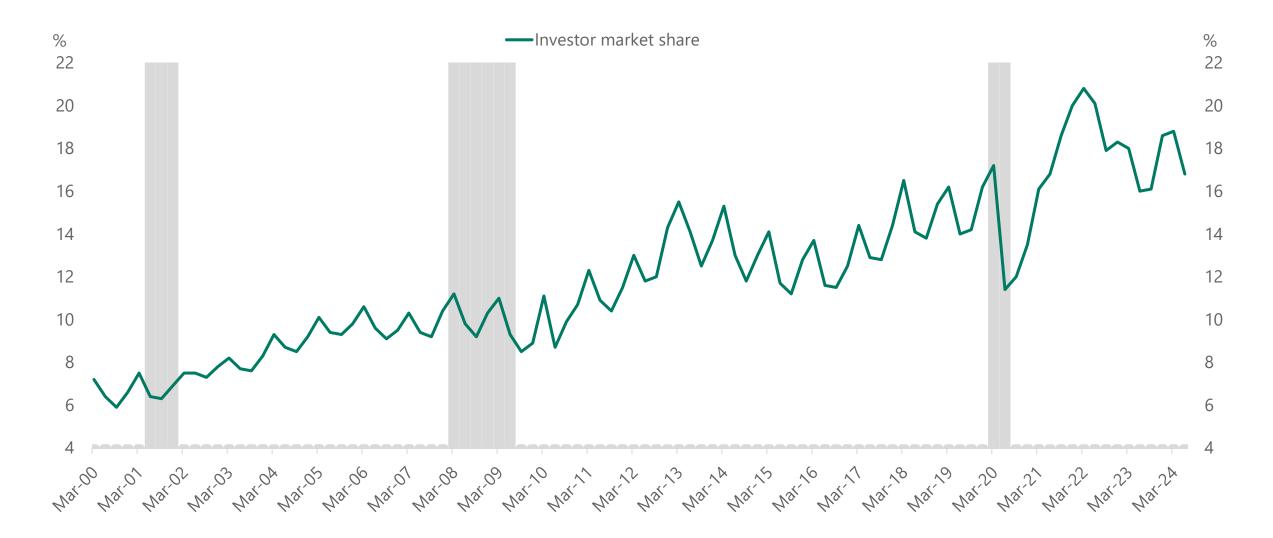
Source: Census CPS, Apollo Chief economist 68

Trend decline in the percentage of renters moving to new apartments or houses



Source: Census Bureau, Apollo Chief Economist 69

The investor share of home purchases still elevated

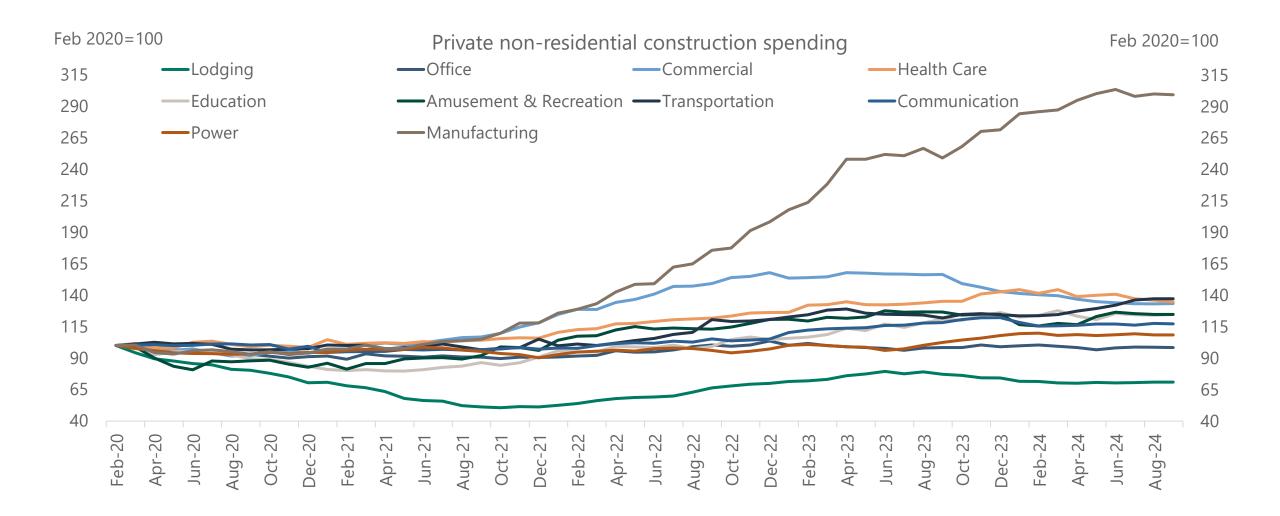


Steady growth in employment in residential construction



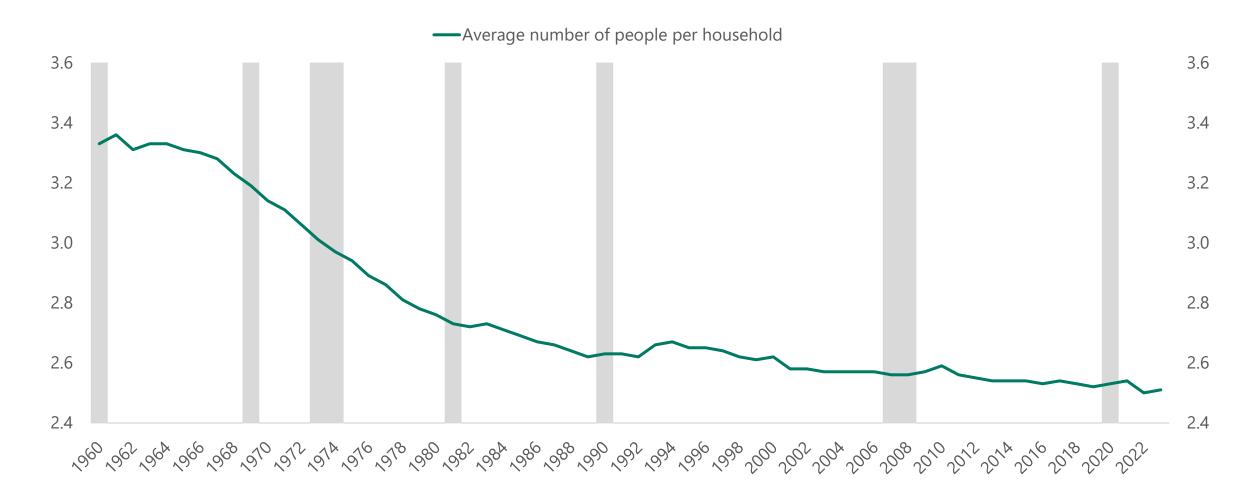
Source: BLS, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

The biggest increase in non-residential construction has been in manufacturing



Source: Census, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

The average family size in the US has declined from 3.3 in 1960 to 2.5 by 2023

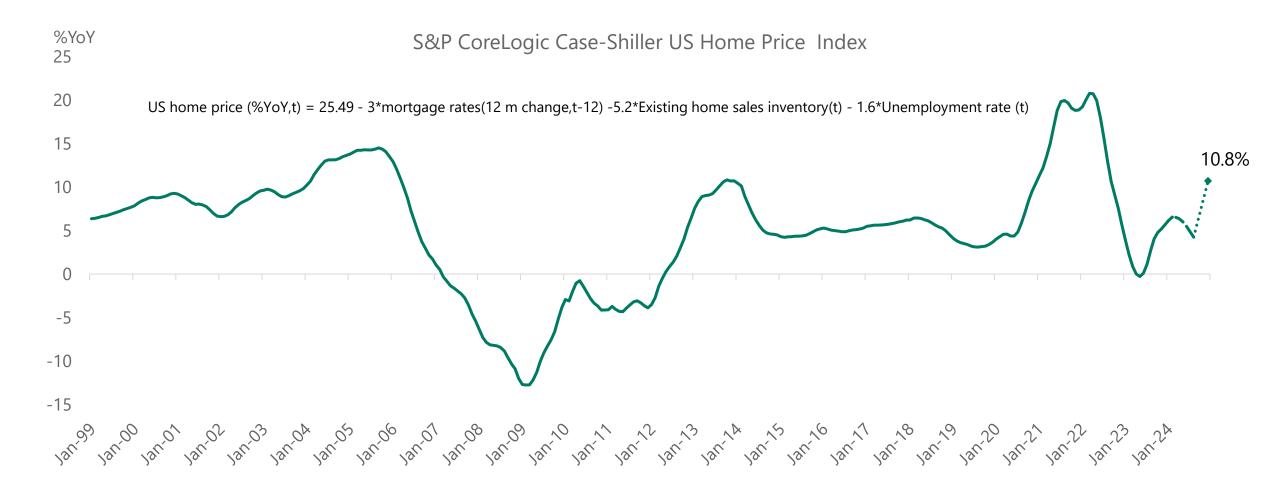


Source: Census Bureau,, Apollo Chief Economist.

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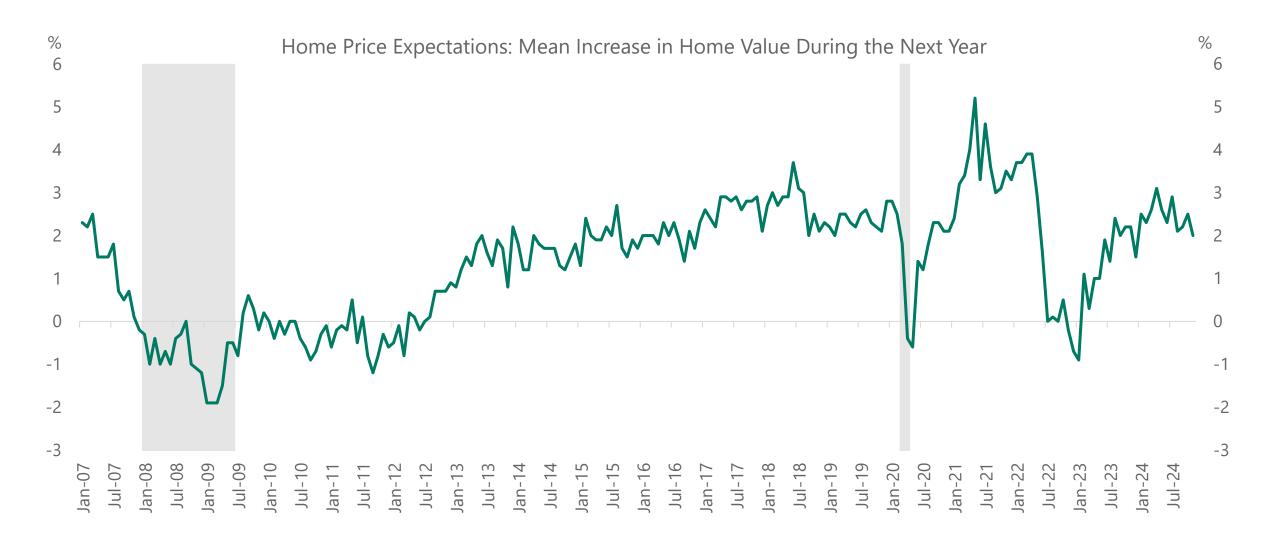
3) House Prices: Low inventory and low unemployment outweighing negative effects of higher mortgage rates

US house price model: Rising mortgage rates pushing home prices lower. Low inventory and low unemployment pushing home prices higher.

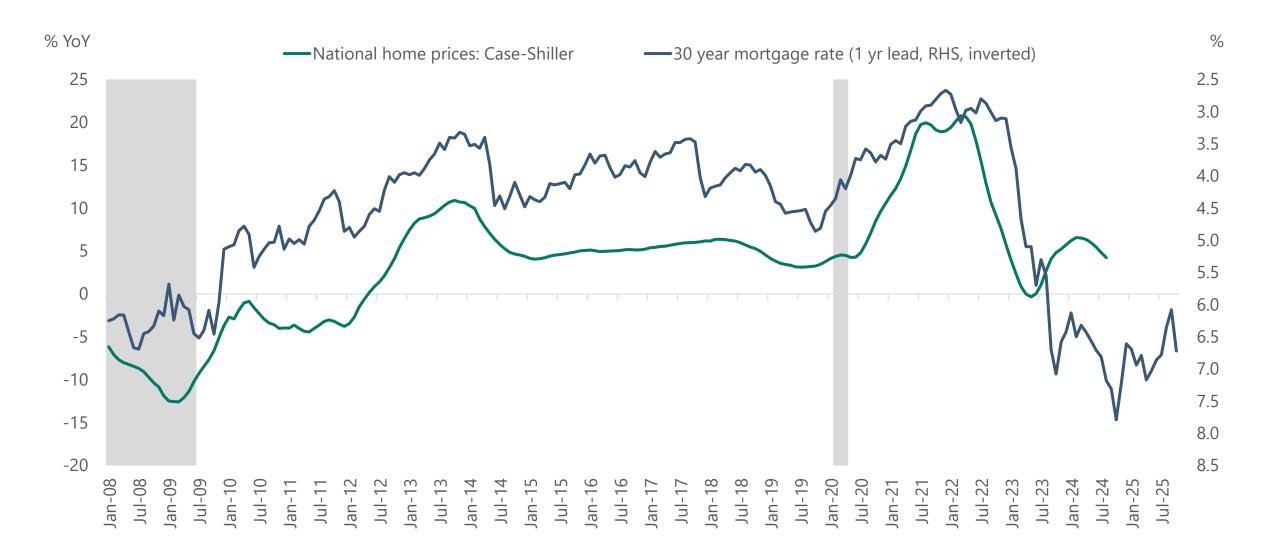


Source: Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist 75

Consumers' expectations of home price inflation

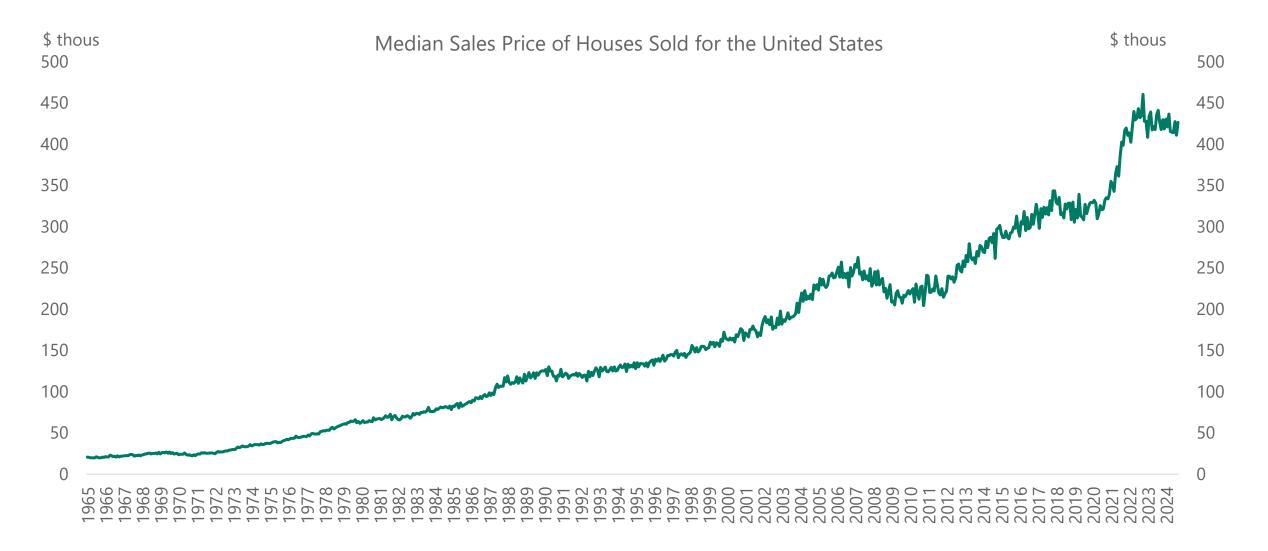


Disconnect between mortgage rates and home prices because of low housing supply



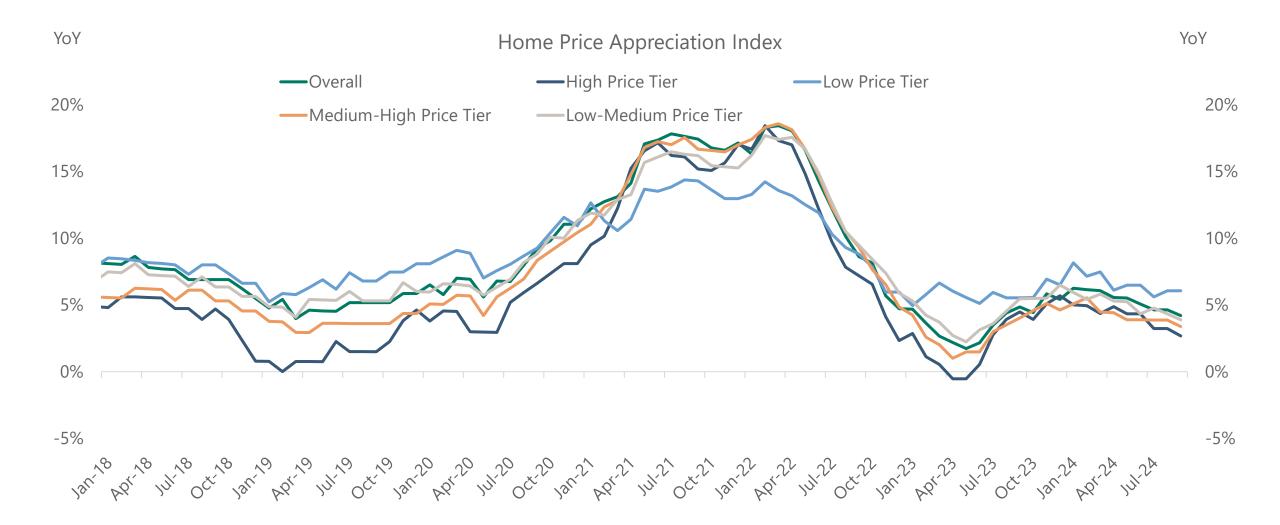
Source: Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist

The median home sales price is \$430K

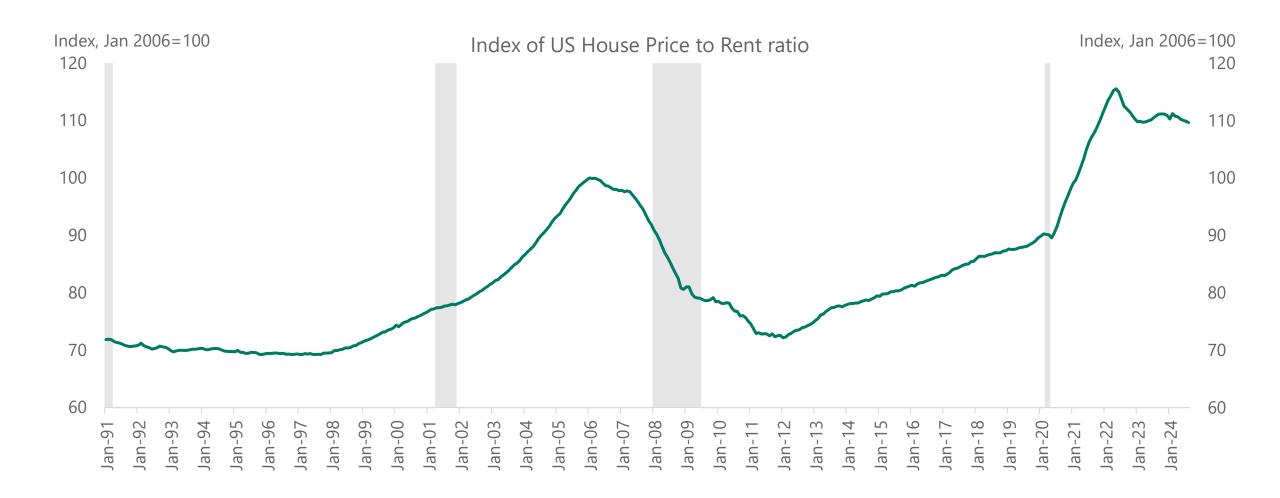


Source: Census Bureau, Apollo Chief Economist 78

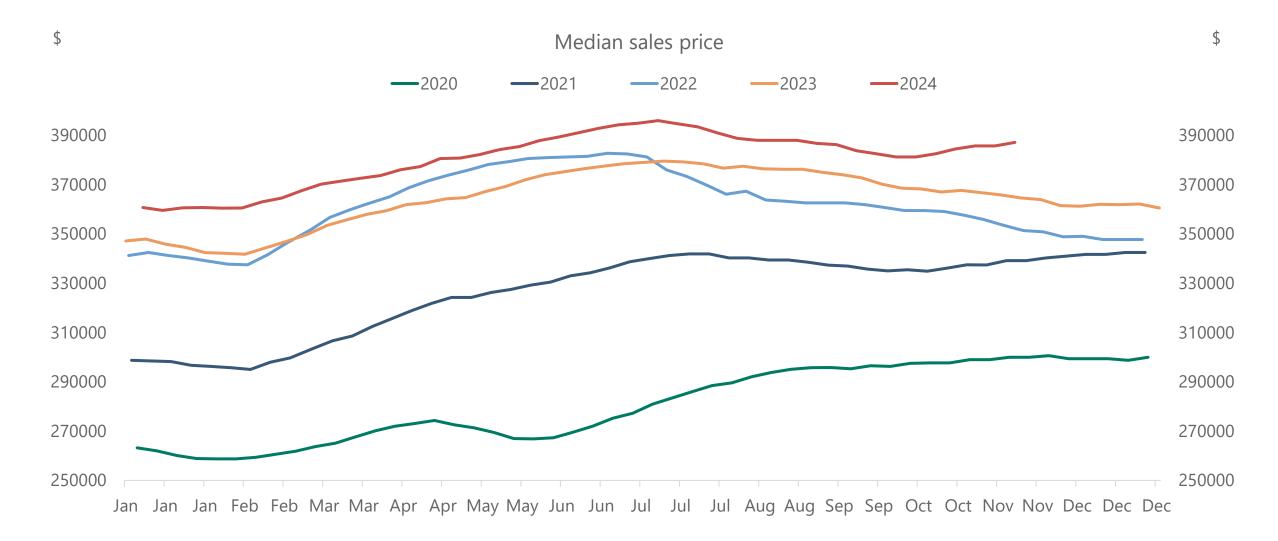
House price inflation slowing down across price tiers



Home price to rent ratio significantly above 2006 levels

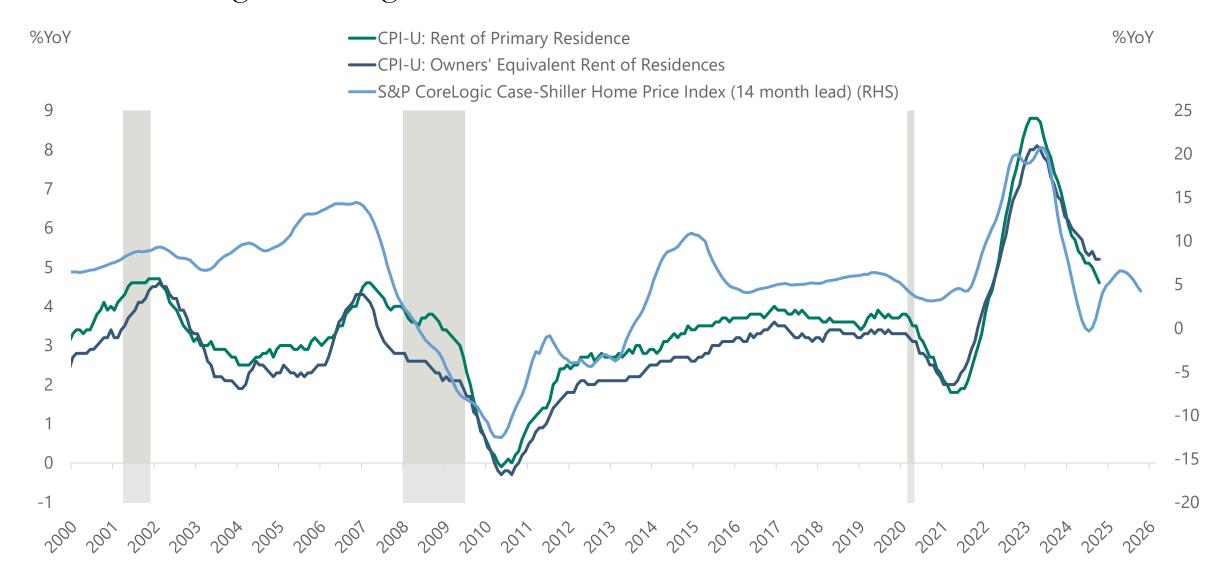


Median sales price well above last year's levels



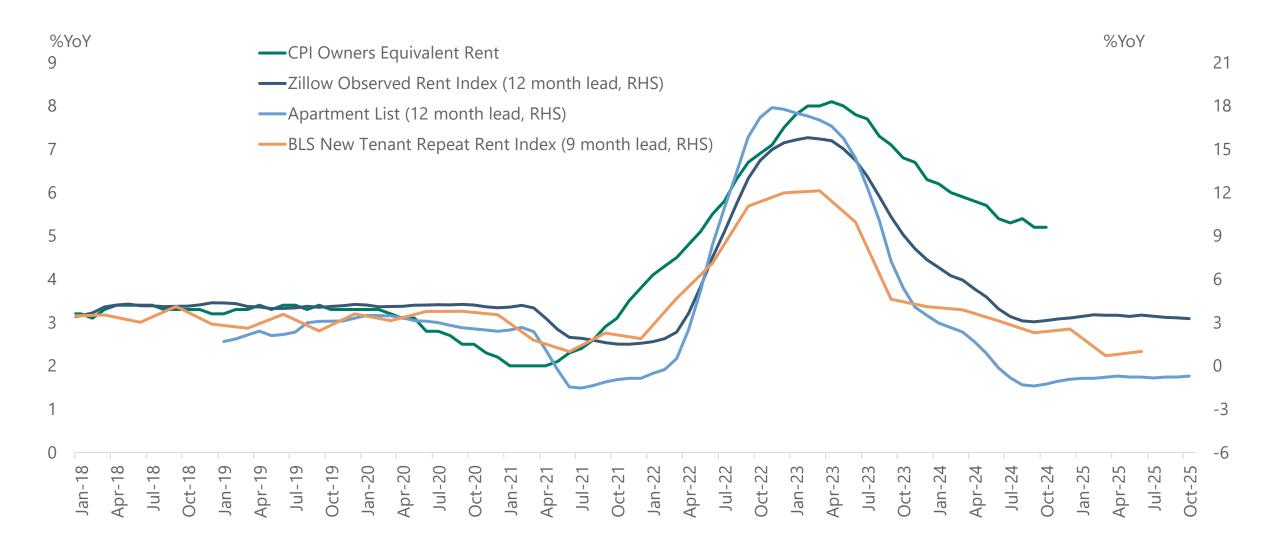
Source: Redfin, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

Rebound coming in housing inflation?

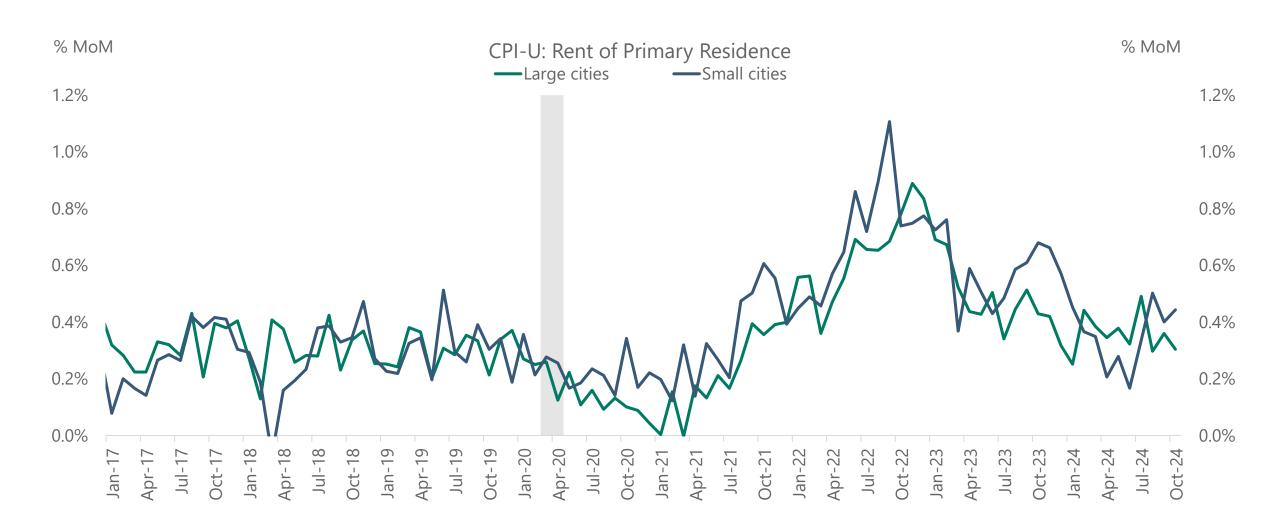


Source: Haver Analytics, BLS, S&P, Apollo Chief Economist

OER housing inflation beginning to move sideways?

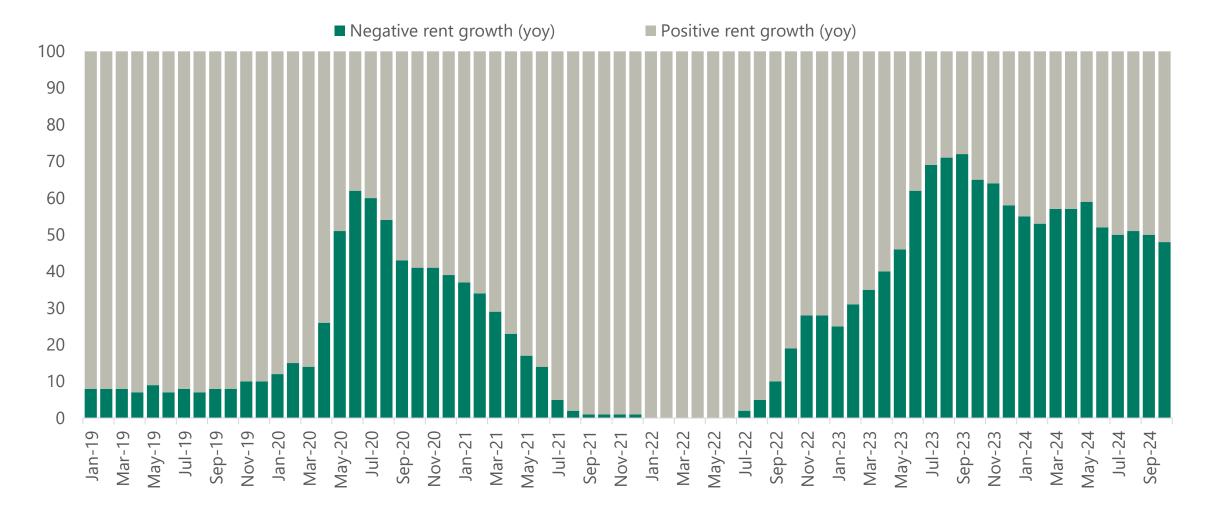


Rent inflation moving higher in small cities



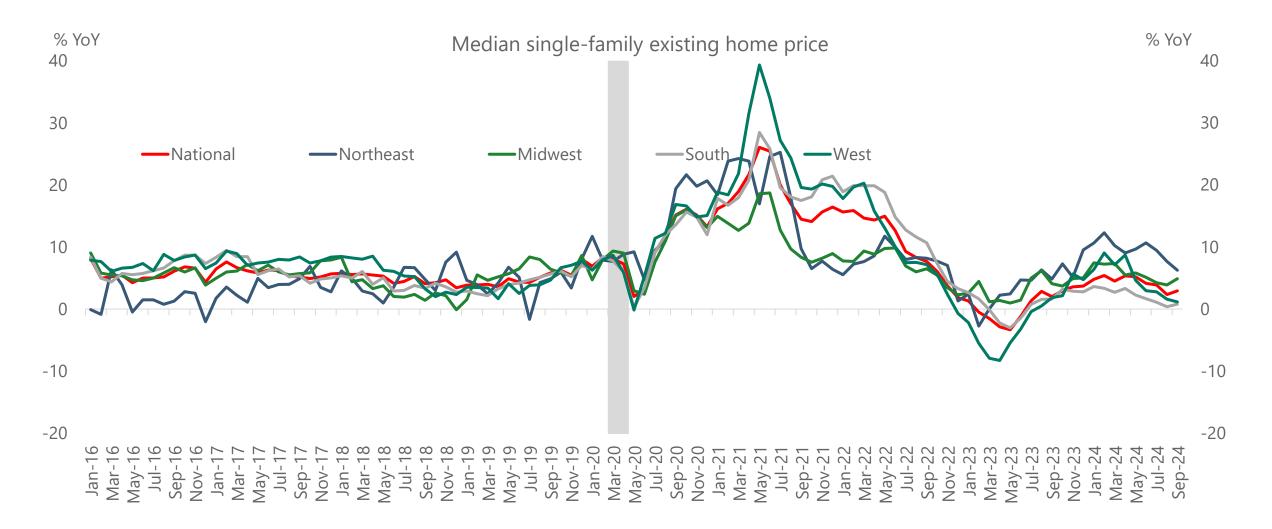
Source: BLS, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

100 largest US cities: Share of cities with positive rent growth: 52%



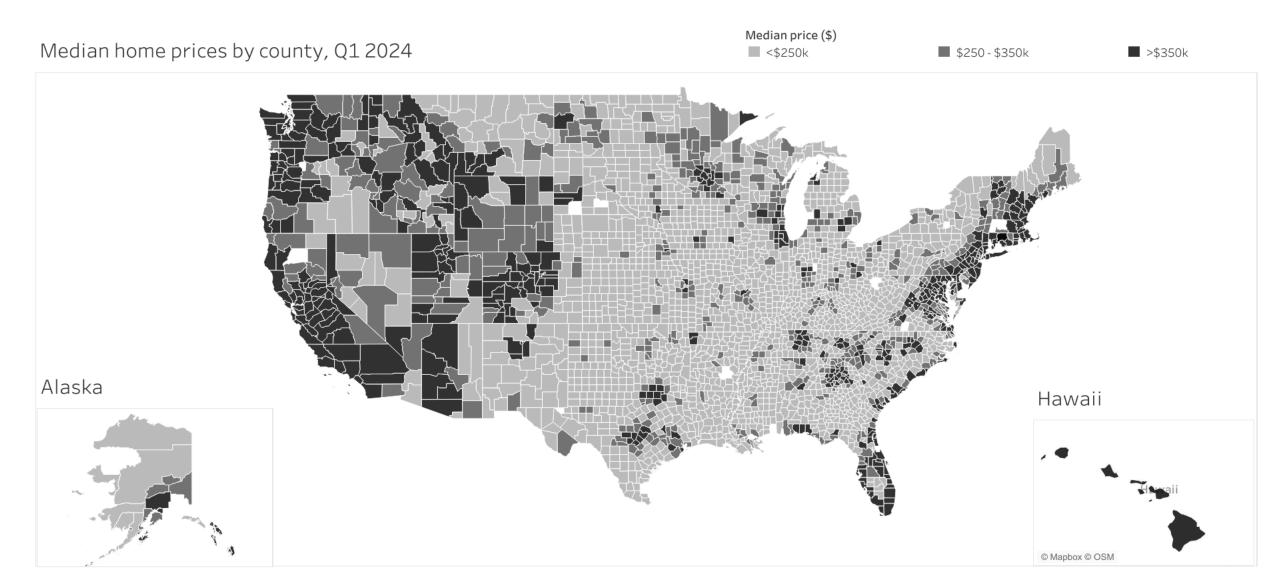
Source: Apartmentlist.com, Apollo Chief Economist

Home price inflation solid because of low inventory of homes for sale



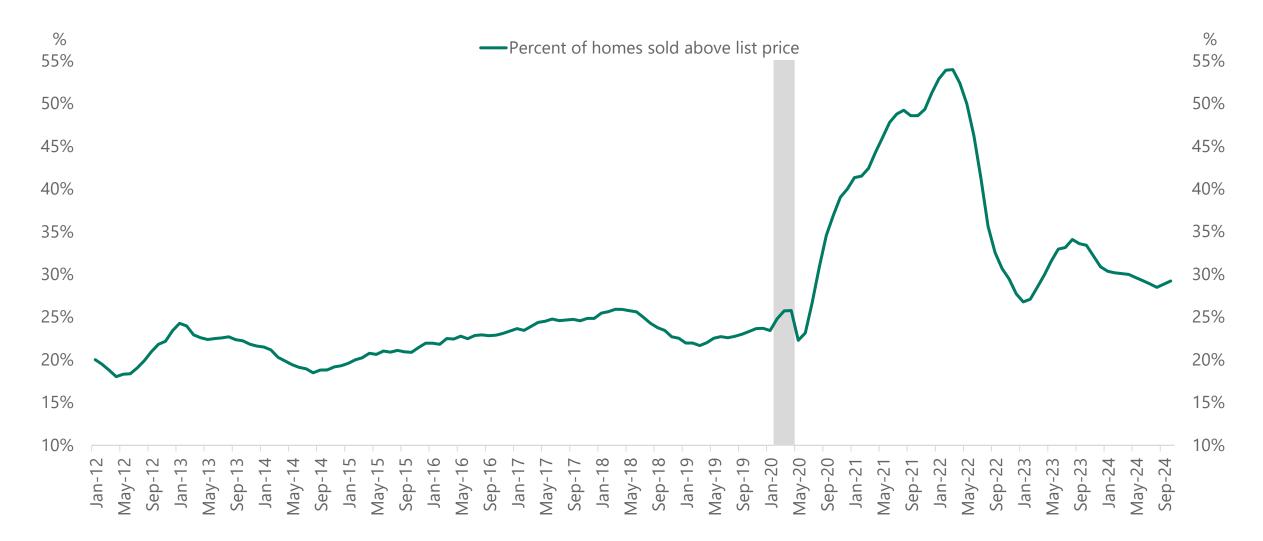
Source: NAR, Haver, Apollo Chief Economist

County median home prices



Source: National Association of Realtors, Apollo Chief Economist.

30% of homes selling above their list price

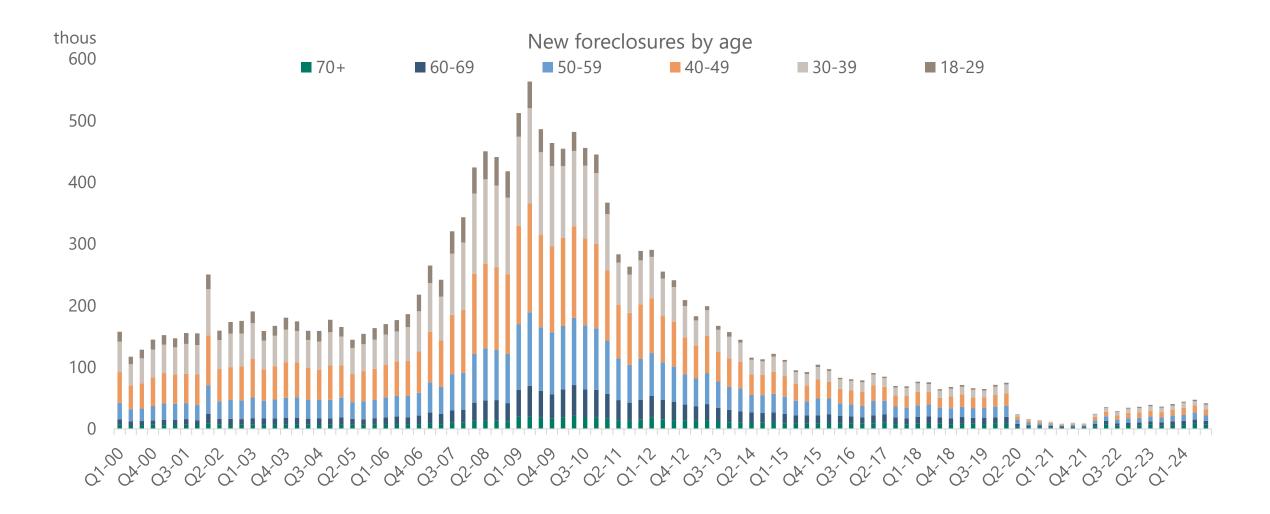


Source: Redfin, Apollo Chief Economist

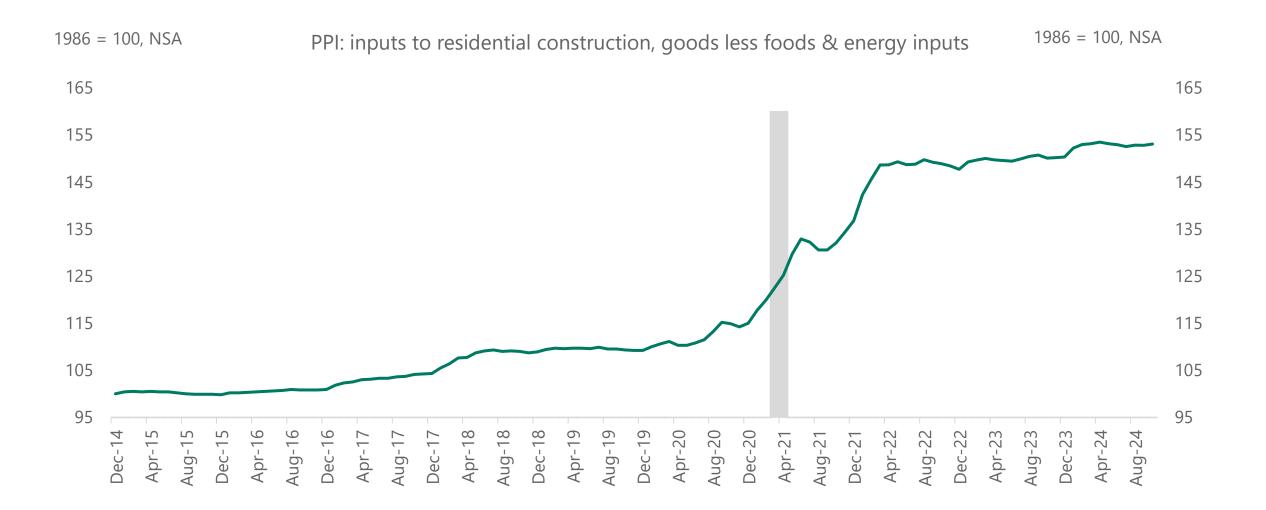
4) Housing Outlook:

Rising mortgage rates is the key risk to the housing outlook

New foreclosures, by age of homeowner

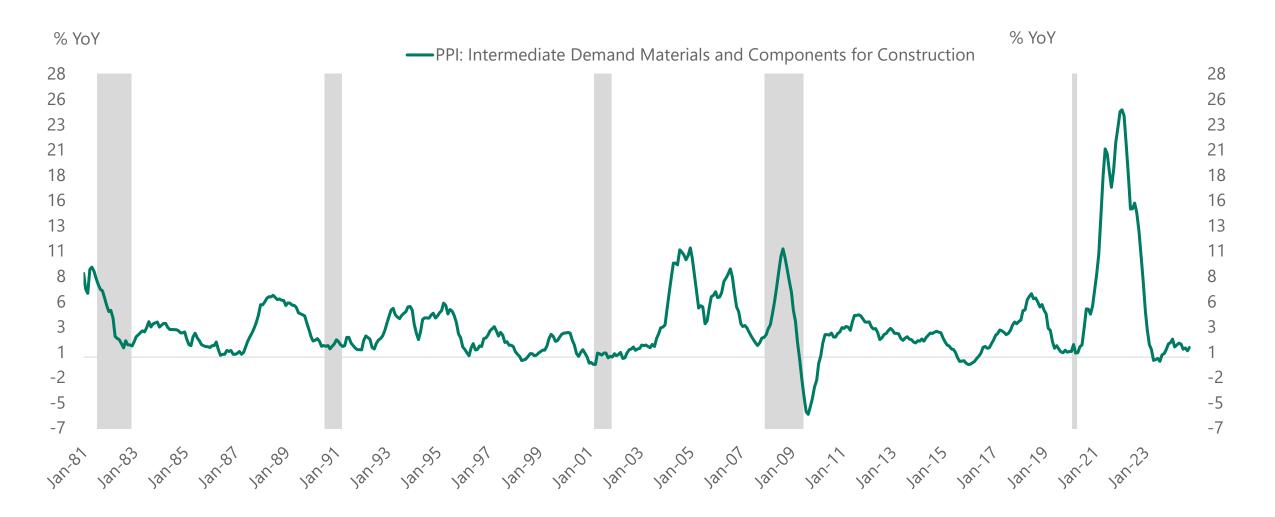


Housing construction costs remain high



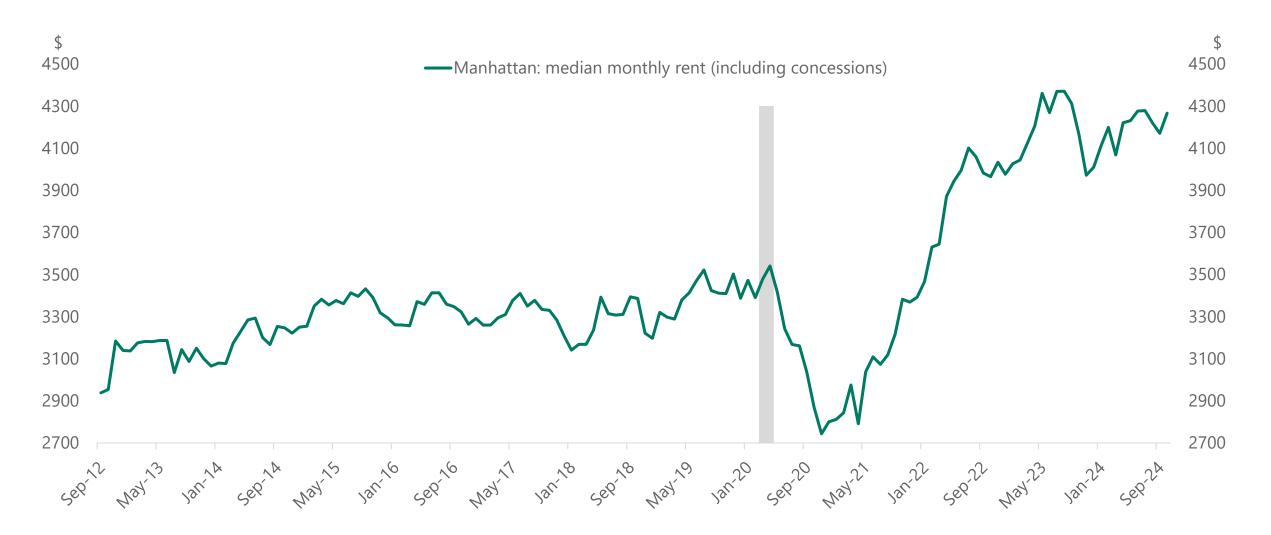
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Apollo Chief Economist

Inflation in input costs for home builders have come down

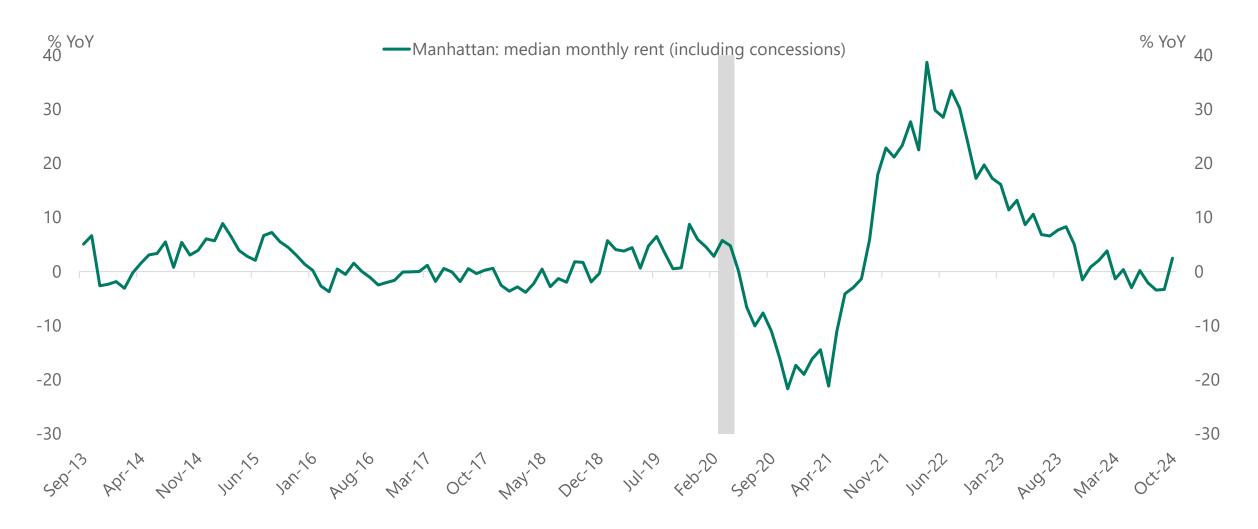


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Apollo Chief Economist

Manhattan median rent rose to \$4266 in October 2024

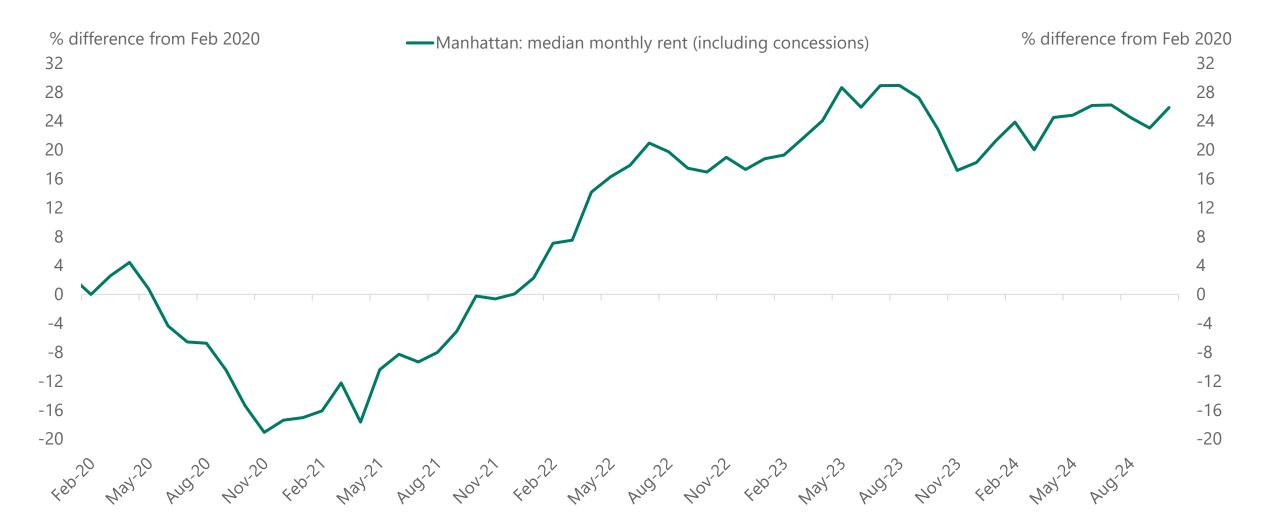


Manhattan rents starting to rise again?



Source: Elliman, Apollo Chief Economist

Manhattan rents well above pre-pandemic levels



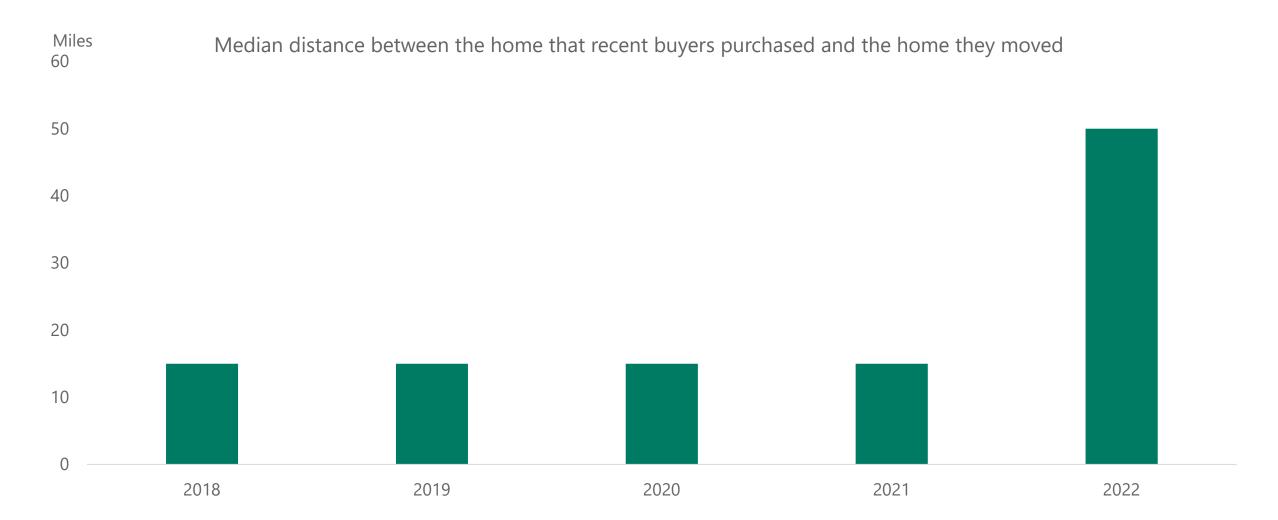
Source: Elliman, Apollo Chief Economist

Rising mortgage rates generally associated with lower home price inflation

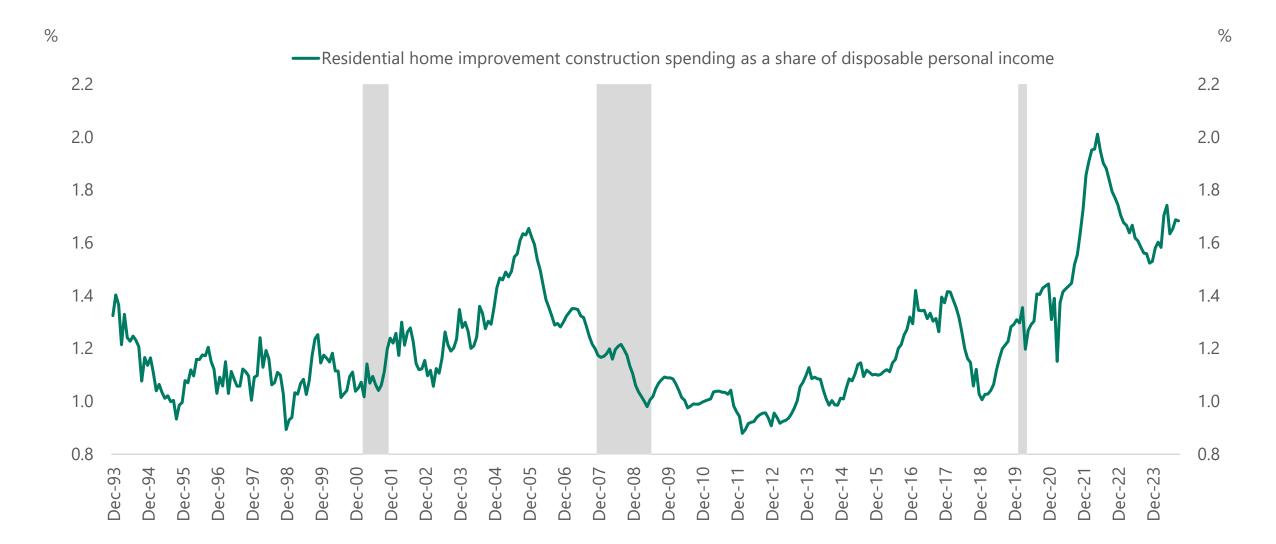


Source: FRED, Apollo Chief Economist

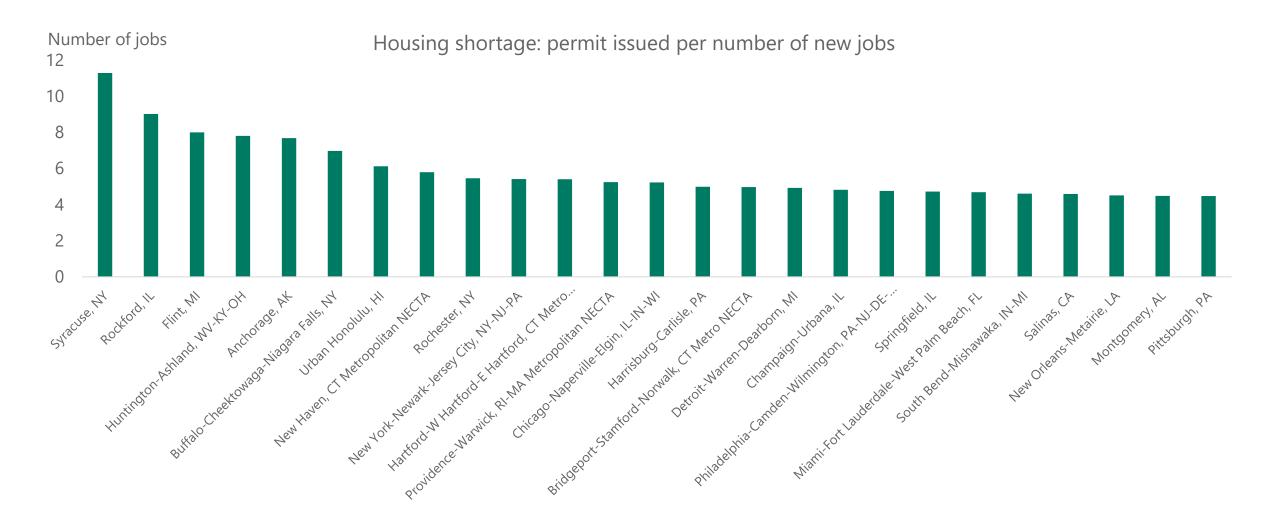
Median distance between the home that recent buyers purchased and the home they moved from at 50 miles in 2022



Home improvement spending as a share of disposable income rising



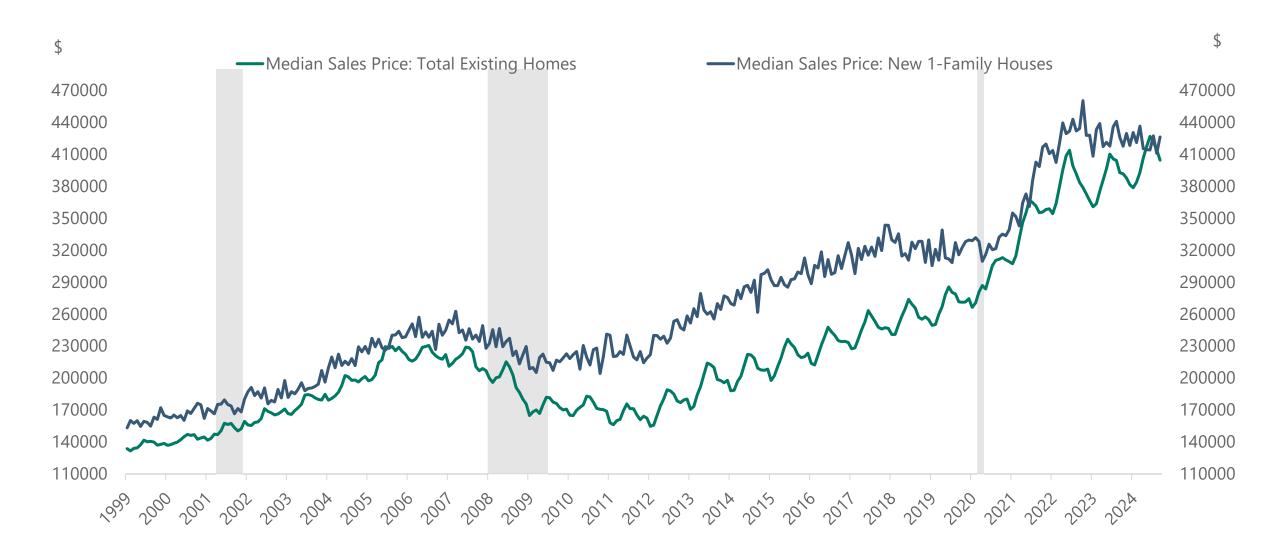
Metropolitan areas that need to build more houses to keep up with the increased demand



APOLLO

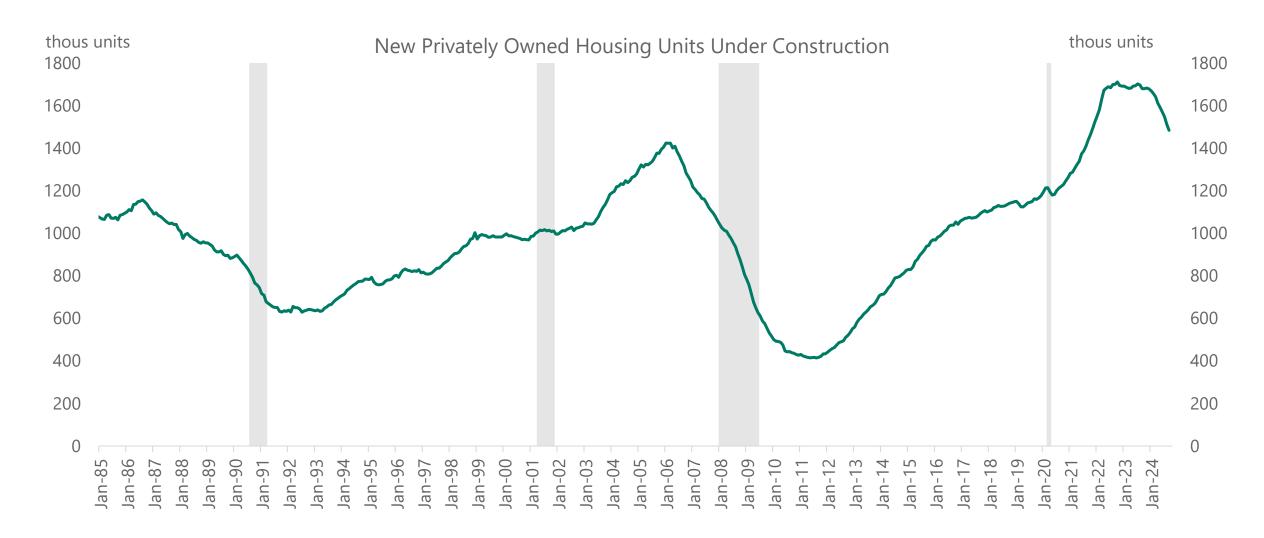
New versus existing homes

House prices for new homes and existing homes



Source: Census, Apollo Chief Economist

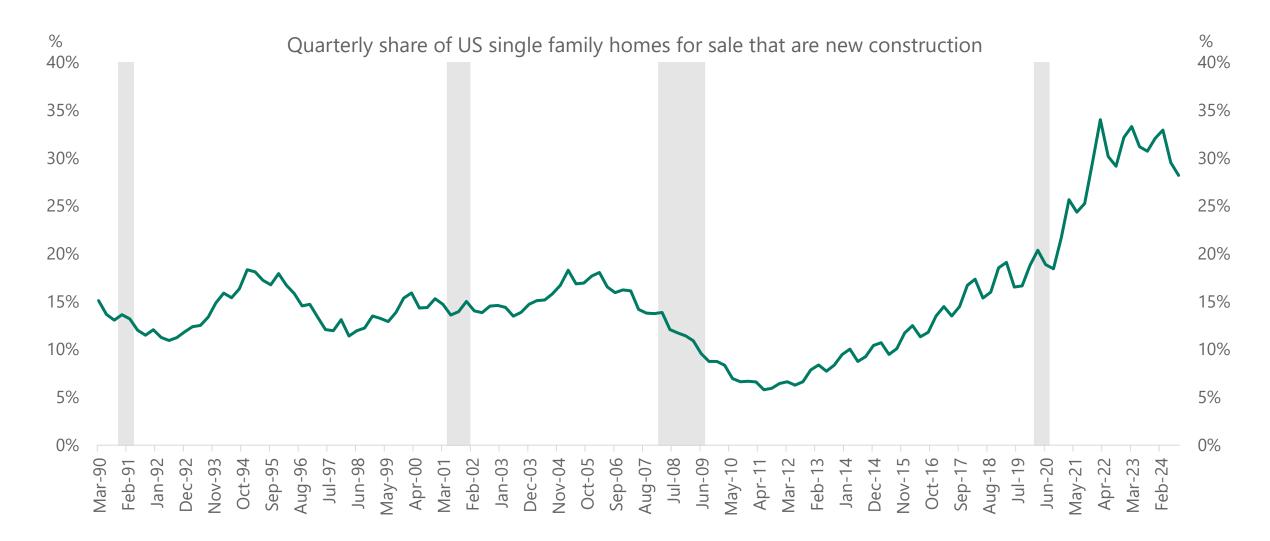
New privately owned housing units under construction coming down



Consensus is forecasting a modest rebound in home sales

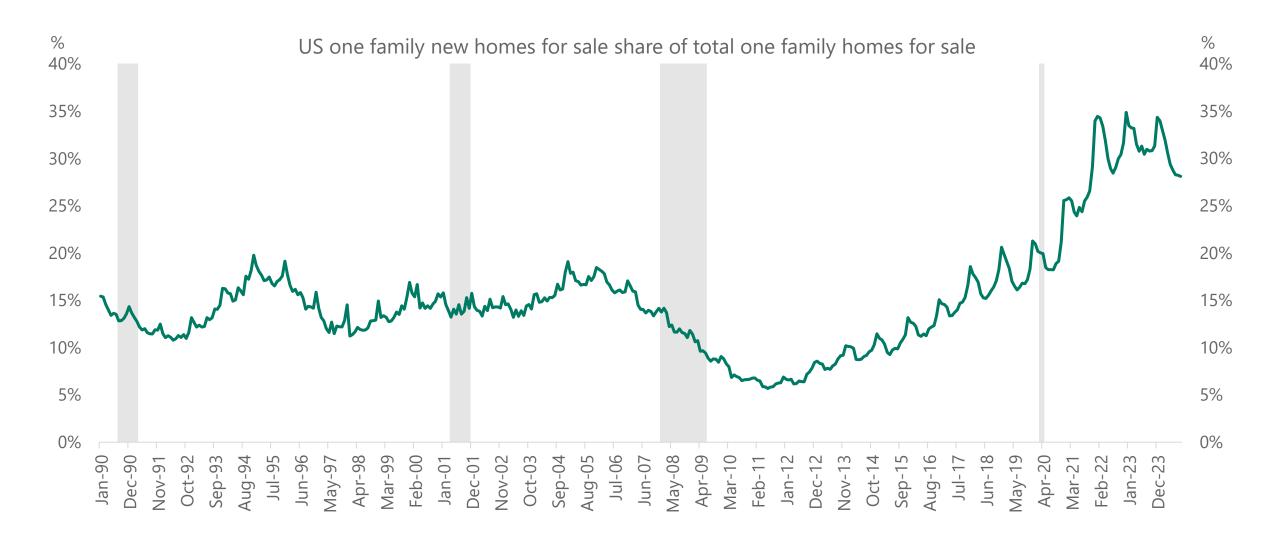


Share of newly built homes for sale



Source: NAR, Census Bureau, Apollo Chief Economist

Share of new homes for sale

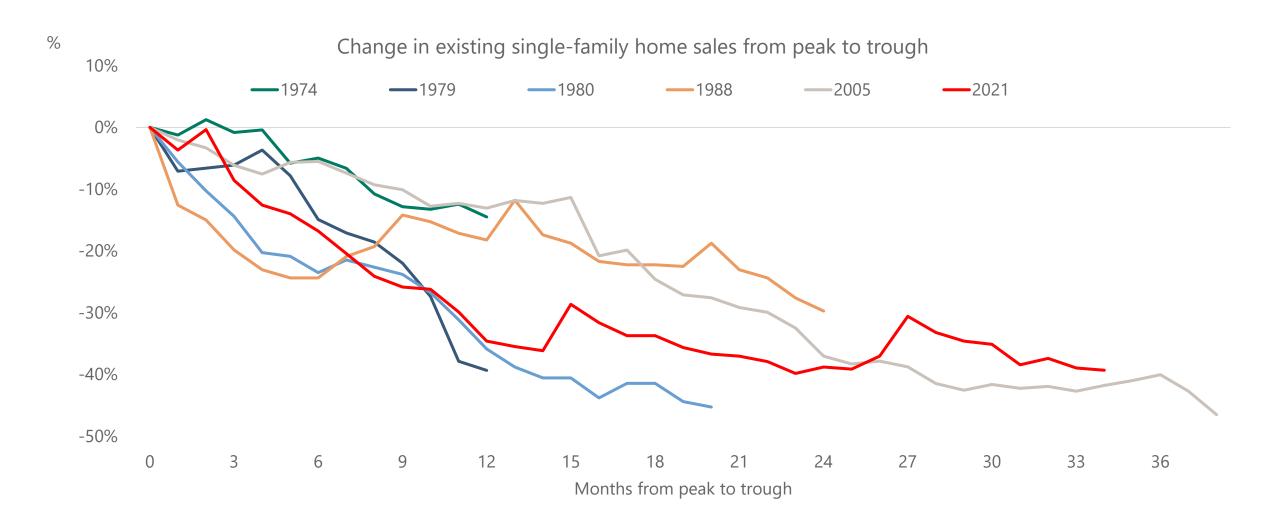


Source: NAR, Census, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist



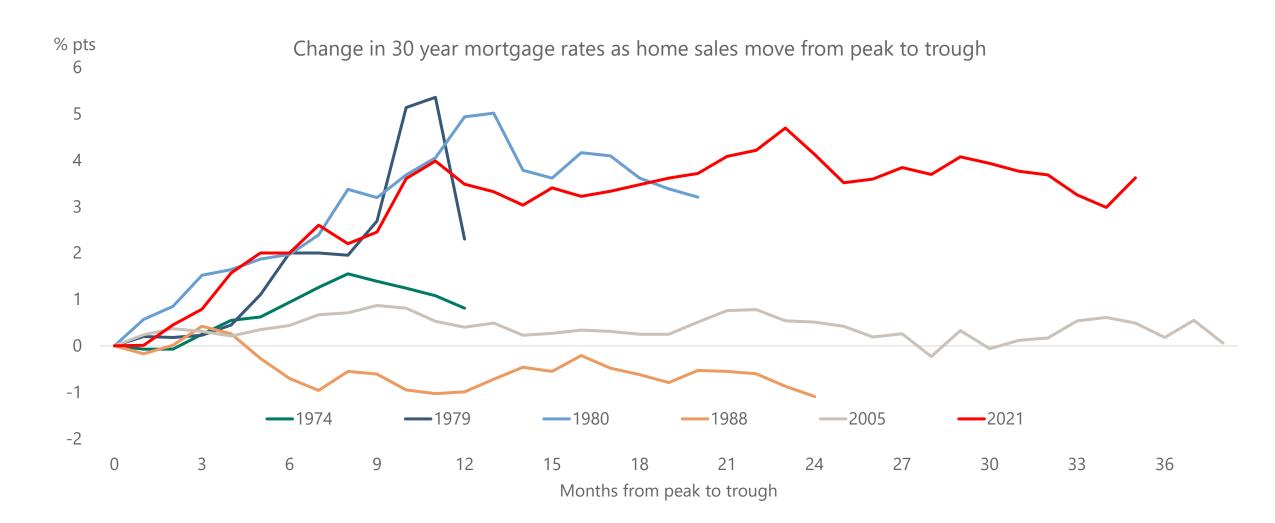
Comparing the current housing slowdown to previous housing slowdowns

The current decline in existing home sales is in line with previous housing slowdowns

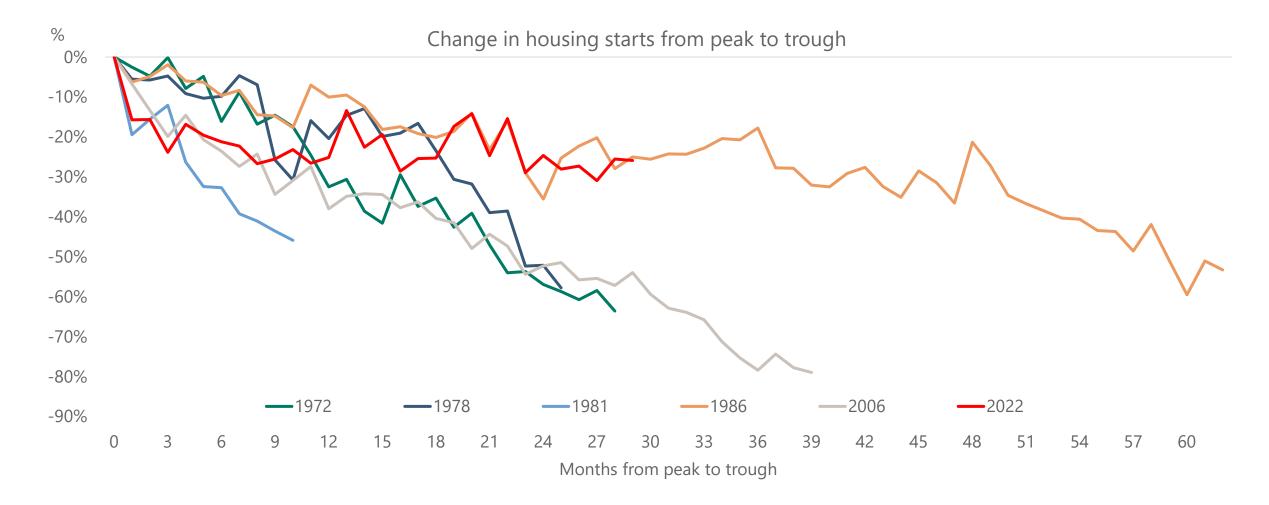


Source: NAR, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

The current rise in mortgage rates is similar to what we saw during the Volcker disinflation

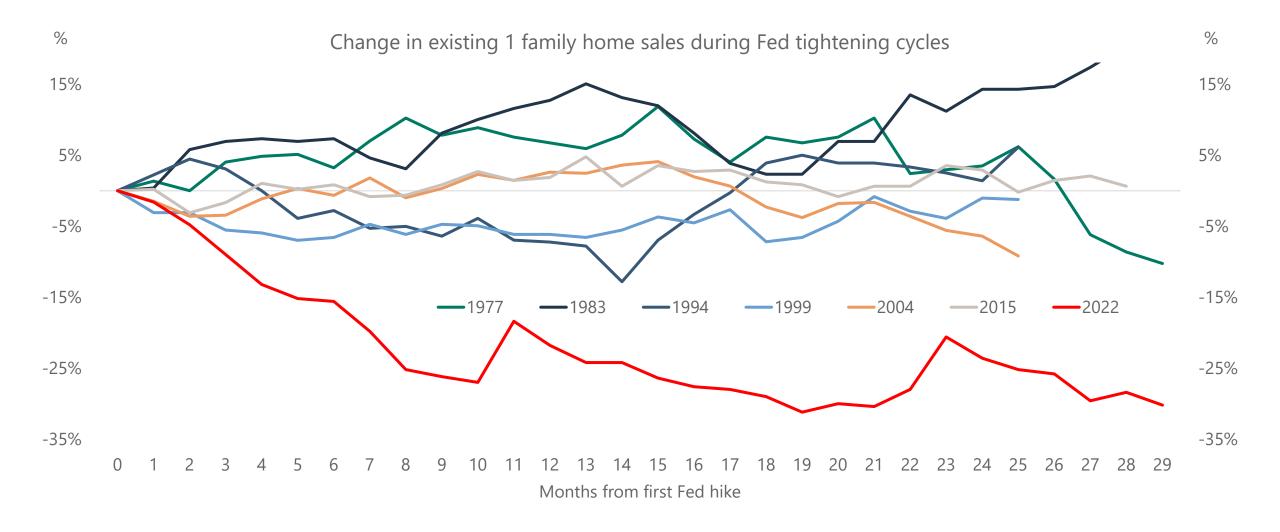


The current decline in housing starts is a bit milder than previous slowdowns



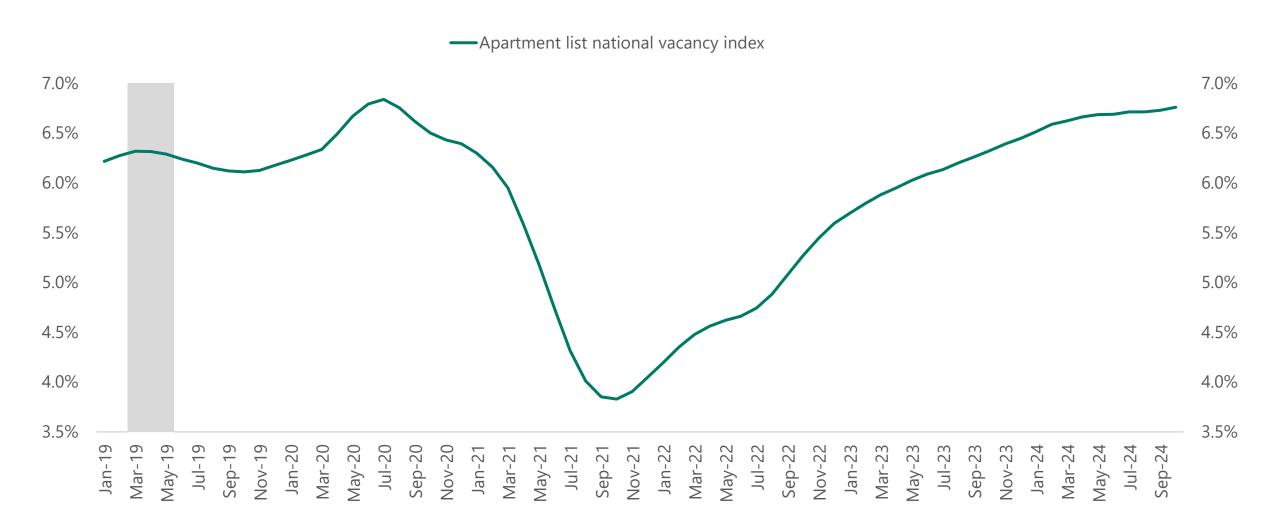
Source: Census Bureau, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

This is the fastest Fed-driven housing slowdown on record



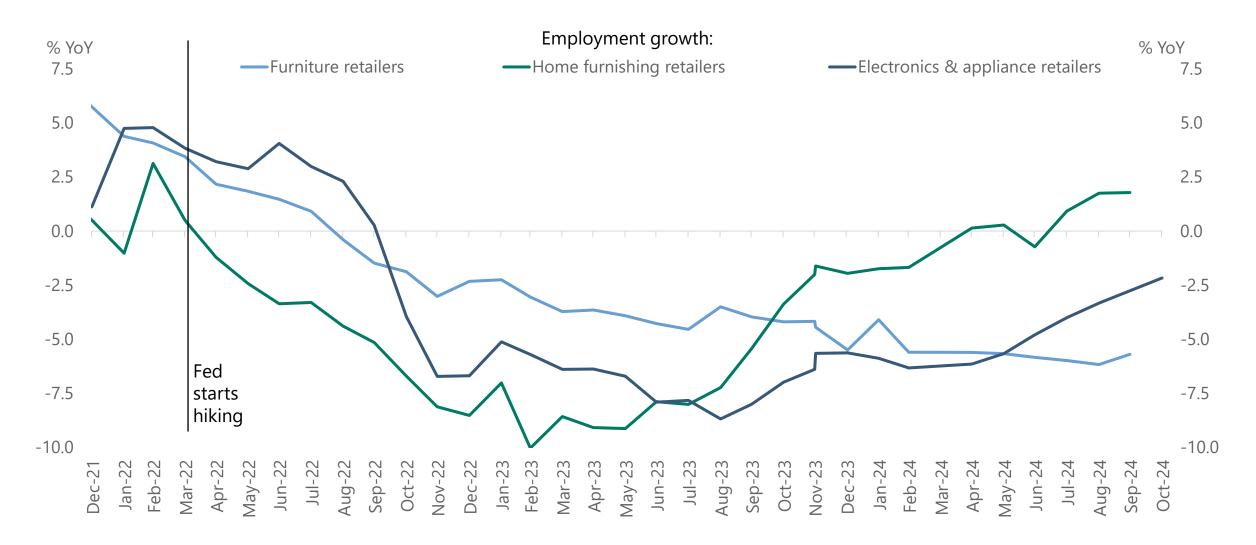
Source: NAR, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

Apartment vacancies above pre-pandemic levels



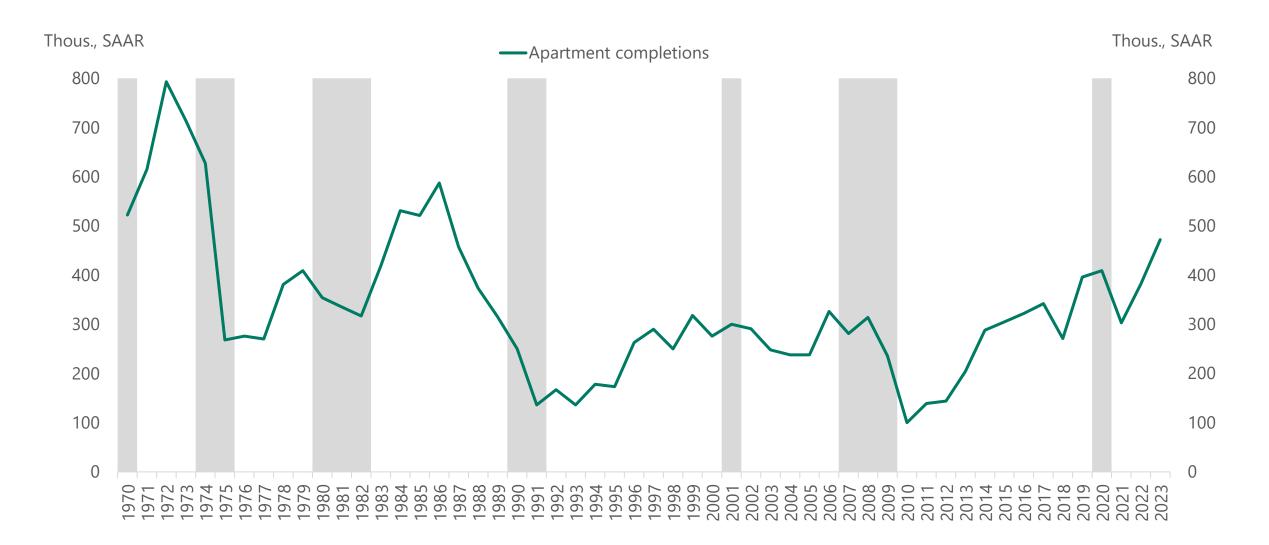
Source: Apartmentlist.com, Apollo Chief Economist

When the Fed raised interest rates, employment in retail trade declined

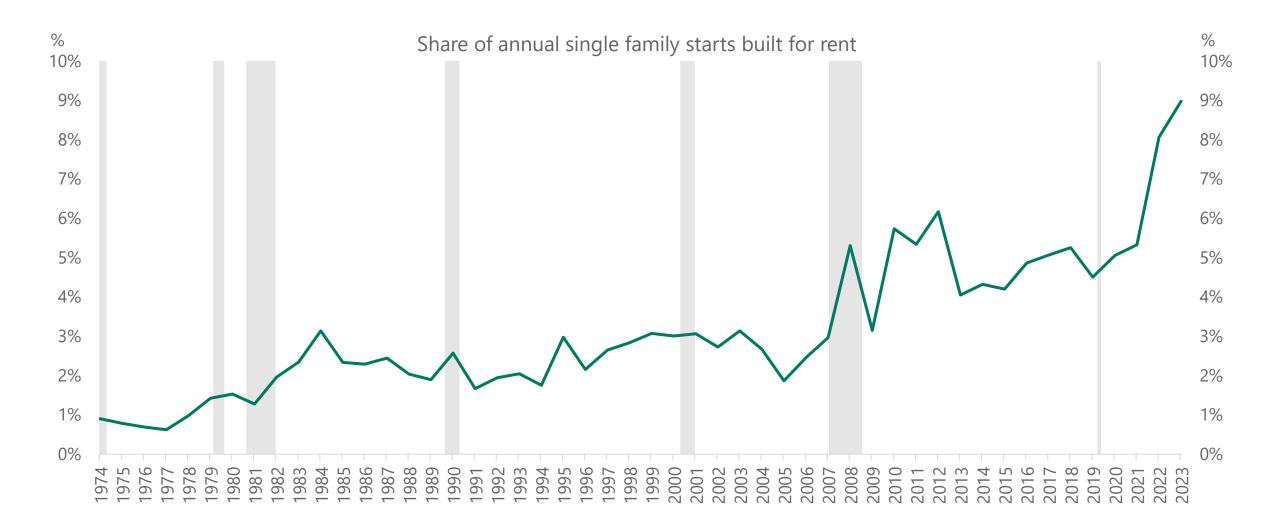


Source: BLS, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

US apartment supply gradually increasing

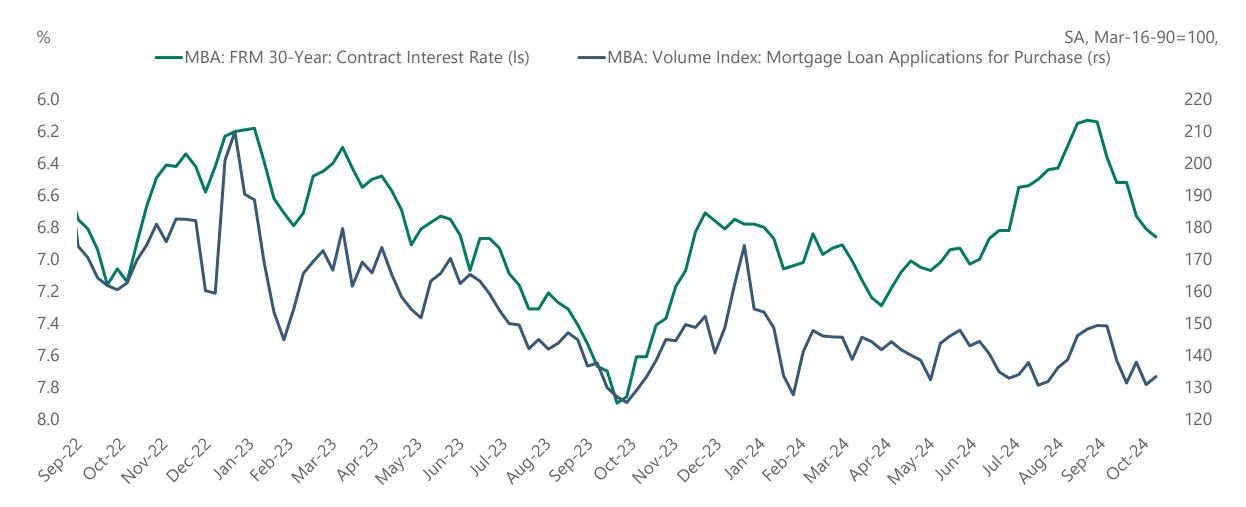


Share of homes built for rent going up



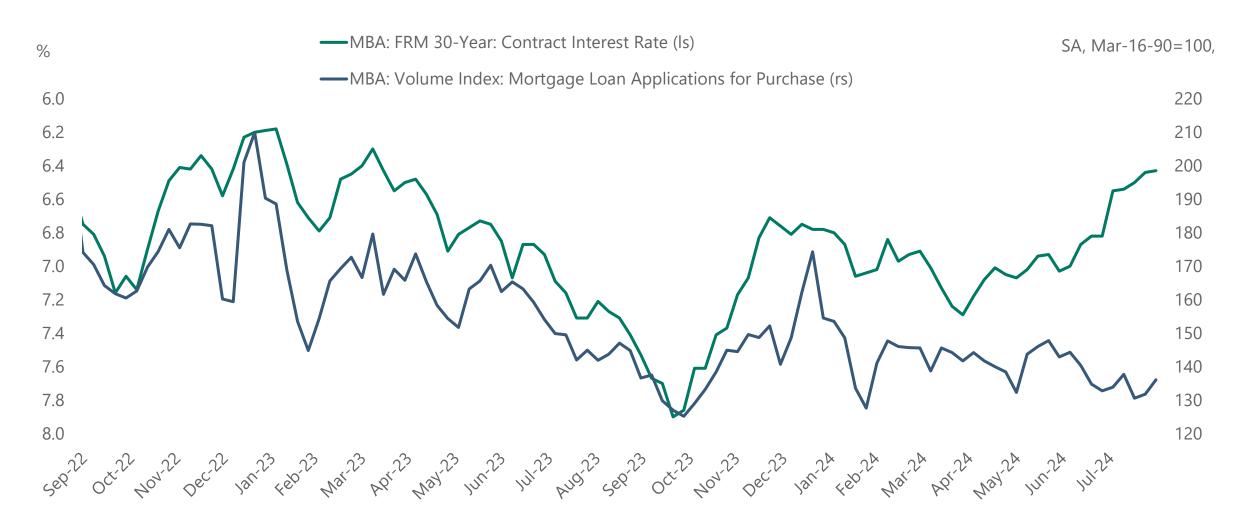
Source: Census Bureau, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

Purchase loan applications remain low



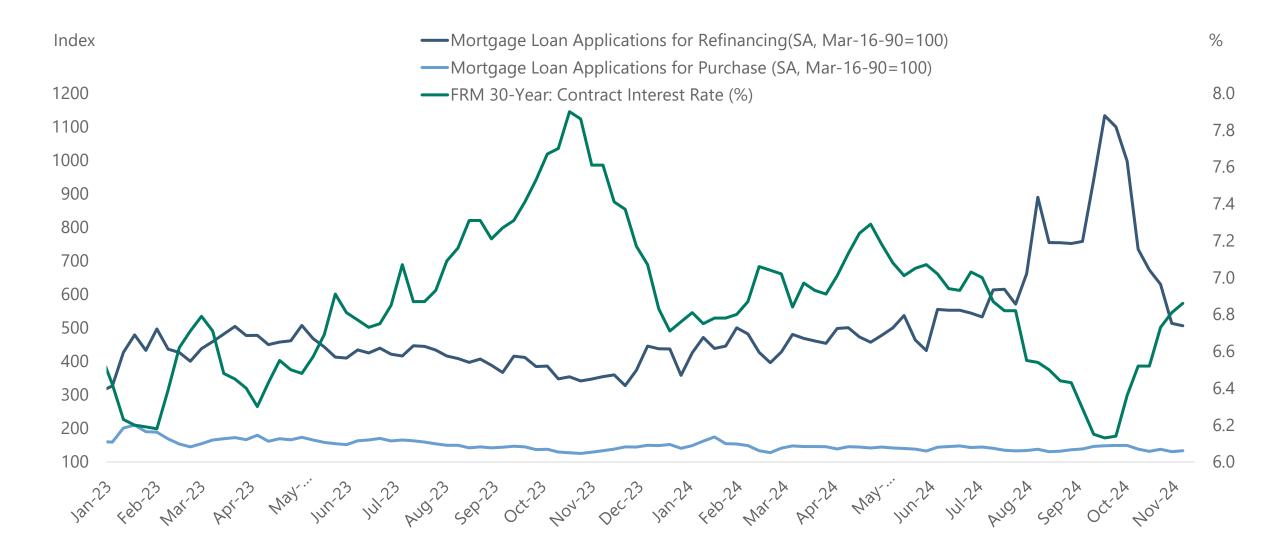
Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist. Note: The left scale (Is) is inverted.

Purchase loan applications remain low

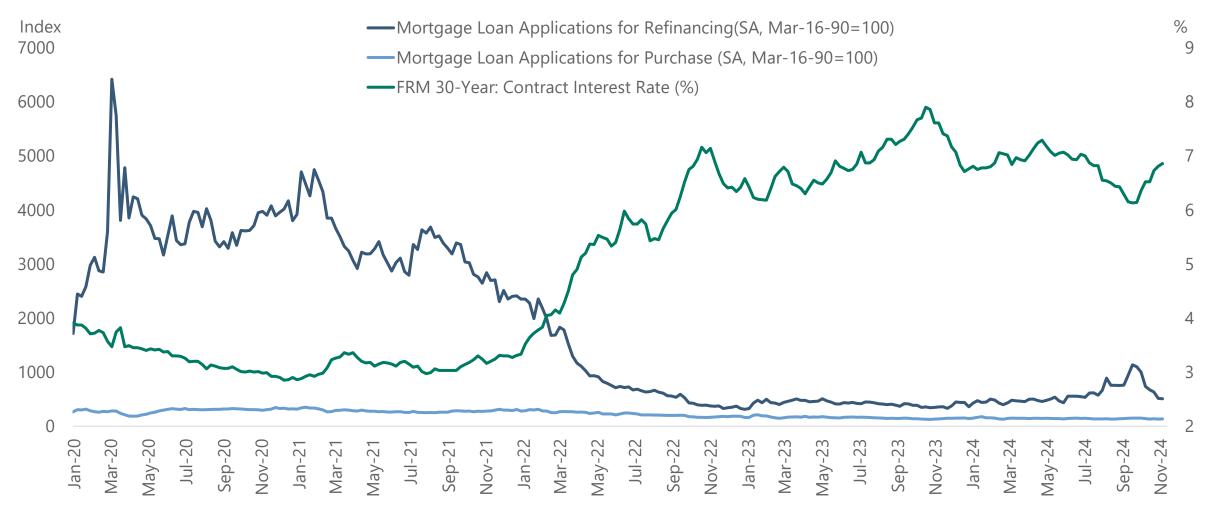


Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist. Note: The left scale (Is) is inverted.

Rising interest rates putting downward pressure on mortgage purchase applications

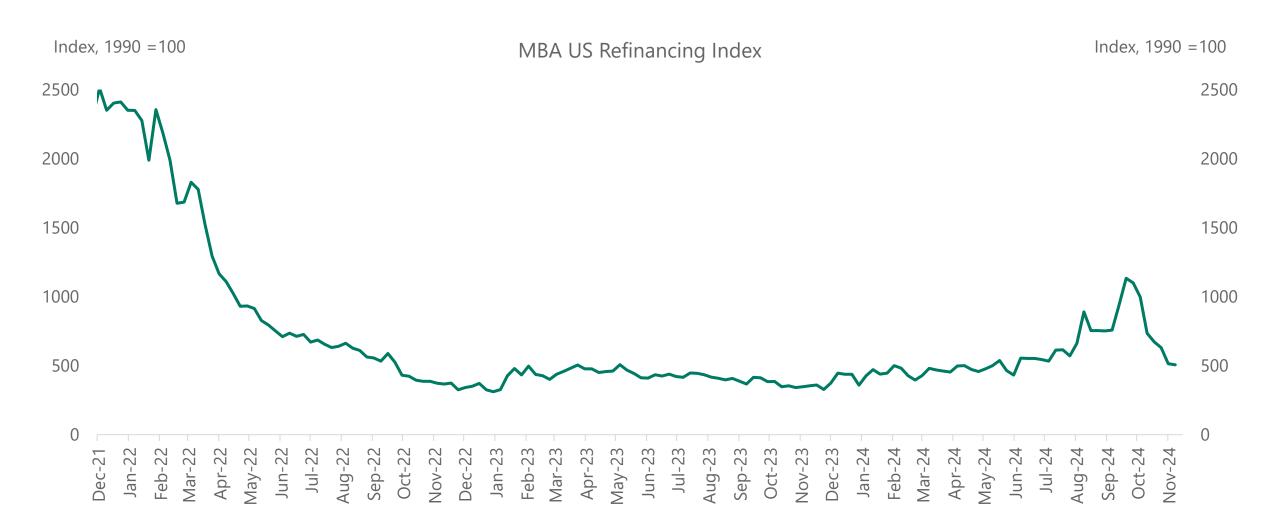


Mortgage applications fall as interest rates rise

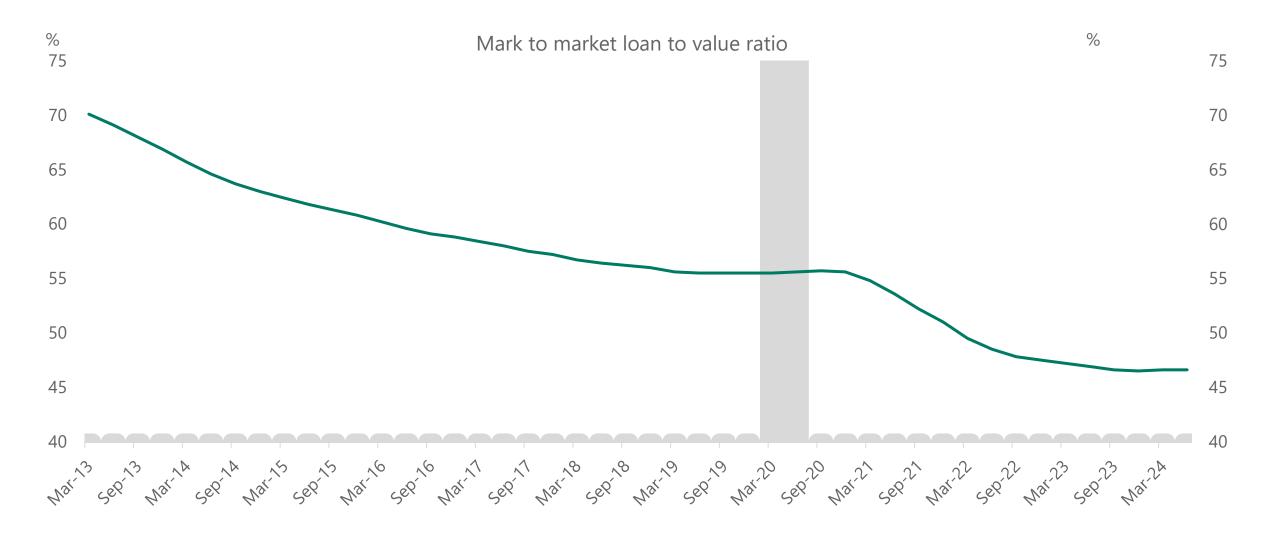


Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist.

Higher mortgage rates has pushed refinancing activity down



Loan-to-value ratio for US mortgages



Source: FHFA, Apollo Chief Economist.



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Torsten Slok joined Apollo in August 2020 as Chief Economist and he leads Apollo's macroeconomic and market analysis across the platform.

Prior to joining, Mr. Slok worked for 15 years as Chief Economist at Deutsche Bank where his team was top ranked in the annual Institutional Investor survey for a decade. Prior to joining Deutsche Bank Mr. Slok worked at the IMF in Washington, DC and at the OECD in Paris.

Mr. Slok has a Ph.D in Economics and has studied at the University of Copenhagen and Princeton University.