#### Item WS01



#### Economic Development

7447 E. Indian School Rd., 3<sup>nd</sup> Floor Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PHONE 480-312-7989 WEB WWW.ScottsdaleAz.gov WEB WWW.ChooseScottsdale.com

Date:	June 1, 2022
То:	Honorable Mayor and City Council
From:	Rob Millar, Director of Economic Development
Subject:	June 21, 2022 Work Study Session – Home Arizona Presentation

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

At the April 14, 2022, Council Subcommittee on Economic Development meeting Home Arizona provided an overview of current housing conditions and associated economic forecasts. Due to the prevalence of housing issues impacting the local and national economy, the Subcommittee unanimously requested the item go before the full City Council.

Attachment #1 – Home Arizona Presentation

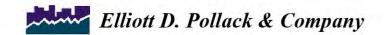


# Current State of the Greater Phoenix Housing Market

## A Supply & Demand Analysis

City of Scottsdale Council Work Study

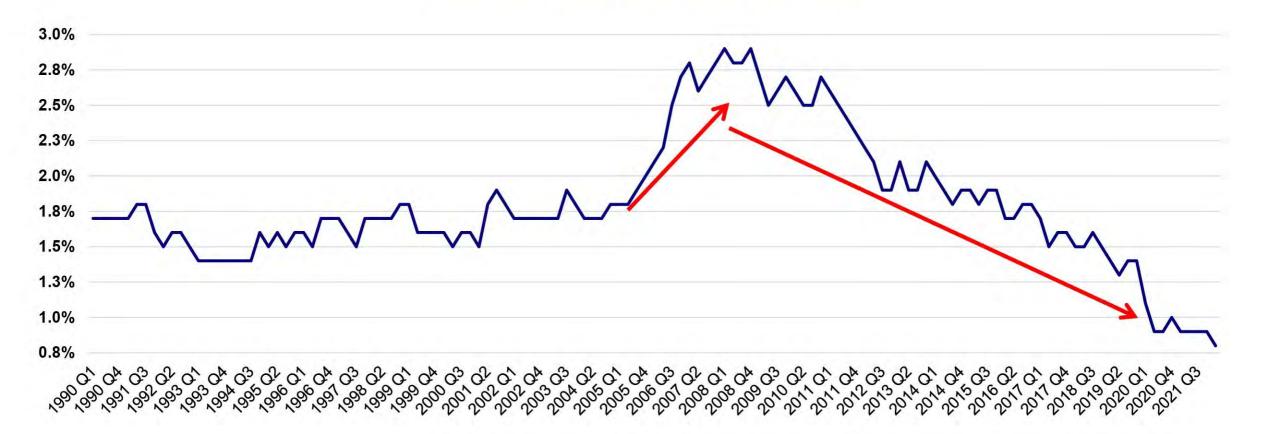
> June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 By Home Arizona





## **U.S. Homeowner Vacancy Rate**

#### Source: U.S. Census Bureau



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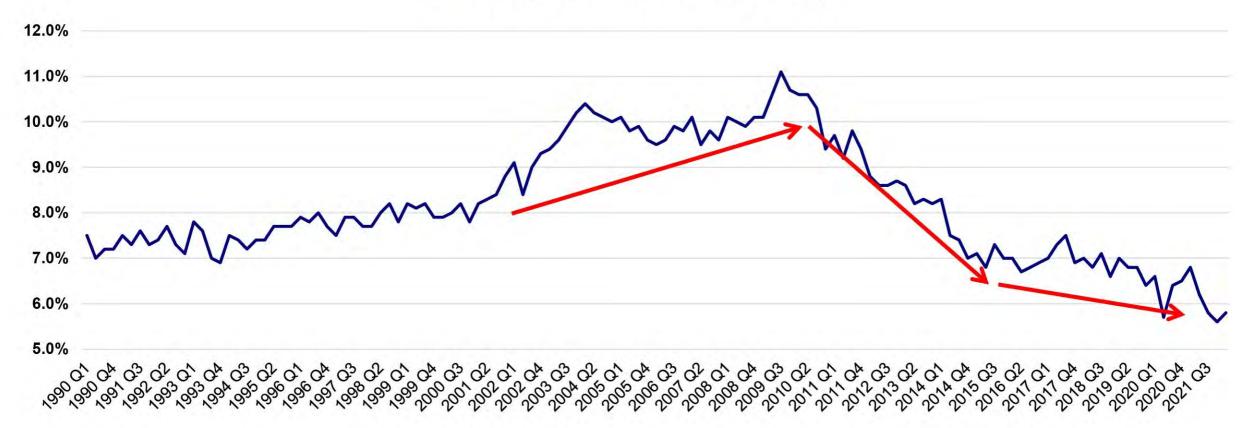
The homeowner vacancy rate is calculated as the ratio of vacant year-round units for sale to the sum of owner-occupied units, vacant year-round units sold but awaiting occupancy, and vacant year-round units for sale.



3

# **U.S. Rental Vacancy Rate**

#### Source: U.S. Census Bureau



Elliott D. Pollack & Company

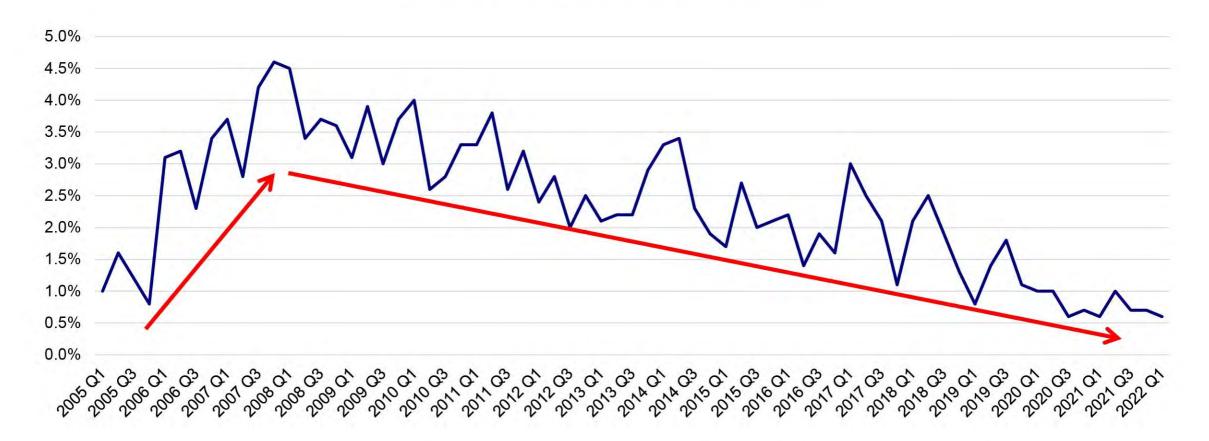
The rental vacancy rate is calculated as the ratio of vacant year-round units for rent to the sum of renter- occupied units, vacant year-round units rented but awaiting occupancy, and vacant year-round units for rent.



4

# **AZ Homeowner Vacancy Rate**

#### Source: U.S. Census Bureau



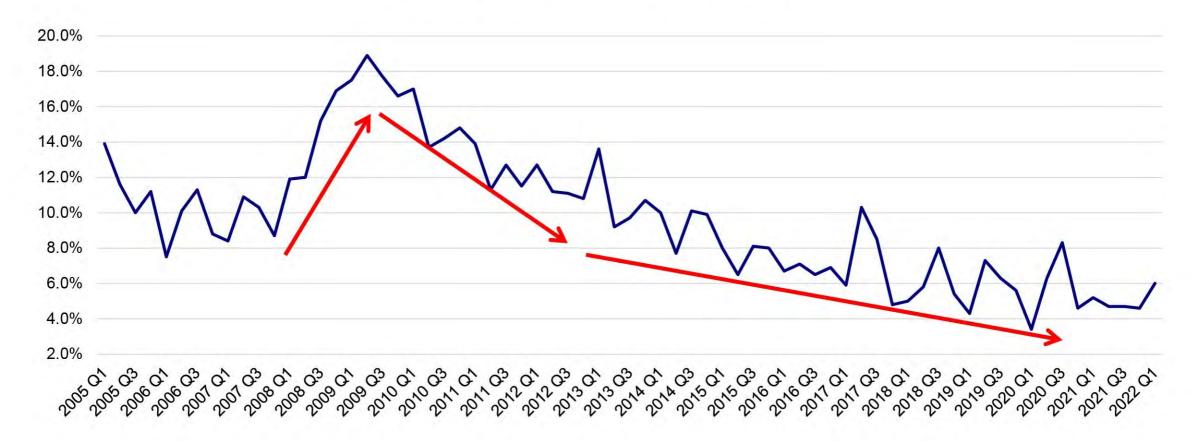
Elliott D. Pollack & Company

The homeowner vacancy rate is calculated as the ratio of vacant year-round units for sale to the sum of owner-occupied units, vacant year-round units sold but awaiting occupancy, and vacant year-round units for sale.



# **AZ Rental Vacancy Rate**

#### Source: U.S. Census Bureau



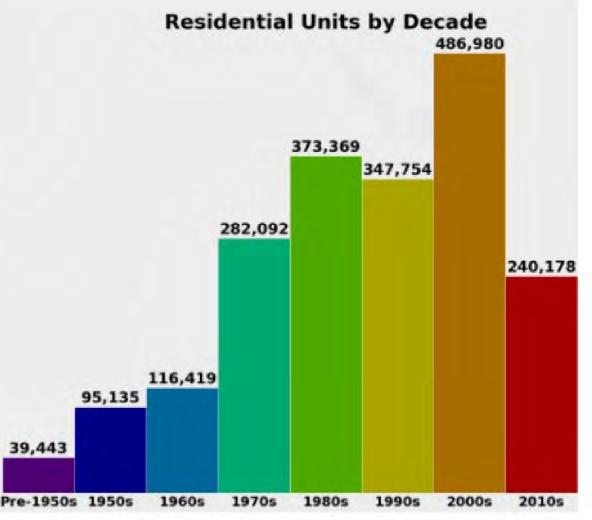
Elliott D. Pollack & Company

The rental vacancy rate is calculated as the ratio of vacant year-round units for rent to the sum of renter- occupied units, vacant year-round units rented but awaiting occupancy, and vacant year-round units for rent.



The 2000's - A decade of building excess inventory.

- The 2010's A decade of absorbing that inventory.
  - We are now short of inventory.

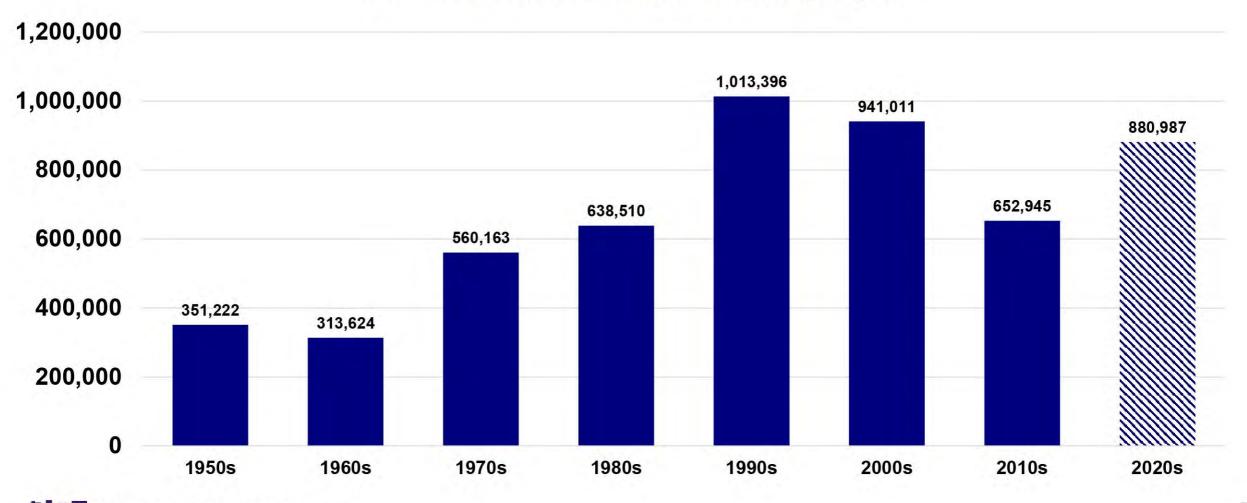


Source: Maricopa Association of Governments. Data reflects Greater Phoenix.



## **Greater Phoenix Population Growth by Decade**

Source: U.S. Census; UofA Forecasting Project



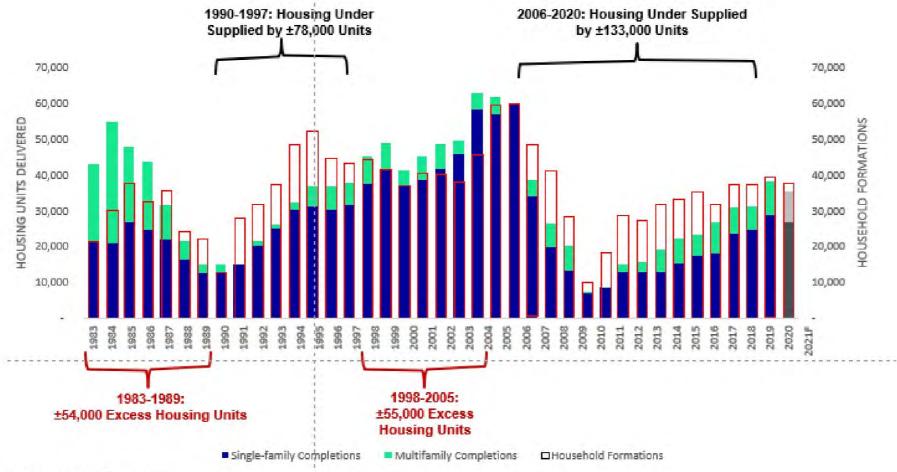
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8

## Household Formations Outpacing Single and Multifamily Additions

Sources: U.S. Census; Moody's Analytics; CBRE Research



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## **Greater Phoenix Employment**

Source: AOEO; EDPCo 5.0% 4.1% 4.0% 3.4% 3.4% 3.4% 3.4% 3.3% 3.0% 2.9% 3.0% 2.8% 2.5% 2.3% 2.0% 1.5% 1.0% 0.0% -1.0% -2.0% -1.9% -2.6% -3.0% 2010 2011 2012 2013 2020 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2021 2022 2023

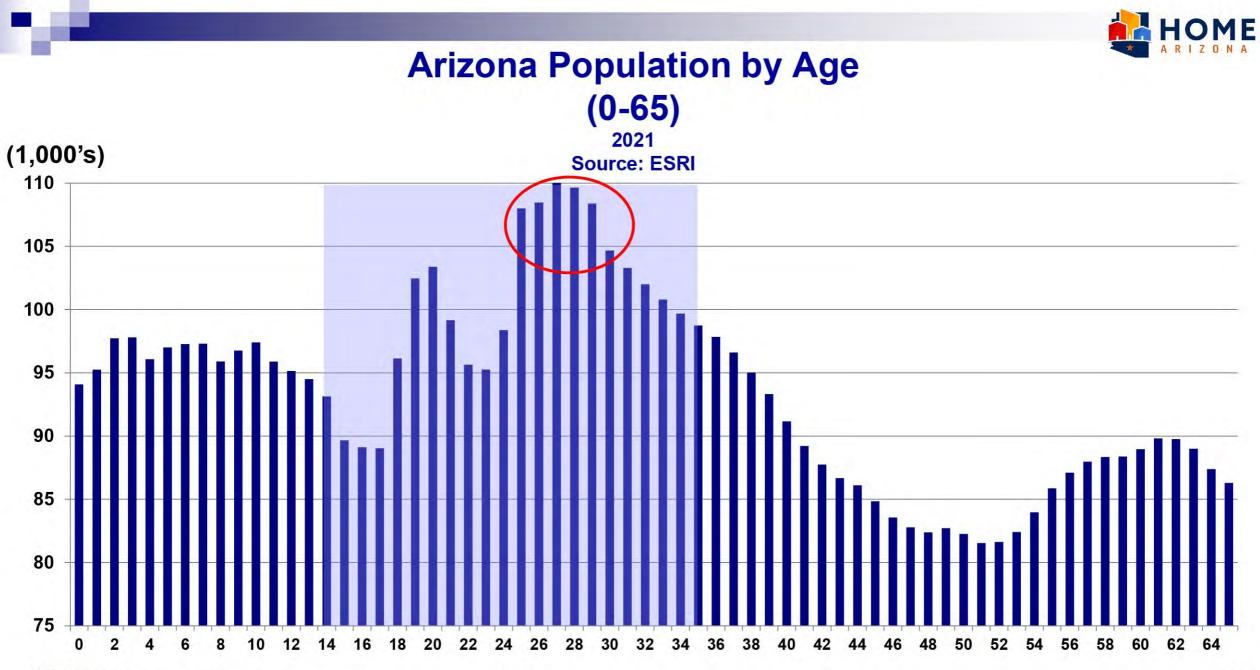
#### Greater Phoenix has a long history of strong employment growth



## **Greater Phoenix Population**

Source: AOEO; EDPCo 2.0% 1.9% 1.9% 1.8% 1.7% 1.7% 1.8% 1.7% 1.7% 1.6% 1.6% 1.5% 1.6% 1.4% 1.2% 1.2% 1.0% 0.8% 0.7% 0.6% 0.4% 0.3% 0.2% 0.0% 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2017

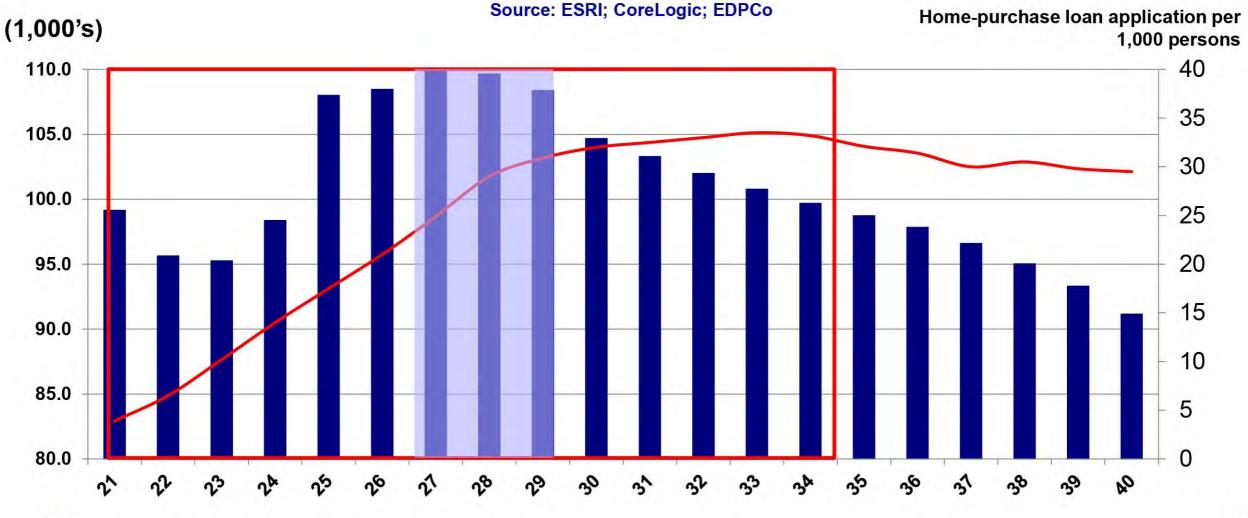
#### Projected growth approximates 90,000 new residents each year



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# Arizona Number of Persons vs. Home-Purchase Loan Applications 2021



# Arizona Number of Persons vs. Home-Purchase Loan Applications 2026

Source: ESRI; CoreLogic; EDPCo

1,000 persons (1,000's) 110.0 40 35 105.0 30 100.0 25 20 95.0 15 90.0 10 85.0 5 80.0 0 ŝ 20 20 30 3 30 2 3 nA 30 5 30 0 2

HOME

Home-purchase loan application per



#### Arizona

#### Homeownership Rates by Age Group

Source: 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

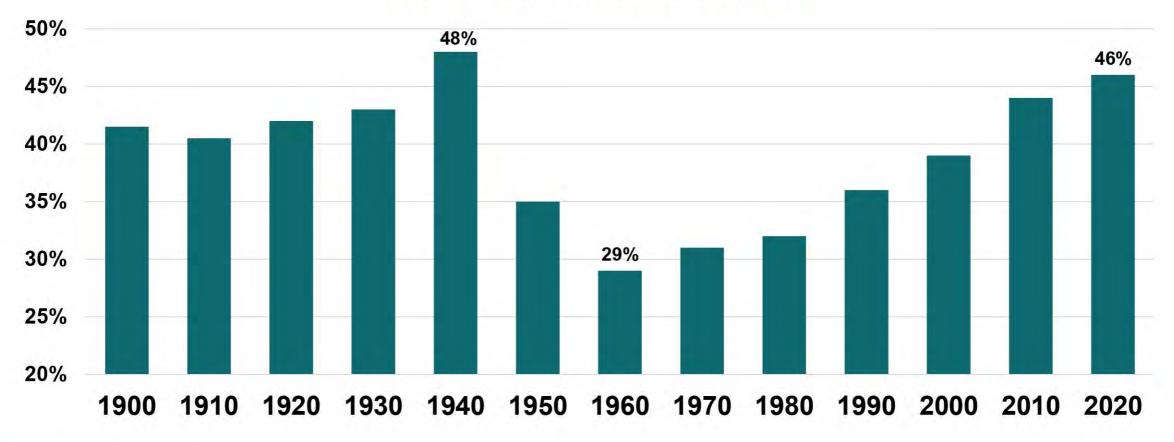
Householder Age	% of Total Occupied
15 to 24 years	15.0%
25 to 34 years	49.8%
35 to 44 years	58.1%
45 to 54 years	67.3%
55 to 64 years	76.1%
65 to 74 years	82.4%
75 to 84 years	84.0%
85 years and over	73.9%
Total	65.3%

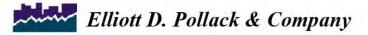




## Adults Living with a Parent 18-to-29-year-olds

Source: U.S. Census Bureau





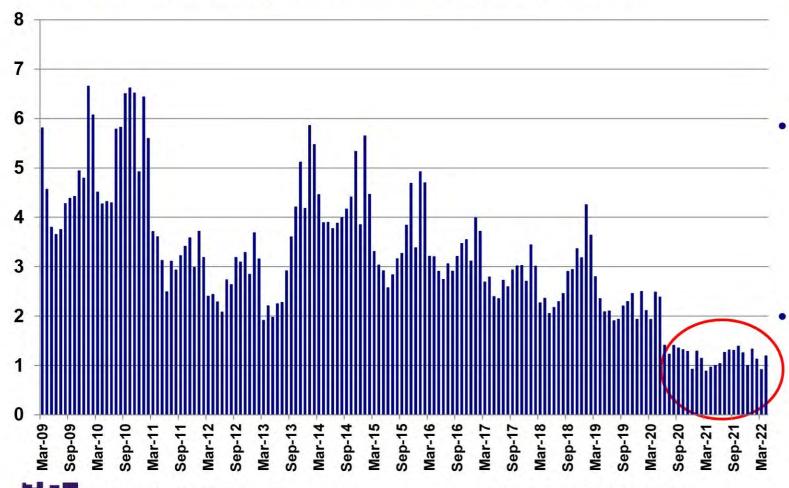


#### SF Greater Phoenix Months Supply 2009-2022\*

\*Data through April 2022

Source: ARMLS; Cromford Report; Zonda

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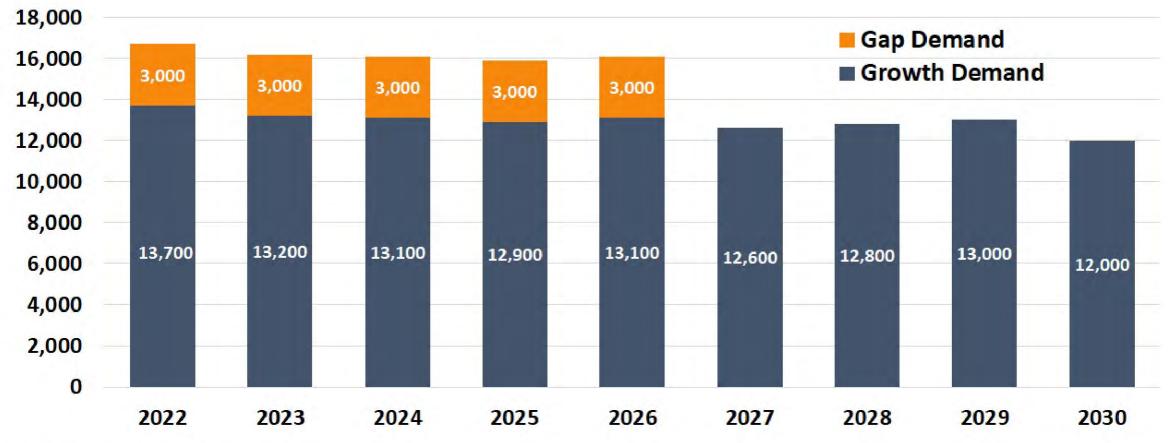
- SF Days of inventory:
  - Long run average 65.2
  - Currently at 19.6
  - SF Days of Inventory for homes under \$350,000:
    - Long run average 45.3
    - Currently 5.6

Inventory of new homes is down from 1,631 just 18 months ago to 477.



## **Greater Phoenix Apartment Need**

#### Source: AOEO; Elliott D. Pollack & Company

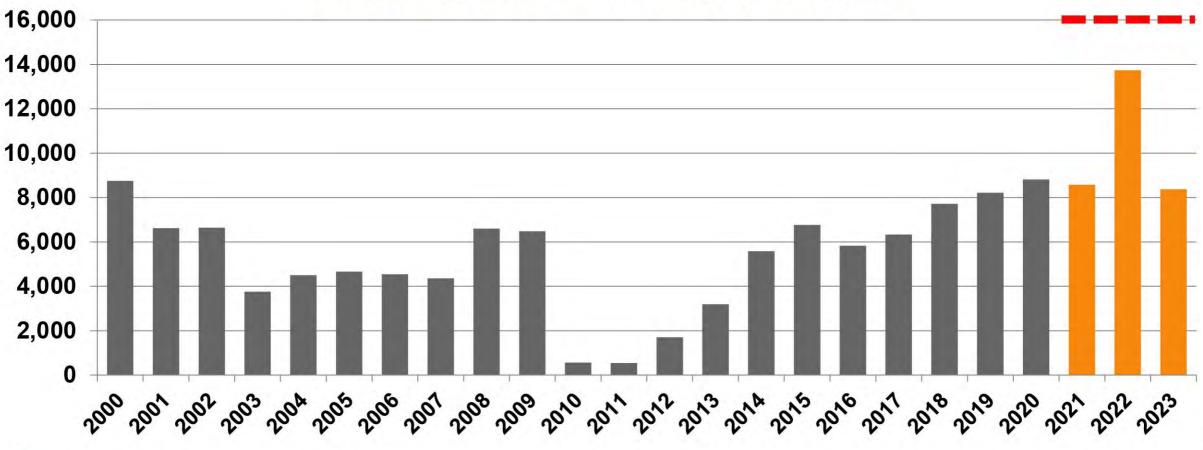






# Apartment Deliveries - Not Keeping Pace 2000-2020; Forecast 2021-2023

Source: RealData; Commercial Brokers; Elliott D. Pollack & Company



What Do We Need?

- Entry Level Ownership Housing
- Move-Up Ownership Housing
- Market Rate Rental Housing
- Workforce Level Rental Housing
- ☑ Low-Income Rental Housing

Extremely Low-Income Rental Housing The current shortage is in all housing types, at all price levels, and all income levels.



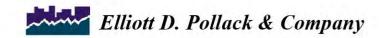
Elliott D. Pollack & Company



#### Prices Are Increasing Rapidly Source: RealData; The Information Market; BLS

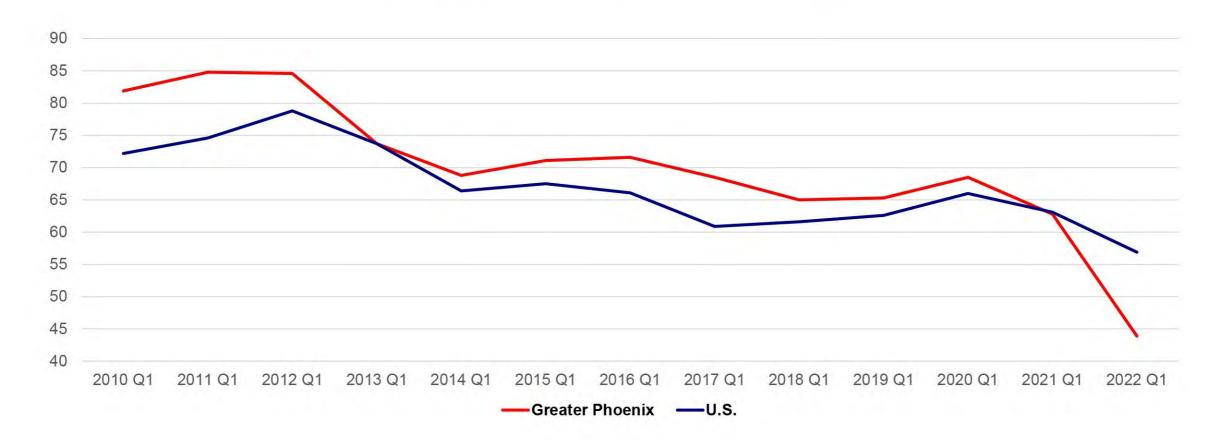
	Latest Data	% Change Y-O-Y
Apts. Rents	\$1,564	29.9%
SF Resale	\$465,000	26.7%
Core-CPI	290.455	6.1%

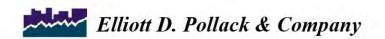
# You cannot get this big of a price increase in housing without a significant supply demand imbalance.





### Housing Opportunity Index Source: NAHB/Wells Fargo

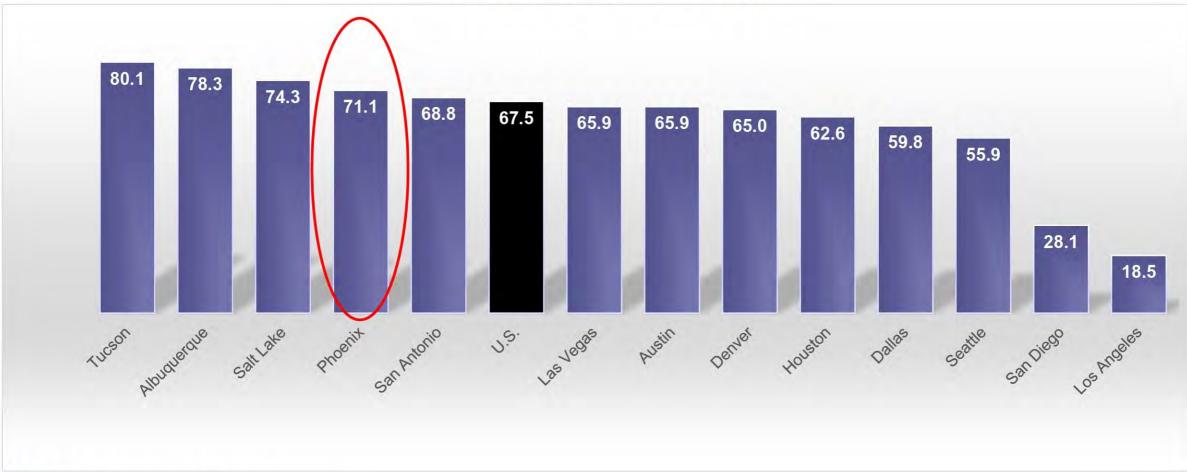






## Housing Opportunity Index 2015 Q1

Source: NAHB/Wells Fargo

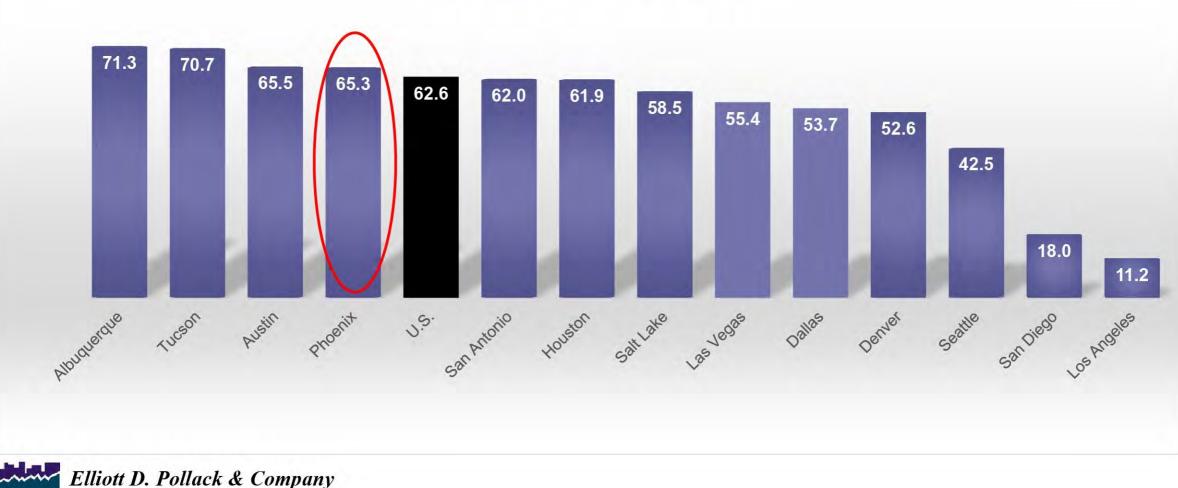


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## Housing Opportunity Index 2019 Q1

Source: NAHB/Wells Fargo





#### Housing Opportunity Index 2022 Q1 Source: NAHB/Wells Fargo

68.1 66.0 59.7 59.2 56.9 51.3 48.6 46.9 44.3 43.9 41.4 32.5 14.6 8.3 Denver Austin Sattake Phoenit Las Vegas Seattle San Diego Los Angeles Albuquerque Dallas Tucson Houston can Antonio J.S.

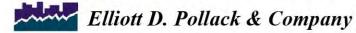
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## Diminishing Housing Affordability in Greater Phoenix

Source: RL Brown, NAHB, Wells Fargo

	2022 (Q1 25.7%)	2023 (f) (0%)	2024 (f) (0%)	2025 (f) (0%)
Income (5% Growth)	\$88,800	\$93,240	\$97,902	\$102,797
28% of Income	\$2,072	\$2,176	\$2,284	\$2,399
Taxes & Insurance	\$270	\$270	\$270	\$270
Payment (Principal & Interest)	\$1,802	\$1,906	\$2,014	\$2,129
Interest Rate	3.86%	6.5%	6.5%	5.0%
Affordable Home	\$426,568	\$353,153	\$373,313	\$440,577
% Affordable	43.9%	28.3%	23.2%	28.6%

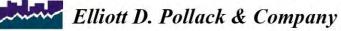




## Diminishing Housing Affordability in Greater Phoenix

Source: RL Brown, NAHB, Wells Fargo

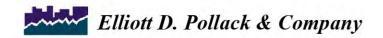
	2022 (Q1 25.7%)	2023 (f) (-5%)	2024 (f) (-10%)	2025 (f) (5%)
Income (5% Growth)	\$88,800	\$93,240	\$97,902	\$102,797
28% of Income	\$2,072	\$2,176	\$2,284	\$2,399
Taxes & Insurance	\$270	\$270	\$270	\$270
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Interest Rate	3.86%	6.5%	6.5%	5.0%
Affordable Home	\$426,568	\$353,153	\$373,313	\$440,577
% Affordable	43.9%	34.6%	41.2%	42.3%





# Low levels of affordability are associated with lower levels of homeownership and higher level of rentals

Area	Affordability (Q1 2015 NAHB)	Affordability (Q1 2021 NAHB)	Affordability (Q1 2022 NAHB)	Homeownership Rate (Q1 2022 HVS)	% Renter Occupied (Q1 2022 HVS)
Los Angeles	18.5%	11.6%	8.3%	45.2%	54.8%
San Francisco	14.7%	17.4%	14.4%	56.3%	43.7%
San Diego	28.1%	22.4%	14.6%	48.4%	51.6%
New York	26.7%	31.6%	22.3%	50.0%	50.0%
Seattle	55.9%	41.0%	32.5%	59.7%	40.3%
Phoenix	71.1%	62.8%	43.9%	67.2%	32.8%
Denver	65.9%	67.6%	46.9%	63.2%	36.8%
Dallas	59.8%	62.1%	51.3%	61.7%	38.3%
U.S.	67.5%	63.1%	56.9%	65.4%	34.6%
Houston	62.6%	65.7%	59.7%	61.3%	38.7%
Albuquerque	78.3%	72.7%	68.1%	64.5%	35.5%





#### What happens as there is shift from Owner Occupied to Renter Occupied? Source: ACS; EDPCo

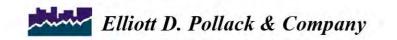
	Renter Occupied Changes
All Units (latest)	1,745,219
Percent of Units (latest)	35.6%
No. of Renter Units (35.6%)	621,809
No. of Units Renter at 40%	698,088
No. of Units Renter at 50%	872,610





## Interest Rates & Mortgage Rates Source: Zonda

- A 0.5% change in interest rate translates to 6.5% in home price.
  - \$400,000 home at 3.15% principal and interest payment of \$1,719.
  - \$375,759 home at 3.65% principal and interest payment of \$1,719.
- A 1.0% Change in the Interest rate translates to 13.2% in home price.
  - \$400,000 home at 3.15% principal and interest payment of \$1,719.
  - \$353,618 home at 4.15% principal and interest payment of \$1,719.





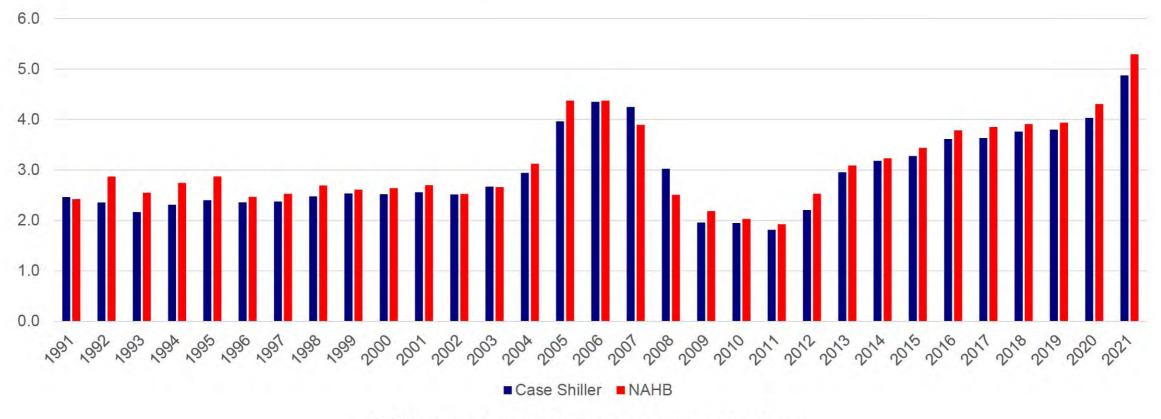
## **Greater Phoenix Home Affordability**

Year	Cost	Interest Rate	Total Monthly Payment	Annual Household Income Needed	Medium Income	HOI Phoenix
2000 Q1	\$132,000	7.93%	\$1,003	\$43,004	\$53,100	69.5%
2005 Q1	\$193,000	5.79%	\$1,219	\$52,248	\$58,300	60.1%
2010 Q1	\$140,000	5.12%	\$831	\$35,636	\$66,600	81.9%
2015 Q1	\$205,000	3.81%	\$1,074	\$46,041	\$64,000	71.1%
2020 Q1	\$300,000	3.61%	\$1,542	\$66,067	\$77,800	68.5%
2022 Q1	\$440,000	3.86%	\$2,317	\$99,303	\$79,000	43.9%
% Change	233.3%	-51.3%	131.0%	130.9%	48.8%	-36.8%

Total Payment: Principal, Interest, Property Tax and Insurance; LTV 90% \*Source: Freddie Mac, NAHAB

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## **Greater Phoenix** Ratio of Housing Price to Family Income



HUD: annual median family income estimates

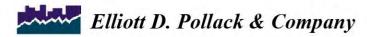
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33

## **Greater Phoenix Rent Affordability**







#### **Affordability by Occupation**

	Median	Annual	2-	Annual	1-	Annual	l.			High		Elemen/ Middle				Buy
	Home Price	Salary E Needed	Bedroom Rent	Salary E Needed	Bedroom Rent	Salary Needed	Nurse	Police	Firefighter	School	Chef		Construction Worker	Wait Staff	Retail Worker	Rent 2BD
2020 (	August		Kent	Needed	Kent	Needed		\$73,786		\$54,186	127.5.1	\$47,799		\$34,940	and the second	Rent 1BD
Avondale	\$285,000	\$53,800	\$1,340	\$53,600	\$1,152	\$46,100										Neither
Chandler	\$381,500	\$72,100	\$1,420	\$56,800	\$1,251	\$50,000										mention
Gilbert	\$395,000	\$74,600	\$1,395	\$55,800	\$1,201	\$48,000										
Glendale	\$297,000	\$56,100	\$1,144	\$45,800	\$905	\$36,200	-									
Goodyear	\$324,780	\$61,400	\$1,477	\$59,100	\$1,164	\$46,600										
Mesa	\$315,000	\$59,500	\$1,200	\$48,000	\$1,046	\$41,800										
Peoria	\$346,613	\$65,500	\$1,302	\$52,100	\$1,250	\$50,000										
Phoenix	\$310,000	\$58,600	\$1,135	\$45,400	\$929	\$37,200										
Scottsdale	\$570,901	\$107,900	\$1,465	\$58,600	\$1,235	\$49,400										
Surprise	\$303,495	\$57,300	\$1,428	\$57,100	\$1,219	\$48,800										
Tempe	\$337,000	\$63,700	\$1,313	\$52,500	\$1,099	\$44,000										
2021 (	August	:)					\$83,269	\$76,221	\$56,712	\$55,974	\$55,141	\$49,376	\$48,680	\$36,303	\$27,836	
Avondale	\$378,500	\$70,300	\$1,724	\$69,000	\$1,482	\$59,300		Press and								
Chandler	\$465,000	\$91,100	\$1,810	\$72,400	\$1,594	\$63,800										
Gilbert	\$515,000	\$100,900	\$1,765	\$70,600	\$1,519	\$60,800										
Glendale	\$385,000	\$75,500	\$1,430	\$57,200	\$1,132	\$45,300										
Goodyear	\$438,600	\$86,000	\$1,787	\$71,500	\$1,409	\$56,400										Source:
Mesa	\$405,000	\$79,400	\$1,496	\$59,800	\$1,304	\$52,200										Cromford Report; AZ
Peoria	\$440,000	\$86,200	\$1,638	\$65,500	\$1,573	\$62,900										Office of Economic
Phoenix	\$380,000	\$74,500	\$1,394	\$55,800	\$1,142	\$45,700		1								Opportunity; Bureau of
Scottsdale	\$717,500	\$140,600	\$1,870	\$74,800	\$1,576	\$63,000										Labor Statistics;
Surprise	\$410,000	\$80,400	\$1,764	\$70,600	\$1,506	\$60,200	-									ApartmentList.com; Ellio
Tempe	\$431,500	\$84,600	\$1,665	\$66,600	\$1,393	\$55,700						-				D. Pollack & Company





### **Affordability by Occupation**

	Median	Annual	2-	Annual	1-	Annual				High		Elemen/ Middle				Buy
	Home Price	Salary I Needed	Bedroom Rent	Salary E Needed	edroom Rent	Salary Needed	Nurse	Police	Firefighter	School	Chef		onstruction Worker	Wait Staff	Retail Worker	Rent 2BD
2020 (	August		Kent	Needed	Kent	Neeueu		\$73,786		\$54,186	103:55	\$47,799		\$34,940	\$26,843	Rent 1BD
Avondale	\$285,000	\$53,800	\$1,340	\$53,600	\$1,152	\$46,100	<i><i>qccjccc</i></i>	<i><i><i></i></i></i>	<i><b></b></i>	<i><b>40</b> 1/200</i>	<i><b><i>vo</i></b>,<i>v</i>,<i>z</i></i>	<i><i><i>q mµbb</i></i></i>	<i>q</i> in jee i	<i><b>v</b> ije ie</i>	<i><b>420/0 10</b></i>	Neither
Chandler	\$381,500	\$72,100	\$1,420	\$56,800	\$1,251	\$50,000										Neither
Gilbert	\$395,000	\$74,600	\$1,395	\$55,800	\$1,201	\$48,000						t fi				
Glendale	\$297,000	\$56,100	\$1,144	\$45,800	\$905	\$36,200										
Goodyear	\$324,780	\$61,400	\$1,477	\$59,100	\$1,164	\$46,600										
Mesa	\$315,000	\$59,500	\$1,200	\$48,000	\$1,046	\$41,800										
Peoria	\$346,613	\$65,500	\$1,302	\$52,100	\$1,250	\$50,000										
Phoenix	\$310,000	\$58,600	\$1,135	\$45,400	\$929	\$37,200										
Scottsdale	\$570,901	\$107,900	\$1,465	\$58,600	\$1,235	\$49,400										
Surprise	\$303,495	\$57,300	\$1,428	\$57,100	\$1,219	\$48,800										
Tempe	\$337,000	\$63,700	\$1,313	\$52,500	\$1,099	\$44,000										
2022 (	March	)					\$86,600	\$78,965	\$58,753	\$58,213	\$57,953	\$51,351	\$50,725	\$38,154	\$29,228	
Avondale	\$425,000	\$97,000	\$1,764	\$70,600	\$1,516	\$60,600										
Chandler	\$520,000	\$118,700	\$1,869	\$74,800	\$1,646	\$65,800										
Gilbert	\$567,750	\$129,600	\$1,846	\$73,800	\$1,589	\$63,600										
Glendale	\$425,000	\$97,000	\$1,535	\$61,400	\$1,214	\$48,600				-						
Goodyear	\$500,000	\$114,100	\$1,941	\$77,600	\$1,530	\$61,200										
Mesa	\$425,000	\$97,000	\$1,636	\$65,400	\$1,426	\$57,000										Source:
Peoria	\$495,000	\$113,000	\$1,688	\$67,500	\$1,621	\$64,800										Cromford Report; AZ Office of Economic
Phoenix	\$425,000	\$97,000	\$1,498	\$59,900	\$1,227	\$49,100										Opportunity; Bureau of
Scottsdale	\$795,000	\$181,500	\$2,037	\$81,500	\$1,717	\$68,700										Labor Statistics;
Surprise	\$442,000	\$100,900	\$1,949	\$78,000	\$1,664	\$66,600										ApartmentList.com; Elliot
Tempe	\$477,000	\$108,900	\$1,744	\$69,800	\$1,459	\$58,400										D. Pollack & Company



Elliott D. Pollack & Company

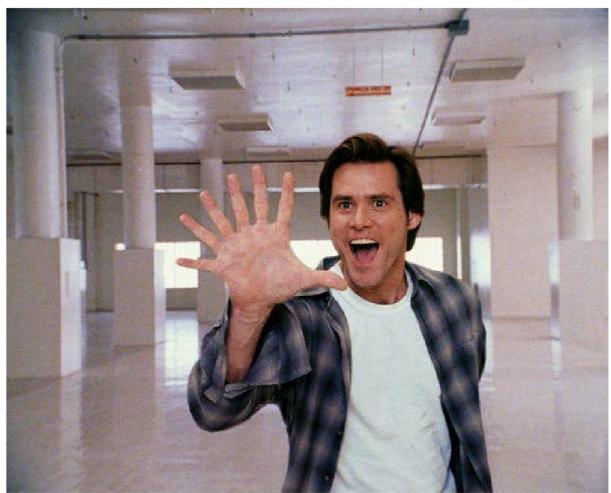


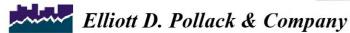
### What Happens if the Affordability Situation Continues to Deteriorate? (The Unintended Consequences of Ignoring Market Demand)

- Fewer potential buyers can afford the median price home
- Fewer people will be owners / More people will be renters
- More rental of single family units as families double up
- More Millennials and Gen Z's living with parents / More parents living with kids
- Smaller homes / More density
- Fewer workforce housing units Where do essential workers live? (police, fire, teachers, nurses)
- C and D apartment units get less maintenance
- More homelessness
- A worsening economic development picture as the ability to draw in employees diminishes
- Upward pressure on wages and city budgets
- Slower growth for the economy as a whole and less real income growth



# Top 7 Things That Can Be Done to End The Housing Shortage

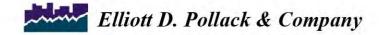






# Top 7 Things That Can Be Done to End The Housing Shortage

- **1. Build more housing units**
- 2. Build more housing units
- 3. Build more housing units
- 4. Build more housing units
- **5. Build more housing units**
- 6. Build more housing units
- 7. Build more housing units





# **Conclusions – Do the Math**

- > Net population growth is 80,000 to 90,000 new people a year.
- This creates total housing demand of about 35,000 new units (owner and renter) per year just to meet population growth.
- Over and above the amount needed for new population each year, we need additional units to fix the imbalance of supply and demand:
  - 20,000-25,000 single family for-sale units
  - > 15,000 rental units
  - > 2,000-2,500 units of new home inventory
  - Replacing demolished units
  - Pent up demand from Millennial and Gen Z adults leaving home and forming new households
- To get supply and demand back into balance over the next 5 years we need an elevated total of about 42,000 units (owner and renter) per year.
- > The only answer to the housing shortage is more supply.

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# Key Takeaways

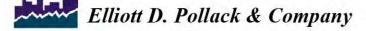
- 1. Affordability has fallen and is now plummeting.
- 2. There is virtually no vacancy or available supply.
- 3. Supply is not keeping pace with demand.
- 4. Our success in attracting jobs and people has not been matched with a sufficient housing supply that new employees need.
- 5. A continued shortage of housing drives up costs and threatens economic development efforts (jobs & real income growth).



# The Housing Market We Grew Up With in Greater Phoenix No Longer Exists

#### How It Was (The Good Old Days):

- Housing was very affordable (low & consistent housing price to income ratio) helping economic development
  - Our kids could afford to live near us and stay local
  - Essential workers could live where they work
- Supply and demand generally in balance
- Density fairly consistent: 3-4 units per acre. This means we were building out instead of building up.
- Ratio of homeowners to renters generally in the 65%/35% range
- Relatively low development costs
- Levels of city responsiveness to issues raised by builders rated high
  - Reasonable length of time for entitlements
  - Inspections were by the book, not prescriptive
- Sufficient supply of rental units at most income levels
- Plenty of housing for new workers
- Low rate of homelessness





# The Housing Market We Grew Up With in Greater Phoenix No Longer Exists

#### How it is Now and How it is Likely to Stay (Unless We Build Considerably More Inventory):

- Affordability low and going lower (housing price to income ratio at all-time high) this will create economic development issues
  - Our kids can't afford to live in the community in which they grew up
  - Essential workers can't afford to live in many of the communities they work in
  - If new workers can find housing, it's expensive
- Strong demographics and lack of supply have worsened the situation
- Density will become higher by necessity smaller lots with smaller homes that are more affordable
- Ratio of renters to owners will grow as more people are priced out of home ownership
- Shortage of rental units at all levels of income
- Stronger demand for rentals will cause more building up
- High development costs
  - Length of time required to get through the development process much longer and more difficult
  - Staffing shortages & increased regulation cause an inability of cities to keep up with workload and push up costs
- Rapidly growing homelessness issues

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### Why Do We Care?

- This is the most significant challenge to economic development and future job growth that Greater Phoenix has ever seen.
- Our children, essential workers (police, teachers, nurses, firefighters, etc.) and everyone else needed to keep the economy going can no longer afford to live within our cities.
- People are commuting from far away, creating more traffic and congestion than ever before. This also reduces quality of life.
- Homelessness is increasing at an exponential rate and will continue to do so if we don't take action.



## Why Do We Care?

This is an economic development issue and not a divisive political issue.

The voices of the few are dominating the density conversation and your constituents will suffer as a result.

#### Here is what the public thinks

- There is stunning agreement (73%) that there is a housing crisis in Arizona. This unanimity spans age, education, gender, income and length of residency in Arizona it's particularly unusual in this political environment.
- A strong majority of voters (81%) believe Arizona needs to increase its housing supply.
  - This cuts across party lines with 78 percent of Republicans, 78 percent Independents and 89 percent of Democrats believing Arizona needs to increase its housing supply.
  - This issue also cuts across income levels:
    - 87 percent of households earning under \$40,000 believe Arizona needs more housing.
    - 81 percent of households earning above \$80,000 agree.
- A whopping 1 in 3 voters have considered or would consider leaving their city because of the cost of housing.
- An even more astounding 2 of 5 voters said that if they were buying today, they couldn't afford their own home.
- A full 80 percent of voters agree that city leaders need to approve more quality housing for rent and ownership across all prices in our community.
- Despite frequent NIMBY is in opposition to new multi-family projects, 79 percent of respondents have lived in an apartment.

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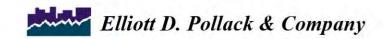
# What Can Municipalities Do? Eliminate Unnecessary Delays

- Cities can't do everything to mitigate the current housing problem. But they can do some things.
- Some things are out of your control. Labor issues will take time to resolve and supply chain issues
  causing shortages of materials will continue for some time to come (ultimately, we believe they will turn
  into a supply chain glut).
- Some things are in your control. Cities can examine and reduce or improve regulation and they can help streamline, modernize and speed up (which will organically lower costs) tasks associated with the entitlement and inspection process.
- The issues we raise are not targeted toward any particular city. Our recommendation is for each city to ask and respond to issues raised by those who are actively developing in the market. Feedback should be examined as to whether or not government is doing everything it can within their control to help alleviate our housing imbalance.
- The economic vitality, affordability of housing, direction of homelessness, ability to draw new employees and future of each city's economic development and fiscal prospects may well depend on it.



# List of Issues: Developer Feedback

**Problem:** The entitlement & inspection process severely impacts the length of time and cost to deliver a project. Permit issuance has dramatically slowed.





### **Entitlement Issues:**

- Protracted time scheduling pre-plat meetings
- Lack of communication between departments creating disruptions
  - No solidified point of contact for developers to resolve issues among departments
- Overly complex zoning, variance & plan review processes
  - Lack of clarity for required permits and plans
  - No proper instructions on the development order of operations
- Excessive redlines/comments after multiple reviews
  - Many comments unrelated to safety or compliance
- Protracted review times (multiple months per design round)
- No standardization for design review or engineering.
  - Project approval highly dependent on which staff member is assigned.
- Excessive contingencies
- □ Unresponsive staff: can't get a return call or email
- Understaffed departments



### **Inspection Issues:**

- Wide latitude and highly variable subjectivity from inspectors
  - Competing reviews between office staff and field inspectors
  - Multiple inspectors requiring independent list of requirements before sign-off
  - Changing out inspectors throughout the project without and standard
- □ Withholding Certificates of Occupancy unnecessarily
- □ No cooperation by inspectors with developers
  - Requiring developer representation on site
  - Not accepting pictures/videos as proof of work



# **Possible Solutions to Consider:**

- □ Supply all developer requirements upfront and do not deviate mid-project
  - Eliminate changes after approvals
- Internal performance metrics (established timelines, staying on schedule, maximum review time, limiting redlines after two submittals, new inventory goals, etc.)
- □ Additional staffing/budget for Planning & Development
- □ 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractor outsourcing options
- □ Consider programs allowing developers to proceed at-risk
- Additional outreach to development community
- Review and eliminate overly burdensome regulations and/or bureaucracy
  - Simplify and shorten the planning & building process
- Review land use balance on remaining vacant land

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