
2026 California Economic & Housing Market Forecast

Contra Costa Association of REALTORS®

October 7, 2025

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SVP & Chief Economist

California Association of REALTORS®



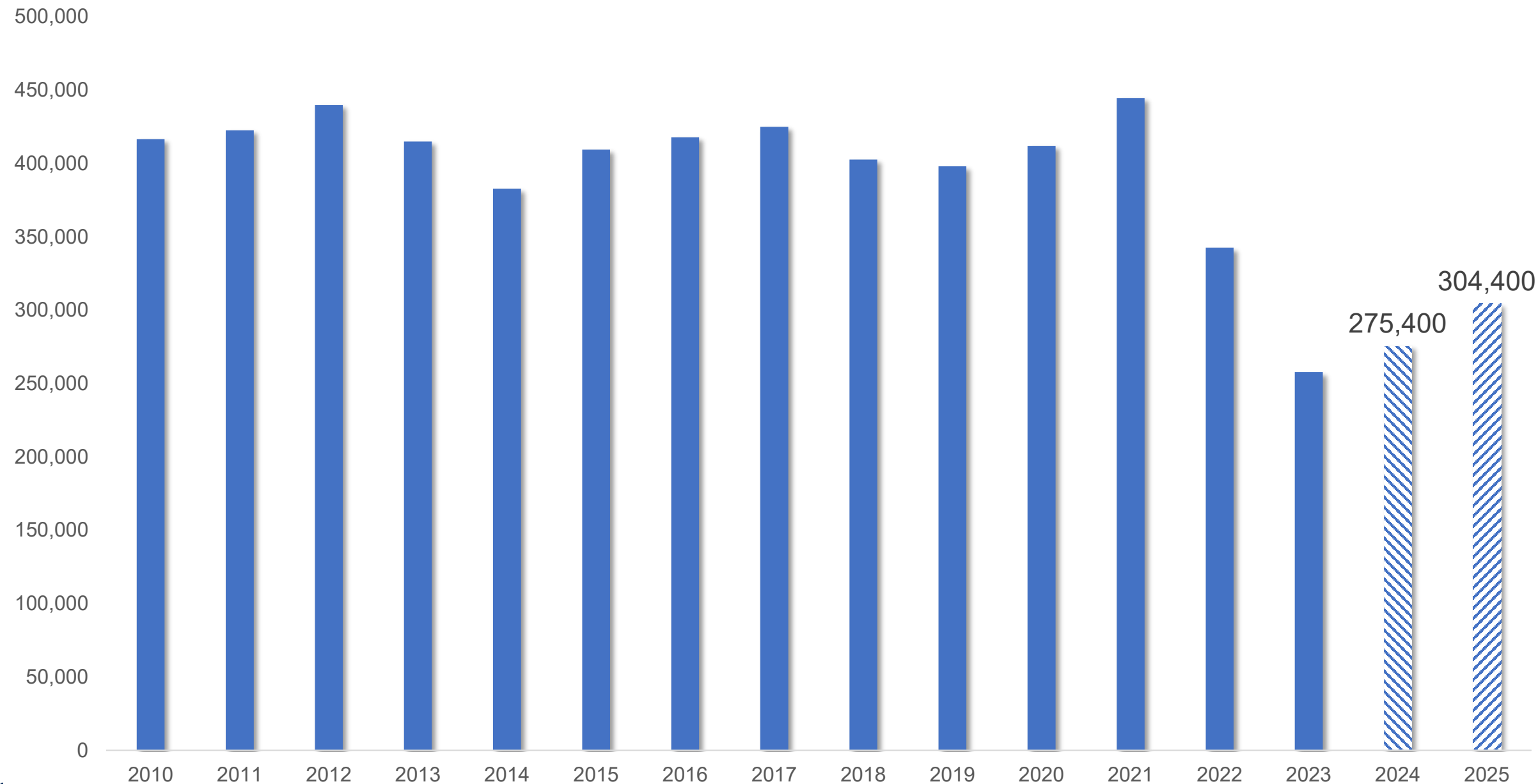
U.S. economic outlook

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024p	2025f
US GDP	1.8%	2.5%	3.0%	2.5%	-2.2%	5.8%	1.9%	2.5%	1.9%	1.1%
Nonfarm Job Growth	1.8%	1.6%	1.6%	1.3%	-5.8%	2.9%	4.3%	2.2%	1.2%	0.5%
Unemployment	4.9%	4.4%	3.9%	3.7%	8.1%	5.4%	3.6%	3.6%	4.1%	4.4%
CPI	1.3%	2.1%	2.4%	1.8%	1.2%	4.7%	8.0%	4.1%	2.9%	2.0%
Real Disposable Income, % Change	1.9%	3.1%	3.6%	3.1%	6.4%	3.1%	-5.9%	4.2%	2.0%	2.5%

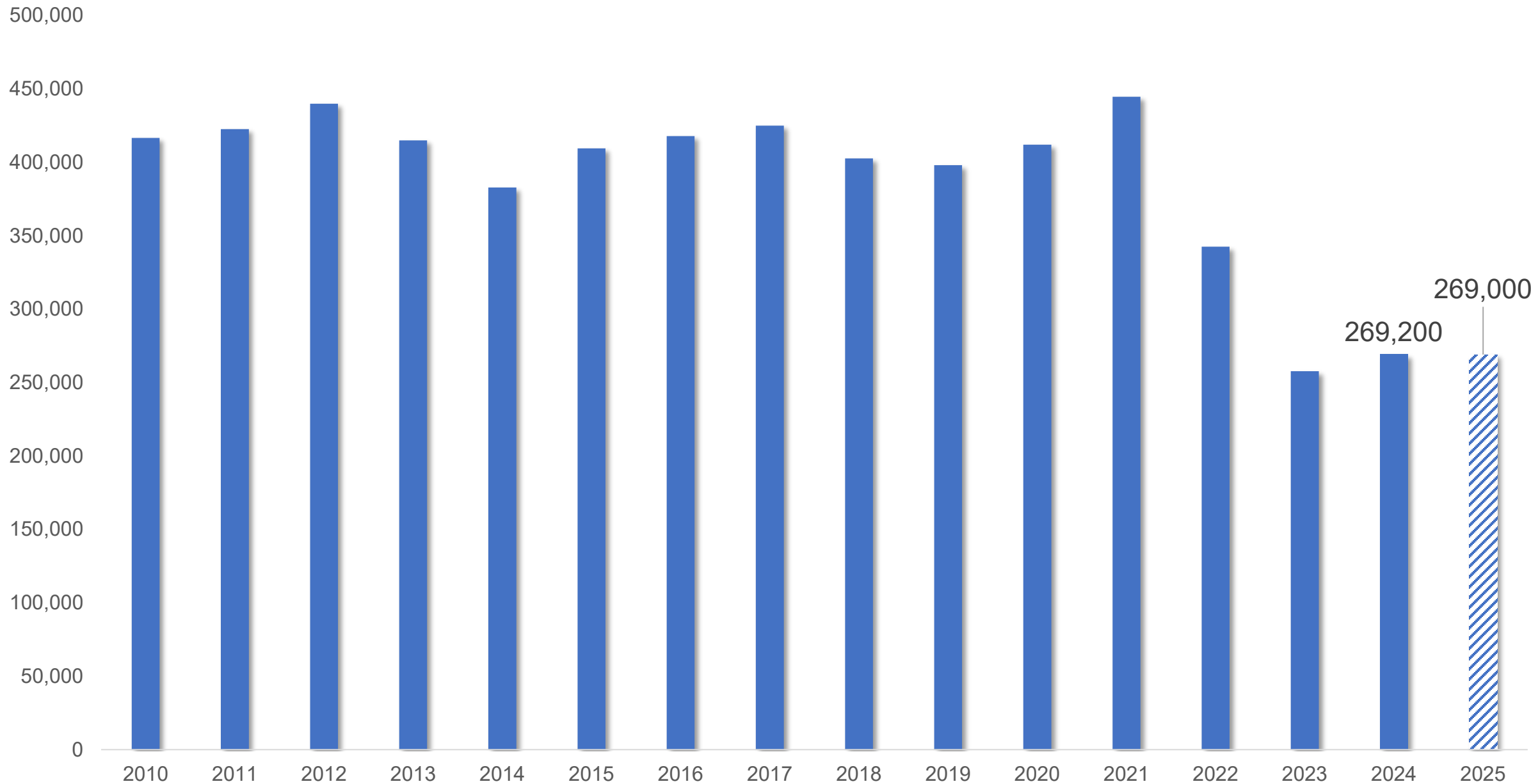
U.S. economic outlook

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US GDP	1.8%	2.5%	3.0%	2.5%	-2.2%	5.8%	1.9%	2.9%	2.8%	1.3%	1.0%
Nonfarm Job Growth	1.8%	1.6%	1.6%	1.3%	-5.8%	2.9%	4.3%	2.2%	1.2%	0.9%	0.3%
Unemployment	4.9%	4.4%	3.9%	3.7%	8.1%	5.4%	3.6%	3.6%	4.0%	4.3%	4.6%
CPI	1.3%	2.1%	2.4%	1.8%	1.2%	4.7%	8.0%	4.1%	3.0%	2.8%	3.0%
Real Disp. Income, % Change	1.9%	3.1%	3.6%	3.1%	6.4%	3.1%	-5.9%	5.1%	2.9%	1.6%	1.7%

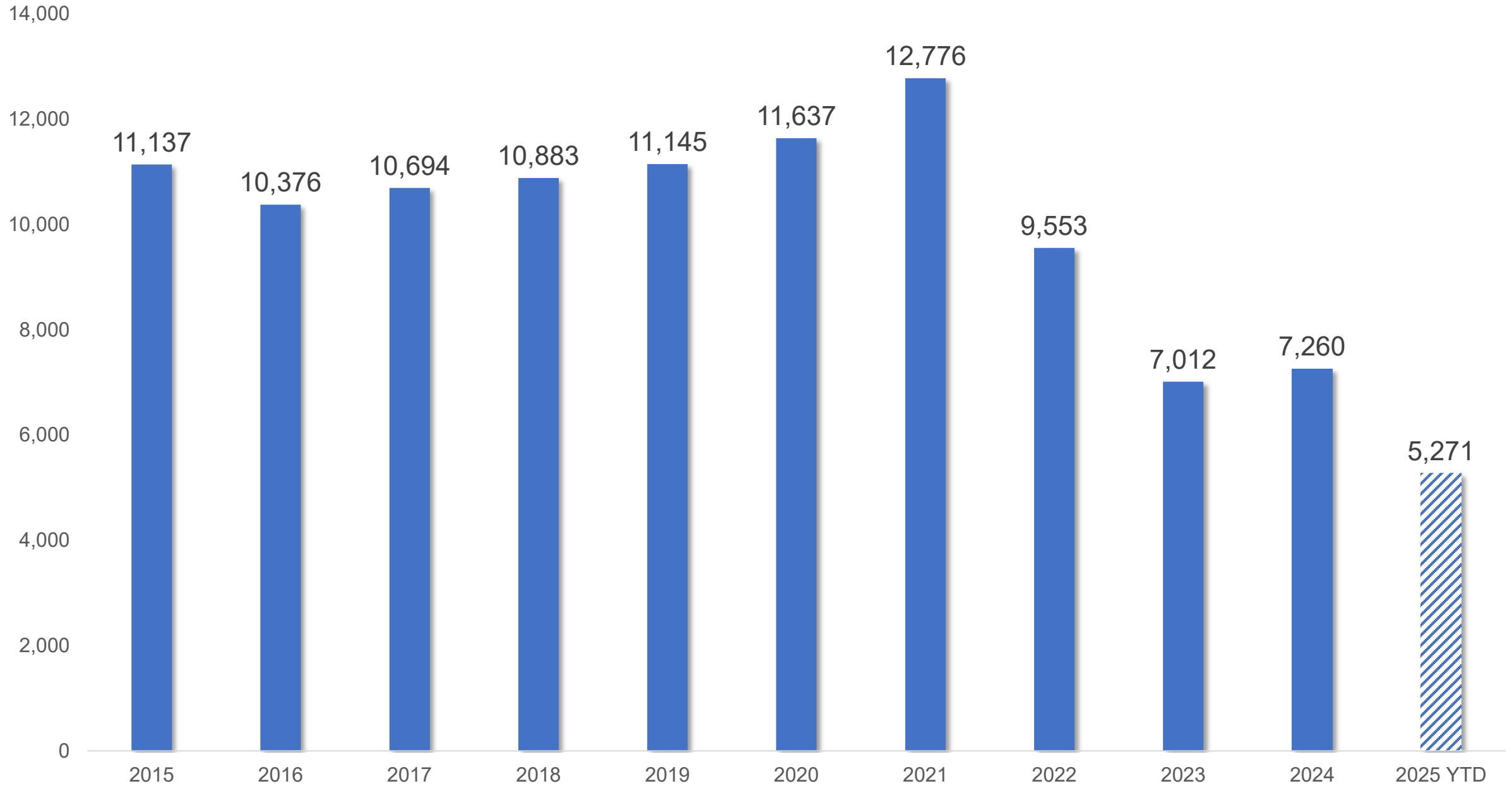
California Existing SFR Home Sales



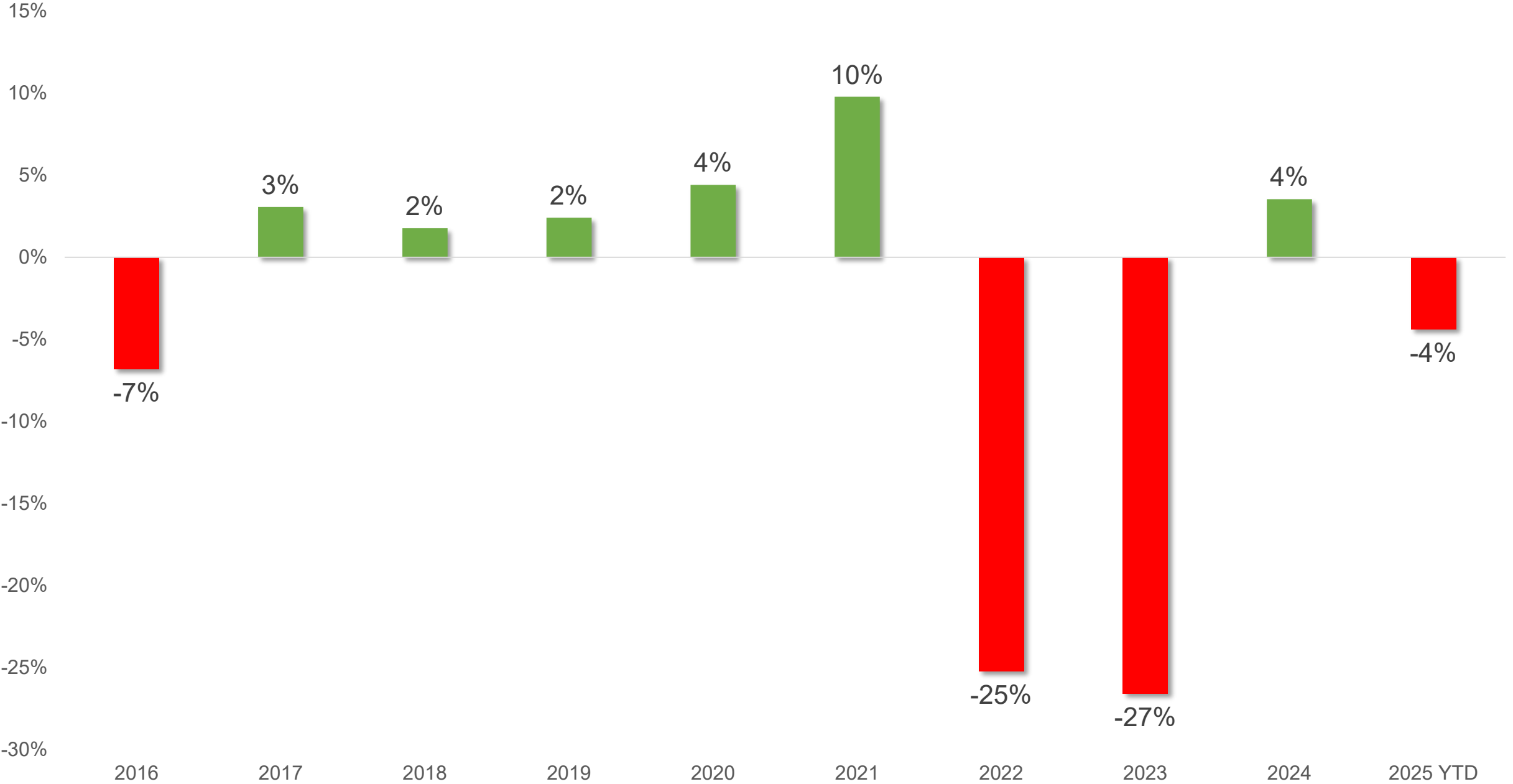
California Existing SFR Home Sales



Contra Costa County Existing SFR Home Sales



Contra Costa County Existing SFR Home Sales Growth



- L.A. Wildfires
- New Administration
- Trade War
- Stock Market
- Negative GDP
- Fed/Interest Rates
- Persistent Inflation
- AI & ChatGPT
- Price Gouging Laws
- Ongoing Insurance Issues
- HOA + MF Commercial RE Challenges

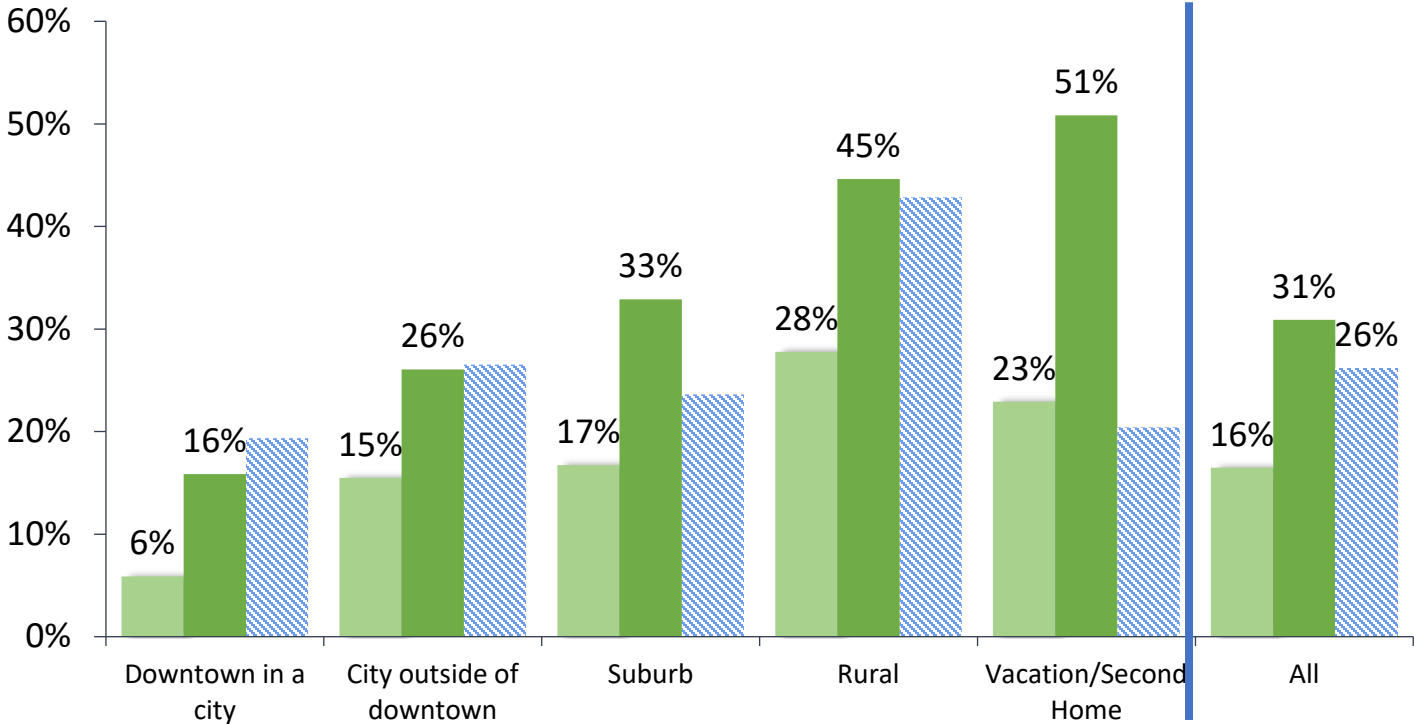


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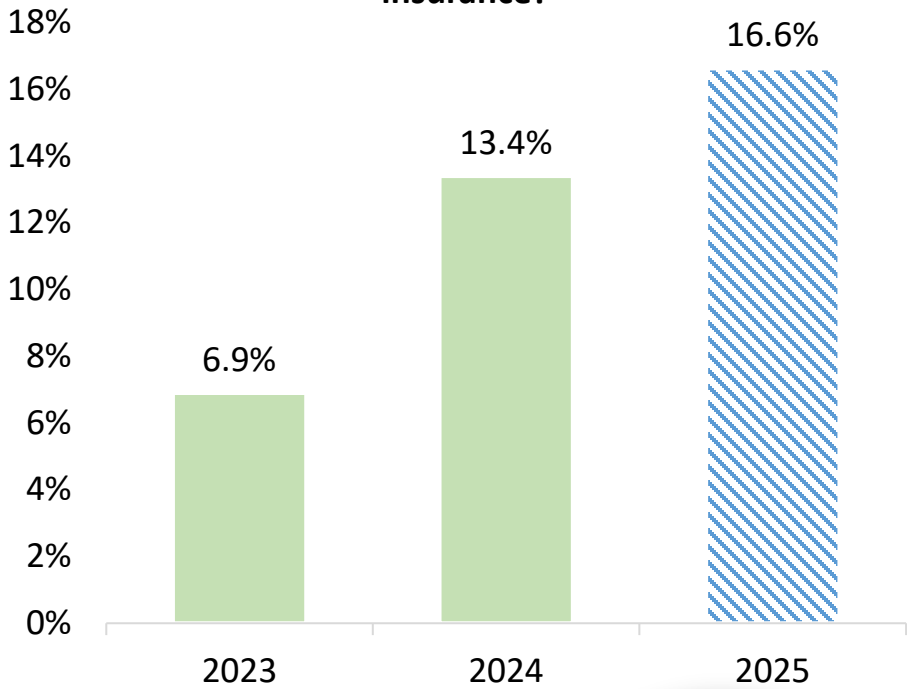
Insurance is impacting the housing market

% of buyers who had difficulties obtaining insurance

■ 2023 ■ 2024 ■ 2025



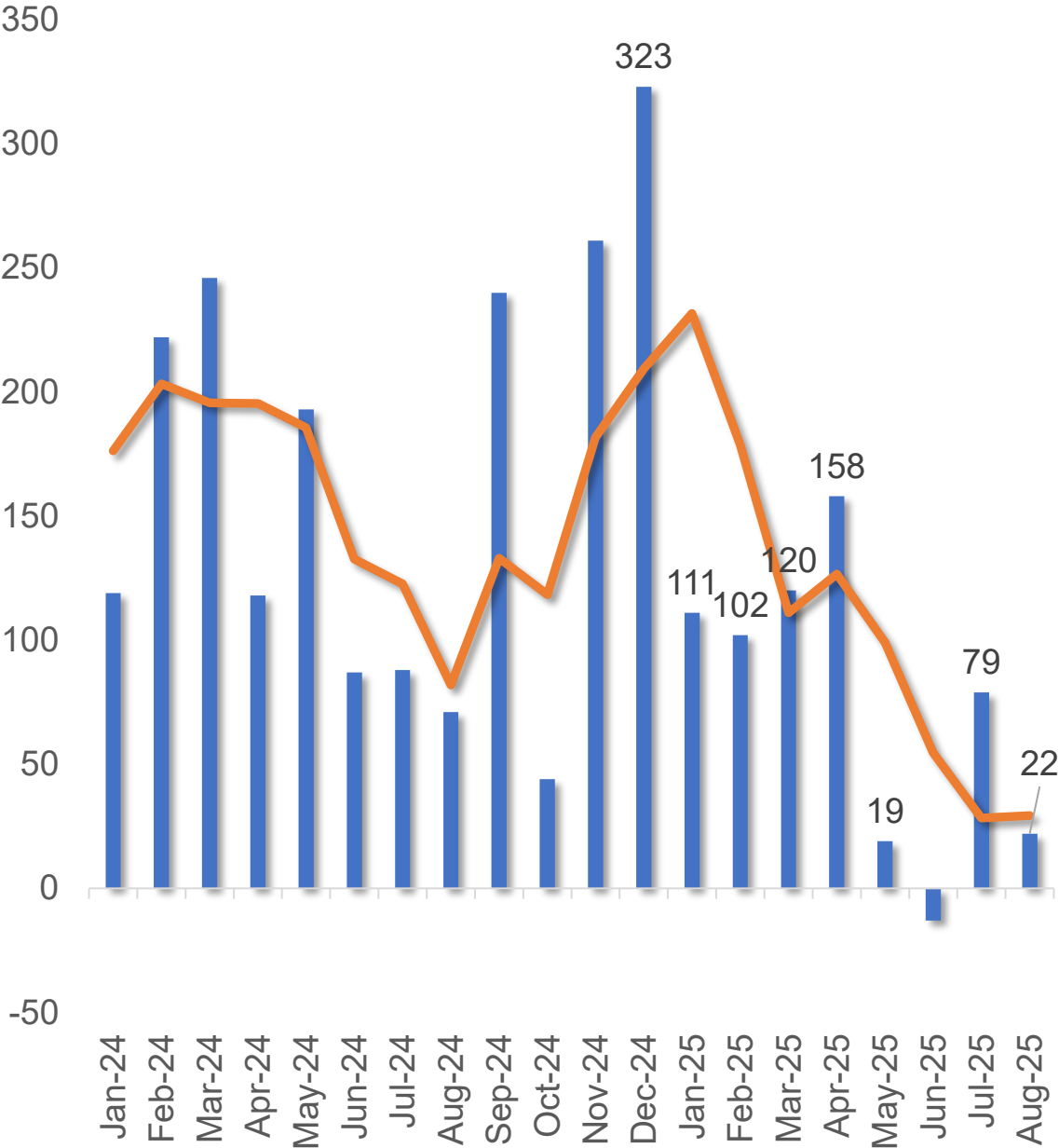
% of REALTORS® with transaction fall out of escrow due to failure to secure affordable insurance?



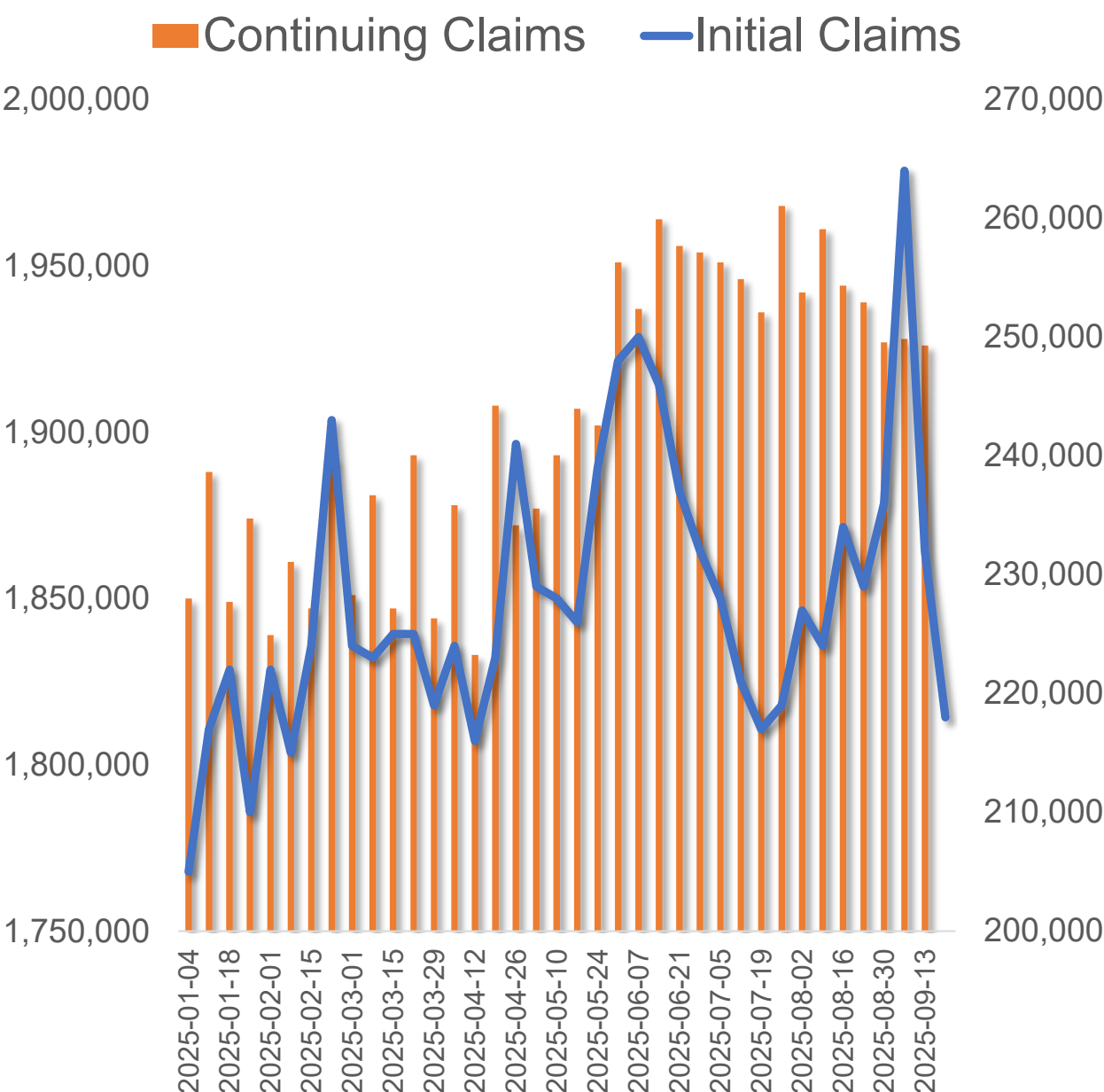
SERIES: 2025 Housing Market Survey
SOURCE: CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Q. Did the buyer have difficulties obtaining fire/homeowners insurance?
*2024 and 2025 results based on buyer agents and dual agents' responses only

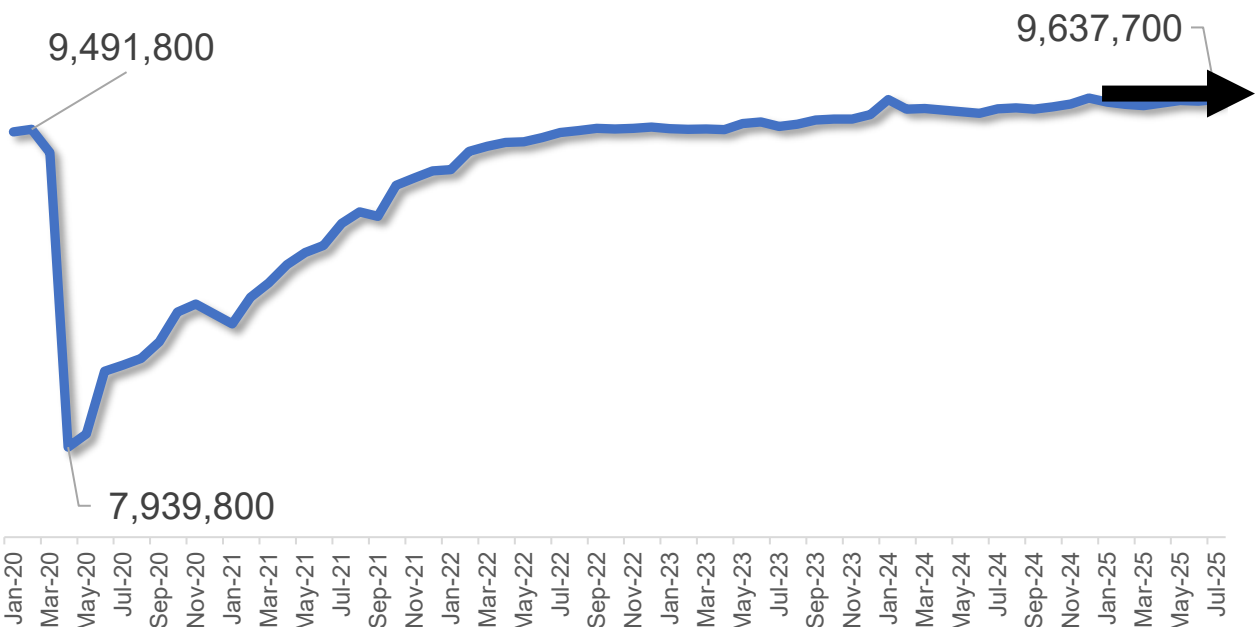
U.S. Nonfarm Job Growth



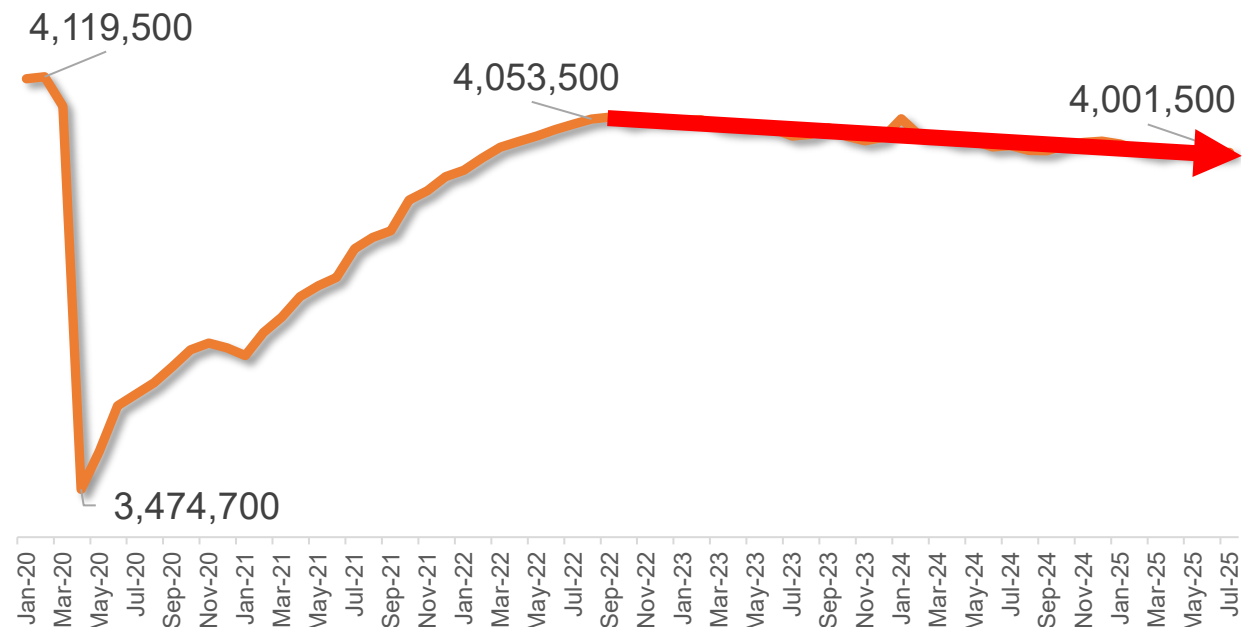
U.S. Unemployment Insurance



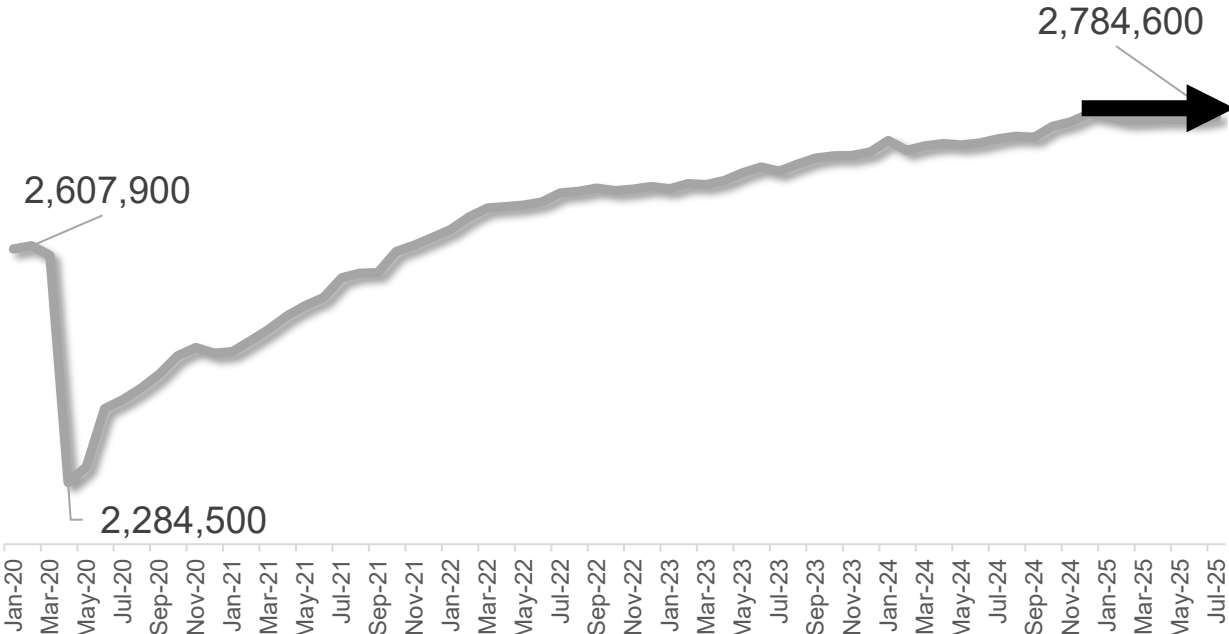
SoCal Nonfarm Jobs (SA)



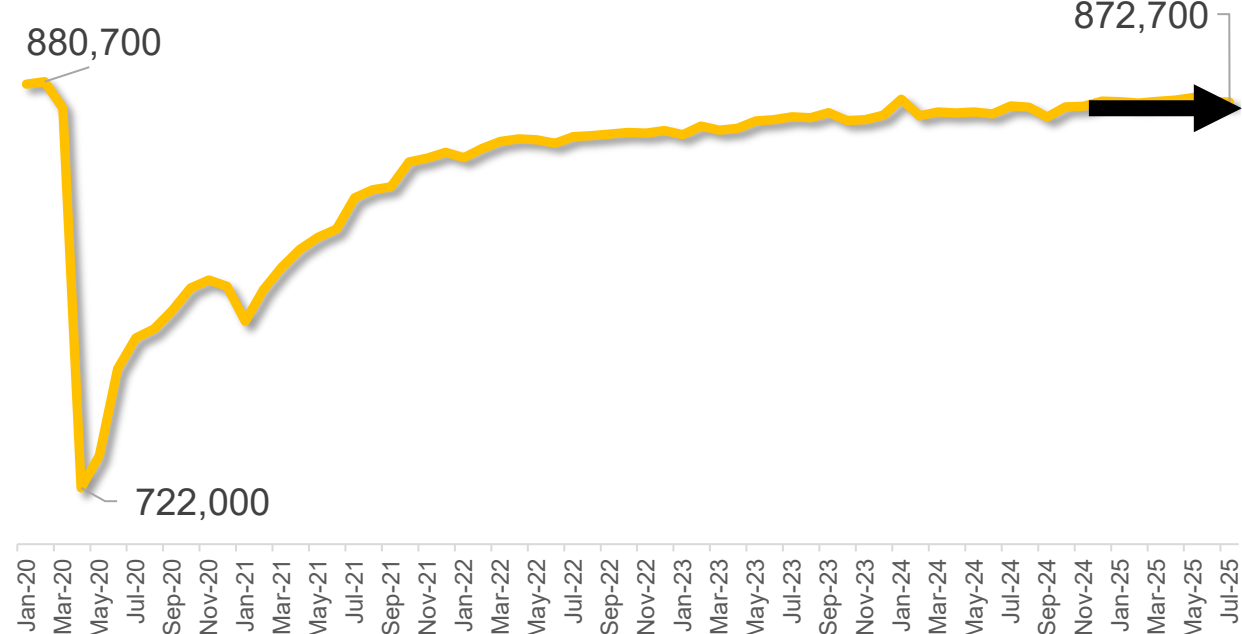
Bay Area Nonfarm Jobs (SA)



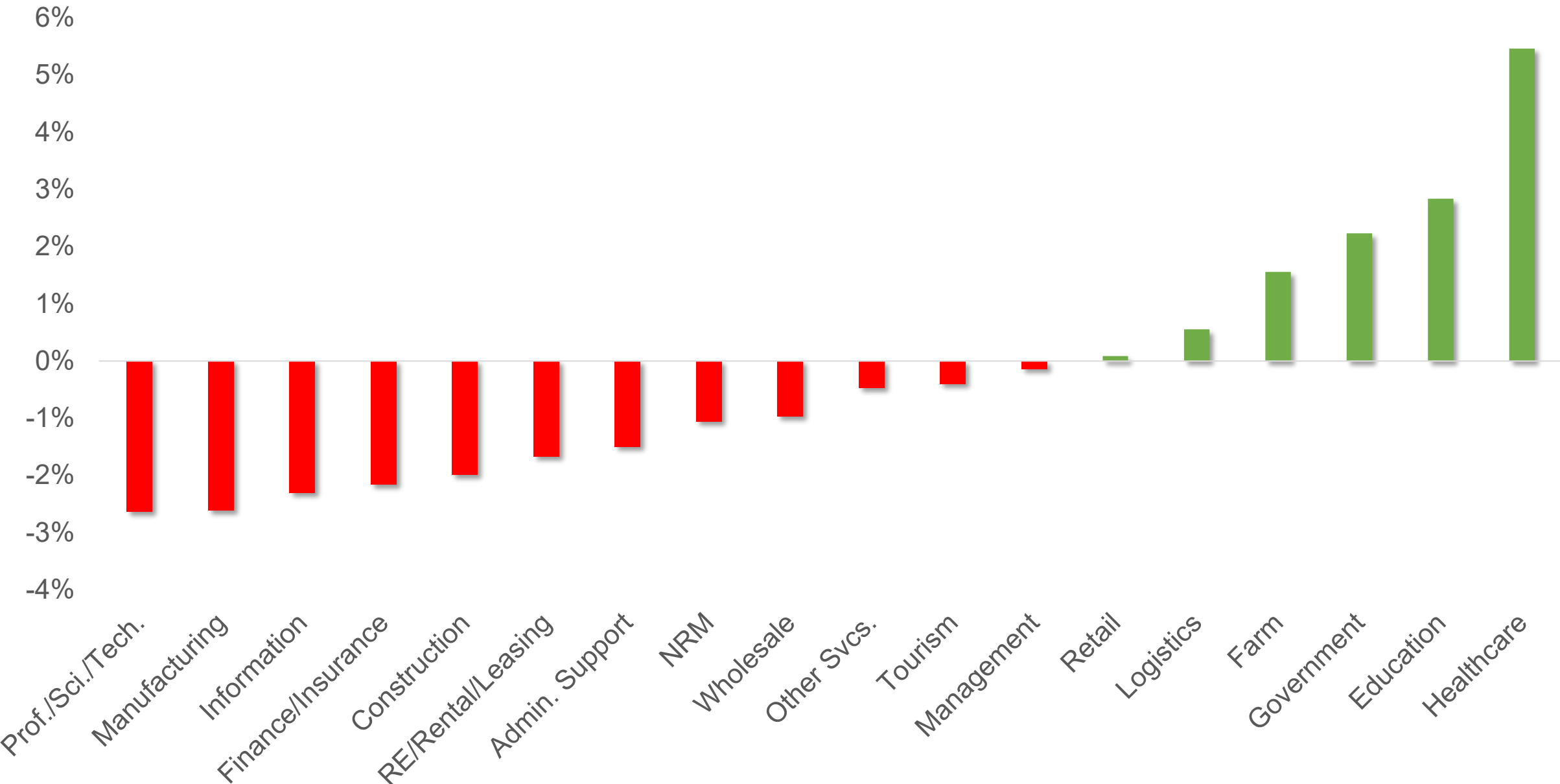
Central Valley Nonfarm Jobs (SA)



Central Coast Nonfarm Jobs (SA)



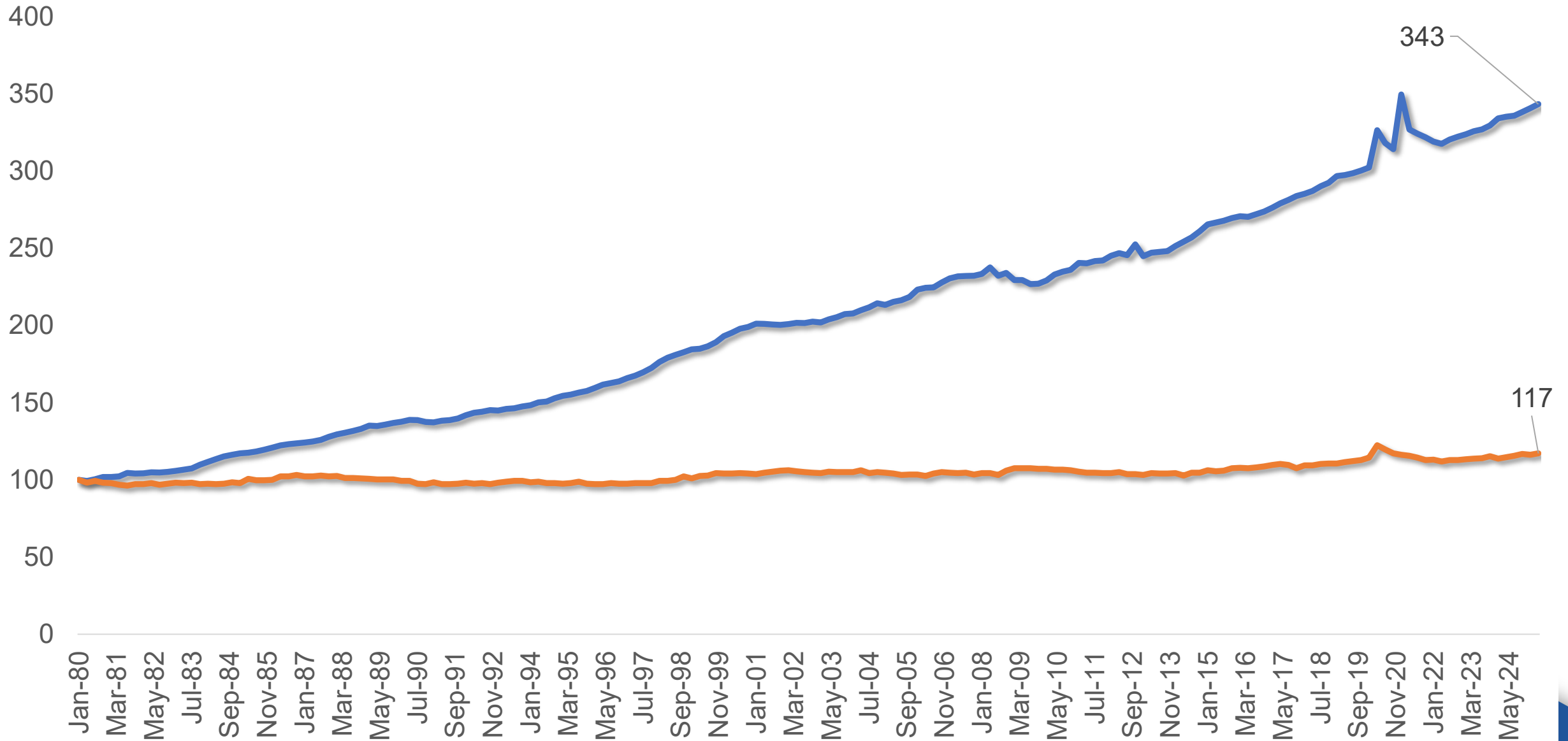
California Nonfarm Job Growth by Industry (July 2025)



Major Structural Changes Since '70s

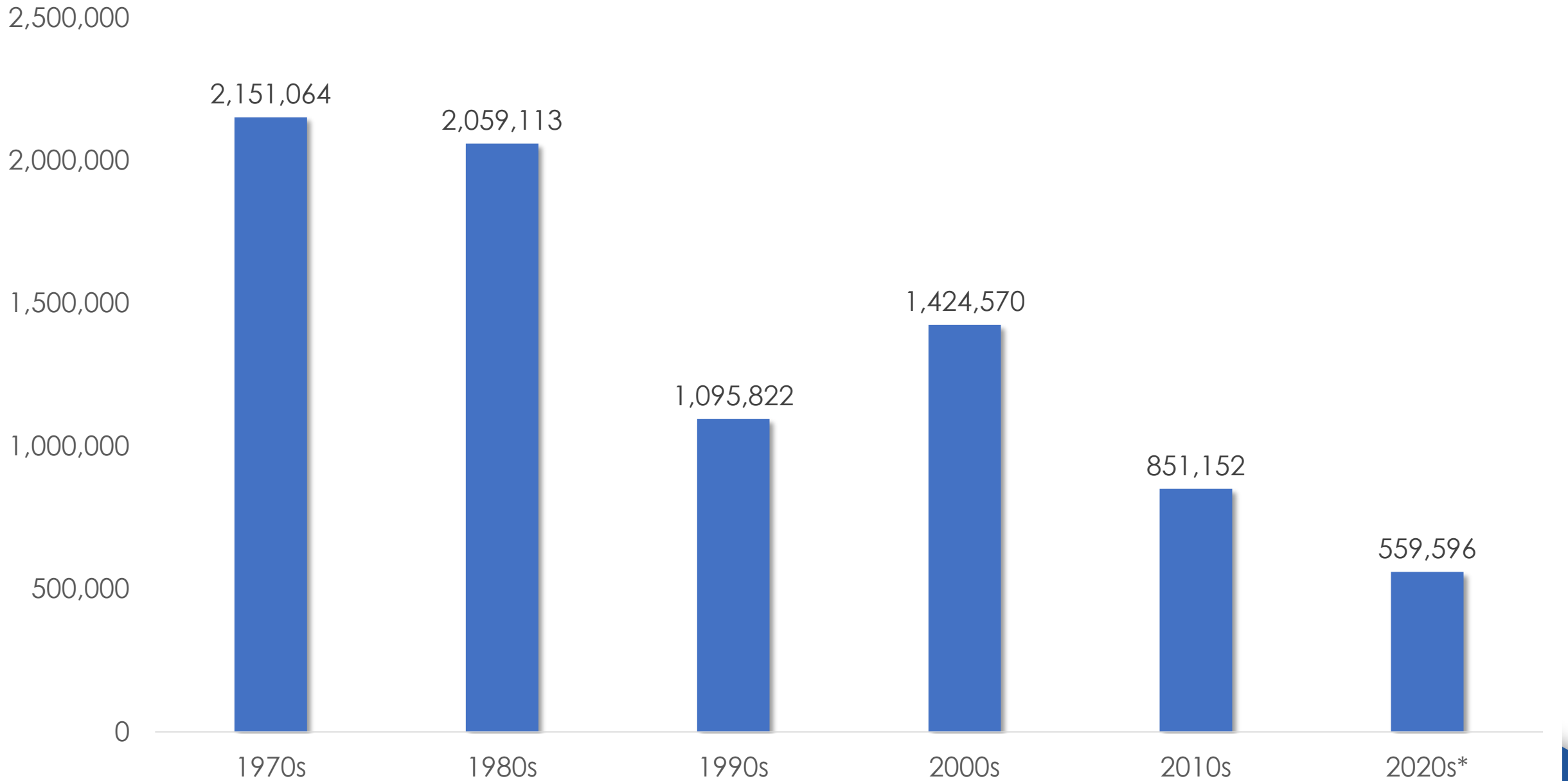
U.S. Inflation Adjusted Income & Wages

Aggregate Personal Income Median Weekly Wage



California Piled On w/Housing Policy

California Residential Building Permits





Key Figures

Construction

Housing Needs

Implementation

User Guide

[Submit Feedback](#)

Timeline

Income



Maps



County

All

Jurisdiction

All

Structure Type

All

Year

All

COG/Region

All

Clear Filters

Construction: Structure Type

● 2-4 Plex Units Per Structure

● 5 or More Units

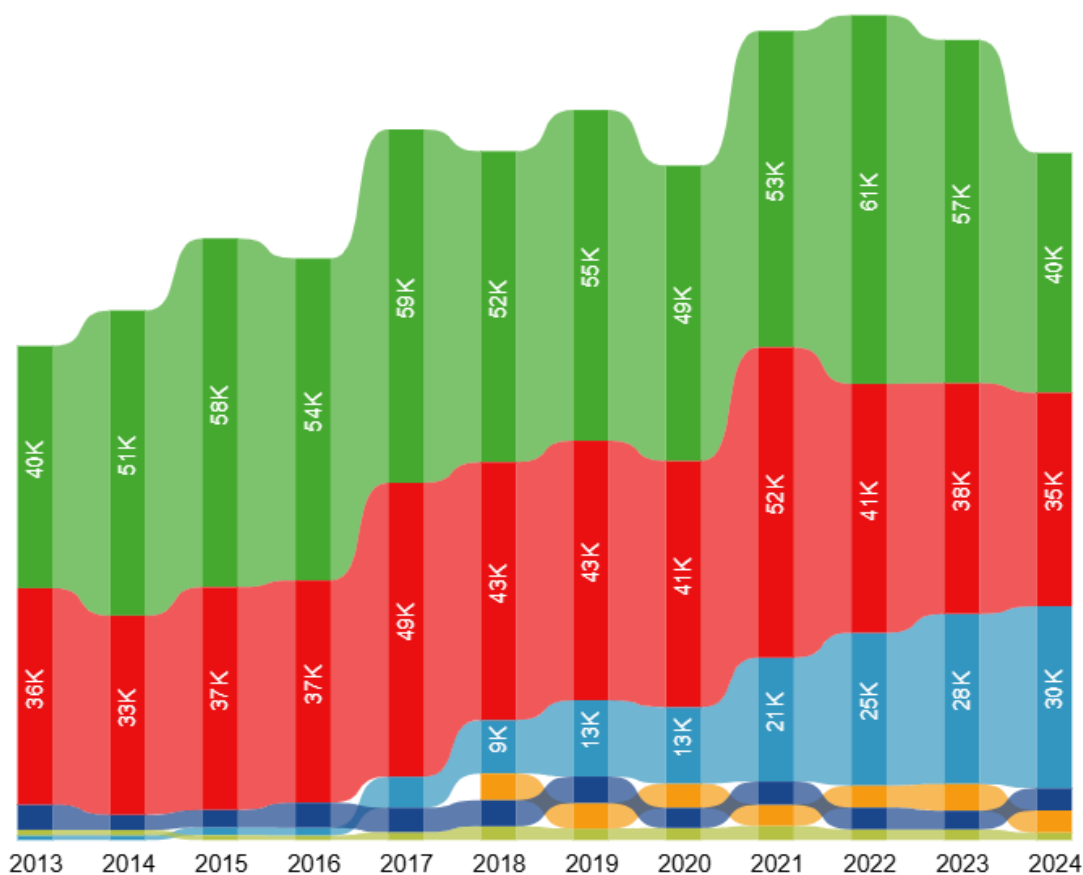
● Accessory Dwelling Unit

 Mobile Home Unit

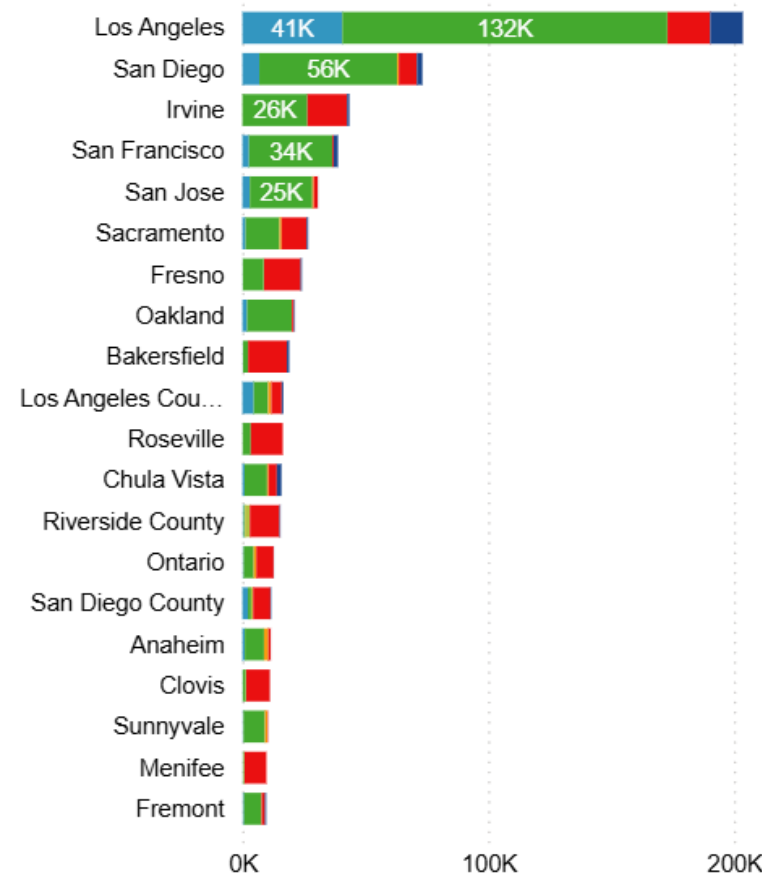
● Single Family Attached Unit

● Single Family Detached Unit

Units Permitted by Structure Type



Units Permitted by Structure Type by Jurisdiction



Timeline

Income

Maps

Structures

County

All

Jurisdiction

All

Structure Type

Multiple selections

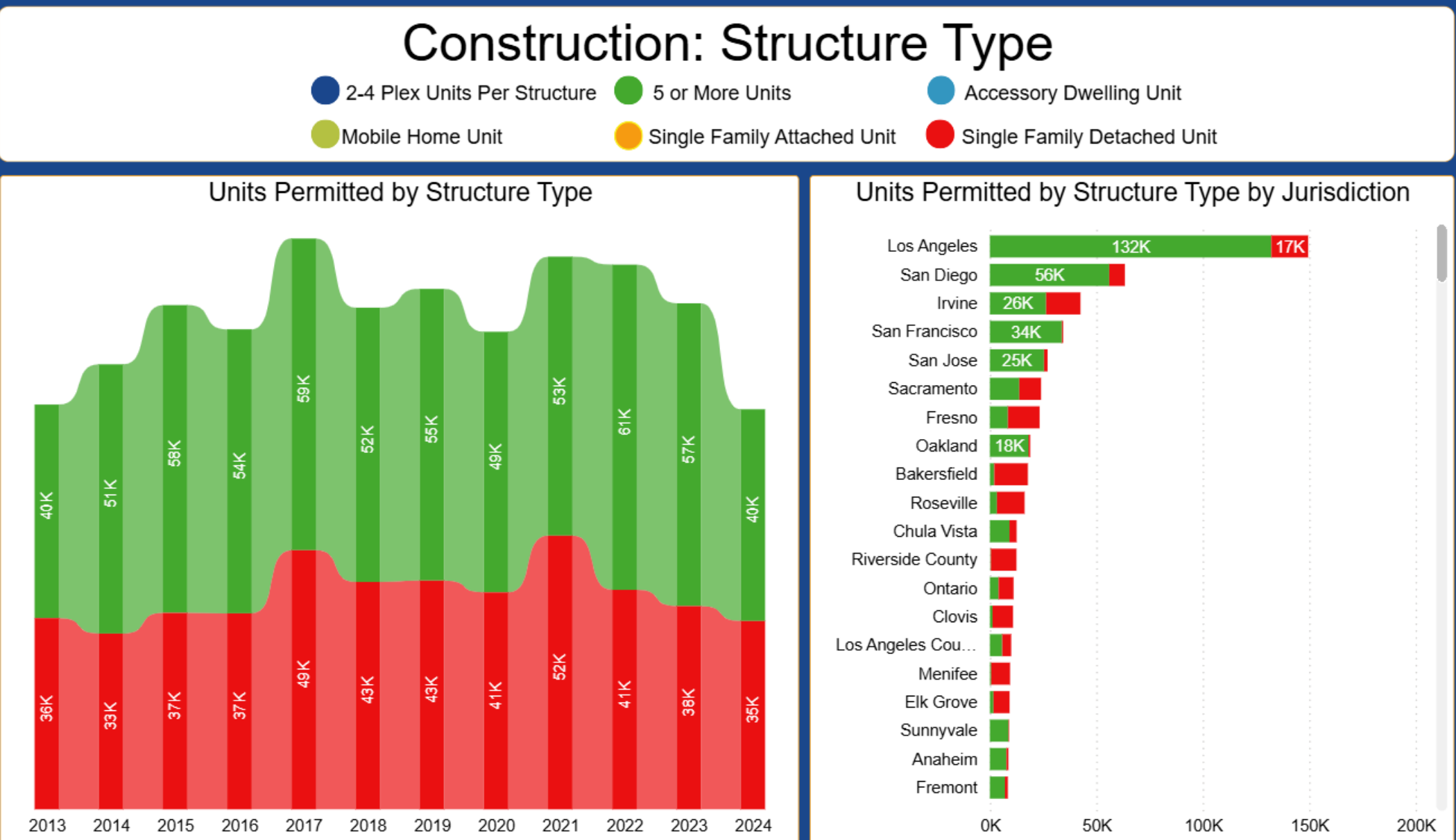
Year

All

COG/Region

All

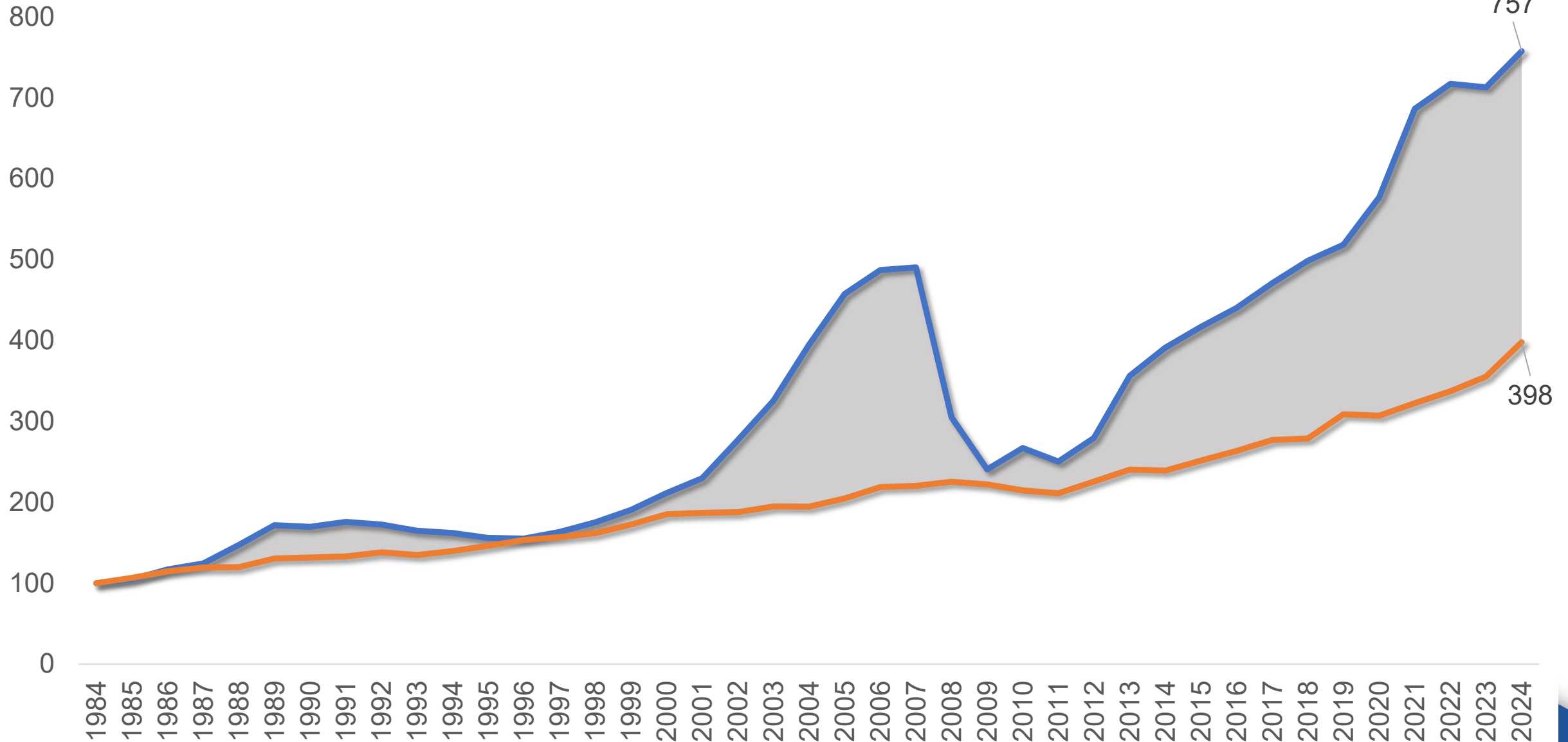
Clear Filters



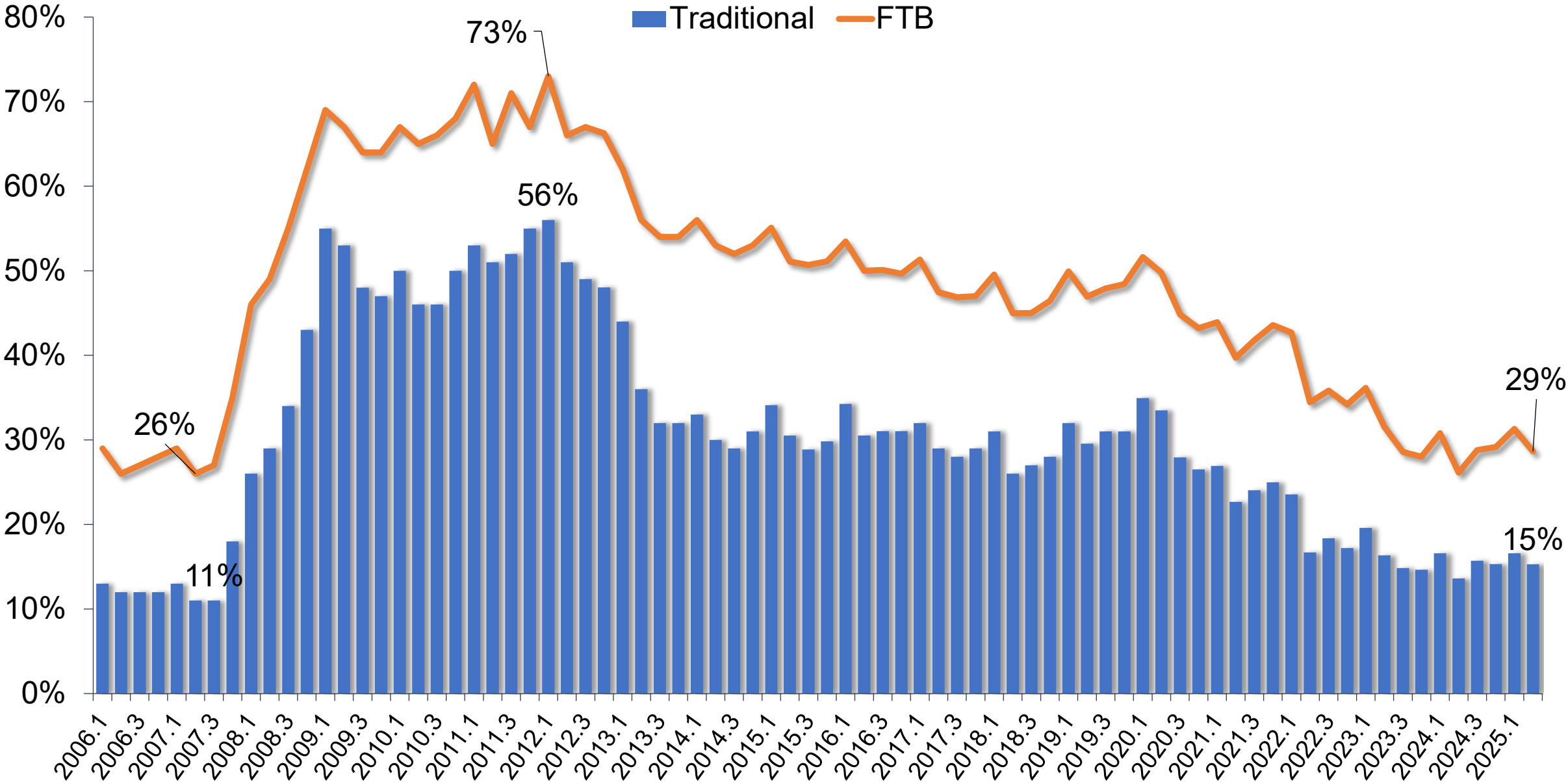
State	2020-2024 Residential Permits	2024 Population	May 2025 Median Price
Texas	1,217,594	31,290,831	\$353,700
Florida	954,643	23,372,215	\$436,600
California	559,596	39,431,263	\$906,500
North Carolina	463,482	11,046,024	\$403,700
Georgia	332,580	11,180,878	\$398,400
Arizona	305,256	7,582,384	\$466,500
Tennessee	252,166	7,227,750	\$412,600
South Carolina	228,604	5,478,831	\$410,100
New York	226,181	19,867,248	\$586,400
Washington	224,727	7,958,180	\$690,100

California Income vs. Home Prices

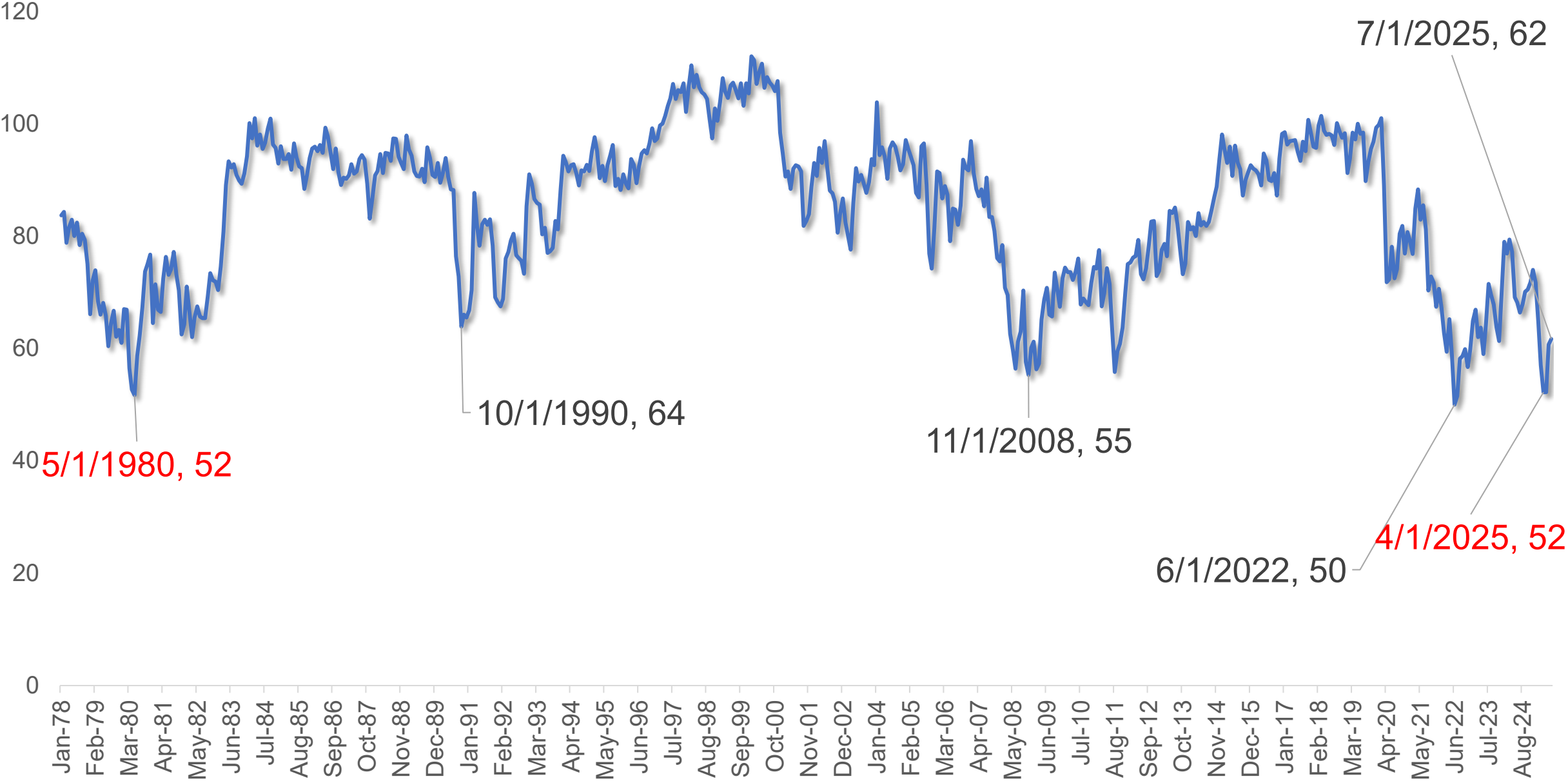
Gap Median Price Median HH. Inc.



California Housing Affordability Index



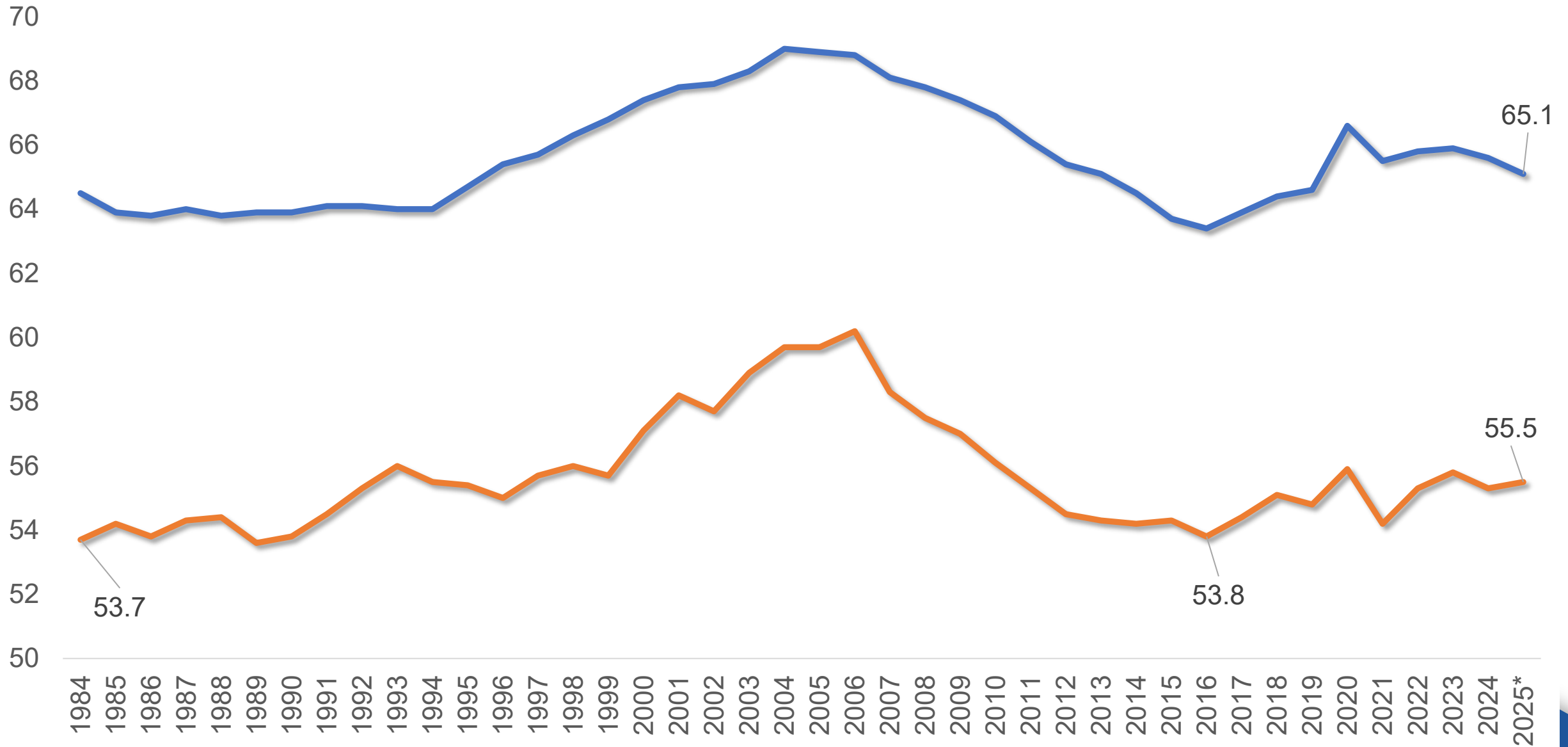
Consumer Sentiment



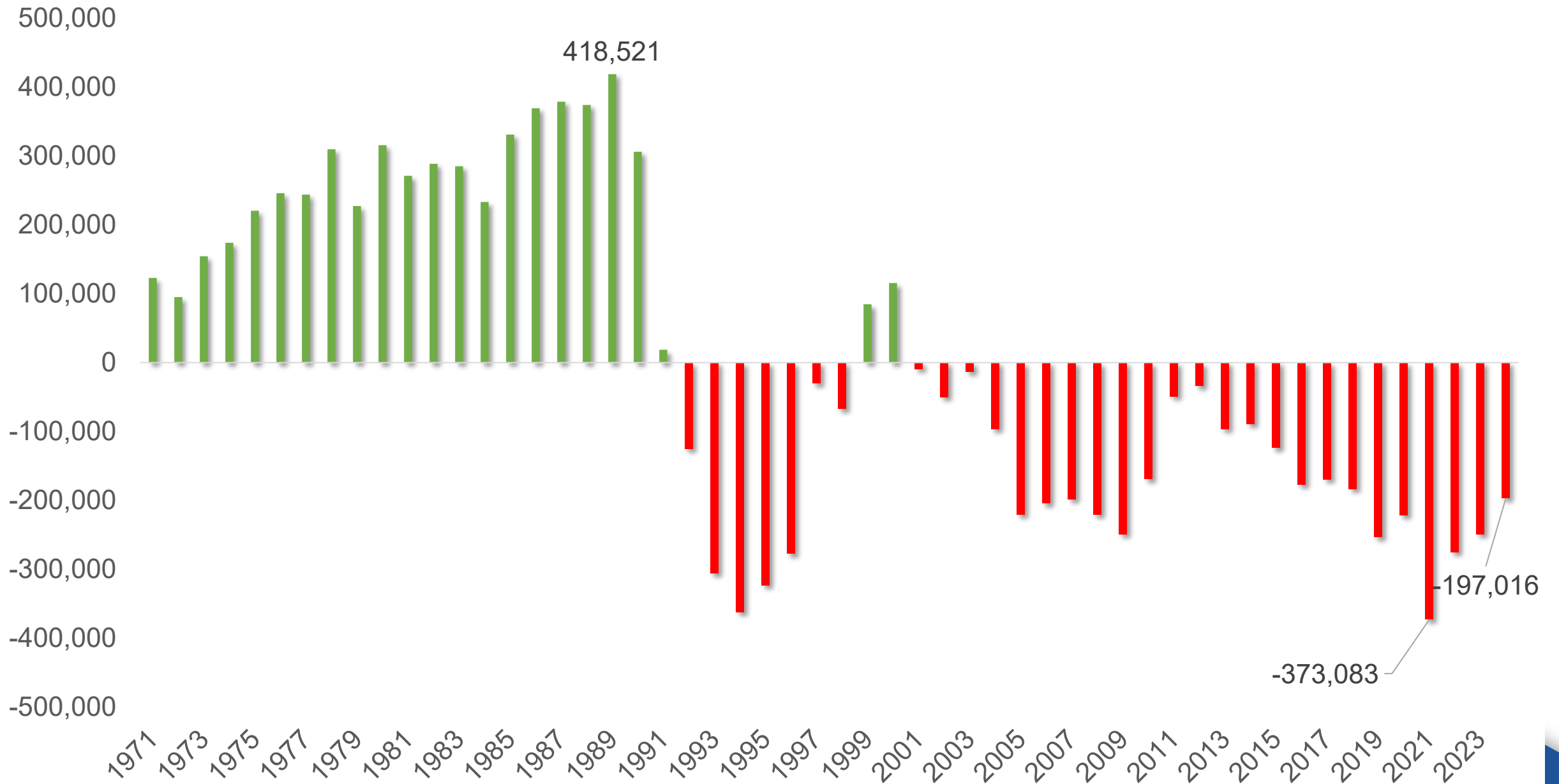
Which Brings Us to Consequences

Homeownership Rate

US CA

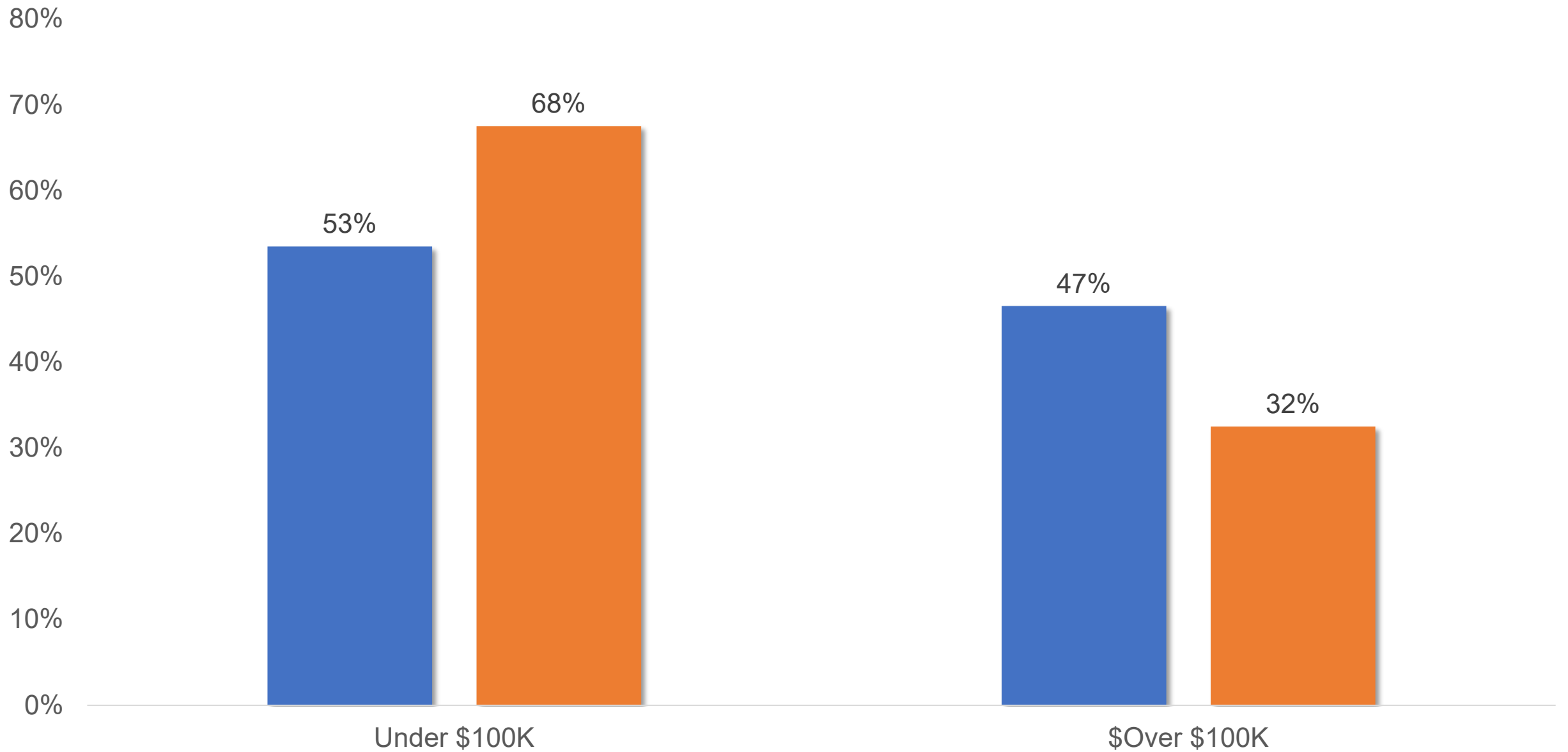


California Net Domestic Migration

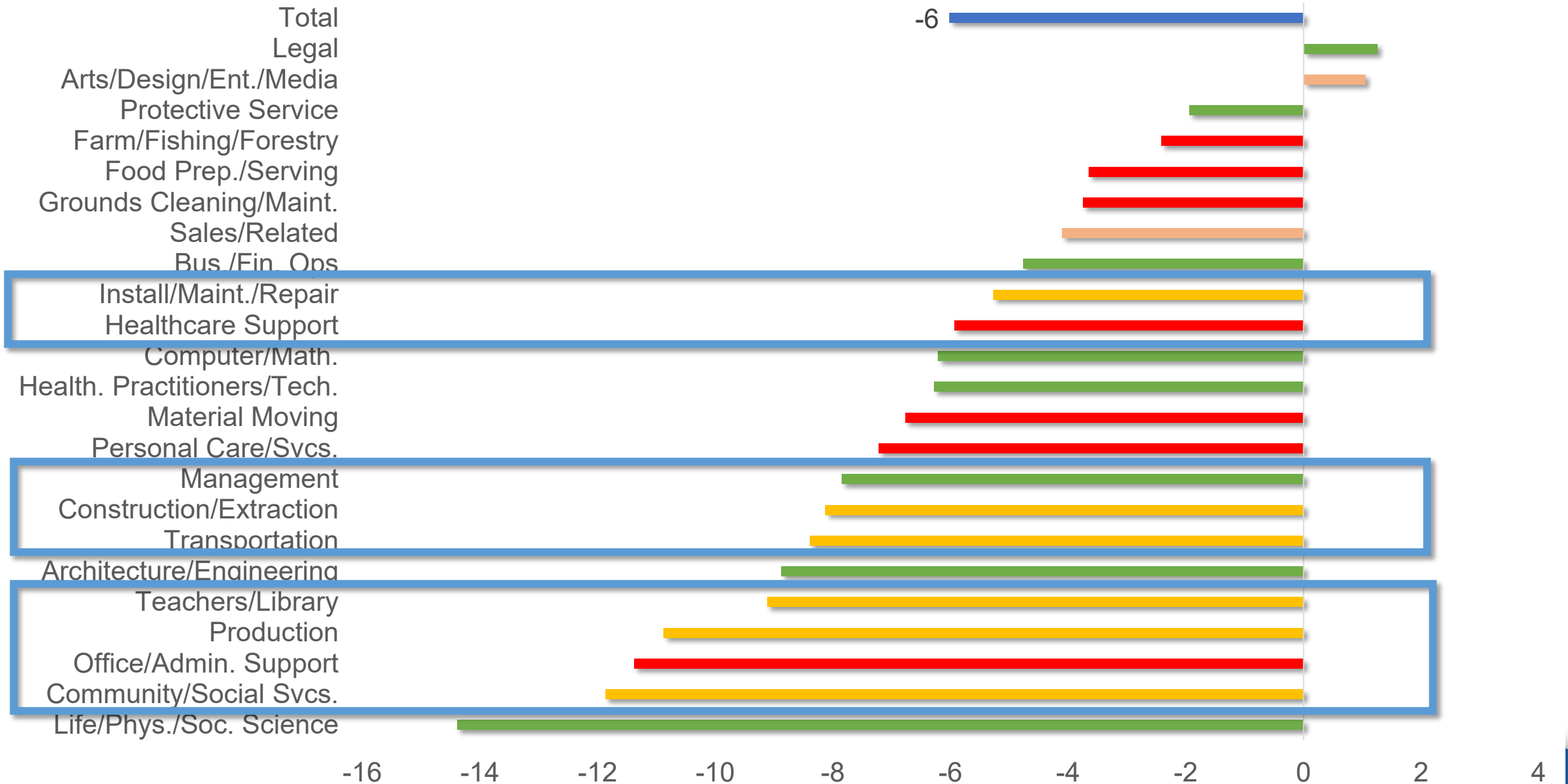


California Population vs. Distribution of Out-Migrants

■ % of Pop ■ % of Out Migration



2023 California Out-Migration per 1,000 Population



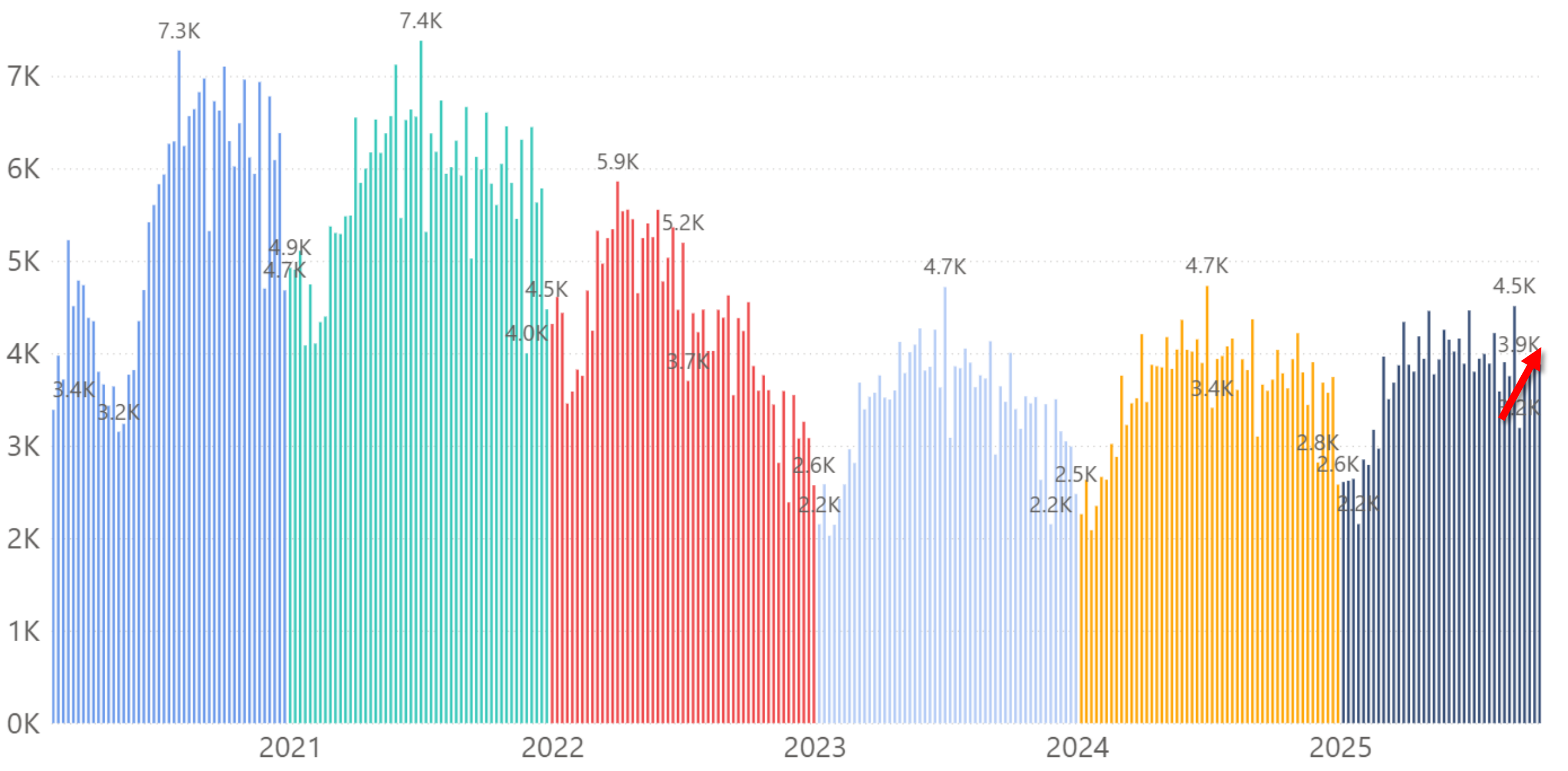
What a Difference a RATE Makes!

30-Yr Fixed-Rate Mortgage Rates

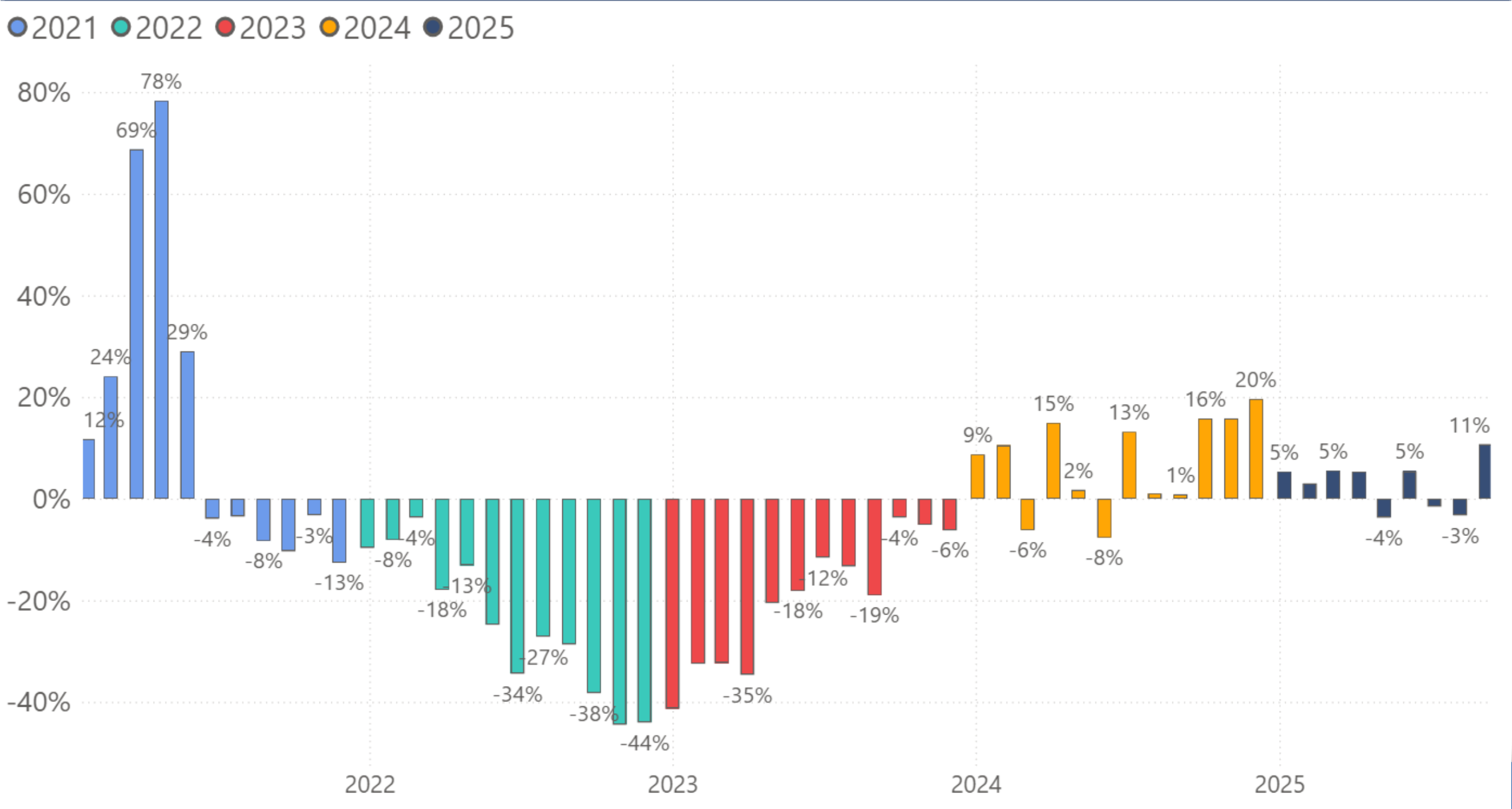


Existing SFR Closed Sales Weekly

● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025

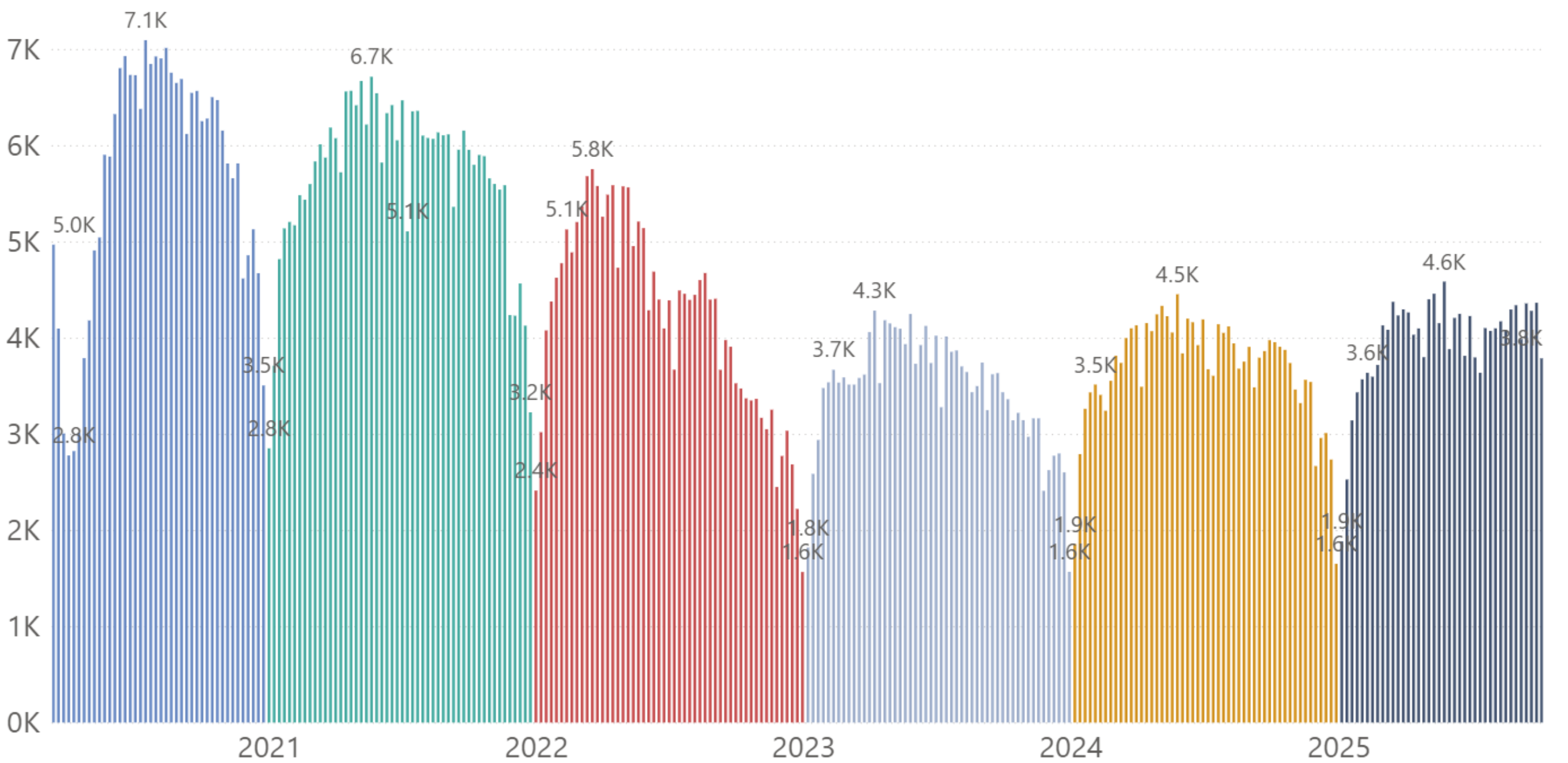


Year-to-Year Existing SFR Closed Sales Growth (Month-to-Date for Current Month)



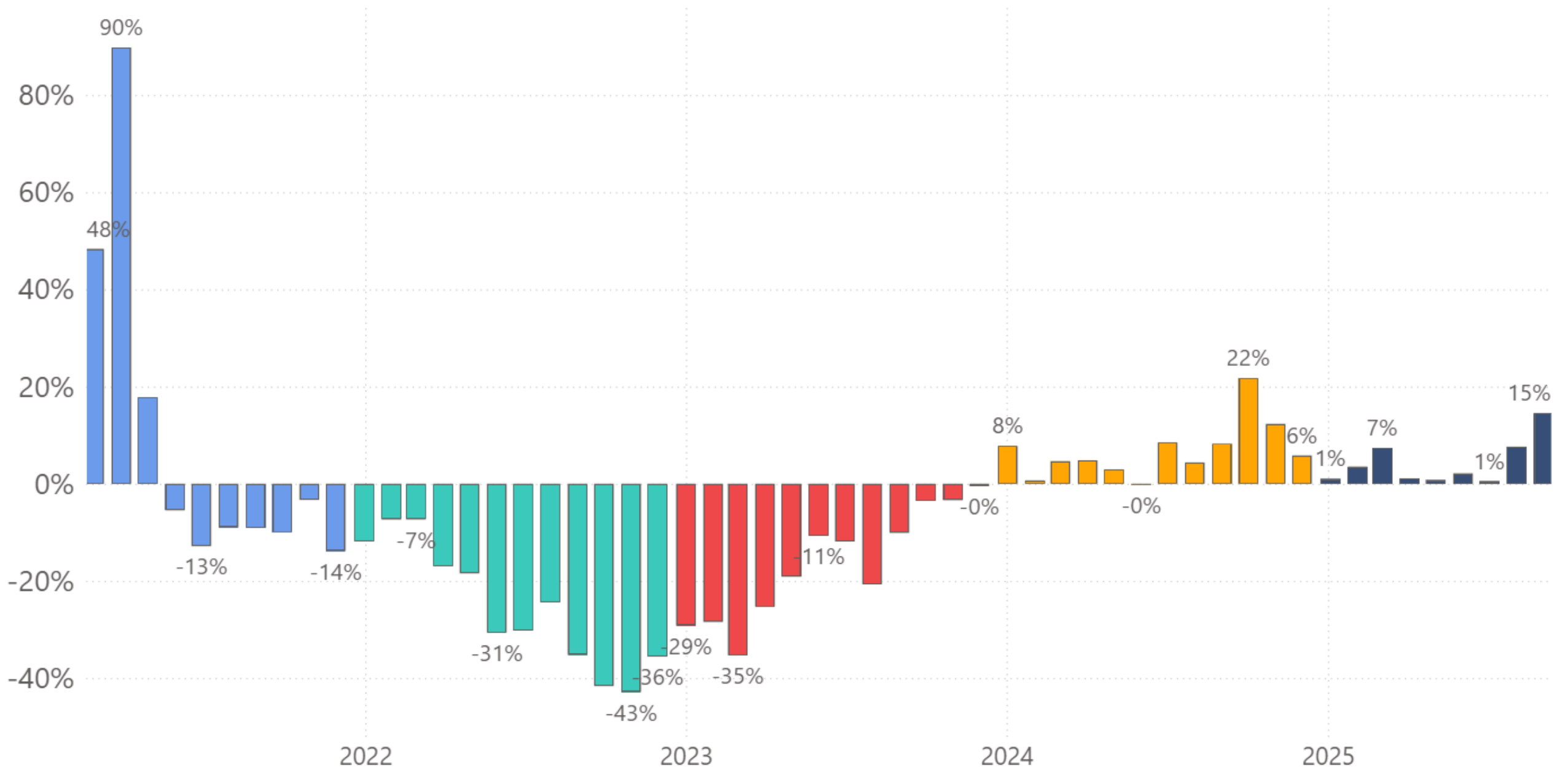
Existing SFR Pending Sales

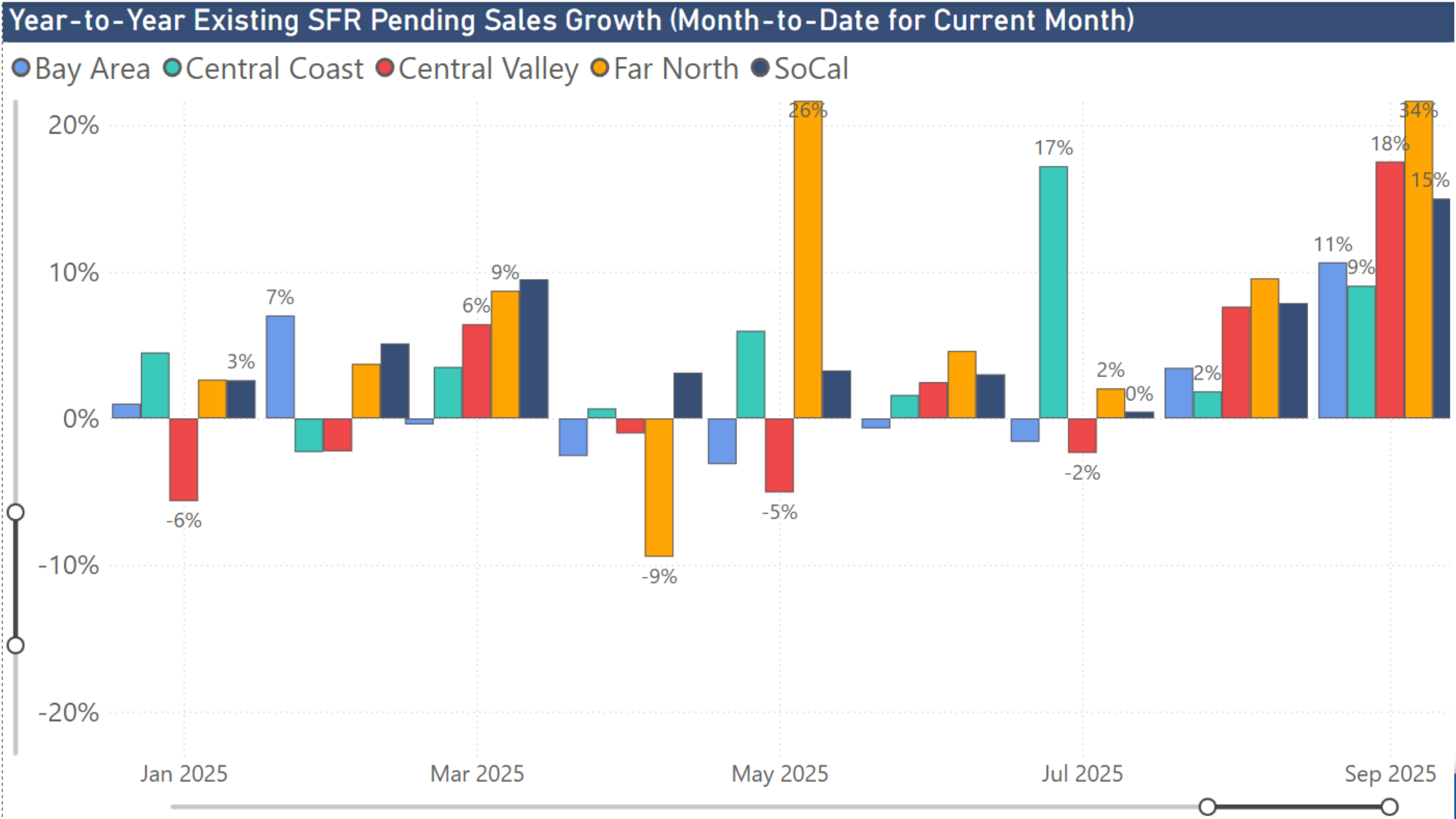
● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025



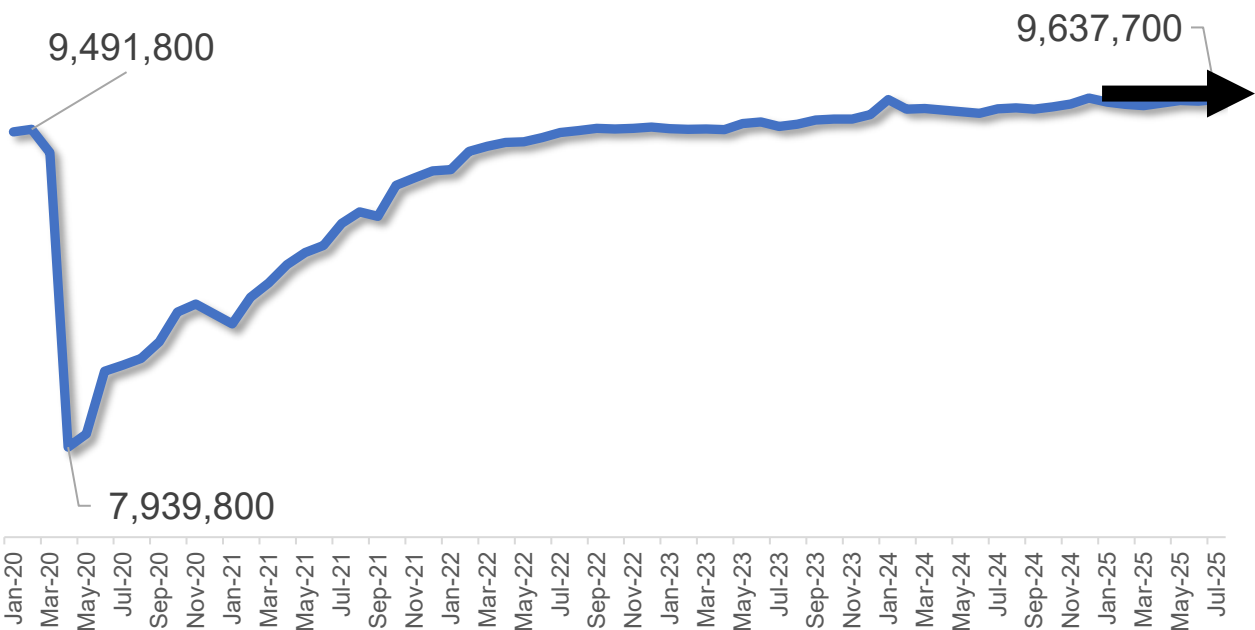
Year-to-Year Existing SFR Pending Sales Growth (Month-to-Date for Current Month)

● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025

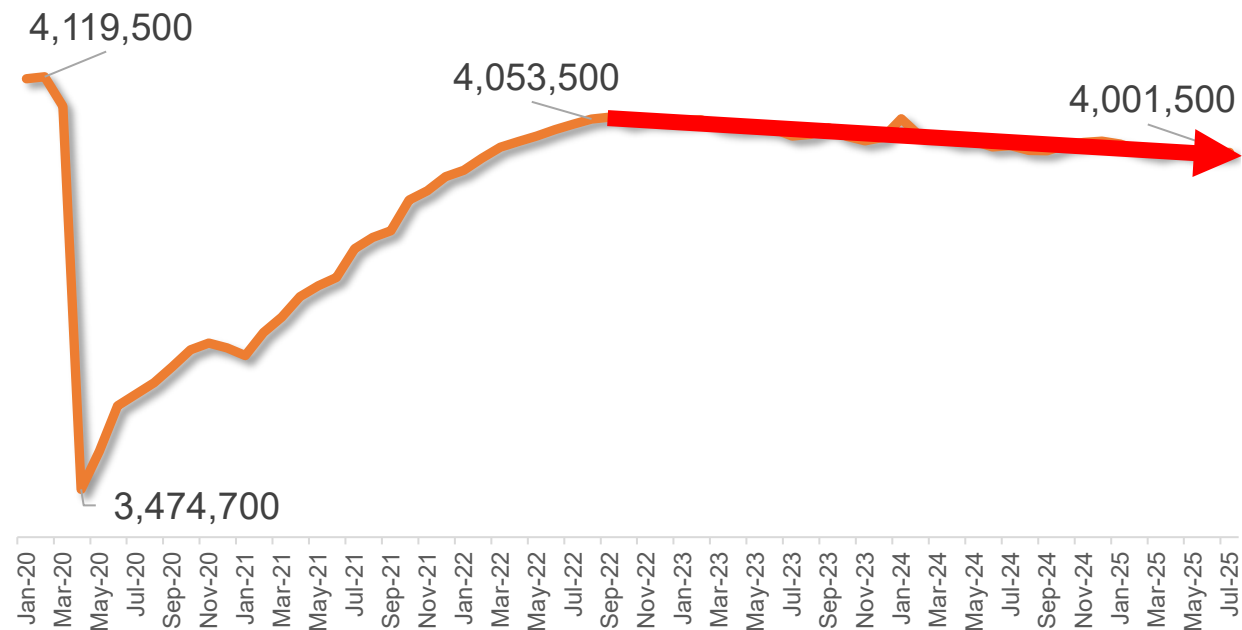




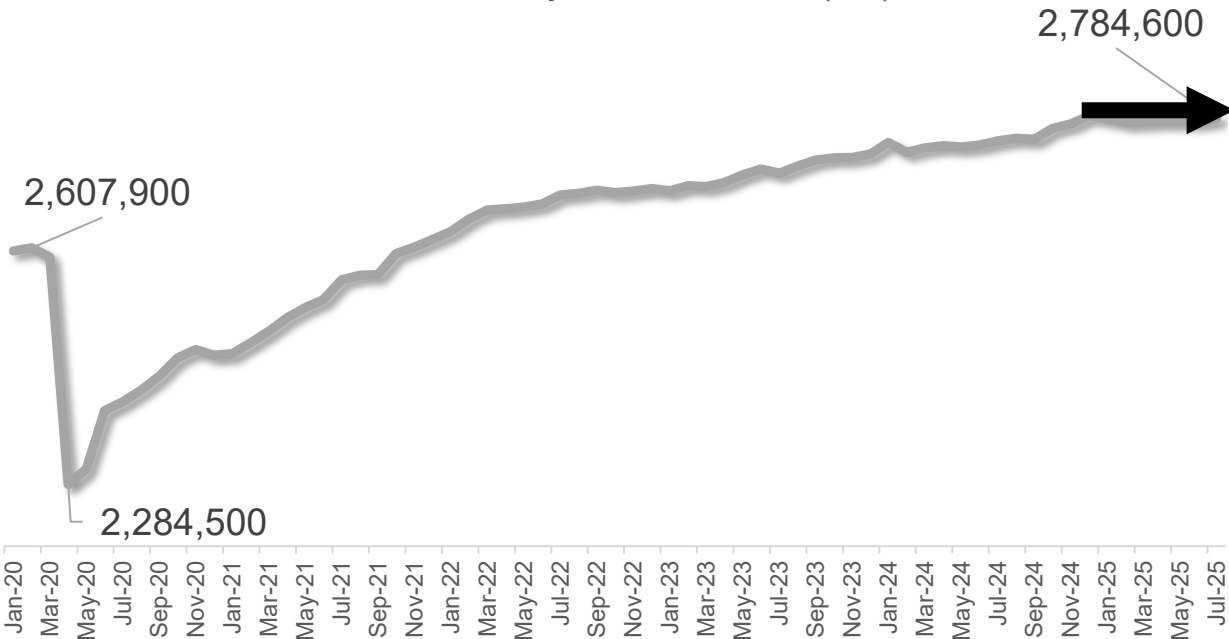
SoCal Nonfarm Jobs (SA)



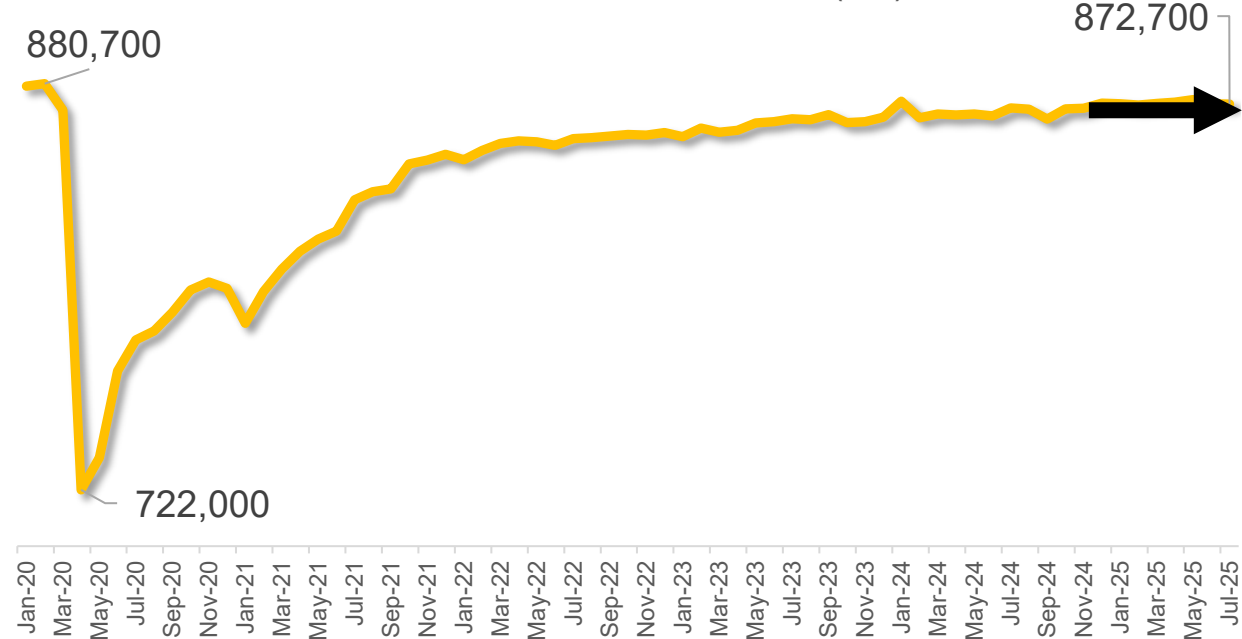
Bay Area Nonfarm Jobs (SA)



Central Valley Nonfarm Jobs (SA)

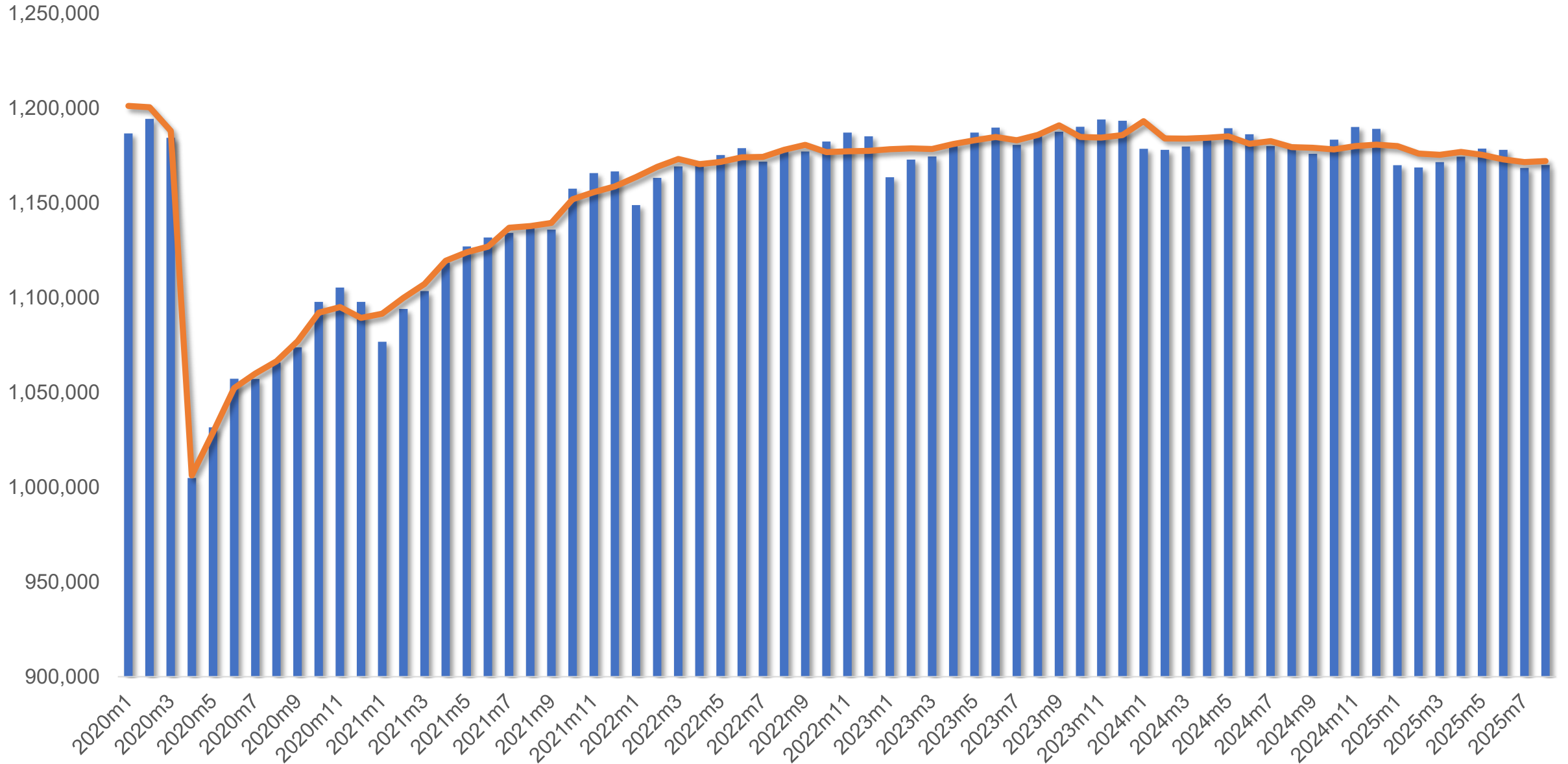


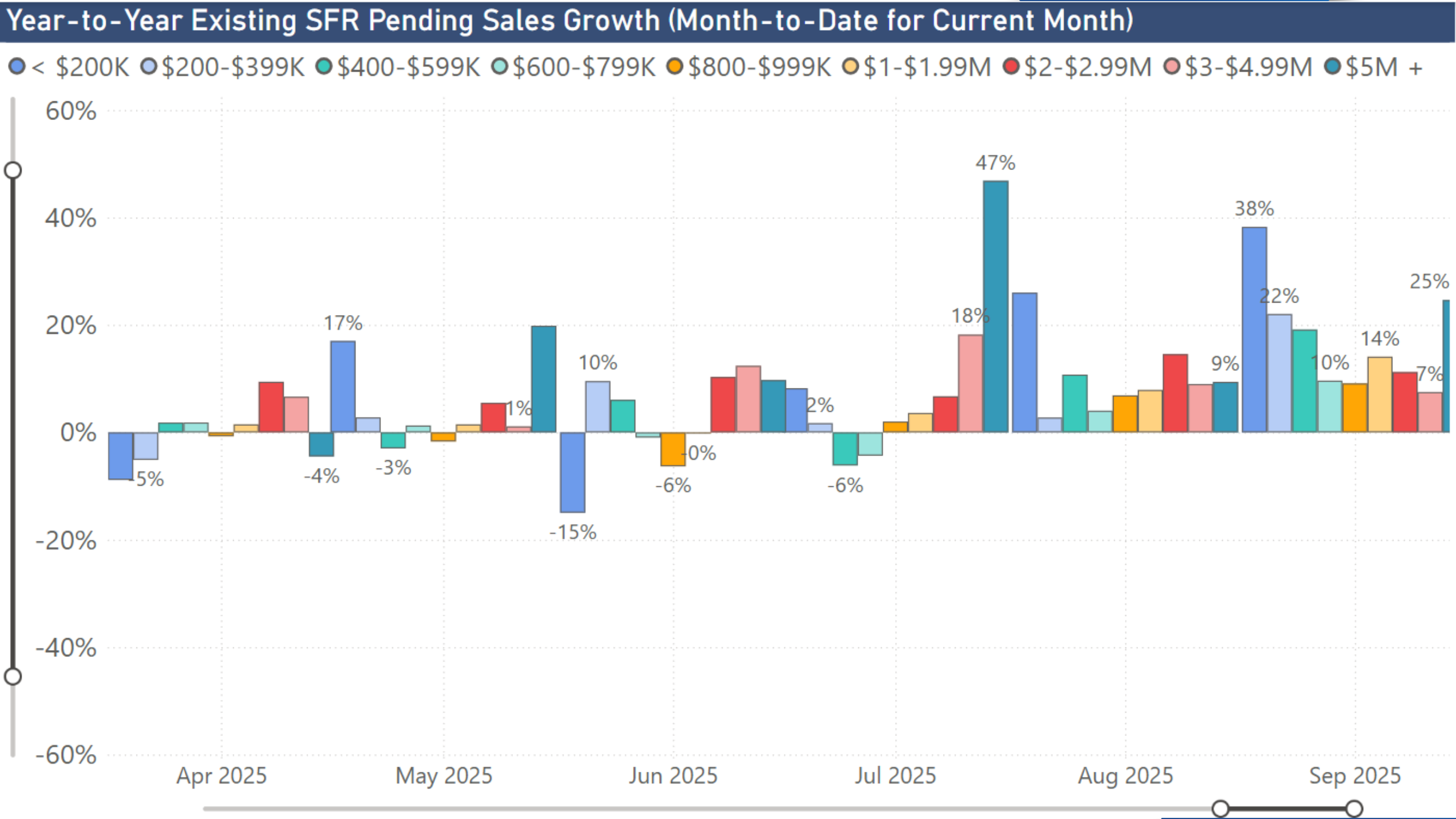
Central Coast Nonfarm Jobs (SA)



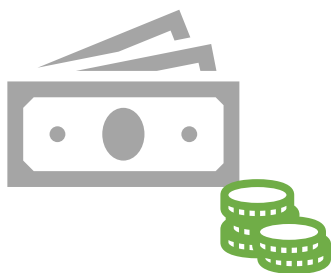
East Bay Labor Markets

■ Nonfarm Jobs — Seasonally Adjusted



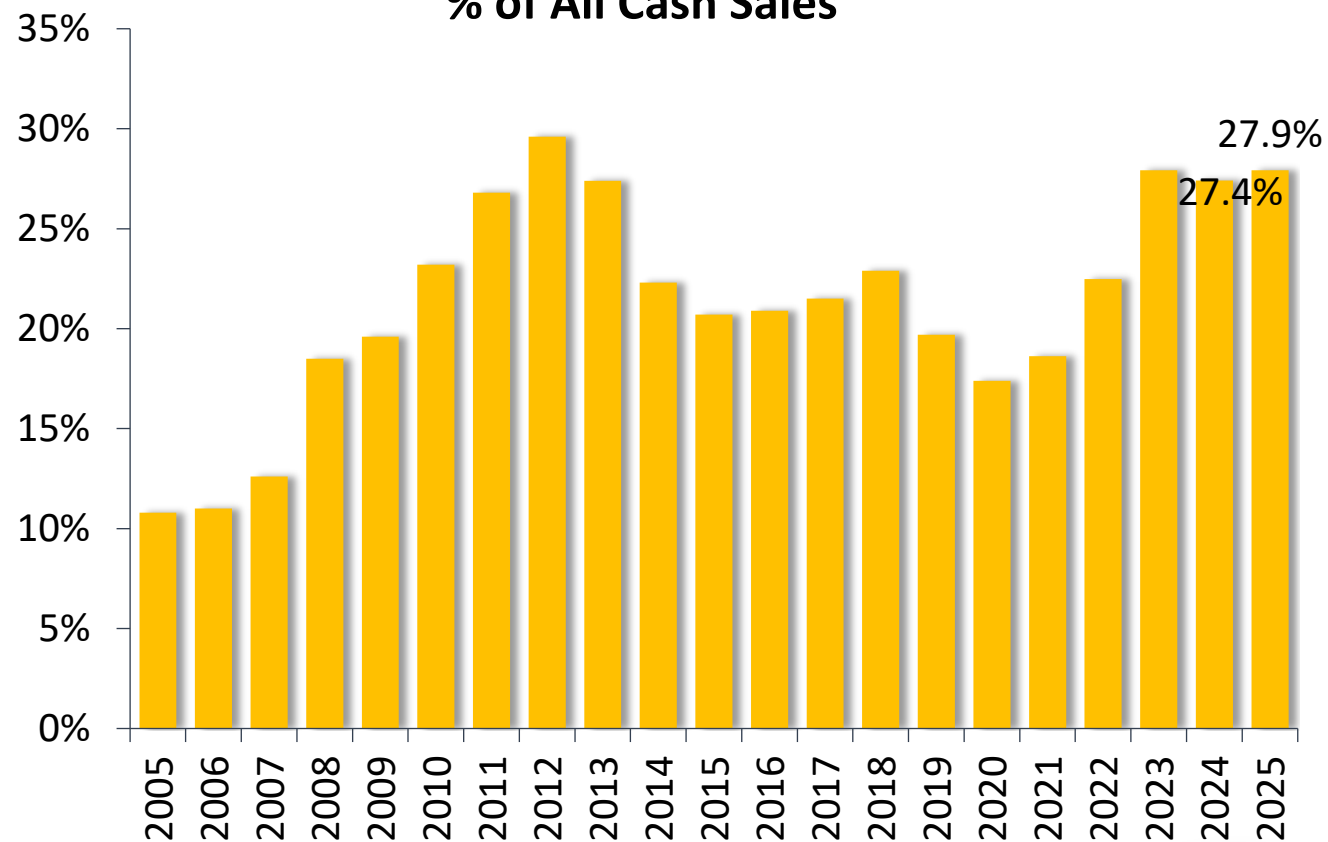


All cash at highest level in 13 years



- **Over a quarter of buyers paid with all cash**
- **Higher interest rates pushed up the share of all cash buyers**

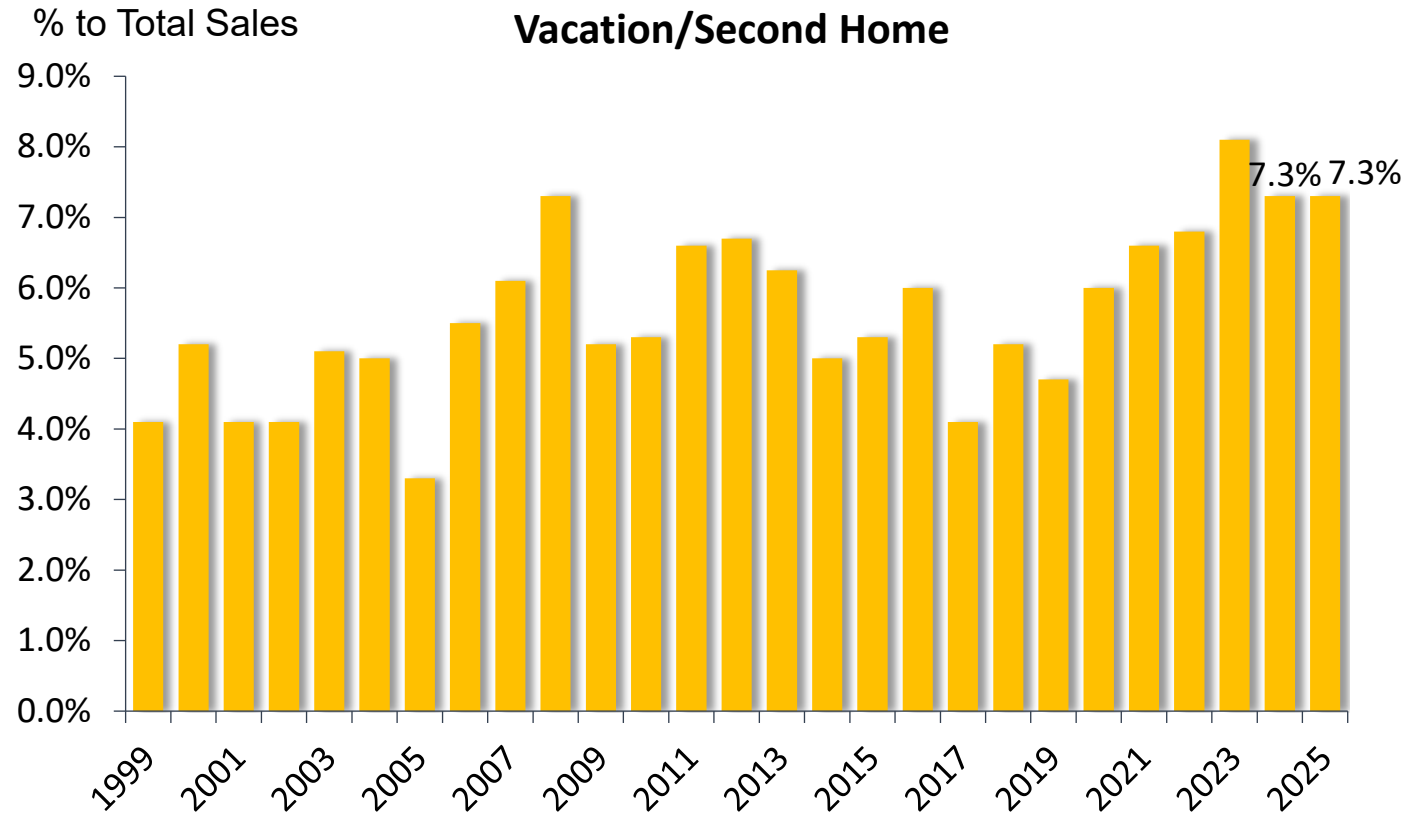
% of All Cash Sales



SERIES: 2025 Housing Market Survey

SOURCE: CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

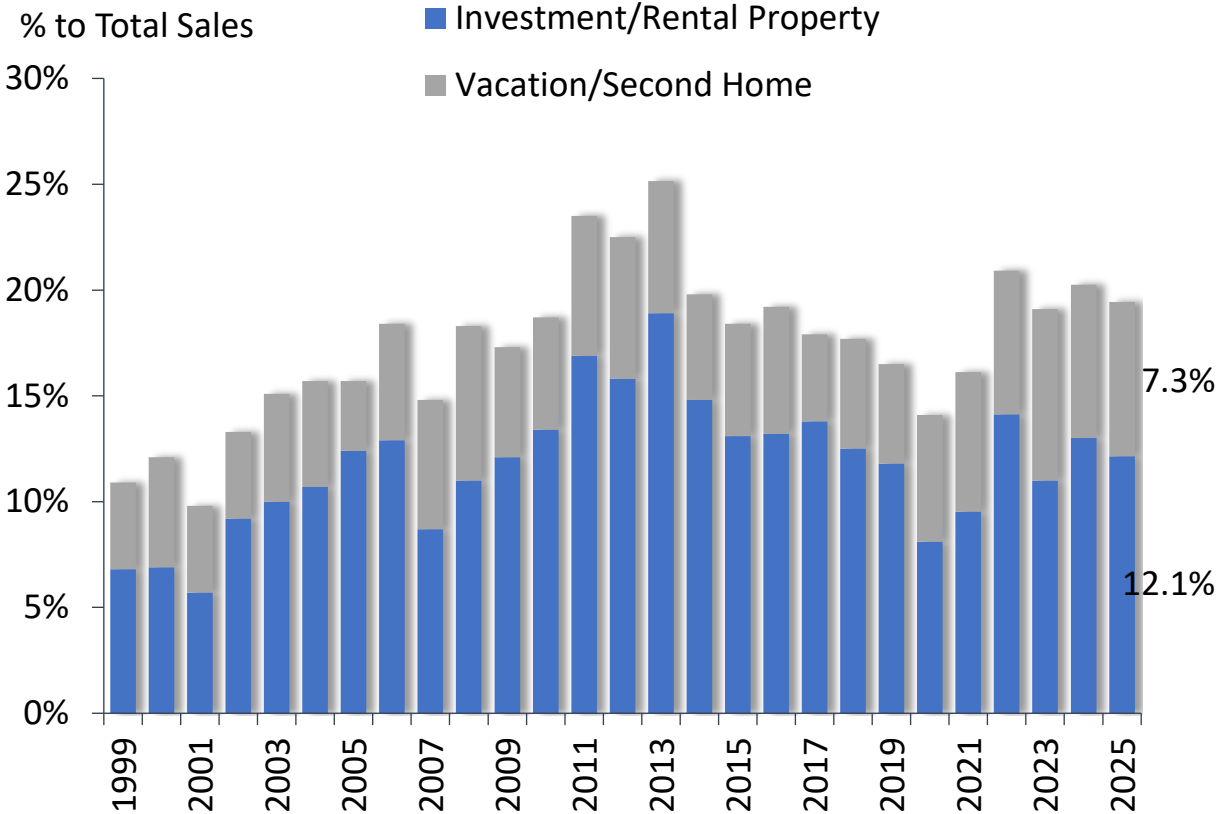
Second home market remains elevated



SERIES: 2025 Housing Market Survey
SOURCE: CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



Investors moderate, but remain elevated



Flip

Vs.



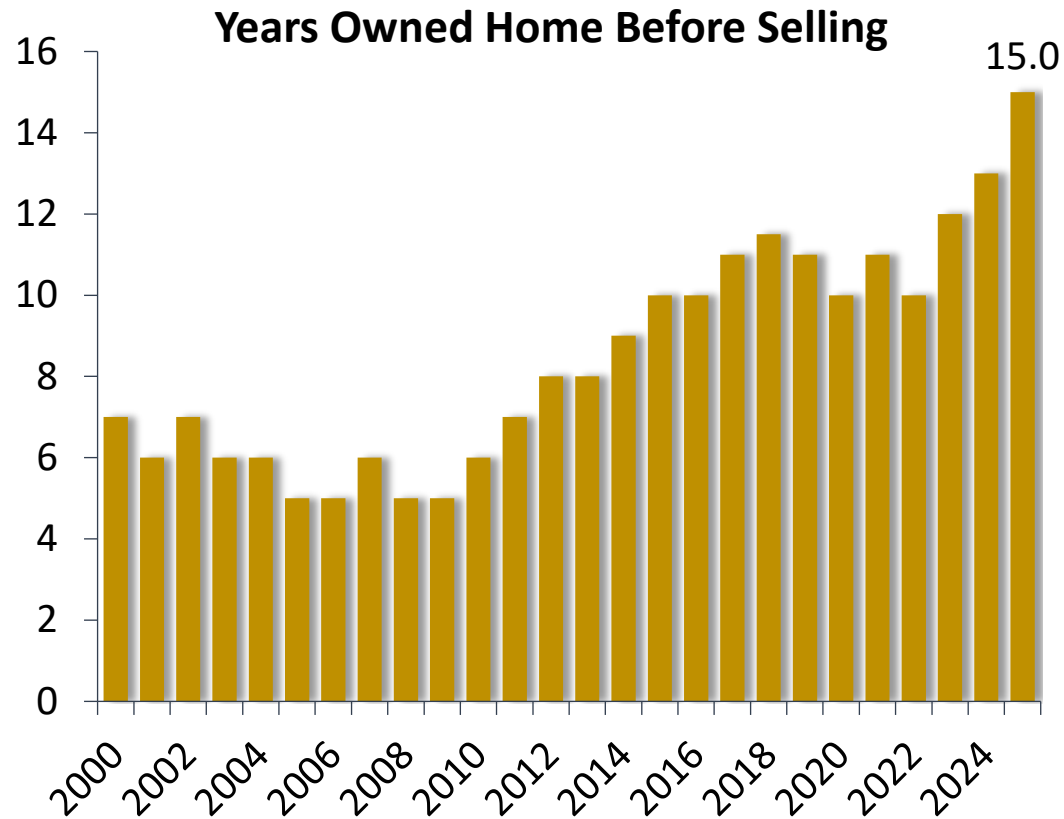
Rent

2014: 30%
2015: 26%
2016: 20%
2017: 24%
2018: 26%
2019: 18%
2020: 27%
2021: 29%
2022: 18%
2023: 34%
2024: 29%
2025: 32%

2014: 70%
2015: 74%
2016: 80%
2017: 76%
2018: 74%
2019: 82%
2020: 73%
2021: 71%
2022: 82%
2023: 66%
2024: 71%
2025: 68%

SERIES: 2025 Housing Market Survey
SOURCE: CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Sellers' housing tenure all-time high



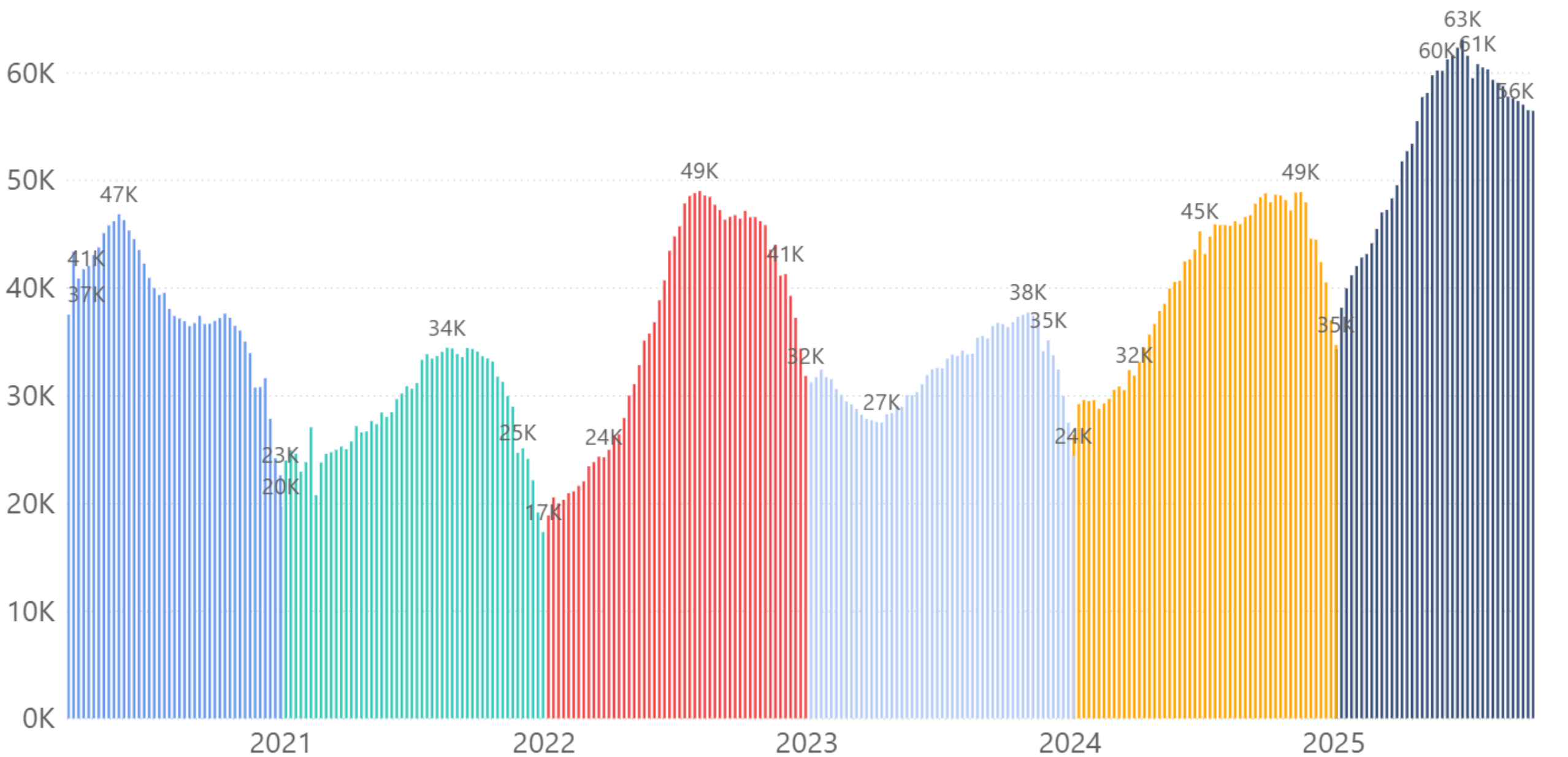
Homeowners holding onto their properties longer before selling because:

- Low rate on current mortgage
- Low property taxes
- Capital gains hit
- Where can I afford to go?
- Remodel and stay

SERIES: 2025 Housing Market Survey
SOURCE: CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

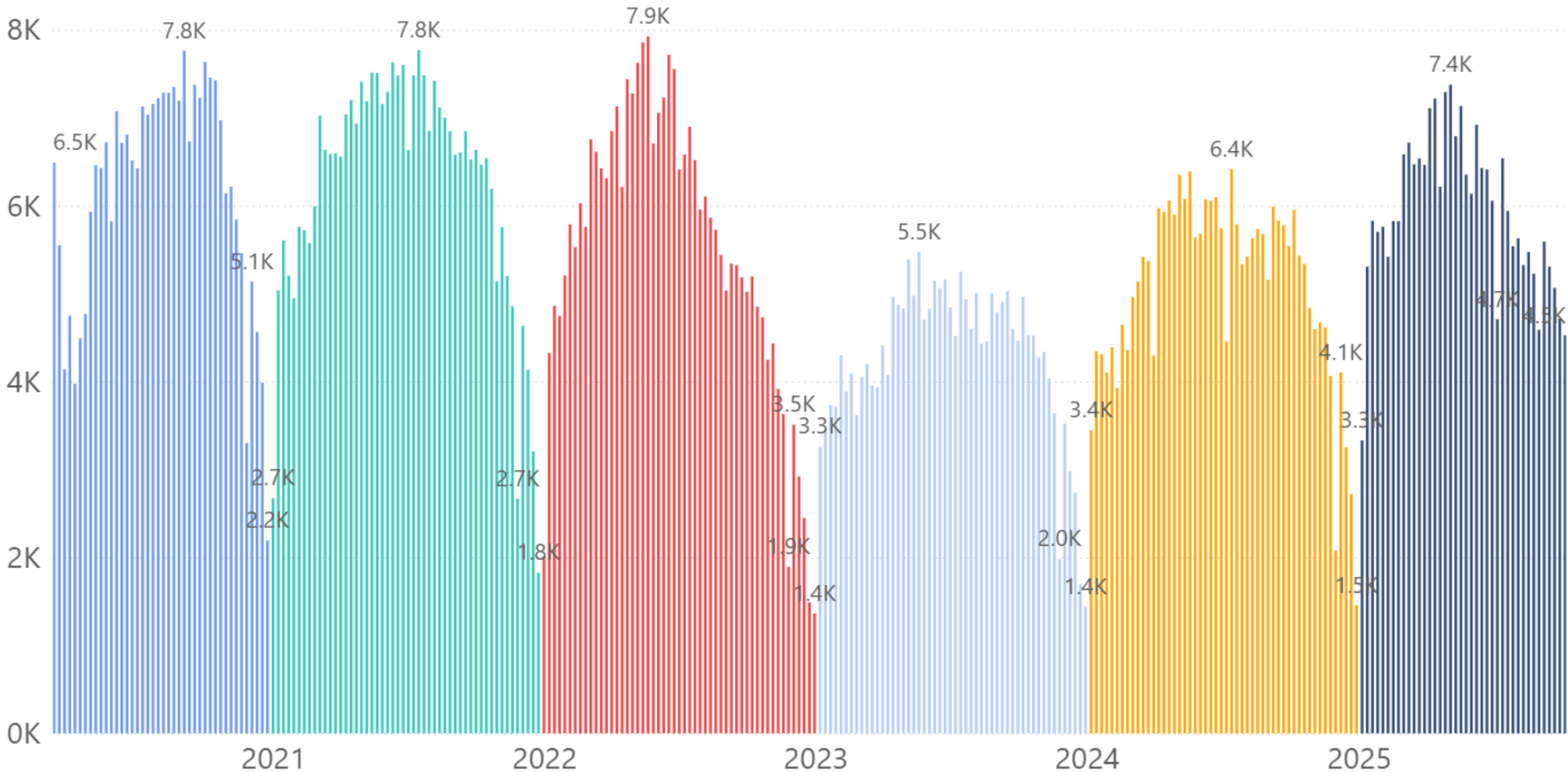
Existing SFR Active Listings

● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025



New Existing SFR Listings Added to MLSs

● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025



Step 1: Define Buyer's Profile

Select County of Residence

San Luis Obispo

Select Annual Household Income

\$180,000

Select Desired Downpayment (% of Purchase Price)

3.5%5.0%10.0%20.0%

Select Desired Monthly Payment (% of Income)

Low (30%)Medium (35%)High (40%)

Step 2: Toggle Interest Rate for Buyer Impacts

Select Rate for Purchasing Power & Inventory Below Cutoff

3.0%	3.5%	4.0%
4.5%	5.0%	5.5%
6.0%	6.5%	7.0%
7.5%	8.0%	8.5%
9.0%	9.5%	10.0%

Impact on Homebuyer's Purchasing Power

\$6,000
Target Monthly Payment (PITI)

\$927,010
Price Cutoff At Selected Rate

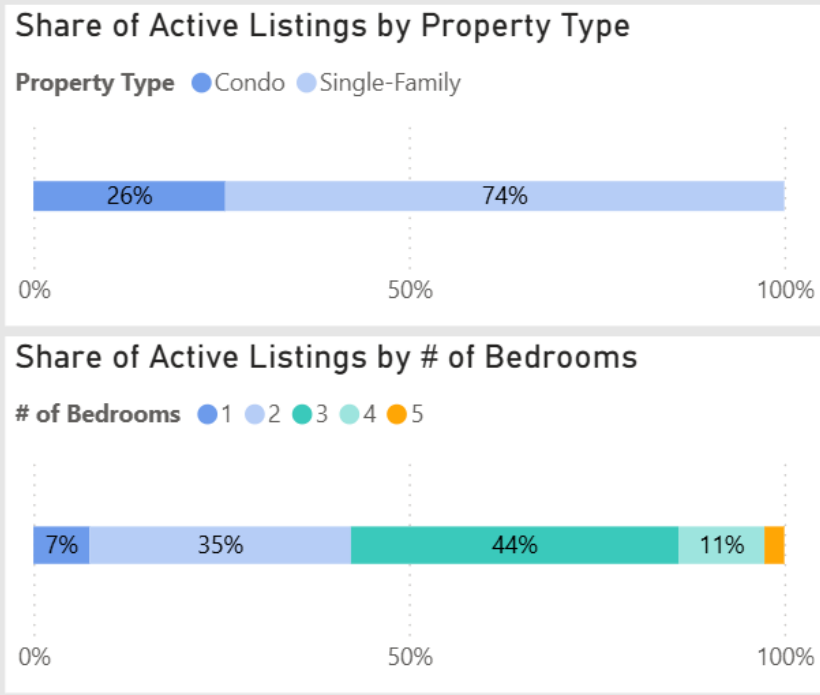
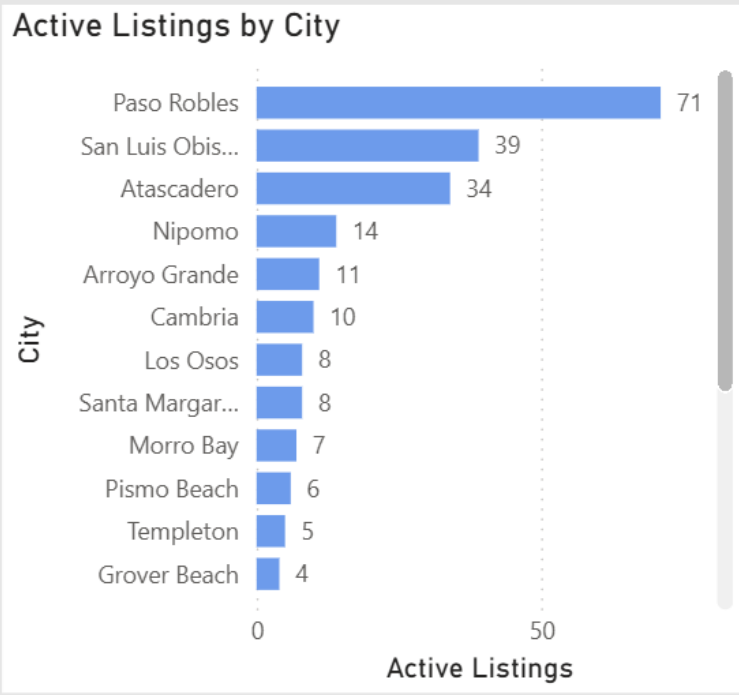
\$185,402
Downpayment Amount

Impact on Number of Listings Below Cutoff

Aug-25
Listings As Of Month

227
Listings At/Below Price Cutoff

35%
Share At/Below Price Cutoff



Step 1: Define Buyer's Profile

Select County of Residence

San Luis Obispo

Select Annual Household Income

\$180,000

Select Desired Down

3.5% 5.0%

Select Desired Month

Low (30%)

Step 2: Toggle Inter

Select Rate for Purch

3.0%

4.5%

6.0%

7.5%

9.0%

6.5%

8.0%

9.5%

7.0%

8.5%

10.0%

Impact on Homebuyer's Purchasing Power

\$6,000

Target Monthly Payment (PITI)

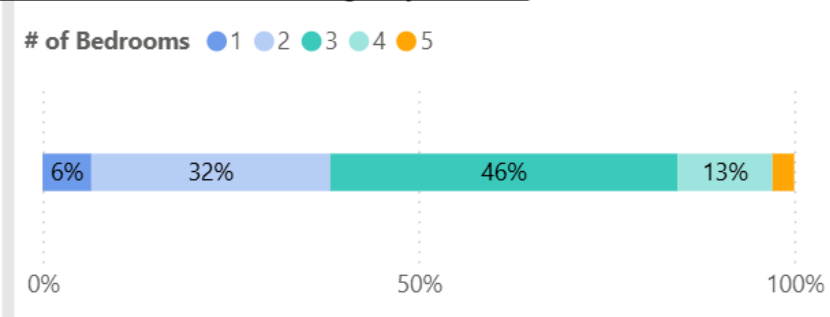
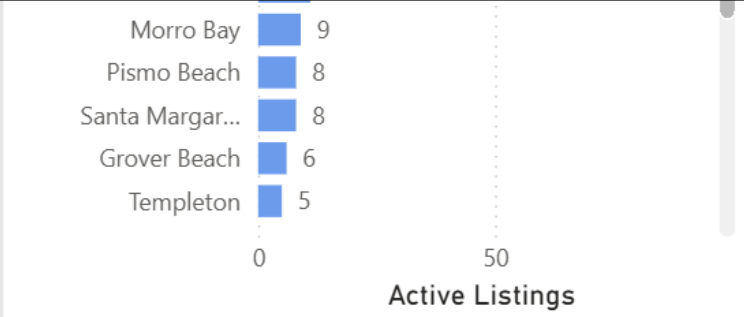
\$1,009,013

Price Cutoff At Selected Rate

\$201,803

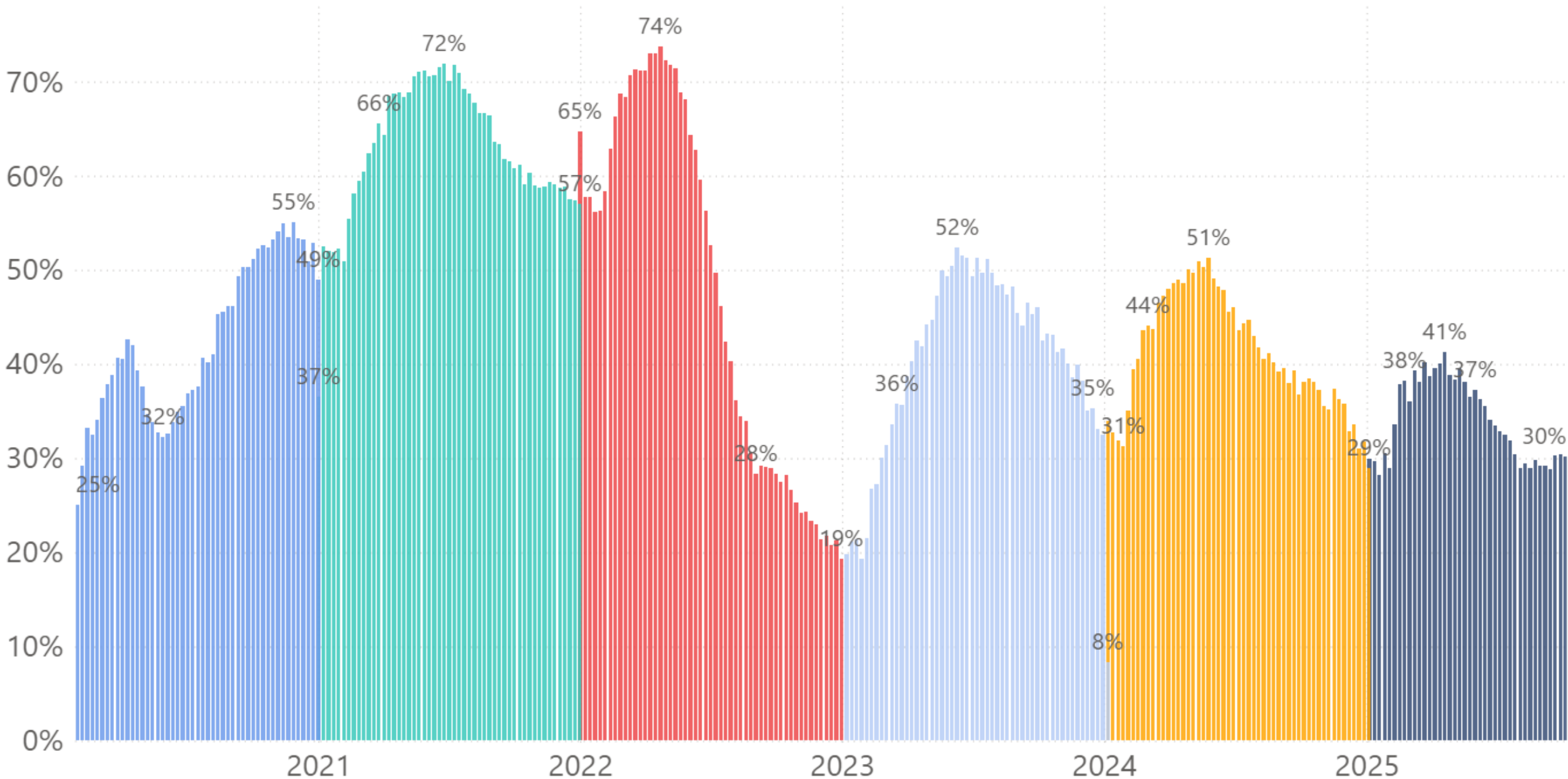
Downpayment Amount

+ 8.8% !!



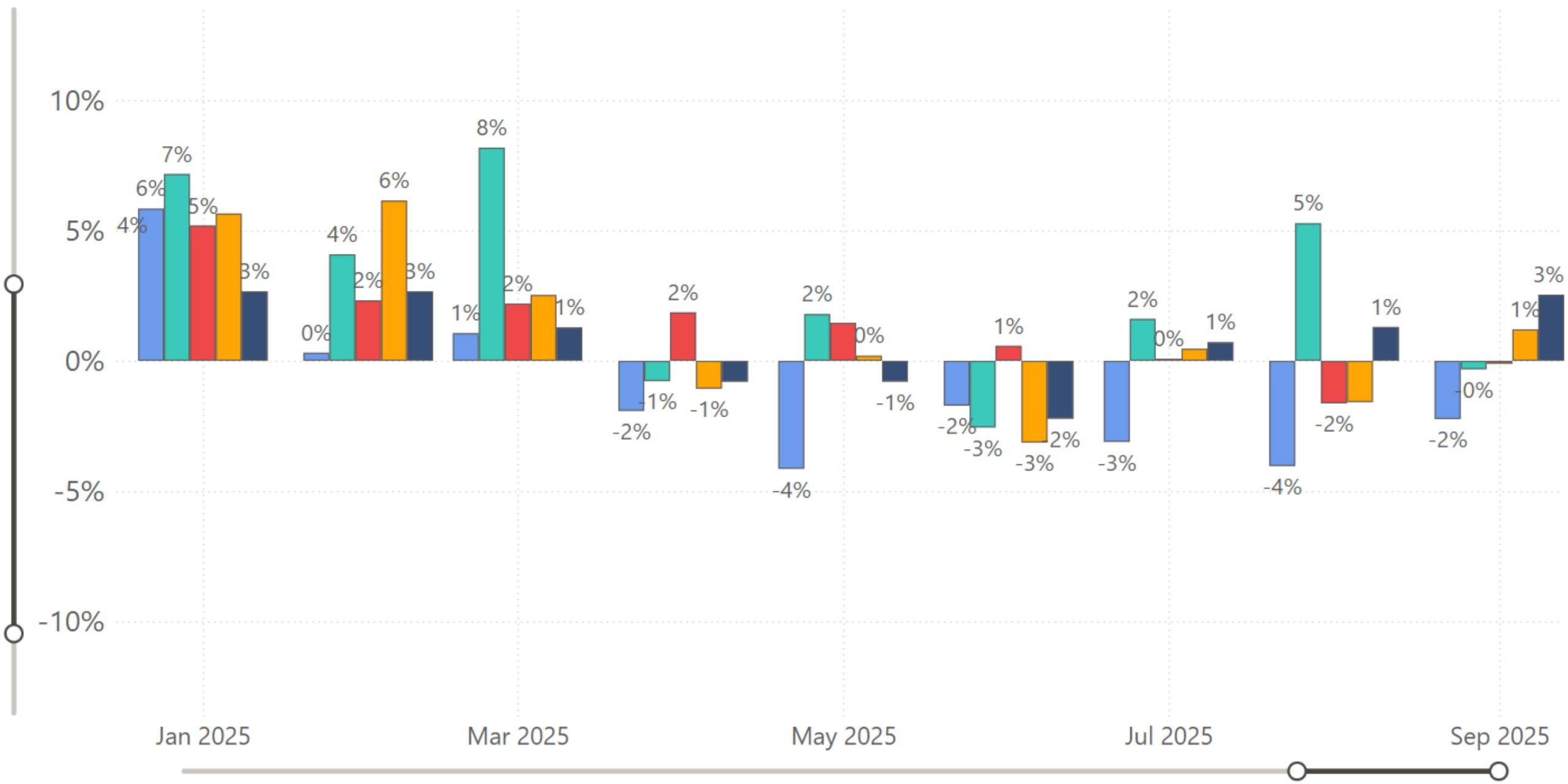
% of Homes Closed Above List Price

● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025



Year-Over-Year Existing SFR Median Closed Price Per Sq. Ft. Growth (Month-to-Date for Current Month)

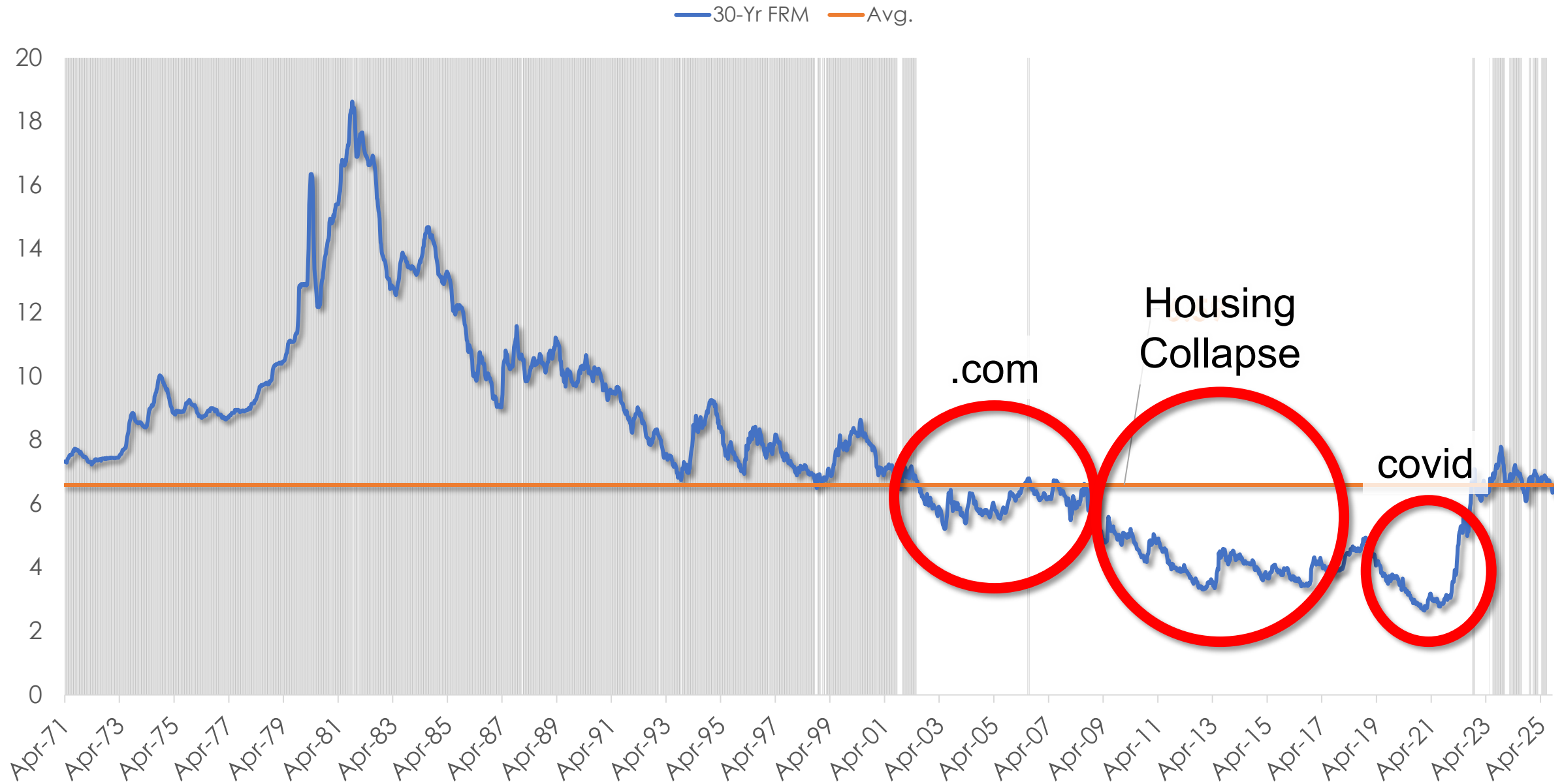
● Bay Area ● Central Coast ● Central Valley ● Far North ● SoCal



California housing market outlook

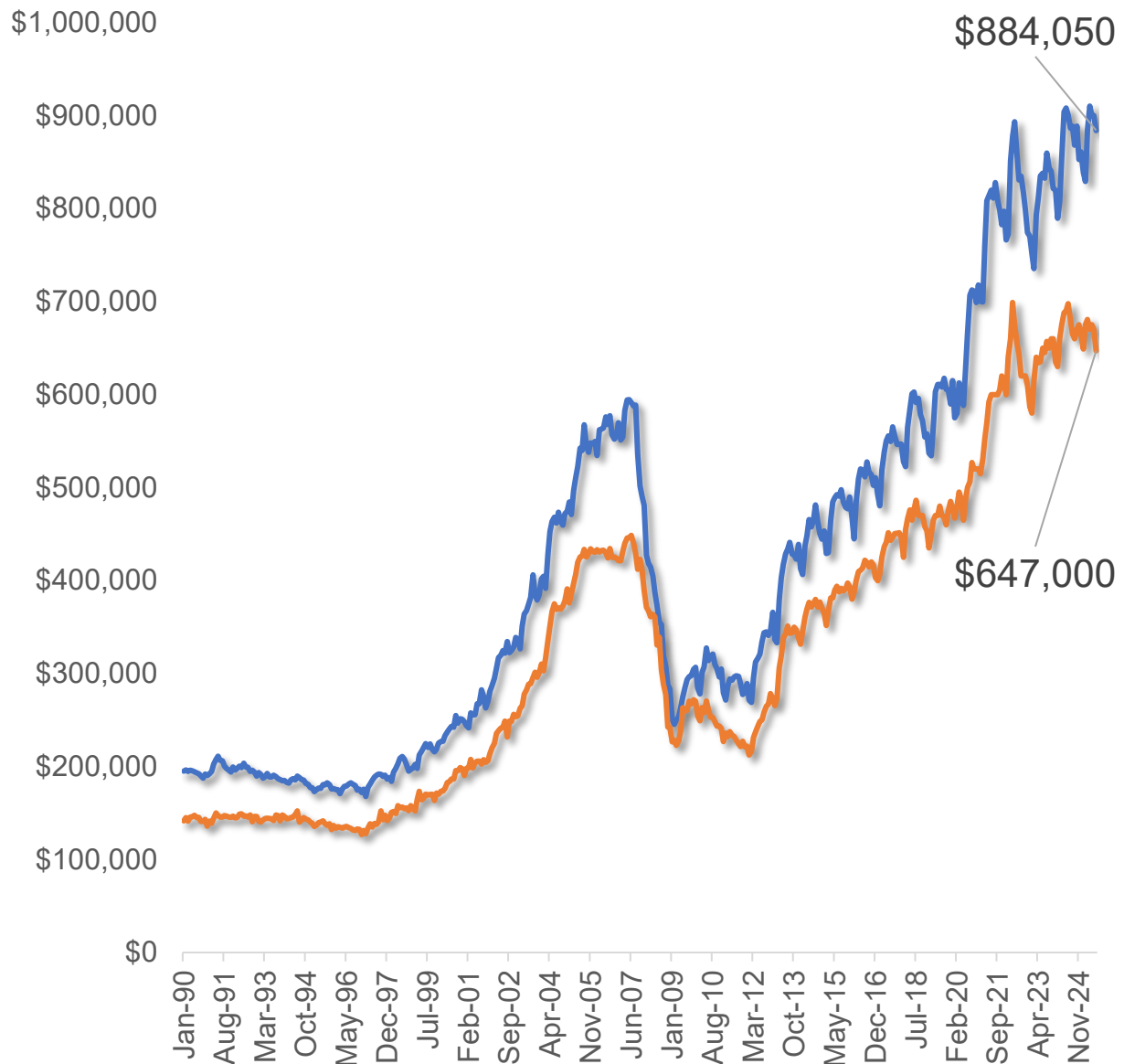
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025f	2026f
SFH Resales (000s)	417.7	424.9	402.6	398.0	411.9	444.5	343.0	257.9	269.2	269.0	274.4
% Change	2.0%	1.7%	-5.2%	-1.2%	3.5%	7.9%	-22.8%	-24.8%	4.4%	-0.1%	2.0%
Median Price (\$000s)	\$502.3	\$537.9	\$569.5	\$592.4	\$659.4	\$784.8	\$819.4	\$814.3	\$865.4	\$873.9	\$905.0
% Change	5.4%	7.1%	5.9%	4.0%	11.3%	19.0%	4.4%	-0.6%	6.3%	1.0%	3.6%
Housing Affordability Index	31%	29%	28%	31%	32%	26%	19%	17%	16%	17%	18%
30-Yr FRM	3.6%	4.0%	4.5%	3.9%	3.1%	3.0%	5.3%	6.8%	6.7%	6.6%	6.0%

30-Yr Fixed-Rate Mortgage Rates



California Median Sales Price

— SFR — Condo



Contra Costa County Median Sales Price

\$1,200,000

\$1,000,000

\$800,000

\$600,000

\$400,000

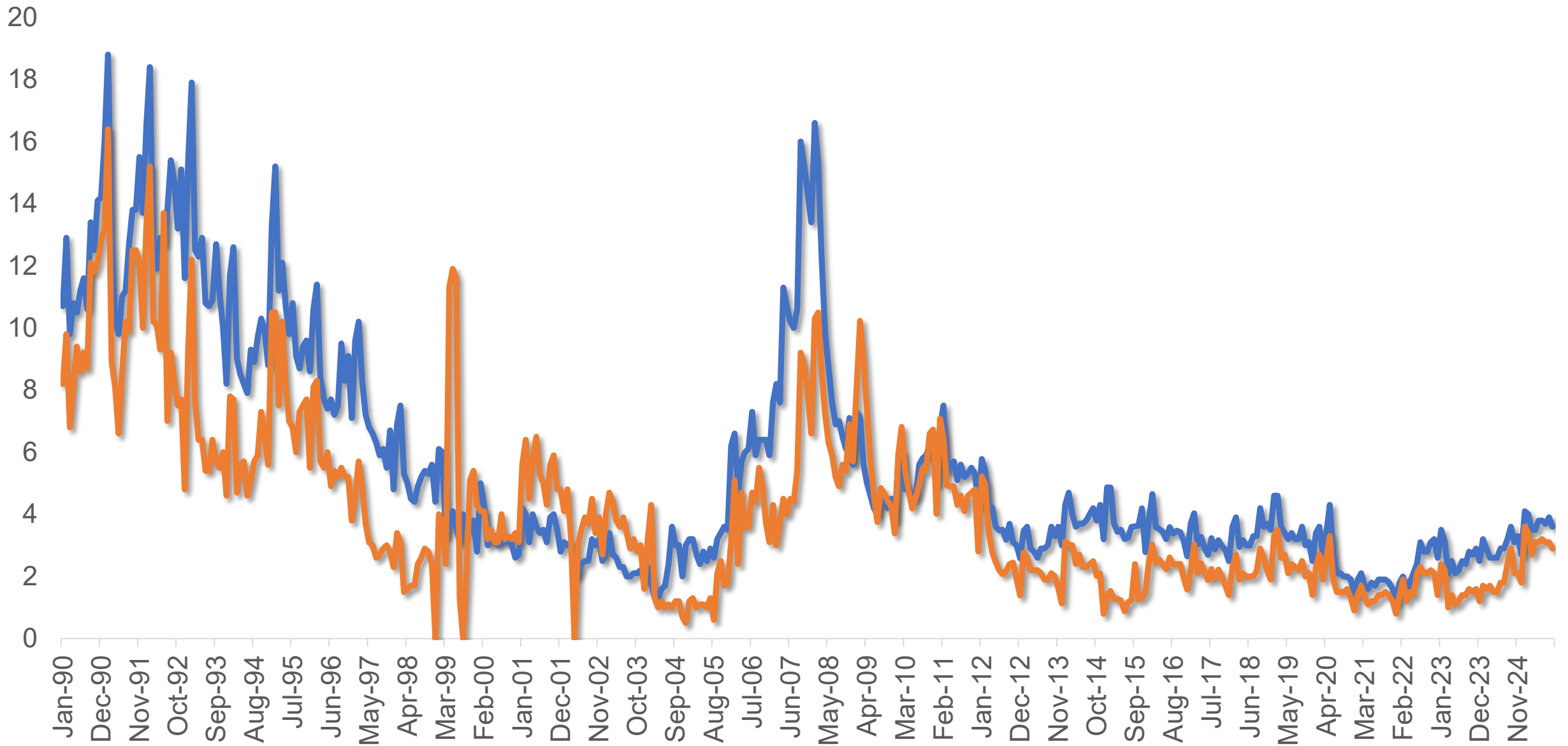
\$200,000

\$0



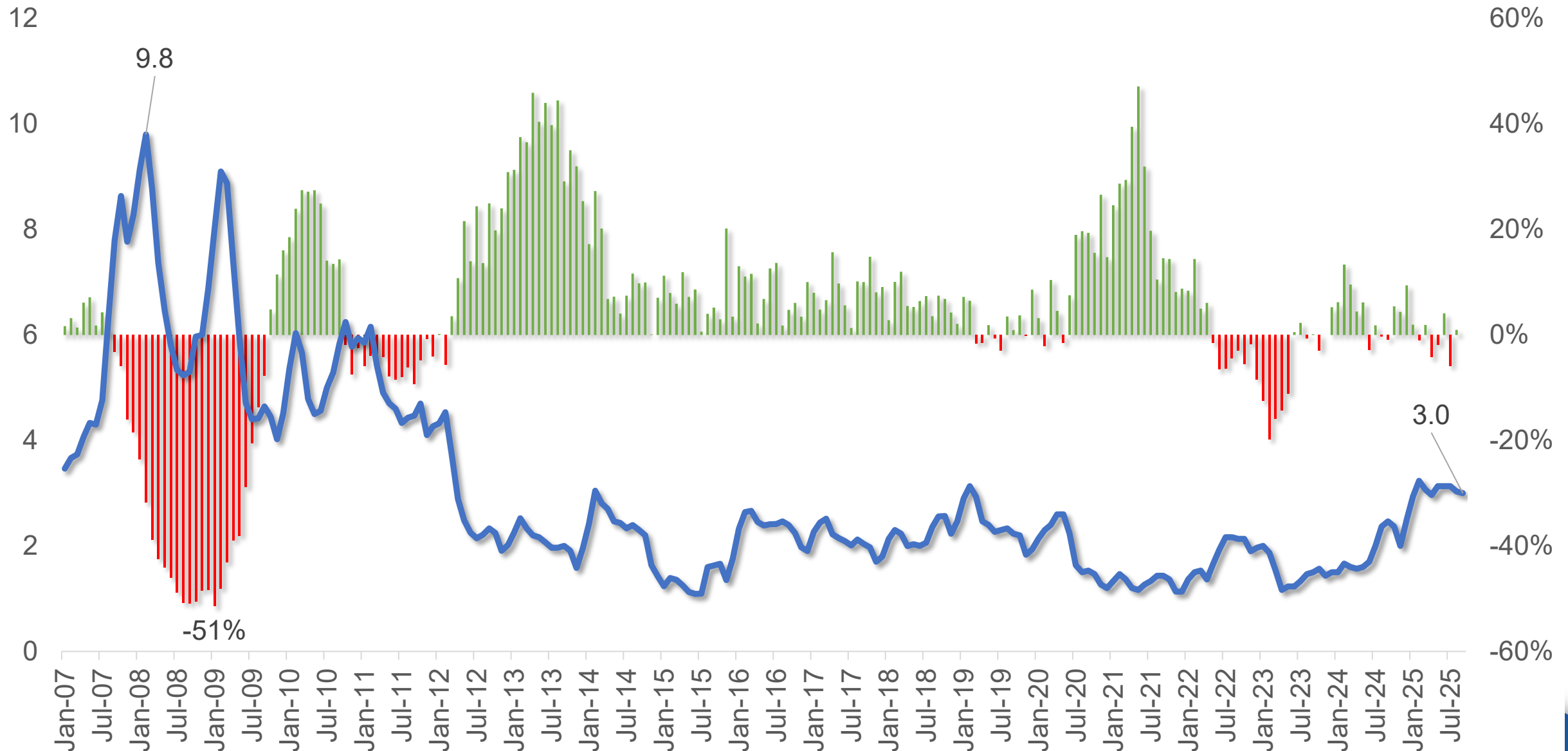
Unsold Inventory Index

— CA — Contra Costa



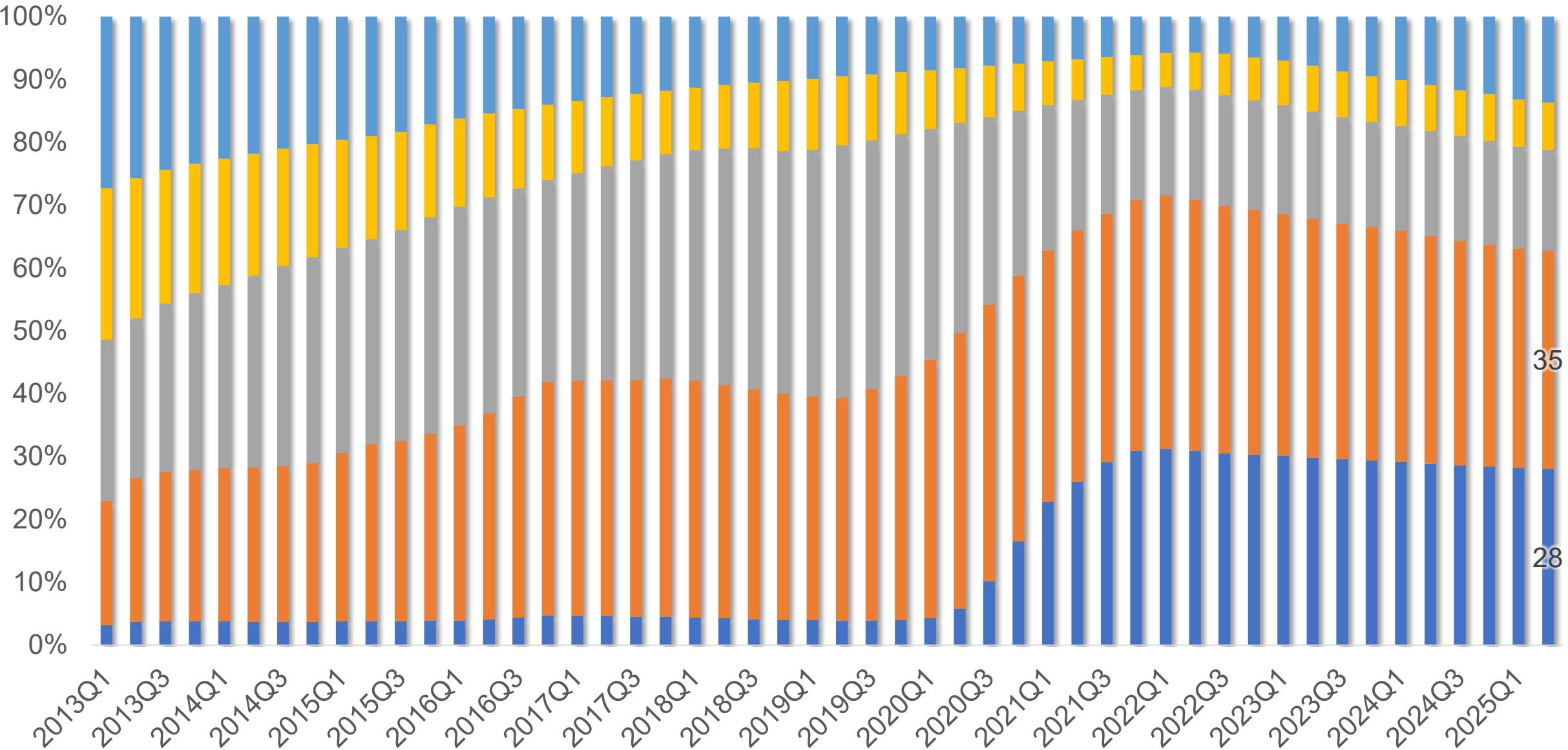
Contra Costa County Price Growth vs. Housing Supply

■ Median Price YTY% — UII (MA)

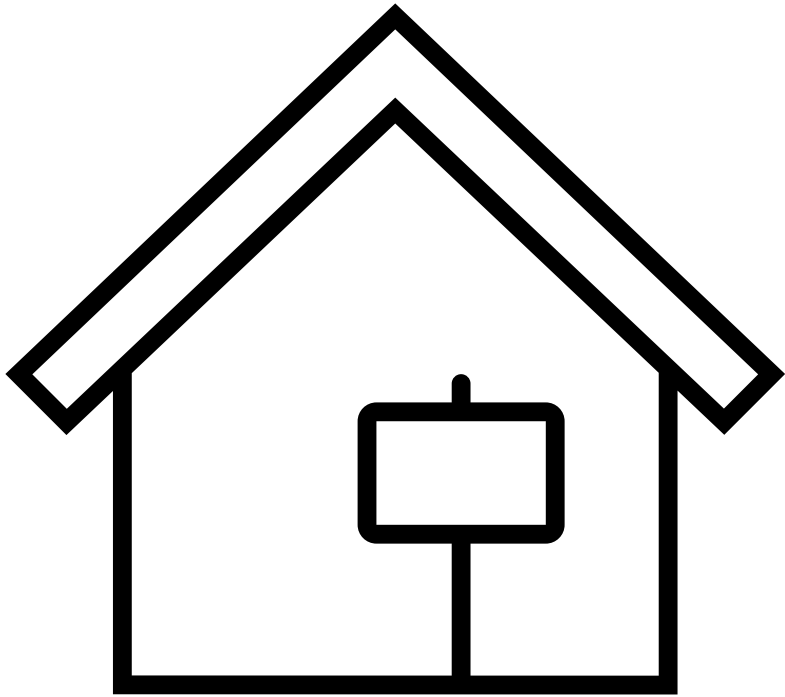


California Outstanding Mortgages by Interest Rate

< 3% 3-4% 4-5% 5-6% > 6%



Bottom Line



- Manage expectations
- Communicate
- Buyers stay realistic!
- Get creative to compete
- Sellers also competing now
- Financial literacy challenges = opportunity for saavy members
- Experts needed more than ever
- Help them transfer their base!
- Be strategic, not desperate

Thank you!!