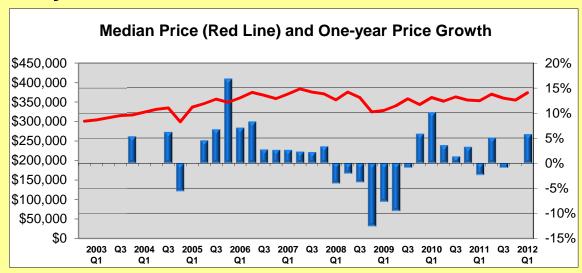


# Boulder Area Local Market Report, First Quarter 2012

## Today's Market...



Price Activity	Boulder	U.S.	Local Trend
Current Median Home Price (2012 Q1)	\$373,900	\$158,000	Driggs continue to grow relative to local
1-year (4-quarter) Appreciation (2012 Q1)	5.8%	0.0%	Prices continue to grow relative to last year
3-year (12-quarter) Appreciation (2012 Q1)	13.9%	-5.7%	year
3-year (12-quarter) Housing Equity Gain*	\$45,500	-\$9,567	This area has held onto positive equity growth despite the national market
7-year (28 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$36,700	-\$41,567	
9-year (36 quarters) Housing Equity Gain*	\$69,500	-\$9,200	decline
*Note: Equity gain reflects price appreciation only		-	

	Boulder	U.S.		
Conforming Loan Limit**	\$417,000	\$729,250	Not all buyers have access to	
FHA Loan Limit	\$417,000	\$417,000	government-backed financing in this	
Local Median to Conforming Limit Ratio 90% not comparable market				
Note: limits are current and include the changes made in November of 2011				

#### Local NAR Leadership

The Boulder market is part of region 11 in the NAR governance system, which includes all of Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada. The NAR Regional Vice President representing region 11 is Michael Labout CRS, ePro, GRI.



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

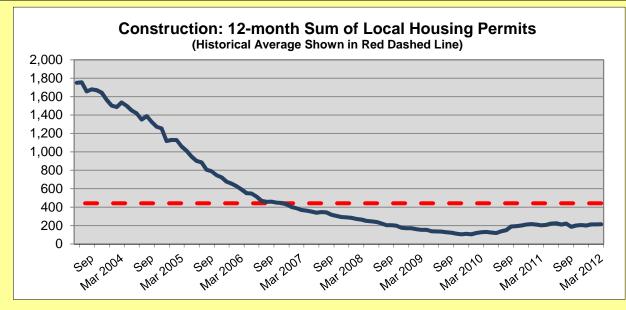
Local Economic Outlook	Boulder	U.S.	
12-month Job Change (Mar)	2,700	Not Comparable	Employment growth has eased, but remains positive
12-month Job Change (Feb)	3,500	Not Comparable	
36-month Job Change (Mar)	1,900	Not Comparable	Unemployment in Boulder is better than the national average and improving
Current Unemployment Rate (Mar)	6.2%	8.2%	
Year-ago Unemployment Rate	6.7%	8.9%	Local employment growth is strong compared to other markets
1-year (12 month) Job Growth Rate	1.7%	1.3%	

#### **Share of Total Employment by Industry Boulder Area** U.S. Natural Natural Resources/ Resources/ Mining/Con Mining/Con Manufacturi struct struct Manufacturi Governme 2.2% 4.7% Governmen ng nt 8.9% Other 16.8% Services 9.7% 20.4% Trade/Tran 4.0% sportation/U Leisure & Other tilities Hospitality Trade/Tran Services 12.8% 10.2% sportation/ 3.2% Utilities Leisure & Information 18.8% Hospitality 5.5% 10.9% Financial Activities Educational 4.4% & Health Educ. & Information Prof. & Services Health Profession Financial 2.0% **Business** 15.4% Services al & Activities Services 12.6% **Business** 18.3% 5.8% Services 13.4% 12-month Employment Change by Industry in the Boulder Area (Feb - 2012) Goods Producing 300 NA Information Natural Resources/Mining/Construction -200 100 Financial Activities Natural Resources and Mining NA 1,200 Prof. & Business Services Construction NA Educ. & Health Services 400 300 1,000 Manufacturing Leisure & Hospitality NA 100 Service Providing Excluding Government Other Services Trade/Transportation/Utilities -900 400 Government

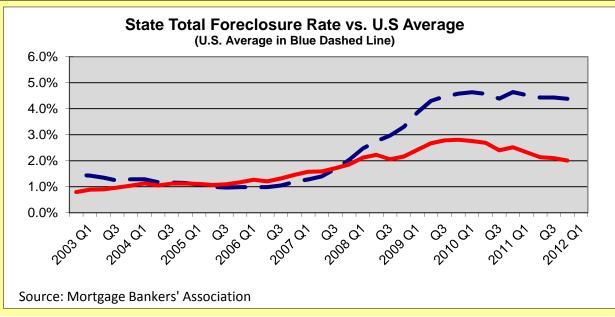
State Economic Activity Index	Colorado	U.S.	
12-month change (2012 - Mar)	3.3%	2.9%	Colorado's economy is stronger than the nation's, but slowed from last month's 3.43% change
36-month change (2012 - Mar)	0.8%	4.3%	



New Housing Construction			
Local Fundamentals	Boulder	U.S.	
12-month Sum of 1-unit Building Permits through Mar 2012	214	not comparable	The current level of construction is 51.6% below the long-term average
8-year average for 12-month Sum of 1-Unit Building Permits	442	not comparable	Reduced construction will limit new supply to the market, allowing demand to catch up with the inventory more
Single-Family Housing Permits (Mar 2012) 12-month sum vs. a year ago	5.9%	2.2%	Construction is on the rise relative to last year, suggesting that the local inventory has stabilized



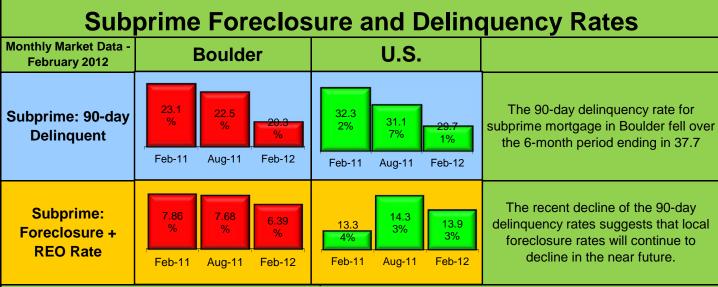
While new construction is the traditional driver of supply in real estate, foreclosures now have a strong impact on inventories, particularly at the local level. Rising inventories, through construction or foreclosure, place downward pressure on the median home prices.





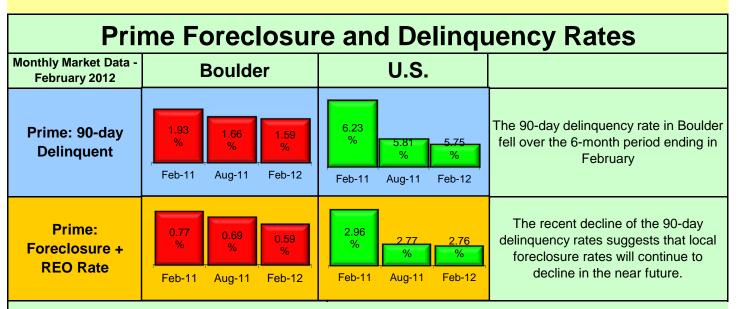
#### **Composition of Mortgaged Homes in Local Area** U.S. **Boulder** Monthly Market Data - February 2012 There are nearly 37.7 prime loans for every subprime mortgage in the Prime Mortgages Outstanding (estimate) 70.733 49,265,915 Boulder market, which is more than the national average of 14.6 suggesting that subprimes make up a smaller Subprime Mortgages Outstanding (estimate) 1,878 3,384,471 share of the local market than on average.

Source: First American CoreLogic, LoanPerformance data



The "foreclosure + REO rate" is the number of mortgages, by metro area, that are either in the foreclosure process or have completed the foreclosure process and are owned by banks divided by the total number of mortgages for that area.

Source: First American CoreLogic, LoanPerformance data

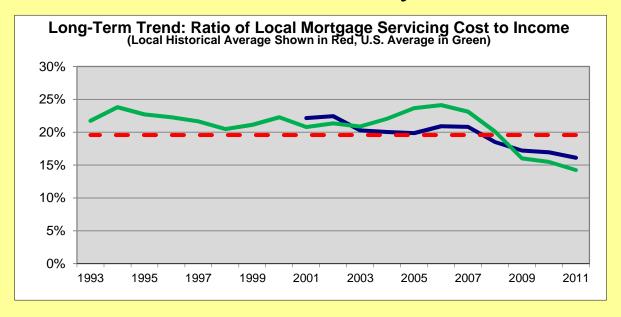


The "foreclosure + REO rate" is the number of mortgages, by metro area, that are either in the foreclosure process or have completed the foreclosure process and are owned by banks divided by the total number of mortgages for that area.

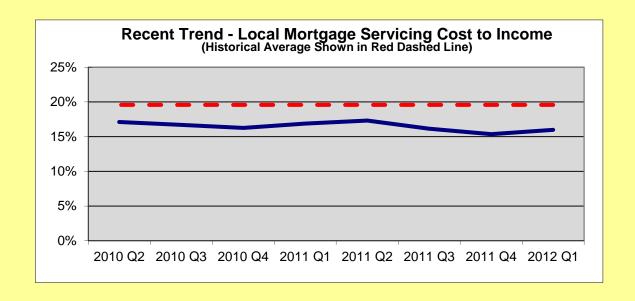
Source: First American CoreLogic, LoanPerformance data



# Affordability

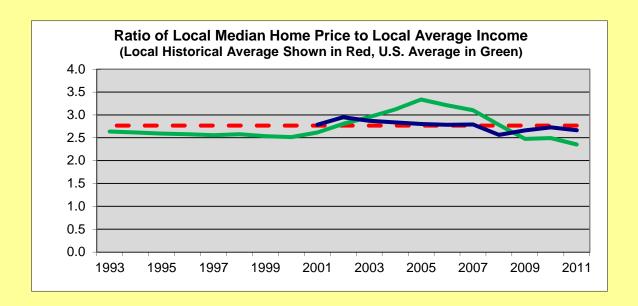


Monthly Mortgage Payment to Income	Boulder	U.S.	
Ratio for 2011	16.1%	14.2%	Historically strong, but weaker than the fourth quarter of 2011
Ratio for 2012 Q1	16.0%	12.5%	
Historical Average	19.6%	21.4%	More affordable than most markets

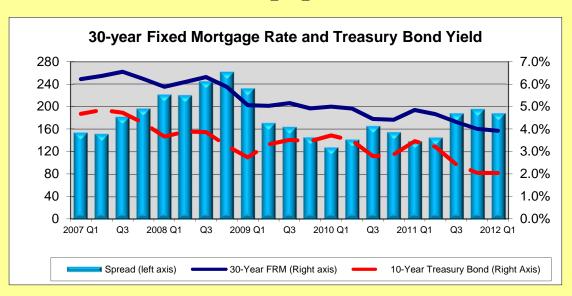


Median Home Price to Income	Boulder	U.S.	
Ratio for 2011	2.7	2.4	The price-to-income ratio is high by
Ratio for 2012 Q1	2.8	2.2	historic standards and getting worse
Historical Average	2.8	2.7	Less affordable than most markets





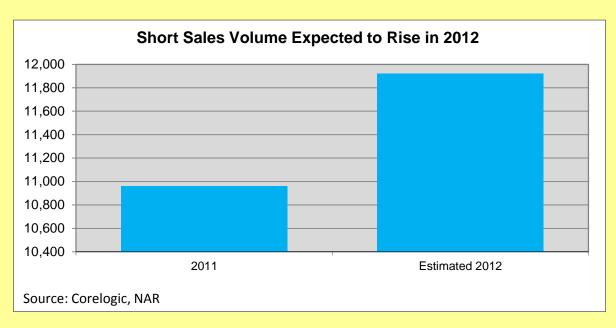
### **The Mortgage Market**



Mortgage rates hit a new record low during the first quarter of 2012. Despite a flattening of the 10-year Treasury and modest increases at points, the 30-year fixed rate mortgage averaged 3.9% for January, February, and March and for a few weeks edged even lower. Demand for mortgages increased as a result for both purchases and refinances. Rates edged upward toward the end of March on several positive economic news releases, but have since eased on weak employment news in April. The economy is expected to slowly improve and positive readings of unemployment claims in late April and early May point to stronger employment figures around the corner. The result is likely to be higher mortgages rates later this year, which will be tempered by the continuation of the Federal Reserve's "operation twist", which is intended to flatten the yield curve putting downward pressure on long-term rates, helping to maintain low mortgage rates. The 30-year fixed rate mortgage is expected to average 4.3% in 2012 before climbing to 4.9% in 2013, which implies that rates are likely to average near 4.5% for the 2nd half of 2012.



### A Closer Look...Short Sales



Modified Loans	Colorado	U.S.	
2011	10,960	509,990	Short sales in Colorado made up 2.1%
Estimated 2012	11,920	554,550	of the U.S. total in 2011

Short sales have increased steadily in 2012 and are expected to continue to rise in 2012. While still distressed sales, this shift toward short sales is a sign of improvement in how the market handles distressed properties and is a trend that is in the best interest of homebuyers, homeowners, and the communities that they live in. Short sales in the state of Colorado are expected to rise from 10,960 in 2011 to 11,920, an increase of roughly 9%. There is potential for a surprise on the upside to our estimates for 2012. Both Bank of America and the Federal Housing Finance Agency have announced new programs in the past few weeks that are aimed to streamline the short sale process, reducing the time for buyers to hear back about offers and improving the communications between sellers/buyers and the bank or Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac. Improvements in the short sale process could have important impacts on the market. Buyers often wait months to hear back about offers on short sales. If response times decline or if the uncertainty to the consumer is reduced by having a finite timeline, demand for short sales could rise, reducing their price discount to the market. Stronger prices would make short sales even more attractive to the banks. A virtuous cycle like this would help to stem the flow of properties into foreclosure.

## Geographic Coverage for this Report

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

**Boulder County** 

More information on the OMB's geographic definitions can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg\_statpolicy/