Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Housing Affordability Outlook



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About this Report

Texas Real Estate Research Center economists continuously monitor many facets of both state and local housing markets. *Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Housing Affordability Outlook* summarizes significant housing activity and trends as related to affordability in the Dallas-Fort-Worth-Arlington MSA. Home prices reflect single-family existing homes unless otherwise stated. This report does not seasonally adjust home prices.

This publication is designed to be a one-stop resource for information on housing affordability for potential homebuyers in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA. We hope you find them as useful as we do. Your feedback is always appreciated. Send comments and suggestions to info@recenter.tamu.edu.

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Purchase Affordability

Affordability remained low in 1Q2023 amid high mortgage interest rates and still-elevated home prices. Year-over-year (YOY) change in both the median and first-quartile sales price was negative, at -1.3 percent and -2.4 percent, respectively (Figure 1 and Table 1). The significant YOY increase in family income seen in 1Q2022 followed years of modest rises (Table 2).

The rapid rise in mortgage interest rates in 3Q and 4Q2022 moderated going into 1Q2023. Rates averaged 6.37 percent in 1Q2023, a slight decrease from 4Q2022, which averaged 6.66 percent (Figure 2). All other things being equal, lower (higher) mortgage interest rates translate into lower (higher) monthly mortgage payments and ease (diminish) purchase affordability. For more information on the effect of mortgage interest rates on purchase affordability, see "How Higher Interest Rates Affect Homebuying" at recenter.tamu.edu/articles/tierra-grande/How-Higher-Interest-Rates-Affect-Homebuying-2339.

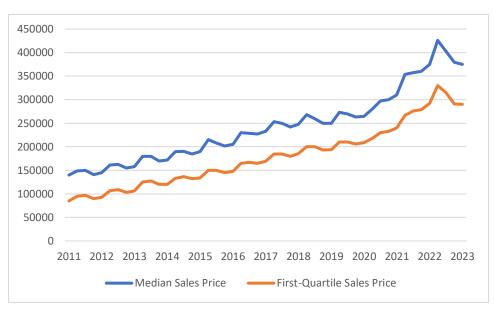


Figure 1. Median and First-Quartile Sales Prices,
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA

¹ The first quartile reflects the lowest-priced 25 percent of homes sold in a particular geography. The first-quartile sales price represents the highest home price among those lowest-priced 25 percent of homes sold. If the price of the lowest 25 percent of homes sold ranges from \$100,000 to \$150,000, then the first-quartile sales price would be \$150,000.



Table 1. Median Sales Price and First-Quartile Sales Price by Quarter

		YOY	First-Quartile Home	YOY
Year	Median Home Price	Change	Price	Change
1Q2011	\$139,900		\$85,000	
1Q2012	\$145,000	3.6%	\$93,000	9.4%
1Q2013	\$158,000	9.0%	\$106,000	14.0%
1Q2014	\$172,000	8.9%	\$120,000	13.2%
1Q2015	\$189,900	10.4%	\$134,000	11.7%
1Q2016	\$205,000	8.0%	\$147,800	10.3%
1Q2017	\$232,500	13.4%	\$169,000	14.3%
1Q2018	\$268,000	15.3%	\$185,500	9.8%
1Q2019	\$273,000	1.9%	\$194,000	4.6%
1Q2020	\$280,000	2.6%	\$209,000	7.7%
1Q2021	\$310,000	10.7%	\$239,900	14.8%
1Q2022	\$375,000	21.0%	\$292,000	21.7%
1Q2023	\$370,000	-1.3%	\$285,000	-2.4%

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 2. Median Family Income by Year

	Income for First-Time	YOY		YOY
Year	Homebuyers	Change	Median Family income	Change
2011	\$55,300		\$69,100	
2012	\$56,100	1.4%	\$70,100	1.4%
2013	\$54,000	-3.7%	\$67,500	-3.7%
2014	\$54,300	0.6%	\$67,900	0.6%
2015	\$56,200	3.5%	\$70,400	3.7%
2016	\$57,350	2.0%	\$71,700	1.8%
2017	\$58,700	2.4%	\$73,400	2.4%
2018	\$61,750	5.2%	\$77,200	5.2%
2019	\$66,500	7.7%	\$83,100	7.6%
2020	\$68,950	3.7%	\$86,200	3.7%
2021	\$71,200	3.3%	\$89,000	3.2%
2022	\$77,900	9.4%	\$97,400	9.4%
2023*	-	-	-	-

²⁰²³ Estimates have not been released yet, 2022 estimated incomes are used where necessary.

Note: The income for first-time homebuyers reflects the income limit for low-income families, who earn no more than 80 percent of the median family income. This table reflects income figures for a four-person family.

Source: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development



Figure 2. 30-Year Fixed Rate Mortgage Average in the United States

Sources: Federal Reserve Economic Data and Freddie Mac

Repeat Homebuyer

Despite significant YOY growth in family income and negative home price growth, the gap between home price and family income remained wide. For households earning the median family income for Dallas in 2022 (\$97,400), the median sales price for 1Q2023 was not affordable unless the home price-to-income multiplier exceeded 4 (Table 3). Only 27.1 percent of homes sold in the quarter were affordable to households earning the median family income with a home price-to-income multiplier of 3 (Table 4). Households would have to earn \$125,000 annually to be able to afford the median sales price with a home price-to-income multiplier of 3.

Table 3. Maximum Home Price Affordable by Family Income and Home Price-to-Income Multiplier

		Home-Purchasing Power							
	Family Income	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5
	\$85,000	\$170,000	\$212,500	\$255,000	\$297,500	\$340,000	\$382,500	\$425,000	\$467,500
	\$90,000	\$180,000	\$225,000	\$270,000	\$315,000	\$360,000	\$405,000	\$450,000	\$495,000
	\$95,000	\$190,000	\$237,500	\$285,000	\$332,500	\$380,000	\$427,500	\$475,000	\$522,500
Median Family Income	\$97,400	\$194,800	\$243,500	\$292,200	\$340,900	\$389,600	\$438,300	\$487,000	\$535,700
	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$300,000	\$350,000	\$400,000	\$450,000	\$500,000	\$550,000
	\$105,000	\$210,000	\$262,500	\$315,000	\$367,500	\$420,000	\$472,500	\$525,000	\$577,500
	\$110,000	\$220,000	\$275,000	\$330,000	\$385,000	\$440,000	\$495,000	\$550,000	\$605,000
	\$115,000	\$230,000	\$287,500	\$345,000	\$402,500	\$460,000	\$517,500	\$575,000	\$632,500
Workforce Households (120%)	\$116,900	\$233,800	\$292,250	\$350,700	\$409,150	\$467,600	\$526,050	\$584,500	\$642,950
	\$120,000	\$240,000	\$300,000	\$360,000	\$420,000	\$480,000	\$540,000	\$600,000	\$660,000
	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$312,500	\$375,000	\$437,500	\$500,000	\$562,500	\$625,000	\$687,500
	\$130,000	\$260,000	\$325,000	\$390,000	\$455,000	\$520,000	\$585,000	\$650,000	\$715,000
	\$135,000	\$270,000	\$337,500	\$405,000	\$472,500	\$540,000	\$607,500	\$675,000	\$742,500
	\$140,000	\$280,000	\$350,000	\$420,000	\$490,000	\$560,000	\$630,000	\$700,000	\$770,000
	\$145,000	\$290,000	\$362,500	\$435,000	\$507,500	\$580,000	\$652,500	\$725,000	\$797,500
	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$375,000	\$450,000	\$525,000	\$600,000	\$675,000	\$750,000	\$825,000
	\$155,000	\$310,000	\$387,500	\$465,000	\$542,500	\$620,000	\$697,500	\$775,000	\$852,500
	\$160,000	\$320,000	\$400,000	\$480,000	\$560,000	\$640,000	\$720,000	\$800,000	\$880,000

Note: Figures in red indicate the maximum affordable home price meets or exceeds the current median sales price.

Table 4. Percentage of Homes Sold in 1Q2023 Affordable by Family Income and Home Price-to-Income Multiplier

		Home-Purchasing Power							
	Family Income	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5
	\$85,000	4.8%	9.0%	17.2%	28.5%	42.5%	53.2%	62.7%	69.2%
	\$90,000	5.8%	11.0%	20.8%	35.1%	47.8%	58.6%	67.1%	72.9%
	\$95,000	6.7%	13.2%	25.2%	40.1%	53.1%	63.0%	70.4%	76.0%
Median Family Income	\$97,400	6.9%	14.3%	27.1%	42.6%	54.6%	64.7%	71.8%	77.4%
	\$100,000	7.8%	16.3%	30.6%	45.5%	57.8%	67.1%	74.0%	79.1%
	\$105,000	8.8%	18.6%	35.1%	49.3%	61.6%	69.8%	76.4%	81.2%
	\$110,000	10.3%	22.1%	39.9%	54.1%	65.3%	72.9%	79.1%	83.6%
	\$115,000	12.1%	25.4%	43.7%	58.0%	68.4%	75.4%	81.2%	85.3%
Workforce Households (120%)	\$116,900	12.3%	27.1%	45.5%	58.9%	69.2%	76.4%	81.7%	85.9%
	\$120,000	14.0%	30.6%	47.8%	61.6%	71.2%	77.9%	83.5%	87.0%
	\$125,000	16.3%	33.8%	51.7%	64.6%	74.0%	79.8%	85.0%	88.3%
	\$130,000	18.4%	38.4%	55.3%	67.6%	76.0%	82.1%	86.6%	89.5%
	\$135,000	20.8%	41.2%	58.6%	69.8%	77.9%	83.7%	87.8%	90.5%
	\$140,000	23.7%	45.5%	61.6%	72.4%	79.8%	85.3%	89.0%	91.4%
	\$145,000	26.8%	48.1%	64.5%	74.4%	81.6%	86.7%	89.9%	92.1%
	\$150,000	30.6%	51.7%	67.1%	76.4%	83.5%	87.8%	90.9%	92.9%
	\$155,000	33.6%	54.3%	69.0%	78.0%	84.5%	88.6%	91.6%	93.5%
	\$160,000	36.7%	57.8%	71.2%	79.8%	85.9%	89.7%	92.4%	94.1%

Mortgage Interest Rate

Holding home price constant, the total monthly mortgage payment increases as the mortgage interest rate increases (Table 5). At a 6.37 percent rate, this payment was \$3,079 for the median sales price in 1Q2023, more than 2.6 times the total monthly mortgage payment for the median-priced home in 1Q2011.

Table 6 shows the home price-to-income multiplier by mortgage interest rate. A 6.37 percent interest rate translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3,² meaning a household could afford a maximum home price three times its annual income. The home price-to-income multiplier declines as the mortgage interest rate increases.

The income required to qualify for a loan with a 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate was \$123,161 for the median sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 7). An estimated 41.7 percent of homeowners in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the median sales price in 1Q2023 with a 6.37 percent interest rate (Table 8), a decline of nearly 32 percentage points from 1Q2011.

Table 5. Total Monthly Mortgage Payment for Repeat Buyers by Mortgage Interest Rate

		Mortgage Interest Rate							
Year	Home Price	3%	4%	5%	6%	6.37%	6.5%	7%	
1Q2011	\$139,900	\$938	\$1,001	\$1,067	\$1,137	\$1,164	\$1,174	\$1,211	
1Q2012	\$145,000	\$972	\$1,037	\$1,106	\$1,179	\$1,207	\$1,217	\$1,255	
1Q2013	\$158,000	\$1,060	\$1,130	\$1,205	\$1,284	\$1,315	\$1,326	\$1,368	
1Q2014	\$172,000	\$1,153	\$1,230	\$1,312	\$1,398	\$1,431	\$1,443	\$1,489	
1Q2015	\$189,900	\$1,274	\$1,358	\$1,449	\$1,544	\$1,580	\$1,593	\$1,644	
1Q2016	\$205,000	\$1,375	\$1,466	\$1,564	\$1,667	\$1,706	\$1,720	\$1,774	
1Q2017	\$232,500	\$1,559	\$1,663	\$1,773	\$1,890	\$1,935	\$1,951	\$2,012	
1Q2018	\$268,000	\$1,797	\$1,917	\$2,044	\$2,179	\$2,230	\$2,248	\$2,320	
1Q2019	\$273,000	\$1,831	\$1,953	\$2,082	\$2,219	\$2,272	\$2,290	\$2,363	
1Q2020	\$280,000	\$1,878	\$2,003	\$2,136	\$2,276	\$2,330	\$2,349	\$2,424	
1Q2021	\$310,000	\$2,079	\$2,217	\$2,365	\$2,520	\$2,580	\$2,601	\$2,683	
1Q2022	\$375,000	\$2,515	\$2,682	\$2,860	\$3,049	\$3,121	\$3,146	\$3,246	
1Q2023	\$370,000	\$2,481	\$2,646	\$2,822	\$3,008	\$3,079	\$3,104	\$3,203	

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 80 percent loan-to-value (LTV) ratio, 30 percent debt-to-income (DTI) ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

² The home price-to-income multiplier assumes a 30-year loan term, 80 percent LTV ratio, 30 percent DTI ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent.



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Table 6. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for Repeat Buyers by Mortgage Interest Rate

Mortgage Interest Rate	Home Purchasing Power
3%	3.73
4%	3.50
5%	3.28
6%	3.08
6.37%	3.00
6.5%	2.98
7%	2.89

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 80 percent LTV ratio, 30 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M

University

Table 7. Required Qualifying Income for Repeat Buyers by Mortgage Interest Rate

			Mortgage Interest Rate							
Year	Home Price	3%	4%	5%	6%	6.37%	6.5%	7%		
1Q2011	\$139,900	\$37,528	\$40,026	\$42,686	\$45,494	\$46,568	\$46,950	\$48,438		
1Q2012	\$145,000	\$38,896	\$41,485	\$44,242	\$47,152	\$48,266	\$48,661	\$50,203		
1Q2013	\$158,000	\$42,383	\$45,205	\$48,208	\$51,380	\$52,593	\$53,024	\$54,704		
1Q2014	\$172,000	\$46,138	\$49,210	\$52,480	\$55,933	\$57,253	\$57,722	\$59,552		
1Q2015	\$189,900	\$50,940	\$54,332	\$57,942	\$61,753	\$63,211	\$63,730	\$65,749		
1Q2016	\$205,000	\$54,991	\$58,652	\$62,549	\$66,664	\$68,238	\$68,797	\$70,977		
1Q2017	\$232,500	\$62,367	\$66,520	\$70,940	\$75,607	\$77,392	\$78,026	\$80,499		
1Q2018	\$268,000	\$71,890	\$76,676	\$81,771	\$87,151	\$89,208	\$89,939	\$92,790		
1Q2019	\$273,000	\$73,231	\$78,107	\$83,297	\$88,777	\$90,873	\$91,617	\$94,521		
1Q2020	\$280,000	\$75,109	\$80,110	\$85,433	\$91,053	\$93,203	\$93,967	\$96,944		
1Q2021	\$310,000	\$83,156	\$88,693	\$94,586	\$100,809	\$103,189	\$104,034	\$107,331		
1Q2022	\$375,000	\$100,592	\$107,290	\$114,419	\$121,946	\$124,825	\$125,848	\$129,836		
1Q2023	\$370,000	\$99,251	\$105,859	\$112,893	\$120,320	\$123,161	\$124,170	\$128,105		

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 80 percent LTV ratio, 30 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Table 8. Percentage of Repeat Buyers Who Earned Required Qualifying Income by Mortgage Interest Rate

		Mortgage Interest Rate						
Year	Home Price	3%	4%	5%	6%	6.37%	6.5%	7%
1Q2011	\$139,900	80.1%	78.2%	76.2%	74.1%	73.3%	73.0%	71.9%
1Q2012	\$145,000	78.9%	77.0%	75.0%	72.8%	72.0%	71.7%	70.6%
1Q2013	\$158,000	76.3%	74.2%	72.0%	69.6%	68.7%	68.4%	67.2%
1Q2014	\$172,000	73.8%	71.6%	69.2%	66.7%	65.7%	65.3%	64.0%
1Q2015	\$189,900	70.6%	68.1%	65.5%	62.8%	61.7%	61.3%	59.9%
1Q2016	\$205,000	68.6%	66.0%	63.2%	60.3%	59.2%	58.8%	57.2%
1Q2017	\$232,500	65.0%	62.1%	59.1%	55.9%	54.9%	54.5%	53.1%
1Q2018	\$268,000	60.5%	57.5%	54.6%	51.6%	50.5%	50.1%	48.5%
1Q2019	\$273,000	61.7%	58.8%	55.9%	52.8%	51.6%	51.2%	49.6%
1Q2020	\$280,000	62.0%	59.2%	56.3%	53.1%	51.9%	51.5%	49.9%
1Q2021	\$310,000	59.3%	56.3%	53.0%	49.7%	48.6%	48.3%	46.9%
1Q2022	\$375,000	51.5%	48.6%	45.5%	42.2%	41.0%	40.5%	38.8%
1Q2023	\$370,000	52.2%	49.2%	46.2%	42.9%	41.7%	41.2%	39.5%

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 80 percent LTV ratio, 30 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. As repeat homebuyers constitute owner-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for owner-occupied households.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

LTV Ratio

Holding home price constant, the total monthly mortgage payment increases as the LTV ratio increases (Table 9). For an 80 percent LTV ratio, the mortgage payment was \$3,079 for the median sales price in 1Q2023, more than 2.6 times the total monthly mortgage payment for the median-priced home in 1Q2011.

Table 10 shows the home price-to-income multiplier by LTV ratio. An 80 percent LTV ratio translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3,³ meaning a household could afford a maximum home price three times its annual income. The home price-to-income multiplier declines as the LTV ratio increases.

The income required to qualify for a loan with an 80 percent LTV ratio was \$123,161 for the median sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 11). An estimated 41.7 percent of homeowners in the

³ The home price-to-income multiplier is based on a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 30 percent DTI ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent. A 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium is added to loans with a 90 percent or more LTV ratio.



Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the median sales price in 1Q2023 with an 80 percent LTV ratio (Table 12), a decline of nearly 32 percentage points from 1Q2011.

Table 9. Total Monthly Mortgage Payment for Repeat Buyers by LTV Ratio

				LTV Ratio		
Year	Home Price	80%	85%	90%	95%	100%
1Q2011	\$139,900	\$1,164	\$1,208	\$1,251	\$1,295	\$1,339
1Q2012	\$145,000	\$1,207	\$1,252	\$1,297	\$1,342	\$1,387
1Q2013	\$158,000	\$1,315	\$1,364	\$1,413	\$1,463	\$1,512
1Q2014	\$172,000	\$1,431	\$1,485	\$1,539	\$1,592	\$1,646
1Q2015	\$189,900	\$1,580	\$1,639	\$1,699	\$1,758	\$1,817
1Q2016	\$205,000	\$1,706	\$1,770	\$1,834	\$1,898	\$1,962
1Q2017	\$232,500	\$1,935	\$2,007	\$2,080	\$2,152	\$2,225
1Q2018	\$268,000	\$2,230	\$2,314	\$2,397	\$2,481	\$2,564
1Q2019	\$273,000	\$2,272	\$2,357	\$2,442	\$2,527	\$2,612
1Q2020	\$280,000	\$2,330	\$2,417	\$2,505	\$2,592	\$2,679
1Q2021	\$310,000	\$2,580	\$2,676	\$2,773	\$2,870	\$2,966
1Q2022	\$375,000	\$3,121	\$3,238	\$3,354	\$3,471	\$3,588
1Q2023	\$370,000	\$3,079	\$3,194	\$3,310	\$3,425	\$3,540

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 30 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. A mortgage insurance premium of 0.5 percent is added to loans with an LTV ratio of 90 percent or more.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 10. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for Repeat Buyers by LTV Ratio

LTV Ratio	Home Purchasing Power
80%	3.00
85%	2.90
90%	2.79
95%	2.70
100%	2.61

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 30 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. A mortgage insurance premium of 0.5 percent is added to loans with an LTV ratio of 90 percent or more.



Table 11. Required Qualifying Income for Repeat Buyers by LTV Ratio

		LTV Ratio						
Year	Home Price	80%	85%	90%	95%	100%		
1Q2011	\$139,900	\$46,568	\$48,313	\$50,057	\$51,802	\$53,547		
1Q2012	\$145,000	\$48,266	\$50,074	\$51,882	\$53,691	\$55,499		
1Q2013	\$158,000	\$52,593	\$54,563	\$56,534	\$58,504	\$60,475		
1Q2014	\$172,000	\$57,253	\$59,398	\$61,543	\$63,688	\$65,833		
1Q2015	\$189,900	\$63,211	\$65,580	\$67,948	\$70,316	\$72,684		
1Q2016	\$205,000	\$68,238	\$70,794	\$73,351	\$75,907	\$78,464		
1Q2017	\$232,500	\$77,392	\$80,291	\$83,191	\$86,090	\$88,989		
1Q2018	\$268,000	\$89,208	\$92,551	\$95,893	\$99,235	\$102,577		
1Q2019	\$273,000	\$90,873	\$94,277	\$97,682	\$101,086	\$104,491		
1Q2020	\$280,000	\$93,203	\$96,695	\$100,186	\$103,678	\$107,170		
1Q2021	\$310,000	\$103,189	\$107,055	\$110,921	\$114,787	\$118,653		
1Q2022	\$375,000	\$124,825	\$129,502	\$134,178	\$138,855	\$143,531		
1Q2023	\$370,000	\$123,161	\$127,775	\$132,389	\$137,003	\$141,618		

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 30 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. A mortgage insurance premium of 0.5 percent is added to loans with an LTV ratio of 90 percent or more.

Table 12. Percentage of Repeat Buyers Who Earned Required Qualifying Income by LTV Ratio

		LTV Ratio						
Year	Home Price	80%	85%	90%	95%	100%		
1Q2011	\$139,900	73.3%	72.0%	70.7%	69.3%	68.0%		
1Q2012	\$145,000	72.0%	70.7%	69.3%	68.0%	66.6%		
1Q2013	\$158,000	68.7%	67.3%	65.8%	64.3%	62.9%		
1Q2014	\$172,000	65.7%	64.1%	62.6%	61.0%	59.4%		
1Q2015	\$189,900	61.7%	60.0%	58.3%	56.5%	54.8%		
1Q2016	\$205,000	59.2%	57.4%	55.5%	53.8%	52.4%		
1Q2017	\$232,500	54.9%	53.3%	51.6%	50.0%	48.3%		
1Q2018	\$268,000	50.5%	48.6%	46.7%	44.9%	43.4%		
1Q2019	\$273,000	51.6%	49.7%	47.8%	46.0%	44.6%		
1Q2020	\$280,000	51.9%	50.0%	48.1%	46.6%	45.1%		
1Q2021	\$310,000	48.6%	47.0%	45.3%	43.6%	42.0%		
1Q2022	\$375,000	41.0%	38.9%	36.9%	34.9%	32.8%		
1Q2023	\$370,000	41.7%	39.7%	37.7%	35.7%	33.7%		

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 30 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. A mortgage insurance premium of 0.5 percent is added to loans with an LTV ratio of 90 percent or more. As repeat homebuyers constitute owner-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for owner-occupied households.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

DTI Ratio

A 30 percent DTI ratio translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3⁴ (Table 13), meaning a household could afford a maximum home price three times its annual income at that interest rate. The home price-to-income multiplier increases as the DTI ratio increases.

The income required to qualify for a loan with a 30 percent DTI ratio was \$123,161 for the median sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 14). An estimated 41.7 percent of homeowners in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the median sales price in 1Q2023 with a 30 percent DTI ratio (Table 15), a decline of nearly 32 percentage points from 1Q2011.

⁴ The home price-to-income multiplier is based on a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent.



Table 13. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for Repeat Buyers by DTI Ratio

DTI Ratio	Home Purchasing Power
20%	2.00
25%	2.50
30%	3.00
35%	3.50
40%	4.01
45%	4.51
50%	5.01

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M

University

Table 14. Required Qualifying Income for Repeat Buyers by DTI Ratio

				0	OTI Ratio			
Year	Home Price	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%
1Q2011	\$139,900	\$69,852	\$55,882	\$46,568	\$39,916	\$34,926	\$31,045	\$27,941
1Q2012	\$145,000	\$72,399	\$57,919	\$48,266	\$41,371	\$36,199	\$32,177	\$28,959
1Q2013	\$158,000	\$78,889	\$63,112	\$52,593	\$45,080	\$39,445	\$35,062	\$31,556
1Q2014	\$172,000	\$85,880	\$68,704	\$57,253	\$49,074	\$42,940	\$38,169	\$34,352
1Q2015	\$189,900	\$94,817	\$75,854	\$63,211	\$54,181	\$47,409	\$42,141	\$37,927
1Q2016	\$205,000	\$102,357	\$81,885	\$68,238	\$58,489	\$51,178	\$45,492	\$40,943
1Q2017	\$232,500	\$116,087	\$92,870	\$77,392	\$66,336	\$58,044	\$51,594	\$46,435
1Q2018	\$268,000	\$133,813	\$107,050	\$89,208	\$76,464	\$66,906	\$59,472	\$53,525
1Q2019	\$273,000	\$136,309	\$109,047	\$90,873	\$77,891	\$68,155	\$60,582	\$54,524
1Q2020	\$280,000	\$139,804	\$111,843	\$93,203	\$79,888	\$69,902	\$62,135	\$55,922
1Q2021	\$310,000	\$154,783	\$123,827	\$103,189	\$88,448	\$77,392	\$68,793	\$61,913
1Q2022	\$375,000	\$187,238	\$149,790	\$124,825	\$106,993	\$93,619	\$83,217	\$74,895
1Q2023	\$370,000	\$184,741	\$147,793	\$123,161	\$105,566	\$92,371	\$82,107	\$73,896

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Table 15. Percentage of Repeat Buyers Who Earned Required Qualifying Income by DTI Ratio

			DTI Ratio							
Year	Home Price	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%		
1Q2011	\$139,900	55.6%	66.2%	73.3%	78.3%	82.1%	84.8%	87.0%		
1Q2012	\$145,000	54.0%	64.8%	72.0%	77.1%	80.9%	83.8%	86.1%		
1Q2013	\$158,000	49.8%	60.9%	68.7%	74.3%	78.5%	81.8%	84.3%		
1Q2014	\$172,000	46.3%	57.3%	65.7%	71.7%	76.1%	79.6%	82.4%		
1Q2015	\$189,900	41.7%	52.7%	61.7%	68.2%	73.2%	77.0%	80.1%		
1Q2016	\$205,000	39.2%	50.4%	59.2%	66.1%	71.3%	75.4%	78.6%		
1Q2017	\$232,500	35.4%	46.1%	54.9%	62.2%	68.0%	72.4%	75.9%		
1Q2018	\$268,000	30.3%	41.5%	50.5%	57.6%	63.8%	68.8%	72.7%		
1Q2019	\$273,000	31.1%	42.7%	51.6%	58.9%	65.0%	69.8%	73.7%		
1Q2020	\$280,000	31.1%	43.1%	51.9%	59.3%	65.2%	70.1%	73.9%		
1Q2021	\$310,000	28.3%	39.7%	48.6%	56.4%	62.5%	67.6%	71.7%		
1Q2022	\$375,000	28.7%	30.1%	41.0%	48.7%	55.3%	61.0%	65.5%		
1Q2023	\$370,000	28.8%	31.0%	41.7%	49.3%	56.0%	61.6%	66.1%		

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. As repeat homebuyers constitute owner-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for owner-occupied households.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Property Taxes & Insurance

Holding home price constant, the total monthly mortgage payment increases as the annual costs of property taxes and insurance increase (Table 16). Assuming the cost of property taxes and insurance is 4 percent of the home price, a monthly mortgage payment was \$3,079 for the median sales price in 1Q2023, more than 2.6 times the total monthly mortgage payment for the median-priced home in 1Q2011.

Table 17 shows the home price-to-income multiplier by the costs of property taxes and insurance. A 4 percent property tax and insurance rate translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3,⁵ meaning a household could afford a maximum home price three times its annual income. The home price-to-income multiplier declines as the costs of property taxes and insurance increase.

⁵ The home price-to-income multiplier is based on a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and 30 percent DTI ratio.



The income required to qualify for a loan with property taxes and insurance at 4 percent of home price was \$123,161 for the median sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 18). An estimated 41.7 percent of homeowners in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the median sales price in 1Q2023 with property taxes and insurance at 4 percent of home price (Table 19), a decline of nearly 32 percentage points from 1Q2011.

Table 16. Total Monthly Mortgage Payment for Repeat Buyers by Additional Homeownership Costs

		Property Taxes & Insurance							
Year	Home Price	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%			
1Q2011	\$139,900	\$931	\$1,048	\$1,164	\$1,281	\$1,397			
1Q2012	\$145,000	\$965	\$1,086	\$1,207	\$1,327	\$1,448			
1Q2013	\$158,000	\$1,051	\$1,183	\$1,315	\$1,446	\$1,578			
1Q2014	\$172,000	\$1,145	\$1,288	\$1,431	\$1,575	\$1,718			
1Q2015	\$189,900	\$1,264	\$1,422	\$1,580	\$1,739	\$1,897			
1Q2016	\$205,000	\$1,364	\$1,535	\$1,706	\$1,877	\$2,048			
1Q2017	\$232,500	\$1,547	\$1,741	\$1,935	\$2,129	\$2,322			
1Q2018	\$268,000	\$1,784	\$2,007	\$2,230	\$2,454	\$2,677			
1Q2019	\$273,000	\$1,817	\$2,044	\$2,272	\$2,499	\$2,727			
1Q2020	\$280,000	\$1,863	\$2,097	\$2,330	\$2,563	\$2,797			
1Q2021	\$310,000	\$2,063	\$2,321	\$2,580	\$2,838	\$3,096			
1Q2022	\$375,000	\$2,496	\$2,808	\$3,121	\$3,433	\$3,746			
1Q2023	\$370,000	\$2,462	\$2,771	\$3,079	\$3,387	\$3,696			

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and 30 percent DTI ratio.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 17. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for Repeat Buyers by Additional Homeownership Costs

Property	Home
Taxes &	Purchasing
Insurance	Power
2%	3.76
3%	3.34
4%	3.00
5%	2.73
6%	2.50

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and 30 percent DTI ratio.



Table 18. Required Qualifying Income for Repeat Homebuyers by Additional Homeownership Costs

			Property Taxes & Insurance							
Year	Home Price	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%				
1Q2011	\$139,900	\$37,241	\$41,905	\$46,568	\$51,231	\$55,895				
1Q2012	\$145,000	\$38,599	\$43,432	\$48,266	\$53,099	\$57,932				
1Q2013	\$158,000	\$42,060	\$47,326	\$52,593	\$57,860	\$63,126				
1Q2014	\$172,000	\$45,786	\$51,520	\$57,253	\$62,986	\$68,720				
1Q2015	\$189,900	\$50,551	\$56,881	\$63,211	\$69,541	\$75,871				
1Q2016	\$205,000	\$54,571	\$61,404	\$68,238	\$75,071	\$81,904				
1Q2017	\$232,500	\$61,892	\$69,642	\$77,392	\$85,142	\$92,892				
1Q2018	\$268,000	\$71,342	\$80,275	\$89,208	\$98,142	\$107,075				
1Q2019	\$273,000	\$72,673	\$81,773	\$90,873	\$99,973	\$109,073				
1Q2020	\$280,000	\$74,536	\$83,869	\$93,203	\$102,536	\$111,869				
1Q2021	\$310,000	\$82,522	\$92,855	\$103,189	\$113,522	\$123,855				
1Q2022	\$375,000	\$99,825	\$112,325	\$124,825	\$137,325	\$149,825				
1Q2023	\$370,000	\$98,494	\$110,827	\$123,161	\$135,494	\$147,827				

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and 30 percent DTI ratio.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 19. Percentage of Repeat Homeowners Who Earned Required Qualifying Income by Additional Homeownership Costs

		Property Taxes & Insurance							
Year	Home Price	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%			
1Q2011	\$139,900	80.3%	76.8%	73.3%	69.8%	66.2%			
1Q2012	\$145,000	79.2%	75.6%	72.0%	68.4%	64.8%			
1Q2013	\$158,000	76.6%	72.6%	68.7%	64.8%	60.9%			
1Q2014	\$172,000	74.1%	69.9%	65.7%	61.5%	57.3%			
1Q2015	\$189,900	70.9%	66.3%	61.7%	57.1%	52.7%			
1Q2016	\$205,000	68.9%	64.0%	59.2%	54.3%	50.4%			
1Q2017	\$232,500	65.3%	60.0%	54.9%	50.5%	46.1%			
1Q2018	\$268,000	60.9%	55.5%	50.5%	45.5%	41.5%			
1Q2019	\$273,000	62.1%	56.8%	51.6%	46.5%	42.6%			
1Q2020	\$280,000	62.3%	57.1%	51.9%	47.1%	43.1%			
1Q2021	\$310,000	59.7%	54.0%	48.6%	44.2%	39.7%			
1Q2022	\$375,000	51.9%	46.4%	41.0%	35.5%	30.1%			
1Q2023	\$370,000	52.6%	47.1%	41.7%	36.3%	30.9%			

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 80 percent LTV ratio, and 30 percent DTI ratio. As repeat homebuyers constitute owner-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for owner-occupied households.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and Texas Real Estate Research Center



First-Time Homebuyer

Higher mortgage interest rates and a sustained high first-quartile sales price diminished purchase affordability for DFW's first-time buyers in 1Q2023. Table 20 shows the maximum home price affordable by family income and home-purchasing power. For example, households earning between \$29,200 and \$48,700 annually (i.e., between 31 and 50 percent of median family income) could afford a maximum home price between \$87,600 and \$146,100 with a home price-to-income multiplier of 3. Meanwhile, the range in the maximum home price affordable to that range in household income rises to between \$116,800 and \$194,800 should the home price-to-income multiplier measure 4.

Depending on the home price-to-income multiplier, only households earning approximately \$55,000 annually could afford the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023. Homeownership is largely not feasible to households earning no more than 50 percent of Texas' median family income. In fact, homeownership generally only becomes viable for households earning at least 80 percent of area median income. Even at that point it largely depends on whether mortgage lenders are willing to accept loans with high home price-to-income multipliers. Moreover, few homes are available for sale at these income thresholds. For instance, with a home price-to-income multiplier of 3, only 12.3 percent of homes for sale were affordable to households earning no more than 80 percent of area median income in 1Q2023 (Table 21).

Table 20. Maximum Home Price Affordable by Family Income and Home Price-to-Income Multiplier

		Home-Purchasing Power							
				Home	Price-to-l	ncome Mu	ltiplier		
	Family Income	2	2.5	3	3.5	4 4.5		5	5.5
	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$37,500	\$45,000	\$52,500	\$60,000	\$67,500	\$75,000	\$82,500
	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$70,000	\$80,000	\$90,000	\$100,000	\$110,000
	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$62,500	\$75,000	\$87,500	\$100,000	\$112,500	\$125,000	\$137,500
Extremely Low-Income (30%)	\$29,200	\$58,400	\$73,000	\$87,600	\$102,200	\$116,800	\$131,400	\$146,000	\$160,600
	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$75,000	\$90,000	\$105,000	\$120,000	\$135,000	\$150,000	\$165,000
	\$35,000	\$70,000	\$87,500	\$105,000	\$122,500	\$140,000	\$157,500	\$175,000	\$192,500
	\$40,000	\$80,000	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$140,000	\$160,000	\$180,000	\$200,000	\$220,000
	\$45,000	\$90,000	\$112,500	\$135,000	\$157,500	\$180,000	\$202,500	\$225,000	\$247,500
Very Low- Income (50%)	\$48,700	\$97,400	\$121,750	\$146,100	\$170,450	\$194,800	\$219,150	\$243,500	\$267,850
	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$150,000	\$175,000	\$200,000	\$225,000	\$250,000	\$275,000
	\$55,000	\$110,000	\$137,500	\$165,000	\$192,500	\$220,000	\$247,500	\$275,000	\$302,500
	\$60,000	\$120,000	\$150,000	\$180,000	\$210,000	\$240,000	\$270,000	\$300,000	\$330,000
	\$65,000	\$130,000	\$162,500	\$195,000	\$227,500	\$260,000	\$292,500	\$325,000	\$357,500
	\$70,000	\$140,000	\$175,000	\$210,000	\$245,000	\$280,000	\$315,000	\$350,000	\$385,000
	\$75,000	\$150,000	\$187,500	\$225,000	\$262,500	\$300,000	\$337,500	\$375,000	\$412,500
Low-Income (80%)	\$77,900	\$155,800	\$194,750	\$233,700	\$272,650	\$311,600	\$350,550	\$389,500	\$428,450
	\$80,000	\$160,000	\$200,000	\$240,000	\$280,000	\$320,000	\$360,000	\$400,000	\$440,000

Note: Figures in red indicate the maximum affordable home price meets or exceeds the first-quartile home sales price.

Table 21. Percentage of Homes Sold in 4Q2021 Affordable by Family Income and Home Price-to-Income Multiplier

	Home-Purchasing Power								
				Hom	ne Price-to	-Income N	/lultiplier		
	Family Income	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5
	\$15,000	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%
	\$20,000	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	0.8%	1.0%	1.4%
	\$25,000	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%	1.0%	1.4%	1.9%	2.5%
Extremely Low- Income (30%)	\$29,200	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%	1.1%	1.6%	2.2%	2.9%	4.0%
	\$30,000	0.2%	0.4%	0.8%	1.2%	1.7%	2.4%	3.3%	4.3%
	\$35,000	0.3%	0.6%	1.2%	1.8%	2.7%	3.7%	5.3%	6.8%
	\$40,000	0.5%	1.0%	1.7%	2.7%	4.0%	5.8%	7.8%	10.3%
	\$45,000	0.8%	1.4%	2.4%	3.7%	5.8%	7.8%	11.0%	15.0%
Very Low- Income (50%)	\$48,700	0.9%	1.8%	2.9%	4.8%	6.9%	9.7%	14.3%	19.7%
	\$50,000	1.0%	1.9%	3.3%	5.3%	7.8%	11.0%	16.3%	22.1%
	\$55,000	1.4%	2.5%	4.3%	6.8%	10.3%	15.0%	22.1%	30.9%
	\$60,000	1.7%	3.3%	5.8%	8.8%	14.0%	20.8%	30.6%	39.9%
	\$65,000	2.2%	4.0%	7.0%	11.3%	18.4%	27.1%	38.4%	46.8%
	\$70,000	2.7%	5.3%	8.8%	14.8%	23.7%	35.1%	45.5%	54.1%
	\$75,000	3.3%	6.4%	11.0%	18.6%	30.6%	41.2%	51.7%	59.9%
Low- Income (80%)	\$77,900	3.6%	6.9%	12.3%	21.1%	33.6%	45.5%	54.6%	63.0%
	\$80,000	4.0%	7.8%	14.0%	23.7%	36.7%	47.8%	57.8%	65.3%

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Mortgage Interest Rate

Holding home price constant, the total monthly mortgage payment increases as the mortgage interest rate increases (Table 22). A 6.37 percent rate brought the mortgage payment to \$2,728 for the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023, nearly 3.4 times the total monthly mortgage payment for the same home in 1Q2011.

Table 23 shows the home price-to-income multiplier by mortgage interest rate. A 6.37 percent interest rate translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3.05,⁶ meaning a household could afford a maximum home price of 3.05 times its annual income. The home price-to-income multiplier declines as the mortgage interest rate increases.

The income required to qualify for a loan with a 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate was \$93,522 for the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 24). An estimated 22.9 percent of renters in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 with a 6.37 percent interest rate (Table 25), a decline of more than 39 percentage points from 1Q2011.

Table 22. Total Monthly Mortgage Payment for First-Time Buyers by Mortgage Interest Rate

			Mortgage Interest Rate						
Year	Home Price	3%	4%	5%	6%	6.37%	6.5%	7%	
1Q2011	\$85,000	\$646	\$692	\$742	\$794	\$814	\$821	\$848	
1Q2012	\$93,000	\$707	\$758	\$812	\$868	\$890	\$898	\$928	
1Q2013	\$106,000	\$806	\$864	\$925	\$990	\$1,015	\$1,023	\$1,057	
1Q2014	\$120,000	\$912	\$978	\$1,047	\$1,121	\$1,149	\$1,158	\$1,197	
1Q2015	\$134,000	\$1,018	\$1,092	\$1,169	\$1,251	\$1,283	\$1,294	\$1,337	
1Q2016	\$147,800	\$1,123	\$1,204	\$1,290	\$1,380	\$1,415	\$1,427	\$1,474	
1Q2017	\$169,000	\$1,284	\$1,377	\$1,475	\$1,578	\$1,617	\$1,631	\$1,686	
1Q2018	\$185,500	\$1,410	\$1,511	\$1,619	\$1,732	\$1,775	\$1,791	\$1,851	
1Q2019	\$194,000	\$1,474	\$1,580	\$1,693	\$1,812	\$1,857	\$1,873	\$1,935	
1Q2020	\$209,000	\$1,588	\$1,703	\$1,824	\$1,952	\$2,000	\$2,018	\$2,085	
1Q2021	\$239,900	\$1,823	\$1,954	\$2,094	\$2,240	\$2,296	\$2,316	\$2,393	
1Q2022	\$292,000	\$2,219	\$2,379	\$2,548	\$2,727	\$2,795	\$2,819	\$2,913	
1Q2023	\$285,000	\$2,166	\$2,322	\$2,487	\$2,661	\$2,728	\$2,751	\$2,843	

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 95 percent LTV ratio, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

⁶ The home price-to-income multiplier is based on a 30-year loan term, 95 percent LTV ratio, 35 percent DTI ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent.



Table 23. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for First-Time Buyers by Mortgage Interest Rate

Mortgage Interest Rate	Home Purchasing Power
3%	3.84
4%	3.58
5%	3.34
6%	3.12
6.37%	3.05
6.5%	3.02
7%	2.92

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 95 percent LTV ratio, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 24. Required Qualifying Income by Mortgage Interest Rate

			Mortgage Interest Rate					
Year	Home Price	3%	4%	5.0%	6%	6.37%	6.5%	7%
1Q2011	\$85,000	\$22,146	\$23,742	\$25,434	\$27,214	\$27,893	\$28,134	\$29,073
1Q2012	\$93,000	\$24,231	\$25,977	\$27,828	\$29,775	\$30,518	\$30,782	\$31,809
1Q2013	\$106,000	\$27,618	\$29,608	\$31,718	\$33,937	\$34,784	\$35,084	\$36,255
1Q2014	\$120,000	\$31,266	\$33,518	\$35,907	\$38,419	\$39,378	\$39,718	\$41,044
1Q2015	\$134,000	\$34,913	\$37,429	\$40,096	\$42,901	\$43,972	\$44,352	\$45,832
1Q2016	\$147,800	\$38,509	\$41,284	\$44,225	\$47,320	\$48,500	\$48,919	\$50,552
1Q2017	\$169,000	\$44,032	\$47,205	\$50,569	\$54,107	\$55,457	\$55,936	\$57,803
1Q2018	\$185,500	\$48,331	\$51,814	\$55,506	\$59,390	\$60,871	\$61,398	\$63,447
1Q2019	\$194,000	\$50,546	\$54,188	\$58,049	\$62,111	\$63,661	\$64,211	\$66,354
1Q2020	\$209,000	\$54,454	\$58,378	\$62,538	\$66,913	\$68,583	\$69,176	\$71,484
1Q2021	\$239,900	\$62,505	\$67,009	\$71,784	\$76,806	\$78,723	\$79,403	\$82,053
1Q2022	\$292,000	\$76,079	\$81,562	\$87,373	\$93,487	\$95,819	\$96,647	\$99,873
1Q2023	\$285,000	\$74,256	\$79,606	\$85,278	\$91,245	\$93,522	\$94,331	\$97,479

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 95 percent LTV ratio, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Table 25. Percentage of Renter-Occupied Households That Earned Required

Qualifying Income by Mortgage Interest Rate

		Mortgage Interest Rate						
Year	Home Price	3%	4%	5%	6%	6.37%	6.5%	7%
1Q2011	\$85,000	70.9%	68.4%	65.8%	63.1%	62.0%	61.6%	60.2%
1Q2012	\$93,000	67.8%	65.2%	62.4%	59.5%	58.4%	58.0%	56.5%
1Q2013	\$106,000	63.4%	60.4%	57.3%	54.1%	52.8%	52.4%	51.1%
1Q2014	\$120,000	58.9%	55.7%	52.6%	49.7%	48.6%	48.3%	46.8%
1Q2015	\$134,000	54.8%	51.9%	48.9%	45.8%	44.6%	44.2%	42.5%
1Q2016	\$147,800	52.5%	49.4%	46.2%	42.8%	41.5%	41.0%	39.4%
1Q2017	\$169,000	48.9%	45.4%	41.9%	39.1%	38.1%	37.7%	36.2%
1Q2018	\$185,500	46.9%	43.6%	40.6%	37.5%	36.3%	35.9%	34.3%
1Q2019	\$194,000	47.2%	44.3%	41.1%	37.8%	36.6%	36.1%	34.4%
1Q2020	\$209,000	46.3%	43.0%	39.5%	35.9%	34.5%	34.0%	32.1%
1Q2021	\$239,900	41.6%	37.8%	33.8%	30.1%	29.1%	28.8%	27.4%
1Q2022	\$292,000	32.3%	29.4%	26.2%	23.0%	21.7%	21.3%	19.5%
1Q2023	\$285,000	33.5%	30.4%	27.4%	24.2%	22.9%	22.5%	20.8%

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 95 percent LTV ratio, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. As first-time homebuyers constitute renter-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for renter-occupied households.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

LTV Ratio

Holding home price constant, the total monthly mortgage payment increases as the LTV ratio increases (Table 26). For a 95 percent LTV ratio, this payment amounted to \$2,728 for the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023, nearly 3.4 times the total monthly mortgage payment for the same home in 1Q2011.

Table 27 shows the home price-to-income multiplier by LTV ratio. A 95 percent LTV ratio translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3.05,⁷ meaning a household could afford a maximum home price of 3.05 times its annual income. The home price-to-income multiplier declines as the LTV ratio increases.

⁷ The home price-to-income multiplier is based on a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 35 percent DTI ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent.



The income required to qualify for a loan with a 95 percent LTV ratio was \$93,522 for the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 28). An estimated 22.9 percent of renters in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 with a 95 percent LTV ratio (Table 29), a decline of more than 39 percentage points from 1Q2011.

Table 26. Total Monthly Mortgage Payment by LTV Ratio

				LTV Ratio		
Year	Home Price	95%	96.5%	97%	98%	100%
1Q2011	\$85,000	\$814	\$822	\$825	\$830	\$841
1Q2012	\$93,000	\$890	\$899	\$902	\$908	\$921
1Q2013	\$106,000	\$1,015	\$1,025	\$1,028	\$1,035	\$1,049
1Q2014	\$120,000	\$1,149	\$1,160	\$1,164	\$1,172	\$1,188
1Q2015	\$134,000	\$1,283	\$1,296	\$1,300	\$1,309	\$1,327
1Q2016	\$147,800	\$1,415	\$1,429	\$1,434	\$1,444	\$1,463
1Q2017	\$169,000	\$1,617	\$1,634	\$1,640	\$1,651	\$1,673
1Q2018	\$185,500	\$1,775	\$1,794	\$1,800	\$1,812	\$1,836
1Q2019	\$194,000	\$1,857	\$1,876	\$1,882	\$1,895	\$1,920
1Q2020	\$209,000	\$2,000	\$2,021	\$2,028	\$2,042	\$2,069
1Q2021	\$239,900	\$2,296	\$2,320	\$2,328	\$2,343	\$2,375
1Q2022	\$292,000	\$2,795	\$2,823	\$2,833	\$2,852	\$2,891
1Q2023	\$285,000	\$2,728	\$2,756	\$2,765	\$2,784	\$2,821

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 27. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for First-Time Buyers by LTV Ratio

	Home
LTV Ratio	Purchasing
	Power
95%	3.05
96.5%	3.02
97%	3.01
98%	2.99
100%	2.95

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.



Table 28. Required Qualifying Income by LTV Ratio

				LTV Ratio		
Year	Home Price	95%	96.5%	97%	98%	100%
1Q2011	\$85,000	\$27,893	\$28,180	\$28,275	\$28,467	\$28,849
1Q2012	\$93,000	\$30,518	\$30,832	\$30,936	\$31,146	\$31,565
1Q2013	\$106,000	\$34,784	\$35,142	\$35,261	\$35,500	\$35,977
1Q2014	\$120,000	\$39,378	\$39,783	\$39,918	\$40,188	\$40,728
1Q2015	\$134,000	\$43,972	\$44,424	\$44,575	\$44,877	\$45,480
1Q2016	\$147,800	\$48,500	\$48,999	\$49,166	\$49,498	\$50,164
1Q2017	\$169,000	\$55,457	\$56,028	\$56,218	\$56,598	\$57,359
1Q2018	\$185,500	\$60,871	\$61,498	\$61,707	\$62,124	\$62,959
1Q2019	\$194,000	\$63,661	\$64,316	\$64,534	\$64,971	\$65,844
1Q2020	\$209,000	\$68,583	\$69,289	\$69,524	\$69,994	\$70,935
1Q2021	\$239,900	\$78,723	\$79,533	\$79,803	\$80,343	\$81,423
1Q2022	\$292,000	\$95,819	\$96,805	\$97,134	\$97,791	\$99,106
1Q2023	\$285,000	\$93,522	\$94,485	\$94,805	\$95,447	\$96,730

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Table 29. Percentage of Renter-Occupied Households That Earned Required Qualifying Income by LTV Ratio

				LTV Ratio		
Year	Home Price	95%	96.5%	97%	98%	100%
1Q2011	\$85,000	62.0%	61.6%	61.4%	61.1%	60.5%
1Q2012	\$93,000	58.4%	57.9%	57.8%	57.5%	56.8%
1Q2013	\$106,000	52.8%	52.3%	52.2%	51.9%	51.4%
1Q2014	\$120,000	48.6%	48.2%	48.0%	47.7%	47.1%
1Q2015	\$134,000	44.6%	44.1%	43.9%	43.6%	42.9%
1Q2016	\$147,800	41.5%	40.9%	40.7%	40.4%	39.7%
1Q2017	\$169,000	38.1%	37.6%	37.5%	37.2%	36.6%
1Q2018	\$185,500	36.3%	35.8%	35.6%	35.3%	34.6%
1Q2019	\$194,000	36.6%	36.0%	35.8%	35.5%	34.8%
1Q2020	\$209,000	34.5%	33.9%	33.7%	33.3%	32.5%
1Q2021	\$239,900	29.1%	28.7%	28.6%	28.3%	27.7%
1Q2022	\$292,000	21.7%	21.2%	21.0%	20.7%	20.0%
1Q2023	\$285,000	22.9%	22.4%	22.3%	21.9%	21.2%

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 35 percent DTI ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. As first-time homebuyers constitute renter-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for renter-occupied households.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

DTI Ratio

A 35 percent DTI ratio translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3.05⁸ (Table 30), meaning a household could afford a maximum home price of 3.05 times its annual income. The home price-to-income multiplier increases as the DTI ratio increases.

The income required to qualify for a loan with a 35 percent DTI ratio was \$93,522 for the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 31). An estimated 22.9 percent of renters in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 with a 35 percent DTI ratio (Table 32), a decline of more than 39 percentage points from 1Q2011.

⁸ The home price-to-income multiplier is based on a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent.



Table 30. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for First-Time Buyers by DTI Ratio

DTI Ratio	Home Purchasing Power
20%	1.74
25%	2.18
30%	2.61
35%	3.05
40%	3.48
45%	3.92
50%	4.35

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M

University

Table 31. Required Qualifying Income for First-Time Buyers by DTI Ratio

			DTI Ratio						
Year	Home Price	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
1Q2011	\$85,000	\$48,812	\$39,050	\$32,541	\$27,893	\$24,406	\$21,694	\$19,525	
1Q2012	\$93,000	\$53,406	\$42,725	\$35,604	\$30,518	\$26,703	\$23,736	\$21,362	
1Q2013	\$106,000	\$60,871	\$48,697	\$40,581	\$34,784	\$30,436	\$27,054	\$24,349	
1Q2014	\$120,000	\$68,911	\$55,129	\$45,941	\$39,378	\$34,456	\$30,627	\$27,564	
1Q2015	\$134,000	\$76,951	\$61,561	\$51,300	\$43,972	\$38,475	\$34,200	\$30,780	
1Q2016	\$147,800	\$84,875	\$67,900	\$56,584	\$48,500	\$42,438	\$37,722	\$33,950	
1Q2017	\$169,000	\$97,050	\$77,640	\$64,700	\$55,457	\$48,525	\$43,133	\$38,820	
1Q2018	\$185,500	\$106,525	\$85,220	\$71,017	\$60,871	\$53,263	\$47,344	\$42,610	
1Q2019	\$194,000	\$111,406	\$89,125	\$74,271	\$63,661	\$55,703	\$49,514	\$44,562	
1Q2020	\$209,000	\$120,020	\$96,016	\$80,013	\$68,583	\$60,010	\$53,342	\$48,008	
1Q2021	\$239,900	\$137,765	\$110,212	\$91,843	\$78,723	\$68,882	\$61,229	\$55,106	
1Q2022	\$292,000	\$167,684	\$134,147	\$111,789	\$95,819	\$83,842	\$74,526	\$67,073	
1Q2023	\$285,000	\$163,664	\$130,931	\$109,109	\$93,522	\$81,832	\$72,739	\$65,466	

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price.

Table 32. Percentage of Households That Earned Required Qualifying Income by DTI Ratio

			DTI Ratio						
Year	Home Price	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
1Q2011	\$85,000	34.8%	46.3%	54.9%	62.0%	67.4%	71.7%	75.1%	
1Q2012	\$93,000	31.9%	42.8%	51.0%	58.4%	64.1%	68.6%	72.3%	
1Q2013	\$106,000	27.6%	37.0%	46.2%	52.8%	59.2%	64.2%	68.2%	
1Q2014	\$120,000	22.9%	32.9%	41.2%	48.6%	54.4%	59.8%	64.2%	
1Q2015	\$134,000	18.7%	29.3%	36.9%	44.6%	50.8%	55.8%	60.5%	
1Q2016	\$147,800	17.1%	26.3%	34.8%	41.5%	48.2%	53.4%	57.8%	
1Q2017	\$169,000	13.7%	21.7%	30.8%	38.1%	44.0%	49.9%	54.7%	
1Q2018	\$185,500	12.7%	20.5%	28.2%	36.3%	42.4%	48.0%	53.1%	
1Q2019	\$194,000	13.1%	20.6%	27.9%	36.6%	43.0%	48.2%	53.6%	
1Q2020	\$209,000	12.4%	18.8%	26.7%	34.5%	41.6%	47.2%	52.1%	
1Q2021	\$239,900	9.1%	15.7%	22.4%	29.1%	36.2%	42.7%	47.9%	
1Q2022	\$292,000	6.4%	10.6%	16.4%	21.7%	28.1%	33.3%	39.7%	
1Q2023	\$285,000	6.4%	11.5%	17.1%	22.9%	29.2%	34.8%	41.1%	

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and additional costs of homeownership at 4 percent of home price. As first-time homebuyers constitute renter-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for renter-occupied households.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Property Taxes and Insurance

Holding home price constant, the total monthly mortgage payment increases as additional annual homeownership costs (property taxes and insurance) increase (Table 33). With a rate of 4 percent of home price, this payment amounted to \$2,728 for the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023, nearly 3.4 times the total monthly mortgage payment for the same home in 1Q2011.

Table 34 shows the home price-to-income multiplier by the costs of property taxes and insurance. A 4 percent property tax and insurance rate translates into a home price-to-income multiplier of 3.05, meaning a household could afford a maximum home price 3.05 times its annual income. The home price-to-income multiplier declines as the mortgage interest rate increases.

⁹ The home price-to-income multiplier is based on a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and 35 percent DTI ratio.



The income required to qualify for a loan with property taxes and insurance at 4 percent of home price was \$93,522 for the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 (Table 35). An estimated 22.9 percent of renters in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA could afford the first-quartile sales price in 1Q2023 with property taxes and insurance at 4 percent of home price (Table 36), a decline of more than 39 percentage points from 1Q2011.

Table 33. Total Monthly Mortgage Payment by Additional Homeownership Costs

		Property Taxes & Insurance						
Year	Home Price	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%		
1Q2011	\$85,000	\$672	\$743	\$814	\$884	\$955		
1Q2012	\$93,000	\$735	\$813	\$890	\$968	\$1,045		
1Q2013	\$106,000	\$838	\$926	\$1,015	\$1,103	\$1,191		
1Q2014	\$120,000	\$949	\$1,049	\$1,149	\$1,249	\$1,349		
1Q2015	\$134,000	\$1,059	\$1,171	\$1,283	\$1,394	\$1,506		
1Q2016	\$147,800	\$1,168	\$1,291	\$1,415	\$1,538	\$1,661		
1Q2017	\$169,000	\$1,336	\$1,477	\$1,617	\$1,758	\$1,899		
1Q2018	\$185,500	\$1,466	\$1,621	\$1,775	\$1,930	\$2,085		
1Q2019	\$194,000	\$1,533	\$1,695	\$1,857	\$2,018	\$2,180		
1Q2020	\$209,000	\$1,652	\$1,826	\$2,000	\$2,175	\$2,349		
1Q2021	\$239,900	\$1,896	\$2,096	\$2,296	\$2,496	\$2,696		
1Q2022	\$292,000	\$2,308	\$2,551	\$2,795	\$3,038	\$3,281		
1Q2023	\$285,000	\$2,253	\$2,490	\$2,728	\$2,965	\$3,203		

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and 35 percent DTI ratio.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 34. Home Price-to-Income Multiplier for First-Time Buyers by Additional Homeownership Costs

Property	Home
Taxes &	Purchasing
Insurance	Power
2%	3.69
3%	3.34
4%	3.05
5%	2.80
6%	2.60

Note: Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and 35 percent DTI ratio.



Table 35. Required Qualifying Income by Additional Homeownership Costs

		Property Taxes & Insurance					
Year	Home Price	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	
1Q2011	\$85,000	\$23,035	\$25,464	\$27,893	\$30,321	\$32,750	
1Q2012	\$93,000	\$25,203	\$27,861	\$30,518	\$33,175	\$35,832	
1Q2013	\$106,000	\$28,727	\$31,755	\$34,784	\$37,812	\$40,841	
1Q2014	\$120,000	\$32,521	\$35,949	\$39,378	\$42,806	\$46,235	
1Q2015	\$134,000	\$36,315	\$40,143	\$43,972	\$47,800	\$51,629	
1Q2016	\$147,800	\$40,055	\$44,277	\$48,500	\$52,723	\$56,946	
1Q2017	\$169,000	\$45,800	\$50,628	\$55,457	\$60,286	\$65,114	
1Q2018	\$185,500	\$50,271	\$55,571	\$60,871	\$66,171	\$71,471	
1Q2019	\$194,000	\$52,575	\$58,118	\$63,661	\$69,204	\$74,746	
1Q2020	\$209,000	\$56,640	\$62,612	\$68,583	\$74,554	\$80,526	
1Q2021	\$239,900	\$65,014	\$71,868	\$78,723	\$85,577	\$92,431	
1Q2022	\$292,000	\$79,134	\$87,476	\$95,819	\$104,162	\$112,505	
1Q2023	\$285,000	\$77,236	\$85,379	\$93,522	\$101,665	\$109,808	

Note: The required qualifying income reflects the minimum income a household must earn to qualify for a mortgage loan for a particular home price. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and 35 percent DTI ratio.

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

Table 36. Percentage of Households That Earned the Required Qualifying Income by Additional Homeownership Costs

		Property Taxes & Insurance					
Year	Home Price	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	
1Q2011	\$85,000	69.5%	65.7%	62.0%	58.3%	54.6%	
1Q2012	\$93,000	66.3%	62.4%	58.4%	54.4%	50.7%	
1Q2013	\$106,000	61.7%	57.3%	52.8%	49.3%	45.9%	
1Q2014	\$120,000	57.1%	52.5%	48.6%	44.8%	40.9%	
1Q2015	\$134,000	53.2%	48.9%	44.6%	40.3%	36.6%	
1Q2016	\$147,800	50.8%	46.1%	41.5%	37.8%	34.6%	
1Q2017	\$169,000	47.0%	41.9%	38.1%	34.3%	30.5%	
1Q2018	\$185,500	44.8%	40.6%	36.3%	32.1%	27.8%	
1Q2019	\$194,000	45.6%	41.1%	36.6%	32.0%	27.5%	
1Q2020	\$209,000	44.4%	39.5%	34.5%	29.5%	26.4%	
1Q2021	\$239,900	39.5%	33.7%	29.1%	25.6%	22.1%	
1Q2022	\$292,000	30.7%	26.2%	21.7%	18.4%	16.2%	
1Q2023	\$285,000	31.7%	27.3%	22.9%	19.0%	16.9%	

Note: Because first-time homebuyers constitute renter-occupied households, this table reflects income data solely for renter-occupied households. Assumes a 30-year loan term, 6.37 percent mortgage interest rate, 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, and 35 percent DTI ratio.

Sources: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University



Overview of Housing Affordability

Housing affordability persistently proves one of the most salient topics in housing markets across the state. Although definitions vary, housing affordability broadly denotes the relationship between home price (or rent) and household (or family) income. ¹⁰ As such, housing affordability generally reflects the two housing tenures: owner- and renter-occupied housing. However, Center economists further classify owner-occupied housing affordability into two distinct categories: purchase and repayment affordability.

This report focuses only on purchase affordability. Purchase affordability measures the ability of a household to buy a home. In other words, it reflects home-purchasing potential. Repayment affordability, on the other hand, measures an existing homeowner's ability to make timely monthly mortgage payments. While purchase affordability involves all potential homebuyers, regardless of whether a household already owns a home, repayment affordability solely involves current homeowners (i.e., only owner-occupied households).

Measuring Purchase Affordability

The vast majority of homebuyers—86 percent in Texas in 2020—rely on mortgage financing to purchase a home. As such, purchase affordability largely acts as a function of income, wealth, and credit. These three factors typically constitute the primary determinants of a mortgage applicant's creditworthiness, or the applicant's ability to repay the mortgage loan, a factor heavily weighed by the mortgage lender in the decision to extend mortgage financing to an applicant. In mortgage financing, income, wealth, and credit materialize through the DTI ratio, LTV ratio, and credit score.¹¹

Other factors that affect purchase affordability include the mortgage interest rate, any additional costs of borrowing mortgage capital (such as the mortgage insurance premium, which is generally charged if the LTV ratio is 80 percent or higher), and the additional costs of homeownership—property taxes and insurance.

¹⁰ Household income reflects all households in the income distribution, including both family and nonfamily households, which consist of a householder living alone or a householder who shares his/her home with individual(s) of no relation to him/her. Meanwhile, family income includes only households in which the householder lives with at least one other related family member.
¹¹ There are two types of DTI ratios: "front-end" and "back-end" ratios. The front-end DTI ratio measures mortgage debt as a percentage of household income, while the back-end ratio reflects total household debt—mortgage loans, car loans, credit card loans, student loans, etc.—as a percentage of household income. Should mortgage debt equal \$800 per month and the monthly household income equal \$2,400, then the front-end DTI ratio is 30 percent. Should total household debt equal \$1,200 per month, then the back-end DTI ratio is 50 percent. This report uses the front-end DTI ratio. The LTV ratio measures the household's down payment as a percentage of the home price. A 5 percent down payment translates into a 95 percent LTV ratio.



Table 37 shows how characteristics of a mortgage loan or applicant affect the maximum home price affordable to a particular household. Holding all else equal, an increase in the loan term decreases the total monthly mortgage payment, which increases the maximum affordable home price. Meanwhile, an increase in the DTI ratio also raises the maximum affordable home price. However, an increase in the mortgage interest rate, LTV ratio, additional costs of homeownership, and additional costs of borrowing mortgage capital increase the total monthly mortgage payment, which decreases the maximum affordable home price and reduces home-purchasing potential.

Table 37. How Loan, Applicant Characteristics Affect Purchase Affordability

Loan or Applicant Characteristics	Effect on Purchase Affordability
Mortgage interest rate	An increase in the mortgage interest rate diminishes purchase affordability
Loan term	An increase in the loan term increases purchase affordability
LTV ratio	An increase in the loan-to-value ratio diminishes purchase affordability
DTI ratio	An increase in the debt-to-income ratio increases purchase affordability
Additional costs of homeownership (property taxes and insurance)	An increase in the additional costs of homeownership diminishes purchase affordability
Additional costs of borrowing mortgage capital (such as the mortgage insurance premium)	An increase in the additional costs of borrowing mortgage capital diminishes purchase affordability

Source: Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University

The Center uses the home price-to-income multiplier (also known as "home-purchasing power") to find the ratio between home price and household income, or the maximum home price affordable to a household of a particular income. For example, a multiplier of 3 indicates a household could afford a home priced at three times the household's income (so, a household earning \$50,000 annually could afford a maximum home price of \$150,000).

The multiplier generally measures lower for conventional borrowers, a function of the lower DTI ratios that such borrowers tend to present, and higher for first-time borrowers, who depict higher DTI ratios. The home price-to-income multiplier typically measures around 3 for the repeat homebuyer, and between 3 and 4 for first-time homebuyers.

This report computes purchase affordability for both repeat and first-time homebuyers. For the repeat buyer, calculations in this report assume the prevailing mortgage interest rate

(6.37 percent in 1Q2023),¹² 80 percent LTV ratio, 30 percent DTI ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent of home value. First-time homebuyers, who tend to be younger and therefore have not accumulated as much wealth or achieved peak earnings, tend to have higher LTV and DTI ratios. The lower income, wealth, and credit of first-time homebuyers generally reduces the maximum home price affordable to them. The calculations of purchase affordability for first-time homebuyers reflect the prevailing mortgage interest rate (6.37 percent in 1Q2023), 0.5 percent mortgage insurance premium, 95 percent LTV ratio, 35 percent DTI ratio, and property taxes and insurance of 4 percent of home value.

¹² The source for the prevailing mortgage interest rate is FRED/Freddie Mac.





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