



Freddie Mac March 2015 U.S. Economic and Housing Market Outlook

March 11, 2015

Homebuying Season

MCLEAN, VA--(Marketwired - Mar 11, 2015) - [Freddie Mac](#) (OTCQB: FMCC) released today its U.S. Economic and Housing Market Outlook for March, highlighting some of the positive tailwinds at the start of the spring homebuying season. A video preview, along with the complete March 2015 U.S. Economic and Housing Market Outlook and forecast table, is available [here](#).

Outlook Highlights

- Expect 2015 to be the best year for home sales and new home construction since 2007 when total home sales were about 5.8 million for the year.
- Improved job prospects have started to drive those aged 25-34 back to the labor force, with 76.8 percent employed as of last month, up from 75.9 percent last year.
- Expect rising rents at or above inflation in 2015 to push more would-be homeowners into the market. Rents increased an average of 3.6 percent in 2014 and nearly 11 percent over the last three years.
- Due to some recent upward pressure on Treasury bond yields, the 2015 forecast for the average 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was increased slightly to at 4.0 percent for the year.

Quote

Attributed to Len Kiefer, Deputy Chief Economist, Freddie Mac.

"This month kicks off the spring homebuying season. Between now and the end of June, we'll see about 40 percent of all home sales for the year. So these next few months will essentially tell us whether or not 2015 will be a good or bad year for housing markets. Overall, we're feeling good about housing and we expect this year to be the best year for home sales and new home construction since 2007 when we saw total home sales about 5.8 million for the year."

Freddie Mac was established by Congress in 1970 to provide liquidity, stability and affordability to the nation's residential mortgage markets. Freddie Mac supports communities across the nation by providing mortgage capital to lenders. Today Freddie Mac is making home possible for one in four home borrowers and is one of the largest sources of financing for multifamily housing. Additional information is available at [FreddieMac.com](#), Twitter [@FreddieMac](#) and Freddie Mac's blog [FreddieMac.com/blog](#).

The financial and other information contained in the documents that may be accessed on this page speaks only as of the date of those documents. The information could be out of date and no longer accurate. Freddie Mac does not undertake an obligation, and disclaims any duty, to update any of the information in those documents. Freddie Mac's future performance, including financial performance, is subject to various risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations. The factors that could affect the company's future results are discussed more fully in our reports filed with the SEC.