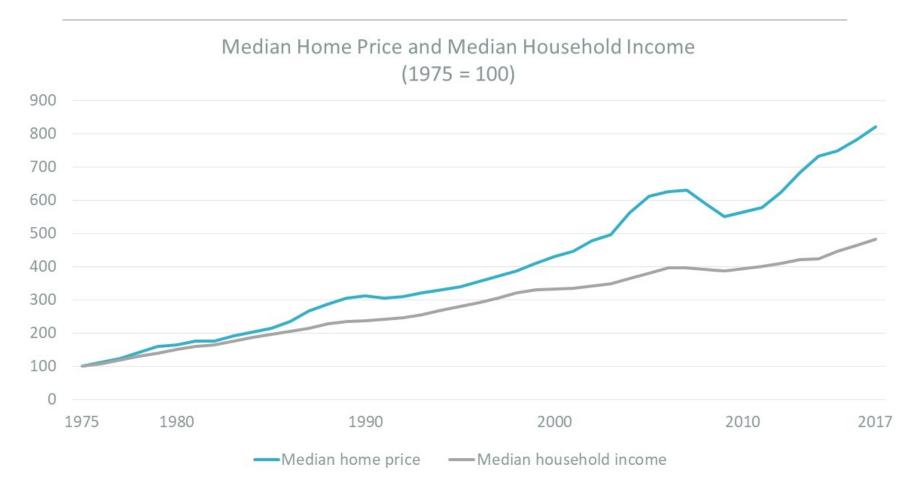
Housing Affordability in the US: Trends & Solutions

Lisa Sturtevant, PhD
2018 REALTORS® Conference & Expo
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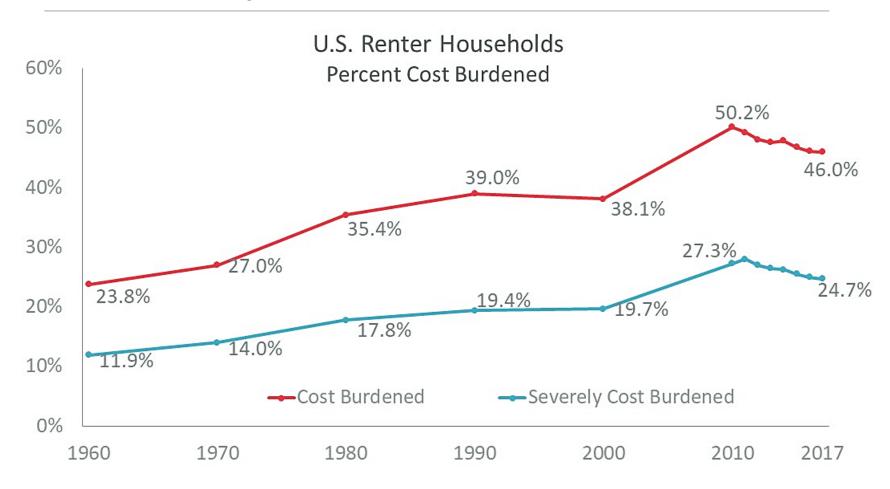


Home prices have increased faster than incomes



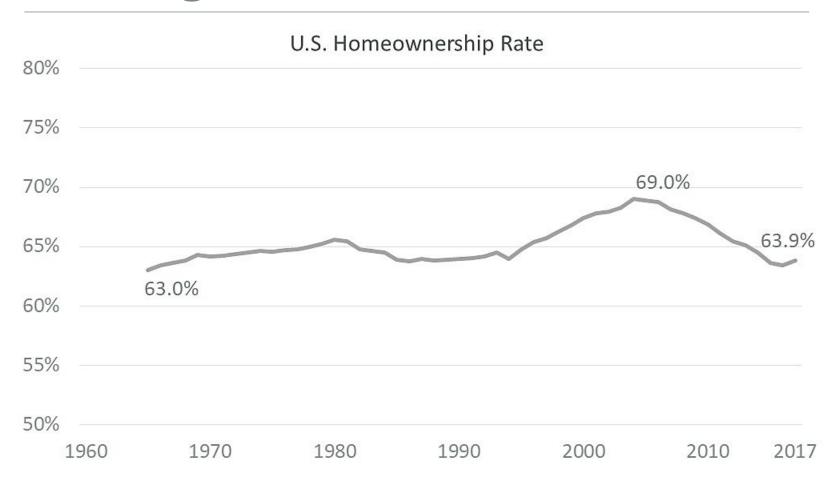


Affordability is still a challenge for many renters



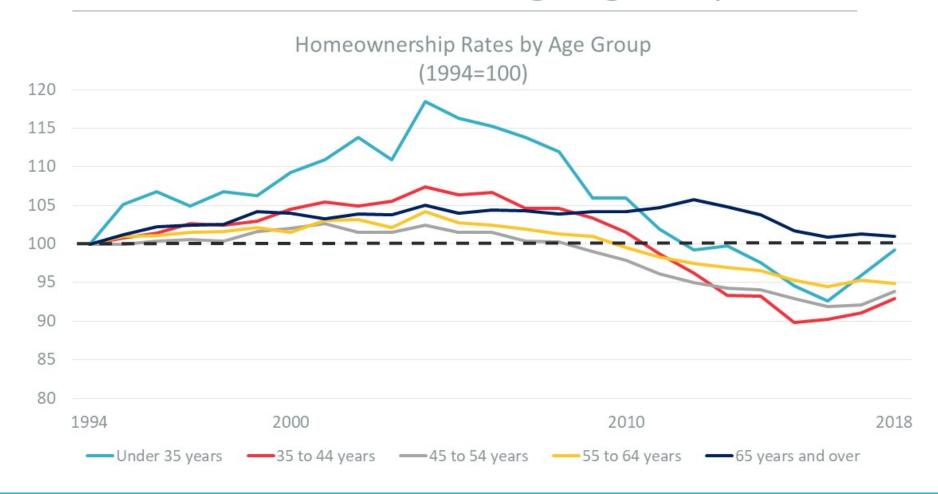


Homeownership rates may be settling to historic norms





But homeownership has not recovered for all age groups





High housing costs continue to be an obstacle

Metro Area	2017 Median Home Price (\$)	2017 Median Rent (\$)
Boston	452,900	1,397
Washington DC	406,700	1,629
Boulder	566,100	1,483
Austin	295,800	1,223
Seattle	465,800	1,443
San Jose	1,180,000	2,213



Why affordable and stable housing matters

Individual and Family Well-Being

Better physical & mental health

Improved school performance

Greater opportunities for economic self-sufficiency







Why affordable and stable housing matters

Communities

Equitable access to services and opportunity

Ability for all to prosper, regardless of socioeconomic background

Improved racial and economic integration







Why affordable and stable housing matters

Local Economy

Better able to attract and retain workers

Shorter commutes, less traffic for all

Support diverse businesses and sustainable economic growth



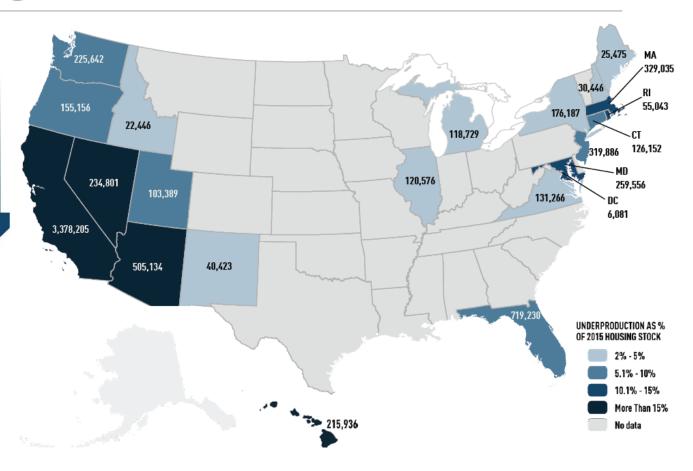




We are not building enough housing to meet demand

NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS UNDERPRODUCED FROM 2000-2015

7.3 MILLION UNITS
IN 23 STATES





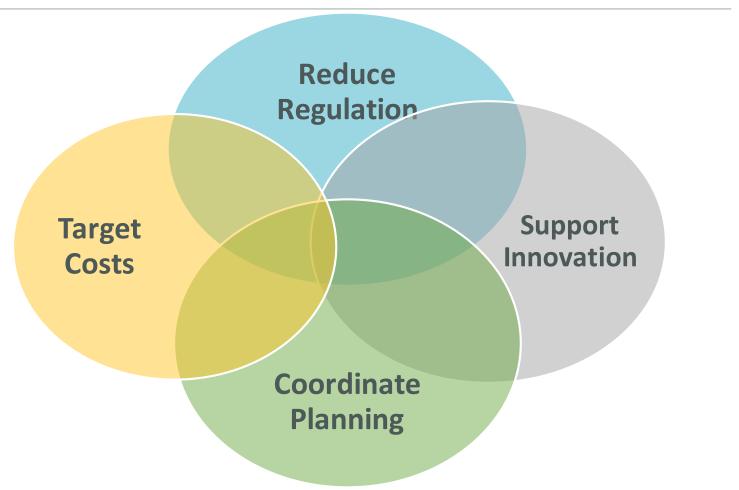
What are the economic implications of an insufficient supply of housing?

\$1.6 trillion a year in lost wages and productivity

Why aren't we building enough housing?

- Expensive land and/or a lack of developable land
- Rising material and labor costs
- Few incentives or opportunities for building innovation
- State and local regulations, including zoning that limits the construction of smaller homes, material and building specs, etc.
- Community opposition to new housing

How to increase housing supply and promote housing opportunity





Reduce Regulation

By-Right Approval. Establish "by-right" higher-density residential development near transit and in other types of neighborhoods.

Parking Reductions. Study parking standards and lower parking requirements.

Greentaping. Streamline and reduce inefficiencies in the development review and approval process.

Support Innovation

Diverse Housing Types. Change zoning to allow for a more diverse set of housing types, including accessory dwelling units and "missing middle" housing.

Building Standards. Review building and materials requirements and modify to allow modular and manufactured homes.

Adaptive Re-Use. Create opportunities to reposition commercial properties as housing.

Coordinate Planning

Public Land. Make publicly-controlled land available to developers of mixed-income or affordable housing.

Co-Location of Housing. Establish a priority in Capital Improvement Programs to co-locate housing with new or redeveloped public facilities.

Integrated Planning. Work across public agencies to coordinate housing, land use, transportation, schools and economic development planning.

Target Costs

Impact Fee Modifications. Examine and revise impact fees to reflect actual costs of infrastructure service for higher-density development.

Property Tax Abatement. Use property tax abatement as a gap-financing tool to support more compact and affordable housing communities.

Construction Workforce. Work to expand interest and opportunities in construction trades.



















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