The Wisconsin Housing Market One Year Later

David E. Clark

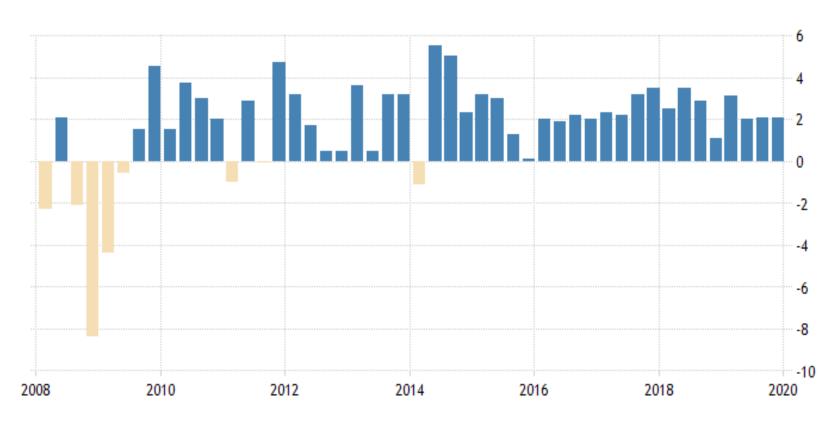
Professor of Economics

March 15, 2021





2020 Started on a High Note Look at Real GDP Growth



Longest expansion in US history
Typical postwar recession 11.1 months
Great Recession-18 months
Avg. postwar expansion 58.4 months
previous three were 92, 120 and 73
months

The last one set a new record at 128 months

SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | U.S. BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS





Remember this picture from last year

COVID-19 Tracker

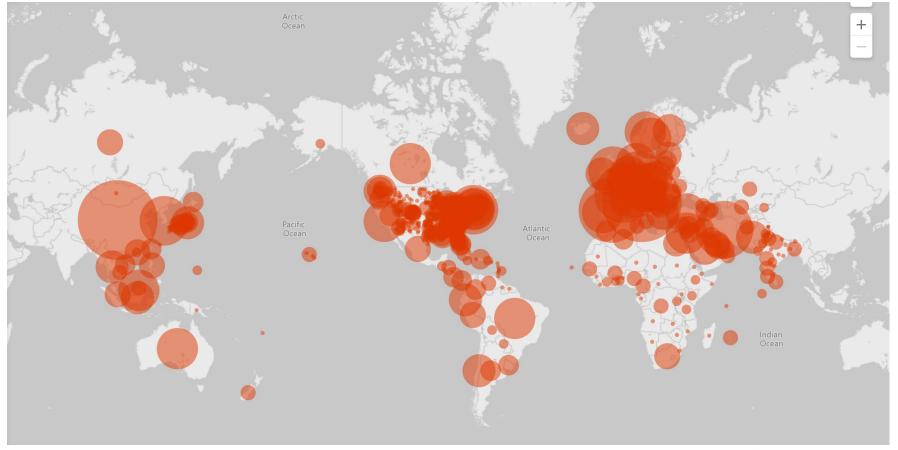
TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES

335,403

223,156 Active cases 97,636 Recovered cases 14,611 Fatal cases

Global	335,403		
China (mainland)	81,054		
Italy	59,138		
United States	33,382		
Spain	28,603		
Germany	24,852		
Iran	21,638		
France	16,018		

8,897



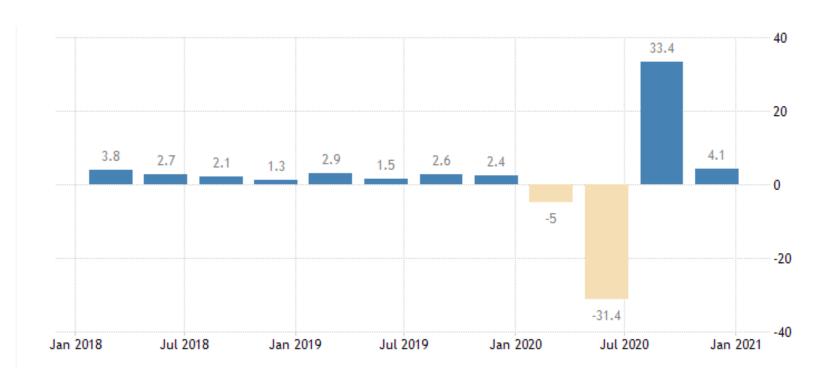






South Korea

Recession officially began in March 2020 (End-date TBD)



Massive decline in second quarter due to economic shutdown in April and May

Annualized Quarterly 2020:

Q1: -5%

Q2: -31.4%

Q3: +33.4%

Q4: +4.1

Nowcasting of Q1:

NY Fed (+8.6%)

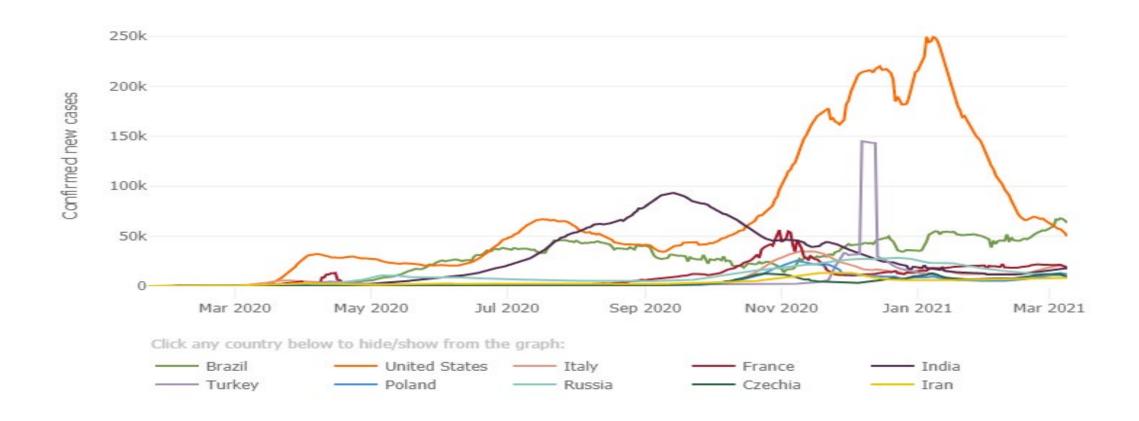
Atlanta Fed (+8.4%)

My expectation: Recession likely ended in late summer.





Thankfully the pandemic has slowed dramatically since January





Source: Johns Hopkins University, Coronavirus Resource Center

MARQUETTE

Even with COVID-19 The Wisconsin Housing Market has been Remarkably Strong

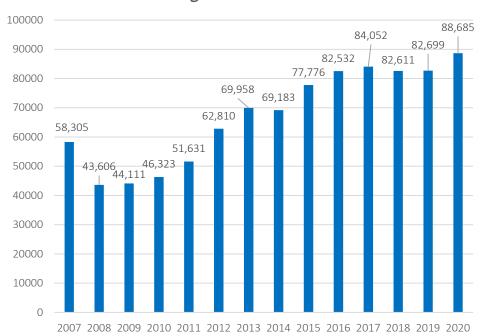
Strong Demand and Weak Supply Consistent story of last two years



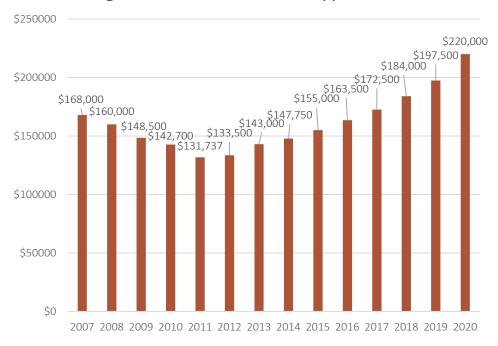


Home Sales Stable and Prices Continued to Increase

Wisconsin Existing Home Sales Strongest Year on Record



Wisconsin Annualized Median Price Tight Inventories Drove Prices Appreciation







A Tale of Two Halves for Closed Sales in Wisconsin







Demand Side Picture

Economic factors – Mortgage rates, labor market, and demographics





Mortgage rates have begun to move up

(Following 9 straight months of new record lows)



Feb: 3.47% Mar: 3.45% Apr: 3.31% May: 3.23% Jun: 3.16% Jul: 3.02%

Aug: 2.94% Sep: 2.89%

Oct: 2.83% Nov: 2.77% Dec: 2.68%

Rates in 2021 Jan: 2.74% Feb: 2.81%

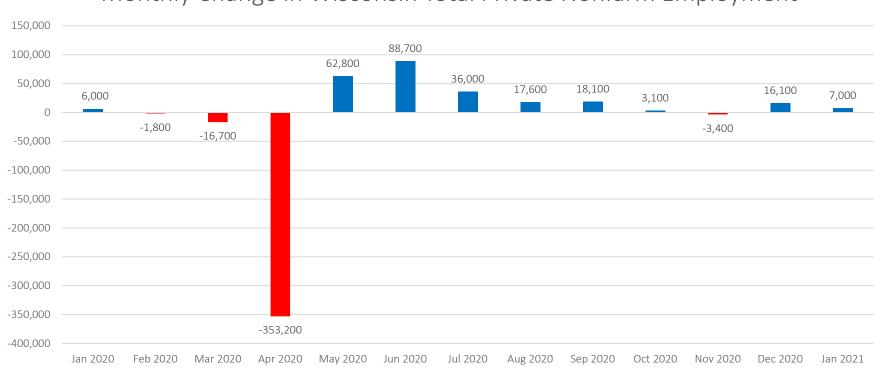


Source: Freddie Mac



Employment still recovering

Monthly Change in Wisconsin Total Private Nonfarm Employment



Since dropping 353,200 jobs in April 2020, the state has added 246,000 jobs

In January 2021, WI has 125,700 fewer jobs than January 2020

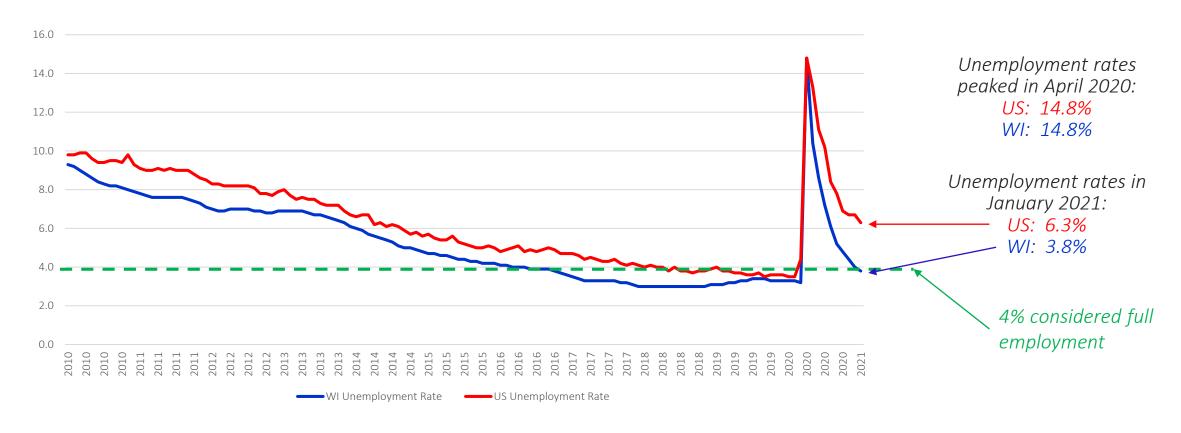


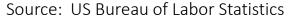
Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development / US Bureau of Labor Statistics



Wisconsin vs. US Unemployment Rate

(Seasonally Adjusted data)









Demographics: Household Formation Increasing Demand

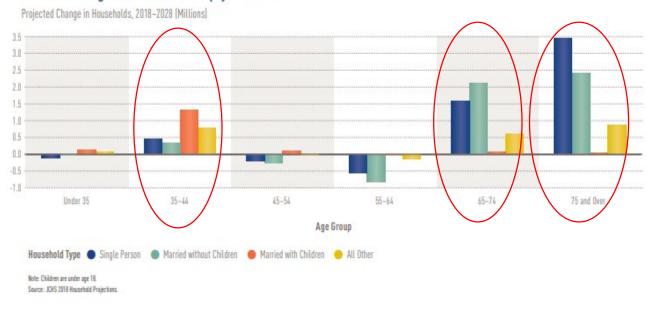
The Number of Young-Adult Households Is Finally Increasing in Line with Population Growth



Note: Population and household estimates are three-year trailing averages.

Source: JCHS tabulations of US Census Bureau, Housing Vacancy Surveys and National Population Estimates.

Over the Next Decade, the Fastest-Growing Household Types Will Be Younger Families with Children and Older Single Persons and Empty-Nesters







Supply Side Picture

Very tight supply in nearly all markets





Supply Challenges: Inventory continues to tighten in all areas

Inventory by Urban Classification			
	Jan	Jan	Jan
County type	2021	2020	2019
Metropolitan Counties Combined	1.9	2.9	3.0
Micropolitan Counties Combined	2.2	4.0	4.4
Rural Counties Combined	2.7	5.9	6.6
All Wisconsin Counties	2.1	3.5	3.8

Metropolitan counties include: Brown, Calumet, Chippewa, Columbia, Dane, Douglas, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Green, Iowa, Kenosha, Kewaunee, La Crosse, Marathon, Milwaukee, Oconto, Ozaukee, Outagamie, Pierce, Racine, Rock, Sheboygan, St. Croix, Washington, Waukesha, and Winnebago.

Micropolitan counties include: Dodge, Dunn, Florence, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Portage, Sauk, Shawano, Walworth and Wood.

Rural counties include: Adams, Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Buffalo, Burnett, Clark, Crawford, Door, Forest, Green Lake, Iron, Jackson, Juneau, Lafayette, Langlade, Marquette, Monroe, Oneida, Pepin, Polk, Price, Rusk, Richland, Sawyer, Taylor, Trempealeau, Vernon, Vilas, Washburn, Waupaca and Waushara.



WISCONSIN REALTORS' Association

Three Important Sources of Supply

Distressed Properties

Listings of Existing homes

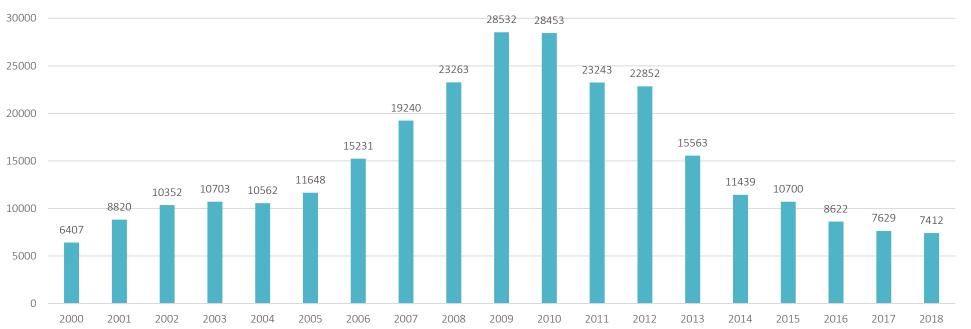
New Construction





Foreclosures are at pre-recession levels





Dr. Kashian reported lowest rate in nearly two decades for 1st half of 2019

Source: Dr. Russ Kashian;

University of Wisconsin - Whitewater





New Listings now on par with Monthly Sales

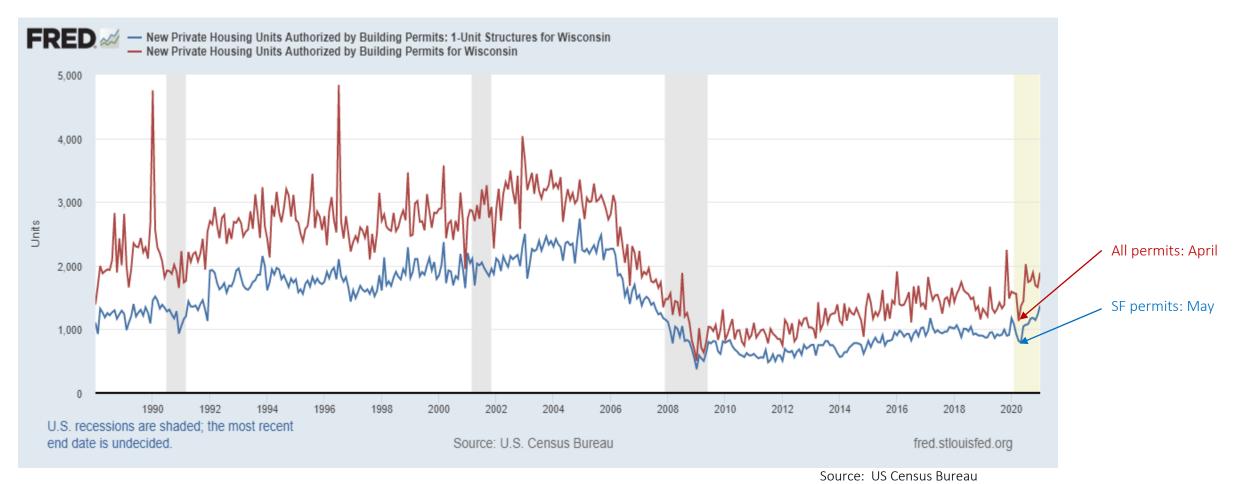
Summary of Wisconsin Monthly Housing Statistics (Source: WRA) Jan 2021 Jan 2020 % Change **Unit Sales** 4,659 4,245 +9.8% **Median Price** \$210,000 \$190,000 +10.5% 5,044 **New Listings** 6.153 -18.0% **Total Listings** 15,423 24,007 -35.8% **Months of Inventory** 2.1 3.5 -40.0% **Average Days on Market** 91 108 -15.7% **WI Housing Affordability Index** 222 -1.0% 220





New Residential Construction Bounced Back

(New Private Housing Units Authorized by Building Permits)







Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

What does the future hold?







Economic expansion and housing market growth

ECONOMIC EXPANSION UNDERWAY

Vaccinations and prospect of herd immunity will fuel the economic expansion

Economy has been expanding since last summer and will continue to grow

Fed committed to low interest rate environment, but this may be challenging as inflationary pressures intensify over next couple of years

HOUSING MARKET IMPACTS

Limited supply will increasingly hamper sales, especially during peak months

Improving new construction market will help but we need significant growth in existing home supply

Demand should remain strong

Demographic drivers and relatively low mortgage rates will drive demand

Strong demand and limited supply means that home price appreciation unlikely to moderate in 2021

Affordability will decline





Thank you!



