What's Keeping Utah's Real Estate Going in the Time of COVID?

Dejan Eskic, Senior Associate 9/15/2020

INFORMED DECISIONS™

2020

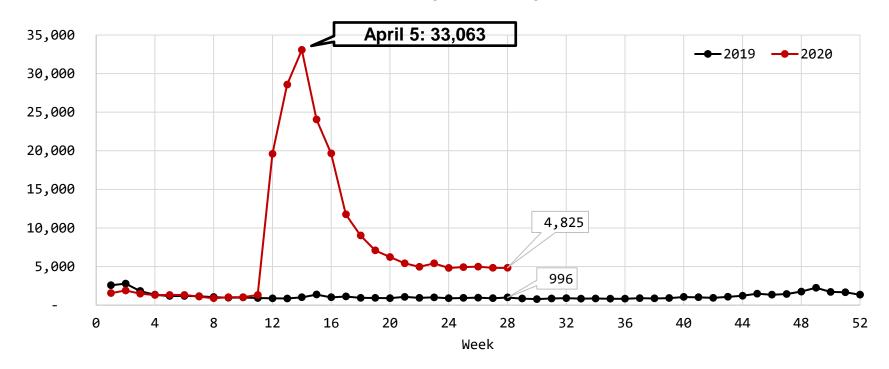


"Who would have thought two weeks ago that a 5.7 magnitude earthquake would be third on our list of things to worry about?"

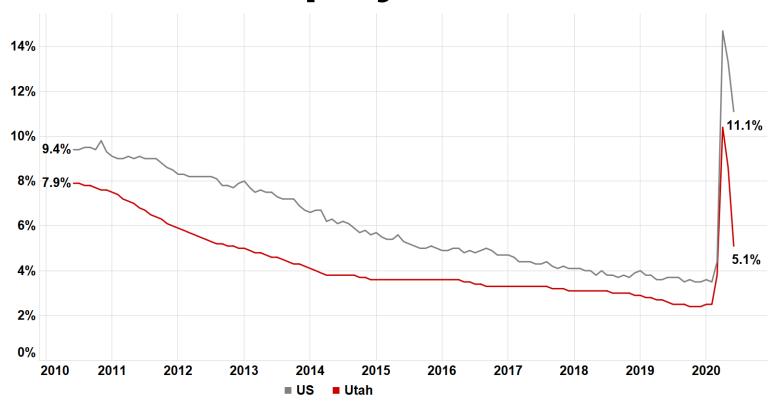
- Legislative Fiscal Analyst

Economic hemorrhaging has stopped

COVID-19 Initial Weekly Unemployment Insurance Claims

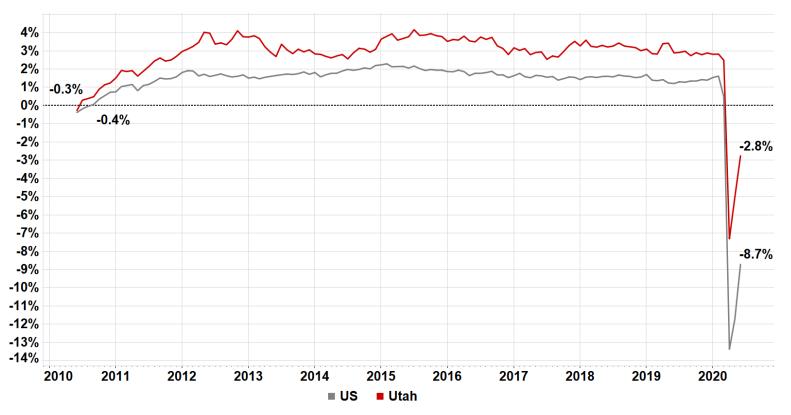


Unemployment Rate



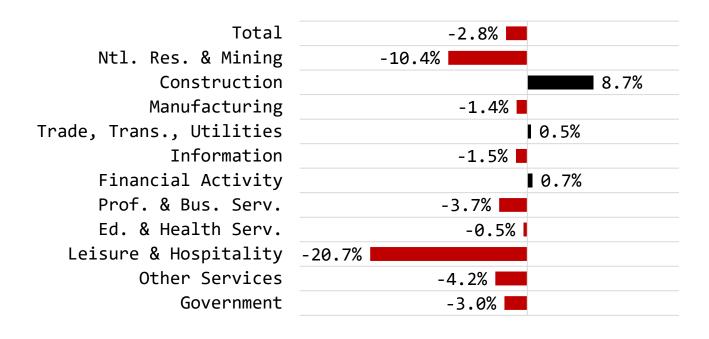
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Job Change



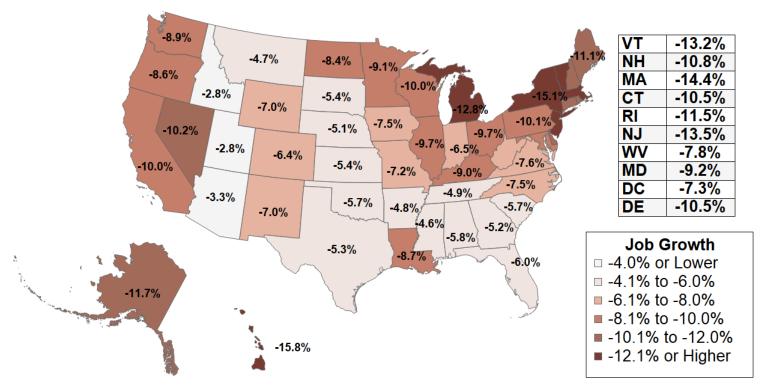
Utah Job Change by Industry,

June 2019-June 2020



Job Change

Year-Over Percent Change June 2020



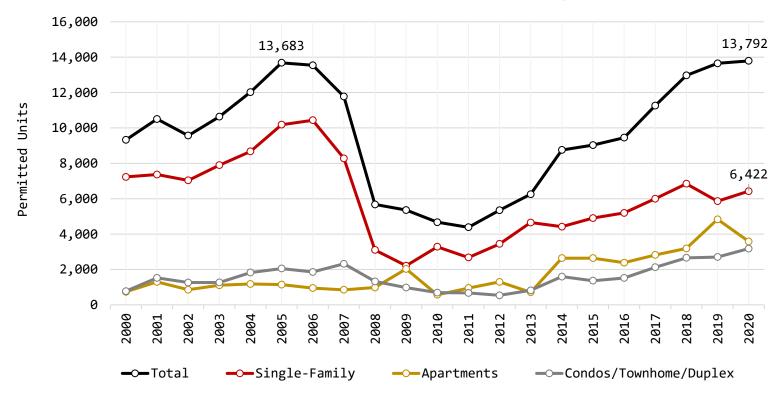
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Economy Will Lose a Year's Worth of Growth

- GDP \$16 billion less
- Jobs 48,000 less
- Personal Income \$7.1 Billion less

Source: Utah's Revenue Assumptions Working Group.

Best 6-Months for New Housing Construction

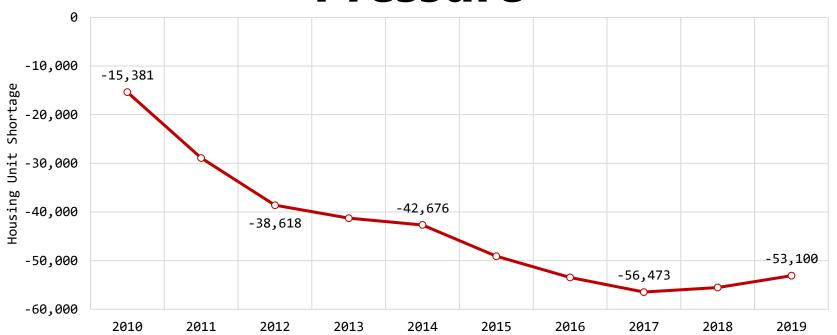


Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute.

But How?

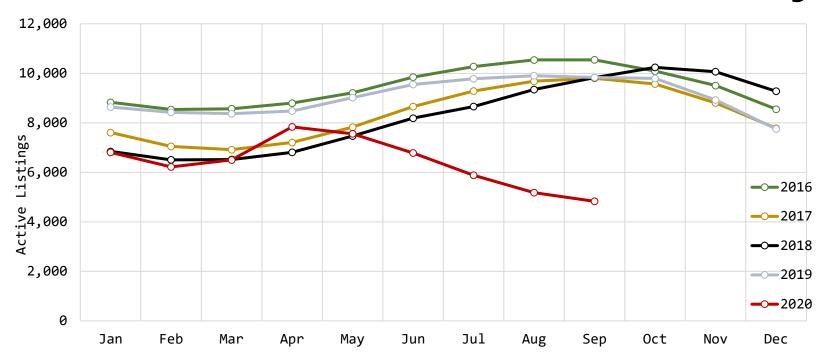
- Pent-up Demand Housing shortage
- Existing Inventory Record low
- Mortgage Rate Record low (still falling)

Housing Shortage Keeps the Pressure



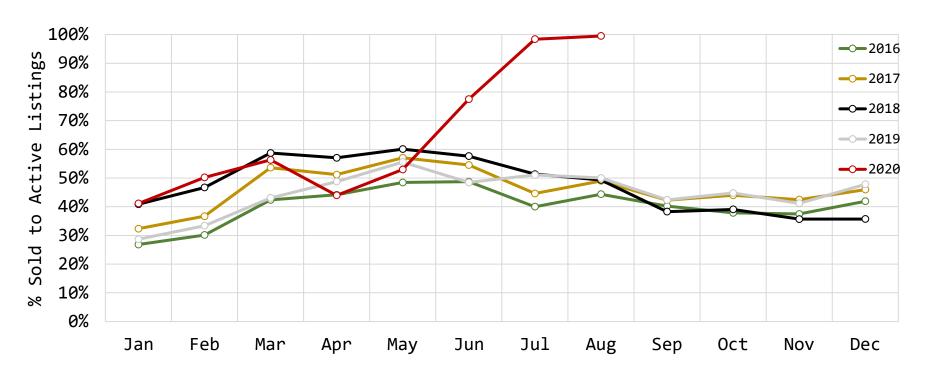
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute.

Historic Low For-Sale Inventory



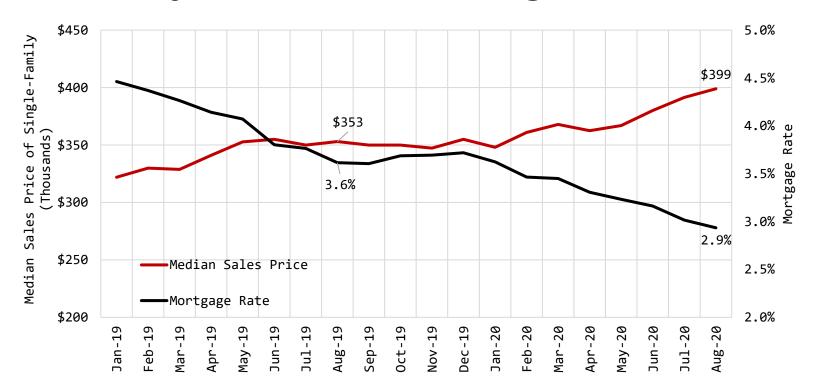
Source: UtahRealEstate.com.

Sold-to-Active Ratio Showing Stress



Source: UtahRealEstate.com, Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute.

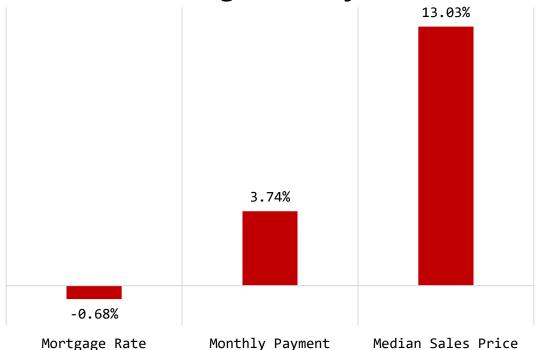
Affordability Concern: Increasing Demand & Price



Source: UtahRealEstate.com, FreddieMac.

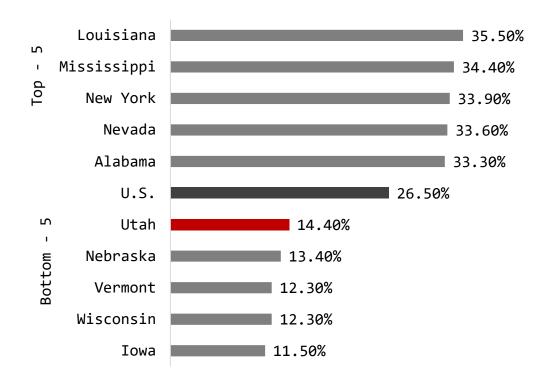
Change: August 2020 – 2019

(single-family)



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute.

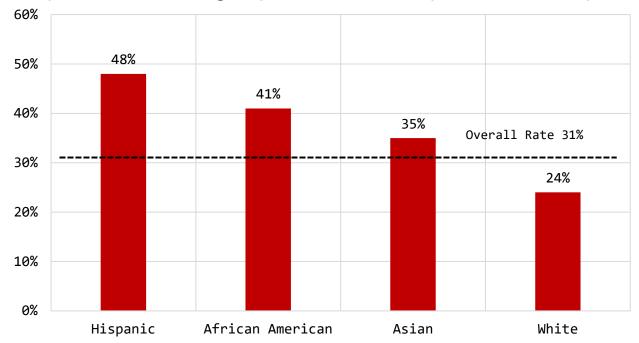
Adults Reporting Housing Insecurity



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey.

Minority Renters are More Likely to Have Unpaid Rent (National)

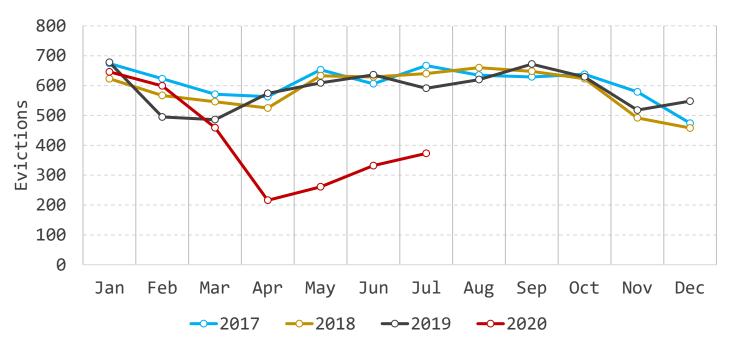
Share of respondents starting September with unpaid rent from prior months



Source: Apartment List Survey Data.

Eviction Protection

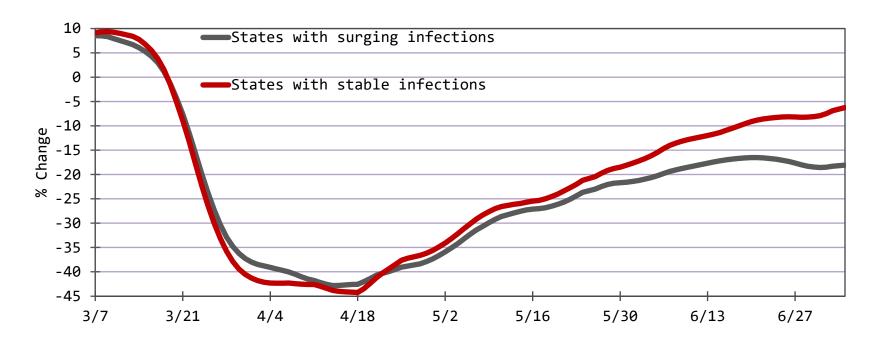
Evictions by Month in Utah, 2017–2020



Source: Utah District Courts.

Re-Intensified Virus Damage

Retail & recreation, % change from pre-pandemic, 7-day MA, 2020



Sources: Google, Moody's Analytics

Renters Looking to Move to Wasatch Front



Source: ApartmentList.com searches between April & August 2020.

Looking Ahead

- **Limited impact on housing** Tale of two recoveries
- **Uncertainty** Federal stimulus, foreclosure/evictions
- **More Housing** Average of 27,000 Units over the Next Five Years

Utah Economic Forecast*

- The worst is over Peak job losses reached in April 2020. Job growth will return in 30-60 days.
- Gradual reactivation Full recovery won't occur until a treatment/vaccine...think swoosh, not a V.
- Unequal and uneven impacts Reactivation will continue to vary by industry and geography. Plan for additional disruptions, though not as severe.
- Recovery Recovery depends on adaptations, policy interventions, and medical science.
- No back to normal Structural changes create a new economy.

^{*} Assumes second federal stimulus and no major second wave and economic shutdown