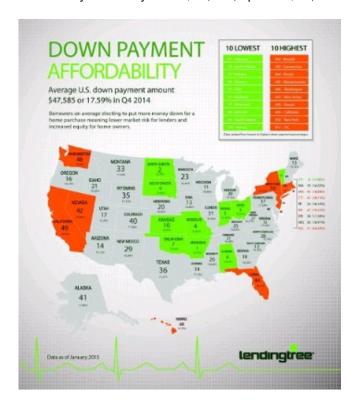


February 10, 2015

Average Down Payments Continue to Rise

The average down payment on conventional loan offers made to LendingTree borrowers in Q4 was \$47,585, or 17.59% of the loan amount

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Feb. 10, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- According to a report released today by <u>LendingTree</u>, the nation's leading online loan marketplace, down payment percentages for conventional 30-year fixed rate purchase mortgages increased in the fourth quarter to an average of 17.59%, up from 16.01% in Q4 2013. Additionally, the average down payment amount also increased year-over-year to \$47,585, up from \$45,545.32 in the same quarter last year.



"The improving job market, rising home values and low mortgage rates have helped to bring borrowers with sizeable down payments in to the housing market during fourth quarter," said Doug Lebda, founder and CEO of LendingTree. "It's encouraging to see responsible borrowing behavior. A substantial down payment will allow borrowers to build home equity, ease lender risk, avoid paying PMI and reduce monthly mortgage payments, all of which will help to further strengthen the overall economy."

An <u>infographic</u> released by LendingTree ranks each state according to the average down payment percentages offered to LendingTree customers from lowest to highest. The ten states with the lowest average down payment percentage for a 30-year fixed rate conventional loan are:

Rank	State	Avg. Down Payment %	Avg. Down Payment
1	AR	14.70%	\$31,292.96
2	ND	15.09%	\$30,869.36
3	IN	15.18%	\$32,306.79
4	MO	15.55%	\$31,807.76
5	OH	15.62%	\$31,140.24
6	AL	15.63%	\$33,891.77
7	OK	15.64%	\$30,991.43
8	VT	15.68%	\$41,888.33
9	SD	15.83%	\$27,825.98
10	KS	15.83%	\$39,658.60

Three of the five markets with the highest average down payment were in California:

Metro area	Avg. Down Payment %	Avg. Down Payment
San Jose, CA	23.00%	\$103,814.97
San Francisco, CA	22.16%	\$101,952.70
San Diego, CA	21.29%	\$90,200.16
Seattle, WA	20.39%	\$84,295.98
Bridgeport, CT	21.24%	\$82,817.65

For the full report, please email megan.greuling@tree.com, 704-943-8208.

About LendingTree

LendingTree (NASDAQ: TREE) is the nation's leading online loan marketplace, empowering consumers as they comparisonshop across a full suite of loan and credit-based offerings. LendingTree provides an online marketplace which connects consumers with multiple lenders that compete for their business, as well as an array of online tools and information to help consumers find the best loan. Since inception, LendingTree has facilitated more than 32 million loan requests. LendingTree provides access to lenders offering home loans, personal loans, student loans, home equity loans/lines of credit, auto loans and more. LendingTree, LLC is a subsidiary of LendingTree, Inc. For more information go to www.lendingtree.com, dial 800-555-TREE, join our Facebook page and/or follow us on Twitter @LendingTree.



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