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We Protect Property Rights. Security 1st Title offers licensed and trained professionals to assist you with your local and national title and closing needs. Our local, experienced staff delivers exceptional service to the protect property rights of homeowners and lenders. Our team has extensive knowledge and experience in handling residential, commercial, new construction, refinance and relocation transactions. Find us online at, [www.security1st.com](http://www.security1st.com), to contact our local office for more details on how we can assist you.

## Meritrust HOME LOANS

Meritrust Credit Union has been helping its members do more with their money since 1935. Meritrust is headquartered in Wichita, Kansas, with branches also located in Andover, Derby, Lawrence and Manhattan, Kansas. It's easy to join Meritrust, and membership is open to most anyone. Our team of lending experts brings simplicity to the home-buying process, and in-house payments, processing and servicing continue to provide members peace of mind into the future. With a mission of improving the lives of members and the communities it serves, Meritrust offers consumers and businesses the products, services, tools and education they need to achieve their financial well-being goals with confidence, including flexible mortgage programs. For more information, visit [meritrusthomeloans.com](http://meritrusthomeloans.com). Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender. Subject to approval.



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# KANSAS HOUSING MARKETS FORECAST

# 2021

# WICHITA



# HOUSING FORECAST 2021 WICHITA

**CONNECTIONS.** If there's one thing we've learned so far this year, it's how deeply connected we are – physically, electronically, economically, socially. Even while it remains true that “all real estate markets are local,” these connections bind us together within the metropolitan area and across the state.

As we work our way through the effects of the pandemic in the coming year, it is my hope that we are able to restore and enrich the connections that will always matter most, those with our colleagues, friends and loved ones across the community.



**Dr. Stanley D. Longhofer**  
DIRECTOR, WSU CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE  
WICHITA.EDU/REALESTATE



**WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY**  
*W. FRANK BARTON  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS*

Thanks to the many colleagues and friends  
who have helped make this forecast possible:

**Nate Bell**  
WSU CENTER  
FOR REAL ESTATE

**Karen Gehle**  
KANSAS ASSOCIATION  
OF REALTORS®

**Jeremy Hill**  
WSU CENTER FOR ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AND  
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**Sheila Rumsey**  
REALTORS® OF  
SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS

Participants in the 2020  
Wichita Real Estate Roundtable

We are especially grateful to Meritrust Credit Union  
and Security 1st Title for underwriting the cost of  
preparing this year's Wichita Housing Forecast:



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**Meritrust**  
HOME LOANS

We are also grateful to the REALTOR® boards and  
multiple listing services that have provided much  
of the data used to prepare this forecast:



Participating REALTOR®  
MLS systems across Kansas

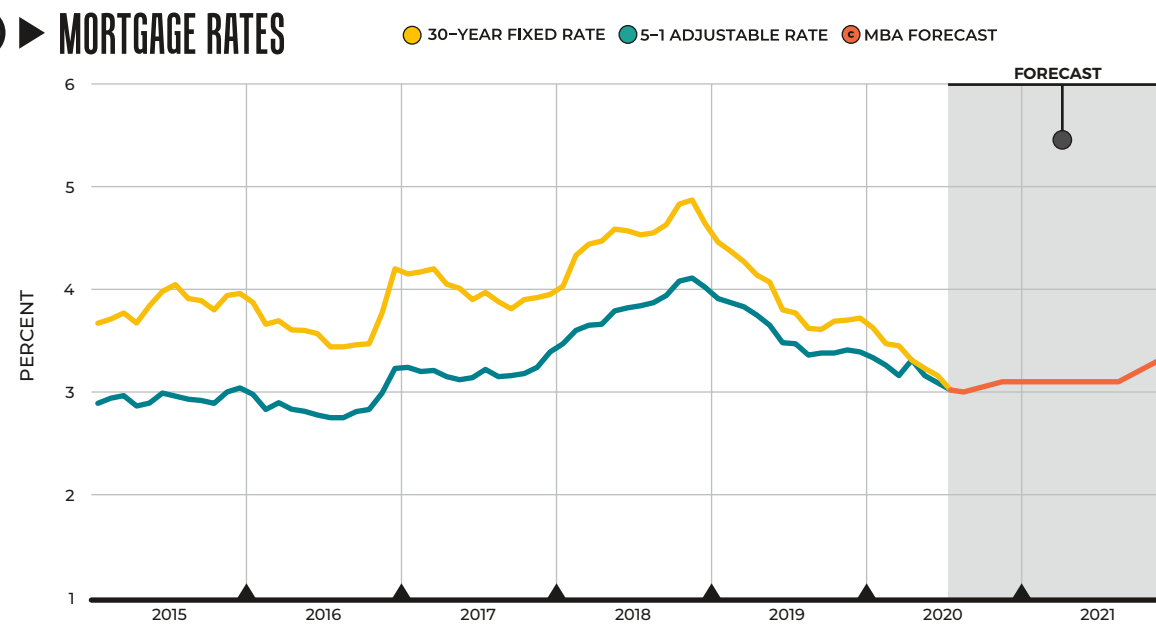
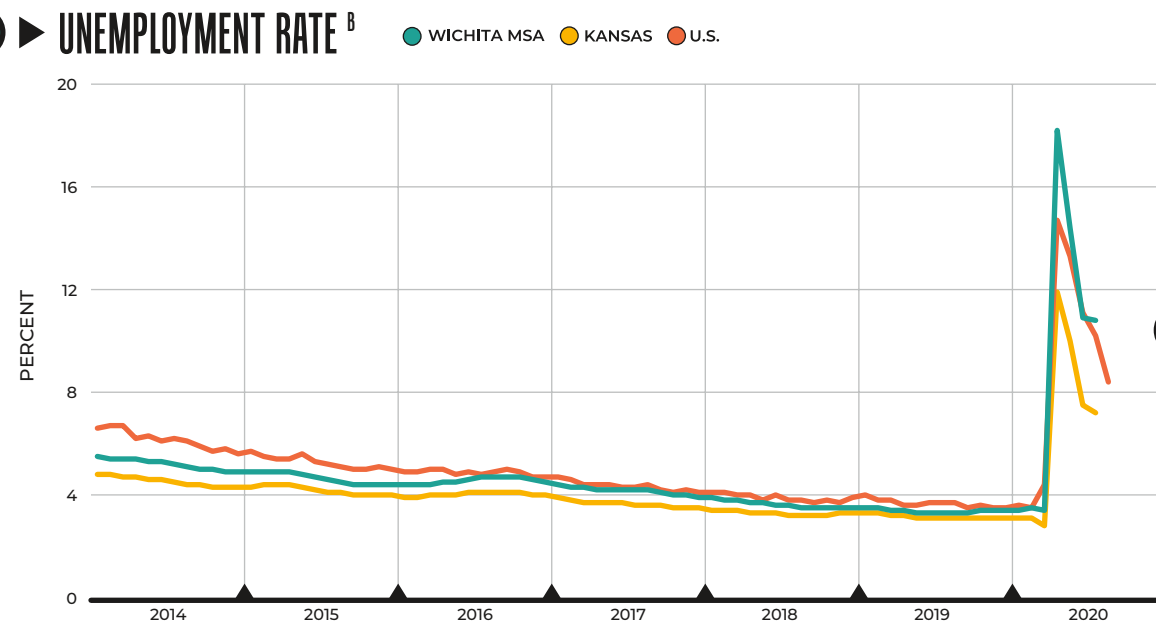
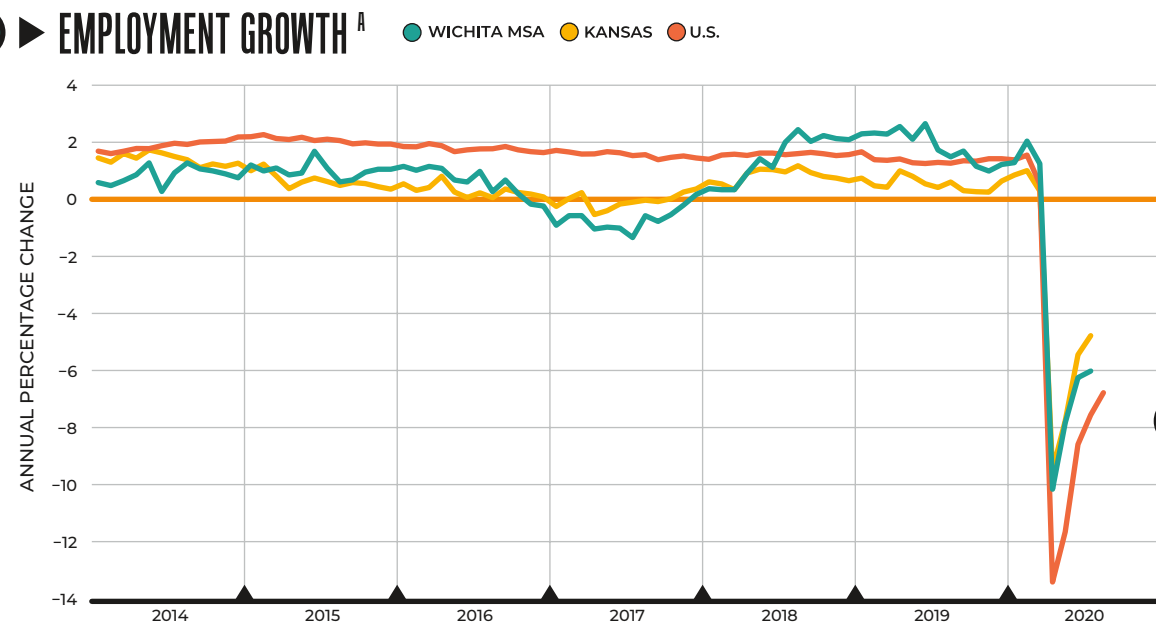
DESIGN BY





SOURCES:  
Freddie Mac  
Mortgage Bankers Association  
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
WSU Center for Economic  
Development and Business Research

NOTES:  
④ Year-over-year percentage change  
in total, non-farm employment,  
seasonally adjusted  
⑤ Seasonally adjusted  
© Mortgage Bankers Association  
August 2020 forecast of the 30-year  
conventional mortgage rate



# ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

**UNPRECEDENTED.** There's no other word to describe the economic environment we face due to efforts to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. At no time in history have job losses been so deep and fast at one time. The questions at this point are "When will the pandemic end?" and "How long will it take for the economy to recover once it is over?"

The only honest answer to these questions is "No one knows." What we do know is that the overall economy is far more complex and interconnected that we can hope to understand and that shutdowns in one area can have unexpected repercussions in areas that we thought were entirely unrelated.

At this point, we must be prepared to expect that the current recession may continue well into next year and that it will take years to fully recover from the economic fallout.



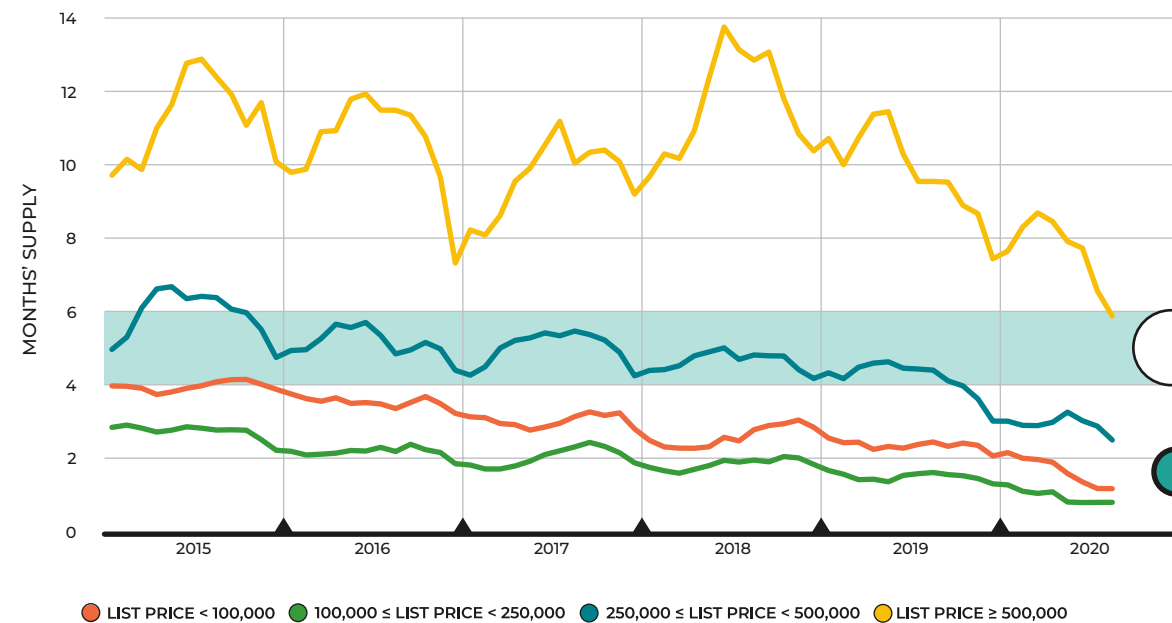
From looking at the housing market you wouldn't know we're in a recession. Demand remains strong in all market segments, but historically tight inventories are limiting the number of closings. We expect home sales to end the year down just slightly at 10,790 units.

The tight inventories combined with several years of healthy home price appreciation are finally beginning to spur new home construction growth in the Wichita area. We expect total single-family building permits to rise by 12.5 percent this year to 1,205 units. Permitting activity will drop slightly in 2021, but at 1,125 units it will still be the **SECOND STRONGEST YEAR** for new home construction since 2009.

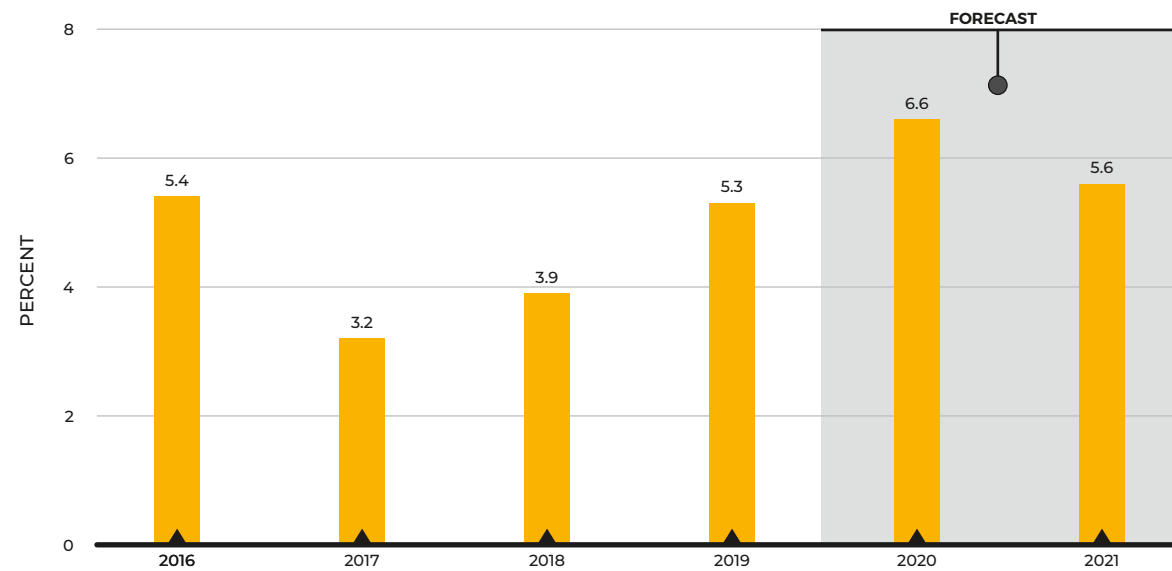
- Ⓐ Total home sales in the Wichita area as reported by the South Central Kansas Multiple Listing Service
- Ⓑ U.S. existing home sales as reported by the National Association of REALTORS®; forecast is the September 2020 forecast by the National Association of REALTORS®
- Ⓒ Single-family building permits issued in the Wichita area as compiled by the Wichita Area Builders Association
- Ⓓ U.S. single-family housing starts as reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census; forecast is the September 2020 forecast by the National Association of REALTORS®



## HOME INVENTORY BY PRICE RANGE <sup>A</sup>



## HOME PRICE APPRECIATION <sup>B</sup>



SOURCES:  
Federal Housing Finance Agency  
National Association of REALTORS®  
South Central Kansas Multiple Listing Service  
WSU Center for Real Estate

NOTES:  
<sup>A</sup> Active listings divided by the 12-month trailing moving average of sales, segmented by list price  
<sup>B</sup> Year-over-year percentage change in the Federal Housing Finance Agency all-transactions housing price index for the Wichita metropolitan area, as measured using 4th quarter values

# HOME PRICES

The primary impact of the pandemic on the Wichita housing market has been to further limit what was already a tight supply of homes available for sale.

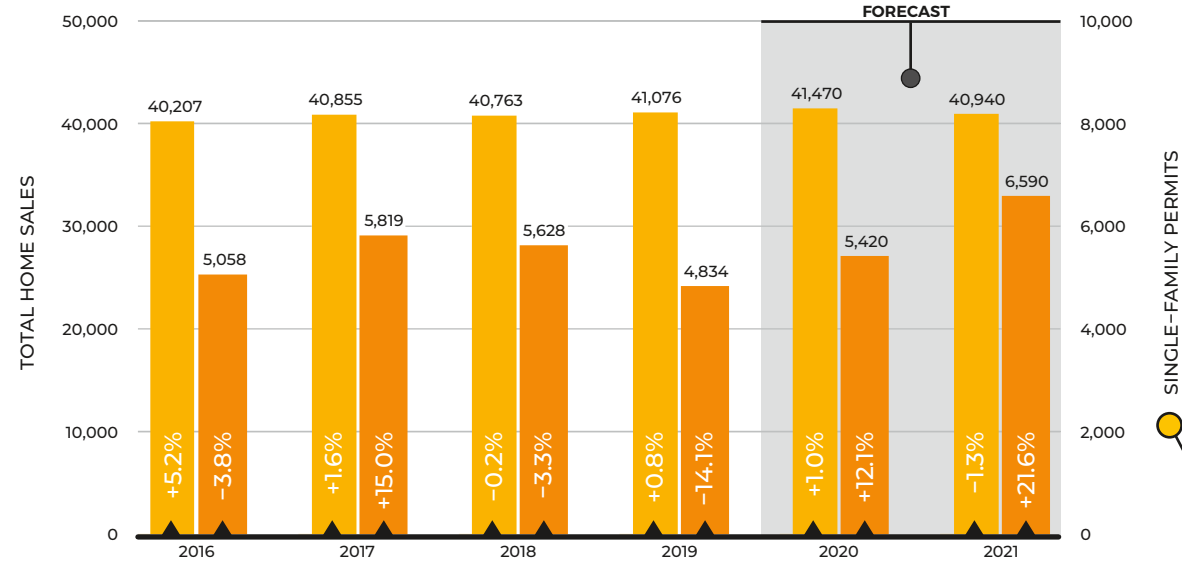
With demand as strong as ever, the decline in new listings has made it a **SELLERS' MARKET** for all but the very highest priced homes. Even in the \$500,000 and up segment, it can no longer be considered a buyers' market, something we haven't seen since prior to the 2008 financial crisis.

All of this means that home price appreciation in the Wichita area continues to accelerate. We expect Wichita home values to rise by 6.6 percent this year followed by another 5.6 percent increase in 2021.

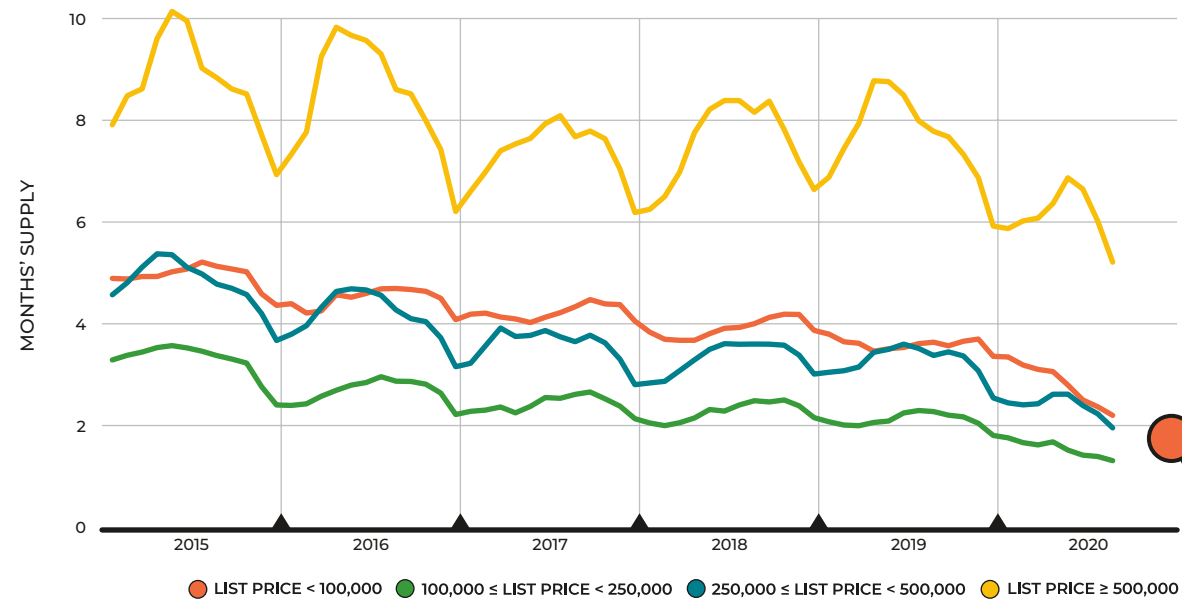


## KANSAS HOUSING MARKET ACTIVITY

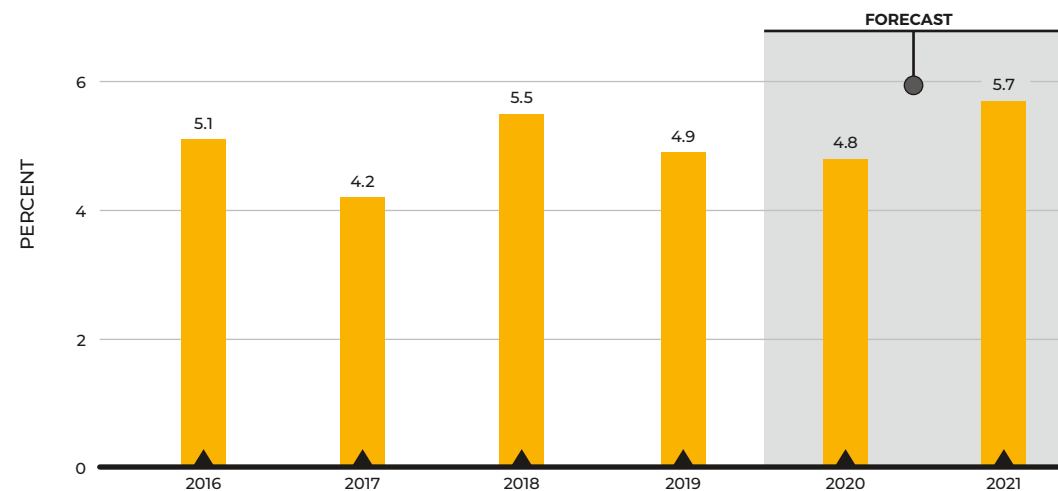
SALES PERMITS



## HOME INVENTORY BY PRICE RANGE<sup>a</sup>



## HOME PRICE APPRECIATION<sup>d</sup>



# KANSAS FORECAST

Job losses due to the pandemic have done little to diminish the demand for homes across the state. At the same time, **INVENTORIES ARE AT HISTORIC LOWS** across all price ranges of homes. As a result, home sales across the state should end the year only slightly higher than 2019, up 1 percent to 41,470 units. Next year sales are expected to fall to 40,940 units as the ongoing effects of the recession are felt across the state.

The lack of supply is finally spurring a **SURGE IN NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION** activity across the state. Single-family permits are expected to rise by 12.1 percent this year, followed by an even stronger 21.6 percent gain in 2021, with most of the gains being seen in the Kansas City area.

Continuing tight inventories are causing existing home prices to rise at a healthy pace across the state. We project that typical home values will end the year up 4.8 percent, followed by another 5.7 percent increase in 2021.

SOURCES:  
Federal Housing Finance Agency  
National Association of REALTORS®  
Participating REALTOR® multiple listing services across Kansas  
U.S. Bureau of the Census  
WSU Center for Real Estate

NOTES:  
a Total home sales in Kansas as reported by participating REALTOR® multiple listing services across the state  
b Single-family building permits issued in Kansas as reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census  
c Active listings divided by the 12-month trailing moving average of sales, segmented by list price  
d Year-over-year percentage change in the Federal Housing Finance Agency all-transactions housing price index for Kansas, as measured using 4th quarter values



# FORECAST SUMMARY

## The WSU Center for Real Estate: Laying a Foundation for Real Estate in Kansas

The WSU Center for Real Estate prepares housing market forecasts for each of the major markets across the state. A summary of those forecasts is provided here.

To **DOWNLOAD A COPY OF THE COMPLETE FORECAST** for each market, visit our website at [wichita.edu/realestate](http://wichita.edu/realestate). While there, you can also explore the wealth of additional data and analysis we provide on housing markets across the state.

### SOURCES:

Federal Housing Finance Agency  
Flint Hills Association of REALTORS®  
Heartland Multiple Listing Service  
Kansas Association of REALTORS®  
and participating multiple listing services across Kansas  
Lawrence Multiple Listing Service  
South Central Kansas Multiple Listing Service  
Sunflower Association of REALTORS®  
U.S. Bureau of the Census  
Wichita Area Builders Association  
WSU Center for Real Estate

### NOTES:

- Total home sales, average price and sales volume figures include both existing and new home sales
- Building permits reflect single-family residential building permits
- Home price appreciation figures are the year-over-year percentage change in the Federal Housing Finance Agency all-transactions house price index, as measured using 4th quarter values
- Kansas City figures include transactions from both Kansas and Missouri

## FORECAST

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

### Kansas (Statewide)

Total Home Sales	40,207	40,855	40,763	41,076	41,470	40,940
Building Permits	5,058	5,819	5,628	4,834	5,420	6,590
Home Price Appreciation	5.1%	4.2%	5.5%	4.9%	4.8%	5.7%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$7,745	\$8,123	\$8,490	\$8,897		
Average Price	\$192,630	\$198,830	\$208,280	\$216,610		

### Kansas City Area (KS & MO)

Total Home Sales	38,733	39,821	40,617	39,896	39,500	39,080
Building Permits	5,258	5,920	5,714	4,827	5,560	7,045
Home Price Appreciation	5.9%	6.8%	8.2%	5.4%	6.0%	6.5%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$8,296	\$8,956	\$9,620	\$10,026		
Average Price	\$214,189	\$224,904	\$236,855	\$251,312		

### Lawrence MSA

Total Home Sales	1,444	1,490	1,491	1,484	1,500	1,500
Building Permits	264	206	322	188	265	205
Home Price Appreciation	6.7%	4.0%	5.4%	5.3%	4.1%	3.9%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$309	\$327	\$356	\$365		
Average Price	\$213,734	\$219,273	\$238,817	\$245,839		

### Manhattan MSA

Total Home Sales	1,285	1,353	1,462	1,535	1,790	1,780
Building Permits	271	269	214	245	210	225
Home Price Appreciation	7.0%	0.3%	1.1%	4.3%	3.5%	3.7%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$260	\$276	\$289	\$308		
Average Price	\$202,121	\$204,323	\$197,646	\$200,755		

### Topeka Area

Total Home Sales	3,236	3,217	3,320	3,128	3,250	3,150
Building Permits	301	277	276	249	305	335
Home Price Appreciation	2.2%	3.0%	5.5%	5.8%	4.0%	4.1%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$460	\$487	\$505	\$484		
Average Price	\$142,168	\$151,242	\$151,981	\$154,581		

### Wichita Area

Total Home Sales	10,368	10,475	10,384	10,815	10,790	10,530
Building Permits	1,063	1,081	993	1,071	1,205	1,125
Home Price Appreciation	5.4%	3.2%	3.9%	5.3%	6.6%	5.6%
Sales Volume (in millions)	\$1,631	\$1,651	\$1,721	\$1,883		
Average Price	\$157,286	\$157,650	\$165,780	\$174,073		



# CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE

## CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE CONTRIBUTORS

THE CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE RECEIVES NO STATE FUNDING.

OUR ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED ENTIRELY THROUGH GIFTS  
FROM GENEROUS SUPPORTERS THROUGHOUT THE REGION:



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**Meritrust**  
HOME LOANS

**WALTER MORRIS**  
ENDOWMENT FOR REAL ESTATE

**Fidelity**  
BANK

**RSCK** / REALTORS®  
OF SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS



The Center for Real Estate was created to help deepen the connections between the region's professional real estate community and the academic programs at Wichita State University. Whether you want to better understand the area's real estate markets or engage our students as interns or full-time employees,

**THE WSU CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE  
IS YOUR GO-TO RESOURCE.**

### W. Frank Barton School of Business

The W. Frank Barton School of Business is home to some of the best programs, brightest minds and biggest opportunities in Kansas. From the largest selection of AACSB-accredited programs in the state to the limitless opportunities for applied learning in Kansas' business hub, Barton School students have everything they need for career success.

**BARTON RESEARCH CONNECTION:  
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