



Your Weekly News & Updates

Here is this week's "Weekly Roundup" from [Real Estate Investing Today](#), the news & views site from the [National Real Estate Investors Association](#).

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Treasury Publishes Details About the Emergency Rental Assistance Program

With the goal of "keeping families in their homes," the U.S. Department of the Treasury says the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA) makes available \$25 billion to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As we've previously reported, these funds are provided directly to States, Territories, local governments, and Indian tribes. [Click here to read more.](#)

Existing-Home Sales Up 0.6% in January

The National Association of Realtors is reporting that existing home sales were up 0.6% in January to a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of 6.69 million (up 23.7% from one year ago). [Click here to read more.](#)

Cities Where Homes Are Selling the Fastest

Last spring, the Covid-19 pandemic brought America's real estate market to a virtual standstill. A recent report from Roofstock highlights the top cities where homes are selling the fastest - with demand extremely strong in areas also experiencing high rates of population growth. [Click here to read more.](#)

Housing Starts Down & Building Permits Up in January

The U.S. government is reporting that privately-owned housing starts in January were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,580,000, which is 6% below December's revised number. [Click here to read more.](#)

John Burns' Apartment Rent Forecasts for 2021

John Burns Real Estate Consulting recently released their 2021 Apartment Rent Forecasts which they say will help you "weather" the shifts in the apartment market. [Click here to read more.](#)

"Cheap Old Houses" Attracts Millennials Escaping the Cities

A recent story about millennials searching for homes in "far-flung places" should have flippers & rehabbers taking note. A new startup called CheapOldHouses.com promotes the purchase & preservation of historical houses across America, most of which come in under \$100k. [Click here to read more.](#)

Home Price Increases in Opportunity Zones Keep Pace with National Trends

Home price increases in Opportunity Zones are keeping pace with trends, according to a special report from ATTOM Data that analyzed qualified low-income O-Zones. ATTOM says in Q4 2020, median prices rose annually in three-quarters of Opportunity Zones with values in 2/3 of them going up at least 10%. [Click here to read more.](#)

FHFA House Price Index Up 10.8% Year-Over-Year

According to the latest Federal Housing Finance Agency's (FHFA) House Price Index (HPI), U.S. house prices were up 1.1% in December and up 10.8% from one year ago. [Click here to read more.](#)

S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller Index Up 10.4%

According to the latest S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller Indices, covering all nine U.S. census divisions, the rate of home price increases reported a 10.4% annual gain in December, 2020. [Click here to read more.](#)

Selected States' Sales Taxes as Percentage of Total Revenue

Infographic: We've had a lot of posts about taxes and the various tax rates & collection methods across the country. Today's infographic from the Census Bureau takes a look at selected state sales taxes to show how the contribution of certain sales taxes vary by state. [Click here to read more.](#)

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