



Real Estate

## America's Best And Worst Housing Markets

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**Five areas where property values are rising and five where prices continue to free-fall.**

Though U.S. home values have dropped for the 10th consecutive quarter, homeowners in some parts of the nation are seeing prices appreciating.

Countrywide, second-quarter values fell 12.1% year-over-year to \$186,500. This is a 22.3% drop in value since the mid-2006 market peak, according to

Zillow.com's Second-Quarter Real Estate Market Report. The real estate research firm's Home Value Index measures the value of all homes in a [metropolitan statistical area](#) or metro, not only those that sold in the measured period.

But [Fayetteville, N.C.](#), posted a Q2 2009 \$120,600 median home value, up 13.4% over a year ago. In [Oklahoma City](#), values rose in the last year 4.8% to \$118,700. Further north, in [Binghamton, N.Y.](#), the \$112,300 median value is 4.5% higher than it was a year ago. A relatively low percentage of June foreclosure resales--11.9% in Fayetteville and 4%

in Oklahoma City--and percent of mortgages in negative equity--16.2% and 14.9%, respectively--likely contributed to the boost in home values.

<http://www.forbes.com/2009/08/10/property-values-homes-lifestyle-real-estate-best-worst-cities.html>