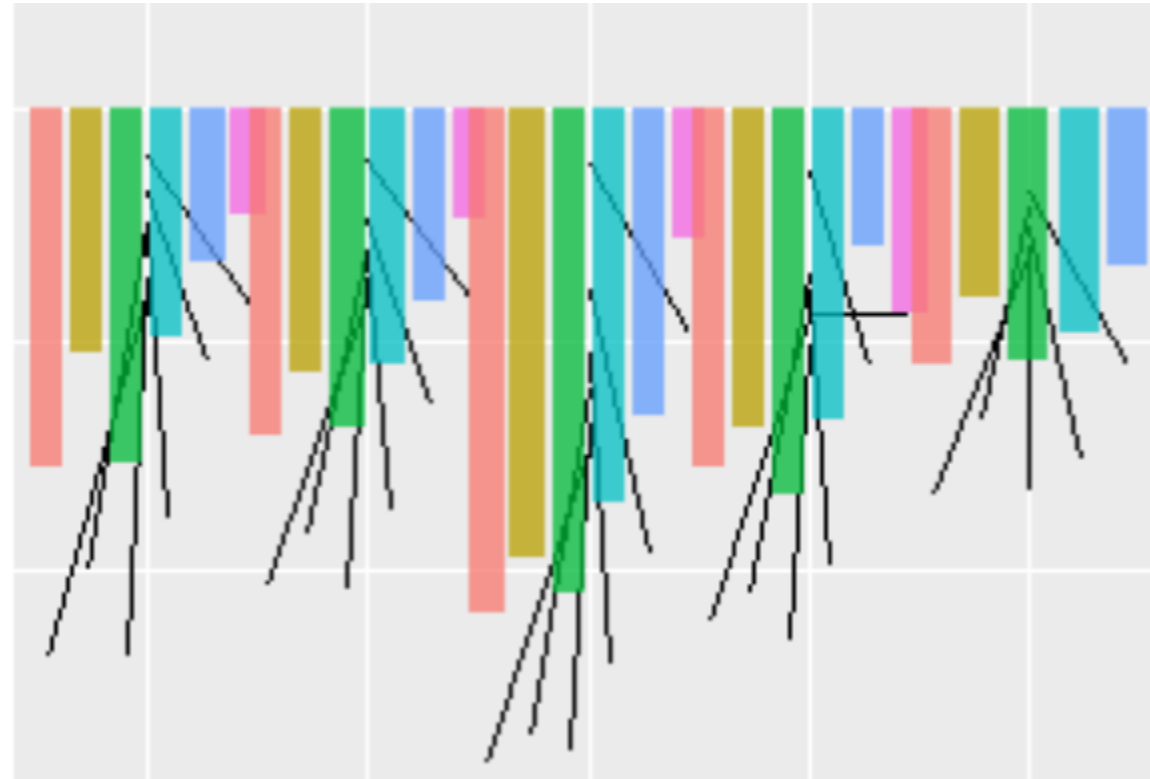


Data Visualization

Len Kiefer, Dec 2020

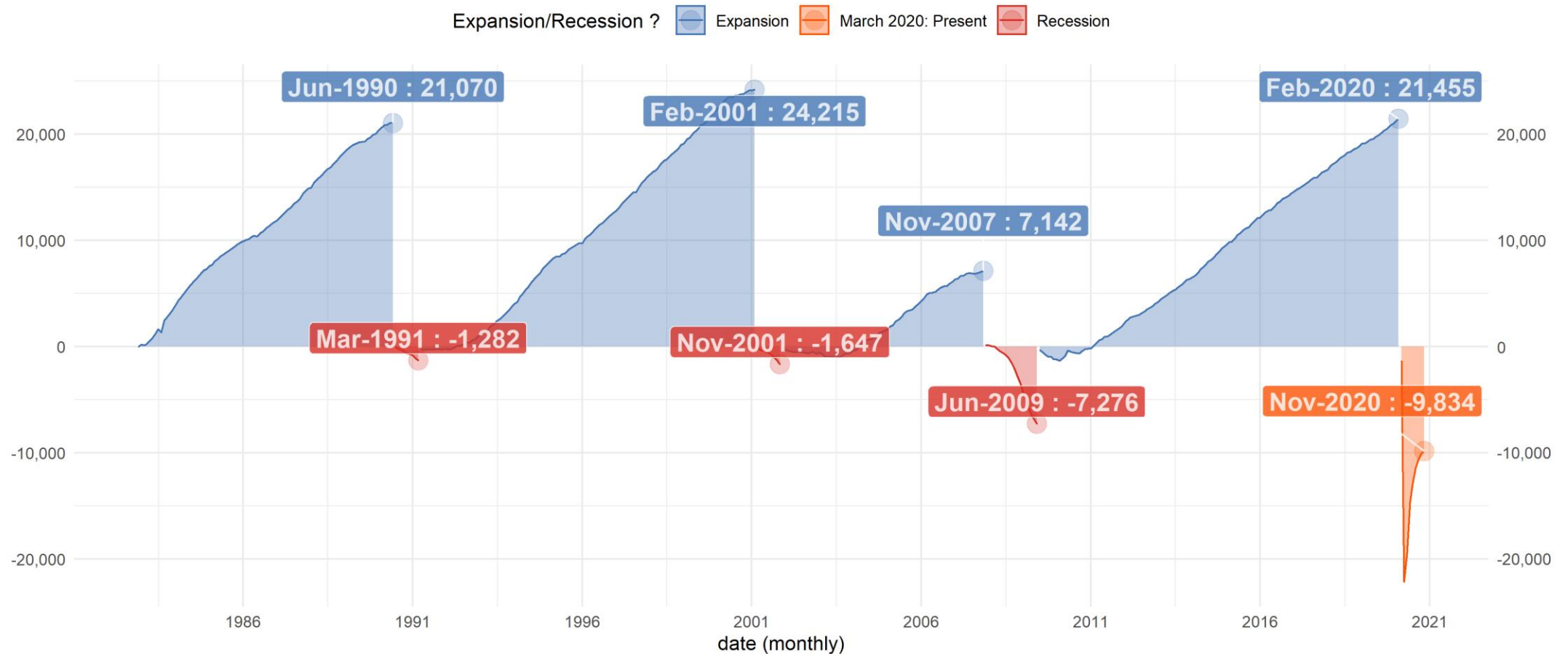
What can be [charted] at all can be [charted] clearly; and
whereof one cannot [chart] thereof one must be silent.



Visualizing Labor Market Data

Cumulative U.S. nonfarm payroll employment growth (1000s) in expansion/recession

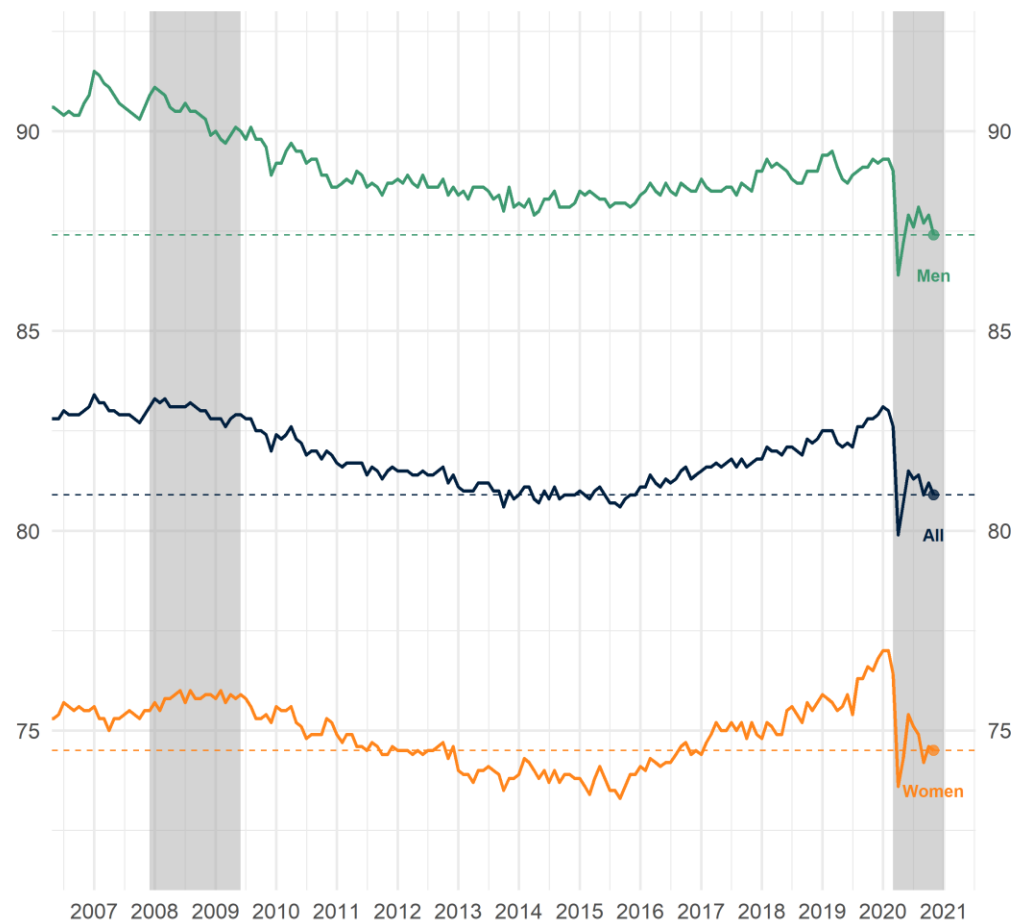
labels indicate cumulative growth through end of expansion/recession



@lenkieferr Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics All Employees: Total Nonfarm Payrolls, retrieved from BLS, Dec 4, 2020. NBER recession dates

Labor Force Participation Rate: Prime Working Age (25-54)

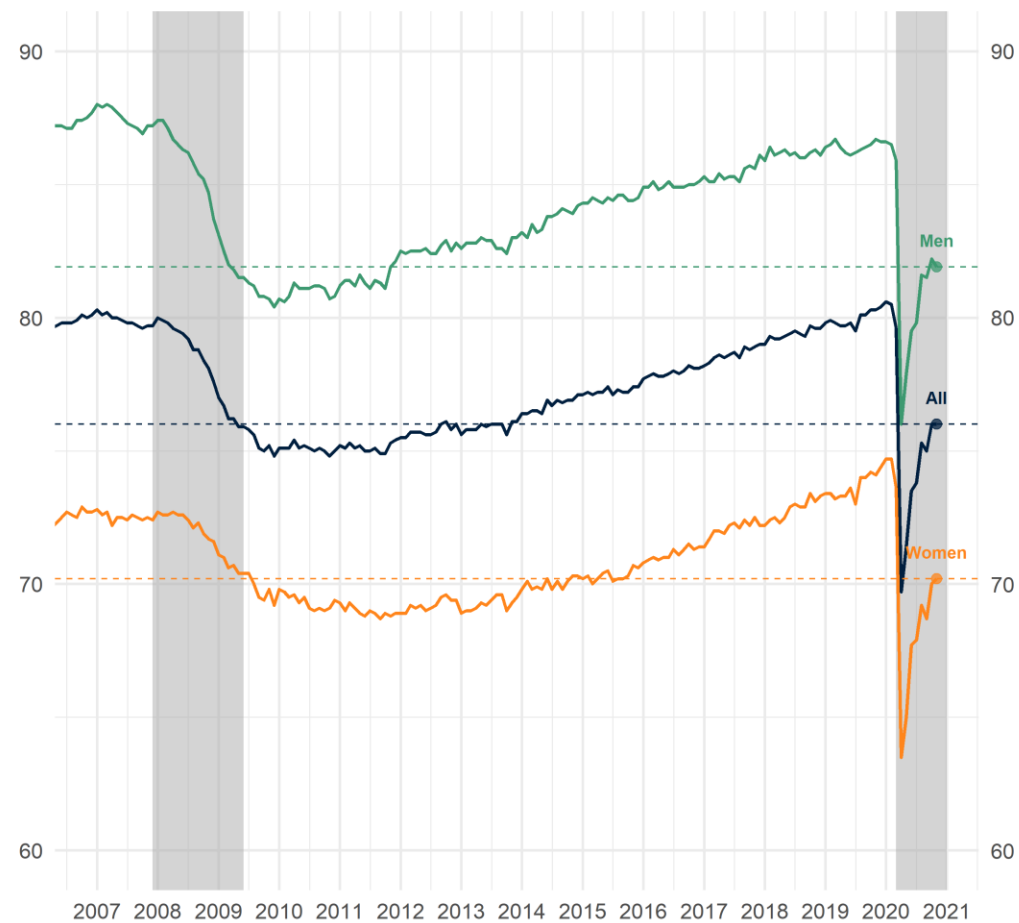
in percentage points (seasonally adjusted)



@lenkier Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, shaded bars NBER Recessions

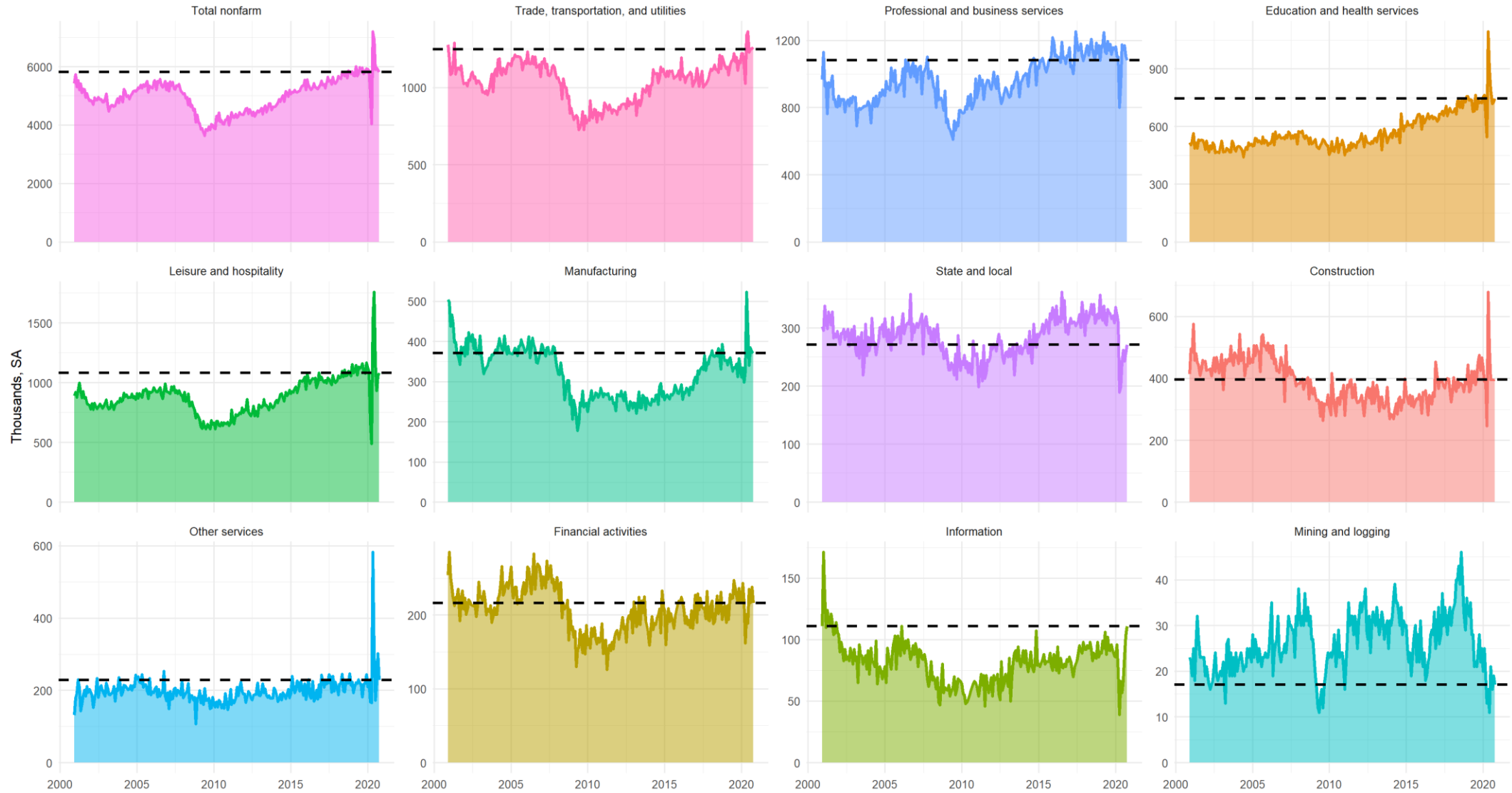
Employment-Population Ratio: Prime Working Age (25-54)

in percentage points (seasonally adjusted)

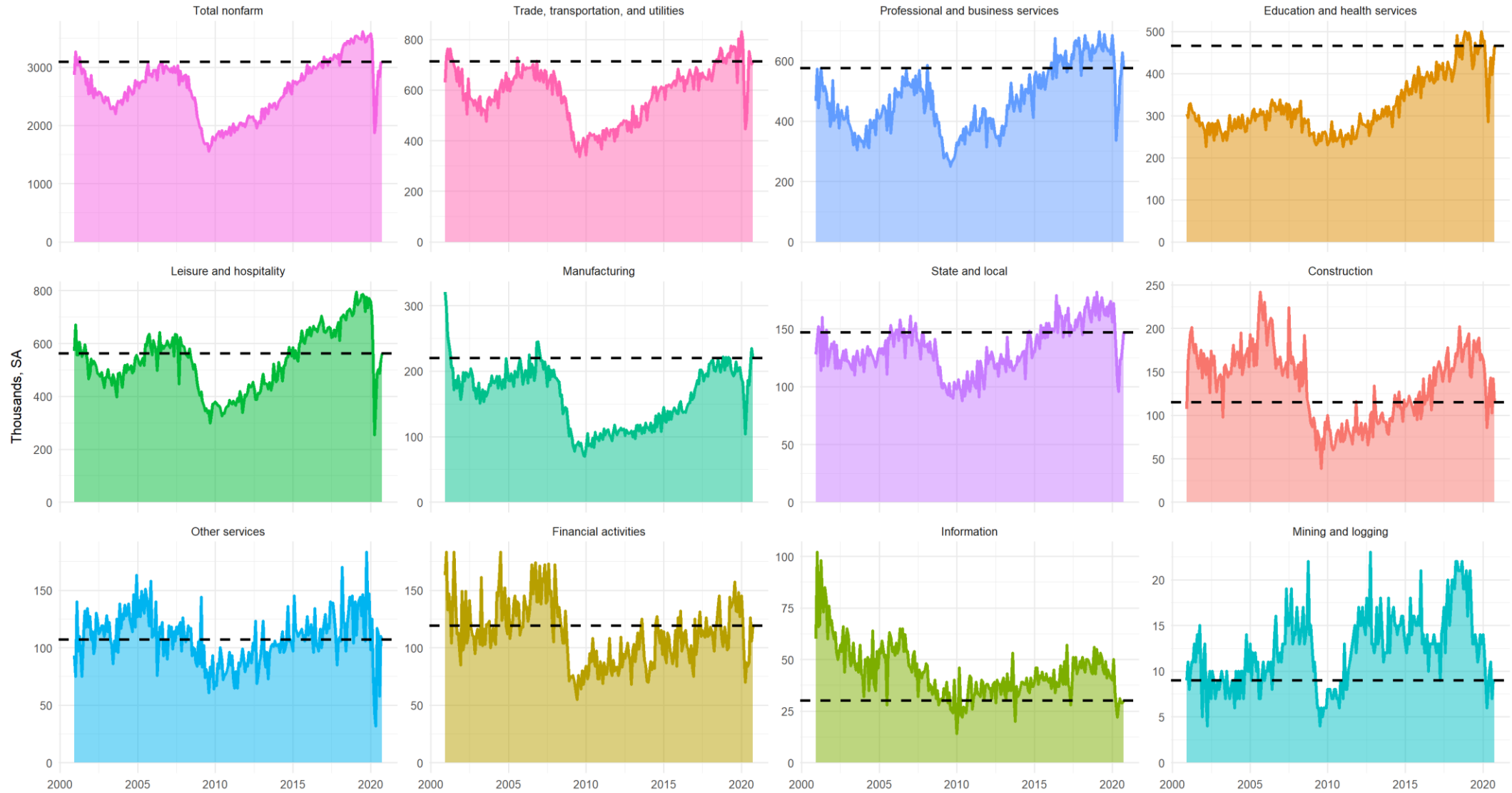


@lenkier Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, shaded bars NBER Recessions

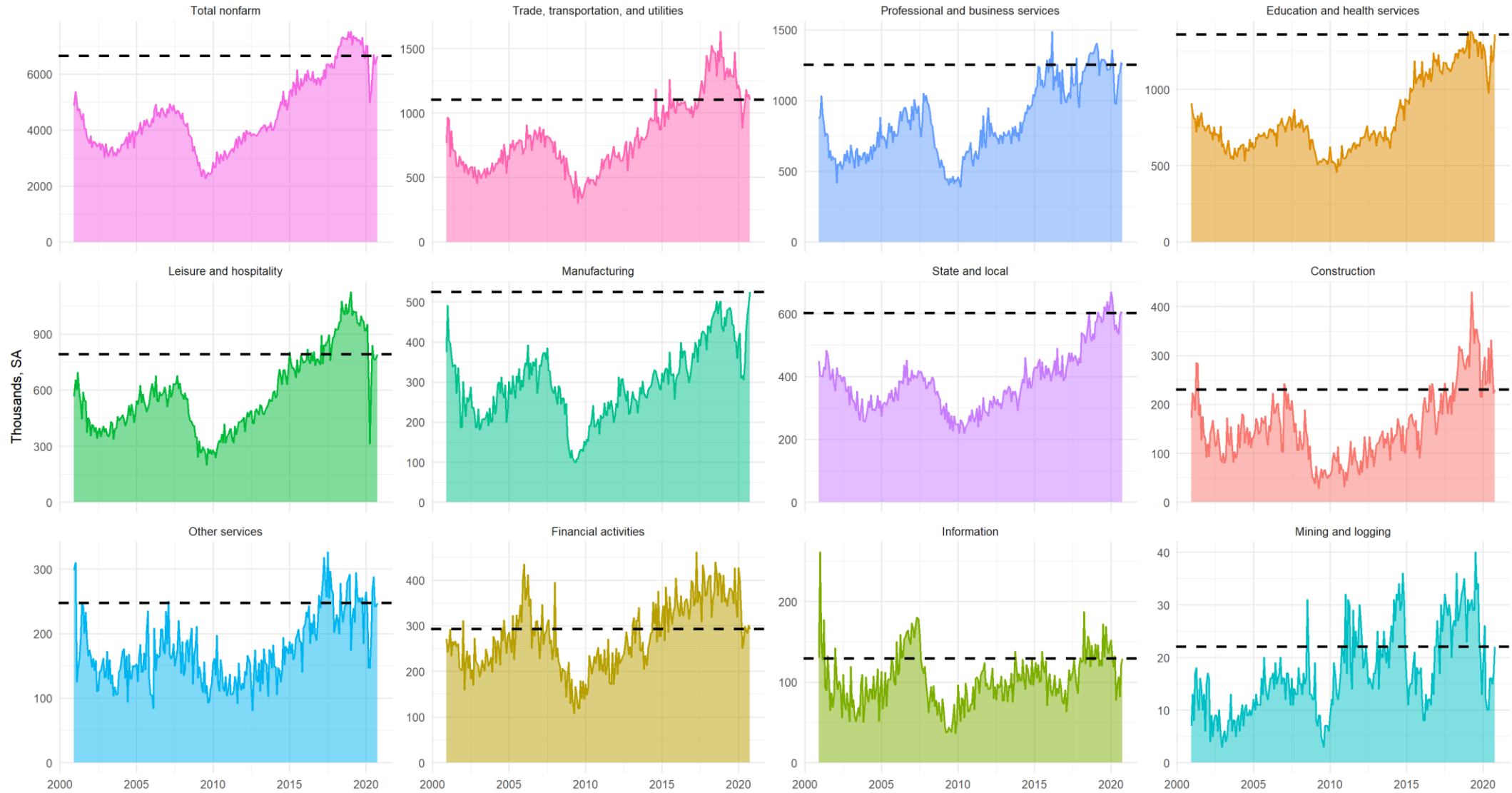
Hires (Ths, seasonally-adjusted)
by industry, dotted line value as of Oct-2020



Quits (Ths, seasonally-adjusted)
by industry, dotted line value as of Oct-2020

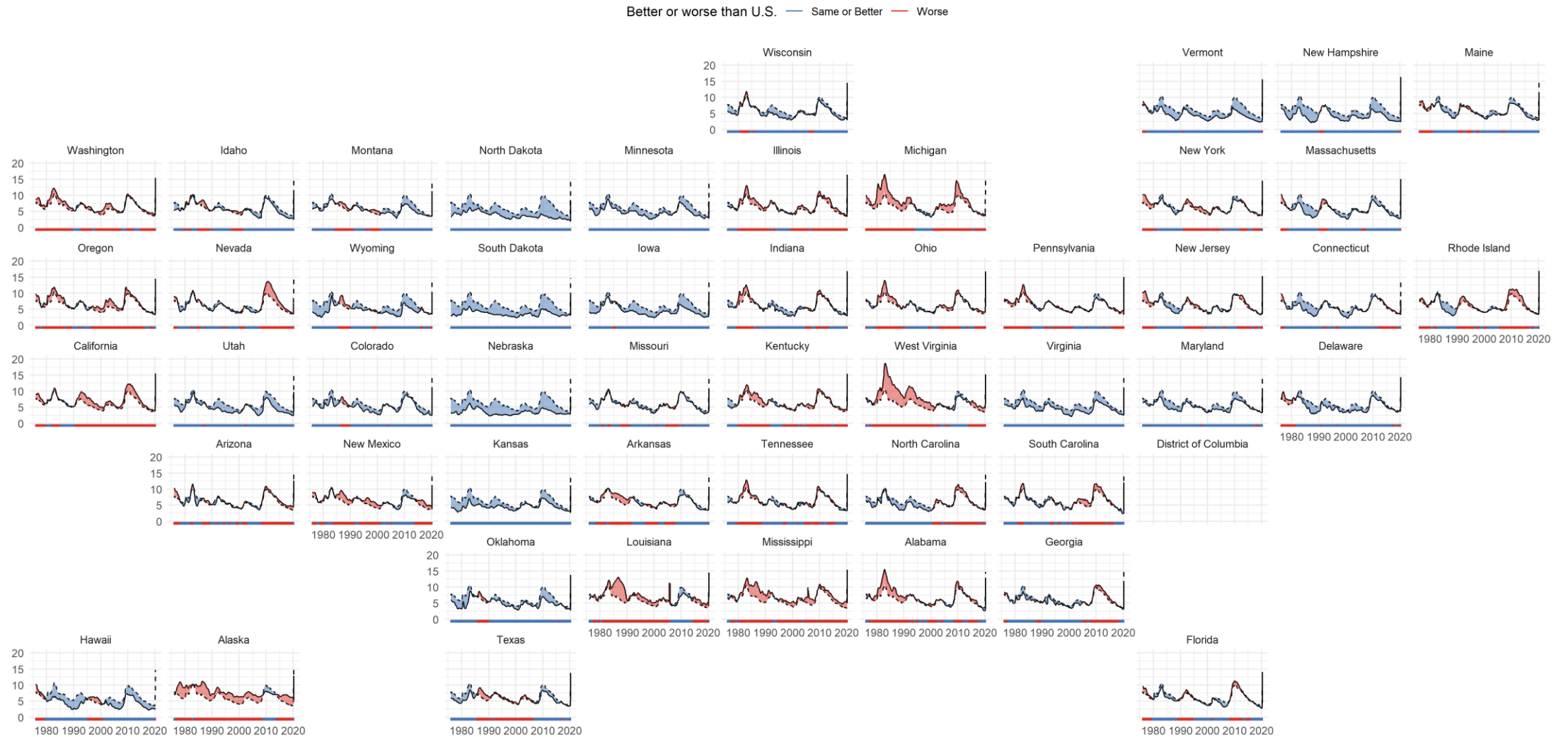


Job Openings (Ths, seasonally-adjusted)
by industry, dotted line value as of Oct-2020



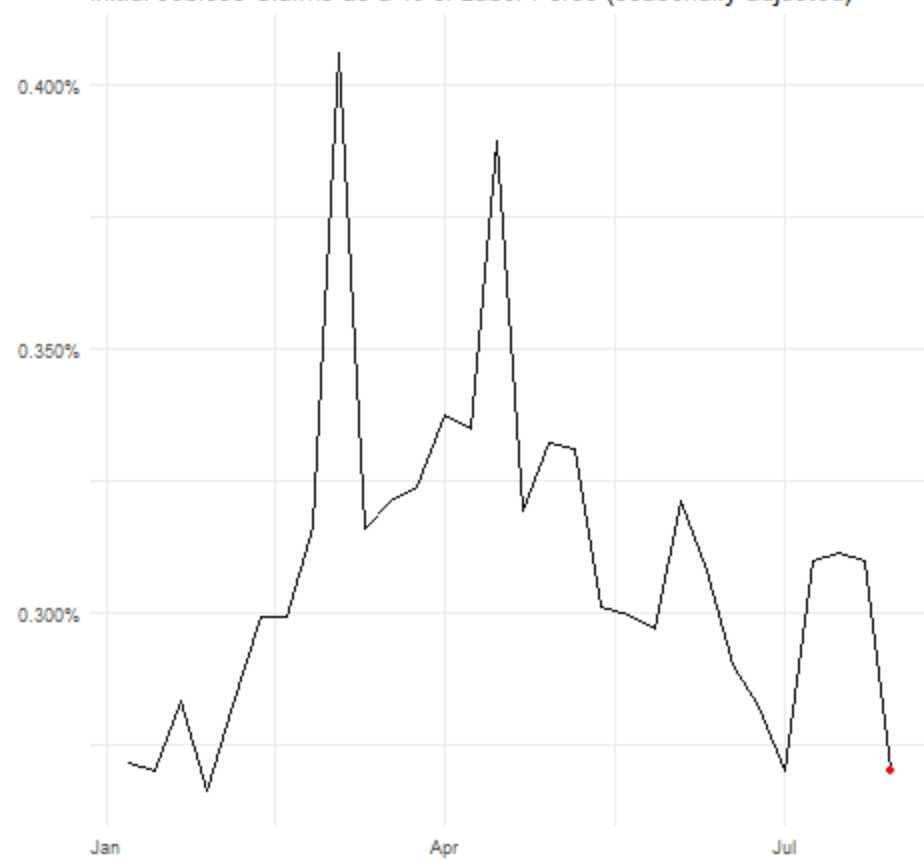
The state of U.S. jobs - Working out @hrbmstr's workout of @stiles' Viz

Solid line is state unemployment rate, dotted line is U.S. average unemployment rate
Red (blue) indicates the state level is higher (lower) than the national average



@lenkier Data Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Viz based on <https://rud.is/b/2017/01/18/workout-wednesday-redux-2017-week-3/>,
itself based on <http://thedailyviz.com/2016/12/14/four-decades-of-state-unemployment-rates-in-small-multiples-part-2/>

Initial Jobless Claims as a % of Labor Force (seasonally adjusted)



@lenkieferr Source: U.S. Department of Labor

Visualizing Mortgage Data

Mortgage Rates Remain Flat

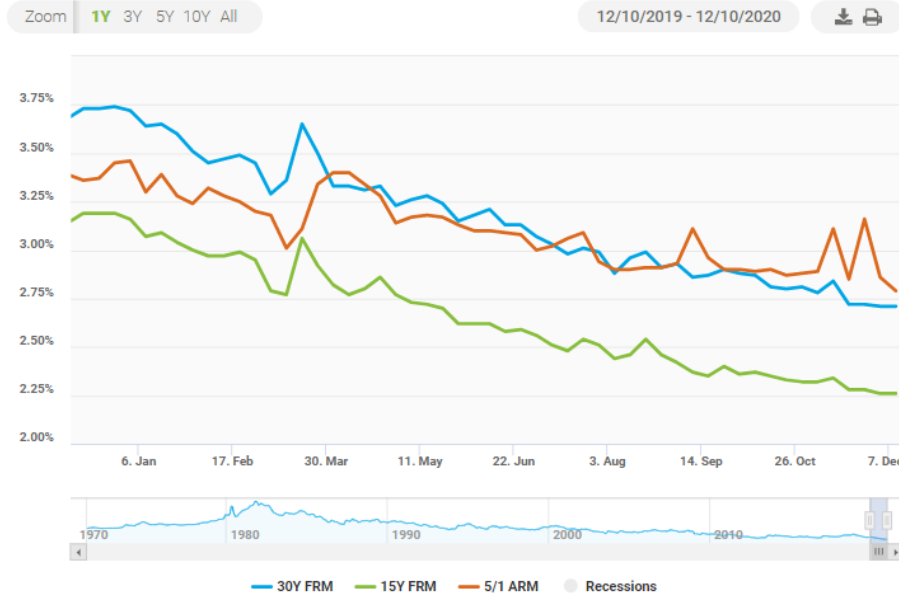
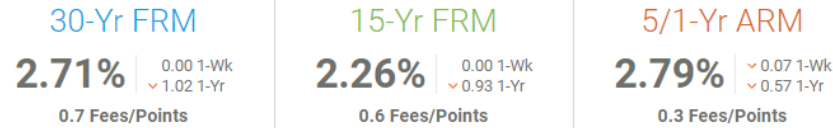
December 10, 2020

Mortgage rates remain at record lows, resisting their typical correlation to Treasury yields, which have recently been moving higher. Mortgage spreads – the difference between mortgage rates and the 10-year Treasury rate – are declining from their elevated levels earlier this year. Although today's mortgage spread is about 1.8 percentage points and still has some room to move down if the 10-year Treasury continues to rise, it's encouraging to see that the spread is almost back to normal levels.

- [Current Mortgage Rates Data Since 1971](#)

Primary Mortgage Market Survey®

U.S. weekly averages as of 12/10/2020



Freddie Mac House Price Index (FMHPISM)

Explore House Price Trends

Review national housing statistics and compare to additional states or metros as of [October, 2020](#)

United States

Virginia

[Add another state or metro](#)

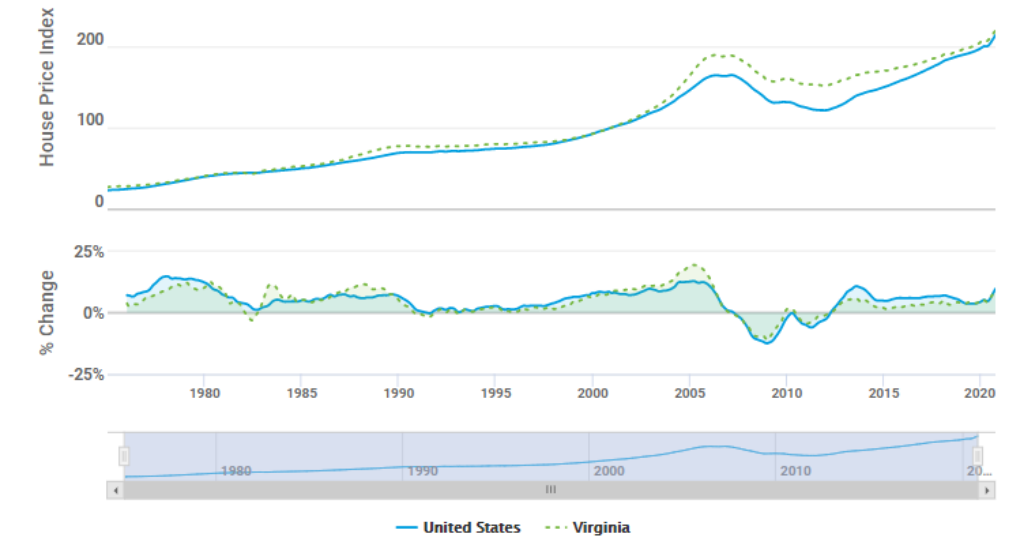
Chart Table

Zoom

1Y 3Y 5Y 10Y All

☒ Show % Change

01/01/1975 - 10/01/2020



Monthly average mortgage rates by year*

U.S. average 30-year fixed mortgage rate (%)

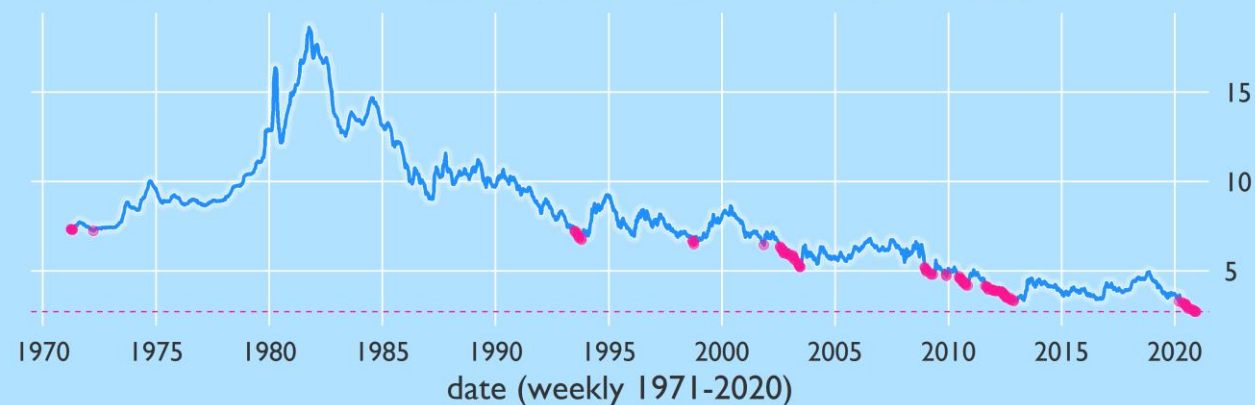


year	2010	5.03	4.99	4.97	5.10	4.89	4.74	4.56	4.43	4.35	4.22	4.30	4.71
	2011	4.75	4.95	4.84	4.84	4.64	4.51	4.54	4.27	4.11	4.07	3.99	3.96
	2012	3.92	3.89	3.95	3.91	3.80	3.67	3.55	3.60	3.50	3.38	3.35	3.34
	2013	3.41	3.53	3.56	3.45	3.54	4.07	4.37	4.46	4.49	4.19	4.25	4.46
	2014	4.43	4.30	4.34	4.34	4.19	4.16	4.13	4.12	4.16	4.04	4.00	3.86
	2015	3.67	3.71	3.77	3.67	3.84	3.98	4.05	3.91	3.89	3.80	3.94	3.96
	2016	3.87	3.66	3.69	3.60	3.60	3.57	3.44	3.44	3.46	3.47	3.77	4.20
	2017	4.15	4.17	4.20	4.04	4.01	3.90	3.97	3.88	3.80	3.90	3.92	3.95
	2018	4.03	4.33	4.44	4.47	4.59	4.57	4.53	4.55	4.63	4.83	4.87	4.64
	2019	4.46	4.37	4.26	4.14	4.07	3.80	3.77	3.62	3.60	3.69	3.70	3.72
	2020	3.62	3.47	3.45	3.31	3.23	3.16	3.02	2.94	2.89	2.83	2.77	2.71
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
month													

@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey through December 10, 2020

Multiple record lows for the 30-year fixed mortgage rate in 2020

US weekly average 30-year fixed mortgage rate (%) dots indicate historical low (up to that week)



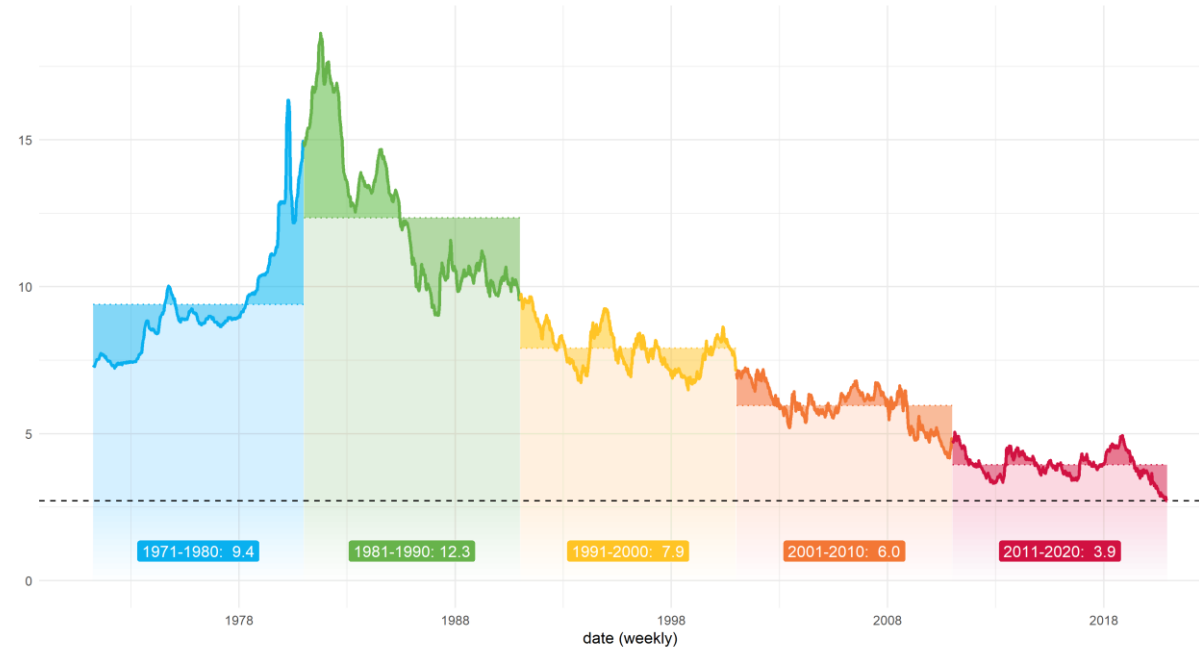
US weekly average 30-year fixed mortgage rate (%) dots indicate historical low (up to that week)



@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey April 2, 1971 through December 10, 2020
Dotted line at 2.71% average for week of December 10, 2020

Mortgage rates over 5 decades

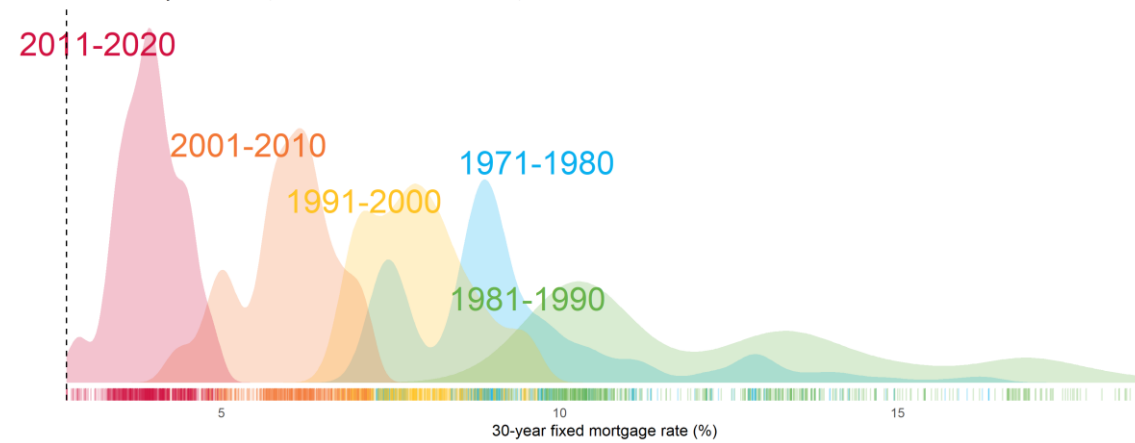
U.S. Weekly Average 30-year fixed mortgage rate April 2, 1971 to December 10, 2020
Line weekly value, dark shaded area from decade average to weekly value



@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey

Estimated density over weekly values

Ticks at bottom weekly observations, dotted line value for December 10, 2020

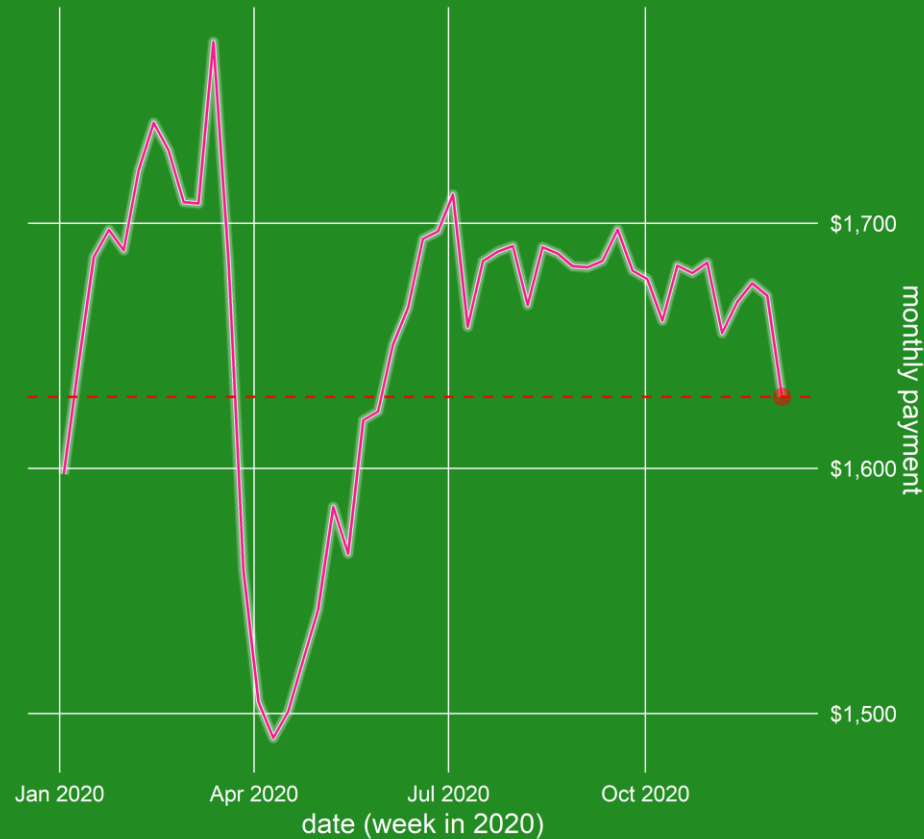


Lower rates offset higher home prices

Mortgage affordability for conventional loans

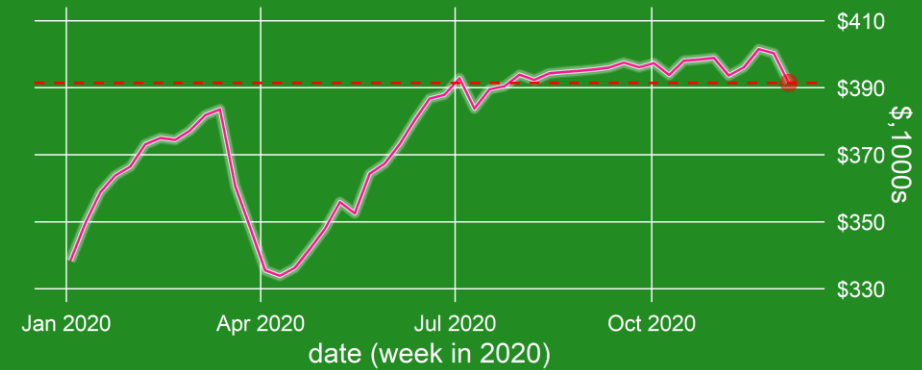
Monthly mortgage payment (P&I)

for average loan size, average rate

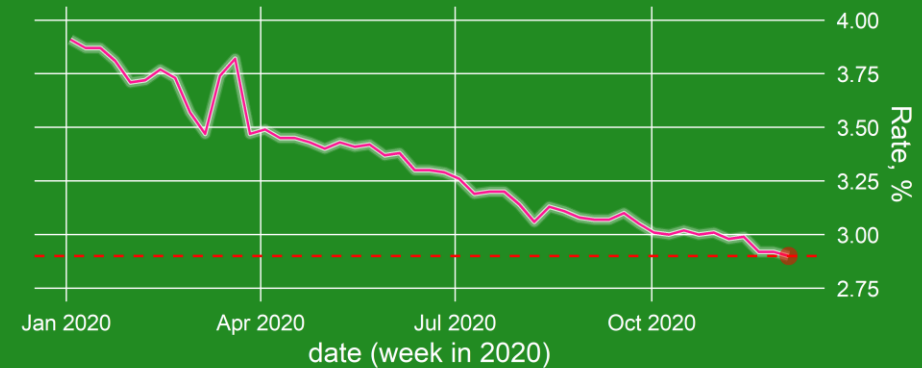


Principal and interest payment assuming 30-year fixed mortgage

Average conventional purchase mortgage loan size



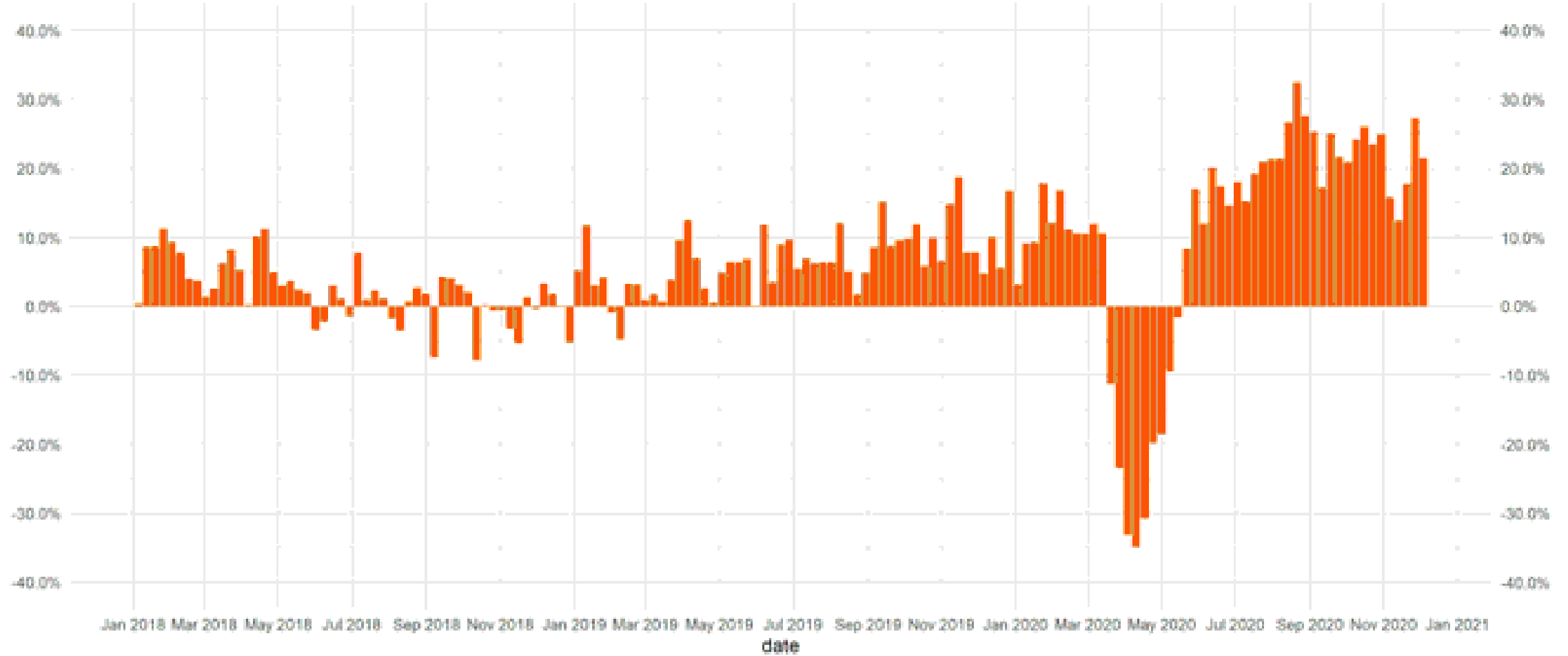
Average interest rate



@lenkier Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, Weekly Applications Survey data through December 04, 2020

U.S. Home Purchase Mortgage Applications

52-week percent change in seasonally adjusted purchase mortgage applications index



@lenkiefel Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, data through December 04, 2020

U.S. Mortgage Purchase Activity Rebounds

Purchase Application Index (Mar 16, 1990 =100, not seasonally adjusted)

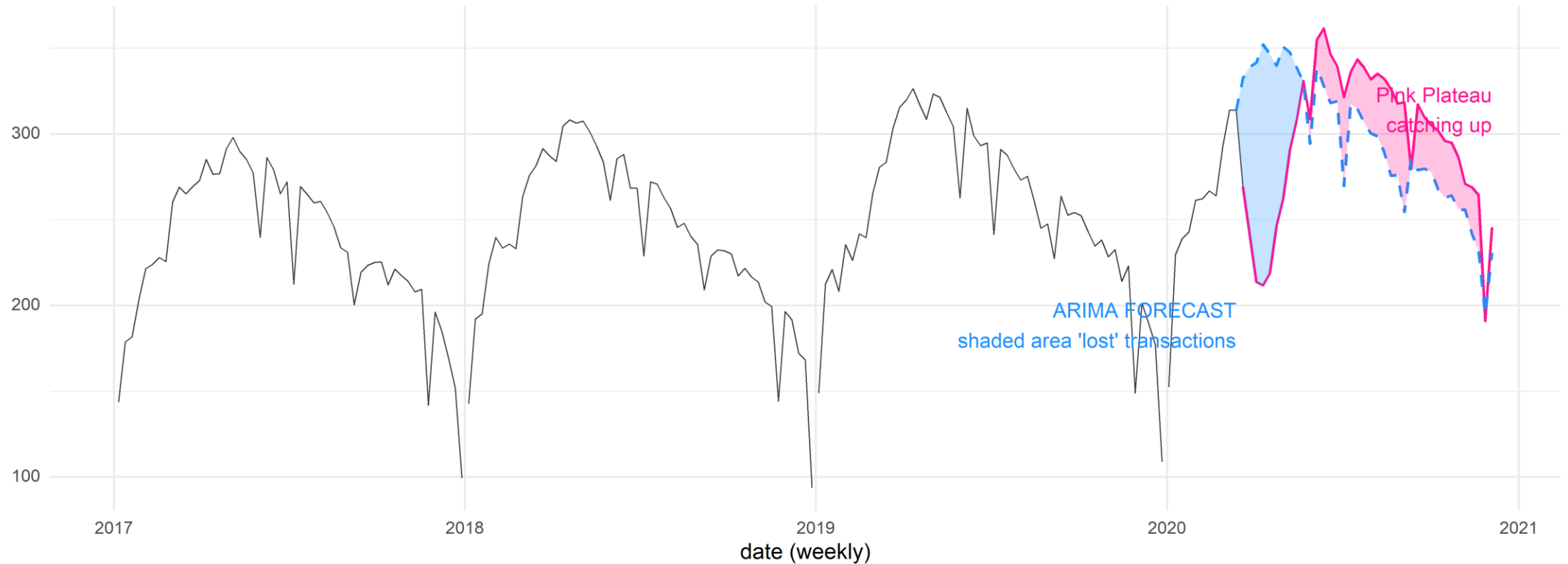
Gray lines all years 2001-2020



@lenkier Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, data through December 04, 2020

U.S. Mortgage Purchase Activity Rebounds

Purchase Application Index (Mar 16, 1990 =100, not seasonally adjusted) Gray lines all years 2001-2019

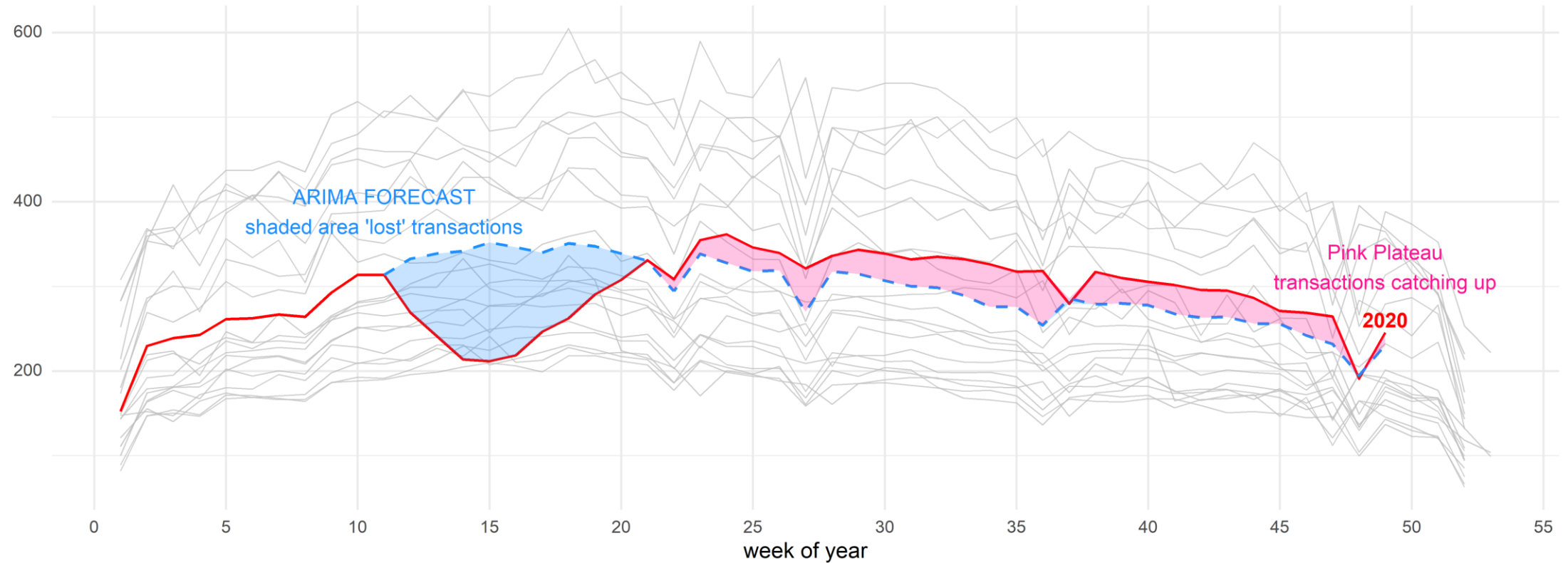


@lenkiefier Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, data through December 04, 2020

Seasonal autoregressive (1,1,0)(1,1,0)₅₂ Blue ARIMA forecast (extrapolated from 2020-03-13), orange actuals from 2020-03-13 forward.

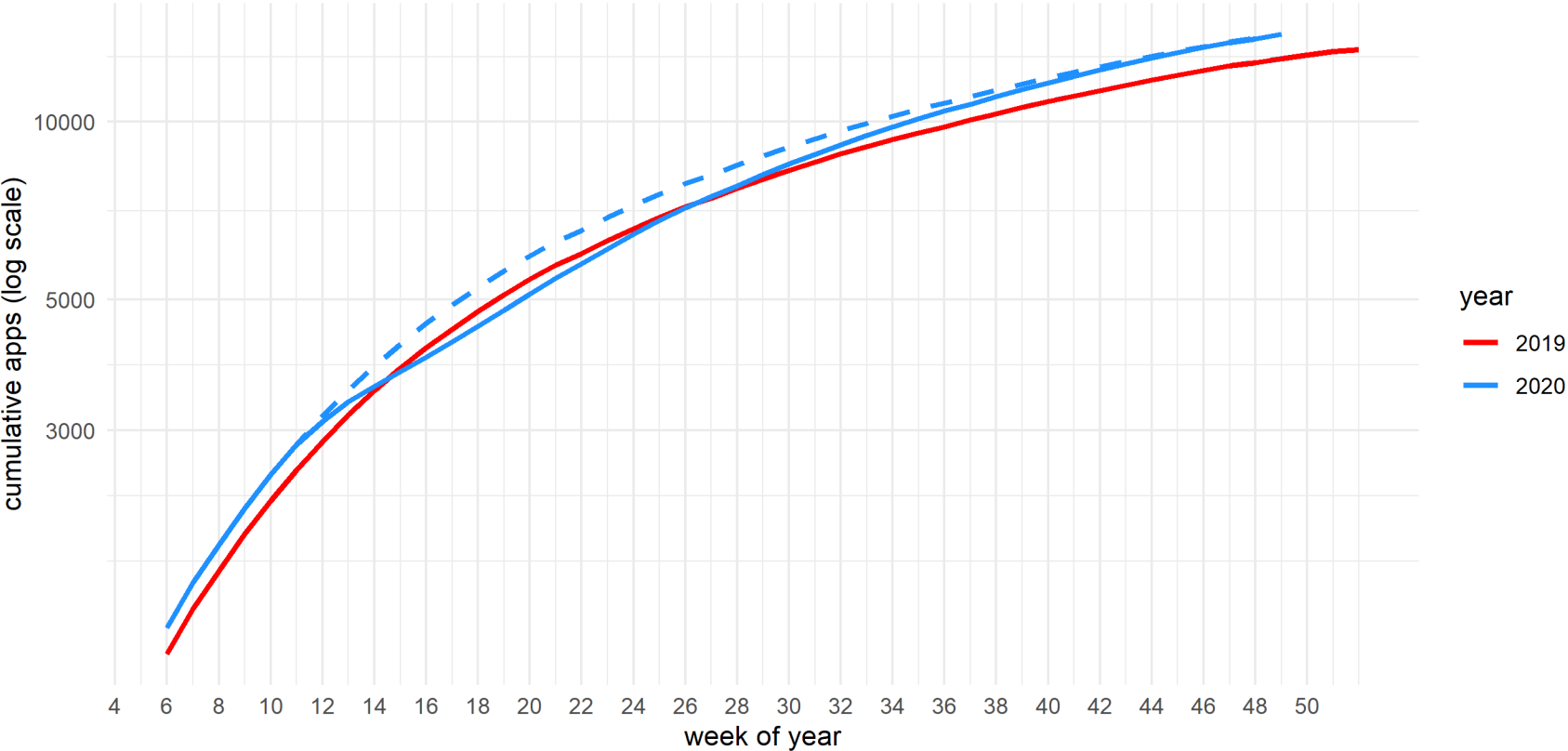
U.S. Mortgage Purchase Activity Rebounds

Purchase Application Index (Mar 16, 1990 =100, not seasonally adjusted) Gray lines all years 2001-2019



@lenkieferr Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, data through December 04, 2020
Seasonal autoregressive (1,1,0)(1,1,0)₅₂

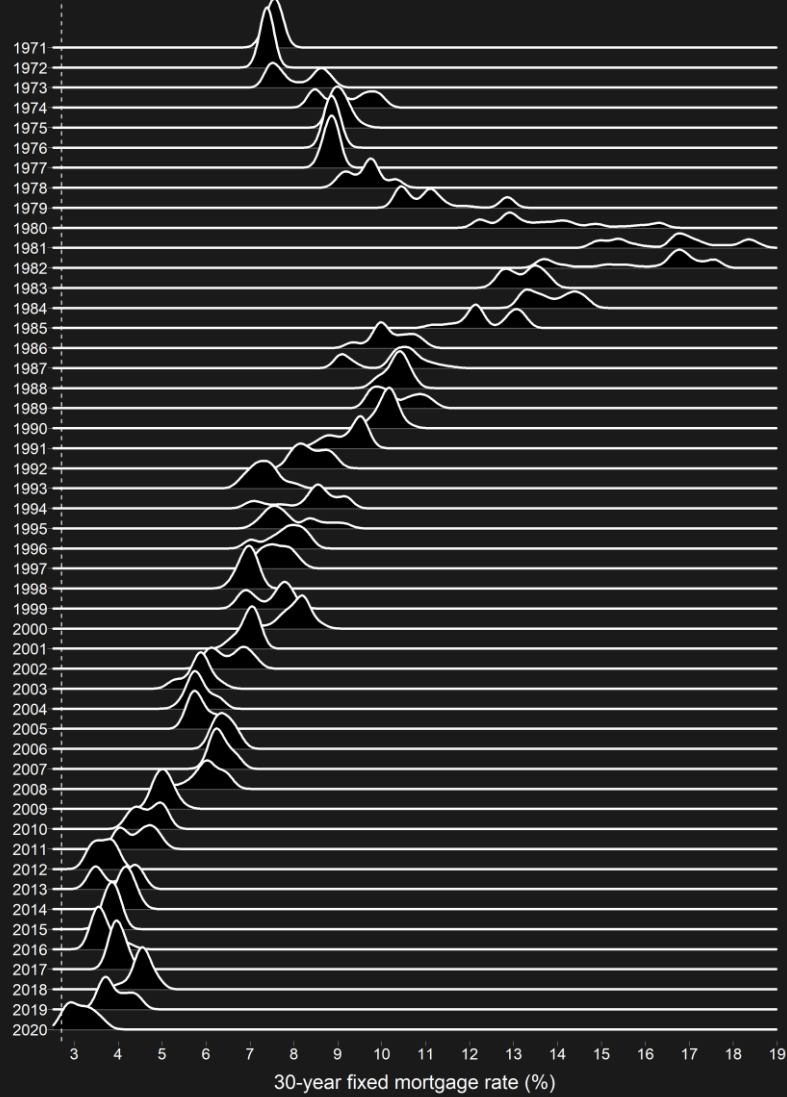
Cumulative total home purchase mortgage applications by year
dotted line ARIMA forecast for 2020 starting March 13



@lenkieferr Source: Mortgage Bankers Association, data through December 04, 2020

Distribution over weekly mortgage rates by year

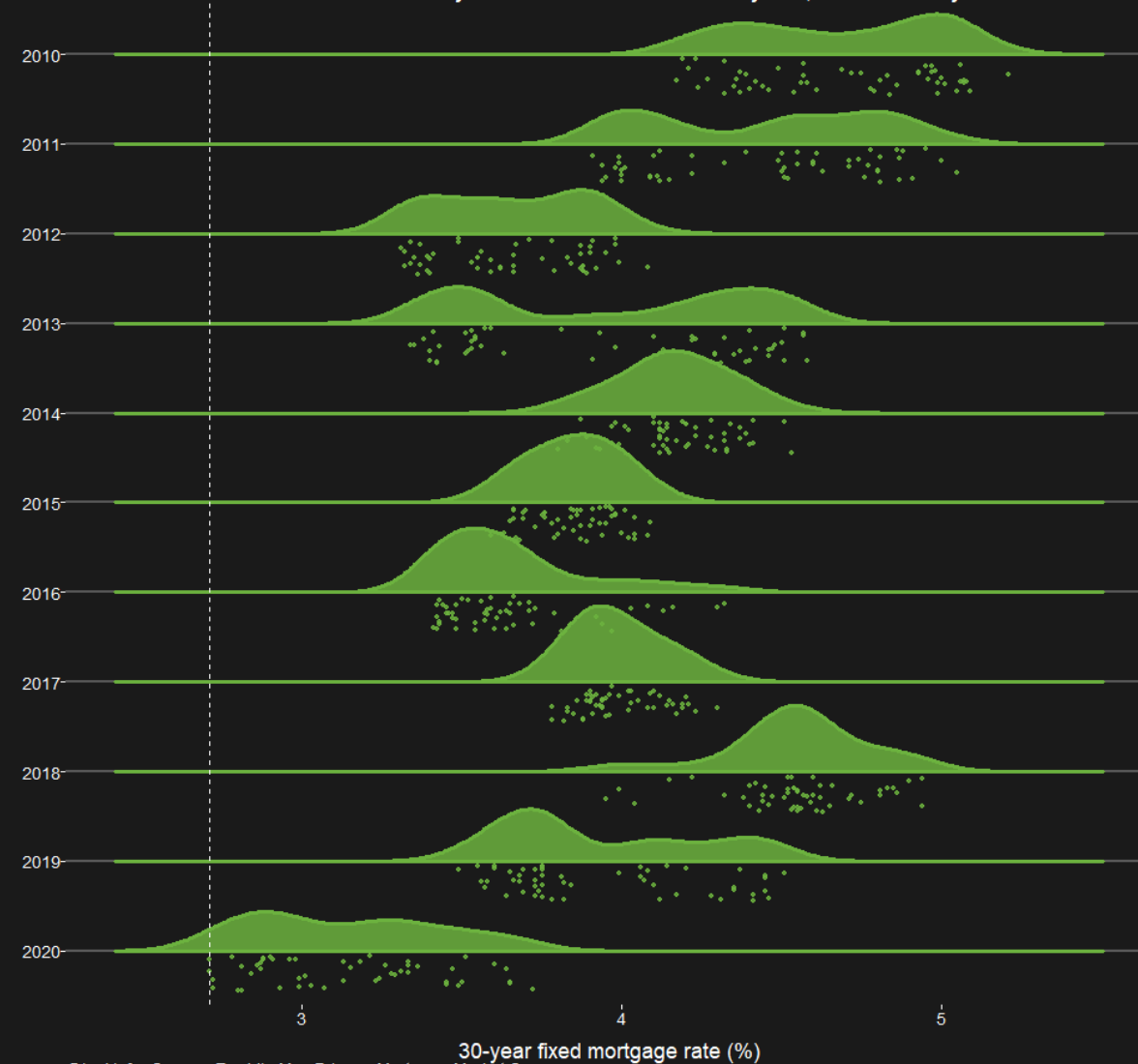
Curves are densities fit to weekly observations for each year



@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey,
Dotted line at 2.71% average for week of December 10, 2020

Distribution over weekly mortgage rates by year

Curves are densities fit to weekly observations for each year, dots weekly values

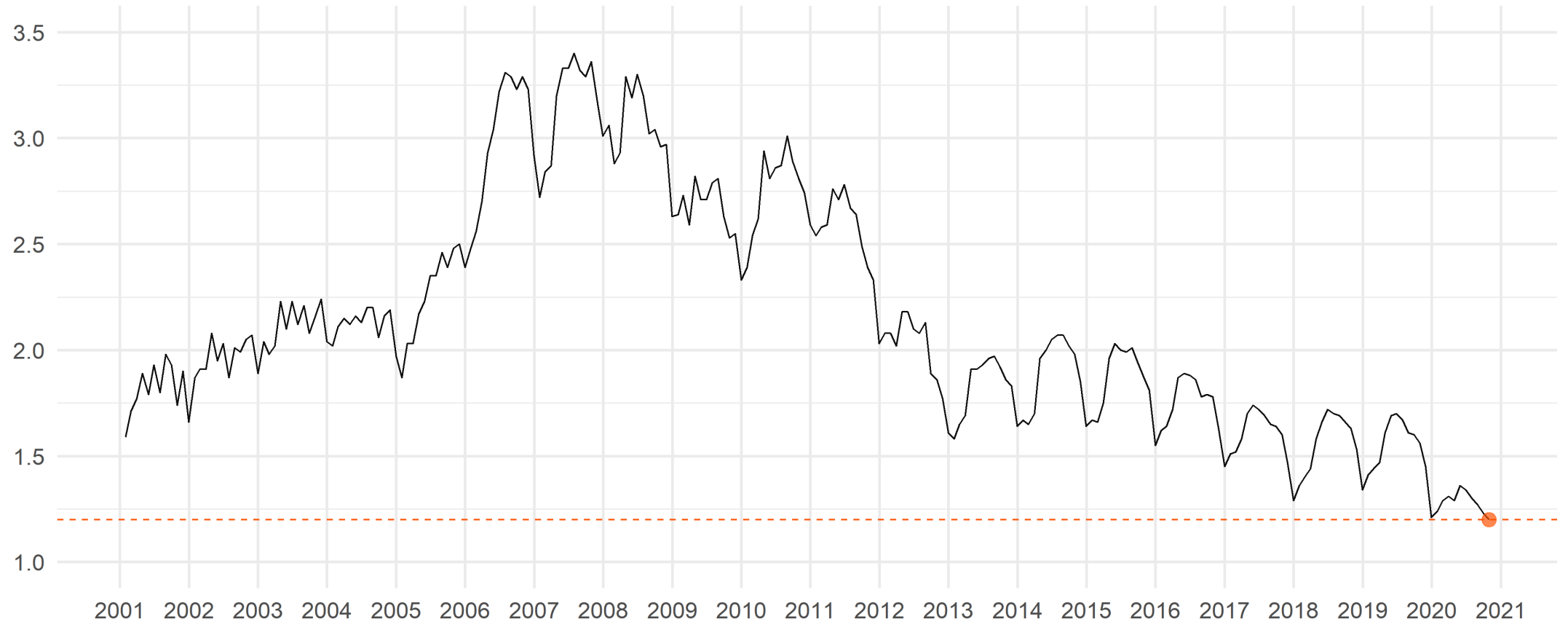


@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey,
Dotted line at 2.71% average for week of December 10, 2020

Visualizing Housing Data

U.S. Existing Home Sales Inventory

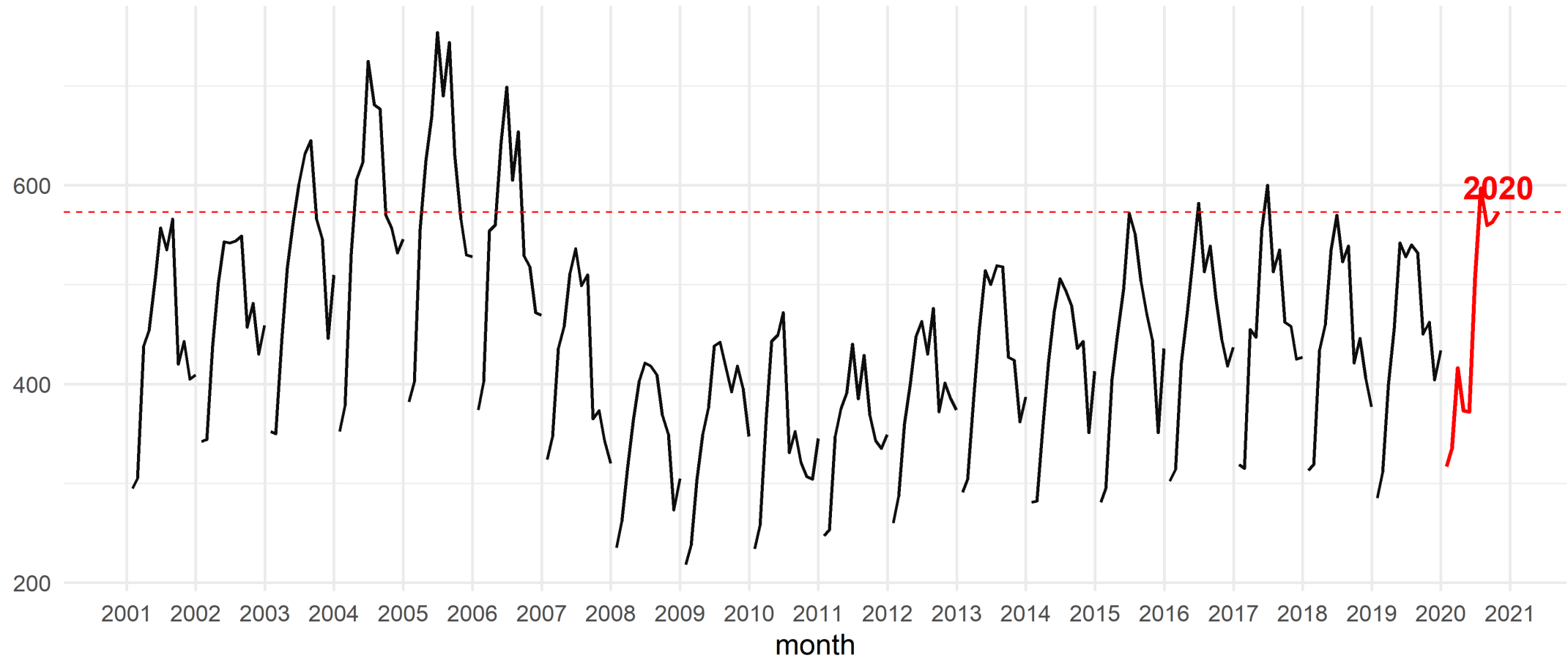
Number of single-family homes available for sale (millions, not seasonally adjusted)



@lenkieferr Source: National Association of Realtors

U.S. Existing Home Sales

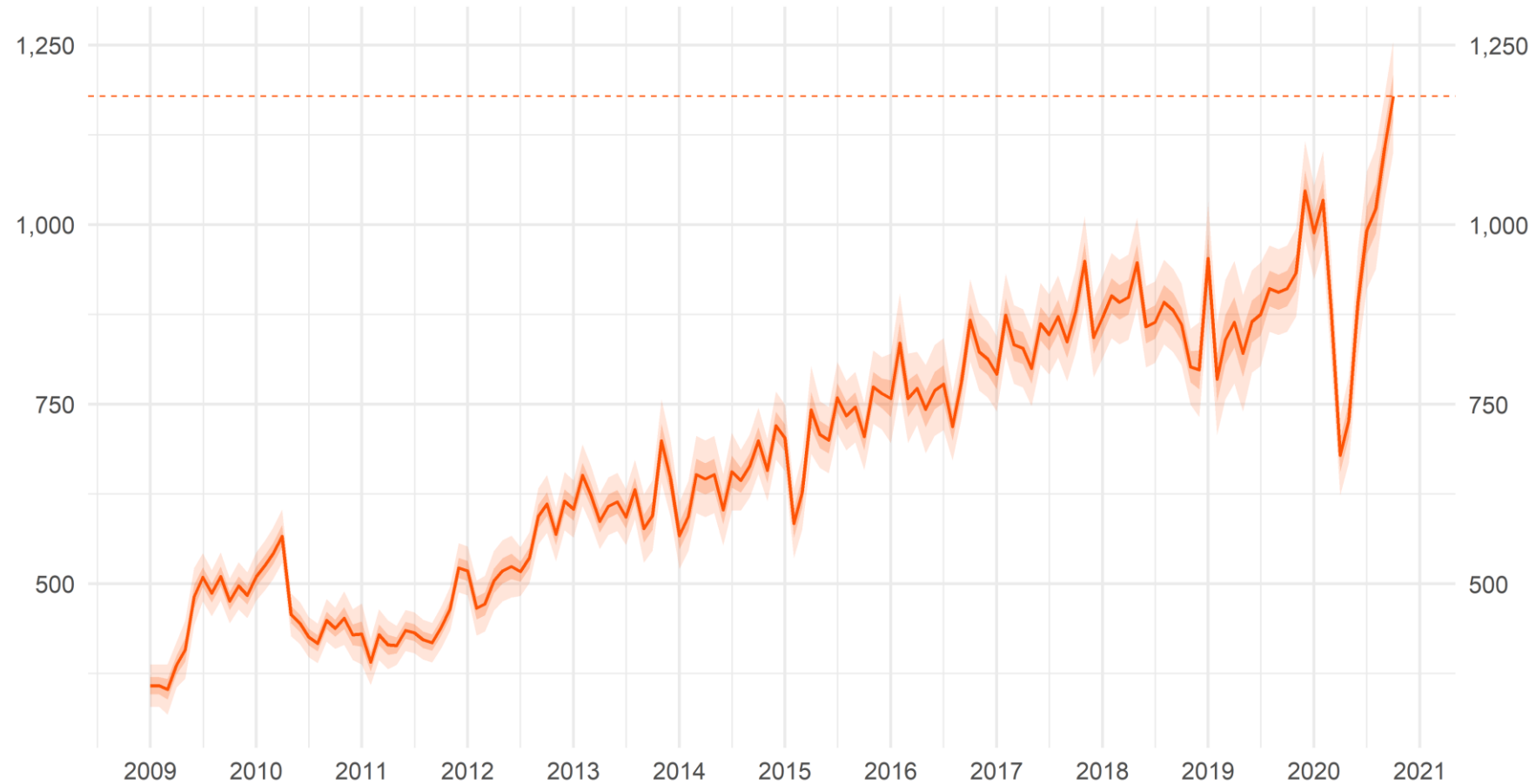
Total existing home sales (thousands, not seasonally adjusted)



@lenkieferr Source: National Association of Realtors

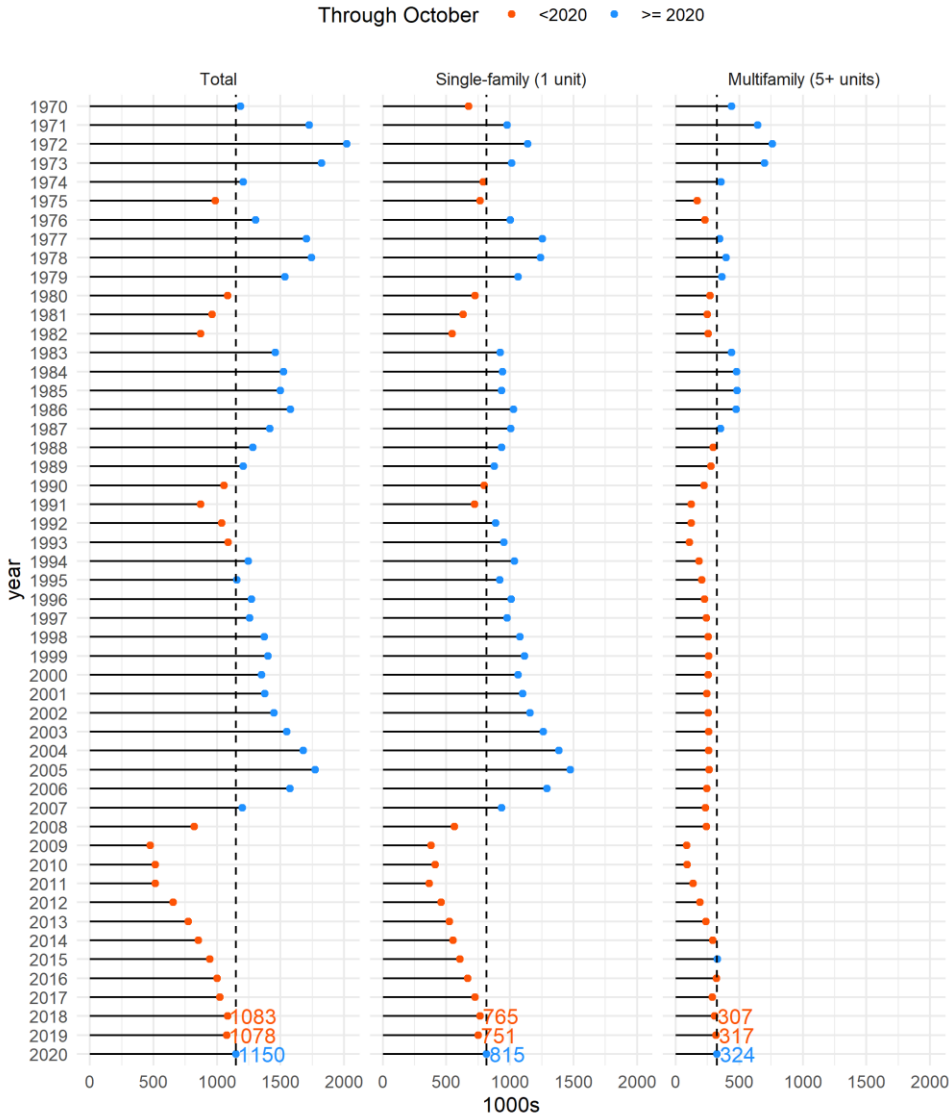
U.S. Single-family Housing Starts (1000s, SAAR)

Confidence Interval Around Estimates 25th to 75th pctile 5th to 25th (75th to 95th)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Department of Housing and Urban Development
Confidence interval based on normal distribution given relative standard error.
Dotted line at October 2020 estimate

U.S. housing starts gaining momentum
year-to-date housing starts through October



@lenkier Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Department of Housing and Urban Development

House Price Growth (USA)

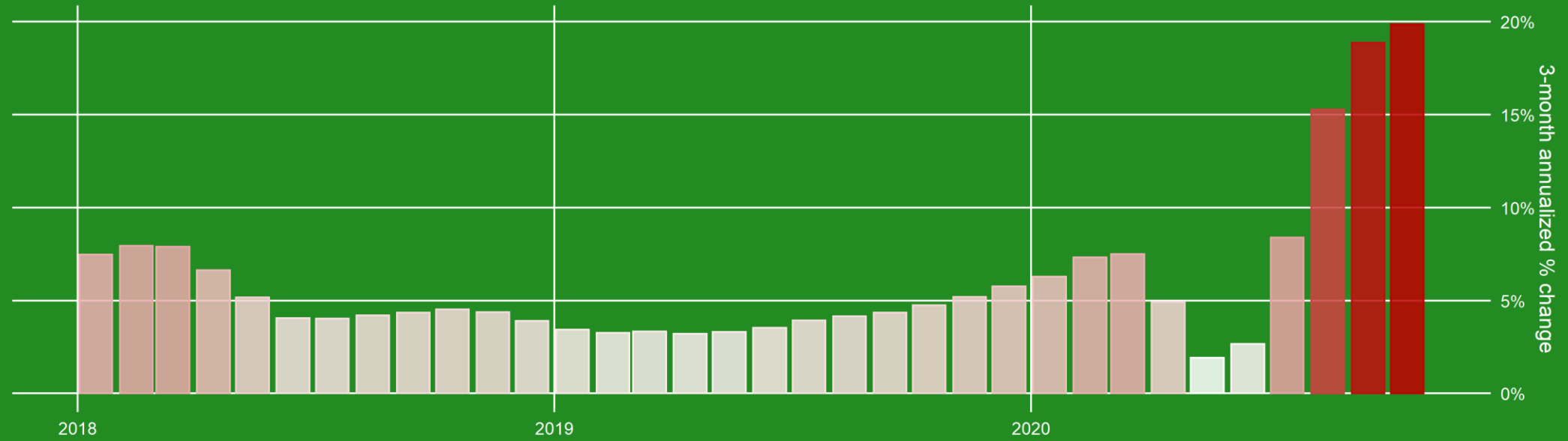
Jan 1975-Oct 2020

3-month growth (annualized rate)

5.0%

10.0%

15.0%



@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index, seasonally adjusted

House Price Growth by State
Jan 2018-Oct 2020

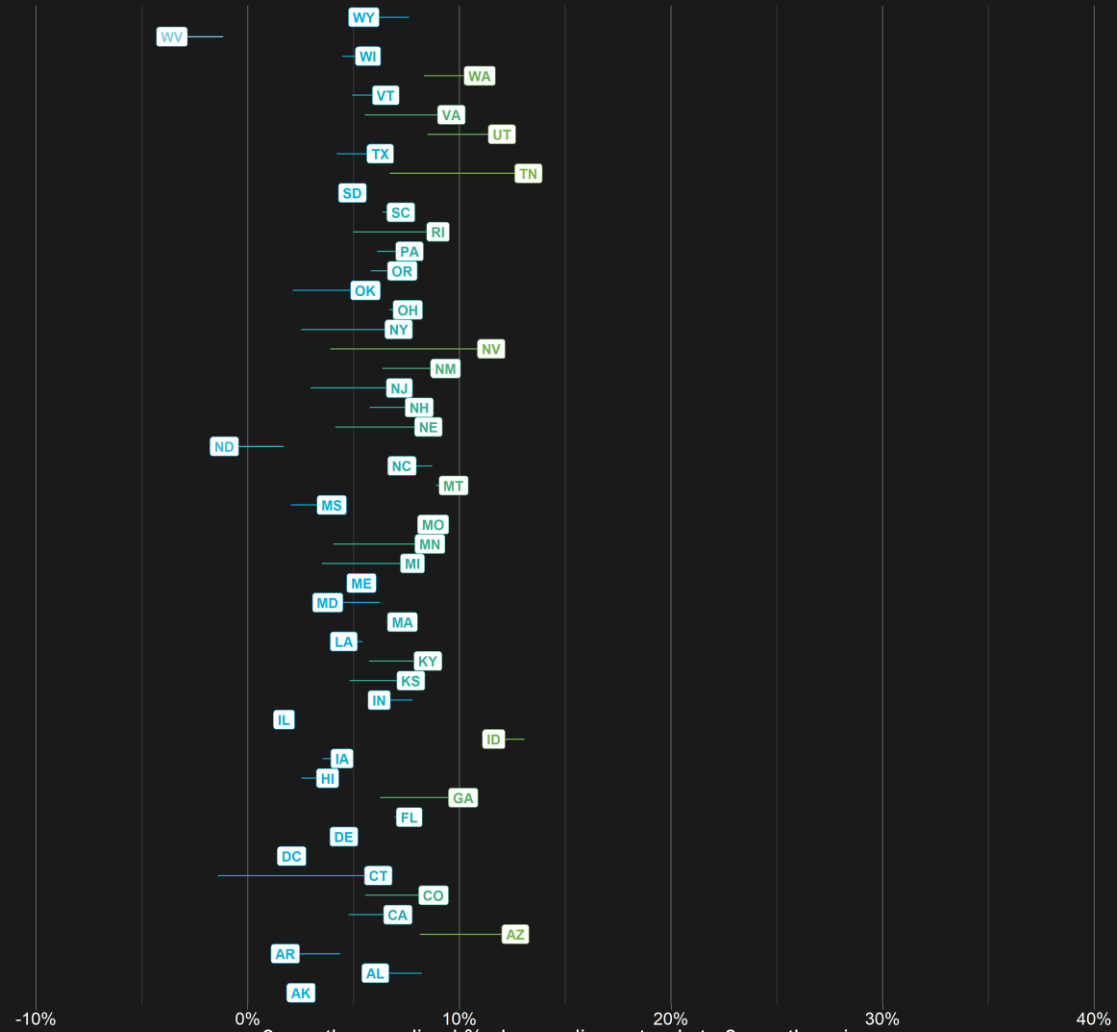
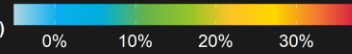


@lenkieferr Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index, seasonally adjusted

House Price Growth by State

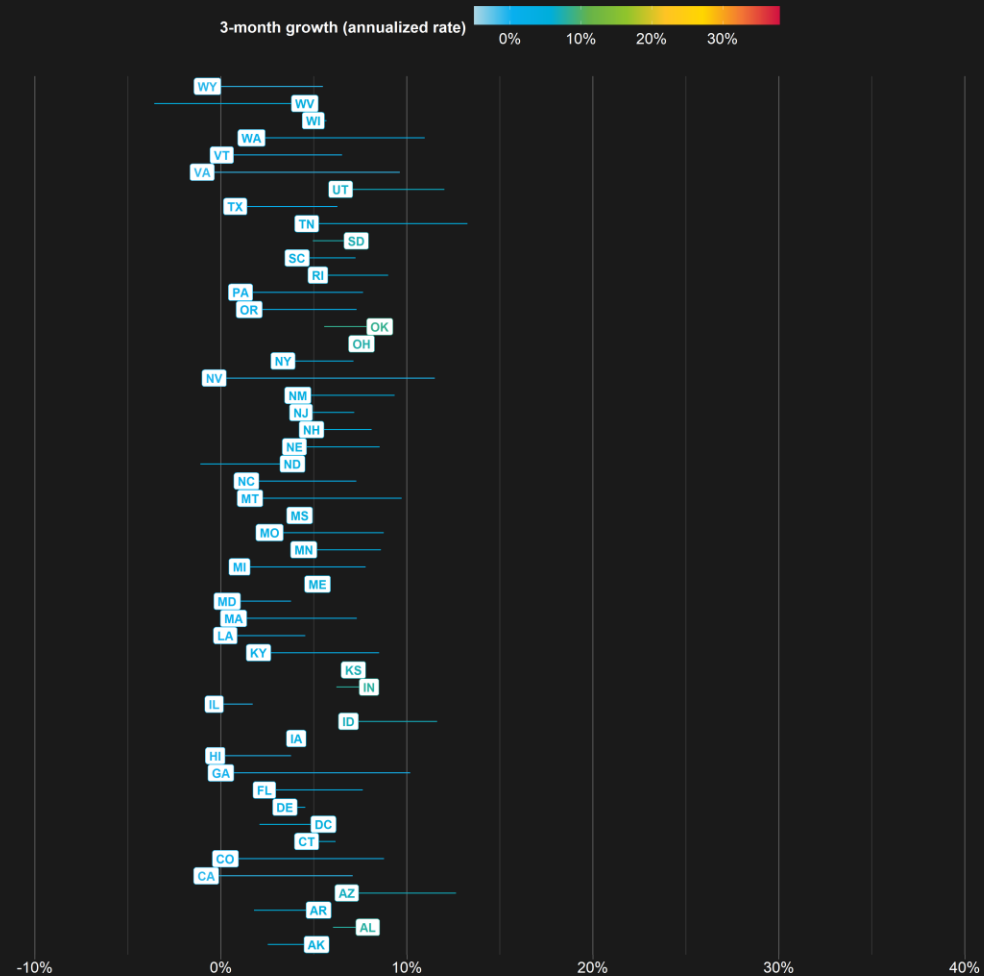
Feb 2020

3-month growth (annualized rate)



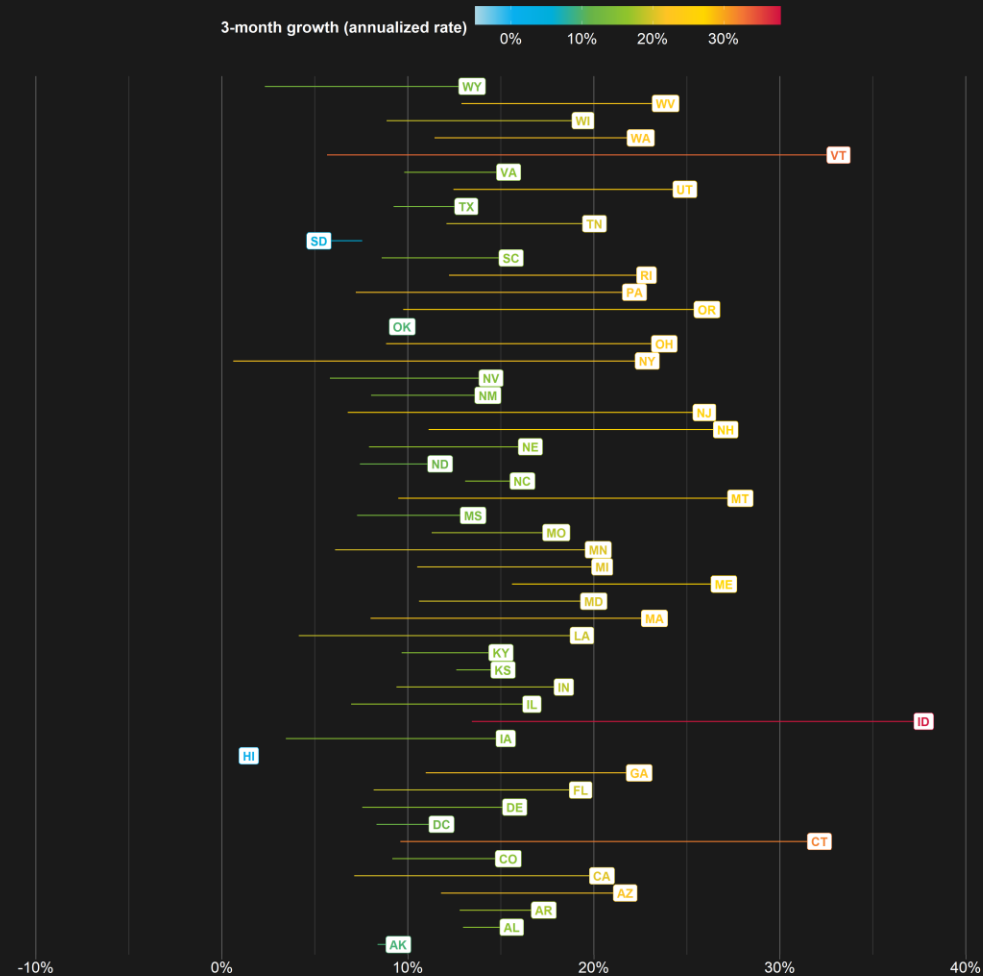
3-month annualized % change, line extends to 3-months prior
@lenkieferr Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index, seasonally adjusted

House Price Growth by State
May 2020



@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index, seasonally adjusted

House Price Growth by State
Oct 2020

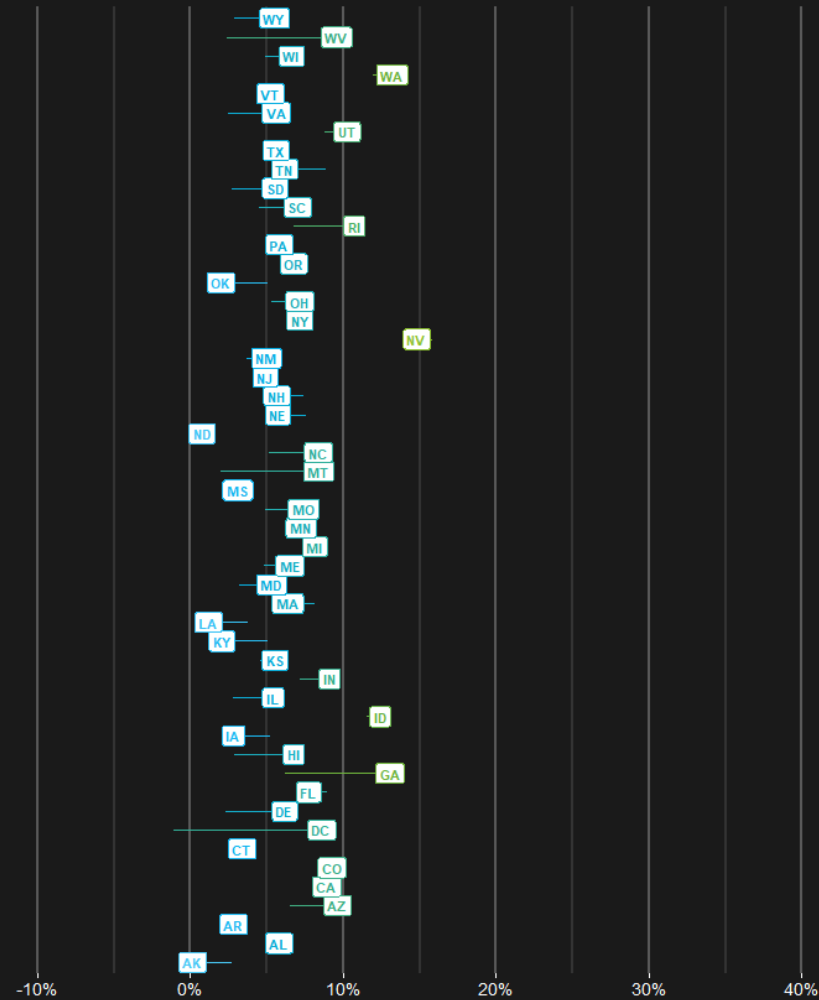


@lenkier Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index, seasonally adjusted

House Price Growth by State

Jan 2018

3-month growth (annualized rate)



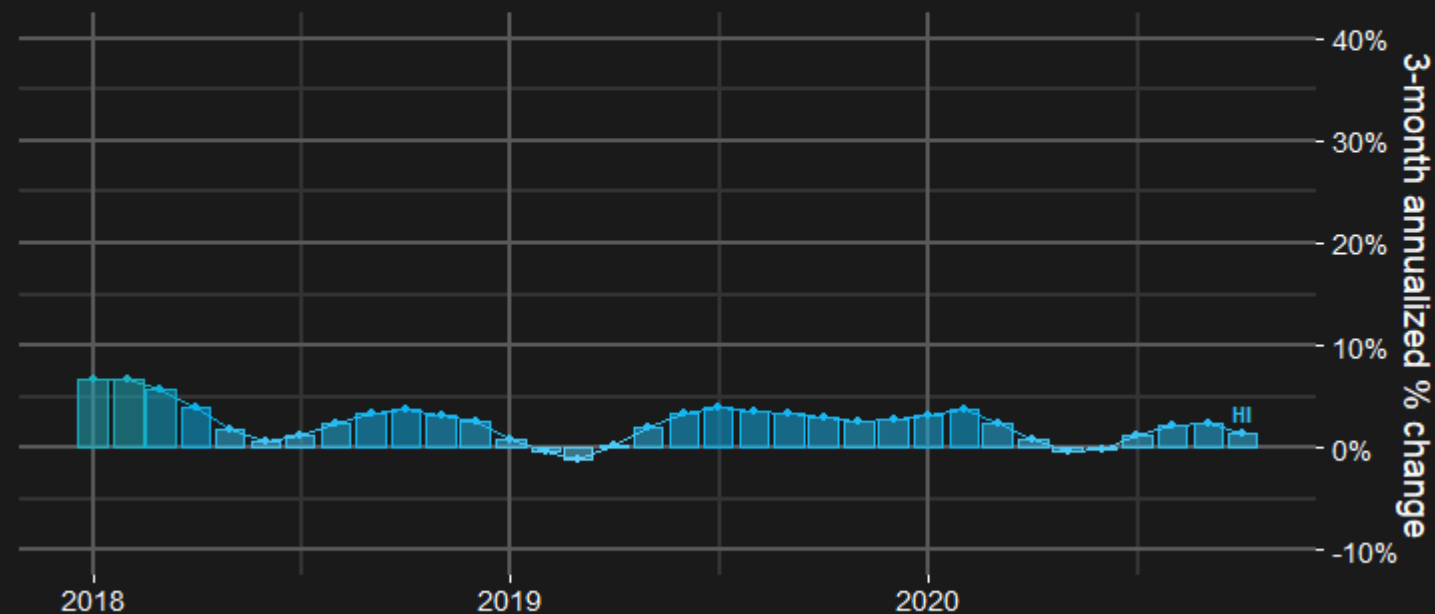
3-month annualized % change, line extends to 3-months prior

@lenkieferr Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index, seasonally adjusted

House Price Growth by State

HI

3-month growth (annualized rate)

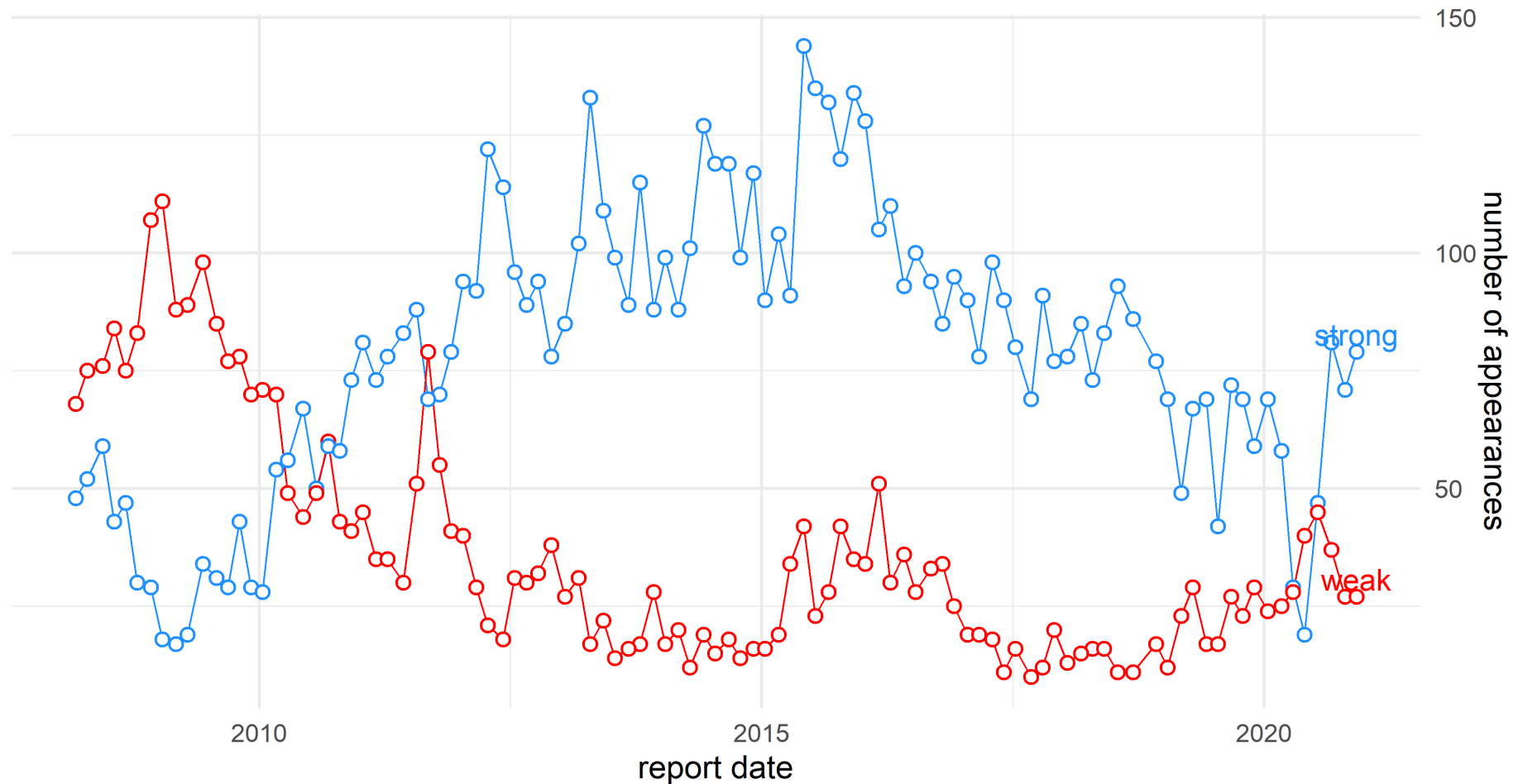


@lenkieferr Source: Freddie Mac House Price Index, seasonally adjusted

Visualizing Text

Number of times term appears in Beige Book

Beige Book Mar 2008-Dec 2020



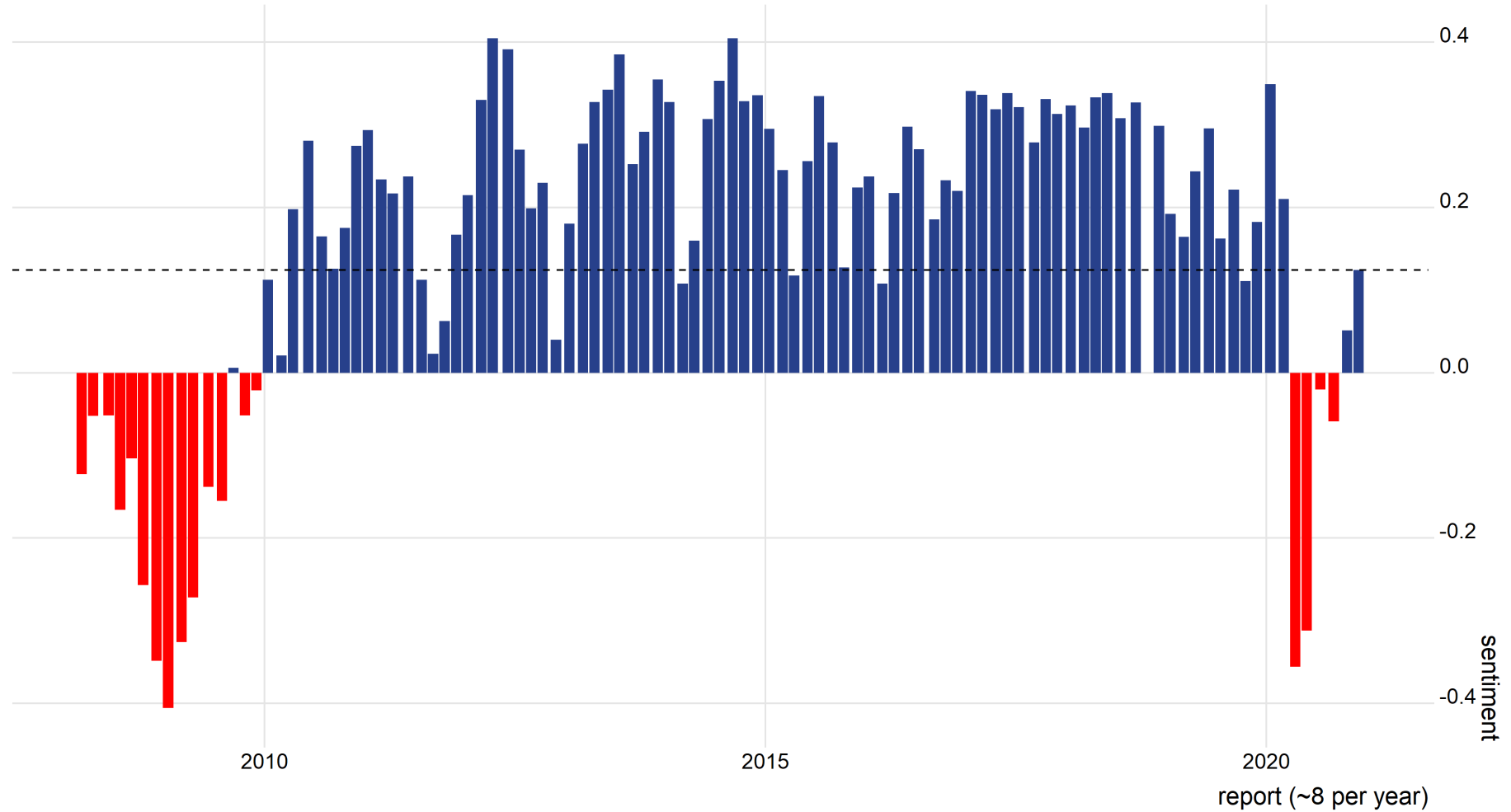
@lenkieferr Source: Federal Reserve Board Beige Book
For details and R code see Beige-ian Statistics: <http://lenkieferr.com/2018/07/29/beige-ian-statistics/>
strong includes "strong", "stronger", "strongest", "strengthen", "strengthened", "strengthening", "strongly"
weak includes "weak", "weaken", "weakened", "weaker", "weakest", "weakly", "weakening"

Sentiment in Federal Reserve Beige Book

customized bing lexicon

$\text{sentiment} = (\text{positive} - \text{negative}) / (\text{positive} + \text{negative})$

dotted line at December 2020 value



@lenkieferr

Source: Beige Book March 2008 - Dec 2020

For details and R code see Beige-ian Statistics: <http://lenkieferr.com/2018/07/29/beige-ian-statistics/>

Highest tf-idf words in Dec Federal Beige Book: 2008-2020

Top 10 terms by tf-idf statistic: term frequency and inverse document frequency

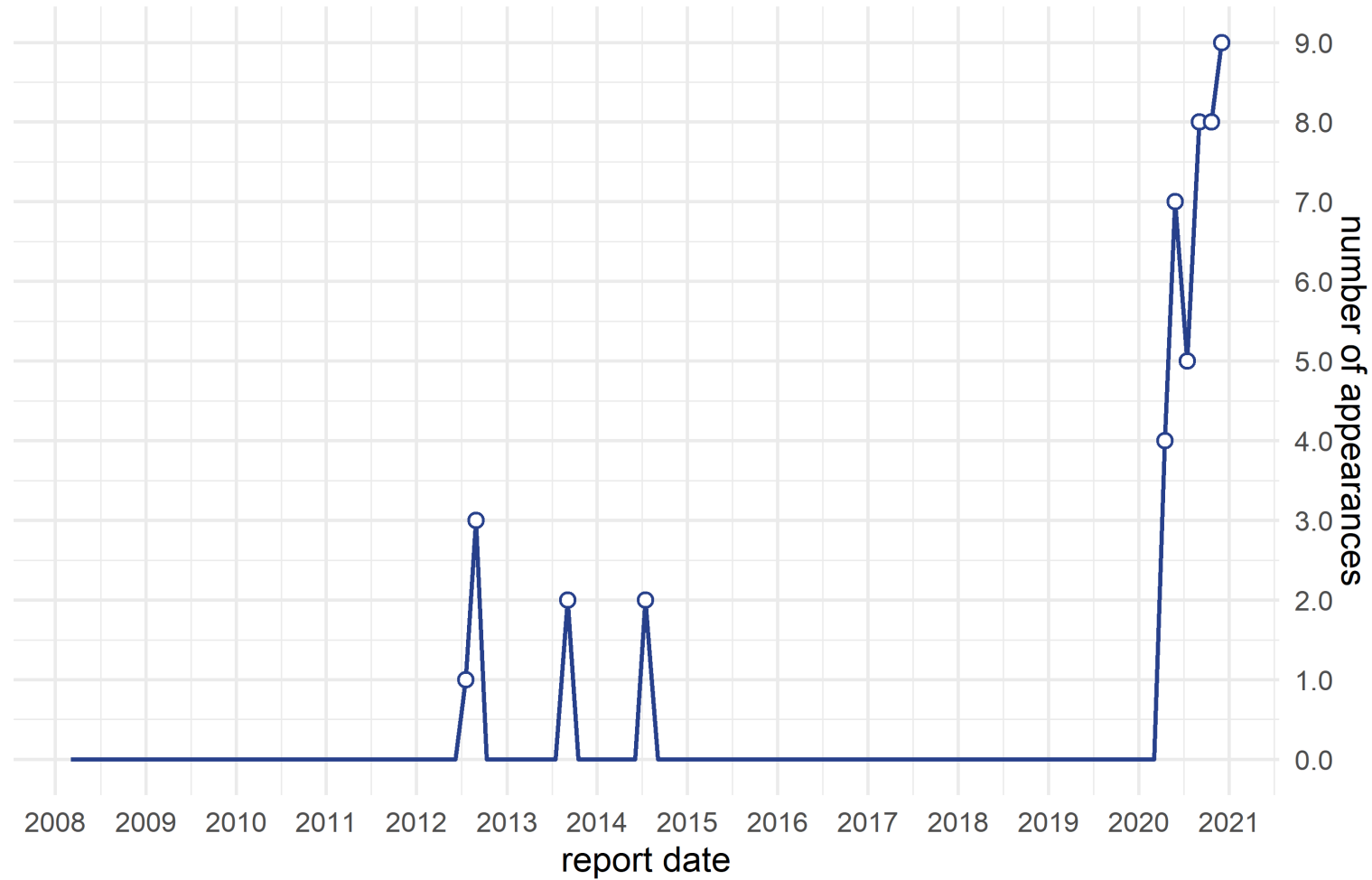


tf-idf

@lenkier Source: Federal Reserve Board Beige Book
Note: omits stop words, date abbreviations and numbers.

Number of times "child","children" or "childcare" appears in report

Beige Book Mar 2008-Dec 2020



@lenkieferr Source: Federal Reserve Board Beige Book
For details and R code see Beige-ian Statistics: <http://lenkieferr.com/2018/07/29/beige-ian-statistics/>
Includes terms 'child','children','childcare'

Get more information

An excellent resource:

<https://clauswilke.com/dataviz/>

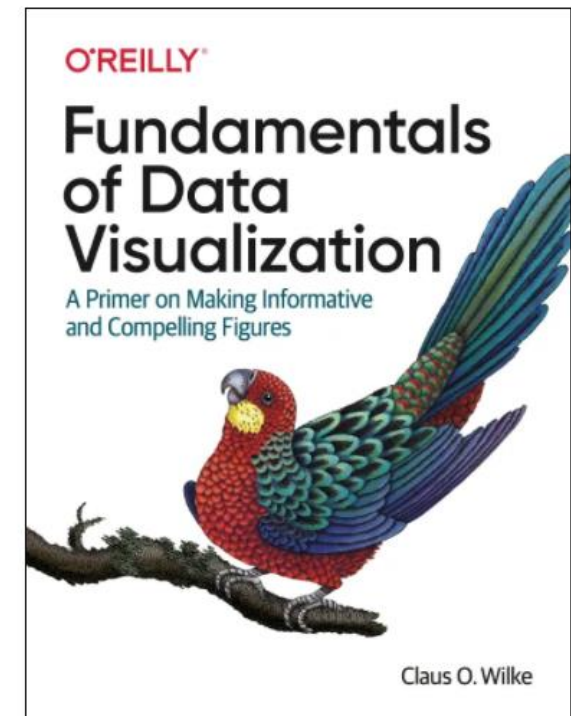
Fundamentals of Data Visualization

Claus O. Wilke

Welcome

This is the website for the book “Fundamentals of Data Visualization,” published by O’Reilly Media, Inc. The website contains the complete author manuscript before final copy-editing and other quality control. If you would like to order an official hardcopy or ebook, you can do so at various resellers, including [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), [Google Play](#), or [Powells](#).

The book is meant as a guide to making visualizations that accurately reflect the data, tell a story, and look professional. It has grown out of my experience of working with students and postdocs in my laboratory on thousands of data visualizations. Over the years, I have noticed that the same issues arise over and over. I have attempted to collect my accumulated knowledge from these interactions in the form of this book.



Find reproducible R code at lenkiefier.com, or follow me on Twitter and LinkedIn

Len Kiefer

Home

Archive

About

Twitter

LinkedIn

GitHub

© 2015-2018. All rights reserved.

Built with Hugo
Theme Blackburn

Len Kiefer

Helping people understand the economy, housing and mortgage markets

Visual Meditations on House Prices 2020 Edition

2020/11/30

[dataviz](#) / [house prices](#) / [R](#)

VISUAL MEDITATIONS are the analysis of repeated graphs of the same data with variations on a graphical theme. When altering the mapping of data to aesthetics sometimes interesting patterns emerge. I find it a useful practice. I made a series of these a few years ago with different charts. The chart images have been lost to past blog migrations, but the code should still work. In this post, I want to consider several alternative ways to visualize house prices.

[Read more »](#)

New Research Paper Inequality During the COVID-19 Pandemic The Case of Savings from Mortgage Refinancing

2020/11/23


[economy](#) / [mortgage](#) / [presentation](#) / [housing](#)

For several months now, I've been working on a new research paper with Sumit Agarwal, Souphala Chomsisengphet, Hua Kiefer, and Paolina Medina studying refinance activity this year. When we started the

←

Len Kiefer

17.2K Tweets



Edit profile

Len Kiefer

@lenkiefier

Deputy Chief Economist at Freddie Mac. I help people understand the economy, housing, mortgage markets.

Falls Church, Virginia · lenkiefier.com · Joined December 2014

780 Following · 14.8K Followers

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Likes


Pinned Tweet

Len Kiefer

@lenkiefier · Apr 20

I have made a place to share some favorite data visualizations.


Will update and add more as we go



Updated Favorite Data Visualizations
A place for us to find updated versions of favorite data visualizations
lenkiefier.com

in

Search



Leonard Kiefer

Deputy Chief Economist at Freddie Mac

Activity

3,628 followers





Chart for today: Though home prices have been increasing rapidly, so far falling...
Leonard shared this
2 Reactions



possibly, hard to say for sure as we are in totally uncharted territory with COVID. if...
Leonard replied to a comment