

#### **Q1** | 2025

# Property Report

Quarterly report from Ireland's leading property portal

myhome.ie/reports

In association with Bank of Ireland

# **Bank of Ireland**





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## Summary

## 8%

Annual inflation steady at 8%

#### **10,800** Listings end of

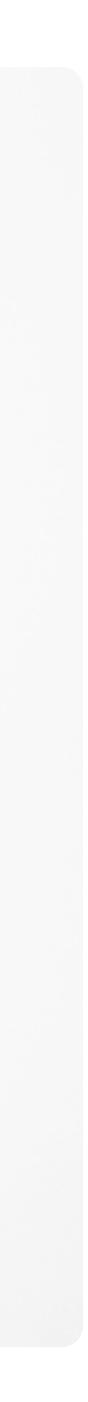
March 2025

### 20%

One-in-seven homes are being sold by 20% or more above the original asking price

### • 11 weeks

Average time to Sale Agreed







The latest MyHome Property Price Report, in association with Bank of Ireland, for the first quarter of the year paints a gloomy picture for prospective homebuyers, with annual asking price inflation around the country topping 8% once again.

In our latest report, we note that activity in the housing market is largely reliant on those at the upper end of the income distribution group. With the full scale and impact of proposed US tariffs on the EU yet to be determined, it stands to reason that any shock to our economy would have a knock-on effect on housing market demand.

As it stands, however, robust demand and inadequate supply are still the hallmarks of the Irish housing market. The average time to sale agreed is now 11 weeks, while one in seven properties is being sold for an astonishing 20% over the asking price. On the other hand, there were just 10,800 homes listed for sale on MyHome at the end of March 2025, a fresh record low.

Asking price inflation at 8% in Q1 2025

## Welcome

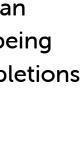
Much media attention in recent weeks has turned to housing completions, and here the picture is anything but clear. More than any other type of unit, we need to see more urban apartments being built, so it was particularly disappointing to see apartment completions down by 24% in the last year.

We do expect to see a pick-up in completions this year, however, with the equivalent of two years of apartment supply under construction in September 2024. The delivery of these homes is critically important as housing stays firmly in the Government spotlight.

As always, MyHome will continue to offer the most compelling insights into the market, and I hope you enjoy our latest report.

Janno Gear V

Joanne Geary Managing Director, MyHome







## Commentary

#### Another difficult year in prospect for Irish homebuyers

The MyHome report shows asking prices rose by another substantial 1.7% in Q1 2025, with annual inflation steady at 8%. Despite stretched affordability, house prices look set for another robust gain. Here, our forecast for 5% inflation in 2025 could prove too conservative.

The key driver remains the 5% pace of pay growth, accompanied by rising leverage amongst first-time-buyers following the relaxation of the mortgage lending rules. The average mortgage approval was €318,400 in January, up 7% on 2024 – pointing to further price gains.

The extent of the tightening housing market is still striking. At end-March, just 10,800 homes were listed for sale on MyHome, a fresh record low. Just one in every two hundred homes in Ireland is currently listed for sale. Hence, the average time-to-sale agreed is now just 11-weeks. Whatever homes are for sale are being snapped ever more quickly.

Especially worrying is that vendors are being put off, worried by difficult bidding processes, artificially low asking prices, or the risk of failing to secure a home once they sell their own. One-in-seven properties is being sold at a premium of 20% or more, over-andabove the original asking price.

True, this reflects the intense competition for homes but in many instances asking prices are not a genuine guide to affordability, putting off home-movers. Notably, first-time-buyer mortgage drawdowns rose to 26,200 in 2024, their highest level since 2007 but mover drawdowns fell to just 9,000 loans, now 20% below pre-Covid-19 levels.

It is tempting to conclude there is little risk of over-valuation in the housing market, given conservative lending to first-time-buyers, 3.5 times incomes at the median. Clearly, there is no bubble in mortgage lending. However, this analysis ignores that first-timebuyer incomes in H1 2024 averaged €90,000. Irish house prices are now 8-times average incomes of €51,000, their most stretched level since 2009.

The risk here is that Ireland's relatively thin, illiquid housing market, reliant on those at the top of the income distribution could be exposed to a sudden negative economic shock, such as the



One-in seven homes is being sold by 20% or more above the original asking price.











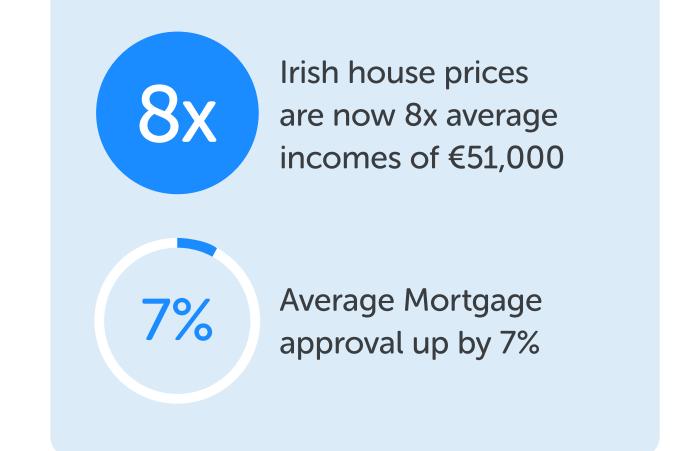
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Housing starts rose close to 60,000 units in the twelve months to October"with "Expected pick-up in housing completions in 2025"

risk of a US-EU tariff war, especially if it were to disproportionately hit employment in the high-paid multinational sector.

That said, our analysis of affordability still shows it makes more sense to buy than to rent. With average rents now €1,693 and €2,226 in Dublin, rental yields exceed 4.5% in all but two counties. Given retail mortgage rates have been cut towards 3%, and the ECB is expected to cut its key deposit rate to 3% by end-2025, the incentive to buy over renting looks set to grow.

Turning to supply, the picture couldn't be more opaque. The 67,000 housing starts recorded in 2024 clearly didn't; reflect underlying activity levels, but rather developers rushing to avail of waivers on local authority and water infrastructure charges.



That said, it is worth remembering that completions of scheme houses rose to 16,200 in 2024, or including one-off houses to 21,600. In both cases these are the highest levels attained since the Celtic Tiger era.

Rather, the disappointing 30,000 completion figure for 2024 reflected the 8,763 apartment completions, down 24% on the year. However, it's worth remember the 4Dublin Housing Supply figures show 15,900 apartments, equivalent to at least 2-years supply, were still under construction as of September 2024. So in summary, we would still expect some pick-up in housing completions in 2025.

First-time-buyer mortgage drawdowns rose to 26,200 in 2024, their highest level since



Conall MacCoille Chief Economis Bank of Ireland Group



## Asking prices

#### Asking price inflation still high at 8.1%



The latest MyHome report points to sustained momentum in Irish house prices early in 2025. Asking prices rose by a solid 1.7% on the quarter to €300,000 at the median in Q1 2025, with the annual inflation only receding slightly to 8.1%. In Dublin, asking price inflation accelerated slightly to 6.2%, but fell in the rest of Ireland to 9.2%.

Of course, it is still early in 2025. The real acid test of pricing will be the second quarter, setting the tone for the busy summer trading season. That said, if anything our forecast that residential property prices will rise by 5% through 2025 could prove too conservative.' Pay growth is now running at 5.6% providing a

Asking price inflation outside of Dublin stands at 9.2%

natural impetus to pricing, in the context of a buoyant demand but with housing supply still impaired.

One feature of the Irish housing market in 2024 was competition amongst homebuyers leading to transactions being settled at higher premia to the original asking price. Hence, the CSO residential property price inflation (RPPI) peaked at 10% in 2024, higher than asking price inflation. In early 2025 properties were being sold 8% above asking on average, similar to Q4 2024. This is a fledgling sign price inflation is set to slow. Also, asking prices should be a better guide to transaction price inflation in 2025. However, the market is still not operating efficiently. In many cases, the asking price is not a good guide for homebuyers of the final transaction price, giving a false sense of affordability. In early 2025 one-in-seven properties were still being sold by 20% or more over the original asking price.

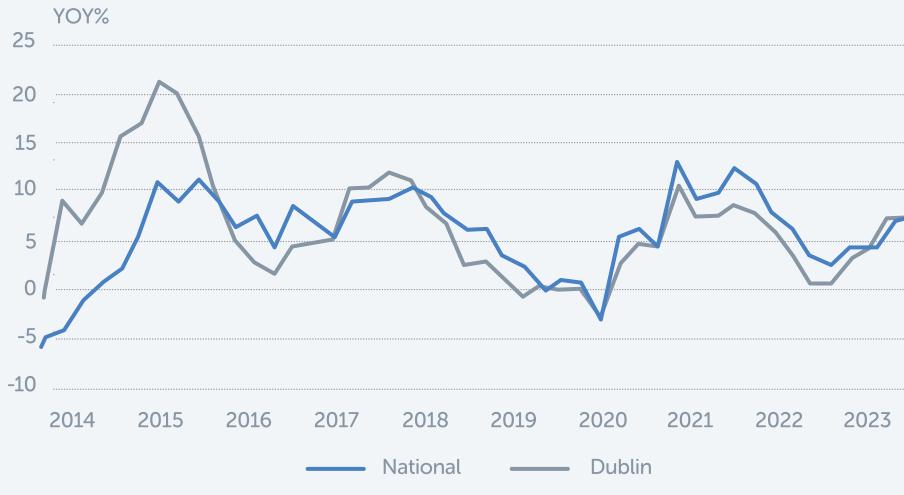


Figure 1 MyHome Asking Price Inflation

2 2023 2024 Source: MyHome

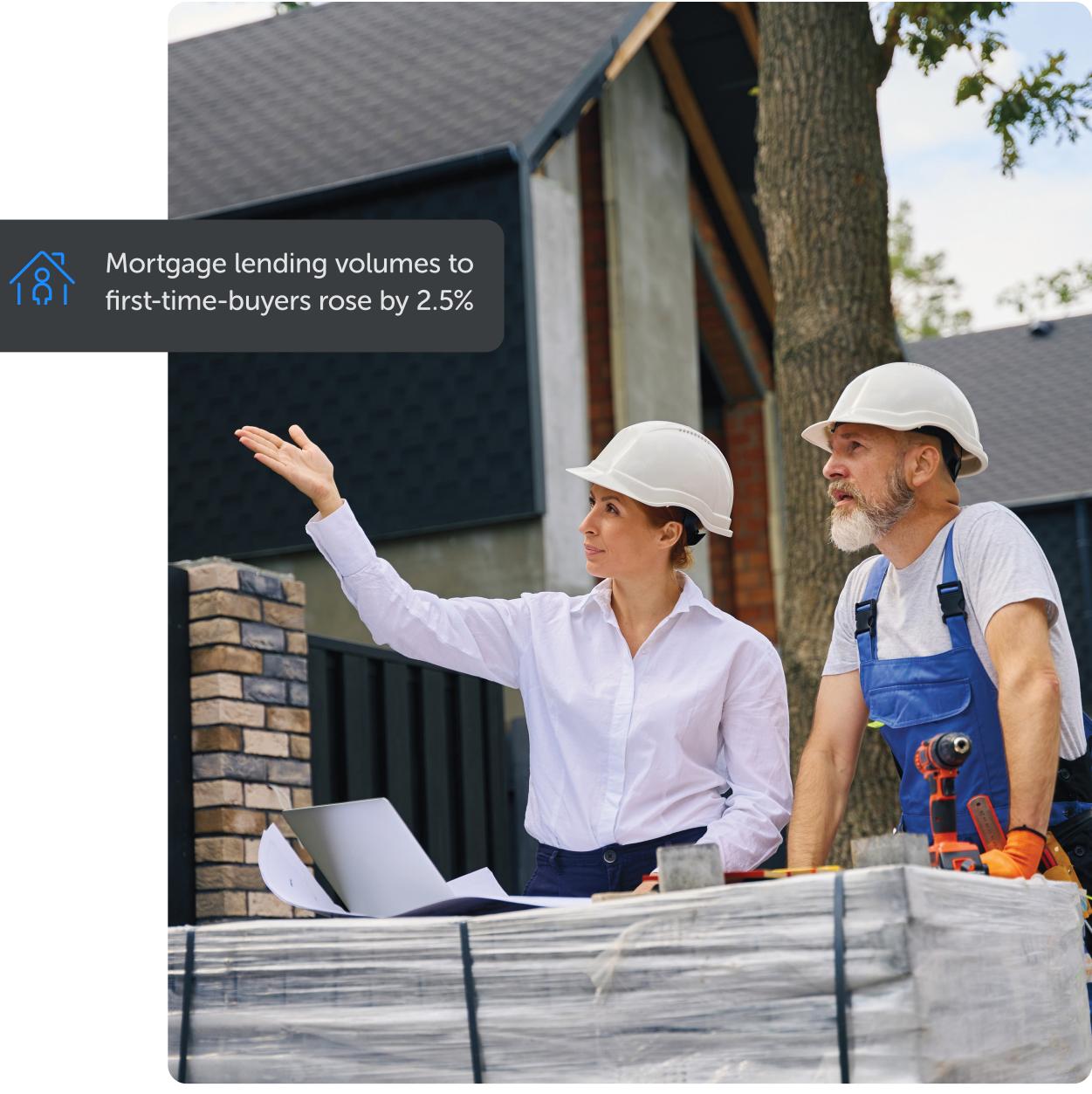
















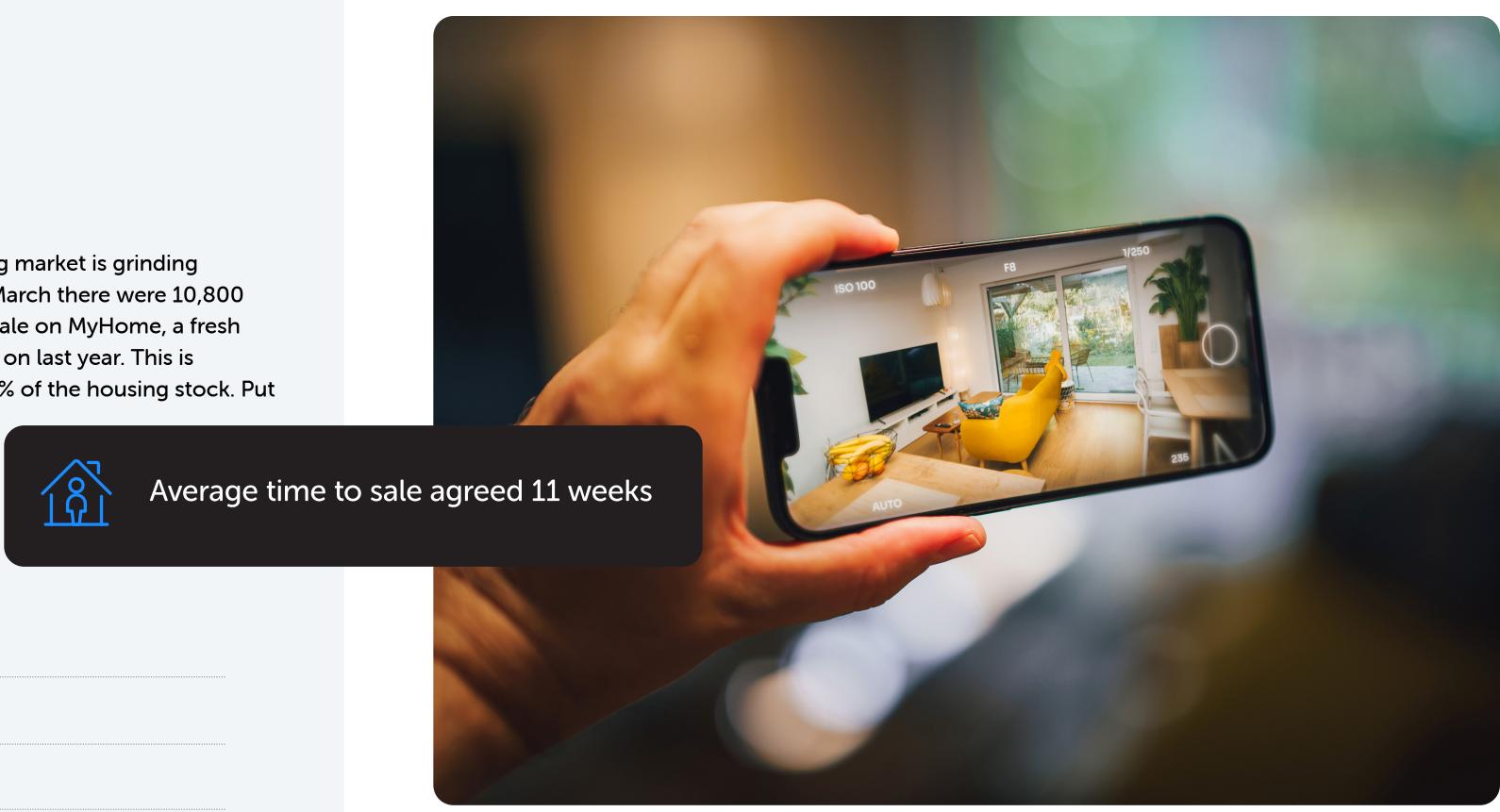


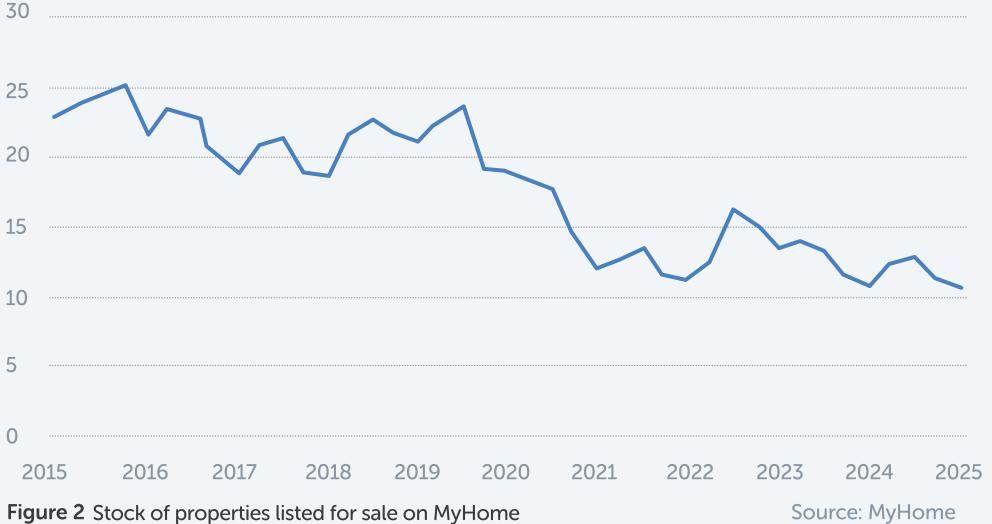
## Housing market grinds tighter again

There have been some marginally positive signs on housing supply. We estimate residential transaction volumes in Q1 2025 were up 6% on the year. Also, after a slow start to the year, new listings for sale in the six weeks to March 16th were 4,800, stronger than in both 2024 and 2023. Overall, the data points to tentative signs transactional activity should see modest growth in 2025.

However, the housing market is grinding ever tighter. At end-March there were 10,800 properties listed for sale on MyHome, a fresh record low, down 1% on last year. This is equivalent to just 0.5% of the housing stock. Put

another way, just one in every two hundred homes in Ireland is currently



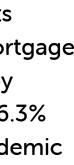


listed for sale on MyHome. That said, the average time to sale agreed is now just under 11-weeks, again a historic low, explaining how transactions levels rose in Q1 2025.

However, it now seems clear that would-be vendors are being put off by the tight housing market. Should they sell their own home first, movers run the risk of failing to secure another. Vendors are no doubt wary of difficult bidding

processes that put them at a disadvantage to firsttime-buyers.

Consistent with this view, Banking Payments Federation Ireland (BPFI) data show that mortgage lending volumes to first-time-buyers rose by 2.5% in 2024 to 26,242, but for movers fell 6.3% to 9,030, still 20% below pre-Covid-19 pandemic 2019 levels.

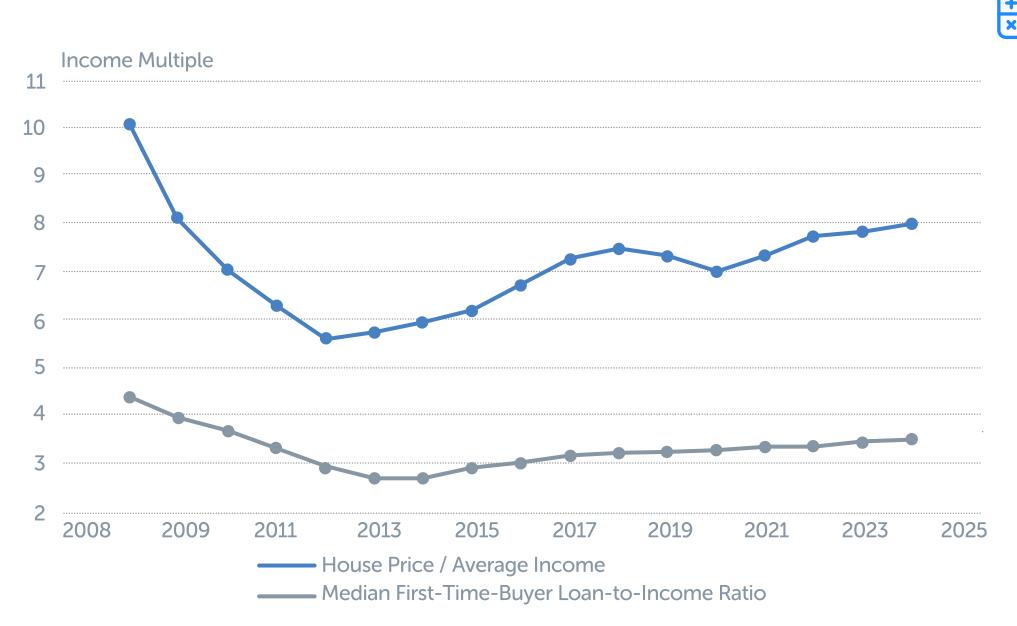




## Housing market availability still exceptionally challenging for homebuyers

Through 2024 Ireland's residential property price index rose by 8.7%, stretching affordability vs the 5.6% pay growth recorded over the same period.

Figure 3 below shows that the average Irish residential property transaction of €404,000, was an 8-times multiples of average annual earnings





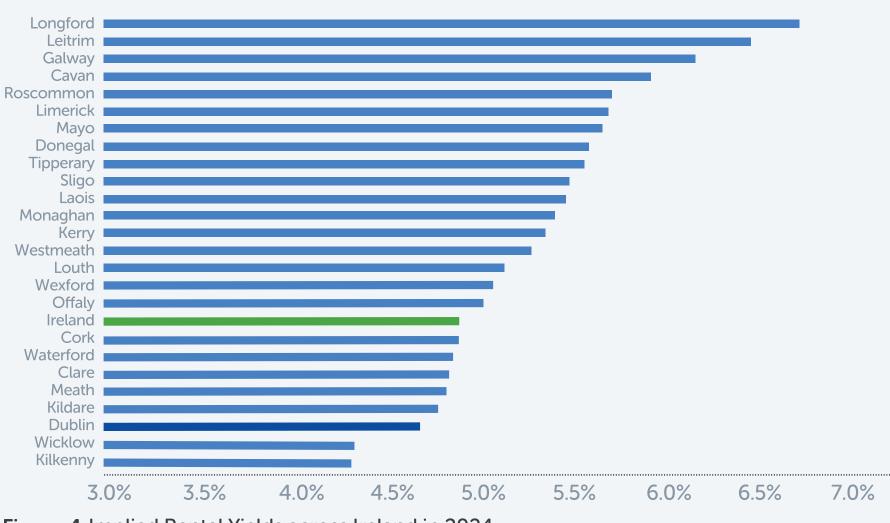


Figure 4 Implied Rental Yields across Ireland in 2024 Source: Central Statistics Office and Residential Tenancies Board

of €51,000. This is the most stretched Irish house prices have become relative to income since 2009.

Of course, multiples on Irish mortgage lending are far lower. The median first-time-buyer loan-toincome multiple was 3.5x in H1 2024, well below the 4.4x recorded in 2008. This lower multiple is because these buyers had incomes far in excess of the average, €90,000. However, this Irish house pricing is reliant, in a market with limited liquidity, on homebuyers at the top of the income distribution. In this context, house prices will be vulnerable to any unanticipated macroeconomic shock. For example, any hit to employment in the multinational sector.

That said, it still makes sense to buy a property with a mortgage over renting. According to the Residential Tenancies Board, the average rent is now €1,693 per month, and €2,226 in Dublin. Given current purchase prices these figures imply rental yields of 4.9% and 4.6% respectively. Hence, it still makes more sense to buy a property than to rent, given mortgage rates of 3-3.5% currently available.

This is true for every county in Ireland with rental yields exceeding 4% in all cases. Here, Dublin, Wicklow and Kilkenny had the lowest implied yields in the range 4.3-4.7% making Longford the highest at 6.7%. During the Celtic Tiger era when rental yields fell below both the level of inflation and interest rates, investors making unrealistic expectations on future capital appreciation. The data illustrate Ireland faces a generalised lack of housing, also evident in rents, rather than any bubble in mortgage lending.



## Mortgage market shows demand still strong, pushing prices higher

The Irish mortgage market grew to €12.6bn in 2024, with house purchase lending (excluding top-ups and refinancing) €11.1bn, its strongest level since 2008. However, this growth primarily reflected rising house prices. The average mortgage loan at end-2024 was €309,000, up 6% on the year, whereas lending volumes were flat at 36,000 last year.

Looking forward to 2025, there is clearly no lack of housing demand, with average earnings growth now running at 5.6% and employment still up 2.7% through 2024. In January, the average mortgage approval was €318,400, up 6.7% on the year.

Given the buoyant labour market, but lack of housing supply, prospective homebuyers are

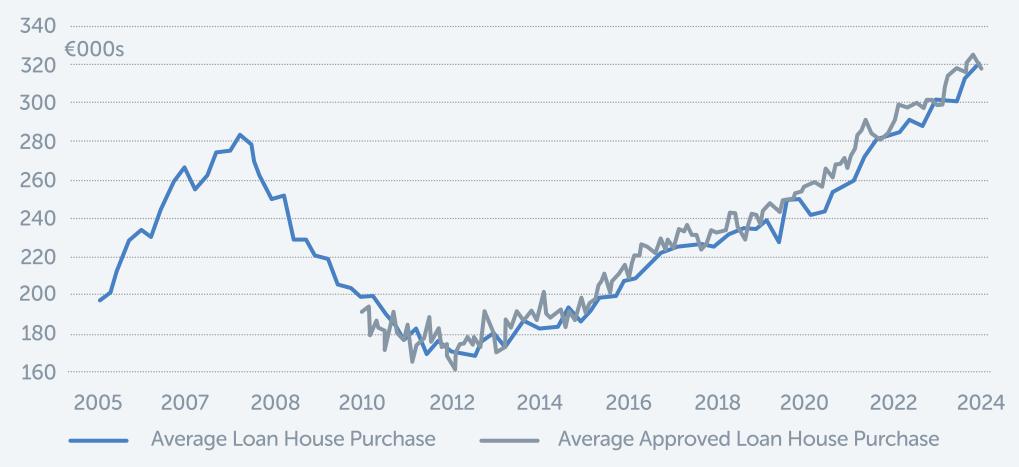


Figure 5 Average drawdown and approval for house purchase Source: Banking Payments Federation Ireland

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bringing higher levels of mortgage debt, pushing up on house prices. This process will likely continue in 2025. First-time-buyers are likely to continue adding leverage to their borrowing, following the relaxation of the Central Bank mortgage lending rules.

The cuts in the ECB deposit rate from the 4%

peak, to 2.5% currently, and with markets still expecting a 2% rate by end-2025, will also act to stimulate the Irish housing market. The average fixed rate on new mortgage loans fell to 3.6% in January, down from 4.2% in early-2024. Data from the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission show fixed rate loans as low as 3.1% now being advertised for A-energy rated homes.

The average fixed rate on new mortgage loans fell to 3.6% in January, down from 4.2% in early 2024.









## Homebuilding especially uncertain

Housing completions of 30,330 in 2024 were below expectations, down from 32,500 in 2023. However, scheme house completions of 16,200 were up 5% on the year to their highest level since the Celtic Tiger era. Rather, the surprisingly weak aggregate completions figure entirely reflected a 24% drop in apartments completions to 8,800 nationally in 2024.

It is possible apartment completions could bounce-back in 2025. Data from the '4Dublin Housing Supply Pipeline' shows that almost 16,000 apartments were under construction in the capital alone – equivalent to another 2-2.5 years of supply. That said, the 39% decline in the number of apartment units granted planning permission to 13,200 illustrates that viability and other issues, such as difficulty with the planning system, are now hindering future supply.

The water is muddled further by the dislocation between the number of housing starts and completions. The latest Department of Housing data indicate work commenced on 67,000 units in the twelve months to January 2025. However, this figure is likely inflated by developers rushing to avail of waivers on local authority charges and water infrastructure charges.

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Housing completions of 30,330 in 2024 were below expectations, down from 32,500 in 2023.





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## Rent price inflation picks-up to 6.4%



According to the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) data, average monthly rents rose to €1,693 nationally in Q3 2024, up 6.4% on the year. In Dublin rent inflation was a little weaker at 5.4%, but with the average rent at €2,226 per month in the capital.

However, for existing tenancies rent inflation moderated to 4.7%. This slower pace means there is now almost a 20% gap between the average

rent on renewals of existing tenancies (€1,429) and those for new tenancies (€1,693). Noticeably, this gap is larger still at 25% outside of Dublin.

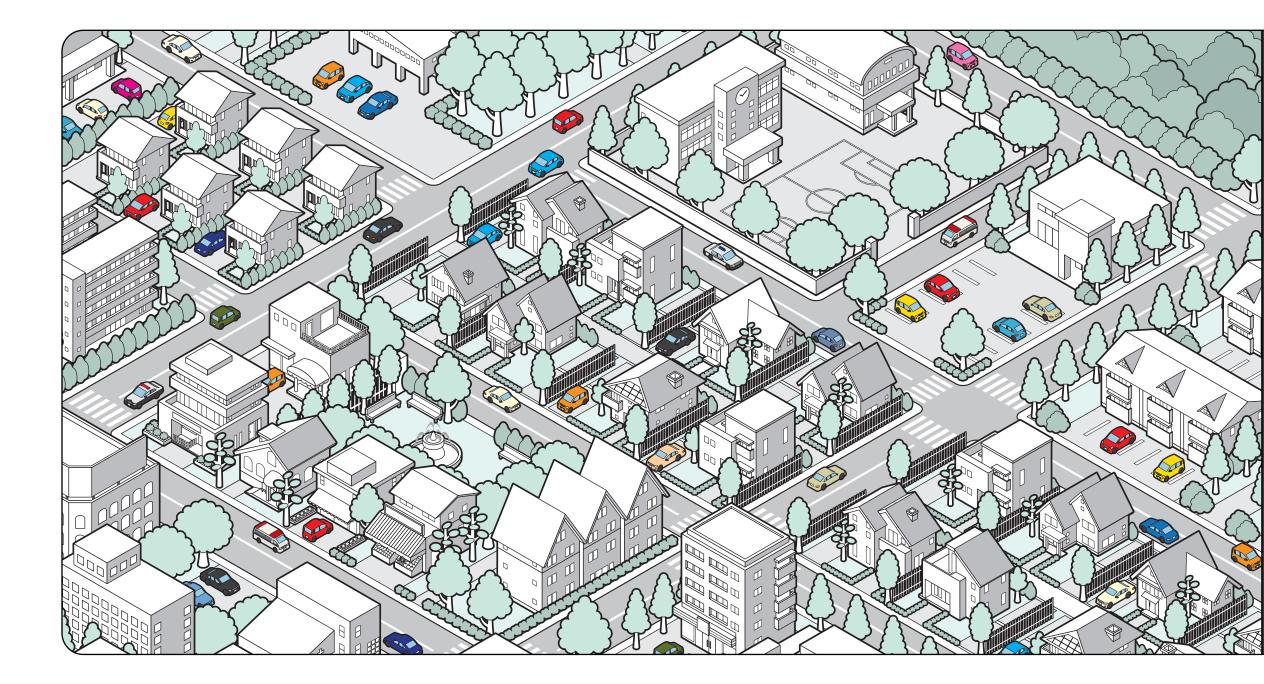
The CPI private rents index (a survey of estate agents, intended to capture both new and renewals of existing tenancies) points to private rents being up 5.2% in the year to February 2025, a broadly similar pace to the less timely RTB figures.



Figure 7 Irish rent price inflation Source: Central Statistics Office and Residential Tenacies Board



# Property Price Register Analysis



The Property Price Register indicates that €27bn of residential property transactions were recorded in 2024. However, we estimate this represented a 3% drop in transaction volumes to 61,400, or €444,000 on average. We estimate transaction

volumes in Q1 2025 were up 6% on the year. However, the lack of stock listed for sale could well prove a constraint on activity as the year progresses.

## Summary

#### €27BN

THERE WERE €27BN RESIDENTIAL **TRANSACTIONS IN 2024, OR** 61,400 IN VOLUME TERMS

#### **6%**

IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 2025 THERE WERE **€2.8BN OF RESIDENTIAL** TRANSACTIONS, WE ESTIMATE UP 6% IN VOLUME **TERMS ON 2024** 

#### €444,000

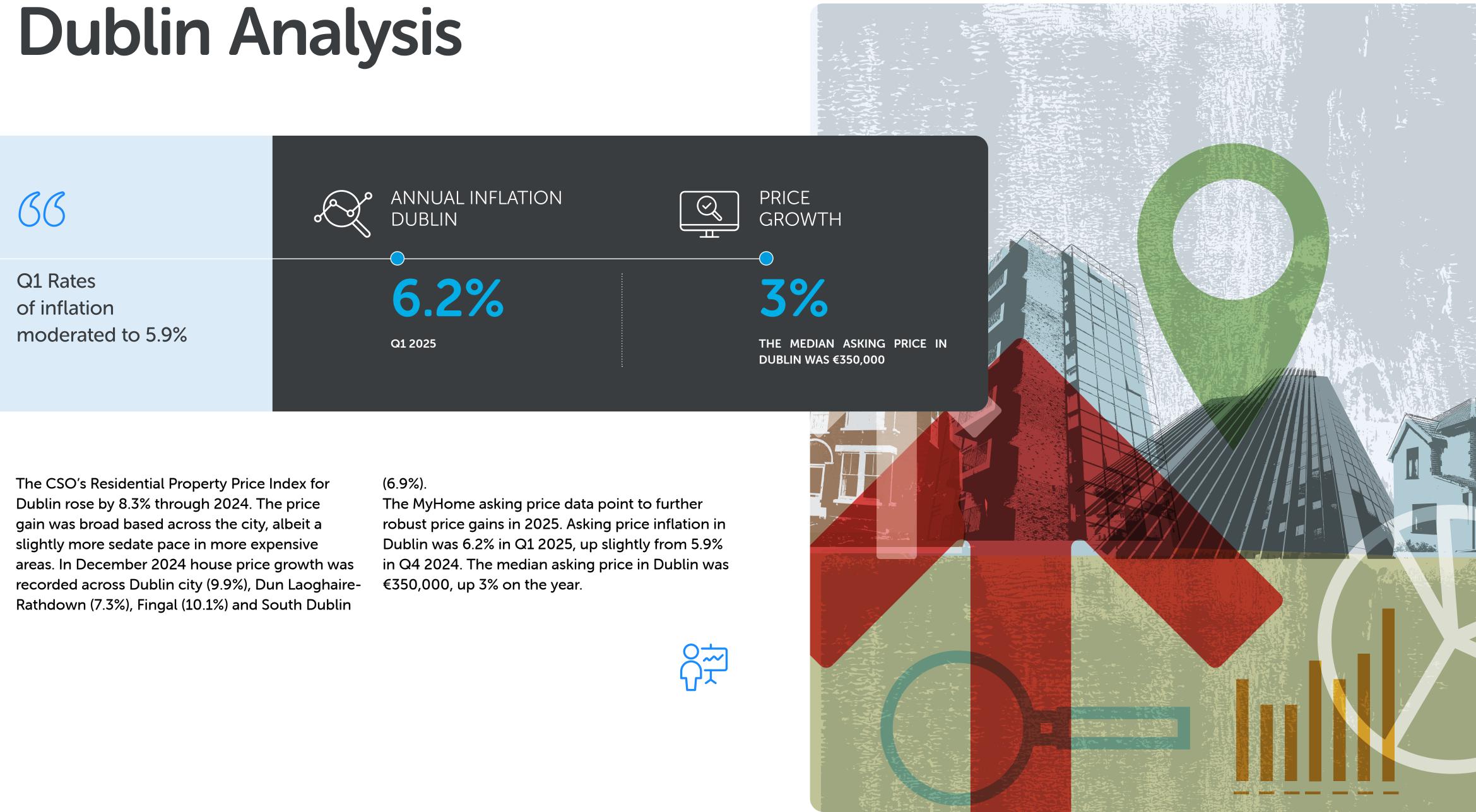
THE AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL **TRANSACTION IN 2024 WAS** €444,000 UP 10% FROM €403,000 IN 2023





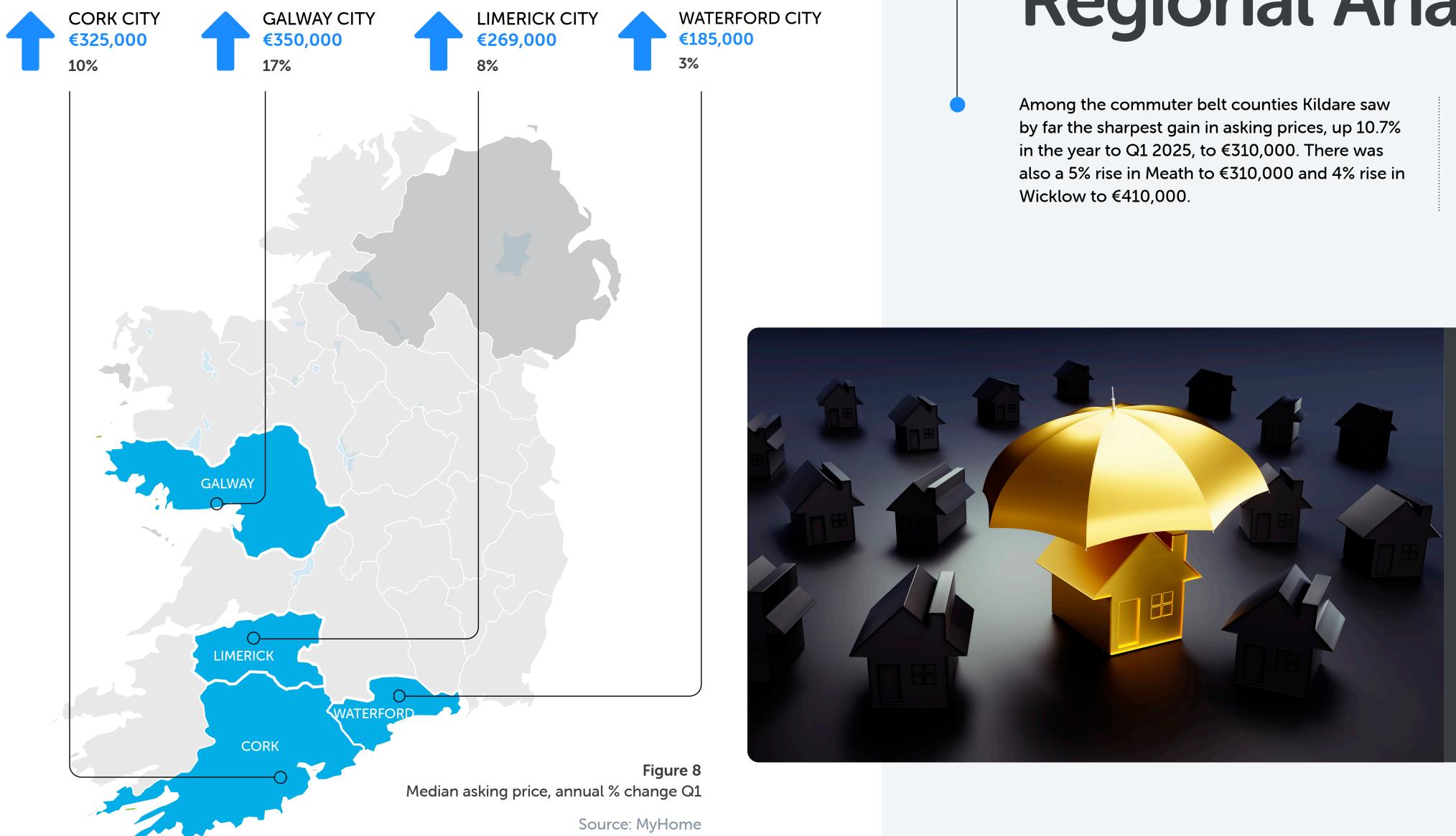










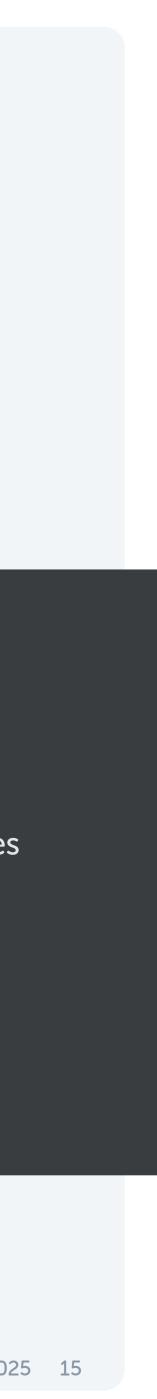


## **Regional Analysis**

KILDARE 10.7% to €310,000

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In Meath, prices were up to €310,000



## Leinster

Westmeath saw a sharp 11% rise to €260,000. Longford also saw prices rise 7.5% to €150,000. Offaly's median price was €240,000, also seeing a robust 7% gain on the year. However, price rises were more modest elsewhere. Wexford prices rose 4% to €285,000, but by only 2.4% in Laois and 1.2% in Louth to €215,000 and €250,000 respectively. Kilkenny's price were broadly flat on the year at €246,000, up only 0.5%. In Carlow the median asking price actually fell 2% to €245,000.

## Munster

Asking price inflation continues at robust levels across a range of areas in Munster. Clare prices were up 11% to €295,000 and by 10% in Limerick to €275,000. Limerick city also saw a 8% gain to €269,000. Prices were also up 5% in both Cork to €300,000 and in Waterford to €225,000. However, Cork city saw a 10% gain to €325,000. Waterford city prices rose only 3% to €185,000. Kerry prices rose 4% to €245,000. Bucking the trend, prices rose by only 1.2% in Tipperary to €213,000.

## **Connacht / Ulster**

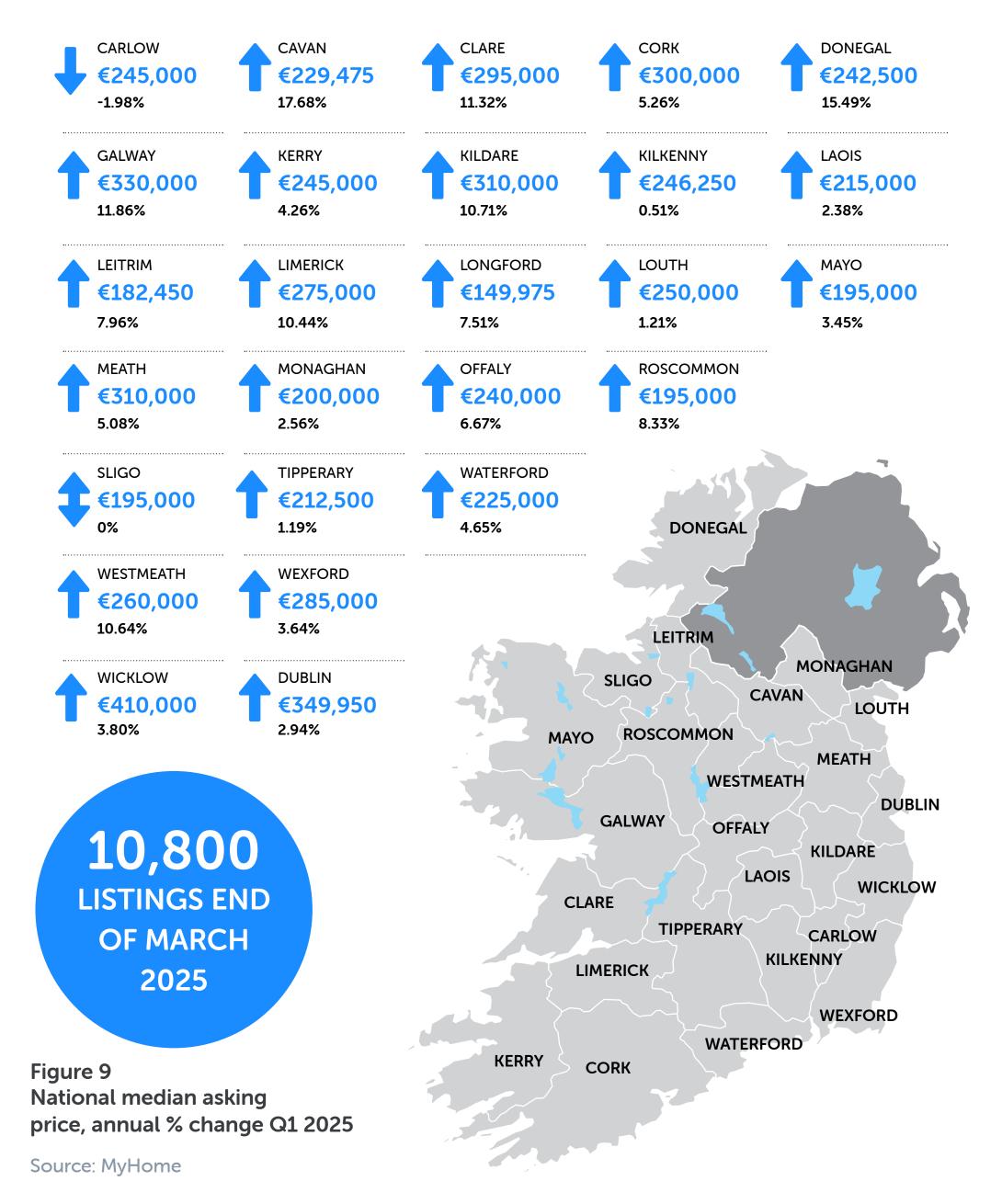
Galway prices were up 12% on the year to €295,000, the fastest pace across Connacht. In Galway city the median price was €350,000, up an enormous 17% on the year. Prices in Leitrim and Roscommon were both up 8% in the twelve months to Q1 2025, to €182,500 and €195,000 respectively. However, the picture wasn't uniform. Prices in Sligo were flat on the year at €195,000 and rose by just 3% in Mayo, also to €195,000.

In Ulster, both Cavan and Donegal saw heavy price gains in the year to Q1 2025, by 18% and 15%, to €230,000 and €242,500 respectively. However, Monaghan saw a smaller 3% gain to €200,000.

GALWAY to €295,000











# County Analysis



#### Three-bedroom semi detached

THREE-BED SEMI-DETACHED 2.6% Dublin area

The median price of a Three-bed semi-detached in Dublin was €395,000 in Q1 2025, up 2.6% on the year. However, there was a sharp 15% rise in Kildare with prices up to €300,000. Galway prices also saw a substantial 14% rise to €320,000. In Offaly prices were up an enormous 21% to €230,000.

Carlow Cavan Clare Cork Donegal Galway Kerry Kildare Kilkenny Laois Leitrim Limerick Longford

COUNTY

#### €395,000

The median price of a three-bedroom semidetached house in Dublin in Q1 2025.

Q1 2025	Q/Q %	ANNUAL %
237,000	-3.76%	3.04%
195,000	1.30%	8.33%
282,500	4.63%	13.45%
319,000	1.27%	10.96%
179,000	-3.24%	11.88%
320,000	3.56%	14.29%
210,000	-2.33%	7.69%
300,000	0.00%	15.38%
225,000	-4.26%	-2.17%
215,000	0.00%	2.38%
192,500	1.32%	13.30%
268,000	1.13%	4.48%
145,000	3.57%	3.57%

COUNTY	Q1 2025	Q/Q %	ANNUA
Louth	260,000	0.39%	4.00%
Мауо	171,000	-2.29%	0.59%
Meath	295,000	0.00%	3.51%
Monaghan	205,000	2.50%	6.49%
Offaly	230,000	0.00%	21.05
Roscommon	180,000	10.77%	14.29
Sligo	189,500	-0.92%	-0.92
Tipperary	199,000	2.05%	2.05%
Waterford	230,000	0.44%	2.22%
Westmeath	260,000	0.20%	13.06
Wexford	250,000	0.40%	11.112
Wicklow	419,500	7.56%	6.20%
Dublin	395,000	0.00%	2.60%

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# County Analysis



Two-bedroom apartments

TWO-BED, APARTMENT 3.5% **Dublin area** 

The median asking price for 2-bedroom apartments was €265,000 in Q1 2025, up 6% on the year. Here, Dublin lagged behind, seeing a 3.5% rise to €295,000. However, the commuter belt counties saw sharper gains. Prices in Kildare rose 10.5% to €210,000, by 7.5% in Meath to €215,000 and by 5% in Wicklow to €315,000. In Cork prices rose 7% to €235,000, by 9% in Limerick to €190,000 and by 15% in Galway to €275,000.

Cavan Clare Cork Donegal Galway Kerry Kildare Kilkenny Laois Leitrim Limerick Longford

COUNTY

Carlow

#### €290,000



The median price of a two-bedroom apartment in Dublin in Q1 2025.

Q1 2025	Q/Q %	ANNUAL %
157,500	-4.55%	5.00%
152,500	5.17%	22.00%
165,000	0.00%	6.45%
235,000	0.00%	6.82%
120,000	-7.69%	11.63%
275,000	0.00%	14.58%
172,500	-5.48%	2.99%
209,975	0.01%	10.51%
167,500	-1.47%	-4.29%
150,000	0.00%	0.00%
152,450	0.00%	3.39%
190,000	2.70%	8.57%
99,000	0.00%	10.00%

Q1 2025	Q/Q %	ANNUA
185,000	0.00%	5.71%
105,000	-25.00%	-30.00
214,975	2.37%	7.49%
132,500	1.92%	1.92%
150,000	3.45%	3.45%
109,000	41.56%	18.48
132,500	4.95%	3.92%
135,000	3.89%	35.34
132,500	0.00%	6.00%
170,000	-1.45%	9.68%
185,000	-6.09%	5.71%
315,000	5.00%	5.00%
295,000	1.72%	3.51%
	<ul> <li>185,000</li> <li>105,000</li> <li>214,975</li> <li>132,500</li> <li>109,000</li> <li>132,500</li> <li>135,000</li> <li>132,500</li> <li>135,000</li> <li>132,500</li> <li>315,000</li> </ul>	185,000       0.00%         105,000       -25.00%         214,975       2.37%         132,500       1.92%         109,000       41.56%         132,500       4.95%         135,000       3.89%         132,500       0.00%         135,000       -1.45%         185,000       -6.09%         315,000       5.00%

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# County Analysis



#### Four-bedroom semi detached

FOUR-BED SEMI-DETACHED 3.8% Dublin area

The median asking price for a 4-bedroom, semi-detached house in Dublin was €550,000 in Q1 2025, up 3.8% on the year. However, in Kildare prices rose 16% to €372,000. Meath also saw a sharper 6% gain to €335,000. Prices in Wicklow lagged behind, up 3% to €510,000. In Cork the median price was €395,000 up 4% on the year and €345,000 in Galway, up 13%.

COUNTY Carlow Cavan Clare Cork Donegal Galway Kerry Kildare Kilkenny Laois Leitrim Limerick Longford

#### €550,000



The median price of a four-bedroom semi-detached in Dublin in Q1 2025.

Q1 2025	Q/Q %	ANNUAL %
279,500	0.00%	5.47%
231,250	2.78%	10.12%
300,000	1.69%	13.21%
395,000	0.00%	3.95%
272,000	1.12%	15.74%
345,000	0.00%	13.11%
248,000	-1.78%	15.35%
372,475	0.68%	15.50%
310,000	-1.59%	3.33%
249,500	0.00%	6.17%
239,950	-1.85%	23.05%
340,000	-2.86%	6.25%
177,000	4.42%	10.63%

COUNTY	Q1 2025	Q/Q %	ANNUA
Louth	295,000	-0.84%	1.74%
Мауо	227,000	-1.09%	12.38
Meath	335,000	3.08%	6.35%
Monaghan	250,000	0.00%	4.389
Offaly	282,500	0.89%	13.45
Roscommon	225,000	2.27%	32.74
Sligo	242,000	1.26%	5.22%
Tipperary	230,000	1.10%	15.03
Waterford	285,000	0.88%	7.55%
Westmeath	295,000	2.61%	5.36%
Wexford	285,000	1.79%	1.79%
Wicklow	510,000	0.00%	3.03%
Dublin	550,000	0.00%	3.77%
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## Report . Methodology

The trends presented in this report are based on actual asking prices of properties advertised on MyHome with comparisons by quarter over the last eight years.

Our data is collected from quarterly snapshots of active, available properties on MyHome.

This represents the majority of properties for sale in Ireland from leading estate agents nationwide. The series of data in this report has been produced using a combination of statistical techniques.

Our data is collected from quarterly snapshots of active, available properties on MyHome. Our main indices have been constructed with a widely-used regression technique which adjustsfor change in the mixture of properties for sale in each quarter. Since the supply of property in each quarter has different combination of types, sizes and

> Graham is an independent financial analyst who *specialises in investment consulting services. He* previously managed portfolios for an international *mutual organisation in London with over £14 billion* in assets under management and one million members across Canada, the US and the UK. He has eight years of financial marketplace experience, holds a degree in mathematics from Trinity College Dublin, and is a CFA Charterholder (Chartered Financial Analyst).

locations, the real trends inproperty prices are easily obscured.

Our method is designed to reflect price changes independent of this variation in mix. For detailed statistics at a local level, we also provide a wide selection of median asking prices broken down by county or by urban location. For analysis of the Property Price Register, prices were adjusted upwards to account for VAT where necessary, and only full market value prices were used.



CFA, Dublin





## Q1 2025 Highlights

## Summary

	Q1 2024	Q1 2025	% change
Number of Properties on the site	10,935	10,801	(Down 1.2%)
Number of properties sold from PPR (As of February 28th)	7,371	7,263	(Down 1.5%)
Number of new properties on the market	6,055	5,607	(Down 7.4%)
National average time to sale agreed	4.3 months	3.5 months	
National average asking price	€300,587	€314,935	<b>1</b> (Up 4.8%)



## **Contact Us**

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