# R New York Fourth Quarter 2019 Market Report

The Manhattan real estate market stabilized in the fourth quarter, helped by lower rates, a strong stock market and a stable US economy. Total sales of 2,404 were modestly down 1.2% year over year. Buyers are benefiting from weaker pricing trends with average price per sq. ft. down 6% year over year. The mansion tax is negatively impacting high end sales with sales down 38% in homes above the \$5m mark. Sales of homes below \$5m were actually up 1.6% year over year. For the full year 2019, total number of sales were down 1.8% year over year, similar to 4Q trends. Median sales prices were flat year over year. Sales are taking longer to close with days on market up 6% year over year to 99 days. Listing inventory was down 10% quarter over quarter and up 9% y/y.

The luxury high end market was the weakest, hurt by the new mansion tax which took effect in 3Q19. NYC buyers already pay a flat 1 percent tax on home purchases of \$1 million or more but now must pay a scale of graduated levies that starts at 1 percent. The rate would increase at \$2 million and continue to rise until it reaches a top of 4.15 percent on any amount over \$25 million. The worst segment is homes in the \$7-20m range which saw sales down about 49% year over year.

We expect the market to stabilize in 2020 given easier comparison, low rates, a stable US economy and resilient stock market. The phase one trade deal that was agreed to in 4q19 was a positive development. The other positive was the 3 rate cuts that the Fed issued in 2019 which dropped the benchmark rate to 1.5-1.75%.

Manhattan	4Q19	4Q18	% y/y change	<b>3Q19</b>	% q/q change
Average sales price (\$mm)	1.82	1.94	-6.4%	1.656	9.6%
Avg. price per sq. ft.	1581	1684	-6.1%	1524	3.7%
Median sales price (\$mm)	1.00	1.00	0.0%	1.025	-2.5%
Re-sale Median price	0.94	0.94	-0.3%	0.915	2.7%
Closed sales	2404	2432	-1.2%	2562	-6.2%
Average days on market	99	93	6.5%	91	8.8%
Listing Inventory	6643	6092	9.0%	7352	-9.6%
Months of supply	8.3	7.5	10.7%	8.6	-3.5%

Source: Samuel Miller

# Both the Co-op market and Condo market were stable in the fourth quarter but experienced downward pressure on pricing

With more inventory and a slower sales market, sellers are more willing to negotiate on pricing. As a result, co-ops saw a 6% drop in pricing per square foot while condos saw a 4% drop. The average sales price of co-ops was down 3% year over year while condos saw a 11% drop.

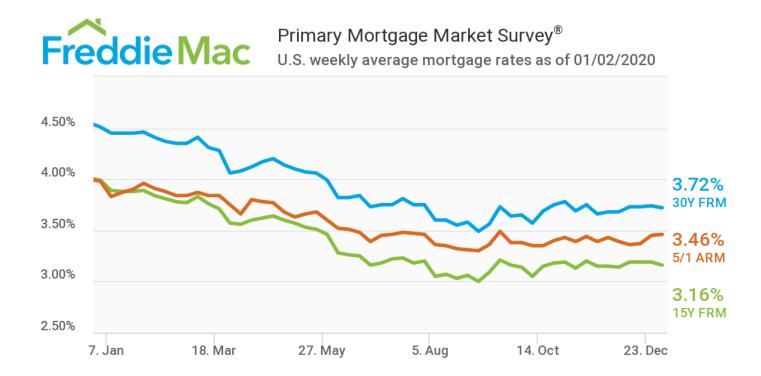
Manhattan Co-ops	4Q19	4Q18	% y/y change	3Q19	% q/q change
Average sales price (\$mm)	1.21	1.24	-2.8%	1.141	5.8%
Avg. price per sq. ft.	1147	1225	-6.4%	1146	0.1%
Median sales price (\$mm)	0.80	0.79	0.6%	0.795	0.0%
Closed sales	1385	1412	-1.9%	1485	-6.7%
Average days on market	94	86	9.3%	88	6.8%
Months of supply	6.7	6.1	9.8%	7.3	-8.2%

Manhattan Condos	4Q19	4Q18	% y/y change	3Q19	% q/q change
Average sales price (\$mm)	2.64	2.96	-10.8%	2.3668	11.6%
Avg. price per sq. ft.	2067	2152	-3.9%	1952	5.9%
Median sales price (\$mm)	1.58	1.48	6.5%	1.491	5.6%
Closed sales	1019	1020	-0.1%	1077	-5.4%
Average days on market	106	106	0.0%	95	11.6%
Months of supply	10.4	9.5	9.5%	10.5	-1.0%

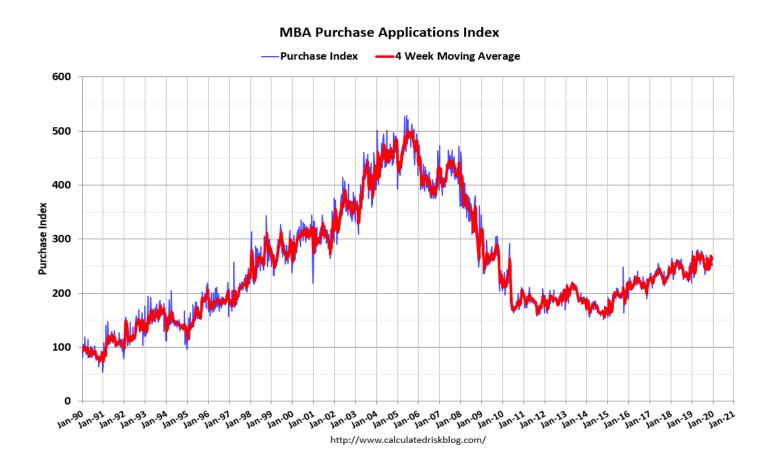
Source: Samuel Miller

## Mortgage rates have dropped and should become a tailwind in 2020

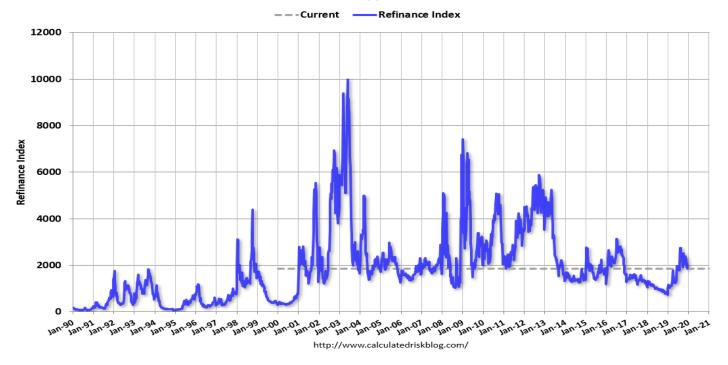
With a moderation in the US economy and a more dovish stance from the Federal Reserve, mortgage rates have dropped significantly in 2019. 30-year rates are about 3.72% down about 75 bps vs. a year ago. This should help drive higher demand going forward and help stabilize the Manhattan market.



Mortgage purchase and refinance applications have picked up due to lower rates and are up 20% plus year over year (see graphs below).



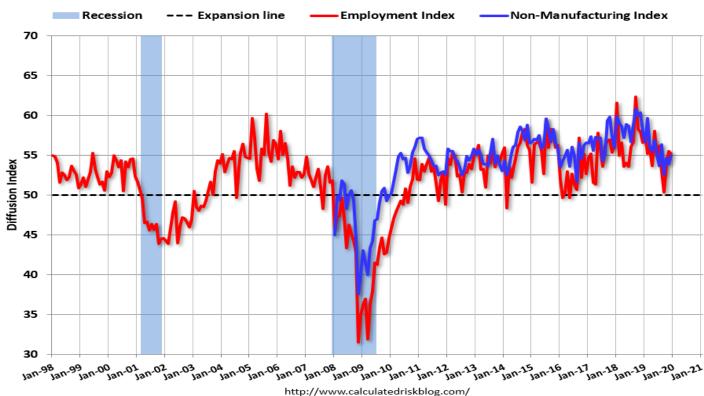
#### **MBA Refinance Applications Index**



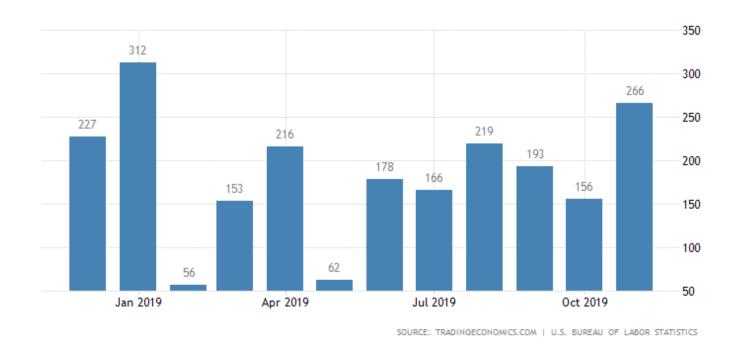
## A relatively stable US economy should help the housing market in 2020

The ISM non-manufacturing index remains strong and show expansion in December for the 107<sup>th</sup> consecutive month. The December ISM Non-manufacturing index was at 55%, up from 53.9% in November and consistent with recent trends. The employment index decreased in November to 55.2%, from 55.5%. Note: Above 50 indicates expansion of economic activity.





## Employment trends remain strong in the US with 266k jobs added in Nov. 2019



## Strong stock market rebound in 2019 also a positive with market up 26% over last 2 years

