

With all the buzz about home prices and mortgage rates, you might be wondering whether it's a smart move to buy a home now or if sticking with renting is the way to go. Here's some insight to ease your mind and highlight why investing in a home remains a powerful decision.





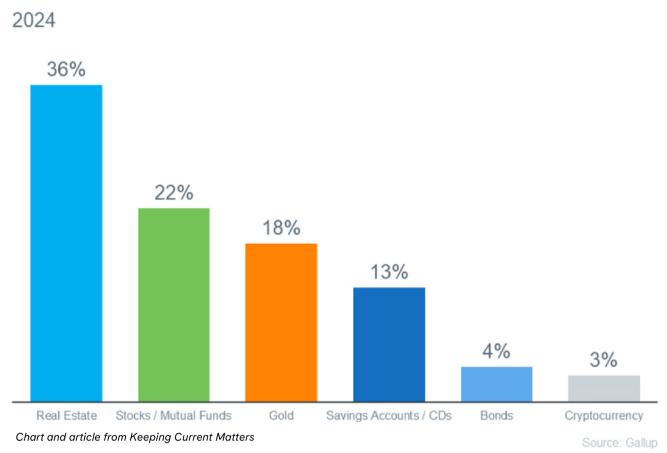


#### REAL ESTATE: THE TOP LONG-TERM INVESTMENT

For the 12th consecutive year, experts at Gallup have named real estate the top long-term investment, outpacing gold, stocks, and bonds. The reason is simple: buying a home is your ticket to building wealth over time.

Unlike other investments that can feel like a wild rollercoaster with their ups and downs, real estate follows a more predictable and positive pattern. History shows that home values generally rise, and while prices might vary by market, your home is likely to appreciate over time, significantly boosting your net worth.

## Real Estate Voted Best Long-Term Investment



As Realtor.com puts it: "Homeownership has long been tied to building wealth—and for good reason. Instead of throwing rent money out the window each month, owning a home allows you to build home equity. And over time, equity can turn your mortgage debt into a sizeable asset."







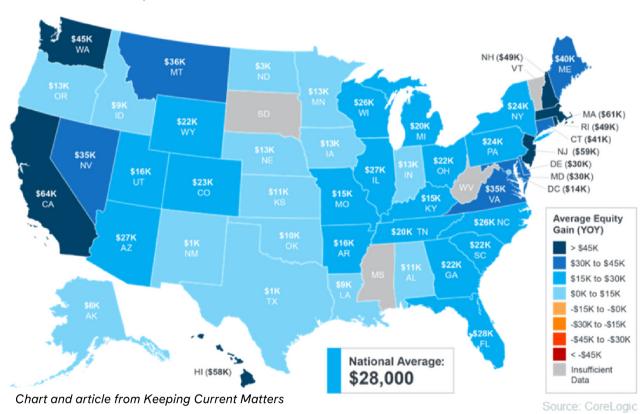
### HOMEOWNERS: YOUR NET WORTH IS ON THE RISE

Not to mention, if you already own a home, you've likely seen a significant increase in your net worth over the past year. Home prices have been climbing, which means you're building equity faster than you might realize.

According to CoreLogic's latest Homeowner Equity Insights, the average homeowner's equity has grown by \$28,000 in the last year alone. That's the national average, but the map below shows state-by-state equity growth, using CoreLogic data. You'll see that every state with sufficient data has experienced annual equity gains.

# **Homeowner Equity Gains**

Year-Over-Year, Q1 2024



If you bought your home before the pandemic, the equity news is even better. Data from Realtor.com shows home prices surged by 37.5% from May 2019 to May 2024.







# NONPROFIT SPOTLIGHT THE DRAKE HOUSE

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND LONG-TERM STABILITY

The Drake House is a 501c3 organization that works to respond to the growing number of single mothers and their children who are experiencing homelessness in North Fulton. They involve members of our community in the effort to keep families united under one roof as they work toward self-sufficiency.

The Drake House started in 2004 as a Leadership North Fulton class project to address the growing number of single women and their children experiencing homelessness in the area. Community leaders gathered donations and volunteers from business and civic leaders, faith-based organizations, Fulton County, the City of Roswell, and the United Way of Greater Atlanta to create a non-profit that could address the need.

## THEDRAKEHOUSE.ORG

