

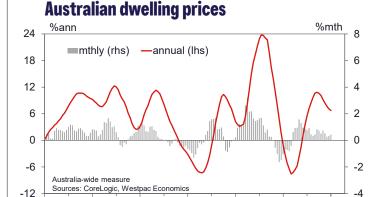
10ctober 2024

# AUSTRALIAN DWELLING PRICES BULLETIN

'Hot and cold' performance continues

## **Key points**

- The CoreLogic home value index rose 0.5% in September, annual price growth moderated to 6.7%yr, down from a peak of 10.9%yr in Feb.
- Performances continue to diverge across capital city markets, prices slipping in Melbourne, rising slowly in Sydney but still rising strongly in Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane.
- Across 'hot' markets, lower tiers and units are outperforming, suggesting stretched affordability and low on-market supply is seeing buyers move down the price curve.
- Across 'cold' markets, prices in top tier segments have underperformed, with these cities also showing more balance between demand and 'on-market' supply.



Sep-12 Sep-14 Sep-16 Sep-18 Sep-20

# Sep CoreLogic home value index: 0.5%mth; 6.7%yr



# Medium-sized capitals still booming; softer elsewhere



Matthew Hassan Head of Australian Macro-Forecasting

The CoreLogic home value index, covering the eight major capital cities, rose 0.5% in September, in line with the slower gains seen since March. Annual price growth ticked down again to 6.7%yr, down from a peak of 10.9%yr in Feb. Price gains over the last six months have been running at a 5.8% annualised pace.

Note that, unless specified, the figures in titles, tables and commentary are in non-seasonally adjusted terms, consistent with the headline figures reported by CoreLogic. Figures in the charts and overleaf are instead in seasonally adjusted terms, unless specified.

#### **Demand and on-market supply edging closer**

Preliminary estimates point to a softening in sales volumes, down 2.7% on a rolling 3mth basis nationally. However, this again seems to be overstating weakness. As noted previously, estimates are showing a clear pattern of upward revisions - last month's 6.9% decline has been revised up substantially to now sit at -0.7%. As such, the latest figures are more likely to be around flat once additional information comes in.

This flattening has coincided with a steady lift in new listings, our estimates suggesting these have risen 0.8% in the September quarter in seasonally adjusted terms to be up 11.3% compared to the March quarter. Total stock on market has declined by 1.3% over the same period.

#### **Two-speed market**

Price-wise, the defining feature continues to be a widening range of performances. The strongest gains continue to come in Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane. Growth is positive but subdued in Sydney with Melbourne, Canberra, Hobart and Darwin all recording some modest slippage in prices.

At a more detailed level, roughly half of the fifty submarkets covered have recorded annualised price growth of 5% or lower over the last 3mths (about half of this group recording outright price declines). Most of the rest have recorded gains running at a robust double-digit annualised growth pace.

Also of note is a narrowing in the price performance between houses and units, the latter showing a clear pick-up over the last quarter. That pick-up has centred on the mid-sized capital cities that have seen much stronger price growth, suggesting buyers are starting to look beyond detached houses.

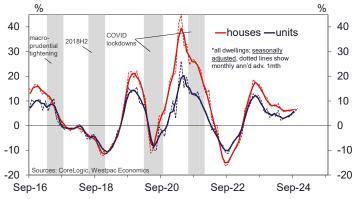
#### **CoreLogic home value index: September 2024**

	%mth				%ann			
	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Australia*	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	8.4	7.7	7.1	6.7
seas. adjusted	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	8.4	7.6	7.0	6.7
- houses	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.4	9.4	8.6	7.9	7.4
- units	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	5.3	4.8	4.4	4.5
Major capital cities								
Sydney	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	6.6	5.7	5.1	4.5
Melbourne	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	1.2	0.1	-1.0	-1.4
Brisbane	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.9	16.2	15.3	14.9	14.5
Adelaide	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.3	14.4	14.4	14.6	14.8
Perth	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.6	23.8	24.2	23.9	24.1
Turnover <sup>^</sup>	2.9	0.2	-0.7	-2.7	12.8	11.9	10.2	4.1

\*combined capital cities

Sources: CoreLogic, Westpac Economics.

#### Dwelling prices: houses vs units, 3mth ann'd



#### Residential property: listings and sales



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<sup>^</sup> rolling 3mth total, %3mth and %ann ch, seasonally adjusted by Westpac.



**Sydney** dwelling prices rose 0.2%mth in September to be up 0.5% for the quarter, annual growth slowing to 4.5%yr. 'Top tier' houses are a notable under-performer, prices in this segment flat over the last quarter.

**Melbourne** dwelling prices dipped 0.1%mth in September to be down 1.4%yr. Prices are slipping rather than falling sharply. As with Sydney, weakness is a little more pronounced for 'top tier' houses.

**Brisbane** prices rose 0.9%mth in September, another solid gain. Annual price growh moderated slightly but at 14.5%yr remains strong. Gains continue to be led by 'middle tier' and 'lower tier' units which haw 5-6% risese in the quarter.

**Adelaide** recorded another strong 1.3%mth price rise in Septmber, annual growth lifting slightly to 14.8%yr. Unit prices are rising at over 17%yr but make up a small part of the market. Across tiers, the lower and middle part of the market is continuing to otuperform.

**Perth** was again the nation's hottest market, prices up another 1.6% in September, taking annual growth to just over 24.4%yr. Again, units and bottom tier parts of the market are performing more strongly with annual growth tracking over 30%yr.

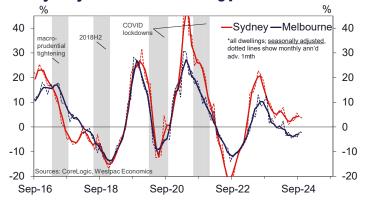
Prices are showing little or no traction across the smaller capitals: **Hobart** recorded a -0.4%mth fall in Septmber, continuing the modest price slippage seen for two and a half years now, prices down 1.1%yr; **Darwin** recorded a 0.1%mth uptick, annual growth at 2%yr; and **Canberra** prices declined 0.3%mth, annual growth just 0.7%yr.

Across **regional areas**, prices dipped another 0.2% in regional Vic to be down 1.5%yr, but firmed 0.2% in regional NSW to be up 3.6%yr. Prices remain relatively buoyant across regional Queensland, which includes the Gold and Sunshine Coasts (+0.7%mth, +11.9%yr).

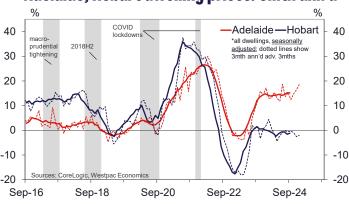
#### Conclusion

The September figures continue the same themes seen in previous months with a more moderate pace to price gains overall, softening turnover and a widening divergence in performances across sub-markets. Where price gains remain 'hot' they are increasingly centred on lower tier parts of these markets and across units, a sign that stretched affordability is driving buyers down the price curve. Where conditions are cooler, there looks to have been more rebalancing between demand and 'on-market' supply. While we expect performances to converge over time, that looks likely to be a story for 2025 rather than 2024.

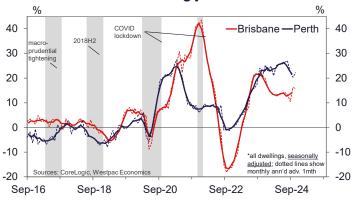
#### Sydney, Melbourne dwelling prices: 3mth ann'd



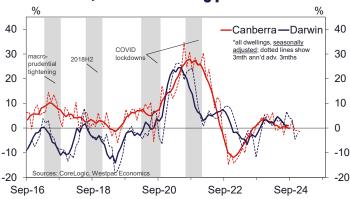
#### Adelaide, Hobart dwelling prices: 6mth ann'd



#### Brisbane, Perth dwellng prices: 3mth ann'd



#### Canberra, Darwin dwelling prices: 6mth ann'd



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